

# THE BENCHMARK

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This Newsletter  
is intended for  
Members Only

OF THE OHIO-KENTUCKY ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

# Fall ushers in a few changes

By Ken Kudela



For most of our Locals, this was a busy summer.

Once jobsites dried out following the wet spring, our contractors had plenty of work for our members. In most areas, members who wanted to work, had ample opportunity to do so. By showing up and performing efficient, high quality work, you showed why our members are the best-trained and most skilled workforce in the region.

It also was great to see so many new apprentices in the field, learning the trade. Despite our growth, we still need to bring in more apprentices and work to organize more non-union trowel trades workers.

As I mentioned last edition, we must keep recruiting the next generation of OH-KY ADC members.

While the outlook remains strong in many areas heading into next year, there will eventually be a time where work will not be so plentiful. I urge each and every member who is able to work to take advantage of the good times and work as many hours as you are able.

That being said, Field Reps. for a number of our Locals are hearing that the work outlook for the remainder of the year, and into 2020 looks good.

Hopefully the winter weather holds off for as long as possible.

## THANKS, YOU WILL BE MISSED

This summer also brought a few changes, and some new faces.

First, Local 5 East Field Representative **Dave Dabrowski** and Southern Ohio-Kentucky Regional Training Center Apprentice Coordinator **Jeff Garnett** decided to leave their respective positions.

On behalf of our District Council, I want to thank both Dave and Jeff for their many years of service to our members.

Both were dedicated staffers, who helped many Brothers and Sisters in a wide variety of ways.

While both Dave and Jeff will be missed, I am excited to welcome aboard two new members to our team.

**Gary Browning** is the new Local 5 East Field Representative and **Alex Latanza Sr.** joins the staff as the new PCC instructor at our Southern Ohio Training Center.

Gary joins our staff with 21 years of field experience, specializing in restoration. You can learn more about Gary by reading his report, which can be found on Page 4 of this edition.

Alex began his career in Local 1 of Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. He transferred to Local 18 Cincinnati in 1996 and since then, has mentored many apprentices, including his son Alex Latanza Jr., who took third place in PCC competition at the 2015 BAC/IMI International Apprentice Contest.

Now, Alex Sr. will be able to share all his skills and knowledge with even more apprentices and fellow journeymen and journeymen.

Change is not always easy, and we are sorry to see Dave and Jeff leave for other opportunities, but we are also excited Gary and Alex have stepped up to fill their spots.

Good luck to all four of you as you begin your new endeavors.

## BE AN EDUCATED VOTER



By the time this reaches your mailbox, absentee ballot voting and early in-person voting will have started in Ohio. The deadline to apply to vote absentee on a mail-in ballot is Oct. 29.

Every election can have consequences to our livelihood and our union. This November will be an especially pivotal election in Kentucky, as major statewide offices are at stake.

The state's current leader, Gov. Matt Bevin has proven he does not support working-class men and women. During his time in office, among other things, he got rid of Kentucky's Prevailing Wage and tried to reduce unemployment benefits as well.

Running against Gov. Bevin is Andy Beshear, who supports workers. Beshear has indicated that if elected he will bring back the state's Prevailing Wage law and return other lost worker rights.

Before our Kentucky members vote, please do your homework and study each candidate.

All members are encouraged to research the political candidates who will appear on the Nov. 5 General Election ballot.

I urge you to study up on the records of each candidate. Learn who supports organized labor, the building trades and issues important to our way of life, such as Prevailing Wage, unemployment benefits and is against So-Called "Right to Work," to name a few.

We cannot simply vote for the candidate who had the best TV commercials. Discover what candidates are supported by the AFL-CIO, building trades councils, district

[See MESSAGE on page 2.](#)

By Don Huss



Hello members of the Ohio-Kentucky Administrative District Council. The better days of the summer months are now past us, as we start to transition

into the fall and winter months.

The work season has been extremely busy throughout the entire jurisdiction. As we get closer to the colder weather setting in, now is a good time to start thinking about how each member can make themselves better trained in the different scopes of work the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers represent.

The Union offers all members the opportunity to take journeyman upgrade classes.

Some of these classes can be taken at the regional training centers, or if not available at the training centers, the I.M.I. has a full list of classes that can be taken at the national training center in Bowie, Md.

If you choose to go to Maryland for classes, I.M.I. will pay for transportation, room and board for you to attend those classes.

Now, by no means will you become an expert in the class that you take, but at the end of the day you will at least have a general understanding of the different materials and installation process that are needed to complete the jobs.

Being trained in different fields and crafts will make you a more employable B.A.C. member.

For a list of upcoming classes, please contact **Tammy Tansey** at the Northern Ohio Regional Training Center at 440-986-3300. If you are interested in attending the National Training Center, please visit the I.M.I. website at [www.IMIweb.org](http://www.IMIweb.org).

Another class that is offered to all B.A.C. members is Contractor College.

This series of classes is aimed at

those members who are interested in opening their own business and becoming a contractor.

Contractor College will help guide new and existing contractors to get started on the path to becoming successful contractors.

The classes will cover estimating, job take offs, banking, project management, union contractor relationships and will even expose you to software to simplify the bidding process.

If you have given serious thought to starting a business, I urge you to contact I.M.I. Regional Director **Tom Elliott** at 440-986-2260 or [telliott@imiweb.org](mailto:telliott@imiweb.org).

## GET INVOLVED



I encourage everyone to get involved with your Union. Being involved is one of the biggest ways to make a difference.

We are always looking for volunteers, whether it is running for a local office, volunteering to sit on a committee, assisting with a charity project or helping with a political race.

Another great way to get involved is by attending your Local meetings. Those meetings can be a wealth of inside knowledge to several things, including upcoming jobs and future opportunities to help the Local.

## POLITICS SEASON



As much as it pains me to say it, we are on the verge of another political season.

The Presidential election is only about a year away.

To have elected officials that are concerned with the working people of this country should be our number one priority.

With the stroke of a pen, the labor movement could be set back 100 years.

Now is the time to start educating yourself on which candidates are committed to protect working class families; which candidates believe in the Davis-Bacon Act and Prevailing

Wage laws; and which candidates are opposed to So-Called Right-to-Work (for less).

Those are the candidates that need to be elected.

Over the coming months, the odds are pretty good that your local Field Representative will be asking for your help to assist on the political front.

When they do, I ask you to please make an effort to make a difference and help us protect everything that the generations before us had fought, shed blood and even died for.

## STEWARD TRAINING



Trained job site stewards are very important jobs that the Union takes seriously.

Many job site issues can be resolved at an early stage if the Steward gets involved, and more importantly, knows how to handle the situation.

If you are interested in becoming a trained Steward, all the you need to do is contact your local Field Representative and inform him of your wishes.

Your Field Representative can schedule a class and get you the training needed.

Remember, trained Stewards will have their monthly dues paid for by the District Council office.

To qualify for free dues, you need to: 1.) Be the Steward (trained); 2.) Be on a job that lasts at least four weeks; and 3.) Have at least four members working on that job.

## 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, you will be dropped from membership.

Your monthly dues can be paid several ways.

You can mail them to OH-KYADC at 8497 Leavitt Rd. Amherst, OH 44001; call 1-800-442-0497 or you can have them directly withdrawn from your bank account. ■

## Message

Continued from page 1.

councils and even your Local union.

While they will not tell you who you should vote for, they will tell you the candidates who support our way of life.

Think about your paycheck. How will you take care of your family if our hourly rates decline? I encourage every member to vote, but before you do, become an educated voter.

## IN CLOSING

Remember, cold weather and slick

conditions are around the corner.

