

# THE BENCHMARK

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 2  
OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2021



This Newsletter is intended for Members Only

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

# Let's be ready to grow in 2022

By Ken Kudela



The New Year offers not only a time for reflection, but a time to look ahead to what we hope is a good year for our union and our members.

Based on current forecasts, it appears the pandemic will not be the biggest issue facing our industry in 2022. At least for the first half of the year, the supply chain challenges has the potential to impact getting needed materials to jobsites, likely causing delays and other problems.

This is something our union and our contractors cannot control. Hopefully, by the time the cold weather breaks, our jobsites will have the materials needed to perform our high-quality work.

What we can control is ensuring we have the manpower for our contractors.



This is the other major problem facing the construction industry.

I believe 2022 should be a year of growth for our industry, our District Council and all our Local Unions.

Based on what we are hearing, 2022 is going to be a busy year in many parts of Ohio and some parts of Kentucky. We

need to be able to staff all the jobs our contractors successfully bid, and give them the confidence to seek out even more work opportunities.

The retirement of members from the Baby Boomer generation is taking a toll on many of our Local Unions. As members

[See MESSAGE on page 4.](#)

## Labor is on the rise

By Noah Carmichael



Labor is waking up. For many years organized labor has been asleep, and resigned itself to being content with

handing over campaign funds to political parties and candidates and letting them steer the ship.

Many union members, and some of our more critical and forward-thinking leaders, have been aggravated by this approach, and I think rightly so.

But this servile tactic was not always the case. There was a time, not long ago in the U.S., when labor was in the driver's seat of politics.

When we demanded Social Security, the people got it.

When we demanded workplace safety, working people got it.

When we demanded an end to child labor so that kids could go to school and learn and get to be kids, working people got child labor laws and better public schools.

There is a lesson here that our ancestors and Brothers and Sisters laid

[See LABOR on page 3.](#)

By Don Huss



I wish the entire B.A.C./OH-KY A.D.C. community happy holidays.

The 2022 work outlook appears to be positive.

Contractors have already reported projects that will begin in the early spring, and several other projects will bid out between now and the springtime.

At the time of writing this article, I have been told that the large mill project in the Local 5 jurisdiction has been pushed back to a March 2022 start date.

It is anticipated that this project will need about 200 Bricklayers per shift at the peak of the job.

## UPCOMING NEGOTIATIONS



In 2022, we will see a moderate number of contracts that need to be renegotiated.

This year, we will be entering into negotiations in the following Locals: Local 5 Terrazzo, Local 8 Brick, Local 16 Brick, Local 22 Tile and Local 36 Tile.

If 2021 was any indication of what we can expect this year, and I hope that it is, then it should lead for some interesting meetings with the contractors.

In the previous years, I have made every effort possible to attend the Local Union "wish list" meetings to hear from the membership, and I expect to continue that again this year.

These are important meetings to attend, not only for myself and the Negotiating Committee, but also the entire membership.

I encourage all members to attend your Local's monthly meeting. That is the place where you can make your voice heard to the Negotiating Committee and express to them which clauses in the contract you would like to see either

deleted, added or what clauses need to be clarified to avoid confusion.

The bottom line is that if we do not hear from the membership, we can only assume that you are satisfied with the contract.

If for some reason you are not able to make it to any of the upcoming meetings, please make it a point to contact your Field Representative and let him know what your thoughts are of the contract and upcoming negotiation.

## MORE MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT



The OH-KY ADC Membership Recruitment Program is going to be renewed for all of 2022.

We are always in need of new members, both apprentices and journeymen.

Just to refresh your memory, the program works as follows: For every three new members a current member brings into the union, the District Council Executive Board has authorized us to present the referring member a check for \$500.

The only stipulations are that the new member must receive a new International Union number, and either pay the full initiation fee (\$419 journeymen, \$102.80 apprentice) or the new member can utilize the "Special Fee Waiver" and pay one year of dues (\$276 journeymen, \$211.20 apprentices).

Once the new member is signed up, your Field Representative will notify the District Council office and the stats will be kept here.

The program did not produce as many members as we hoped in 2021, but I believe each of you know at least a few craftsmen who are working in your trade or possibly even a future apprentice who may be looking to start a new career.

Those are the people we need to get signed up with the Union.

If we can get them signed up, it is a win-win for all who are involved.

The Local gains a new member; new members will have the ability to gain health insurance, a pension and the ability to work under a union contract that will give them workplace rights; and you will be given a \$500 check.

So, let us all try to bring as many new members as possible into the Union Hall, and get them signed up.

This program will remain in effect until at least Dec. 31, 2022.

## NEW UNION CARDS

In the early part of 2022, you will be sent a new Union card.

The International has updated the Union cards, and they will now have a QR code on them that can be scanned with your smart phone.

The information that will appear once the code is scanned is your dues status along with the training you have taken.

It is important to make sure your training information is up to date. If you are missing any of your training or certifications, please contact **Tammy Tansley** at the Northern Ohio Regional Training Center at 440-986-3300.

Tammy will get your information and get it entered into the computer system for you.

## DUES REMINDER



With the New Year here, I remind the membership to keep your monthly dues up to date.

Many of you choose to pay your monthly dues one year at a time, so this is the time of year to be reminded they need to be paid again.

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 the office at 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.

## IN CLOSING

Happy New Year to the entire B.A.C./OH-KY A.D.C. community.

# Stay Connected to the OH-KY ADC:



@BAC\_OHKY



www.oh-kyadc.com



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

## THE IMI UPDATE:

By Tom Elliott , CSI, CDT



I hope you all had a great holiday season, and this finds you all safe and well.

The new year brings new opportunities for us, and it looks to be a busy year for masonry craftworkers.

The IMI has been working with design teams on several projects within the OH-KY region, and if awarded to our

signatory contractors, will allow our craftworkers to showcase their talents.

### TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES



The International Masonry Training and Education Foundation (IMTEF) is a sister organization of the IMI and BAC that provides training opportunities for both apprentice and journey-level BAC craftworkers.

These programs are funded by the weekly deductions from members' checks, and there is no additional cost to attend any of these courses – whether locally or at the National Training Center in Bowie, Md.

Whether you are looking to learn something new, or to just refresh your skills, I urge all BAC craftworkers to take advantage of the learning opportunities at your disposal this year.

Included here is information about the training programs IMTEF has scheduled for early 2022 at the National Training Center.

