

THE BENCHMARK

OF THE OHIO-KENTUCKY ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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This Newsletter
is intended for
Members Only

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

New ADC Office ready for business

By Ken Kudela



By the time you receive this edition of The Benchmark, construction of our OH-KY Administrative District Council offices will be complete.

In 2015, we took the first step to create a centralized northern campus when we purchased property in Amherst, with easy access to Interstate 90 and the Ohio Turnpike.

In January 2016, we moved on to this property and asked our members for patience and understanding, as our District Council offices and Northern Ohio Regional Training Center (NORTC) operations were consolidated into a small building left on the site and two doublewide trailers to conduct business.

By early April 2017, construction of



A view of the new OH-KY ADC office building from State Route 58 (Leavitt Road). Construction on the building, which will house OH-KY ADC staff, was finished in early April.

the NORTC was complete and all operations moved into the building. Once work wrapped up on the training center, construction of our District Council office building began.

Now I am proud to announce we are

preparing to move the OH-KY ADC office from its temporary space in the training center into our new office building.

Once again, I ask for your patience during this transition period, as things will

See MESSAGE on page 3.

THE SECRETARY-TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Don Huss



Greetings to all B.A.C. members and families. The worst of the winter months are behind us now, and just as it happens every

year, the work opportunities will begin to be advantageous and profitable for our members.

This is a good time of year to make sure that all of your individual safety requirements and drug screening cards are up to date.

If you need to take your annual safety/drug test, please make sure that you get in touch with your Field Representative to get the necessary paperwork.

ELECTION PREPARATION

Along with spring, comes the unofficial start to the political season. This year, we will be enduring the mid-term elections.

While I am not the most political person in the Union, I do know that every election cycle has its consequences.

I urge every member of the OH-KY ADC to educate himself or herself and

See SECRETARY on page 4.

THE IMI UPDATE:

By Tom Elliott



Have you ever thought about becoming a contractor, but were unsure what it takes to make that happen? Or are you a small contractor who would like to grow your business?

The International Masonry Institute (IMI) is an alliance of the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers and the contractors who employ those craftworkers. With an anticipated and welcomed growth in our membership, we must also address the need for contractors to employ these new craftworkers.

As part of our Contractor College curriculum, the IMI has recently implemented a Contractor Development course for individuals who are

considering starting a company, or who may already have a small company and would like to expand their possibilities.

On May 7, we will host a course at the Northern Ohio Training Center in Amherst, and we are looking to host the program at the Southern Ohio Training Center in Batavia on a later date.

This program provides a continuing, coordinated curriculum of specialized courses to help trowel-related contractors develop the skills they need to improve their business practices regardless of the size, volume or the type of work they handle.

Some of the topics that will be covered include:

- Where do I start?
- Do I have enough capital?
- When can I expect to get paid?
- Workers comp/bonding requirements.
- Union/Benefit requirements.
- Do I understand my market?
- Estimating projects/software available.

- What industry resources are available for me to use?
- Contracts/specifications/plans.

This will be a full one-day course, taught by IMI Directors who have experience as business owners, who will be able to share with you the do's and don'ts associated with owning a company and some of the challenges you might face.

Union officials will also be on hand to speak to you about the requirements of being a signatory contractor, the process of submitting benefits for your employees and how the union may be able to help you with securing projects.

This course is open to any BAC craftworker in any of the BAC trades.

If you would like more information on the IMI Contractor Development course, or any other training opportunities that are available to you, please contact me at telliott@imiweb.org or 440-986-2260. —

When it's time to enroll in Medicare, there's a place to turn for help

If you're confused about Medicare enrollment, you're not alone. The good news is you have a trusted resource to help walk you through the process and help you make the best decision for your financial situation and health-care needs.

If you or a family member are approaching age 65, Medicare enrollment is something you are going to have to deal with regardless of whether you are retired yet or not. Even if you have another form of insurance it may be worth checking to see if a Medicare plan could cover any gaps in your present coverage.

That's exactly why Union Plus put together the **Union Plus Retiree Health Insurance** program. It helps you as a OH-KY ADC union member choose the right plan as you enroll in Medicare—which can occur three months before



your birthday month and three months after your 65th birthday month.

Better yet, this service is available to spouses and parents of union members who are approaching 65 as an added benefit for your years of hard work.

Union Plus is partnering with eHealth Insurance because they have a solid reputation in helping people make

this important decision. This program has an A+ Better Business Bureau Rating—the highest rating.

If you or a family member is nearing age 65, you can learn about Medicare enrollment with a free educational guide, "The Beginners Guide to Medicare for Union Members." Get yours by going to unionplusmedicare.com. It's a resource available to you with no obligation to enroll.

Medicare enrollment may be complicated but it is important. If you wait to enroll, you might incur late enrollment penalties that could affect the amount of premiums you pay for health care coverage. Get it right by checking out the Union Plus Retiree Health Insurance program call **1-888-898-5304** (TTY 711) Monday – Friday from 8am to 8pm ET to speak to a eHealth licensed insurance agent before you enroll.

Message

Continued from page 1.

be a little hectic during the move. Once our staff settles into their surroundings, we expect operations to return to normal.

This entire project began with a vision and a goal of a centralized area to allow our northern members easier travels, while building two state-of-the-art facilities on a property that would allow for future expansion.

This mission has been accomplished and I ask you to give us a few weeks to get settled in, but I also encourage you to stop in and visit our new home. The new OH-KY ADC office building, in addition to our two training centers, should make all our members proud to be a member of this District Council.

INTERNATIONAL BENEFITS

Besides the usual benefits that come along with being in our union, our International, the BAC, will occasionally partner with a third-party contractor to provide members with additional benefits.

Within this edition, you will notice two separate items that I urge you to review, and if you are eligible, to apply.

The first item, located on Page 2, pertains to a free educational guide on Medicare enrollment and additional information on the Union Plus Retiree Health Insurance program.

Found below, the second item available to members is the opportunity to obtain



PHOTO: COURTESY OF OH-KY ADC

The new office building is a testament to the expert skill level of highly trained OH-KY ADC members, as it showcases numerous patterns and designs to the public, as they pass by the new location in Amherst.

free Child ID kits to ensure the safety of your families – children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other young people you know.

IN CLOSING

The start of the baseball season usually brings about the final blast of winter. With the Reds and Indians back in action, it is safe to say spring-like weather has arrived and our busy season will soon begin.

During our slow time, I hope every

member obtained all the proper certifications needed for this construction season. This should include your drug-free card, OSHA safety and any upgrade training needed to improve or expand your craft and earn the type of paycheck you desire.

Please call your training center immediately if you still need any certifications to be “work ready” when the call arrives. I expect this to be another busy year for most of our Locals.

And above all else, remember to work safely when you return to the jobsite. ■

National Child Identification Program



The OH-KY ADC and the IUBAC have teamed up with the National Child Identification Program to ensure that our families and communities are as safe as possible.

We have Child ID kits available for all our members with children/grandchildren, nieces, nephews or neighbors. The Child ID kits are free of charge.

Please contact Cynthia Roth via email (oadc@oadc.net) or call (800) 442-0479 for your free kit.

Northern Training Center to host another Apprentice Contest

On July 21, the Ohio-Kentucky Administrative District Council's Northern Ohio Regional Training Center will once again host a Regional Apprentice Contest.