When the wet, fall weather arrives, pay attention to your work environment and be on the lookout for slippery surfaces and other additional dangers.

Remember your safety training and do not cut corners. As always, please stay safe on the job. ■

## THE IMI UPDATE:

By Tom Elliott



As the Director of Industry Development and Technical Services for the OH/KY Region, one of my responsibilities is to work

with architects and engineers to promote the various materials that are used by our B.A.C. Craftworkers daily in construction projects.

There are many factors that go into designers choosing the materials they use, and the IMI works with design teams early in projects to promote brick, block, tile, terrazzo, terra cotta, marble and the craftworkers who install these materials.

One of our focuses is promoting structural masonry to combat the use of materials that are being used in place of CMU, and generally, when the backup wall is a masonry exterior the façade will be masonry.

The North West Ohio Structural Masonry Coalition is a collaborative effort of the IMI, the Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, mason contractors, material suppliers and CMU manufacturers with a concentrated effort on promoting structural masonry.

Nationally, there was an industry-wide effort to create an additional funding source to help with the promotion of masonry and specifically the use of concrete block.

On Oct. 3, 2018, the United States Senate passed the Concrete Masonry Products Research, Education and Promotion Act, providing Congressional

authorization for the concrete masonry products industry to develop its own commodity checkoff program to support needed industry initiatives.

The bill is currently waiting to be signed by the president and is expected to be signed.

This CMU check off will set aside \$0.01 for every block made in the United States to be used for promotion of CMU and create a new marketing fund to help promote masonry nationwide.

Those are just a few ways the IMI and others are promoting masonry to architects, engineers and building owners.

You, the Brothers and Sisters of the BAC, are the greatest resource we have in promoting masonry.

The quality of the work you produce will influence design teams and their future projects. ■

## BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

### LOCAL 3



Toledo,  
Ohio

Matt Aberl

Summer is coming to an end, and the weather is getting cooler. There may still be a few warmer days yet, though, so make sure you are checking the weather forecast every morning and planning appropriately.

As we all know, overheating can become a big problem very quickly, so make sure to listen to your body and make good decisions for your health.

As always, make sure to stay hydrated. A hot coffee may feel good on crisp mornings, but dehydration by noon will not.

### RECENT GRADUATES



Special congratulations go out to the graduates of the apprenticeship school.

On June 17, a great group of young men celebrated their accomplishment with us at Mancy's Steakhouse.

It was a great evening and we thank everyone who was involved in educating and celebrating our graduates.

### LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

■ I would also like to thank everyone  
★★★ who showed up for the Labor  
■ Day parade.

This year, we were excited that we saw nearly double the member involvement.

We hope to see even more members join us next year. Make sure to mark your calendars for the parade next Labor Day!

I am extending special thanks to **Dave Harnica**, who once again allowed us to use his truck and trailer for the parade. This meant that our retired members could participate comfortably.

Members like Dave Harnica make our union truly special.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Please mark your calendars for the annual holiday and awards banquet on Dec. 12.

Join us as we honor our longstanding members, who have been with us for as long as 60 years.

This is a very enjoyable event with lots of great food and a raffle. It is an especially great time to meet other

members of your union community, as it is our best attended event.

Looking ahead, we hope that everyone has a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving and holiday season.

### DUES REMINDER



Please remember that paying your dues is an important part of 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, now and in the future. This includes your health insurance, access to legal representation, work opportunities and pension.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 3

Local 3 apprentice graduates celebrate at Mancy's Steakhouse.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

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, dues can be paid in several easy ways: Mail them to the District Council office at 8497 Leavitt Road, Amherst, OH 44001, or pay them on a credit card by calling 1-800-442-0479.

If you would like to set up an automatic withdrawal, please let me know. I have the forms that can set you up for this convenient and worry-free way to pay dues. You'll never forget to pay your dues again!

## UPDATE CONTACT INFO

Lastly, 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.

I currently have a number of documents marked return to sender, so if you think your information may not be up to date, or you think you should have received something, please call as soon as possible.

## IN CLOSING

As always, 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. ■

### LOCAL 5 EAST



Cleveland, Ohio

Gary Browning

Fellow BAC Members, my name is **Gary Browning** and I am honored to introduce myself as the new Field Representative for

Downtown Cleveland and the East side of Cuyahoga County.

Throughout the last 21 years, I have worked as a proud Local 5 member, specializing in restoration.

During this journey, I have had the pleasure of working side-by-side with some of the most talented craft workers.

From all the positions I've worked my way to, including journeyman, steward, foreman and eventually superintendent, I have been able to gain a great understanding of this industry.

I hold a great deal of respect for all of the members that I have encountered during my time in this union, which is why I am proud to take on this new role.

After witnessing such great examples of leadership throughout this union in the past, I have been able to determine what kind of leader the members need me to be.

During the short time that I have been in this new position, I have already been able to meet with several members on large scale projects such as the May Company Building, The Lumen at Playhouse Square, and the Rocket Mortgage Arena addition.

As we begin to wrap up another great season, I hope that I am able to meet all of my Brothers and Sisters in the near future.

With such a booming industry in the Greater Cleveland area, I look forward to being a part of this bright future of great growth for Cuyahoga County! ■

### LOCAL 5 WEST



Cleveland, Ohio

Jairo Cabrera

Brothers and Sisters, greetings. I wish you good health wherever you're located in the world today.

Within the past two months, Bricklayer's Local 5 has endured a lot of changes.

Change isn't necessarily a bad thing. Change is known for bringing forth challenges and opportunities. It's simply a matter of perspective.

Albert Einstein said, "The world as we have created it is a process of our thinking.

It cannot be changed without changing our thinking."

I'd like to say "thank you" to all of those who have paved the way and dedicated so much, so we could have the Bricklayer's Local 5 Union that we have today.

You can be rest assured that we will stay strong to focus on the future and survival of this Local. We won't take anything for granted. We will stand together and continue to grow strong and proud.

## A NEW HALL

We, at The Ohio Cleveland Local 5 BAC, would like to communicate to the membership that we are in the process of solidifying a new Union Hall.

Assuming everything goes as planned, the membership will be hearing more details shortly.

A significant amount of hours and hard work has gone into this process.

Thanks to our E-board and our building committee for taking the time to make this possible.

I'm certain Local 5 leaders will have more updates for the members. Please follow us on Facebook @Bricklayers Local-5Ohio.

Outside of attending our monthly meetings, that is the best way to stay updated on the happenings of the Local.

## LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

★★★ I'd like to say a special "thank you" to the E-board and to the membership (softball players included) who participated in the Labor Day weekend festivities.

You all dedicated so much of your time to present us with a wonderful Labor Day weekend.

A lot of our Brothers and Sisters attended with their families. Some members shared with me that their children had been looking forward to the event since the year prior.

It was such an honor to hear those words from the families that attended.

## TRAINING REMINDERS



As we focus on the future of the Local, the apprenticeship classes have started back up for the year.

The schedules have been mailed out and put up on the oh-kyadc.com website. If anyone misplaced their schedule,

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

visit the website or call the training center at 440-986-3300.

We are looking to have a stewardship training class on Oct. 19. If you have an interest in attending, please call the Local 5 office to enroll.

The enrollment fee requires a \$23 deposit. After attending the course, you will be reimbursed in the form of your monthly dues for the given month.

We are looking for more participants to become certified job stewards on every project.

As this is a very busy time of the year for us all, remember, safety is paramount. With all the work going on in the Ohio Cleveland Local 5 BAC, it's critical to keep safety at the forefront of our focus.

We cannot get comfortable and forget about safety for our members.

## SUPPORT NEW MEMBERS

We just had another few successful months in recruiting new members.