Please reach out to me directly or to your Local field



REGISTER: [IMTEF.ORG/CALENDAR](https://imtef.org/calendar)

#### TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES - WINTER 2022

The John J. Flynn BAC/IMI International Training Center  
17101 Science Drive • Bowie, Maryland 20715

##### TRAIN-THE-TRAINER COURSES (IMI INSTRUCTORS)

March 7 - 11	<b>OSHA 510 (Online)</b> OSHA Standards for the Construction Industry - FOR MEMBERS/INSTRUCTORS 6 person minimum
April 18 - 22	<b>OSHA 500 (In Person)</b> Trainer Course in OSHA Standards for Construction - FOR INSTRUCTORS ONLY
February 14 - 16	<b>OSHA 502</b> Update for Construction Industry Outreach Trainers - FOR INSTRUCTORS ONLY

##### CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

January 10 - April 29 (Weekly enrollment)	<b>Prejob (In Person)</b> <b>Cross-Craft (In Person)</b> <b>Upgrade Training (In Person)</b>
February 28 - March 4 (Class size limited)	<b>Foreman Training (In Person)</b> <b>Mentorship Matters (In Person)</b> <b>Foundation for Safety Leadership (In Person)</b>
March 7 - 11 (Orientation March 3) April 11 - 15 (Orientation April 7)	<b>Foreman Training (Online) - 15 hours</b> Class size limited to 20, with 10 minimum required to hold class
January 17 - 21 February 14 - 16 (for virtual attendees) February 21 - 25	<b>Historic Masonry Preservation (In Person Hands-On)</b> Class size limited to 10. (6 full days, including 3 evening classes)
March 7 - 11	<b>JAHN/Conproco/Edison/Lithomex (In Person)</b> Class size limited to 10
January 11 - 26 February 1 - 16 February 22 - March 9 March 14 - 30 April 5 - 20	<b>Welding: Maryland - 2<sup>1/2</sup> Weeks (In Person)</b> Class size limited to 6
January 17 - 25   MSHA 26 - 28 April 18 - 26   MSHA 27 - 29	<b>Refractory/MSHA (In Person)</b> Class size limited to 16
March 21 - 23	<b>ABAA Air Barrier Certification (In Person)</b> Air Barrier Association of America (ABAA) requires \$250 for ABAA Certified Installer License Fee (1st year) and \$100 annual renewal fee payable to ABAA by the installer to receive and maintain their Installer Certification Card.

[Register online to secure your spot at imtef.org/calendar.](https://imtef.org/calendar)

Registration is offered on a first-come first-serve basis. For questions or more information, contact:

[Serenia Holland, Director of Education Operations at 301-291-2105 or sholland@imtef.org.](mailto:Serenia.Holland@imtef.org)

representative with any questions you may have.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have on this or any other masonry topic. ■

## Labor

Continued from page 1.

out for us to learn.

It is a concept that would benefit us all to become more familiar. It is called collective power.

Just like collective bargaining for a contract is much more powerful than individual power, so is collective power in our communities, and in our country.

When working people put their differences aside and focus on things that they mostly agree on (making a good wage, safe workplaces, good healthcare, access to good education, strong retirement plans, etc.) then that is when we are at our most powerful.

In the last five years, we have seen more strikes and lockouts than in the previous four decades.

Many of these have come from other workers like the service industry and the education sector.

So why should construction workers care about how people in service jobs, teachers or bus drivers are treated?

If we all supported each other in our struggles as working people, the powerful would have to come to us – hat in hand – and ask us what we want.

They love nothing more than when we are at each other's throats.

I once saw a movie when I was a teenager, and though I was only a few years into the workforce at the time, something at the end of it never left me.

In the movie, "Blue Collar," with Richard Pryor and Harvey Keitel, the character "Smokey" tells his friend Jerry:

"They pit the lifers against the new boys, the old against the young, the black against the white – ANYTHING to keep

us in our place."

He was talking about their jobs at an auto plant, and the movie was made in the late 1970s.

It might as well have been made yesterday.

The same game is going on still, pitting workers against each other: skilled trades vs. "unskilled," professionals vs. service, black vs. white, immigrant vs. so-called natives.

It's all a hustle to keep us in our place.

Remember that next time you see a strike, or a picket line, or some folks just trying to get a raise, that it might be your time to fight next.

The power lies with us being together. Collective power.

That is what made unions strong once, and it is what will make unions strong again. ■

# Message

Continued from page 1.

retire after a successful career, we need to fill the void they leave behind. Not only do we need to replace them on the jobsite, but we also need to replace them as leaders of our Local Unions.

Due to the upcoming workload, we need to bring in more members than we lose to retirement. We need to bring in one non-union trowel trades worker for each member who retires, and continue to recruit apprentices to join and grow our ranks.

It is for this reason the OH-KY ADC plans to extend the incentives offered to members through our Membership Recruitment Program for all of 2022.

We will pay members to recruit new journeymen or apprentices. If you bring in three new members – either journeymen or apprentices – who receive a new

International Union number and pay their first year of dues, you will be rewarded with a \$500 check.

Please read Secretary-Treasurer **Don Huss's** report for more details about the program.

I strongly urge you to take advantage of this program. Help us grow our union and ensure the future of our retirement fund. Make a resolution to recruit new members and help your Brothers and Sisters as we begin a season of growth.

## USA MEMBERSHIP CONTEST

Within the pages of this edition of The Benchmark you will find information about the Union Sportsmen's Alliance BAC Membership Contest. The contest is open to all affiliated BAC members who either join USA or are an existing member who registers to win.

USA is offering a number of great prizes, including one grand prize winner who gets to choose between one of three

packages valued at \$3,000, and one second place winner per region who will get a \$400 gift card.

Remember, membership to USA is free – all you have to do is sign up or register. Good luck!

## IN CLOSING

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season.

For those of you who are working this winter, please follow all safety guidelines. For any members not able to work in these cold months, remember it is an excellent time to schedule your journeyman upgrade classes.

Contact your training center and make sure you have the certifications and skills needed to be "work ready" for the spring.

Finally, I hope the New Year brings you happiness, prosperity and good health. This can be a good year, but I hope that together, we can make it a great year to remember. ■

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

## LOCAL 3



Toledo,  
Ohio

Matt Aberl

As we close out 2021, we have much to celebrate. It was a wonderful year with you all, despite the challenges we've had to overcome.

It was great to see everyone at the Labor Day parade. Labor Day is a huge part of our history, and to see you all come out to celebrate is very special, especially since we were unable to hold the parade in 2020.

I hope we are able to continue having the parade in years to come, and that you all come out to celebrate the gains we make in worker's rights.

On Dec. 6, we were invited to Penta Career Center to facilitate a hands-on demonstration on how to install Schluter Systems' shower products.

I thank everyone involved in this educational outreach, especially Schluter Systems for donating their products and time to the demonstration; Mike Maraldo from

Tri-State Industrial Floors for coordinating and supplying the necessary materials for the event; and **Ward Kehr**, apprenticeship tile instructor who demonstrated proper techniques for laying tile.

## MEMORABLE QUOTE

"...trade unions have done more for humanity than any other organization of men that ever existed. They have done more for decency, for honesty, for education, for the betterment of the race, for the developing of character in man, than any other association of men." – Clarence Darrow.

## DUES REMINDER



Member dues fund health insurance, access to legal representation, work opportunities and pension.

Paying your dues is an important part of membership.

If you fail to pay your dues, you will be charged a reinstatement fee. If you become three months behind in payment of your dues, you will be automatically dropped from membership.

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

Since 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.

## UPDATE YOUR INFO



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



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 3  
A demonstration on how to install Schluter Systems' shower products took place at the Penta Career Center.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

think you should have received something, please call as soon as possible.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



We are still having regular meetings on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m.

We consider the safety of holding in-person meetings on a month-to-month basis.

If you have any questions or concerns about meetings, please contact me.