The event will be held in collaboration with the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC) and the International Masonry Institute (IMI).

The best apprentices from the North Central Region, (consisting of 14 states) will demonstrate their skills in the trowel trades of PCC, Terrazzo, Marble and Cement.



Apprentices prepare for the start of the 2017 regional MCAA Skills Challenge Competition, which was held at the Northern Ohio Regional Training Center.

Apprentices competing at the regional contest will have advanced by winning their respective local and

state contests.

Regional contest winners will then advance to compete at the International Apprentice Contest being held in Washington D.C. Oct. 5-7 at the IMI.

The Ohio-Kentucky Administrative District Council Training Center JATC and staff welcome all to attend the regional event and show support for our regional contestants.

This will be the second major event at the NORTC, as the facility hosted the Mason Contractors Association of America's Skills Challenge in October 2017. ■

Secretary

Continued from page 1.

their family members. We as a Union need to make sure that we back only the union-friendly candidates not only at the local level, but all the way up to the national level as well.

While some of you may already know what I am about to say, I would be remiss in my duties if I did not share this story with the membership.

In the first part of the year, many of you saw a slight increase in your bring home pay because of the tax reform that was pushed through by our national legislators. That extra pay will end up being a double-edged sword for Union members.

If you are like me and itemize your tax return every year, you know that you have always been able to write off simple things like union dues, charitable contributions, work clothes, tools, etc.

Due to the tax reform, when you file your 2018 taxes in the early part of 2019, you will no longer be able to write off any of the above-mentioned items. I mention this because if you are like me and expect a large tax return every year, you could be in for a rude awakening.

The way that it was explained to me was that the government is giving you your next tax return every week, little by little.

Therefore, you will need to make sure that you save some of that

increase to compensate for the lack of a return that you probably will not receive next year.

APPRENTICE CONTESTS

Once again this year, the International Union is holding its National Apprentice Contests. The Finals will be held the first week of October in Bowie, Md.

On the Local level, June will be a very busy month for us in the OH-KY ADC. On June 2, in Amherst, the Northern Regional Training Facility will host a Local contest among the OH-KY ADC brick apprentices to determine which apprentices will advance to compete in the North Central Regional contest in Chicago on June 23.

One week later, on June 9, we will host another local contest in Amherst to select which P.C.C. apprentice will advance to compete in the North Central Regional contest, which will also be held in Amherst at the Northern Regional Training Center on July 21.

The top contestants from the North Central Regional will earn automatic births to the national contest in Bowie, Md.

The new Northern Regional Training Center has been selected by the International Union to host the North Central Regional contest for the crafts of P.C.C., Marble, Tile, and Terrazzo.

On this date, we will have the privilege of showing off the state-of-the-art training facility to contestants

from 14 states that comprise the North-Central Region.

This contest will take place on July 21, and all are welcome to attend.

LOCAL VISITS

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, it is my intention to attend as many monthly meetings of the individual Locals as I can.

I have already started by attending meetings at Local 6, Local 22, Local 40 and Local 46.

I picked those Locals first because they all have their contracts expiring this year.

The purpose of attending meetings is to give us better understandings of what the membership's needs are.

If you have missed me at one of those meetings, I am hoping to attend more meetings as my schedule allows.

IN CLOSING

Lastly, I want to remind the membership to keep your monthly dues up to date.

As our Constitution states, if you become three months behind in your dues, your membership will be dropped.

Your monthly dues can be paid several ways.

Mail them to OH-KY ADC 8497 Leavitt Road, Amherst, OH 44001, by calling 1-800-442-0497, paying them online through the B.A.C. Member Portal or having them directly withdrawn from a bank account or credit card. ■

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

LOCAL 3



Toledo,
Ohio

Matt Aberl

Here at Local 3, we hope everyone had an enjoyable, happy and safe holiday season. Our members mean a lot to us and we wish them a good new year.

Just as expected, we had a rough winter this year, which caused many members to miss more work than we had hoped. It is our goal to get everyone back to work as soon as possible.

Work does look good for this year. We have projects at ProMedica, the steel mill, more schools, and we anticipate better refinery work than last year.

Shortly after our last Benchmark on Dec. 14, Local 3 had our annual awards banquet. The following awards were given:

Member with 25 years of service: **Gary D. Sallee**.

Members with 40 years of service: **Gerald J. Beaudry** and **James C. Jacobs**. **Paul G. Jovanovic Sr.** would have received this award, but he passed prior to the banquet.

Members with 50 years of service: **James L. Letgen**, **Leroy J. Gibson**, **Robert O. Knaggs**, **Bennie J. McGee** and **William L. Osborne**.

Members with 60 years of service: **Leonard Angel**, **Tom Meredith** and **Virgil Mosiniak**.

We thank all of you for your many years of service and look forward to giving out more awards at the next annual banquet.

MUCH APPRECIATION



I would like to extend a special thanks to Allstate's Refractory, Spartan, Tri-County and Kuhlman for their donations of materials to the apprenticeship training center.

I would also like to thank **Tom Hawk** and **Doug Rogers** for donating their time to instructing refractory skills to our students.

All of your contributions are greatly appreciated.

SEEKING VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

If anyone knows or hears of any volunteer work where Local 3 can participate, please let us know.

Not only does this allow us to serve our community, but it gives us visibility.

DUES REMINDER



As always, paying your dues is an important part of your membership. If you fail to pay your dues, you are subject to a reinstatement fee.

Your dues are important, as they go toward funding supportive services and benefits for you and your family.

This includes your health insurance, work opportunities and pension.

If you become three months behind in payment of your dues, you will be automatically dropped from the membership.

Not only will you then have to pay the reinstatement fee, but you jeopardize your health insurance and other benefits.

We know life can get busy, so we made sure that dues can be paid in several easy ways. You can: mail them to the District Council office at 8497 Leavitt Road, Amherst, OH 44001, or pay them over the phone by credit card by calling 1-800-442-0479.

KEEP INFO UPDATED



If you had any changes in phone number, address, marital status, etc., please let me know by calling 419-478-1818.

It is very important that I have updated information so that I can help you as efficiently as possible.

This is also important for awards, for I cannot give them to members that I cannot find. I currently have a number of documents marked return to sender.

If you think your information may not be up to date, think you should have received something or you would prefer another mode of communication (like email), please call as soon as possible.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



I look forward to seeing you at our regular meetings on the second Thursday of every month

at 7:30 p.m.

Not only will your attendance keep you updated on matters of business, but it is your opportunity to voice your opinions and concerns.

Meetings are also a great time to meet your fellow members and make new friends.

IN CLOSING

"Our labor unions are not narrow, self-seeking groups. They have raised wages, shortened hours, and provided supplemental benefits. Through collective bargaining and grievance procedures, they have brought justice and democracy to the shop floor." – John F. Kennedy. ■

LOCAL 5 EAST



Cleveland,
Ohio

Dave Dabrowski

As we all know, Cleveland weather is unpredictable, and it has been proven true to start this year with the temperatures moving up and down, to the snow falling and melting and falling still again.

Hopefully, Mother Nature has gotten it out of her system so we can all work steadily from here on out.

Unlike last year, the majority of the membership has started back to work, which is an indication of how much work is planned for this year in Local 5.