Now it is up to us as members to help the newbies transition and adapt to the Union ways, just as we all experienced in our own transition.

Our contractors also play a major part and we need their support. No one ever started at the top-notch journey level.

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS



I would also like to remind you to keep your drug card up to date. If you do not have an up-to-date card, you will not be allowed to work on the project until you received your drug-free card in the mail.

Call SCT and schedule your next appointment. If you don't have their contact information, you can find it online at [safetycontrolstech.com](http://safetycontrolstech.com).

Finally, do not forget to pay your monthly dues. Call 1-800-442-0479 or visit [Oh-ky-adc.com](http://Oh-ky-adc.com) to process your payment.

## PROJECT UPDATES



Here are some projects to keep your eye out for:

Foti at Eastern eights campus, pk-8 Elyria.

Crowe Masonry at St. Ed School in Lakewood.

Valentine Construction at Brunswick Middle School.

McMahon Masonry at North Olmsted

Police Station.

Zavrella at Strongsville Royalton Collection Build out.

Cleveland Building Restoration at Marine Towers West.

M.A Building at Waterfront and at Lake House.

With all this, we still are in need of more Bricklayers.

## IN CLOSING

Thank you, my Brothers and Sisters. We are a team, and this cannot be accomplished alone.

We will need your support in order to continue to improve our Union, so all our members are able to have a better way of life.

I ask you to get involved. For those who can make it to the meetings, they're every third Wednesday of the month, starting at 7 p.m.

Until next time, this is your Brother, Jairo Cabrera, wishing you and your family well. ■



Fellow Members, work looks great for Local 6, as we finish up the summer and head into fall. Contractors are loaded up with work and will now be pushed to get projects underway before the weather changes.

Rohr Masonry has the National Inventors Hall of Fame Warehouse and J.R. Coleman project.

Valentine Contractors has the McKinley Locker rooms, Jackson Amphitheater, Lake YMCA addition and some work at the Bell-Herron Middle School in Carrollton.

TDR Builders has the Glen Oak Concession Stands and Plain Twp. Administration Building.

C.R. Hoiles Masonry has the Early Childhood Resource Center.

Bice and Sons has work at the Ridgewood Fieldhouse and Locker rooms

R.G. Smith has the Ironworkers Local

550 Training Center addition and various other projects in the area, but work has slowed down at Timken Steel for them.

Lencyk Masonry should be wrapping up at Dover High School in the near future.

Coon Caulking has a complete grind out and tuck point on the North Canton Library.

## NEW WEBSITE



Local 6 now has a website that should come in handy for members and anyone else interested in more information about Local 6.

[Bricklayerslocal6.com](http://Bricklayerslocal6.com) and [Cantonbricklayers.com](http://Cantonbricklayers.com) will both take you to the website. Members will be able to access wage sheets, blank reciprocal forms, medical reimbursement forms and other information as well.

This is still a work in progress, and we will be adding additional information as time goes on.

Anyone with suggestions of what we should have, please let us know and we'll do our best to get it updated.

## SERVICE AWARDS



Members with 25, 40 and 50 years of service in this Union will be recognized at our December meeting.

As in the past, we will have a nice catered dinner. All the members are encouraged to come out and break bread and join in the comradery with fellow members.

Hope you can make it!

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS



Monthly meetings are always on the third Tuesday of the month, starting at 7:30 p.m.

Don't forget to keep up with your annual drug test. Current up to date drug cards are almost always required by the contractor.

OSHA 10-hour cards are also required on most jobsites. Make sure you keep it handy.

Don't forget to keep your monthly membership dues paid up.

## IN CLOSING

Work hard and work safe! ■

## LOCAL 7 OH



Akron,  
Ohio

Noah Carmichael

Hello Brothers and Sisters, work in the area has been steady all summer.

There are some projects winding down recently, and a few others slated to start.

It is important for all Local 7 members to keep in touch with me as we shift into the cold months so we can keep all of our projects staffed well and keep as many members working as possible.

For a full report on current and upcoming projects, please attend the monthly union meeting or feel free to call.

As always, keep your drug free card current and keep your dues up to date to avoid any missed work.

### LOCAL NEWS

A special thanks to anyone who helped or participated in either the Labor Day Parade or the Local picnic.

It is important to remember that as an organization, we serve working families and it helps when we have a strong showing for these events.

The Local 7 Holiday and Awards party will be held Dec. 9 at the Local 7 Union Hall.

All members are invited, and if you are from another Local and working in the area around that time, feel free to come by and join us for some food!



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 7 OH

Local 7 OH members and family members prepare to walk in the Labor Day Parade in Barberton.

### VACATION FUND TO END

Due to a cost increase in the administration of the vacation fund, Local 7 members voted at a special meeting on Sept. 8 to remove the vacation fund from check off's effective Dec. 1.

After a thorough discussion, members voted unanimously to take the \$1.25 currently going into the vacation fund and put 75 cents back directly onto the check, and 50 cents into the Annuity.

Members should keep in mind that with this change, they will need to set up their own method of putting away money into a savings account since the money will be on their weekly check instead.

Again, after Dec. 1, there will be no more contributions made to the Local 7 vacation fund.

All the monies received up to that point will be sent to each member's account or distributed in a check to anyone who does not have an account at Towpath Credit Union.

I expect all remaining vacation monies to be dispersed by Ohio Bricklayers H&W in early 2020.

### DID YOU KNOW?

The National Labor Relations Act (Wagner Act) was put in place in 1935 to soothe the ongoing tensions between corporate power and organized labor movements.

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) was established to oversee these relations and set standards for labor/management relations.

Since its formation, the National Labor Relations Act has been under constant attack from right wing opponents who serve corporate interests.

Starting with the Taft/Hartley revisions, anti-union political forces propped up by corporate power and money have sought to make it harder for working people to join unions, form unions, strike, picket, demonstrate and exercise their First Amendment rights.

This is why only 11 percent of workers in the U.S. are represented by a union, when over 54 percent of people in the U.S. say they would vote for a union contract (Economic Policy Institute, 2019).

If the organizing barriers were removed by the NLRB, union membership would skyrocket. That is why businesses lobby

politicians to make it harder for people to organize unions.

I have personally tried to call it like I see it during the Trump administration, and not get caught up in all the drama of personality conflicts, and instead concentrate on policy.

If something is done that I agree with, I give credit. If I disagree, I criticize.

With that in mind, I offer the following information:

The U.S. President directly appoints NLRB judges. Hence, he is aware of those judges' positions on workers' rights.

On Sept. 10, the current NLRB's Republican majority removed the "clear and unmistakable waiver" for contract coverage.

In Lawyer speak, that means that they are opening the door for your employer to change your contracts at their leisure.

You are all smart enough to know what it means if your employer can decide to pay you a different rate or change your working conditions whenever they like.

It is an outrage to suggest that contracts can be changed without collective bargaining, and these types of anti-worker rulings are being handed down constantly.

Make sure you contact the National Labor Relations Board and let them know how you feel about this.

The Sept. 10 ruling is just one example of many. I could fill this entire Benchmark publication with other examples of workers' rights being taken away, and not just under the current administration.

But please note that Donald Trump's executive cabinet in Washington D.C. is stripping away workers rights at an unprecedented pace.

Don't take my word for it. Please take a look at the following links:

- <https://news.bloomberglaw.com/daily-labor-report/nlr-adopts-new-standard-for-unilateral-changes-to-job-terms>
- [https://www.nlr.gov/sites/default/files/webform/uploads/trumps\\_national\\_anti-labor\\_relations\\_board\\_0.pdf](https://www.nlr.gov/sites/default/files/webform/uploads/trumps_national_anti-labor_relations_board_0.pdf)

You can also type in a Google search for "National Labor Relations Board anti-union rulings," or "recent workers rights attacks."

