

THE BENCHMARK

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This Newsletter
is intended for
Members Only

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Future of our industry on display at Apprentices Contest

By Ken Kudela



On June 6, some of the best apprentices from our 14-state region gathered at our Southern Ohio-Kentucky Regional Training Center in Batavia for one of three BAC/IMI

North Central Region Apprentices Contests.

The apprentices competed in four different divisions: Cement, Marble, PCC, and Terrazzo. It was great to see the future of our industry display quality craftsmanship, excellent overall skills, and the knowledge to properly complete the work they were tasked to do.

A nice sized crowd attended the competition and witnessed the hard work and dedication these young men and women have put into their trade. Those who came to the Training Center also got to see first-hand what a great facility we have in Batavia.

See *CONTEST* Page 2.



PHOTO: MATT JAWORSKI/BENCHMARK

Chase Owens (Local 6 OH) competes in the PCC division of the BAC/IMI North Central Region Apprentices Contest held at the SORTC in Batavia, OH. Owens won first place in the competition.

THE SECRETARY-TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Freddie R. Hubbard, Sr.



Hello, again. I hope this finds you healthy and employed.

The heat of summer has arrived, and I hope it brings you a good earning season.

Director Kudela

and I – along with the negotiation teams of Locals 5, 3, 9 and 10 – have been successful

in negotiating 5-year agreements with nice increases to the wage, along with some good language.

For Locals 40 and 46, we got similar results with a 3-year deal.

I see it as a sign that the economy is on the rebound. The increases did not seem to be as big an issue as they have been in the past.

As I am writing this, we have one more agreement up this year: Local 22 Tile.

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

The International Convention is coming up this September in Baltimore. The District

Council will have our convention to follow.

There will be more information coming on that.

PICNIC SEASON



Picnic season is here, and I know that my Local 18 has our event planned on the last Saturday in July. Brian is getting that mailing prepared now.

I will not speak on the work that is ongoing and planned in the other various Locals. You can find that information from the articles by your respective Field Representatives.

See *MESSAGE* Page 4.

Contest

Continued from Page 1.

Most of you already know, but it bears repeating: this is what separates us from our non-union competitors.

Our apprentices go through a rigorous education and training process before they earn their card; it is not simply given to them. Union apprentices are skilled enough to engage in a friendly, but healthy competition to show off their talent and remind people why our training makes us the best at what we do.

The 26 apprentices on hand started early by taking a written test before going to work on the skills competition. Everyone seemed extremely focused on their tasks – they worked hard and were not afraid to get dirty. They demonstrated that they have what it takes to be counted among the best.

We are also blessed to have a great group of dedicated instructors who care about helping us ensure we remain the best tradesmen by educating our apprentices.

This extends to the job site, where many of our Brothers and Sisters help teach apprentices through real, on-the-job situations. Again, this is what makes us better than non-union crews.

Congratulations to all the apprentices who took part in the competition. Our District Council area took home two regional titles and will be sending several others to the National Competition in Maryland.

Following the contest, it was wonderful to see the competitors display the comradery and Brotherhood that all our members display.

CONTEST RESULTS

Here are the results from the contest in Batavia on June 6

Jaymes Sanford from Local 5 OH (Marble) and **Chase Owens** from Local 6 OH (PCC) won their respective divisions.

Also advancing to nationals were: **Alex Lanza**, Local 18 OH/KY (PCC); **John Garnett**, Local 18 OH/KY (PCC); **Aaron Young** from Local 6 OH (PCC); and **Travis Knight** from Local 22 OH (Terrazzo).

Good luck in Maryland!



James Sanford



Chase Owens



Alex Lanza



John Garnett



Aaron Young



Travis Knight

I also want to thank all the volunteers who helped make this event such a success. The Training Center received rave reviews, and we could not have put on such a top-notch event without the help of so many of our members.

IN CLOSING

As always, my phone is on, and my door is always open. This is our busy season, but we cannot afford to cut corners and ignore safety procedures. Stay safe out there. ■



PHOTOS: MATT JAWORSKI/BENCHMARK

Apprentices competing in BAC/IMI North Central Region Apprentice Contest in several categories: (top center) Cement, (bottom center and right) PCC. During the competition, apprentices (pictured at right) who attend SORTC showed off their skills in brickwork.

THE IMI UPDATE:

By Tom Nagy



The design and construction industry has been transformed to reflect our culture of technology.

Building Information

Modeling (BIM) has taken the place of “old school” information sharing. Paper drawings/blueprints, submittals, specifications, and other related print documentation has been replaced by electronic, computer-generated information.

The days of architects and engineers developing project documents with pencil and paper are behind us. These computer programs allow the user to graphically and virtually “build it, before you build it” on a screen.

The previous BIM software has been somewhat limited for masonry, but it is currently making huge progress.

Building Information Modeling for Masonry (BIM-M) was created in 2012 and continues to evolve. Several industry organizations are behind BIM-M, including BAC/IMI, who is currently one of the leading stakeholders in the program.

This beneficial initiative:

- Enables designers (Architects and

Engineers) to include masonry wall and floor assemblies into contract documents more efficiently and cost effectively;

- Exhibits not only graphic clarity, but schedule and cost information for the project;
- Clarifies interfacing of different trade materials;
- Empowers masonry contractors to communicate clearly with the construction team in the accepted method;
- Provides clash detection with other trades: structural elements, mechanical/electrical and plumbing, in particular;
- Reduces the amount of Requests for Information and Change Orders;
- Positions masonry as relevant wall and flooring systems in the industry.

In cooperation with OH-KY ADC and masonry contractors, IMI recently produced a BIM-M video clip that exhibits the virtues of the structural masonry schedule versus competing systems.