Most of our contractors have new construction and restoration projects scheduled throughout the area to lead into the latter part of the year.

With that being said, if you have not started back to work yet, you need to call the Local 5 office so we can refer you to a contractor who is in need of manpower.

We will have updates and project listings at our Local 5 monthly meetings, every third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Pipefitters Hall.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

HELP OUR NEW MEMBERS

With the amount of work scheduled, we will be looking to add a large number of new apprentices and journeymen to help man up projects for the contractors.

Take the time to help them get acclimated as a Union member, since most of the new members have never been part of a Union before.

Whether it's for a safer work environment, increase in finances or for fringe benefits they haven't had previously, they are all joining to better themselves and their families.

TRAINING REMINDERS



As I have mentioned previously at Union meetings and I'm sure in past publications of the Benchmark, more and more projects are requiring OSHA 10 cards and up-to-date drug cards.

This is becoming the norm. Project owners and general contractors are more stringent with job site safety than ever before.

If you need an OSHA 10 card or you can't find yours, call the Local 5 office and we will assist you in getting one.

As for your drug card, do not pass up your annual or random test. This card is becoming a requirement on the majority of projects in the Greater Cleveland area.

Also, Local 5 will have a steward class on April 14 at 8 a.m. at the Training Center in Amherst for all members who wish to take it.

Call the Local 5 office and leave your name and phone number. You will not be able to just show up the day of the class.

We will need a count of how many members will be there so we can have ample material.

WAGE INCREASE



At the upcoming April 18 meeting, we will listen to recommendations from Local 5 members for the upcoming wage increase that will go in effect May 1.

IN CLOSING

Make sure your monthly dues are up to date so you are not dropped for non-payment of monthly dues.

As you are working, check your surroundings and work safe. ■

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

LOCAL 5 WEST



Cleveland,
Ohio

Jairo Cabrera

Greetings Brothers and Sisters: I would like to thank you all for your efforts in keeping our Union strong. As we know, it takes all of our efforts, together, to protect and preserve the common goals that we all work so hard to achieve.

Stepping up and becoming involved with our Union is one way of assuring that we are all working toward bettering our Union and keeping our trade alive.

We're coming up on our 2018 spring season and looking forward to another great year at Local 5.

Be mindful that we will need all of our members on-board to help provide the staffing required for our contractors this year.

With so much work on the horizon, we must make sure that our qualifications are current. It's also critical to note that good standing members require drug testing and OSHA 10 in order to work on most, if not all, of these projects.

As a Union Mason, the expectation is that we are the best in our trade. Others will look upon us throughout the world and recognize our true craftsmanship.

Bricklayers throughout the world have been looking at our Facebook and website pages to see what we are doing and how we are representing as a Union.

We have always been in the spotlight regardless of if it's a contractor, a homeowner or even a child evaluating us.

Union Masons have always been respected because of the level of our work quality. Each day, we must always keep this in mind as we are out there facing the elements.

Our quality of work will set the bar of expectation and guarantee us more work in the future.

TRAINING REMINDER



For any bricklayers that are interested in increasing their skill set through training, please keep in

mind classes require at least 12 registered members to run the class.

District Council would gladly teach a course as long as we have 12 members that are dedicated to attending the course for which they are registered.

KEEP US INFORMED



I'd like to thank those that take the time to call us and continue to let us know when you are working on a job site.

Regardless of how big or small the job site might be, this helps us to best do our job in protecting you.

APPRENTICE REMINDERS



As the apprentices complete their winter classes, it's their responsibility to arrive to work on-time, ready to work like a journeyman.

We are counting on the apprentices to step-up and become great Bricklayers.

The expectation is that they take advantage of what this Union has to offer.

Getting involved and learning as much as possible is the best next step.

Since this life is full of challenges that no one can predict, this is one tool that once gained, can never be lost.

PRE-APPRENTICES START



Pre-apprentice classes are getting ready to start. We are looking at one of the highest groups of pre-apprentice students that I have yet experienced.

This is great news due to the fact that we want to continue to build a strong Union.

IN CLOSING

To all of our members throughout the world, we are looking forward to a promising season.

Keep safety in mind, with the utmost importance as we have Brothers in refractory, restoration, new construction and those working in the city.

Wherever you may be, remember that safety is our number one concern.

Remember to keep your union book paid up. This is your responsibility as a member. ■

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

LOCAL 6



Canton,
Ohio

Justin Gartrell

Greetings everyone. I hope this newsletter finds everyone rested up and eager to get back to work after a winter slowdown.

Although work has not taken off as well as we would like this spring, we are still anticipating a very busy year in and around Local 6.

The main reason for the slow start has been the weather. Hopefully the cold rainy days will be cleared out by the time this newsletter reaches everyone.

WORK STATUS

 Valentine Contractors will be ramping up manpower on the Carrollton School as the weather starts to break.

This job was hit and miss all winter with a split crew of guys. It sounds as though they will be working Saturdays to get the schedule back on track.

Dover City Schools should be coming out for bid in the very near future once the final design stages are completed. I'm being told that ground will be broke in the summer for this project. Hammond is the Construction Manager at Risk.

Coon Caulking and Restoration has the Tuscarawas County Courthouse project.

Lencyk has work starting on the Uniontown PreK-1 Elementary School.

Minerva Tile and Remodeling has some 17 different McDonalds across the state slated to start in early spring. Minerva Tile will also be doing tile work at Carrollton School later in the year.

Buckeye Caulking has quite a bit of work, roughly 30 different McDonalds throughout the state.

Rohr Masonry will be starting on the gymnasium at Lake High School.

Beaver Constructors will be doing work at the Canton South Stadium (ticket booths and concession stands). They also have a truck garage in Alliance.

Refractory work also seems to be picking up in the Local 6 area.

As for the Hall of Fame Project, they are still talking like it will take off again this spring.

Iron workers are supposed to be tying rebar for the Hotel in April.

Crowe Construction has work coming up on the parking deck and also some retail space at the Hall of Fame Village.

This will hit more toward the summer. Financing seems to be the main hold-up on this project.

2018 NEGOTIATIONS

Bricklayers Local 6 and the Association of Union Mason Contractors will be sitting down this spring to negotiate a new contract.

The current contract will expire at midnight on April 30. If anyone has issues or concerns with the contract that they would like for us to address, please feel free to give me a call.

You can also reach out to Jeremiah Unklesbay or Josh Moss. Both of them will be representing Local 6 at negotiations as well.

REMINDERS



Local 6 holds its regular monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of every month.

Everyone's welcome to attend. The meetings are held at 618 High Ave. NW in Canton on the second floor of the Iron Workers Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Food and beverages are always provided after the meetings.

We still have members getting dropped every month for non-payment of dues.

I encourage everyone to try and keep up with them. There are several convenient ways to pay including mail, phone or online through the member portal.

The District Council address and phone number to pay your dues is: Ohio-Kentucky Administrative District Council, 8497 Leavitt Road, Amherst, Ohio 44001. The phone number is 440-986-3000.

Finally, Local 6 is still in need of apprentice and journeymen craftworkers.

If anyone knows of someone interested in joining, please have them call the office. ■

LOCAL 7 OH



Akron,
Ohio

Noah Carmichael

Hello Brothers and Sisters!

When I was a kid, the teachers used to say the month of March, "Comes in like a lion, and goes out like a lamb."