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

## LOCAL 5 EAST



Cleveland,  
Ohio

Gary Browning

I hope as you read this, you and your family are looking back at the successful year you have been a part of as a Local 5 Bricklayer.

Fall has gone and winter has started to set in. As I write this, we are in the season where the weather is not so kind, but we must push on as every hour worked is one more hour toward the healthcare needed for your family, and one more hour toward your pension.

## WORK STATUS



Downtown Cleveland and the East side of Cuyahoga County are thriving with projects as new residents flock North.

With this going on, the Cleveland skyline is about to change.

We have an abundance of high rises in planning around the area.

One such project that has started is the 36-story Sherwin Williams World Headquarters on the Square.

Just East of the city, the 23-story Artisan Square Apartments has already begun altering the skyline.

The region has not seen this economic magnitude of growth since the early 90s when the city gave us Key Tower, Fifth

Third bank, Jacobs Field, the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and the renovation of Tower City Center.

With all of these changes occurring, it is having a ripple effect on the surrounding cities, where they are also enduring a boom in building.

When there is building to be done, we have an influx of work demand. Work demand means jobs and more jobs helps the growth of this Local.

## UPDATE YOUR INFO



If you had any changes in address, phone number or beneficiary, please call the office at 216-447-9965.

Also, make sure your drug card is up to date. This can be done by contacting SCT at 216-587-3000.

## IN CLOSING

I thank every one of you for the blood, sweat and dignity you have provided as a member of this Local.

I also sincerely wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season. ■

## LOCAL 5 WEST



Cleveland,  
Ohio

Jairo Cabrera

Greetings and happy holidays! Hopefully, everyone had a safe, wonderful year. Let's reflect on 2021 and what it did bring, as it was a strong year for our Brothers and Sisters, along with our contractors.

This was a positive year with a lot of growth. For instance, we were able to place 86 new Brothers and Sisters on projects this past year. This is something to be proud of.

Some of you had the privilege of retiring this year.

We also had the ability for apprentices to have class in-person again.

As you know, we were able to host our first picnic at the Local 5 Union Hall with you and your loved ones.

We were able to live an almost normal, everyday life this year.

I thank you all for participating in making 2021 a year to remember.

Now, we look forward to 2022, and what we could only hope to achieve together.

## GREAT NEWS



I have some great news to share with you. The Mason Contractors Association recently awarded a Local 5 BAC family member, Nicole Pishnery, the daughter of **Joseph Pishnery**, a 37-year member, with the 2021 MCA scholarship award.

Congratulations goes out to the Pishnery family!

## HELP DURING TOUGH TIMES



It's no surprise that the weather is a significant factor around this time of year in construction.

This is the time that some may struggle to obtain enough hours to work.

For some of you, this may be the time of year that you are looking forward to.

But for some others, that may not be the case, and this may be a difficult time of the year – especially for apprentices.

Brothers and Sisters, we need to work together to educate anyone who is new to our Local on the proper steps needed to survive the winter months.

I know how difficult it is to be an apprentice and not know the next step, especially if you are not getting working hours and what you are supposed to do.

As most of you have already heard, the big refractory project was pushed back to March 2022 due to material delivery.

This project will still take place, along with several other projects in 2022.

## LOOKING AHEAD



I understand we are all looking forward to being able to go back to work.

I ask you to make sure you're safe out there. Also, keep in mind there will be a lot of new members joining you, as well. These are individuals who have never worked around you. We must educate our new union Brothers and Sister about our rights and safety measures.

Sharing information like if you need an SCT Drug card, call 216-587-3000. Or if you need your OSHA 10 certification, you can go online at [careersafeonline.com](https://careersafeonline.com).

These cards are mandatory, so if you don't have either, please obtain your drug card or OSHA 10. ■

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

## LOCAL 6



Canton,  
Ohio

Justin Gartrell

Greetings fellow members. Another year has come and gone.

At the time of writing this article, work is still going fairly strong in the area.

For the most part, the cold weather has not shut anything down, yet.

We have been dealing with some rain which is usually expected this time of year.

It would be great to have a mild winter that would allow work to continue in order to get ahead on what is coming in 2022.

### CURRENT, UPCOMING PROJECTS



Valentine will continue work at Fairless School. This project will see a decent crew of Bricklayers through the biggest part of next year.

Valentine will also be working on retail stores at the Hall of Fame, possibly starting in the winter.

Tractor Supply should also have inside work this winter for Valentine.

Lencyk will be finishing up on the Aultman Cancer Center, and then moving to start the Tusky Valley School in the spring.

This should be a nice local project for our members.

Bice and Sons Masonry should have some additional work on the Hopewell project in Coshocton around springtime.

North Canton will be seeing two new schools coming out this spring. Site work and underground are underway for both of these projects at this time.

It looks like the Perry Schools will be delayed until 2023. This should actually be a blessing for the Local due to the amount of manpower that would be needed if all these schools happened at the same time.

### HEALTH AND WELFARE



Most Local 6 members are probably aware we received a decrease of 5 percent for our health insurance renewal rates for 2022.

This is a much-needed break for

our members.

The reduction will translate to more money going toward the members check or retirement plan for the 2022 wage allocations.

Also, the plan again paid the December insurance premiums for all our participants. Members helping other members is just another example of the great benefits of being in this Union.

### CONGRATULATIONS



Thanks to all our 25-, 40- and 50-year service award members in 2021.

Members with 25 years of service are: **Adam Bittaker, Justin Gartrell, Randy Lanzer, James McDougall, Jeffrey Mongiardo** and our recently passed Brother **Christopher Rohr**.

Members with 40 years of service are: **Anthony Donnelly, Charles Dreher** and **Jay Widder**.

Members with 50 years of service are: **Donald Brugger, James Byington Sr., Michael Haddox** and **Michael Long**.

Their years of service and dedication to this Local will always be remembered and greatly appreciated.

### IN CLOSING

I hope everyone enjoys a healthy, happy and prosperous 2022. ■

## LOCAL 7 OH



Akron,  
Ohio

Noah Carmichael

Hello everyone. We are fast approaching the cold season. All the gold and crimson leaves are gone, and we have seen some snow flurries as of early December. As a friend of mine used to say around this time, "we get acquainted with the Carhart this time of year."

While I realize now that I don't spend as much time as many of you in a Carhart anymore, rest assured I have not forgotten you.

It has always been my intention as a union rep to remember the person on the wall, and to do everything that I can to stand up for them and help make

their jobs better.

I truly appreciate the work all of you do, and salute you as we go into the cold months.

It takes truly special people to do what we do.

### WORK STATUS



Work in the area picked up in the later months of summer, and continues to be steady in Local 7.

For a complete report on ongoing and upcoming projects, please attend the union meeting held on the second Monday of each month at 7 p.m.

I know the last two years caused a lot of unstable conditions, and some missed and cancelled meetings, but we have been having mostly in-person meetings for the last 10 months or so.

Feel free to call or text if you are ever unsure of the meeting time or status.

### HOLIDAY GIVEAWAY



In an effort to protect some of our more vulnerable members' health, members at the November meeting decided to do something different besides gathering between 50 and 100 people in our modest-sized Hall for a dinner.