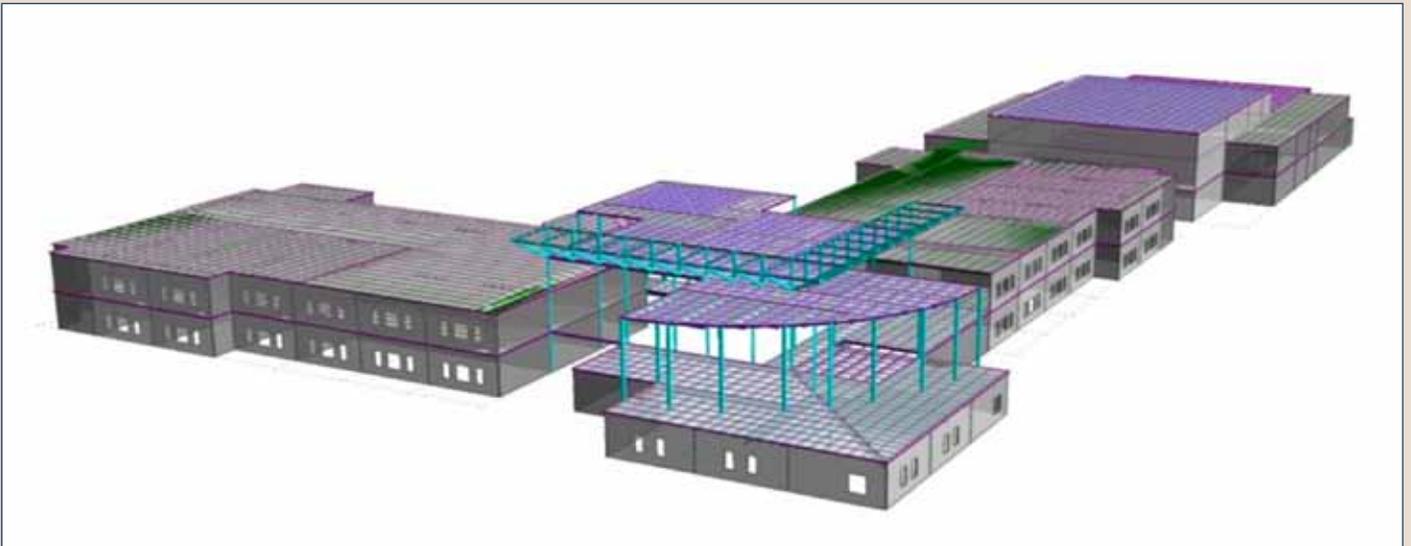
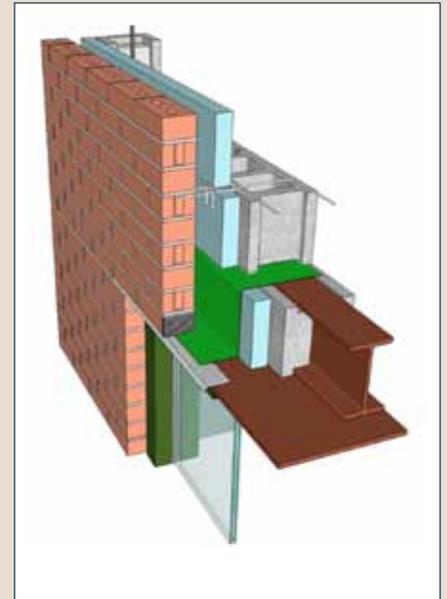
Unit masonry clearly was the more efficient wall system, showing a completed project months ahead of the alternate system.

The key here is that masonry materials are readily available, whereas

other structural materials need significant lead time for shop drawing preparation, review and approval, followed by material fabrication.

BIM-M will assist in making all of the masonry disciplines more efficient and cost effective, including restoration. Through electronic “modeling” of an existing structure, the repair and renovation process will become much more clear and accurate.

It is obvious that embracing the BIM-M initiative will have a positive effect on the future of masonry. The goal, as always, is to continually create work opportunities for the BAC members and contractors. ■



Building Information Modeling has become the information sharing standard, replacing paper drawings, blue prints and other print documentation. The two images here are computer generated examples of Building Modeling for Masonry (BIM-M), which is having a positive effect on the masonry industry.

Message

Continued from Page 1.

MUCH APPRECIATION



I want to thank Dennis McGrath for his service to our Union as the TMT Rep. for Local 18. He has decided that the Field Rep. job was just not for him. Dennis did a great job, and you have to respect a man who knows what he wants to do in life.

In saying that, I also want to welcome **Jeff King**, who was hired by Director Kudela to take a Field Rep. position for Local 18 TMT.

Also, Bill Hulet from Local 55 will be taking over for Tom Cannon, who is retiring. I also want to thank Tom for the job he did representing our members in Local 55.

POLITICIANS ON THE ATTACK

My last article was on who and what the Union is and included information about So-Called Right to Work and attacks on Prevailing Wage that the politicians we keep electing are pursuing.

Why don't elitist politicians want the working class to have a decent living? Do you think it is because the more you

make in your weekly pay might cut into their profits? I think that is the reason.

Anyway, I have been reading more of the history that has got us to where we are now.

Did you know that in the fall of 1980, Ronald Reagan (at the time, a Republican Presidential candidate) sent a letter to the President of the Air Traffic Controllers Union, Robert Poli. He asked him for his Union's endorsement and promised that, if he was elected President, Mr. Poli could be assured that he would take whatever steps necessary to provide them with whatever they needed to do their jobs.

The Union endorsed Reagan, and, eight months later, he fired them and permanently replaced them. This was the beginning of an all-out assault on living wages.

More recently, Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker has been very successful in his strategic plan: Divide and Conquer. He has made labor seem like someone else – even to existing Union members.

Walker has said, "The first step is, we're going to deal with collective bargaining for all public-employee Unions." He made this statement while praising private-sector Unions, particularly those in the construction trades. Sound familiar?

Walker then signed the RTW bill and

said he would sign the bill to eliminate prevailing wage if the Wisconsin Legislature were to pass it.

But Wisconsin is not the only battleground. Our Brothers and Sisters are in the fight of their lives for living wages in our Southern jurisdiction of Kentucky, as well as our neighbors in West Virginia.

So, I must say, if we don't stand for something, we will fall for anything. We need your help to protect living wages and working conditions. Please stay informed on the issues, and then remember to vote.

Have a prosperous and safe summer. I hope to see you at your meetings and your picnic.

I will leave you with a little saying that was penned in Germany as Hitler began his rampage:

In Germany they first came for the Communists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Communist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew.

Then they came for the trade unionists, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade unionist.

Then they came for the Catholics, and I didn't speak up because I was a Protestant.

Then they came for me, and by that time no one was left to speak up. ■

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

LOCAL 3



Toledo, Ohio

Don Huss

The weather is warm, and work has been plentiful so far this summer.

Most of the contractors have a full list of projects that are either currently being worked on or are going to be getting started.

I am also looking for the next round of school projects to be bid out this summer and fall. Bryan, Northwood and Defiance Schools all have projects that will be starting soon.

If you are looking for work in the area, do not hesitate to contact the contractors and/or myself.

NEW AGREEMENT

I am happy to announce that we have reached new agreement for the Local 3 Tile Setters. Through the negotiation process, we were able to secure a new five-year agreement.

When all of the dust settled, the negotiation team was happy to accept pay increases of approximately 1.75 percent for the first two years of the agreement, and then an approximately 2 percent increase for the remaining three years.

This will compute to a total increase of \$4.31 over the next five years. The increase in pay and the length of the agreement is great, but in my opinion we also gained important language in the agreement as well.

The negotiating team was able to get the six major holidays recognized for the members; New Year's Day, Christmas Day, Thanksgiving Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day and the Fourth of July are now spelled out in the agreement.

Also, if one of those holidays happens to fall on a Saturday, then the Friday before will be observed. If it happens to fall on a Sunday, the following Monday will be observed.

APPRENTICE GRADS



I would like to congratulate the latest class of graduating apprentices from the Local 3 Apprenticeship Program who have recently become journeymen: **Austin Imm, Brian Rudolph, John Garcia, Beth Wesley, Cody Katschke** and **Jeremiah Paul**.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 3

Pictured from left to right (front row): Rob Lindhorst (J.A.T.C. Member); Matt Aberl (Local 3 President); Karol Pupos; Peter VanDenBergh (J.A.T.C. Member); Steve Shattuck (J.A.T.C. Member) (back row): Brian Rudolph; John Garcia; Austin Imm; Don Huss (Local 3 Field Rep.) Not pictured Beth Wesley; Cody Katschke; Jeremiah Paul.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

A very nice dinner and award ceremony was given to these new journeymen on June 8. During the ceremony, the JATC also recognized former instructor **Karol Pupos** for his many years of dedication to the Local 3 Apprenticeship Program. Karol served as the instructor for 19 years and helped train a countless number of apprentices throughout the years. All of this was done after he officially "retired" from the trade.