You can spend a whole day reading about them. This isn't happening far away, it's happening all around us, and there are things that we can do about it.

Vote for people with a record of standing up for working people, and strongly demonstrate against and oppose those who don't.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

This assault on workers affects our livelihood, and our ability to put food on the table for our family.

It is past time to return to the old labor adage of “rewarding our friends and punishing our enemies.”

## IN CLOSING

I know that you are all busy with family, friends and trying to earn a living, but please read up and study these “bread and butter” issues, so that we can build a movement of working people who know what they are talking about.

I see a future in which working people refuse to be pawns to brash comen and smooth-talking politicians alike.

It is time for organized labor to lead the charge and direct our communities, and our country!

Take care Brothers and Sisters.

“The working man is the only man in whose presence I take off my hat. As I salute him, I honor myself.”

– Eugene Debs ■

## LOCAL 7 KY



Ashland,  
Kentucky

Richard “Willie”  
Moon

Greetings Brothers and Sisters. The summer months have been pretty fair and it is looking like work will continue well into the winter.

Central Masonry landed the Credit Union bank in Ashland and a new maintenance building at Marathon.

The AEP project should see Bricklayers starting in November and working well into the spring.

Advance Restoration has finished up at the Ironton Court House and O.U. Southern Campus and is waiting to start the Ironton Masonic Lodge and Brumberg Building.

We still have some bids out and waiting to see who will be awarded the projects.

The refractory side is doing well, with RC Refractory in and out at Calgon and looking at a shutdown in November.

JT Thorpe had an emergency shutdown at River Cities Energy plant in Louisa.

Mid-Way is at KY Electric Steel for a small turnaround.

Apache is rolling into a month-long shutdown and will also be continuing the maintenance during the outage.

## POLITICAL UPDATES



As many of you know we are closing in on November pretty quick, and this year’s election is very important to all working-class people here in Kentucky.

The hot topic is the Governor’s race between Andy Beshear and Matt Bevin.

Matt Bevin has tried to cut our unemployment weeks in half and cut the weekly pay for it as well. He also tried to make workers-comp harder to achieve by appointing his own panel of judges, and he pulled the Prevailing Wage law, making it harder to bid against the non-union, just to name a few.

In other words, he feels that the working class is over paid.

Mr. Bevin is not a friend of Labor. When your groceries, gas, electric, taxes, etc, are always rising and people in the State Senate are trying to drive our hard-earned wages down, that’s when we need to take a look at who has our best interest.

Here are a few candidates that have Union interest:

Mr. Beshear is for putting the Prevailing Wage back in effect and for preserving the Kentucky Unemployment weeks and pay, just to name a few of his agenda items.

Attorney General candidate Greg Stumbo is also a Union-friendly candidate.

Amy McGrath, running for Senate Majority Leader is a supporter of Unions.

We need to make a difference and vote this November for Labor-friendly people to back us up when it comes to unfriendly politicians.

## CONDOLENCES



It is with a heavy heart we announce our Brother **Randall D. Grashel** has passed away at an early age of 53, due to the stage four cancer he was diagnosed with back in July.

Everyone that knew Brother Grashel knew he was a hard-working Union member who would always go out of his way to help a Union Brother.

He will be greatly missed by many.

## IN CLOSING

I would like to encourage everyone to please take the time and have yearly

checkups and health screenings.

I know we have a habit of putting things off, or that we are too busy working, but many of us have worked in dangerous environments over the years and some of these environments have attributed to health issues with our members and others over the years.

Early diagnosis could improve a person’s health or even save a life, so please take the time to have a checkup. ■

## LOCAL 8



Youngstown,  
Ohio

Brian Collier

Greetings Brothers and Sisters: After a few months of fighting raindrops, we finally got into some steady work.

This summer has been busy with some minor slowdowns recently, though work in the area has been very decent overall.

## PROJECT STATUS



AmeriSeal is doing restoration work at Liberty High School.

Barron Tile still has work left at Shepherd of the Valley in Liberty.

Lencyk Masonry is working at Campbell Community Center, YSU Loft Apartments, DCMD doctor office, Boardman Stadium, Regal Cinema South and the Police Station addition in Austintown.

Future work at the Canfield Fair



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 8

The 2019 Mahoning County United Way Day of Caring where Western Reserve Building Trades Agents assemble to volunteer in the community, and also build a wheelchair ramp.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

Coliseum, Jackson Milton School addition and United Way addition in Youngstown are projects that should start soon.

Minerva Tile will soon start the Dover High School project and has two McDonalds, a Dunkin Donuts, another school and a car dealership to do, along with various other jobs.

Tervo Masonry is working on Mosquito Creek Water Treatment, Starbucks in Boardman and will soon start the Sheetz station in North Lima and some work at YSU Tennis Center.

Youngstown Tile and Terrazzo is currently working on several projects outside of Local 8's territory and has Toronto School in the future.

Wilson Restoration finished up work at YSU Lyden House dormitory and is now working on Elmwood Apartments in Warren.

## SOUTHERN PARK MALL RENOVATION

On Sept. 7, a ceremony was held to start renovation of the 50-year-old Southern Park Mall in Boardman.

Mall owner Washington Prime planned the ceremony with the major attraction being the start of the demolition of the closed Sears store by a heavy excavator on the south end of the mall.

When demolition is complete a new addition including an unattached amphitheater, named DeBartolo Commons – after the mall's original developer – will be built.

Corna Kokosing is the project manager and union contractors are already being awarded work.

Southern Park was one of the first malls in the country when it was new. Boardman's economic success has been directly affected by the mall.

## RECIPROCALLS ARE A BIG DEAL

I hope everybody working outside of Local 8 has filed reciprocals with the respective Locals where you are working.

Hopefully everybody reads this. If you have read it and you think that a fellow BAC member has not read this, please pass the information on, especially to new members.

With recent changes in fund offices in Ohio and Pennsylvania in the past few years, I have seen an uptick in the amount of fringes that are not coming back to our Local funds.

We need to remedy this.

Also, be sure to look over your statements for H&W, Pension and Annuity if you do not normally do so.

## ANOTHER SHEETZ STATION

Working with our contractors, and once again using our Industry Advancement Fund, Local 8 has been successful securing another job for our members.

Tervo Masonry has the low bid on the Sheetz Station remodel in North Lima. This is the second time we have employed the program.

Thank you again to all our members for helping!

## IMPORTANT DATE



The 2019 Annual Local 8 Banquet will be held on Oct. 12 at the Serbian Hall on the West Side of Youngstown.

Please come and enjoy great food, service awards and fellowship with local BAC members.

## IN CLOSING

Thank you one and all. Solidarity will guarantee our good fortune! ■

## LOCALS 9, 10, 44 & 52



East  
Liverpool,  
Ohio

Don Mays

I hope you all have enjoyed the summer months with your families and friends. Enjoyable summers usually work hand-in-hand with working well.

Some of my coverage area has slowed and some is going to start late, so we have to navigate the small jobs and hope the late start jobs do get started.

Hopefully, some may have started by the time you receive this issue.

I have continued working to increase our work opportunities. I have found adversity on a few projects and if talks

fail, we may need to stand up publicly to make our point known.

I may be calling for support in the coming weeks to show we are a united membership.

That said, work should be decent to good in the spring.

As we move toward the holidays and hunting season, for some, it will be important to take care of the projects we have ongoing, as well as the projects starting up.

Our attendance at work is important for all the obvious reasons and for our contractor's willingness to continue to bid the projects in our local areas.

It is also important for our reputation with the owners.

By taking care of our end, we will have a much better chance to secure the work in the future.