In lieu of having a Holiday Party, and not wanting to cancel everything outright, the members decided at the November meeting to do a Holiday give-away celebration on Dec. 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. for all Local 7 members.

We felt this was good way to give something from the Local without adding another large gathering that people end up at during the holidays.

### PENSION UPDATE

The Local 7 Pension Administration is set to file the Multi-Employer Pension Relief Application after the first of the coming year.

According to the plan administrators and lawyers, once the application is filed for relief, the government then has 120 days to make a ruling.

Once the relief funds are granted, members who have had reductions will receive back pay, and all members' payment guarantees will be restored to the levels they were before the reduction.

In other words, we are almost there. I sincerely wish there was more that could be done right now, but it looks like help is on the way, finally.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

We just have to hang in there a bit longer.

I have heard the hardship stories from some of you, and like you, I have lost more than a little sleep trying to figure this whole thing out on more than a few occasions.

I think that we are right around the corner from having this nightmare be over, finally.

I for one am looking forward to celebrating with all of you once that happens.

## ORGANIZING EFFORTS

As I know it has been mentioned already, your union is looking for some rank-and-file organizers.

The application has been pinned to most of the Local's social media pages and platforms.

This isn't an experienced based thing. We are simply looking for some strong union minded people to train and familiarize as organizers.

Based on my last four to five years of teaching the Labor History courses to apprentices, I expect to see some applications from some of those folks.

I was truly impressed by some of the apprentices in those classes.

We must train the next generation of union organizers and activists!

I hope some of you will consider taking a step toward that challenge.

## IN CLOSING



I hope all of you have a joyous and great holiday season.

Thank you for all the hard work that you do in keeping both the trade and the union movement alive!

Happy Holidays. ■

## LOCAL



**Ashland,  
Kentucky**

**Richard "Willie"  
Moon**

Hello Brothers and Sisters, I hope this article finds you well.

As many of you know, our yearly Christmas party was canceled due to the increase of COVID numbers, but we are



Left to right are our newly elected officers: Sgt. of Arms James McCarty, V.P. George "Mac" Mellert, Pres. Richard "Willie" Moon, Recording Sec. George McCalvin, Treasurer Charles "Chuck" Hennecke.



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 7 KY

Veteran Brothers George McCalvin, Jimmie Griffith and Richard Moon were honored at the Nov. 11 Union Meeting.

in the planning stages to host a spring dinner that will include door prizes.

We will mail out the information on the date and time in the near future.

## WORK STATUS



Work is still steady with Central Masonry at Bridges Christian Church, and stated they should be starting the Good Spirits store and the new Amtrak Station in Greenup County Ky. as well.

Central should be seeing another project at the Pure Cycle Plant in Hanging Rock, Ohio. They recently finished up at the Ashland Baptist Church.

Next year looks to have quite a bit of commercial work coming up, and we still have several jobs out to bid.

Apache has finished up their shutdown at Marathon and are back to maintenance.

RC Refractory has finished up another turnaround as well, and stated that there should be more to come as they

are continuing their maintenance at Calgon Carbon.

## ELECTION RESULTS



The Executive Board and myself would like to thank all the members for their nominations of Local officers. Thank you all.

The officers are Sergeant at Arms **James McCarty**, Vice President **George "Mac" Mellert**, President **Richard "Willie" Moon**, Recording Secretary **George McCalvin**, Treasurer **Charles "Chuck" Hennecke**.

I thank **Michael Tussey** for his years of dedicated service as Vice President to the Local.

## THANK YOU VETERANS



During our Nov. 11 Union Meeting, we honored our Veterans who were in attendance that evening: Brothers **George McCalvin**, **Jimmie Griffith** and **Richard Moon**.

Thank you and thanks to all Veterans for your service.

## IN CLOSING

We remind everyone to check their LEAD, TWIC and DISA cards for their expiration dates, and contact the Local for any updates needed.

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Let's make 2022 a safe and prosperous year. ■

## LOCAL 8



**Youngstown,  
Ohio**

**Brian Collier**

Greetings Brothers and Sisters: As fall winds down and winter begins, work is still moving along in Local 8.

Most projects are small, but we still have most of our members working.

## PROJECT STATUS



Cleveland Building Restoration has some work left at the Youngstown Public Library.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

Erb Construction has Burgan Realty in Canfield and various other projects.

Lencyk Masonry has work at the Youngstown Public Library, Brookfield and Warren Water Treatment Plants, the Trumbull County Courthouse and future work at Akron Children's Hospital in Boardman.

Mike Coates Construction is working at the Warren Water Treatment Plant.

Coon Caulking is doing fire caulking at the Ultium Cells Battery Plant.

Tervo Masonry has work at Mosquito Water Treatment Plant and Stambaugh Auditorium.

Wilson Restoration is working on the McKinley Towers Apartments in Niles.

Youngstown Tile and Terrazzo has work at the Indian Creek Schools, St. Patrick's Church in Hubbard renovation after the fire, and future work at Hollywood Gaming in Austintown.

## BUILDING TRADES DONATION



The Southern Park Mall in Boardman has partially unveiled their new "DeBartolo Commons" addition in which the owners of the mall, Washington Prime, were gracious enough to commit to building using all local union trades.

One feature of the new complex is an outdoor ice-skating rink.

Mall Manager Brian Gabbert reached out to Western Reserve Building Trades to ask if we could build a moveable ticket booth to also be used for the distribution of ice skates for the new rink, which will be maintained in the cold months.

In appreciation for our partnership, WRBT stepped up to the plate.

After some research and pricing, a few building trades agents agreed that modifying a Connex shipping container and donating it would be a good fit.

Connell Steel was gracious enough to sell a used container in good condition for a fair price.



Connex Box volunteer agents left to right: Brian Collier OH-KY ADC Local 8, Jim Taylor Painters Local 476, Brian Wydick Operators Local 66 and Tony Deley Ironworkers Local 207.

Ironworkers Local 207 allowed use of their facility to perform work on the box, while Local Union trades people volunteered time and resources to make the idea a success.

Members cut two windows and a door into the container, wired it and painted the exterior.

Connell Steel transported the box to the mall, and Diamond Steel provided a crane to offload it on location.

Thank you to all who helped.

The final product will stand as a testimony of our partnership with the mall and the hard work and dedication of the local building trades for years to come.

## TRADES EXPO SUCCESS

I thank everyone who helped make this year's Second Annual Mahoning Valley Skilled Trades Expo such a success.

As I have mentioned in the past, it is always a blessing when the membership and contractors participate in events like this, and it certainly makes the work easier on those who participate. The more the merrier.

Thank you to Larry Lencyk and Lencyk Masonry for providing and delivering masonry material to work with.

Thank you to Local 8 members **Jack Murphy, Don McMurdy, Ljubodrag Andjelkovich, John Olson and Rickey Bell** for working with the students.

Thank you to OH-KY ADC Field Representatives **Justin Gartrell**, for helping build mockups, **Matt McClester, Noah Carmichael and Don Mays** for working with local students.

Special Thanks to NORTC Coordinator **Tammy Tansey** for a lot of effort and hard work as well.