Well currently, the snow is still swirling around outside and the ground is carpeted by a fresh coat of this stuff that just won't go away.

I hope that by the time this article reaches your dining room tables that the sun has come out and that blossoms are filling the landscape, instead of snow flurries.

But for right now, the lion is winning the battle for March. If you are working now, you are fortunate, and if you are not, try to stay warm and stay in touch.

Hopefully we can get our outdoor masonry season started soon.

WORK STATUS



Work for the year looks promising again, and there are some jobs that have managed to generate hours for members so far in 2018.

Akron Children's Hospital (Foti), Ellet High School (Lencyk), Akron General Medical Center (Beaver Construction) and Woodridge Schools (Crowe Construction), have all managed to provide some needed work throughout the winter months.

Most of these jobs will be wrapping up in the next couple of months, and we await new developing projects to replace them.

Some larger projects on the books for 2018 include Tallmadge Athletic Center and Middle School, Bath Elementary School, Revere High School, Kenmore/Garfield High School, Portage County Municipal Center, Meijer Grocery and Summa Health Systems (Akron City Hospital).

Some of our contractors have already procured work on these projects, and some are still in the development stage. This is the time of year when your Field Reps and officers work diligently with contractors,

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS



Working on the Kainrad Family house-building volunteer project are (left to right) Mike Carver, apprentice Jonathon Williams, Demar Gibson, Joe Fischionne and Jason Geiger.



Volunteers Dan Francis (left), Mike Gusman (middle) and apprentice Spenser Richardson (right) keep the project moving.



Volunteers (left to right) Mike Hull, Dan Francis, Mike Gusman, Noah Carmichael, Spenser Richardson and Brian Collier on the Kianrad house site.



Volunteers Demar Gibson (left), Mike Carver (center) and Jonathon Williams (right) help with the foundation work.

school board officials, local politicians, building trades councils and private developers, to make sure that good jobs are available for you all.

VOLUNTEER PROJECT

 One of the more appealing parts of being in a union is the ability to collectively put our skills together and make a project successful.

I have always felt that union trades people are efficient and productive because of their tendency toward cooperation.

Occasionally, we are able to utilize this efficiency and cooperation by making our communities better through volunteer work.

Nearly every staff meeting, I hear of one or more Local's doing some sort of

charity project – whether it is dugouts for a local ball field, veteran's memorials or a Habitat for Humanity project.

This winter, Local 7 members were able to build a foundation for a family in need. The Kainrad family was able to secure some donated material and worked with the USDA to build a house.

Part of the requirement from the USDA was that the labor had to be done by volunteers, and Ms. Kainrad reached out to the Tri-County Building Trades to see if they could help.

As they often do, the members of organized labor answered the call.

Many of the trades were able to offer volunteer labor, and our Brothers and Sisters from Local 109 Cement Finishers were first on the scene to pour some

nice-looking footers.

Soon after we arrived, the temperature had begun to drop, and we fought through the mud and ice to get started.

However, the deep freeze set in, and we had to pull off the project for a while until things thawed out.

We were finally able to get the foundation finished, plastered and grouted in February, once the temperature warmed up some.

I want to thank all of the members who came out to lend a hand and help a family in need!

ORGANIZING EFFORTS

I would like to remind everyone that we all have the ability to be organizers.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

I'll even go a step further and suggest that we all must be organizers for the survival of our Locals, and our trade.

There are many ways to organize. Even doing a collaborative project in the community creates camaraderie and builds a good image for the union; not to mention, it is just the right thing to do.

These projects can also provide an opportunity to showcase our skills, and to establish relationships with community leaders.

I'm not suggesting that we give up all our interests and activities to pursue gratis work, but if we are able to, it is good practice to help out with something like this once in a while.

And while we don't like to pat ourselves on the back, let's make sure that people know that union members helped out.

We do a lot of this type of stuff and don't ask for any parades, but the exposure of our good deeds helps counter some of the bad information that the public is peppered with about unions.

Let's start thinking about making organized labor powerful and popular again. It is true that we have lost some of our direction and clout over the years. Those who possess money, power and influence are not going to hand this power back to us.

In this endeavor we must remember: "If there is no struggle, there is no progress. Those who profess to favor freedom and yet deprecate agitation are men who want crops without plowing up the ground; they want rain without thunder and lightning. They want the ocean without the awful roar of its many waters."

"This struggle may be a moral one, or it may be a physical one, and it may be both moral and physical, but it must be a struggle. Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

- Frederick Douglass

Our struggle is to make sure that working people get their share of the wealth that they produce, and that they are treated with respect and dignity.

It is a struggle that I am proud to take part in with you all!

IN CLOSING

I hope you all have a safe and prosperous spring and summer! ■

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS



Certified Steward class taught by Brian Collier.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 8



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 8

Thank you to Hammond Construction and DeSalvo Construction for being gracious and letting Sandra Johansson from Swedish Daily Svenska Dagbladet interview construction workers and myself on the Champion, Ohio K-8 School jobsite. Sandra was interested in the effect of politics and job development in America.

WORK SAFE AND EFFICIENTLY

+ I would like to take this opportunity to encourage our new apprentices and members to work safely and efficiently.

Over the years, while working in the field as a Bricklayer, I have often been asked by new apprentices and new members alike, questions about working safely and how to remain employed by the contractors.

I usually share my personal motto: "Do what you are told to do as long as it is safe and honorable" and "Always keep

your eyes moving, especially when walking on scaffold plank situated over outriggers."

Always wear the Personal Protective Equipment, PPE, that is appropriate for the job.

About 30 years ago, my oldest brother Larry, who was at the time an Oil Field Service Rig Operator, was running his rig when a sheave broke loose from the crown on the derrick of the rig and came down, striking first his metal hard hat and then his shoulder.

He received a sore neck and an

acutely treatable shoulder injury, but nothing major.

To this day, we are all thankful it was not more severe. Larry still possesses the metal hard hat, which has a dent in it from the incident. A constant reminder of something that would have been far worse if not for taking good common-sense precautions.

Most of us do not love our hardhats, but I love the one that saved my brother.

GREAT TURNOUT



Thank you to all who participated and helped with the first Certified Steward Class I have ever taught.

We had 18 students in all, including eight members from Local 7 OH, plus Field Representative **Noah Carmichael** and Local 8 President **Lee Kurtz**.

Also, special thanks to Field Representative **Don Mays**, who has taught this class for years and mentored me through it.

THANK YOU, MEMBERS



The February 2018 Regular Local 8 meeting was the best February turnout I have seen in a while.

Thank you, **Gary Lemaster**, for your assistance in finding Local 8 somebody to build us a new website.

Jerre Riggle did a great job building the original website, unfortunately as of March 2018, Microsoft will no longer support websites and we were not given the option of moving ours to another domain.

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PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 8

Youngstown Tile and Terrazzo recently restored a 108 year old mosaic tile floor in the Mahoning County Courthouse Law Library. The floor has had carpet directly glued to it for many years. Glue and stains were removed and multiple stress cracks were remedied. (Top left) Before restoration. (Bottom left) After restoration. (Top Right) Josh Brett and Dave Ratliff restore mosaic tile.

Gary's friend Mary is doing a great job and should have the site finished soon.

Thank you, **Tyler Hanks**, for making the new Facebook page for Local 8.