## APPRENTICE RECRUITMENT



We are also continuing to recruit new apprentices.

It has been nice to see our members acknowledge the importance of our apprentices.

This will continue to help them progress on the jobsites.

Regarding apprenticeship. I would like to thank Jeff Garnett for his service at the Southern Training Center.

Jeff, you have done a great job and I hate to see you go. I wish you the best!

## TRAINING REMINDERS



As we get into the heart of the winter season, we need to think about renewing our training, such as OSHA 10-hour or 30-hour, Steward Training, and hopefully consider cross training, whether it is Restoration (PCC), Tile Setting or Welding certifications.

The training helps to create work opportunities for you and helps us maintain the market share for the future.

For information regarding the training or work opportunities, come to your Local meeting.

It's better to talk in person.

When that's not possible, of course, give me a call.

I look forward to seeing you all soon! ■

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

## LOCAL 16



**Mentor,  
Ohio**

**Dan Musacchio**

Brothers and Sisters, as usual when preparing to write this article my goal is finding topics other than a printed version of a Union meeting.

This platform is such a positive way to reach so many members, it would be a shame not to try and really put some heart and soul into what gets published and give the body some insight into their leader's convictions.

This was something I've been sitting on for a while, and never really felt it was the right time.

Sometimes there's no right time for a heaping spoonful of honesty, so please indulge me.

Consider the following image. There is a rampant river full of deep holes, turbulent rapids and long stretches of shallow fast water.

Further upstream, nearly out of sight, the levee is swollen and preparing to crash down causing a total washout.

At the mouth of the waterway, there is a small raft bursting at the seams carrying 20 men and women.

Out in front of the craft, there is a lone man pulling a rope tied to the bow cleat.

As the man navigates the small vessel through the countless obstacles taking great care to guide those in his care upstream and unscathed, he hears the cries of the 20: "Pull Faster!"

This illustration is the modern labor movement.

From daily member interactions, to calculated organizing campaigns, the opportunity to serve working people is always present and has taken me across this state.

Yet, no matter where the job takes me, the same hurdles are waiting.

In not one, but every market traveled, the non-union has a solid foothold.

If that's not enough, what's worse is the craft jurisdiction being lost on a daily

basis in the Union sector.

Carpenters, Laborers, Sheet Metal workers, Painters and Roofers are boldly establishing past practice doing our work.

We all need employers to work for, there is nothing wrong with being mindful of a company's best interest.

Giving our work away to keep the boss content is, however, an issue that cannot be tolerated.

While we keep our heads down not wanting to ruffle any company feathers because we need a job, we need to recognize that soon, they won't need us to do that job at all, as we've trained our own replacements.

Saying nothing is worse than giving it away.

Whether it be a saw cut we thought we were above making, that's now claimed in another trades contract; the grinding that was too dirty for a seasoned journeyman, that is now given to the support trades without question, or worse, non-union employees all together; or working off the books on weekends for your union employer.

The list goes on. And no one is saying anything.

Everything comes with a price. All these actions are impacting your fringe benefits negatively.

Anytime BAC craft hours go anywhere other than the negotiated funds, our members feel the repercussions.

Still, division and apathy abound in our ranks. I understand its human nature to deflect blame and stand faultless.

We can be the loudest voice in the room criticizing the leaders and trustees over healthcare costs and pension problems, while on the job we stand idle, silent, allowing employers to assign our craft jurisdiction to Laborers daily.

A few, the same few who are pulling the boat, have called their representatives and reported these contractors.

A few have stood up on the job and demanded change.

A few have reached out to their elected officials and demanded the same bail out for our pensions that Wall Street and the auto manufacturers received.

Imagine our strength if we all had the fortitude to call out what we know to be wrong.

We, as working-class people, need to stop infighting and realize exactly who our

true adversary is, and I assure you it's not our leadership.

It's the system who has drawn a line in the sand between us and them.

In this paradigm we are directly in the center of a class war between the haves and have nots.

The disproportion of wealth has never been greater and those with it are setting the table politically in a way that will ensure they only reap more, while we limp, paycheck to paycheck.

This really isn't intended to be a negative piece, and it truly doesn't apply to the majority of this membership.

Instead, just a purview from someone who has seen multiple jurisdictions and the exact same symptoms in each.

I wouldn't shine a light on a problem without offering a solution.

Quite simply, get involved.

Your leadership is asking for your help.

Enough watching from the sidelines.

Every member of this Union is obligated to do whatever it takes for it to thrive.

Band together with your Brothers and Sisters and take back what is rightfully ours.

Together we take the responsibility of shoring up our pensions and lowering premiums through reclaiming hours and gaining employment opportunities.

Our Labor movement needs 20 sets of hands pulling the rope. ■

## LOCAL 18 NORTH



**Cincinnati,  
Ohio**

**Brian D. Wear**

This summer has been a hot one. The work has been booming.

This trend looks to carry on through winter for the new construction. The work outlook is just the same for 2020.

Skanska has been awarded the Harrison schools (four) and the Little Miami projects (three).

Let's hope our contractors continue the run. This has been a good run for the Local and our signatory contractors.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

## SAFETY REMINDERS



As all of you know, safety and working conditions are what the union stands for.

We have continued this similar trend with the most recent silica standard.

At first, it was a pain in the neck and cumbersome. As time has passed, the change has made for better working conditions.

I bring this point up because we have continued to be successful with large construction managers in the area.

Safety has been one major aspect. I believe our willingness to oblige safety standards and follow them is normal.

We all have been safety trained, updated and have the opportunity to do so throughout the year.

This again leads to work opportunities for our contractors and us.

This has not gone unnoticed by the owners of these projects.

This is always a point that is made when our contractors and CMs meet to discuss the job. Both the contractor and the union agree on this.

This is very beneficial, and in some ways, forges the member/contractor relationship.

It creates a better value as a whole. We need to continue the good work and embrace the safety concerns, scaffold regulations and conditions.

It has been paying off.

I don't disagree that some of the regulations are a bit over the top, like the constant reminder of 24 inches of wall before you jump the boards or the unbearable heat an extra layer of hi-vis with stripes adds on a summer day.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 18 NORTH

Freddie Hubbard Jr. receives his 25-year pin. Presented by his father (retired 40-year) Fred Hubbard Sr. (middle) Vice President/Field Rep. Jefferson King, (left) President/Field Rep Brian D. Wear (right).

Our contractors and the union continue to work together with the construction managers to make this relationship harmonious.

There is always an open dialog with our contractors when it comes to safety and the concerns of our members.

## 2020 NEGOTIATIONS

I would like to remind everyone that we are in the last year of the current negotiated agreement. May 31, 2020 is the expiration.

We will be sending out a mailing to hear concerns specific to negotiations in the spring.

But in the meantime, union meetings are held monthly on the third Monday at 5:30 p.m.

## IN CLOSING

I have noticed an uptick in attendance at the December meeting in the last several years.

I have also noticed a drop in attendance at the picnic.

I'm not sure if it's the day of the picnic or the overtime that has been worked, but a majority of working members do not attend.

In an effort to boost attendance and comradery at both functions, I am open to suggestions. ■

## LOCAL 18 SOUTH



Cincinnati, Ohio

Jeff King

Work in the area remains busy and looks good through the rest of this year and well into 2020.

Local 18's Summer Family Picnic and Awards Presentation was another big success!

This year we added face painting and balloon art to enhance the experience for our youthful attendees.

We are always looking for members to volunteer their time to ensure the picnic's future success.

## TRAINING CENTER CHANGES



There have been some changes at the Southern Regional Training Center.

After eight years of dedicated service, **Jeff Garnett**, has left to pursue another career with one of our signatory contractors.