One big part of the event that is outside of my personal skillset is the tile work.

Thank you so very much to Youngstown Tile and Terrazzo owner Josh Cohol, Local 8 members **Dave Ratliff, Steve Antal and Jay Walton** for participating and displaying

the expertise in your fields.

In all, the event was attended by 4,500 local students over a two-day period, as compared to 4,200 in one day in 2019.

Every trade involved was elated to see such a great turnout, considering cancellation in 2020 due to COVID and the fact COVID restrictions were in place for this year's event.

The event was opened to the adult public in the afternoon on the first day, and I am happy to report Local 8 was able to recruit a new Bricklayer apprentice, who is working now.

I am also happy to report one of the public-school students came back to our exhibit twice asking if he could lay more brick.

What a pleasure it was to see such enthusiasm!

I sincerely hope we will be hearing from this young gentleman when he graduates from high school.

Overall, I heard many positive comments saying that our display may have been the most "Hands-On."

## IN CLOSING

Always consider everything that our families have gained by working together as a trade union. ■



New Bricklayer apprentice Ronald Djubek is sworn in by Vice President Eric Miller.



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 8  
New PCC apprentice Joel Coblentz is sworn in by President Lee Kurtz.



Southern Park Mall DeBartolo Commons Ice Skating Rink Connex Box progress.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

## LOCALS 9, 10, 44 & 52



East  
Liverpool,  
Ohio

Don Mays

We are working through another winter in Ohio, good and bad.

Admittedly, it does feel colder than it used to. I suspect many of you are feeling the same.

In my coverage area, work is spotty, but a few Local 44 jobs look to be closed in or closing in.

We are watching some bid dates and contractor project awards to see where the work is in the coming weeks, as well as in the spring.

### TRAINING REMINDERS



If you are slow or have the opportunity, this winter is a good time to look at your last dates of safety training such as OSHA 10 or 30.

If it's been three or more years, you should look at updating the class.

If you lose your current card, it could be difficult or too old to get a replacement card, leaving you out in the cold, no pun intended.

In my four Locals, we participate in the PMCTED, which is the drug testing and education fund.

If you're in Locals 9, 10, 44 or 52, you can contact me to schedule your annual drug test, and online OSHA 10 or 30 classes.

They will either cover the cost or reimburse you for the class.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCALS 9, 10, 44 & 52

Cleveland Office OSHA Director Howie Eberts, Kent Crytzer of Cleveland CEA and Don Mays sign the Ambassador Alliance agreement, which works to ensure worker safety on construction sites.

We have a couple of hospital projects bidding that will likely require the ICRA (Infection Control Risk Assessment) training as well.

The discussed safety classes are available and commonly required on hospital or medical facility projects, so it is good to get it done before the work season hits its stride.

The hospital work mentioned is in both Local 10 and Local 8 so don't wait until it's too late for us to get the class count rounded up and scheduled.

### FOCUS ON SAFETY

As a BAC safety instructor for many years, I have participated in many safety-related programs with the intent to promote better jobsite safety.

Keeping our members safe has been one of the most important focuses since 1998. Due to that focus, I started participating in a northeast Ohio safety group of contractor safety personnel and Employer Association safety representatives about eight years back.

The program became the Safety Forum, of which I am honored to have been part of and serve as the labor co-chair.

It is amazing what can be learned meeting with a distinguished group of safety professionals that meet with the sole importance of safety on our jobsites.

It has grown to include regular participation from OSHA representatives including the Cleveland Area Director.

We established the annual Safety Day for updated training to our contractors and union employees.

We also formed an alliance with OSHA through their safety partnership.

The alliance partnership has grown to the point we have now reached the Ambassador Level. The Ambassador Level is a great accomplishment as there are currently about 30 Ambassador Alliance designations in the country.

This demonstrates what can be accomplished when labor and management truly work together for a cause as important as worker (member), safety.

This, to me, is a real definition of win-win.

I am honored to have co-signed the Alliance with Cleveland OSHA Office Director Howie Eberts, Kent Crytzer of Cleveland CEA, and not pictured, Bill Hocevar of Great Lakes.

I am humbled and honored to be part of the Cleveland Safety Forum. Thank you to all its participants and contributors.

### IN CLOSING

I look forward to hearing from those in my Locals regarding the training updates discussed.

I hope you all have had great holidays this year. ■

## LOCAL 16



Mentor,  
Ohio

Dan Musacchio

Brothers and Sisters, Happy Holidays! First and foremost, on behalf of Local 16's Executive board, I wish you all the happiest of holidays and a safe and prosperous New Year.

As we are looking forward to things in the New Year, there is one especially important event taking place in 2022 – contract negotiations.

The outcome of these negotiations will shape our work lives, our finances and the lives of our future Brothers and Sisters for years to come.

There could not be a better time to open the books up and negotiate with any contractor's association.

The landscape nationally has strengthened our position with countless strikes and labor disputes, coupled with rising inflation and a demand for workers.

All these variables are contemplated as negotiations begin.

We will be having a "wish list" meeting in March, where the body can attend and express thoughts and ideas that could potentially be shaped into contract proposals.

Through the duration of the present agreement, as job stewards and members have reached out to me with issues that are not directly addressed in the current CBA, note has been taken to craft resolutions to reflect those matters, and ultimately strengthen our contract.

It is truly an honor and privilege to settle deals that will improve the working conditions for BAC members.

Any agreement is only as strong as its enforcement. The leadership in Local 16 has a long running history of compromise-free representation.

I look forward to reaching an agreement that is worthy of our track record.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

## MENTORSHIP MATTERS

Local 16 will host a class put on by the International Masonry Training and Education Foundation (IMTEF) and the International Masonry Institute (IMI) in early 2022.

The purpose of this education is to train rank-and-file members on the importance of mentorship to bolster this organization for future generations to come.

It is so important to retain the young people, and the newly organized members entering this organization.

Every member of this union has an obligation to be an advocate for someone being mistreated or taken advantage of.

Standing by idly waiting for someone else to step in makes you complicit in the act.

Times are not changing, they have changed.

What used to be accepted behavior years ago is unacceptable today, and we have a younger generation of workers who is speaking up and demanding better treatment.

This class is highly recommended for all members, especially members who are in positions of authority within companies.

It really is up to each and every one of us to make this organization something worth being a part of.

The workshop will include the following structure:

- Six Key Principles for mentors and mentees.
- Learning outcomes that describe the knowledge and skills you should develop by the end of the module.
- Background Information to relate the topic to mentorship and the construction industry.
- Videos to illustrate each of the six key principles and encourage discussion.
- Discussion to express opinions, share experiences, ask questions and listen to others.
- Activities, in partners and small groups, to practice skills introduced in the workshop.

## NEW UNION CARDS

You will soon be receiving your new membership card from the International Union.

No longer will you need to mail it in for dues stamps or carry a receipt for verification of paid through status. That information will all be accessible through the QR code that will be on the newly designed cards.

A union representative will be able to use a smart phone with a code reader to access eligibility, payment status and training certifications in real time.

If you don't already, please get in the habit of carrying your BAC Union card with you, especially when starting a new project or working in a different Local.