When Tyler found out that our website was expiring he took the initiative and made our new Facebook Page.

We have not contributed much to it yet, but we plan on doing so in the future. Please visit the website and Facebook page.

IMPORTANT DATES

 April 12 will be our Special Wage Allocation Discussion Meeting, May 10 will be Local 8 Officer Nominations and June 14 will be Local 8 Election Day and results.

Local 43 Retirees meet at Raptis Restaurant in Howland at 9 a.m. on May 9, Aug. 8, and Nov. 14. Contact **Marc Arnal** at 330-637-2652 with questions.

Local 8 Retirees meet at Perkins Restaurant in Boardman at 11:30 a.m. on

the first Tuesday every month of the year. Contact **Dennis Hageman** at 330-565-8909 with questions.

IN CLOSING

Thank you, BAC Brothers and Sisters. Your growing participation is encouraging. —

worked well.

Even though its common to the trade, we still feel the sting when we fight the weather and unemployment.

There are several projects coming forth and I hope to get you all back to work.

CONDOLENCES



During the winter, we lost some members to passing.

Local 10 lost **Tom Densmore**, who was one of my mentors when I was first elected to office back in 1992. Tom cared as much as anyone I have met in my life about the members and this union.

Tom was supportive, even after his retirement. I will personally miss Tom as a mentor and a friend.

We also lost local 9 members **Bill Lolli** and **Anthony Sabatino**. I heard interesting stories from a few members and realized I missed out on meeting these men. It is my loss and I hope the members that

LOCALS 9, 10, 44 & 52



East Liverpool, Ohio
Don Mays

Some of the membership has been fortunate to work. Now, coming out of this winter, however, some have not

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knew them, keep their memories alive.

Our history continues to evolve as we learn from our past and the great member stories to the current and future stories we are writing. The new apprentices will soon continue to create our future.

ORGANIZING

To expand on the present and future, we are continuing with the COMET training and the involvement of you, the membership.

As Uncle Sam once said, "We Want You."

The growth of this union will not, I believe, see its needed potential without you. We are growing through new apprentices, as well as non-union trades persons.

Many of them you know. Many of you know non-union contractors, as well, and can play a key roll in helping us develop a relationship with them.

This will all lead to new jobs to go to work to better the health of our retirement plans.

To this point, I would like to welcome back **Darrell Faulkner** and **Ted Traskoma**, and new member **Richard Thrasher** to Local 10.

Also, welcome **Steve Glendenning** and **Brian Cline** back to Local 9, and **Adam Gorham** to Local 52.

We have been recruiting new apprentices and should soon have a welcome

announcement in Local 9 and another in Local 10.

We participated in the 2018 Job and Career Fair at Wes-Banco Arena in Wheeling, W.Va.

I want to thank Local 9 members for operating the hands-on module teaching high school students the experience of laying a brick.

This included Local 9 President **Ron Littleton**, newly graduated apprentice to journeyman **Cameron Petteway**, **Gene Morford**, **Ron Bartolo** and now retired **Dan Sabatino**.

Check out their picture in this issue.

SERVICE AWARD



I would like to congratulate **Roger "Smoke" Hilliard** for receiving his 25-year pin at the local 10 March Meeting.

It was my honor to present the pin. I have included Roger's acceptance picture to the left.

AWARDS



I represent the Bricklayers and Allied Crafts and participate on the board of directors for Project BEST in the Local 9 and 10 area.

Project BEST recently held an Awards Gala at the Wes-Banco arena in Wheeling, W.Va.

Local 9 had the Belmont County Courthouse project, which received an award.

Local 10 had the Jefferson County Timet/Billet Expansion and received an award as well.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



I hope everyone from Local 52 who attended had a great time on March 24, celebrating the Local's 115-year anniversary and awards banquet at the Lake Hope Dinning Lodge.

IN CLOSING

We must continue our battle to protect our rights in the work place, our pensions, wages, wealthy and corporate paid for politicians and union brotherhood.

The fight will not be successful without you. —

Left to Right; Don Mays presenting Local 10 member Roger Hilliard his 25-year pin.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCALS 9 AND 10

2018 Job and Career Fair in Wheeling WV covering Locals 9 and 10 for Ohio. Local 9 members running the hands on mock up, from left, Ron Littleton, Cameron Petteway, Gene Morford, Ron Bartolo and Dan Sabatino.

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LOCAL 16



Mentor, Ohio

Dan Musacchio

Brothers and Sisters, I'm sure by the time you're reading this article, anyone who wants to be working has been for some time now.

Multiple school, retail, municipal and refractory projects are giving this Local a long-anticipated shot in the arm.

At the risk of this article turning into a job report, let's switch gears and provoke some thought about goals that we should all be working toward.

The current and projected volume of work will require a workforce that can meet its needs.

It's a collective goal, District wide, to get our total membership beyond where we were before the recession.

Admittedly, this is a heavy lift, and won't be done overnight. But, it's certainly attainable.

Unfortunately, organizing is only half of it. Member retention is another key component.

A Local goal is to educate our newly organized members on our conduct and our traditions.

How can we expect anyone to know how we do things if they are not informed?

Masonry crews are split in many different directions throughout the workday. Undoubtedly, there will be new members peppered throughout these crews.

It's the goal of the Local to have an educated Steward's Committee member to help these new members with their transition to being a represented worker on the job.

Remember, the Steward can only be in one place at a time. It's the body's collective responsibility to reign in a new member who may be working the only way he or she knows how.

By no means, should you act like some overzealous mall cop, but set a goal to edify new members.

Next, take a second and consider

what a newly organized journeyman is dealing with.

For most, it's an intimidating experience. They are rolling the dice and have very little to go on, other than the word of the agent or organizer that has been working with them.

They have no idea what they are walking into.

The last thing we need is seasoned members looking down their nose at their new Union Brother or Sister because their backgrounds don't line up.

Our survival is dependent on member retention.

The goal of retention is especially relevant when we're talking about training apprentices. Surely, you have noticed more apprentices on site than ever before.

Our ratio is one Apprentice to three Journeymen. That was a deliberate contract change designed to build this body.

They are not there to labor or be professional "saw men." The goal of every journey level worker should be to teach them how to hold a job and earn a living laying material.

This is how we recapture our market, strengthen our pensions and man our projects – by training the next generation, along with organizing unrepresented craftworkers.

In closing, be safe and look out for one another on and off site.

If you're looking to get involved, but aren't sure where to begin, sign up for a C.O.M.E.T. class.

It truly shines a spotlight on the current landscape of organized labor.

Set a goal to bring in one person you know who is doing this work, or is interested in learning a trade.

MEETING CHANGE

LBeginning Jan. 31, in an effort to make meetings more accessible and bolster participation, a motion made was unanimously passed by the body to change the meeting time from 7:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

This change will be on a six-month, trial basis, and if it works for the membership, we will take the necessary steps to amend the Constitution.

Taking into consideration that most will be coming straight from work, food and refreshments will be provided monthly.

FINAL THOUGHTS

"If the workers of the world want to win, all they have to do is recognize their own solidarity. They have nothing to do but fold their arms and the world will stop. The workers are more powerful with their hands in their pockets than all the property of the capitalists." — Joseph Ettor, IWW organizer

"Imagine a Labor Union that's as outspoken and unwavering toward Right to Work and Prevailing Wage attacks as they are about firearms restrictions. We would be invincible." — Danny Musacchio, President BAC Local 16. —

LOCAL 18 NORTH



Cincinnati, Ohio

Brian D. Wear

The spring work season is upon us. This year will be the first full year of the new silica standard (29CFR 1926.1153).