Congratulations to the new graduates and a very special thank you to Karol for a job well done!

IN CLOSING

If you are searching for work, please do not hesitate to contact me at the office: 419-478-1818.

As always, work productively, but also SAFELY. ■

LOCAL 5 EAST



Cleveland,
Ohio

Russel Smith

The warmth of summer has finally arrived. This is prime time for our contractors and members.

I'm happy to report that work in the Eastern Region of Cuyahoga County is maintaining order as we get closer to the 2016 Republican Convention. At this time next year, our great city will be one of the most important stages in the United States. There will be a bunch of money being spent and many parties being had.

In preparation for this great event, there are also quite a few office buildings being converted into high-end apartments and condos. Public Square will even have a fancy new appearance.

This event will come and go, but it will leave a mark for future events and tourists to come and hang out in one of the newest up-and-coming tourist destinations.

Next year, we will enjoy the new and improved Cleveland.

RESTORATION PROJECTS

Here's a rundown of the restoration projects we have going: Kimpton Boutique Hotel (Downtown) – VIP; Drury Hotel (Downtown) – Renaissance Restoration; 1220

Building Huron (Downtown) – Renaissance Restoration; Maltz Performing Arts Center (Case Western Reserve University) – VIP; Grand Arcade Building (Downtown) – Mid State Restoration; Ernest J Bohn Tower (Downtown) – Ram; Landmark Building (Downtown) – Harry S Peterson; Bernet Hall & Millor Hall (John Carroll University) – HMM; Think Box (Case Western Reserve) – M A Builders; Public Square revitalization (Downtown) – Cleveland Marble; Anthony J Celebrezze Building (Downtown) – Ram; Shaw High School (East Cleveland) – M A Builders.

NEW CONSTRUCTION



Here's a look at the new construction projects coming to the city: Legacy Village expansion with Hyatt Hotel and parking garage (Lyndhurst), Eaton Chagrin Boulevard Shopping Center (Woodmere), Metro Health Vertical Systems addition (Cleveland Westside), The Nucleus Project Blocks Hotel with two parking garages (Downtown), Beachwood Mall expansion (Beachwood), mixed-use development retail (Shaker Heights).

PRE-APPRENTICE CLASS



We had a pre-apprentice class that started on April 20. The class lasted eight weeks, eight hours a day.

We started the class with 37 and ended the class with 30. This was definitely the largest number of pre-apprentices to finish.

We did get some commitments from our contractors to put some of these new members to work. We need all contractors to help put these new members to work!

As we all do our part to help rebuild our membership, everyone across the board, from members, officers and contractors – I mean everyone – must do their part.

We are still waiting for some return calls from our great Signatory Contractors! We do appreciate your participation.

DUES REMINDER



Once again, we must keep our dues up-to-date, keep our drug cards current and keep our OSHA cards in our wallets or purses.

You would be surprised to hear the excuses of why one of these things is not where they are supposed to be.

IN CLOSING

Enjoy the summer months – work safe and keep the person you are working next

to safe.

Make sure you stay hydrated and use sunblock when needed.

If you need me for anything at all, feel free to give me a call. ■

LOCAL 5 SOUTH



Cleveland,
Ohio

Dave Dabrowski

The work outlook for the remainder of the summer for Local 5 remains positive, as contractors are starting to increase their manpower for ongoing projects, and new projects are starting to bid out.

Medina County and the southern part of Cuyahoga County are starting to get their share of work hours, even though many projects are still awaiting bid dates.

As I mentioned previously, I encourage everyone to attend the Local 5 Union meetings (every third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Pipefitter's Hall in Valley View) for a full report on the projects and contractors in need of manpower.

HAPPY 100TH, JOHN ROGERS!

At Local 5's monthly meeting in May, we honored one of our veteran members, **John Rogers**, who turned 100 on June 6. John is our oldest living member and is a 65-year member of Local 5.

Congratulations, John! Happy Birthday!

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PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 5 SOUTH

Besides regular business, the Local 5 meeting on May 20 included a 100th birthday celebration for Brother John Rogers. His family was invited to join fellow Local 5 members for the special event. John joined the Bricklayers in February of 1950.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

NEW APPRENTICES

Local 5 has increased our apprenticeship level with many new apprentices who have started with our contractors in the recent months.

I encourage all journeymen to introduce yourselves to these new members and assist them as they begin their career in this trade.

Most of all, help them understand what it is to be a Union member.

POLITICAL NEWS

On the political front, the State Senate is backing increased funding for public K-12 school and higher education for the proposed Senate budget.

If this is approved, this may increase some school work for our area that our contractors can bid.

We will continue to update our membership as we receive information on all the political issues that affect our Union.

REMINDERS



I would like to remind all members to continue to make sure that your monthly dues and drug cards are in order so you can continue to work on projects throughout the year.

If you have changed your phone number recently, please call our Local 5 office – 216-447-9965 – so we can update our contact records.

Lastly, if you are off, contact us or let us know at the Union meeting.

IN CLOSING

Have a safe and prosperous summer! ■

LOCAL 5 WEST



Cleveland,
Ohio

Vincent Isaac

Remember, safety is everyone's job. I say this because, as the work picks up throughout the second half of this year, many of you will be working a lot of hours in hot conditions.

It's easy to become fatigued and lose the concentration you need to work safely. Everyone on the job needs to not only watch out for themselves but for the people around them.

I've mentioned this before but it bears repeating – a common condition to be aware of is heat exhaustion. Warning signs of heat exhaustion include heavy sweating; cold, pale, clammy skin; a fast, weak pulse; nausea and/or vomiting; and fainting.

Should these symptoms occur to you or a coworker, move to a cooler location, lie down and loosen your clothing. Then, apply cool wet cloths to as much of your body as possible. Sip water, and if you have vomited and it continues, seek medical attention immediately.

Heat exhaustion can happen quickly, so don't delay in taking corrective measures.

Heat stroke symptoms, however, are slightly different. The warning signs are a body temperature above 103 degrees; hot, red, dry or moist skin; rapid and strong pulse; and possible unconsciousness.

Should these symptoms occur, you need to call 911 immediately, as this is a medical emergency. Move the person to a cooler place, and then try to reduce the person's body temperature with cool cloths or even a bath. Do not give the person fluids.

WORK UPDATE



Here are some major projects that will have started by the time you are reading this article: Foti has the Grant Elementary School; Valentine has the Lincoln Elementary School; and Metropolitan has the Roosevelt Elementary School – all three schools are in Lakewood. The contractor for the Lakewood High School has not been chosen at the time of this writing, but it will also be done by one of our contractors and will start sometime in July.

All construction workers on these projects are required to undergo background checks and have their drug cards.

Foti has the Avon Cleveland Clinic Bed Tower and Valentine has the masonry on Cleveland Clinic Rehab Center and the University Hospital Rehab Center, both in Avon.

There is over \$200 million worth of projects currently being built in Avon with more projects yet to come.

Valentine also has the new American Greetings Headquarters at Crocker Park in Westlake.

IN CLOSING

If you are out of work, call the Hall and let us know.