## ORGANIZING UPDATES

Every masonry company has a "special teams" division: employees who bring a unique skillset or specialty to a project when needed.

In that same respect, the Organizing Team of the District Council is looking for our own distinctive members who will step up when called upon.

This call is to the entire District Council. We are looking for individuals who primarily are interested in changing the lives of working people.

With that anchor ideology intact, any education or accelerated instruction will not only make sense, but be shored up with the passion to move the needle for the working class.

We are anticipating candidates filling out an online application expressing your level of interest. This survey application can be found on your Local social media page, or a web link can be requested from your Local.

The Organizing Team will reach out to all applicants in early 2022 with more detailed information.

## PARTING THOUGHTS

What a challenge this year has continued to prove to be. Our new normal is an ever-changing landscape, where the goal line is continuously on the move.

Never in a million years would any of us have ever predicted the need to be able to recite CDC quarantine guidelines, often-times daily.

Vaccine, or no vaccine ... Republican, Democrat, or Independent ... my rights, or my freedom ... what an incredible number of preferences.

Sadly, the only conviction we can all agree on is that we are currently a house divided.

As we have discussed at the last several union meetings, property owners can mandate no smoking policies, certain training certifications, personal protective equipment that exceeds the OSHA standard; and now we can add vaccine and mask requirements to the list.

No one is forcing any member of this union to work on any project anywhere.

Free agency has always been an alluring benefit of our business, but it comes at a cost.

Every action has a reaction, and the consequence of cherry-picking projects is where this commentary is headed.

Daily, field representatives from around the state do their best to guard and defend our craft jurisdiction, whether it be from non-union companies, or more recently other trade unions raiding our market share.

What concerns me most is not our non-union brothers filling the void; it's other building trades whose present agenda is to undercut our wages, establish a past industry practice and secure their declining pensions with hours that are rightfully ours.

This is not a scare tactic, or melodrama. We have examples trickling in from around the state of signatory contractors turning down work opportunities due to a property owner's requirement to provide a safe work environment for all the trades on site.

Union company owners knowing our members will refuse mask mandates or vaccine conversations have been left with little choice but to pass on job opportunities or in one case, consider closing their doors.

Development firms and owners will not abandon a project already heavily invested in financially because a union company will not bid it.

They will find a workforce who is willing to consent to their requirements. Or worse

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# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

yet, they will seek out a transient company with a staff that can be manipulated and exploited to suit their needs.

Either way, buildings will continue to be built with or without us.

By definition, “a union” is an organization formed by people with a common interest or purpose. Bricklaying, masonry restoration, cement and terrazzo work, tile, marble, plaster – the trowel trades are that commonality.

An honest day’s pay for an honest day’s work, a pension, hospitalization benefits – these are our bread and butter issues.

All these distractions in the peripheral are dividing and tearing us away from those fundamentals.

This division may soon prove to be detrimental to our livelihood.

There will be consequences that we will have to face together.

The leadership of this Local respectfully disagrees with any position that dismisses science and relies on emotion or conspiracy at the expense of the advancement of this Union.

It is my sincere hope that we can mend the rift that has been widening through political and ideological differences, and get back to the reason 10 men in Painesville petitioned the International Union for a charter of their own in 1920. ■

## LOCAL 18 NORTH



Cincinnati,  
Ohio

Brian D. Wear

Happy New Year to you all. I hope you enjoyed the holidays and time with family. Now, winter is here, and work has started to slow.

The unemployment system seems to be moving slower and slower. Here are a few things to keep in mind as there have been changes.

Familiarize yourself with the new version of the site. Become confident in your computer abilities. The computer is still the most efficient way to file your claim.

Your smart phone is not a computer. Parts of the website do not download the same way as they do on an actual computer.

Jeff and I can help you with this at the Union Hall, if you need assistance.

Also, while we do our best to send in the Union verification timely, if you do not inform us of the need, we do not know that you want it.

Stay on top of the correspondence in your inbox.

Changes to the Unemployment system have mandated more information than in the past.

Don’t get caught by a deadline and miss your benefits.

As always, put down two contacts for employment until they stop asking you to do so.

Processing times for union verifications are moving slower than in the past.

If you are experiencing difficulties, contact Jeff or I, and we will see if we can do something on our end.

## WORK OUTLOOK



The work for 2022 looks to be starting on the right track.

Here is a list of jobs that have just started, or they are spring starts:

Two Batavia Schools, Sharonville Convention Center expansion, Stove Rebuild at Middletown Cleveland Cliffs, Good Sam Generator building, Mercy East expansion, Miami University Dodds Hall, Miami University Health and Sciences, VA Hospital Cincinnati Expansion, Christ Hospital Montgomery Caulk and Coating and Butler Tech addition.

There is still more work bidding in the spring, including: UC, Miami, Franklin City Schools and Indian Hill Schools.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR



As a reminder, we are still having union meetings on the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

## LOCAL 18 SOUTH



Cincinnati,  
Ohio

Jeff King

As I reflected on what subject to broach in this article, I found it more difficult than usual to come up with a topic that I am excited to write about.

I guess it should come as no surprise

that coming up with an article that stays positive might be challenging, considering our collective experiences the last two years.

It feels as though most of our “normal” lifestyles have been turned upside down because of COVID.

It appears this new reality will stay with us. When COVID first came to us, many people did not know of anyone who had been personally infected with the virus.

Now I can say with confidence that we all know someone that has been stricken, and we are lucky if we have not lost someone close to us.

While pushing through as essential workers in 2020 and again in 2021, we have seen the lagging effects of a negative downturn on the projects in our Local’s jurisdiction as a result of COVID.

We have had more members of this Local laid off in 2021 than during any of the previous six years that I have been a field representative.

Our signatory contractors have a lot of projects under contract, but they have been slow in moving because of the same things that you hear about on the news.

The supply chain issues are real. The ability to get structural steel, bar joists, rebar, metal studs, insulation, refractory materials and more all have a negative impact on construction schedules.

We have people in the masonry industry looking toward changing building designs to incorporate more masonry as opposed to using steel.

Masonry materials do not face the same supply chain issues as other building materials.

## NEW YEAR GOALS

Putting 2021 in the rearview mirror, and racing into 2022, I have set some goals that concentrate on making this Local stronger and more unified.

Currently, as a society, we focus on what our differences are. This year, I am going to focus on our commonalities, and how we can unify to become stronger together.

The strength of a union comes from its membership, not its leadership.

Do you identify with, and have a sense of pride about being a member of the International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers?

This year, I will become a 40-year member of Local 18.

Throughout those years I did not always have an active role in our union’s activities, but I was always grateful to be part of an

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

organization that had the best interest of its members in mind.

I can't help but question why it is that there seems to be a disconnect between members and their union.

What can be done to bridge the divide between leadership and membership?

As we step into 2022 and beyond, it is imperative for the continuing success of this union.

We need you to step up and help steer this ship into the future.

As I approach every situation in 2022, I am going to ask myself several questions to make sure the appropriate response meets certain criteria:

- Is my response going to have a unifying result?
- How is my approach to this situation going to help this union?
- How does my response promote union building trades and create working opportunities for our members?