This means big changes for the entire masonry industry. All of our work is centered on materials that create this harmful dust.

The new standard has lowered the exposure limit, increased awareness of the dust and created more protections that are mandated by OSHA.

Workers who wear a respirator for more than 30 days in the year will need to be medically evaluated, undergo chest x-rays and a lung function test every three years.

For some, this is brand new and comes as a shock. Other companies have been doing this.

Undoubtedly, this will lead to better working conditions.

As with any new safety program, there is always push back – not just from the contractors who are obligated to make the expenditure for equipment, but from the workers who are being told to change their ways and get with the times.

We are sometimes our own worst enemy. Please keep this in mind.

Realize that a tremendous amount of

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research, time and effort by our union and OSHA went in to this standard.

I ask all of you to keep an open mind and realize this is going to lead to a better outcome.

An old Bricklayer told me once, "Sometimes you have to step out of the forest to see the trees."

Perhaps we can all step back and give this a fair chance.

All of this information, and the obligations of the new standard, can be found online at www.osha.gov/silica.

WORK OUTLOOK



The work outlook is promising again this year.

AK Steel is looking to rebuild a stove. Graycor is scheduled to start in early July, with two shifts of 5-10s, with 20 Bricklayers per shift.

This is a 100 percent wage and fringe project. Anyone interested, please let me know.

Remember you must have a valid OSHA 10 card and pass a drug and alcohol test.

There are several projects coming out for bid. This includes:

Two west Clermont Elementary schools, Kenton County Administration Building, Mason school renovation and a nice granite job on the west side of Cincinnati, Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Also, Miami University is continuing to renovate and build.

These are a few of what the contractors are looking at.

RESPONSIBLE BIDDER ORDINANCE

The Cincinnati Building Trades have been actively working with the City Council of Cincinnati to implement the responsible bidder ordinance.

This will mandate that city contracts be awarded to contractors that have real graduating apprenticeship programs, not just registered programs, but ones that are actually functioning.

This type of support from our elected officials is why we support them in the elections.

This legislation will lead to more work opportunities for the union workers in and around Cincinnati. —

LOCAL 18 SOUTH



Cincinnati,
Ohio

Jeff King

I personally love this time of year, when we have more hours of daylight and nature wakes up from its long winter nap.

Work looks to be picking back up to the busy pace that we experienced last year.

COMET TRAINING



COMET Class (Construction Organizing Membership Education Training) was hosted at the Southern Regional Training Center in January.

This class was well received by the members that participated.

The COMET 1 Program is designed to help our members gain a better understanding of our Union, the masonry industry and our role in making both stronger.

We plan on continuing to offer these classes on a regular basis, so be on the lookout for the next class!

FIGHT BACK, TOGETHER

It is my belief that the members I represent are the hardest working craftsmen in the construction industry.

After putting in a hard day at work, a lot of us would like to come home and relax and disconnect from the outside world and all of the craziness.

We can no longer sit on the sidelines while our unions and our way of life are being attacked.

So-Called "Right to Work," efforts to repeal Prevailing Wage and countless other pieces of anti-union legislation make it clear that workers are in the crosshairs of the elitists that are in control.

What do you do when you are under attack? Stand up and fight back!

I am worried about the direction of this great country. It seems as if the focus is on our differences rather than our commonalities.

The labor movement is a voice

for equality and social justice that brings diverse people together for a common cause.

Unions provide a way for people of various communities to have a stronger, more unified voice to bring about positive change.

It is labor's strength through numbers that provides its members fair wages, due process, and other negotiated protections equally for all members.

This brings to mind why it is so important to grow our Union.

Labor is leading the way to building stronger community ties across divides. Unions are value-based organizations that believe in worker dignity, safety, respect and fairness, ensuring that worker's voices are heard.

We are indeed stronger together! Let's talk about how we move this union forward. —

LOCAL 22



Dayton,
Ohio

Shawn Herzog

Brothers and Sisters: Winter has passed and spring is here. I hope everyone is ready to go to work.

This spring looks to be busier than 2017. All contractors have jobs that have started or will be starting in the next month.

Just to list a few: Fairmont Auditorium, West Carrollton Library, Kettering Fire Station, WPAFB projects, Wittenberg University sports complex, Urbana PK-8, Northridge PK-12, Piqua Water Treatment Plant, MVH South, Bethany Village and Care Source downtown.

NEW MEMBERS



There will be some new faces coming out on the job sites within the next month.

We need to welcome them to our Brother and Sisterhood. Remember these apprentices are our future. We need to train and mentor them.

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PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 22

Shawn Herzog with Mike West, who received the BAC Local 22 Forman of the Year award.

DUES REMINDER



I would like to encourage everyone to remember to pay their dues on time.

That means before you get a reminder in the mail.

You can also set up automatic withdraw for your dues.

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

For your information, the BAC Local 22 Tile contract is up this year and we will be starting negotiations within the next couple of months.

SAVE THE DATE

The Local 22 annual picnic is on Sept. 8, starting at noon. The location is the Polish Club picnic grounds on Needmore Road.

I hope to see all members and their families.

CONGRATULATIONS

BAC Local 22 Executive Board and members would like to congratulate **Mike West** on his Forman of the Year Award. ■



LOCAL 36



Cleveland, Ohio
Matt Neeson

Hello Brothers and Sisters: Spring is here, and the work is starting to pick up.

It looks to be another good year, with lots of work on our contractor's books and a lot more to bid.

Our contractors are not stopping. The bidding and the jobs keep coming!

As members of Local 36, we must put in an honest day's work for an honest day's pay. Our contractors look to us to do just that. If the companies don't make money, there will be no company to work for, and then you don't make money.

Once again, I will tell you, we are the best Tile Layers and Finishers in Ohio, and we will continue to put out the best product possible.

As a member of Local 36, you should always try to up your game. Ways to do this include learning new products and the installation methods of various types

of tile, stone, mud, etc.

Never stop upgrading. The more you know, the more you are in demand, the more you work.

Sometimes you must go where the work is. Remember, it's all about the hours you put in.

Also, if you are not working, give me a call, this way I can help find you something to keep you moving forward.

TRAINING CENTER



Work is coming along great at our new location. If you haven't seen it yet, you should.

Our members have put in some hours to get this up and running, and it looks wonderful.

There is a lot of classroom space and all that you can learn in a good atmosphere.

Our apprentice and upgrading journeymen and women will have many resources to perfect the trade and hone their skills.

ORGANIZING

I would like to thank the members who spend their own time to help benefit our union.

As most know, we have started an organizing committee to help with the growth and new ideas to move our union ahead.

Together we will grow and control our market. Together we stand, divided we fall.

WORKER'S MEMORIAL EVENT



All tickets have been reserved for our annual Worker's Memorial Indians baseball game dedicated to those workers who have died on the job.

The game will be against the Seattle Mariners on April 28, starting at 4:10 p.m. More information will be sent to those who have reserved a spot.