If we get as busy as we anticipate, we

should be able to refer you to a contractor that needs help.

As always, work safe and go home to your family. ■

LOCAL 6



Canton,
Ohio

Justin Gartrell

Fellow Brothers of Local 6: By the time this Benchmark reaches you, we will be well into the summer months.

Hopefully, everyone will be working by this time and be in good spirits.

It has been a very slow start this spring. A couple of the jobs that we anticipated getting guys onto early were delayed for one reason or another.

They are now slowly gearing up and putting some of our members to work.

Villano Construction Co. has the Brown Local School project in Malvern. This looks like it should keep several guys working for a while.

Canton South should be getting under way by the time this reaches you. It appears that Valentine Contractors Inc. has this project.

Rohr Masonry has the Union Hospital addition; this is also a nice project.

Grunwell-Cashero Co. started back at the ODOT building in New Philadelphia after pulling off this past winter.

The big project that we are anticipating getting started this year is the Pro Football Hall of Fame. This could possibly be the biggest project ever to hit Canton. There are rumors that there could be as much as \$1 billion worth of work on this project. The Local Building Trades are still trying to secure a PLA.

ATTEND A MEETING



Local 6 holds its monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

I have been attending these meetings for most of my career. While attending, I have noticed that there are generally the same 20 to 30 faces every month.

This is not bad. I truly appreciate the members who are active in this Hall. I know that everyone has busy lives outside

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BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

of work, and it's not always easy to make the meetings.

But remember something: at these meetings, we discuss all of the Local's business – Health and Welfare, Pension, current and future jobs, Local activities, and anything and everything that pertains to this Local and its affiliates.

It gives all of the members a chance to ask questions and voice their opinions on current issues. I encourage everyone to please take a few hours out of your busy schedule once a month to attend the meetings.

There are still a lot of members who I have not met, and I would like to do so at the meetings. Remember, this is our livelihood.

APPRENTICE CONTEST WINNERS



Congratulations to **Chase Owens** and **Aaron Young** of Local 6 for placing in the BAC/IMI North Central Region Apprenticeship Contest.

These two members will now move on to compete for national titles at the International Training Center. You two guys are great examples of what all of our apprentices should strive to be like.

Best of luck to both of you!

CONDOLENCES



Local 6 would like to express our deepest sympathy to the families of our recently departed Brothers: **Dale Wherley**, a 69-year member and **David Miles**, a 64-year member. ■

LOCAL 7 OH



Akron,
Ohio

Noah Carmichael

Hello, Brothers and Sisters – I hope all is well with you and your families.

Work in Summit and Portage counties has started a bit slower than I anticipated this year, but it should be improving soon.

There have been a lot of jobs delayed due to various scheduling and weather-related problems.

As always, please attend the monthly

meetings, or call with any specific questions about projects.

Local 7 members are reminded to keep me informed as to your availability. Make sure all of your contact information is current, so that when requests for craftworkers come in, I can get in touch with you easily.

BUILDING TRADES ELECTIONS

For those of you that don't know, the Tri-County Building Trades recently held nominations and elections.

The Tri-County Building and Construction Trades Council is the collection of all the different building trades in Summit, Medina, and Portage counties. Delegates from all of the different building trades meet regularly in order to discuss various projects and all other interests concerning organized labor.

The new President for the Akron Area Building Trades Council is Brother **Mark Douglas** of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 306. The Bricklayers supported Brother Douglas for president, and he was elected unopposed.

Our thanks go out to Brother **Pat Darrow** for his years of service as President of the Building Trades, but we welcome Mark to the position.

In the short time Mark has been in office, we are starting to see some progressive moves from the Executive Board. Various committees have been established in order to delegate the workload and utilize each individual Local's and leader's strengths.

I see good things ahead for the Building Trades in the Akron area and am glad to be working with the leadership at Tri-County to make that happen!

WAGE ALLOCATION

Local 7 negotiated a five-year contract last year, which will make our collective bargaining agreement effective through 2019.

This year, the raise was \$1.30. Effective June 1, 2015 through May 31, 2016, the allocation of the raise is as follows:

Base Rate \$29.35 (2014) to \$30.24 (new); Total Package \$44.20 (2014) to \$45.5 (new);

\$1.30 Total Raise (beginning June 1).

The wage allocation is as follows:

- IU dues : +\$0.02 (from \$0.44 to \$0.46) or 1 percent
- OADC Dues : +\$0.03 (from \$1.11 to \$1.14) or 2.5 percent
- Local 7 Dues : +\$0.05 (from \$0.05 to \$0.10)
- Target Fund : +\$0.25

(from \$0.50 to \$0.75)

- Base Wages : +\$0.89 (from \$29.35 to 30.24)

The following are fringe increases (non-taxable):

- IMI : +\$0.02 (from \$.44 to .46) or 1.0 percent
- IPF PPA : +\$0.04 (from \$.20 to \$.24)
- H&W : +\$0.15 (from \$6.7 to \$6.85)
- Local PPA : +\$0.20 (from 4.46 to 4.66)

GOLF OUTING



Local 7 will hold its first ever Golf Outing on Sept. 26 at Raintree Country Club in Green.

Anyone interested in tickets or hole sponsorship can contact the social committee: **Ryan** 330-285-3827 or **Mike** 330-338-0380

CONGRATULATIONS



Local 7 would like to congratulate fourth-year Apprentice **Jeff Price** for taking second place in the North Central Regional Bricklaying Competition in May!

He will be going on to compete in the National Competition in Bowie, Md. this fall.

His commitment to being an excellent Bricklayer has shown throughout his entire apprenticeship.

We support you all the way, Jeff, and know that you will represent us well!

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PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 7

4th Year Apprentice Jeff Price took second place in the North Central Regional Bricklaying Competition this May. He will be going on to compete in the National Competition in Bowie, Maryland this fall.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

IN CLOSING

Tying in to the previous Benchmark article that I wrote, I would like to expand a little on the concept of opportunity.

I attended “New Leaders Training” at the Flynn Center in Maryland in April, and I was encouraged by the leadership that I saw coming into the International Union.

There are some excellent minds around the country taking leadership roles in various Locals, and I got to know and become friends with some of these Brothers.

With that being said, I don’t believe it is enough to rely solely on the leaders to pull unions through these difficult times.

If I can use a metaphor, we can liken this to what we saw in the NBA Finals with the Cleveland Cavaliers. The best player, a very strong leader, was not able to bring home the trophy this year. It was not for lack of effort, but simply some bad luck and not enough of a supporting cast. In order to win, everything has to be in place: good players, good health, hard work, leadership, team effort and strong performance. All of these things – working in unison – are required to prevail. It is not enough to just have an outstanding achievement from one or two individuals.

Organized Labor reminds me a bit of the Cavaliers right now. A lot of fight and determination, but just not quite the right mix to win it all right now.

Opportunity and timing are both crucial elements in life. As Brian Wear from Local 18 mentioned in the last Benchmark, “More

assaults on working people are coming!”

The question is, “What will WE do to reverse it?”

The future does not need to seem like some unstoppable force. The future is molded by how we respond when our moment comes!

When OPPORTUNITY comes, we must seize it. That means all of us – from the Executive Board all the way to the first-year apprentice.