## UPCOMING TRAINING



Please look for classes coming early in 2022 that will help strengthen your understanding of your union, including:

- Mentorship Matters, Jan. 22, from 8a.m. to noon.



Jordan Back received his journeyman membership at the December Union Meeting.



Archie Mills at the December Union Meeting receiving his life membership award.



Local 22 Members at the December Union Meeting.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 22

- Steward Training, March 5.
- Construction Organizing Membership Education Training (COMET), March 19.

## IN CLOSING

Have a safe and happy 2022! ■



Brothers and Sisters, another year has passed.

With the COVID-19 virus still an issue, work was still steady in 2021, with work hours being down a little from 2020.

Work for 2022 looks to be busy, based on what the contractors have on the books.

Going into spring of 2022, PCC Masonry will be doing the Bethel School project and the Fairborn High School project.

Combs and Weisbord Masonry will be starting the East Clinton School.

Hagerman will be starting a project at Royal Canin in Lewisburg.

There are multiple other projects on the books with all the contractors.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



Over the past year, Local 22 has nine first-year apprentices, a couple of improvers and a couple new journeymen.

I encourage all the veteran journeymen that may be working with these new members to help mentor them, and bring

them along as members of BAC Local 22.

## IN CLOSING

I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season ■



Brothers and Sisters, I hope all are having a wonderful holiday season.

We are finally getting to spend some time face-to-face with our families and friends, and hopefully enjoy some normal gatherings.

After all we have endured over the last couple of years, it will be nice to have some sense of normalcy as we move into the New Year.

I send prayers to all those who have lost or struggled with a loved one during this difficult time.

I, myself tested positive for COVID-19 and battled for over six weeks with chest and lung issues. It was not your normal flu. I could tell how it was taking my breath away.

I was lucky I didn't have to do any breathing treatments, and I was eventually able to resume my normal routine.

For others, it could be much worse, as breathing treatments are needed and some are losing the battle.

We all know someone close to us who has passed. We must continue to stay on track and address this as if it could take you or someone you love, because it can and it has!

## CONDOLENCES



Local 36 sends condolences to **Dan Shaver**, a longstanding member of 17 years, who lost his battle with the virus on Thanksgiving Day.

I worked with and knew Dan personally. It's always tough when you have a personal connection.

Our thoughts and prayers will be with his family.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

With that being said, we all have a lot to be thankful for and we need to look out for and take care of each other as we move through life and all of its obstacles.

## MUCH APPRECIATION



I thank all those who work to fight for what we as union members are provided – good, fair wages, health-care and a retirement.

Thank you to all the people who spend a lot of time and energy pushing for the middle class and fighting for a better life, as we sacrifice our health and bodies for the trades we perform.

From the top down, thanks to the District Council who work tirelessly to keep the movement going. Without these types of people at the top, the fire would burn out.

It takes special folks to take positions that are not easy and yield a lot of stress and uneasy times, but the proof shows as we continue to grow and show strength as a whole.

To the agents who beat the streets and deal with the phone ringing and all that brings – from the contractors, to members, to the general contractors – it's not an easy task getting up every day knowing that the day brings a new fight.

Keep up the good work.

Thank you to the administrative staff who work hard for the union members as if they were part of your family. These ladies pick up the phone and deal with all our daily issues, and do it with a smile.

To our Local 36 Executive Board and members who work hard everyday to grow our Local and take our market — thank you.

Thank you to our own Administrator of our Local Pension and Vacation Funds. The dedication that has been set forth is

undeniable, and the amount of care for each individual is seen by me personally.

We all should be very grateful for every-one mentioned. I know I am!

## IN CLOSING

Merry Christmas and happy New Year from Local 36 and it's constituents. ■

## LOCALS 39 & 45



Portsmouth,  
Ohio

Heath "Luke"  
Henry

Greetings Sisters and Brothers. We hope each of you had a Merry Christmas and we wish all of you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year.

## WORK OUTLOOK



Work has slowed down some this fall, but will pick up early in 2022.

We have several large projects that are scheduled to start in late December and early January.

Mouser Masonry has the Gallia County Jail project in Gallipolis that recently started, and should run well into 2022.

Kirk Brothers was awarded Green Local School, and they should get started early in January. They will need 15-25 Bricklayers on this project.

Central Masonry has several projects in the Local and in the surrounding areas. It looks like they will be very busy.

Distel Construction is nearing completion on the Kricker Center at Shawnee State University.

Flour and Onex will also be busy at Suncoke this winter, and probably will require some added manpower for the next few months.

The workload heading into 2022 is better than we have seen in several years, and it looks like 2022 will be an extremely busy year for us.

## REMINDERS



We encourage everyone to get their LEAD cards updated this winter.

We would like to get as many of these renewed as early as possible this year so that no one misses out on any work because of expired LEAD cards.

Please stop in the office, and we will get you the paperwork you need to update your LEAD card.

The LEAD program will be offering OSHA 510 and OSHA 500 classes in January and February, as well as the monthly OSHA 10 and OSHA 30 classes.

These classes are free, but they do require an up-to-date LEAD card.

If you need any of these classes, please let us know, and we will get you registered.

## CONDOLENCES



Local 45 member **Ron Dowler** passed away on Nov. 27. Ron was a 50-year member of Local 45, and served as an officer with the Local for many years.

Ron also served as a Field Representative for Local 45 and Local 39 from 1996 to 2003.

Ron was regular at Local 45 meetings long into his retirement, and always had great words of advice and encouragement for his younger Brothers and Sisters.

We could always count on Ron to tell us exactly what he thought on just about any subject.

We send our deepest condolences to Ron's wife, Ellie, and to his entire family.

## IN CLOSING

We are looking forward to a more normal year in 2022 than we have had the past couple of years.

Again, we wish all you a happy, healthy and prosperous 2022. ■



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# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

## LOCAL 40



Mansfield,  
Ohio

Matthew R.  
McClester

I hope everyone in the BAC family is enjoying the holiday season.

We have been blessed this year in Local 40 with an abundance of work.

Every member who has wanted to work this year has had plenty of opportunities, and there looks to be a fair amount of work through the winter season for those wishing to partake.

We were able to celebrate Christmas with the members in a more normal way this year by having our annual Membership Christmas party on our December Union meeting night, and returning to our normal format for the Kids Christmas Party on Dec. 18 – with Santa Claus making the trip from the North Pole.

I want to thank Brother **Dave Thompson** for his help with the Membership Party.

### SAFETY REMINDER

As we enter the winter work season, members need to heed caution about the unique safety dangers involved in winter work.

Watch out for ice on planks that may either cause you to fall or cause the planks to slide on the outriggers.

Also, keep an eye out to make sure ladders are properly secured and not at risk of sliding.

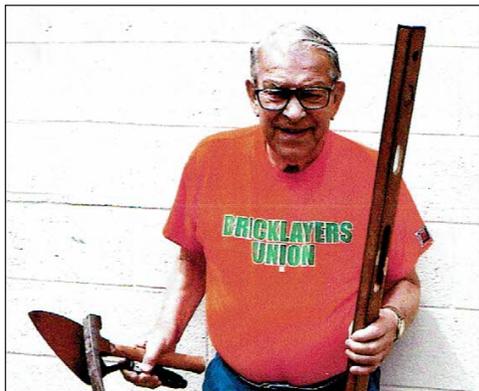


PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 40

Local 40 member Jim Brown who celebrates his 74th year of membership.