BROWN'S GAME OUTING



Wow, the Browns are making some moves, and the excitement grows. We will soon be looking at buying some tickets and will be taking reservations, first come, first served.

This year we will get 30 seats. A \$20 deposit is required. We will accept a check or cash, and it will be returned on game day. More details to come.

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NEW LOCATION

Yes, we moved. Our new address is 980 Keynote Circle, Brooklyn Heights, OH 44131. (In the Plumbers Local 55 Building, the second door on the right.)

Our new contact information is, phone: 440-799-4246 and fax: 440-799-4277.

Stop in and check us out.

New swag will be available soon, details coming ASAP —

LOCALS 39 & 45



Portsmouth, Ohio

Heath "Luke" Henry

Brothers and Sisters, spring is here and it will bring another year of growth.

Everything around us is beginning to grow again, and it is exciting to watch nature take its course and begin a new season.

Every year is an opportunity for us to grow our Union. When work is good, we must take advantage of every opportunity to add new members, bring in new apprentices and find other ways to grow.

I want to ask any member who is willing to help us grow, to get involved in some way.

I know we all work hard every single day, and that we all have lives to live away from work, so it would be unfair and unrealistic for me to ask you to attend every union function or to spend your weekends out talking to Bricklayers who have dropped

out or who are working non-union.

I'm talking about getting involved with some things that really take very little or no extra time at all, like mentoring apprentices or new journey-level members on the job, calling up an old buddy you used to work with and let him know that work is picking up if they want come back, becoming an active steward or just being a positive voice on the wall.

A lot of you already do some of these things, and believe me, they are very helpful and appreciated. But we cannot leave the work of growing this union to a few. We must all do something if we want to see our union grow!

WORK OUTLOOK



We are off to a good start in 2018. We still have a little work to finish up at Miami Trace High School.

We have several members working on an addition at the Emergency Room at Adena Hospital.

Work at Suncoke Haverhill has been good this winter and should continue throughout the spring.

We have projects coming up at the Chillicothe Law Enforcement Complex and at the Hocking Hills Visitor Center in Logan.

We also have contractors bidding several projects at Shawnee State University.

We will also have some work coming up during the Spring Outages at Gavin and Kyger Creek power plants in Gallia County.

REMINDERS



If any of you need to update your LEAD cards, please contact me and I will get you the paper work

that you need.

If you are working out of town and are unable to pick up your paper work at the Hall, I will gladly mail it to you.

Not only does your LEAD card give you access to more projects in our area, but it is a requirement for the free OSHA 10, OSHA 30, OSHA 510 and OSHA 500 training that LEAD provides for all Building Trades members in the Tri-State area.

OSHA 10 training is on the second Saturday and Sunday of each month at the Ironworkers Hall in Ashland, Ky.

OSHA 30 is done on an as needed basis, so once they have enough people to fill a class then one will be scheduled.

OSHA 510 and 500 classes are in January and February, on a first come, first serve basis.

If you are interested in signing up, please let me know and we will go ahead and get you signed up now.

These classes are always full, so the sooner we sign up the better.

There are a lot of opportunities in construction safety and we need to have BAC members qualified to fill these spots.

I also want to remind you to check on your dues status. If you pay over the phone and your card is not stamped, you can call me and I will check it for you.

CONDOLENCES



Local 45 member **Charles E. Sommers** passed away on Feb.

11. Charles proudly served in the United States Navy during WW II.

After the war, he returned home and joined Local 45 in 1948. Charles worked as a Bricklayer and went on to become a BAC contractor.

Stay Connected to the OH-KY ADC:



www.oh-kyadc.com



www.facebook.com/oh.ky.adc/



@BAC_OHKY

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Our condolences go out to Charles' son **Michael Sommers** (a 40-year BAC Local 45 member), daughter Susan and the entire Sommers family.

Charles' service to our country and his commitment to our union are greatly appreciated and will never be forgotten.

Local 39 member **Douglas A. Charles** passed away on Dec. 14, 2017. Doug was also a second generation Local 39 member. His father, **Harold Charles**, was a 50-year member of Local 39.

Doug served his apprenticeship in Local 39 and would go on to serve as President of the Local for several years.

Doug served as a foreman on many jobs throughout Southern Ohio and many of us, including myself, have had the pleasure of working for him.

Doug always treated people fairly and honored our agreements. He was a true union man, and he will be missed.

Our condolences go out to his mother Ruth, his daughter Courtney, two grandchildren and all of his friends and extended family.

IN CLOSING



I would like to thank all of the members who have been coming out for our Local meetings.

Your presence is key to the functioning of our union, and your voice is important to its direction.

I would also like to encourage all of you to support these meetings.

Local 39 meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. and Local 45 meets on the second Monday at 7 p.m.

If you need anything, or if you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 740-624-6027. —

LOCAL 40



Mansfield,
Ohio

Matthew R.
McClaster

Hopefully everyone has weathered another Ohio winter and has started the process of getting back to work for

another season.

We were fortunate to have a decent amount of work through the winter for some of our members.

Unfortunately, work and bidding has been slow in the Local this spring. However, there looks to be a good amount of work in the surrounding Locals to keep members busy for another season.

As in the past, it is always prudent to have your drug-free card and OSHA 10 hour card up to date so you are ready to start work at a moment's notice.

And just a reminder, if you get a call to take a week or two job hit, often times those jobs can turn into long-term employment.

Finally, as work begins to pick up for the year, if anyone knows an individual interested in finding Union employment, have them contact the Local office for more information.

JOB WELL DONE



I would like to personally thank all the District Council BAC members who worked the past year on the Doylestown Chippewa School project.

Our members were successful in logging a lot of work hours on that project and all parties involved are pleased with the work we have completed.

The project was a great example of how a Union Contractor can provide a professionally trained workforce at a fair price.

CONGRATULATIONS



We would like to congratulate Local Member and Pioneer Career Center Masonry Instructor **Grant Brocwell** on a very successful High School Masonry Skills Competition, held on March 9.

He did an exceptional job of organizing and managing the competition, and I heard a lot of positive comments on how the competition was run.

Thanks to Local 40 and the North Central Building Trades for their financial support and to Local members **Colton Moore** and **Jeremiah Holland** for their time judging, as well as District Council Field Reps. **Tim Linder**, **Justin Gartrell**, NORTC Bricklayer instructor **Ryan Olinger** and IMI Rep. **Tom Elliott**.

I feel it is important we continue to cultivate the next generation of masonry

workers and promote the masonry industry as a viable option when constructing a building.

REPORT ANY PROBLEMS

As most of you should be aware, Stoner and Associates was purchased by the American Benefits Corporation, and therefore is now the third-party administrator of the Ohio Bricklayers Funds.

The transition and service since has been horrible, to put it mildly.

There have been continuous changes in personnel at their office, as well as an attempt to completely change the computer system.

We continue to press them to get better results. If anyone is having issues, please make the Local office aware so we can document the member's issues and hopefully at some point get answers and results.

IN CLOSING



We encourage everyone to attend monthly Union meetings held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Starting with the April 11 meeting, we will have a drawing for members in attendance to win a gift. —

LOCALS 44 & 55



Columbus,
Ohio

Bill Hulet Jr.

Hello fellow BAC members. hibernation is over and hopefully our members are starting to get back to work.

This year, I am optimistic about the work coming out for bid in the area. I am hoping that we start getting more contractors to bid in the area and go after some of the schools and other projects that are coming out for bid this year.