I am looking forward to taking hold of our opportunity with all of you when the time comes.

Let us educate and prepare ourselves so that we are ready.

As always, work safely, and I wish you all true freedom and prosperity. ■

more than it has.

The tile industry seems to be doing better in our area at the time I’m writing this article. If you know any skilled tile workers who would like to become a member, have them contact me.

Some refractory work is forecast for a few weeks this summer at V&M in Youngstown.

PROJECT STATUS



Westford Hotel, Springfield School, Canfield Library and Comfort Suites in Liberty have

wrapped up.

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LOCAL 8



Youngstown,
Ohio

Brian Collier

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters – I’m thankful that the cold weather is gone and spring/summer is finally here!

However, I was hoping for work to be picking up for our bricklaying members



Field Representative Dennis McGraff works on a Terrazzo Ohio-Kentucky Seal at the SORTC.



Ljubodrag Andjelkovich of Local 8 and Bryan Linkous of Local 10 install “Thin Brick Veneer” at Tiffany Square Plaza in Boardman.



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 8
Field Representatives Shawn Herzog and Keith Hocevar get their trowels out to help renovate the SORTC.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

Prima Health Care is nearly complete, and Graycor has taken over at the Coke Battery in Warren.

VIP and Ameriseal are working in Downtown Youngstown doing restoration work on the Mahoning County Courthouse and the Lambros Federal Courthouse.

MEETING UPDATES



Our April 9 Special Meeting to discuss Bricklayers' and Tile Members' raises for June 1 went well.

The Negotiating Committee agreed to place for Bricklayers: \$0.25 in Health and Welfare; \$0.20 in the Security Plan; \$0.46 in the Personal Care Account; \$0.07 in IPFPPA; \$0.02 in IMI; and \$0.05 on the check.

Tile Members for Zone 1 are getting \$0.25 in Health and Welfare; \$0.30 in Security Plan; \$0.02 in IPFPPA; and \$0.01 in IMI. Zone 2 Tile are getting \$0.40 in Health and Welfare \$0.04 in IPFPPA; and \$0.06 on the check.

Our regularly scheduled meeting on May 14 was our Nomination Meeting for Local Officers. With no opposition, results were: Lee Kurtz, President; Harold Miller, Vice President; Brian Collier, Financial Recording Secretary; Ljubodrag Andjelkovich, Sgt. At Arms; and Dave McCafferty and Don McMurdy, Negotiating Committee.

DATES TO REMEMBER



Our annual banquet this year will be held Oct. 10 at the Operating Engineers Hall in Boardman, as in the past.

TRAINING CLASSES AND UPGRADES



Two new, eight-week pre-apprentice classes started at the Northern Training Center. The first one started on April 20, and the second began on June 1.

I had the privilege of working with the new "Pre's" for a few hours in May. I saw real promise in their developing skills.

Realizing that our trade is in an ever-changing market, I am once again encouraging our members to take any and all upgrades.

Recently, a few restoration contractors have come to work in Local 8 – particularly in Downtown Youngstown – and have requested PCC-rated (Pointer, Cleaner, Caulker) Journeypersons.

I would like for our members possessing these skills to notify me to see if we could

get the "PCC" designation on their BAC Union Cards.

IN CLOSING

Thank you BAC Members for your Solidarity!

Let us work together to keep our standard of living and working conditions. ■

LOCALS 9, 10 & 44



East
Liverpool,
Ohio

Don Mays

Local 9 recently lost a long-time member: **Donald S. Henderson**.

Mr. Henderson was born Dec. 17, 1929. He joined the BAC in September 1951, accomplishing over 64 ½ years in membership.

I did not have the honor and privilege of meeting Mr. Henderson. That was my loss.

There is much we can learn from our senior members. It is a shame when we fail to take advantage to do so.

WORK STATUS



Work has continued to be slow this spring getting out of planning in all three Locals.

I spoke of a few of the projects in the last Benchmark. At least there is work in the planning stage, which is better than several slow years in the past.

We are picking up several small projects in Locals 9 and 10.

A nice job is coming soon if all stays the course at the AEP Cardinal power plant, as well as the Heritage WTI incinerator.

Local 44 has several projects in the planning and pre-design stages.

The possibility of some work in Local 6 and Local 8 may help some of you in the short term.

NEGOTIATIONS FINISHED

We just completed negotiations for Locals 9 and 10. The two locals negotiated together again. This is the second time we have done this.

I believe we have been very successful

with a five-year agreement that includes 21 language changes and just under a 3-percent raise.

I appreciate the Ohio Valley Construction Employers Council Officers, **Robert Gribben** and **Tom Cerra**, and their professional manner and willingness to address the issues and work toward resolution. I am hopeful they will be more active in our JATC Committees now that we have had the chance to share our Training Center programs.

I want to also thank our negotiating team members – ADC Director **Ken Kudela**, ADC Secretary Treasurer **Fred Hubbard**, Local 9 President **Jeff Miller** and Local 10 negotiations member **Roger Hilliard** – for their work and devotion.

The wages and fringe benefits have also changed in Local 44, as the contract anniversary was June 1. Please check your pay stubs to make sure your changes have been applied correctly.

APPRENTICE CONTEST



I attended the Regional Apprenticeship Contest held by our International Union and IMI for PCC, Terrazzo, Cement and Marble. Our OH-KY ADC hosted the event at our Southern Ohio Regional Training Center on June 6.

At the conclusion, several of our Northern Ohio and Southern Ohio Training Center Apprentices represented well.

There is more detail provided in other articles. Congratulations to the winning and placing apprentices.

SAFETY ROUNDTABLE



Project BEST Safety Director **Ty Lollini** recently started a Safety Roundtable. We are currently planning to meet quarterly.

We just held our first meeting and addressed the process for near-miss incidents, accidents, fatalities, and Job Safety Analysis programs.

We also discussed respiratory hazards and some possibilities for training, fit testing, and PPE.

I will keep you updated as to our progress.

There are still Local 9 and Local 44 members I have not met. I hope to meet you at an upcoming meeting.

If you have any questions, need assistance, or have information that may help me represent our Locals, my office number is 330-382-9600, and my mobile number is 330-571-5289. ■

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

LOCAL 16

Mentor,
Ohio

Keith Hocevar



The Local 16 Executive Board and Building Trust Trustees would like to thank the members that came out to cast their supporting votes on the reinstatement of the Local 16 Building Fund at the April 29 special-called meeting.

The Local 16 Union Hall is not only a building that the membership can be proud of, but has also become known throughout the community as the headquarters for Building Trades Union activity in Lake, Geauga and Ashtabula counties.

Keeping up on much-needed repairs will ensure that Local 16 and other local building trades union organizations maintain the community's respect as top-notch organizations and show that we are here to stay.

Also at the April 29 meeting, recommendations were heard from the floor by the members on where they would hope to see our current wage increase be focused when our new wage rates take effect. The overwhelming request was to focus on the Health and Welfare portion of our package in order to help with current health care premiums. These recommendations were heard, and the Negotiating Committee allocated a substantial portion of the current wage increase to the Health and Welfare portion of our package.

The new Local 16 wage rate went into effect May 1. We received a \$0.90 wage increase, which brings our Total Package to \$47.02, with a Taxable Base Rate of \$32.03.