We appreciate Jeff's role in making our apprenticeship program a model to be proud of, and we wish him the best of luck on his new journey.

Fortunately, we won't miss a beat with the hiring of **Alex Latanza** as the new PCC instructor and the continued service of **Mark White** as the Brick instructor.

Welcome aboard Alex!

## VOLUNTEER EFFORT

Several members of Local 18 volunteered their time and talents to build a brick backstop and a new press box at the Bellevue Vets.

This project was a concerted effort by the Cincinnati Reds Community Fund, the Cincinnati Zoo, St. E's and Duke Energy.

This transformed the field into a fantastic facility that will be enjoyed by the local community for years to come.

## POLITICS SEASON



I realize that our members do not want to be told how to vote, and I can appreciate that.

I don't care whether you consider yourself a Democrat, Republican or an Independent, that is your choice.

What I do hope is that everyone who is reading this article considers who is going to protect your right to work as a union member.

If they are not willing to protect us from legislative attacks, they should not get your vote!

We need to become a one issue voter! We can no longer let issues other than protecting our ability to earn our livelihood as a union member take priority.

Make no mistake, we are under attack and if we don't take the time to know how the person we vote for stands on organized labor, we will be equipping those we elect to put the nails in our coffin.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky has a governors' race this November and the stakes couldn't be higher.

The incumbent is no friend of the working man. He has repealed Prevailing Wage, made Kentucky a So-Called "Right to Work" state, attacked teachers and

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hurt public pensions.

If you live in Kentucky, please vote for Andy Brashear to help turn the state in the right direction.

## IN CLOSING

Please remember to work safe and look out for each other on the jobsites! ■

## LOCAL 22



Dayton,  
Ohio

Shawn Herzog

As most of you are aware, it has been a very busy year for our members, as well as our contractors.

Work looks to stay busy for the next few months heading into the fall.

A couple of projects that will be starting are Miami Valley CTC and Springfield Shawnee pk-6 schools.

Brothers and Sisters, everyone that works in this trade knows what is right around the corner, and that is Old Man Winter.

I would suggest that everyone work the hours that are available to them in the next few months.

## ORGANIZING EFFORTS



Anyone who knows of anyone that is currently working in the masonry industry and would like to join our Brotherhood, have them contact me.

If you know of anyone looking to get started in the Masonry industry, have them



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 22

Congratulations to the apprentices who recently completed their four years of school. From left to right, Domineck Otero, Dana Mukes, Brian Thorpe and Desiray Owens.

contact me.

We accept apprentice applications throughout the whole year.

## PENSION UPDATE

There will be a new revised SPD (Summary Plan Description) for the Local 22 pension sent out within the next month to the whole membership.

## MUCH APPRECIATION



I would like to thank everyone who attended the Local 22 picnic, and hope they enjoyed themselves. It was a good turnout.

Also, congratulations to the apprentices who have completed their four years of school. They are: **Domineck Otero, Dana Mukes, Brian Thorpe** and **Desiray Owens**.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



There will be a Christmas party/awards party held at Local 22 on Dec. 14, beginning at 1 p.m.

All Local 22 members are invited. There will be letters going out to all service award members.

## FINAL REMINDER

All members that haven't done so, I would suggest that you sign up on the BAC Portal and get the app. ■

## LOCAL 36



Cleveland,  
Ohio

Matt Neeson

Brothers and Sisters, as we move into fall, work has been good, with most members working.

Bidding has slowed with our larger contractors having some big jobs to man up. We needed a lot of manpower to finish up these big jobs, which also keeps them from bidding more work.

The most manpower was at "The Q" (its finally coming to an end).

Meanwhile, the May Company and Medical Mutual projects start to ramp up

for Rittenour.

If you are not working, call the contractors on our list and get your name out there so they know – or let me know so I can forward the information.

## CONDOLENCES



I'm sad to say Local 36 has had some members pass away. Long standing member, **Cliff Claus**, our oldest working member, was 76 when he passed on Sept. 6, from double pneumonia.

Local 36 will miss him as he was one of our best mud men and a great man many of us learned from.

Peace be with you Cliff.

Also, **Gary Ivory** passed on Sept. 15, while working on the Q job.

Gary was one of the best stone men in the business and was an all-around good man.

All you have to do is look around on these jobs and see all of the great work that has been done by two of our most seasoned members.

Local 36 will miss these fine men and will be at a loss without them.

## POLITICAL SEASON

As we move into political season, remember to take a good look at who has your best interest at hand.

Think of who will help us keep our movement alive as we fight every day to keep what many have been working for – a good standard of living, medical care and a retirement.

This fight continues to be on the front of all workers, who need to be active.

We need to stop the So-Called "Right to Work" push from taking over. Don't let someone else control your destiny.

Make the right choices and think about your family and what it needs.

## SOLD OUT



All our football tickets are gone for our Oct. 13 game against Seattle.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Information will be passed to those who have reserved a ticket.

## APPRENTICE UPDATES



This year is one of the biggest apprentice classes we have had. We have over 200 apprentices

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from the BAC trades, so the training center will be very busy.

I would like to introduce our new apprentice teacher, **Ward Kehr**.

Ward is a long-standing member with a lot of knowledge of the tile and stone trades.

From mud work, stone fastenings, ceramic tile and layouts, Ward is among the best in the field.

Congratulations and welcome to our District Council/IMI/Training Center family.

As we move forward, Local 36 is working with all of our distributors to bring in products and training on all forms of their materials that our contractors use on the jobs.

This includes large format tile, 12 x 24 and 24 x 24, even larger porcelain panels and more.

Local 36 is growing, and so will our new apprentices.

Good luck and keep learning as much as possible.

## IN CLOSING

Work Safe. Remember to look out for each other.

Help keep a safe, clean environment.

We all want to come and go in one piece. ■

## LOCALS 39 & 45



Portsmouth,  
Ohio

Heath "Luke"  
Henry

Greetings Sisters and Brothers. We recently celebrated the 125th anniversary of Labor Day as a National Holiday.

Workers have made great progress in the time since the inaugural Labor Day, but for a growing number of American workers, the struggle for fair wages, safe working conditions, health insurance and retirement benefits is still very real and getting harder, and many in our own trade are working today without these basic necessities.

As BAC members, we need to reach out to those that are working in our trade who may not be paid fairly, or maybe they get a decent wage, but have no benefits. Some are paid cash and others are misclassified as subcontractors and have

no protections at all.

We need to encourage these people to join our union and help them any way that we can.

A lot of us have only worked union, and we can sometimes take for granted the wages and benefits that have been fairly negotiated with honest contractors who believe in a fair day's work for a fair day's pay.

Many of the non-union contractors who are exploiting workers are the ones bidding against the contractors we work with, so it is in our best interests that we bring any worker who is engaged in any of the work that we do into our union.

Labor Day is a celebration of the American worker, but let it also remind us that there is still work to do. We cannot simply rely on the victories of the generations before us.

Our generation must continue the work that they began, and we must seek our own victories.

## LABOR DAY PARADE

We want to thank all the members and their families who came out for the Labor Day Parade in Portsmouth this year.

We had a very good turnout, and it was nice to get to spend time with all of you doing something other than work.

Many crafts had nice big floats. The Tri-State Building Trades had their new truck and trailer that was completely wrapped and displayed the logo of each of the building trades unions.

We had the truck from the SOKYRTC there also.

These things were all great and helped bring attention to what we do, but the most important thing that we had there was the members and their families.

Please come out and join us next year!

## VOLUNTEER WORK



I want to thank Local 39 members **Dylan McKinley** and **Charlie Cooper** for their help on a volunteer project that we did for Main Street Portsmouth in August.