There are jobs that are coming up or have started in Local 44 and 55 when this comes out.

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SERVICE AWARD



I would like to thank **Thomas Harris** for his 50 years of service in the BAC. Thomas received his 50-year gold card in March 2016.

MOSQUITO WATCH

Spring is in the air. Flowers are blooming, the birds are singing, and along with the lack of winter in the central Ohio area, so are the mosquitos.

With spring comes lots of showers, which leaves standing water for the infestation of mosquitos and the diseases that they carry.

The Zika Virus causes birth defects. This is a virus that we need to be vigilant about protecting ourselves along with our families.

If you or your spouse, your kids or grand kids are pregnant or trying to get pregnant, make sure that you and your family read up on the dangers of this virus.

This virus, and the many other viruses that mosquitos carry, are dangerous to us, our kids and our pets.

Cover up and/or wear mosquito repellent.

KEEPING BUSY

In this position as a Field Rep., I have come to realize that there are many different things that you need to do other than your normal daily tasks in dealing with the membership and their needs.

There is political outreach, going door-to-door or even making phone calls for political candidates when needed to help out.

Reps. often sit in on city council meetings or have a sit-down meeting to discuss our issues with all of the politicians that ask what our issues or concerns are.

There is outreach to people in need or help organizing members to give their skills to help out someone in need.

Promoting the BAC, along with the brick-laying/trowel trades industry to the school age kids, and their parents, comes up from time to time, to help them understand if they are not cut out to go to college then there is always a skilled trade that they can learn and make a good career.

I am getting more involved with some

school districts and have been learning what I can do to help the schools promote their programs.

These are just a few things that I am getting involved in.

SKILLS TEST SUCCESS

On March 12, Fort Hayes Career Center in the Columbus City Schools held a Masonry skills test for the junior and senior High School classes.

There were eight schools that participated from Ohio and Pennsylvania.

There were 17 juniors and 18 seniors that participated. I was glad to see a female in the junior class, and she tied for fifth place.

Local 55 was one of many who helped sponsor the event, along with supplying a few of the judges that previously came through the program for the event.

IN CLOSING



Always keep in mind to help out, teach and share your knowledge of the trade with your fellow apprentices when you are working with them.

They are the future and they will be working to help pay your pension when you retire.

Always be safe and look out for your fellow workers. —

Please remember when filing, if you are opening a new claim, it is imperative that you contact your field rep. so the appropriate paperwork can be sent to the ODJFS on your behalf.

Also, while working in other Locals, you need to keep in contact with that Local's field rep. so they can make sure you are getting the correct wages and (reciprocity) forms, if necessary.

Also, read your Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA).

It's in many of our Agreements that you must check in to the Local in which you are working, when working outside of your home Local.

This is very important so we are able to track your benefits. I have personally received several calls from members after they left the Local where they were working because their funds were not distributed appropriately.

Being proactive will hopefully prevent your benefits from being distributed into the wrong funds by mistake.

MEETING REMINDER



Our February meeting produced a great turnout. I would like to see our monthly participation numbers grow even more over these next couple of months due to our Local CBA expiring on May 31.

As outlined in our CBA, we have to contribute a certain percentage to each fund annually.

When we are through with putting money into each fund where needed, we can take recommendations on any money that may be left regarding where we want to put it.

Make it a point to show up at meetings and be heard. We can decide on these annual percentages together.

The meetings continue to be at the same time and the same place as years past, the third Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m., 1310 Siler St., in Fremont.

WORK OUTLOOK



Work in the area seems like it's going to be very busy. We have several jobs that will be starting up in the next few weeks.

We also have local schools that are going to be bid in mid-March: three in

LOCAL 46



Fremont,
Ohio

Tim Linder

Brothers and Sisters: It's been a rather cold and snowy winter compared to recent years.

Unemployment has been a huge inconvenience for many and it seems to be getting harder and harder to file.

With spring rain right around the corner, you may find yourself needing to file here and there.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 46

John Weininger, (center) pictured with Ken Kudela and Don Huss, was the first place winner at the Masonry Skills Challenge in Las Vegas.

Sandusky and two in Fostoria.

The site work is already complete in Fostoria, so I anticipate once the successful bidders are determined, it shouldn't be long before the footer will begin.

Hopefully, many of you can get in on some of these jobs. If you are off and want

to work, I will do my best to get you placed somewhere.

OUR CHAMPION



Congratulations to **John Weininger** for taking first place in the Masonry Skills Challenge

in Las Vegas.

I am happy to have been able to work with John in the field prior to my current position and I am proud to have him as a member of our Local.

SERVICE AWARD



Also, congratulations to **Richard Gayheart** on receiving his 25-year pin.

EXTRA TRAINING PAYS OFF



I would like to recognize and say thank you to **Mike Anderson, Clint Klasen, Kevin Koebel, Nick Melott** and **Casey Zoeller**, who took the provided MSHA training in January.

We have several members now that are qualified to work on jobs that require this specific certification.

CONDOLENCES



In January, we lost a member unexpectedly in a tragic house fire.

I want to extend my sincere condolences to the family and friends of **Robert Griggs, Jr.**

IN CLOSING

Enjoy your spring and work safe! —

Hello Spring!

**"Nature gives to every time and season
some beauties of its own."**

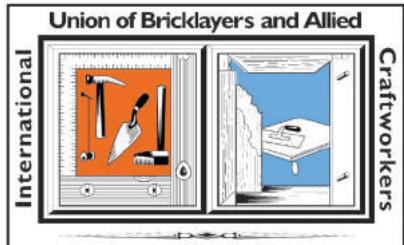
- CHARLES DICKENS



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www.oh-kyadc.com

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



SIGN MAINTENANCE DISPLAY
S. CO. OF OHIO & KENTUCKY LOCAL 500

IN MEMORIAM

Keith Beaverson, 3 OH

Lawrence Hogrefe, 3 OH

Ted Bowersock, 5 OH

George Burnette, 5 OH

Ezio Cancian, 5 OH

James Cunningham, 5 OH

John Gales, 5 OH

William Holtman, 5 OH

Julius Konecsni, 5 OH

John Kooney, 5 OH

Thomas Malbasa, 5 OH

Gilbert Medaglia, Jr., 5 OH

Steve Nester, 5 OH

Andreas Pfaff, 5 OH

Frank Straky, 5 OH

Joseph Zumack, 5 OH

Herman Geyer, 7 KY

Jack Nolen, 7 KY

James Cella, 7 OH

Edward P Costello, 8 OH

Charles Larimer, 8 OH

Rocco Melia, 8 OH

Anthony Porrazzo, 8 OH

William Lollini, 9 OH

Anthony Sabatino, 9 OH

Thomas Densmore, 10 OH

Greg Barks, 16 OH

Robert James, 18 OH

James Moore, 18 OH

Earl Obanion, 18 OH

Charles Parmenter, 18 OH

Anthony Marino, 22 OH

Norman Rudnicki, 22 OH

Douglas Charles, 39 OH

Charles Sommers, 45 OH

Robert Griggs, Jr., 46 OH

Carl Loudermilk, 55 OH

Jerry Lowe, 55 OH

George McMahon, 55 OH

Otto Neike, 55 OH

William Powell, 55 OH