The following are the allocations made to the wage package: \$0.50 in Health and Welfare; \$0.29 in Local 16 Building Fund; \$0.05 in International Pension Fund Pension Protection Act (IPF PPA); \$0.03 in OH-KY ADC; \$0.01 in IU Dues; \$0.01 in IMI; and \$0.01 in Local 16 dues.

The next wage increase – and the final increase in our current Collective Bargaining Agreement – will be \$0.90 and will go into effect May 1, 2016.

GOLF OUTING SUCCESS



We had fantastic weather and a strong turnout in support of the 7th Annual Bricklayers Local 16

Golf Outing this year.

The event was June 6 at the Chardon Lakes Golf Course. We had 88 golfers and 30 event sponsors to help make it a success.

Special thanks go out to Local 16 members **Rich Bacurin** (Golf Outing Coordinator), **Dan Musacchio**, **Dave Shinkle** and **Dan Fertig** who helped make this event a great one.

If you missed the event this year and are interested in getting information for next year's event, call the office and we will make sure that you are notified next year.

CASH REWARD

As I reported on in my last Benchmark article, we are actively looking for small residential contractors that might be interested in taking advantage of the benefits of being a union contractor and becoming signatory to the Local.

Local 16 is offering a \$1,000 Marketing Reward to any member that brings in a current non-union contractor (size of the company doesn't matter – big or small) to become signatory to the Local 16 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

This is how the process works:

1. A member knows a non-union contractor that is interested in becoming a union contractor.
2. A member contacts me with a potential contractor that is interested in hearing more about the union and its benefits to their business.
3. I meet with the non-union contractor, either by myself or with the member that has made the contact. This will be situation-specific.
4. The non-union contractor signs the Local 16 Collective Bargaining Agreement and fulfills the obligations to be a contractor in good standing.
5. The Member gets a \$1,000 New Contractor Marketing Reward for their assistance in growing our pool of potential employers.

CONDOLENCES



Former Local 16 Business Manager **John Paul Patrick Dougherty**, 81, passed away May 22, 2015.

During his career as Business Manager, John was a strong negotiator and tireless advocate for his union Brothers. He was instrumental in the purchase and construction of the current Local 16 Hall.

John's achievements and dedication to Local 16 will not be forgotten. ■

LOCAL 18 NORTH

Cincinnati,
Ohio

Brian D. Wear



The work in the Local 18 area continues to increase. After a slow June, things have started picking up.

The Milford schools have started to roll for Hagerman, and the work in Lexington has started to provide more opportunities for employment. Purdy Masonry will continue to lay brick on the Academic Science Building at UK until winter.

The Cincinnati area contractors all seem to be working at a steady pace. All of them have seen an increase in the workload.

This has yielded opportunities for employment of more apprentices to the trade. As all of you know, this is the continuation of the future. Our trade needs them. Please take the time with these young people to show them the correct way and the proper techniques that will help them succeed.

This new generation of worker is unlike the others. They have all been raised in a time of technology and sensitivity. From speaking with them, they come from all the backgrounds you can imagine – some have fought for our freedom, while others have struggled to get out of bad neighborhoods and dealt with a lack of parenting.

Now they are our apprentices, so please be patient, give them a hand and, if nothing else, treat them like one of your own.

They may end up being your boss one day ... or even the field representative of a Local Union. Imagine that.

LOCAL 18 PICNIC



The Local picnic will be held on July 25 at Harvest Home Park in Cheviot.

Please take the time to come out and enjoy some of the festivities and the good food.

Door prizes and t-shirts are always a part of this event.

If you would like to help out, please give me a call.

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BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

JOB WELL DONE



I would like to congratulate two of our fine young craftworkers from Local 18.

Alex Latanza and **John Garnett** will be competing at the National Apprenticeship Contest in September. Both of these men have been working hard at the restoration craft. Well done, guys! ■

NICE WORK



I would like to congratulate **Travis Knight** on his accomplishment of making it to the National Apprenticeship Competition. Travis finished runner-up at the Regional Competition for Terrazzo, which was held at the Southern Ohio Regional Training Center.

I would encourage anyone who hasn't visited or attended the Southern Ohio Regional Training Center to do so. Brothers, this is our Training Center. Let's take advantage of it and use it to make ourselves more employable.

WORK STATUS

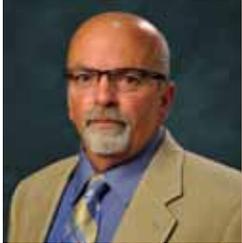


Projects at Greenville School, Covington School, the ALBAT Lineman's facility, Dayton Main Library and Cabela's are well underway as I write this letter.

Jobs to start in the near future are Good Samaritan North Hospital, Arcanum School, Dayton Parking Garage and four Meijer's store fronts, along with some other small projects.

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LOCAL 18 SOUTH



Cincinnati,
Ohio

Jeff King

I would like to take a minute to introduce myself. My name is Jeff King and I am a 33-year member of Local 18.

I am honored to be given this opportunity to serve the membership as your Brick and TMT field representative.

Many of you already know me, but for those of you who don't, I look forward to meeting you soon. It is the membership that makes a Union either strong or weak.

I challenge all of you to WORK TOGETHER so that we can keep our Union strong. I look forward to serving you. ■



Valerie Moss, Victor Moss and Chris Moss with Heater the Mascot, at a Dayton Dragons game using the Local 22 season tickets.



LOCAL 22



Dayton,
Ohio

Shawn Herzog

It was slow getting started, but work is now full speed ahead in the Local 22 jurisdiction and looks to stay that way for the remainder of the year and into the first part of 2016.

Full employment has been reached, and everybody should recognize some new faces, whether they are new journeymen members or first-year apprentices.

I would like to ask everyone to help them along and welcome them to our Brotherhood.



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 22

BAC Local 22 Apprentice Travis Knight competed in the Regional Apprenticeship competition in Terrazzo at the SORTC Training Center in Batavia. Travis won second place and will compete in the nationals.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

BELATED CONGRATS



I would like to apologize to **Kevin Kidd** for not recognizing his accomplishment at the World of Concrete.

Kevin competed at the National Competition at the World of Concrete, and he finished runner-up in the National Brick Competition in Las Vegas.

LOCAL 22 PICNIC



All members and their families should try to attend the Local 22 Picnic on Aug. 29, held at the Polish Club Picnic Grounds on Needmore Road from noon to 4 p.m.

I look forward to seeing everybody there. ■

LOCAL 36



Cleveland,
Ohio

Dan Zavagno

Hello, Brothers and Sisters: On a good note, work has been going full-tilt, as we had hoped. We could have put more tile layers and finishers to work if they were available.

Years ago, our work tended to run all year, and there wasn't a huge push in the summer months.

Now, jobs break ground in the late summer/early fall and work into the winter months to get under roof.

In the spring, the drywall is up, and they are ready for the finishing trades, which seems to be why we have the late start in the year. We work through the summer and they turn the building over in the fall.

The reality is that we always need extra tile setters and finishers in the summer months.

As I have preached so many times before, make yourself ready with:

- 1.) An up-to-date drug card
- 2.) Your OSHA-10 hour card.

To no real surprise, I always have a few members who are not prepared and end up missing a week of work while they wait for their drug card.