Main Street Portsmouth was trying to secure the façade of an old building on 2nd Street.

Much of the building was demolished but the façade was still standing, and they wanted to preserve it.

We worked with the Iron Workers and we were able to stabilize the structure for now.

More work will be needed in the future to complete the project, so if any of you are willing to volunteer and would like to help on this project, please let me know.

Thanks again to Charlie and Dylan for showing up on short notice!

## CONDOLENCES



On behalf of the members of Local 39 and 45, we send our deepest sympathy and condolences to the families and friends of **William C. Faught Jr.** (Local 22) and **Randall Grashel** (Local 7 KY).

William C. Faught Jr. passed away Aug. 8. He was a 40-year member of Local 22. He retired from Trisco Systems.

Bill had many friends in Local 39 and 45 and was directly responsible for getting many of us involved in this trade.

Bill was a true craftsman. He knew the work and he knew what it took to get the job done.

Bill Faught was not only a great craftsman; he was also great person. He helped so many people in our community in so many ways, and he never expected anything in return.

I know that a few of us Wellston boys could fill this magazine with stories of how Bill helped us throughout our lives, but he would not want us to do that. That's just how he was.

Randy Grashel passed away on Aug. 12. He was a 20-year member of Local 7 KY, and had many friends from Local 39, including his Brother-in-Law **Don Scaff** and his nephew **Jessie Scaff**.

Randy spent most of his career working in various coke plants in the Midwest.

Randy worked as hard as anyone that I ever met, and he expected the same out of anyone that was working with him.

Everyone knew that Randy was going to



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCALS 39 & 45

In August, Local 39 members Dylan McKinley and Charlie Cooper volunteered to help Main Street Portsmouth secure the façade of an old building located on 2nd Street.

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PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCALS 39 & 45

Members and their families before the Labor Day Parade in Portsmouth.

show up every day and give 100 percent.

Randy was a tough guy with a kind heart, and we are all blessed to have known him.

## IN CLOSING

I would like to encourage you all to come out and support our monthly meetings.

There is a lot going on, and many ways for you to get involved at the Local. ■

## LOCAL 40



Mansfield, Ohio

Matthew R. McClester

We have made it through another summer, and fortunately there was good work to keep the members employed.

We still have jobs getting started this fall. Some have stated they will work through the winter, so members should be able to stay employed well into the later months of the year and possibly through the winter.

There are already jobs that have been pushed back into the spring and other jobs will be bidding out over the winter, which

should all mean a decent start to next year.

Going into next year, we will be watching for three school projects in the area that should bid out: Shelby Schools, Lexington Schools and Hillsdale Schools.

I would encourage any members living in those districts to get involved now while they are still in the planning stages and make your voices heard on responsible construction practices.

Once the jobs are out for bid and awarded, sometimes it is too late to have our say.

All these districts should have building committees made up of public taxpayers who are offering input during the design process.

As construction workers, we should be part of that dialogue to offer our firsthand knowledge.

If any member needs assistance in navigating this process, please contact the Local office.

## FISH FRY SUCCESS



We had another successful Retirees' Fish Fry in July. Thank you to all the members who took the time out of their busy schedules to attend the Fish Fry and honor our Retirees.

A Special Thanks to Brother **Rob Cline** for his donation of Lake Erie Fish and help in the preparations and cooking.

Honored Special Guests were 40-year member Brother **Jim Kelley**, and 50-Year Gold Card recipients, Brothers **Gary Cyrus** and **Gary Herman**.



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 40

From left, 50-year Gold Cards were handed out at the Retirees' Fish Fry meeting to Brothers Gary Cyrus and Gary Herman. Brother Jim Kelly (right) received his 40-year pin.

Also, congratulations to the new apprentices we swore in at the Retirees' Fish Fry meeting: **Jacob Lear** and **Anthony Flannigan**.

Both young men are graduates of Brother **Grant Brocwell's** All-Star Masonry Program at the Pioneer Career Center.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Our next big events for the Local will be the Members Christmas Party on Dec. 11, and our Kids Christmas Party on Dec. 21.

Please mark your busy calendars, plan to attend and show support for your Local Union.

## CONDOLENCES



Sadly, we would like to Honor and give thanks to several Brothers who have passed away over the summer.

We lost Brother **John Shoup** (16 years), **James Ehresman** (54 years), **Russell Gordon** (57 years) and **Glenn Wolboldt** (57 years).

Also, former Local President **Fred Hamrick** (63 years) passed away on Sept. 1.

Together these members represented our Local Union with dignity and class and had a total of 247 years of BAC Union Membership. ■

## LOCALS 44 & 55



Columbus, Ohio

Bill Hulet Jr.

Hello Fellow BAC Brothers and Sisters. This article has been a tough one for me to write.

Most of the time, I can talk about life and its tributes and living safely, or discuss things that are going on in the Local, be kind to our fellow BAC members, keep your dues paid up, about organizing, the changing of the seasons, etc.

This article is dedicated to a Local member who took his life and to help educate our members who might need help.

This past quarter, for unknown reasons, one of our fellow BAC Brothers decided to take his own life.

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The BAC Brother, only 24 years old, left behind three beautiful children.

Only he knows why he took his own life. May your eternal light always be bright in the ones that you left behind and the ones that you have touched over your short life.

**Nathan Maxwell**, rest in peace my Brother BAC member.

I am an older tradesperson from the generation where we were told to leave our feelings at the gate when you come to work. You were not supposed to bring your problems to work, and have it be an issue for everyone that is working around you on the jobsite.

This has been going on for generation after generation after generation. No matter what anybody was going through, they were told to leave their problems at home, in school or any other place that was not at work and you were expected to do just that.

Now, we cannot be telling the younger generation or any generation this. We do not know who is depressed, who is dealing with anxiety, suicidal thoughts or who might be dealing with mental illness.

I am not saying to bring your problems to work and try to deal with them while you are working. But you might feel the need to talk to a fellow coworker who you feel comfortable talking to.

Some companies are bringing it up at their morning meetings before they go out to their workstations to try to get people to understand that it is ok to ask for help.

Just letting everyone know that it is ok to talk to someone or ask someone for help.

At some of the jobsites, they are putting the Members Assistance program wallet cards out for the BAC members to have.

What we say and what we do might just be enough to push someone over the edge. We need to be more careful about what we say, how we say it and what our actions are.

There is a saying about raising your children that should also go toward the younger apprentices:

"You cannot raise your children how your parents raised you, because they raised you for a world that no longer exists."

I believe this is more on how you talk to them when teaching them the trade. There have always been some differences from one generation to another on how people were raised.

Everything is changing so fast. Just within the last 25 years alone with computers, the internet, social media, cell phones, robotics, autonomous cars, etc.

Anything can be brought up almost instantly at your fingertips with your cell phone. It seems the younger people, pre-working age, look for all their answers on the internet and they take the internet as the final word, even when it can be proven wrong.

These are just my thoughts, as I am dealing with some of the younger people I talk to at the career fairs.

Since the passing of our fellow BAC member, I have been looking at some articles on the issue of suicide, depression, anxiety and mental illness and have found some staggering statistics.

It is not just the younger people, aged 18 to 25, who are dying from suicide. All ages are dying from suicide at a higher rate than 20 years ago.

The number one profession for people dying by suicide is in the construction industry. In the construction industry, there are several different jobs besides a trades person.

The number one in the construction field to die from suicide is women, and males in the trades are in the top 10.

These are working tradesmen and tradeswomen, who work with their hands. The statistics came from Dr. Karen Greer, Member Assistance Program.

We can try to be more engaging with our fellow BAC members, with our family members at home, even fellow workers from other trades that you are working with.