If you are out of work for some reason, please call the Hall.

BROWNS GAME



We are again hoping to attend a Browns game this fall. Give us a call if you are interested so we can get a headcount.

This year, we are only ordering tickets for people that request them, so we must know if you want to attend by July 31.

STEAK ROAST SUCCESS

Thank you to all those who helped make our annual steak roast a success.

We did run out of steaks for those who wanted to take one home, and I apologize for that. Next year, we will order more to take care of this.

Like anything else, it is kind of a guessing game on how many members will show up and if they will eat one, two, or even three steaks, as some have done.

A good time was had by all, and a special thank you to **Chef Slivka** for his hard work and preparation.

HAPPY RETIREMENT

We would like to wish **Ron Folsom** good luck as he moves into retirement mode.

Ronnie ran a lot of successful jobs in our area. He has left his legacy that will stand the test of time on many buildings in our area.

IN WITH THE NEW

Lastly, we would like to welcome new apprentices **Bryce Clemons** and **Tom Peters**, who will fill the spot of a legend and create their own tile imprint on Northern Ohio.

Good luck to you both. ■

LOCAL 39 OH, 52 OH & 7 KY



Portsmouth,
Ohio

Ted Linscott

Work continues to be on the slower side right now, but things will continue to pick up as the summer goes on.

The SOMC Building in Portsmouth is coming out of the ground, but there is a lot

of building that has to be built before the veneer goes on.

We've had a sizable amount of maintenance work at Haverhill Coke, and that work seems to continue. The ongoing fireproofing work at Marathon should continue through the summer.

Ohio University continues to be a bright spot in Athens, as they have a couple of buildings on the books for remodel/additions and more dormitories to build.

Work in the Marietta area has been steady. Grae-Con has been awarded an addition to Selby Hospital. Also, a phase of the Armory job in Marietta has been awarded to G&M out of Zanesville.

BAD TRADE DEALS

By now, I hope that everyone reading this column has heard, or at least is aware, of the most recent foreign trade deal that the President and Congressional Republicans are pushing.

This trade deal is called the Trans-Pacific Partnership, or TPP for short. Congress is debating this right now, and it is even contemplating "fast tracking" it.

"Fast tracking" this deal would give the President the authorization to sign this deal without Congressional debate or amendments. Our elected representatives would merely be able to vote "yes" or "no" without debating the merits or changing parts of the deal.

While the media has not been giving this issue its due, working Americans from all across this country have watched this debate unfold. They are not just watching, but taking action as well. Thousands of letters and phone calls have poured into Congressional offices in D.C. saying the same thing - "Stop Fast Track."

Folks from my generation remember NAFTA and the grand promises that were made to Americans if it passed. Almost two decades later, the evidence is in, and we now know that NAFTA didn't work out so well for middle-class Americans.

Between you and me and the fence post, this TPP deal is just like NAFTA...only much worse.

There is no doubt that foreign trade is important to the economic engine of our country. No reasonable person is going to argue that U.S. companies and corporations involved in global trade need to be profitable.

That's how America positioned itself to be the main economic engine of the world. But in the immortal words of the late Ted Kennedy, "When does the greed STOP?"

This trade deal will only lead to the loss

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BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

of more American manufacturing jobs and add to the pressure that working Americans already feel.

We all know that everything has a price, and we, as Americans, are faced with choices every day concerning wants versus needs and price versus value.

We make these choices at the local grocery store or at a clothing retailer. It is no different when it comes to global trade.

Recently, the President's Council of Economic Advisers published a report on "The Economic Benefits of U.S. Trade." We must remind ourselves that the authors of this report work for the President and helped

shape the deal being debated now.

The figures don't lie, but you and I both know sometimes the liars are doing the figuring.

This is a President that I personally supported with my vote twice. I'm not saying I regret lending him my support, but on this issue, the President is just plain wrong. Many folks in the Labor movement feel as if the President has turned his back on us as it relates to global trade.

Our elected representatives have to consider if a new trade deal in this form is worth the cost to American workers. In the aforementioned report, the President's own

Council seems to forget that trade and foreign investments have costs as well as benefits.

Sometimes it is true that the benefits and the value outweigh the costs. But that is absolutely not the case with TPP; the costs will far outweigh the benefits.

Their main argument on why "this is a good thing" hinges on the fact that the winners can compensate the losers.

Sound familiar? Sounds like "Trickle Down Economics" remixed to me.

We found out that, in America, winners rarely compensate losers. More often than not, the winners even attempt to push the losers down even further.

In fact, many U.S. companies will keep their earnings in an offshore account so they won't even have to pay U.S. taxes.

As I see it, there are four major costs to expanded international trade and foreign investment flows:

1.) When trade changes prices of goods in this country, it also changes the balance of middle-class income. Let's say trade with China lowers the price of labor-intensive manufactured goods exported by China. The wages of U.S. manufacturing workers (and, in some cases, of all workers) will tend to decrease.

2.) When trade leads to the outflow of investment from the U.S. to low-wage countries, such as China, Mexico, or Vietnam, jobs are lost in the U.S., and wages are thereby subjected to downward pressure.

Continued on page 14.



Kevin Six applies some final touches to one of the new sculpted brick walls at Ohio University.



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 52

Local 52 members working for Kirk Brothers are responsible for the two sculpted brick walls (pictured above and left) that were recently finished on the Ohio University campus.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

The income distribution shifts from middle-class Americans to the deep pockets of large corporations.

3.) An imbalance of trade leads to a race to the bottom in labor standards and pay, environmental standards, and corporate taxation. The workers, the environment, and the budget revenues of local communities all take a huge hit, even as corporations continue to increase their profit margins.

4.) This form of globalization helps multinational corporations hold the reins of power to our government. These companies have used trade and investment agreements to increase their bargaining power on issues like intellectual property and to weaken the ability of our government to regulate these entities that have no particular allegiance to any country.

I don't know about you, but a government for the people, by the people is what made this country great and provided the opportunity for prosperity for everyone. TPP is a perfect example of this motto slipping even farther away. It should now read, "A government for corporations, paid for by corporations."

The Council of Economic Advisors report did not mention the arguments above or even take into consideration Labor's point of view.

These basic ideas come from a common sense economic agenda that will benefit every worker. This report basically treats the Trans-Pacific Partnership as just another foreign trade deal, when in fact this is at least as much about foreign investment as it is about trade.

Call your Congressman/Congresswoman and tell him or her to vote NO on Fast Track and HELL NO to TPP.

Ohioans simply cannot afford another ill-advised trade deal that will further devastate our communities. We deserve better. ■

LOCAL 40



Mansfield,
Ohio

Matthew R.
McClester

All members should have received a notice from the Ohio Bricklayers Health and Welfare Fund notifying you of changes in the Health Plan, including another increase in premiums.

Unfortunately, this increase is needed to offset increasing costs in benefits paid. Although we continue to be frustrated by the increasing cost in health insurance, the reality is this situation exists in all fields of employment.

Other workers pay less than us for health care only because their employer subsidizes their premium by paying lower wages, as opposed to the BAC where we have to cover the total cost in our wage package.

These costs have been rising faster than inflation for decades, and if you take the time to do some research, you will see that costs have not been rising as fast since the Affordable Care Act was passed.

The biggest cause of increased costs is the aging population and unhealthy lifestyles.

Personally, I believe that sooner than later we may need to transition our health care system to a Medicare-like system for all Americans, as opposed to the current situation where big corporation insurance companies dictate everything.

NEW CBA

We were able to agree on a new Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Construction Employers Association (CEA) on May 21 after two productive negotiation sessions.

We were able to settle on a three-year agreement, with wage increases of \$1.15 for year 1, \$1.15 for year 2 and \$1.20 for year 3. There were also some language changes from both parties.

The negotiating committee decided to put \$0.90 of the wage increase on the base rate after putting \$0.12 in the Ohio Bricklayers Pension and \$0.13 in the IU Pension PPA, as required by their respective Pension Recovery Plans.

We would like to thank Jeremiah Holland and Frank Wuchick, who served as Negotiating Committee Members.

MEETING CANCELED



We have decided to cancel our monthly meeting in July.

We will hold our Annual Retiree Fish Fry at our regular meeting on Aug. 12.

At the Retiree Fish Fry, we will be honoring all retirees, including special recognition for Gold Card member Joe Irvin, who is celebrating 50 years of continuous membership, as well as 40-year members Tom Delaney, Talmadge Davis, Delbert McArdle and Bill Sand.

We hope to see a good turnout to honor all our retired members. ■

LOCAL 45 & 55



Columbus,
Ohio

Tom Cannon Jr.

Work started well this spring, but it has slowed up a little at this time.

Mouser Masonry is working on West Franklin Elementary and Richard Elementary schools in the South-Western City School District.

There are a number of projects that should start in July.

Leidal & Hart has two small jobs at the Parsons Avenue Library and the Driving Park Recreation Center.

Continued on page 15.



BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

Kirk Brothers will start soon at Conger Elementary, and Smoot will be starting at the Fairground Expo in July or August.

D C Meyers has a job at the Dublin Road WTP that should start in August.

FAMILY NIGHT WITH CLIPPERS

The Central Ohio AFL-CIO Labor Council is again having an "Organized Labor of Central Ohio Family Night with the Clippers."

The event is July 25. Gates open at 5:30 p.m., and the game starts at 7:15 p.m. Local 55 has vouchers for the event that are good for either four adults or two adults and four children (18 and under).

Local 55 members may call 614-342-8970 for more information and to reserve a voucher.

IN CLOSING

I will be retiring as the Field Representative for Locals 45 and 55 on July 3.

William (Bill) Hulet will be replacing me – see his message below.

I will still be at the regular meetings on the first Monday of each month (except for holidays) at 7:30 p.m.

Thanks, and be safe. ■

LOCAL 45 & 55



**Columbus,
Ohio**

Bill Hulet Jr.

Hello Fraternal Brothers of Local 45 and 55. My name is **William (Bill) Hulet Jr.** I joined the Bricklayers Union in 1997.

I have worked in many aspects of our trade from Finisher, Bricklayer, Tile Setter, and Stone Mason, as well as some PCC work.

I have been active in Local 55 as a member of the Executive Board and a Trustee on the V.E.B.A. plan for the last several years.

I feel fortunate in being selected as the new Field Rep for Locals 45 and 55.

I look forward to meeting all the members in the area that I will be covering.

I'd also like to thank **Tom Cannon Jr.**

for all his years of service and wish him the best in his retirement. ■

LOCAL 46



**Fremont,
Ohio**

Steve Shively

We have had a pretty good winter and spring, and I can only hope that there will be some decent-sized jobs for our signatory contractors to bid.

We have settled a new three-year agreement, with a 2.5 percent increase per year. This amounts to \$1.15 the first year, \$1.15 the second year and \$1.20 the third year, making it a \$3.50 increase over the term of the agreement.

The total package, as of June 1, is \$46.95. The taxable base rate is \$29.60. Let's hope that health insurance can be kept in check so we can put some of the increases in the take-home pay – \$0.69 went on the check this time.

New wage cards can be picked up at the office or the monthly union meeting, or come see me.

I want to thank all who participated in the negotiation process.

With our total fringe package now over \$17 an hour, we have to be the most efficient, safe and well-trained workforce in order to compete. Many non-union shops work for \$15 an hour with no benefits.

This is what our contractors are up against when they bid work. It's why we, as union members, must keep up on our training in order to be the most productive workers in this highly-competitive industry.

RETIREE NEWS



We had another retiree breakfast recently. It was good to see a lot of faces that I don't often get to look at any more.

It was good to hear the stories and have a few laughs, and at times it got a little deep.

My thanks to **Cheryl Widman** for taking the lead on this.

Also, congratulations to **Jim Beier** and

Continued on page 16.



Jim Beier receiving his 50 year awards.



Local 46 retirees breakfast.

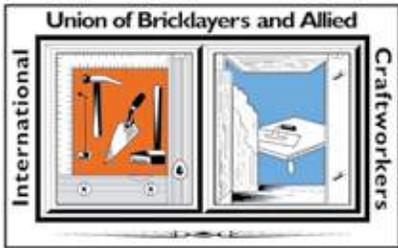
PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 46



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www.oh-kyadc.com

We are the B.A.C.
Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers



REPORTS

Willis Zibble on receiving their 50-year gold cards!

IMPRESSED IN BATAVIA



Speaking of training, I just attended the apprentice contest for Marble, Cement, Terrazzo and PCC, which was held at our newest training facility in Batavia.

It's a beautiful place with a large work area, classrooms, meeting rooms, offices, and locker rooms and features some talented instructors – a far cry from the garage where I started.

If you get down that way, it is very impressive to see the training that goes on (as is the case at our Hudson facility).

Kudos to everyone who had a hand in making this facility a reality.

Our training is our future!

IN CLOSING

I hope to see you all soon.

Set the bar high, and continue to be the best of the best out there. ■

IN MEMORIAM

Basso Battista, Local 5 OH

Thomas Benjock, Local 5 OH

Ulysses Bostic, Local 55 OH

Robert Burns, Local 6 OH

John Burrows, Local 22 OH

Kip Callihan, Local 5 OH

Colin Campbell, Local 5 OH

Kevin Cole, Local 22 OH

Jonathan Colley, Local 5 OH

Brooks Davis, Local 52 OH

William Dinkel, Local 5 OH

John Dougherty, Local 16 OH

George Eichner, Local 5 OH

Andreas Friedsman, Local 5 OH

Andrew Gales, Local 5 OH

Rocco Gannelli, Local 5 OH

William Greathouse, Local 55 OH

Andy Hatala, Local 7 OH

James Heltsley Sr., Local 22 OH

Donald Henderson, Local 9 OH

Paul Himes Sr., Local 8 OH

Merell Jackson, Local 7 KY

Clarence Jordan, Local 5 OH

Richard Knotek Sr., Local 36 OH

Joseph Meyers, Local 5 OH

David Miles, Local 6 OH

Donald Olenick, Local 7 OH

Salvatore Poltrone, Local 5 OH

Steven Rhoads, Local 6 OH

John Servizzi, Local 18 OH

Allen Shafer, Local 7 OH

Orville Shaffer, Local 7 OH

Lester Simmons, Local 8 OH

Edward Sopko, Local 5 OH

Dale Wherley, Local 6 OH

John Wilson, Local 18 OH