I know that we are not trained therapists, nor are we trained to see signs of a troubled person. We do not know what the person right next to you is really going through.

I think we need to have more communication with one another.

Sometimes it just takes one person to ask how another person is doing.

Take a few minutes out of your day to just have a conversation about anything.

I do not know if it would be enough to get them thinking that someone cares about them enough to talk to them.

But it could be a start.

Just remember that everyone needs help now and then, and it should not be that tough to ask for it.

This pertains to everyone, even the ones who think they are too macho, head strong, egotistical or whatever you want to call it.

If you need help, ask someone, even tell someone that you need help. It's better to ask now and get the help you need instead of the alternative of suffering through what ever it is or even letting your family ask the question why and you are not there to answer them.

I am telling you from personal experience that taking your own life only puts a burden on the loved ones you leave behind.

The grief on them can be so overbearing at times. The what if's never totally seem to go away.

The answer to why you did what you did will never go away for your loved ones.

## MAP CAN HELP

The International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers has a program called Member Assistance Program or MAP.

This program is helpful in many ways and it is only a phone call away for all the BAC members and their family.

This is a great program and is very helpful in so many ways. I know because I have used it in the past and I have seen it help other members as well.

MAP can help you deal with a variety of issues like depression, stress, alcohol and drug abuse, addictions, domestic violence, retirement needs, and so much more including suicide prevention.

All MAP calls are confidential. They will not speak to anyone without your permission – not agents, Local leaders,

*Wishing all our members and their families a blessed Thanksgiving,  
a joyous Christmas and a happy New Year!*

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

employers, family members, or anyone without your permission.

The phone number is 1-888-880-8222, available from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday.

If you are having suicidal thoughts and not able to call during these times, then please call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. At 1-800-273-8255 they are available 24 hours a day, everyday. Or call 9-1-1, or your nearest Emergency Department.

Please, if you need help, ask for it. If you think someone is struggling in life and may need some help, talk to them.

The Members Assistance Program is here to help us out. As BAC members, we are paying for this and we should not be afraid to use it.

That is what it is for, to help us out.

## IN CLOSING

In the past, the unions were not just about working and safety issues and working together on the jobsites.

It was a second family where everyone came together to help each other out when needed.

Support your Local unions, go to your Local meetings and get involved.

You might not think this, but you should. We are all one big BAC family, and we need to look out for one another. ■

## LOCAL 46



Fremont,  
Ohio

Tim Linder

Just as we thought summer was gone and fall was settling in, we have gone from temperatures in the mid-70s back to the upper 80s with the heat index well into the 90s.

The summer has been very busy with many of our members working a lot of overtime, mostly on the new Fremont schools in the area.

It has also proven to be a great year for growth.

We have a lot of new faces on our job sites, as the demand for Bricklayers has increased.

Many of these faces are the future of Local 46. Our Local alone currently employs approximately 30 apprentices, and many of them are new just this year.

I want to thank those of you who have welcomed our new Brothers and/or Sisters and have helped show them the way.

It's because of your efforts that we will continue to have a strong union presence in the workplace.

## PROJECT UPDATES



Current projects in the area: Mosser Construction, Inc. continues work at Sandusky City Schools on their new elementary and middle school building(s).

Spartan Construction Co. is nearing the completion of the blockwork at the new Fremont Kroger, which is slated to open at the beginning of November.

Studer-Obringer, Inc. continues its work on the Huron Fire Station, and also is starting the Monroeville Police Station.

A lot of work continues on the four Fremont City Schools elementary buildings that have been underway since last fall.

Fremont Ross High School is expected to bid this fall.

Fremont City Schools will require all workers to have a current OSHA 10 and drug card. If yours are soon to expire, or you do not have one, please reach out to me as soon as possible so I can get you set up.

## GOLF OUTING SUCCESS



Thank you, **Andy Hess**, and those of you who participated in our second annual golf outing!

It was another successful event, and I hope to be able to continue this as an



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 46

Apprentices Ryan Clark and Mike Roberts won their respective divisions at the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 Regional Competition in Cleveland.

annual tradition for many years to come.

If you would like to get involved or have ideas and/or suggestions for future golf outings, please reach out to Andy at 567-201-7673.

## WELL DONE!



Congratulations to **Ryan Clark** and **Mike Roberts** for winning the fastest Bricklayers competition that was held in August.

Also, Local 46 recently recognized the following:

40-year members – **Timothy Krupp** and **Ward Kehr**.

25-year members – **Keith Ketcham** and **Jose Ruiz**.

Congratulations and thank you for your years of service and hard work.

## READY FOR WINTER?

The Farmer's Almanac has released its long-range weather forecast for Northwest Ohio for November 2019 to March 2020.

*"Winter will be warmer than normal, with above-normal precipitation.*

*The coldest periods will be in early December and early to mid-January, from late January into early February, and in late February.*

*Snowfall will be above normal in Ohio and below normal in most other areas.*

*The snowiest periods will be in early to mid-January, from late January into early February and late February into early March, and in late March."*

Keep in mind that should you get laid off this winter and need to file for unemployment, you must be current with your monthly dues.

You can pay your dues one of two ways: by calling the District Council at 440-986-3000 or by completing a form for automatic withdrawal from a card or account.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



I want to remind everyone that our annual Christmas party will be Dec. 16, which is the third Monday of the month, starting at 7:30 p.m.

This is the same time as every other monthly meeting.

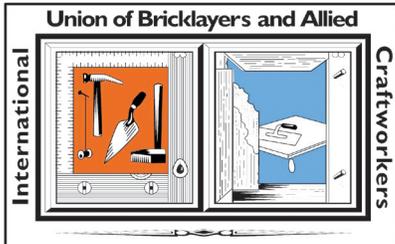
Your attendance at these meetings is not mandatory. However, I strongly encourage you to attend regularly so you are up to speed on what's happening locally and nationally. ■



**Ohio-Kentucky Administrative  
District Council**  
8497 Leavitt Rd.  
Amherst, OH 44001

Phone: 800-442-0479  
Email: [oadc@oadc.net](mailto:oadc@oadc.net)  
[www.oh-kyadc.com](http://www.oh-kyadc.com)

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



## IN MEMORIAM

**Willard E. Carroll**, 3 OH

**Robert R. Coady**, 5 OH

**Steve A. Dzurnak**, 5 OH

**Jack R. Fair**, 5 OH

**Walter Munich**, 5 OH

**Randall D. Grashel**, 07 KY

**Victor Bibby**, 7 OH

**Charles D. Bond**, 7 OH

**Dolen G. Rexrode**, 7 OH

**William J. Hucke**, 8 OH

**John P. Leschinsky**, 8 OH

**Roy B. Jeffers**, 18 OH

**Billy Spears**, 18 OH

**James M. Weigel**, 18 OH

**Earnest Butler**, 22 OH

**William C. Faught Jr.**, 22 OH

**Clifford M. Claus**, 36 OH

**Gary J. Ivory**, 36 OH

**Chris A. Knotek**, 36 OH

**Russell D. Gordon**, 40 OH

**Fred A. Hamrick**, 40 OH

**John A. Shoup**, 40 OH

**Joseph P. Beshara**, 55 OH

**Nathan R. Maxwell**, 55 OH

**Earl Miller Jr.**, 55 OH

**Robert D. Thompson**, 55 OH

## 2021 U.S. Bates Scholarship Is Now Accepting Applications

The U.S. Bates Scholarship program is now accepting applications for the 2021 competition.

Applications can be submitted online at:

<https://bacweb.org/bac-journal/us-bates-scholarship>

*The application deadline is March 31, 2020.*