Just as in anytime of the year, it is important to regularly inspect your scaffolding for any issue, especially involving walk planks.

Most injuries on a jobsite are due to falls of some kind.

### WORK OUTLOOK



The work outlook for next year has not yet taken shape.

The good news is some of the jobs going through the winter should last through most of the spring. That will give some guys a good start to the year.

I would anticipate some of this work to start slowing down, however.

For those of us who have been through a few construction seasons, we know the downturn is coming, and sometimes it can come quickly.

Also, those of us more experienced guys know it is inevitable for the powers that be to start tanking the economy if the politicians in charge right now start taxing them.

Plus, these good times allow power to shift to the workers, therefore the bourgeoisie will take steps to reign in the proletariat.

If you do not understand or believe this will happen, read Karl Marx or read the Bates book, which is the history book of our Union.

This cycle has been playing out for hundreds of years, since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution.

At some point, as workers in this country, we need to educate ourselves and quit being played by the elite with the wedge issues of abortion, gun control and race baiting.

Many members, who have been here awhile are at a place where they know we will be alright.

It is the younger members who really need to start educating themselves, or there will be nothing for them in another 10 to 20 years, which some may argue is really what needs to happen – for people to wake up!

### IN CLOSING

I hope everyone is enjoying a happy holiday season, and has a wonderful start to the New Year.

As is this case throughout the year, but especially in this season, if anyone knows of a member in need through no fault of their own, please let the Local office know so we can help.

Work safely and be healthy! ■

## LOCALS 44 & 55



Columbus,  
Ohio

Bill Hulet Jr.

Hello BAC Brothers and Sisters. The new year has come and so has winter.

This means cold, snow, ice and the occasional strained backs from shoveling snow.

Don't forget the slips and spills on the ice, throwing out your back trying to catch yourself from falling, the bumps and bruises if you do fall or even worse, possibly breaking a bone in your body.

It all hurts, no matter the injury.

Remember to slow down. Better to get there late and uninjured, then to be laying flat on your back, hoping someone will come along and help you out and call a medic because you cannot move after slipping on the ice.

All because you were in a rush and not paying attention.

As we get older, our bodies do not heal as fast. The more injuries that you have when you are younger the more possibility that you might have a harder time getting around in your elder years.

Take it from someone who fell 10 feet out of a tree and landed flat on my back on a pile of block as a 7-year-old, arthritis can wreak havoc on your body. It's throughout my whole back, and I am over halfway through my life expectancy.

Life expectancy in 1900 was around 50 years of age. Today it is almost 80 years of age, and in another 50 years, or so, life expectancy will probably be closer to 100.

Try to take care of your body when you are younger, it's the only one you got.

### NEW LEADERSHIP

A new year brings new challenges, and new members stepping up to take the places of retiring members – not only out in the field, but in the Local's leadership as well.

All the Local members and I thank **Jim Wolf** for all his dedication and the leadership he brought forward in his tenure on the Local 55 Executive Board.

# BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

We also appreciate all the knowledge that Jim has passed on to the other craftworkers.

I myself worked around Jim, and he taught me a lot on setting stone when I first came into this craft.

Have fun in retirement, and we will see you around the sporting clay shoots.

With that, I am glad to announce **Chuck Boring** has stepped up as his replacement.

It is good to see the younger membership starting to step up and get involved.

I hope to see other younger members step up in the future as the older members top out in their working years and retire.

Learn as much as you can from the older generation tradespersons, as they will not be around all the time to guide you.

One day, you will be that older generation passing down your knowledge to the younger members of the trade.

The Local 55 Executive Board is made up of the following: President **Mike Smith**; Vice President **Jesus Ochoa Escajeda**; Recording Secretary **John Harvey**; Financial Secretary **Bill Hulet**; and Sergeant-at-Arms **Chuck Boring**.

The next Local elections will be in 2024. Start thinking about how you can get involved in your Local unions.

We are union when we work and stick together.

## DUES REMINDER



It is what we must pay to belong to the union.

Your dues are due at the first of every month. With winter upon us and the United States Postal Service not what it used to be, too many members rely on getting that letter in the mail to remind them to pay their dues.

Too many members rely on the text messages that some field reps. send out each month to remind them to pay.

Sometimes, these field reps. get too busy to send the text messages out.

These are all courtesy gestures from the District Council and the field reps. to remind you to pay your dues.

It is your responsibility to keep your dues paid up, regardless if you receive these reminders or not.

After you fall three months behind, there is a reinstatement fee and back dues you will have to pay.

There is no waiving this fee after you have been dropped. For the first six months of being dropped, the fee is \$70 dollars. That is three months of dues you just paid

without getting credit for it, plus you still need to catch up on your back dues.

After six months and up to a year, the fee is \$140. That is basically six months of dues that you just paid without getting credit, plus you also need to pay those back dues as well.

If you want your dues payment taken directly out of your bank account, or charged to your credit card, please contact your field rep., and they can get you the form you need.

Or, you can contact the District Council and they can mail you one as well.

You can also pay your dues by phone, by calling 440-986-3000; in-person at the Amherst Office; or you can pay them online at the BAC web portal, on your "BACmobile" app.

Remember to keep your dues paid up.

## RETIRES LUNCH



Just a reminder that the monthly retirees' luncheons has changed to a quarterly luncheon. It will be held on the last Wednesday of the months of March, June and September.

It starts at 11 a.m., with lunch being served around noon.

This will also depend on COVID.

Please call the Local 55 Office at 614-561-2455 the Monday before the luncheon to see if the Local will be holding the luncheon or not.

## NEW WEBSITE

The new Local 55 website, [Bricklayer-slocal55.com](http://Bricklayer-slocal55.com), is up and running.

On this website, there are resources you can click on to download forms for the health insurance and traveling reciprocity for Local 55 members working out of the area, as well as links to different websites.

Under the contact page, there is also a link to a form you can fill out to let me know that you have been laid off and need your Union verification for your Unemployment.

Simply click on it, fill it out and then hit submit. The information will be sent to my email.

Take a look at the new website. I will be updating it, as needed, with new pictures and dates for meetings and other events.

## IN CLOSING

Remember to take care of the apprentice or the new journeymen you are working with.

Show them what we stand for and take pride in your workmanship.

Never do it substandard, and have to come back to fix it later.

Always do it correctly the first time, so no one has to come back and fix it later and cost the contractor money.

Remember we are held to a higher standard as a union member

We are getting paid a high total package with wages on the check and the benefits the contractor is paying on your behalf.

Do what is right, not what is easy.

Stay safe. Stay healthy. Have a great day. ■

## LOCAL 46



Fremont,  
Ohio

Tim Linder

Season's Greetings to all our Brothers and Sisters of Local 46.

I hope you were all able to spend the Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends, a time for togetherness and gratitude.

We have a lot to be thankful for, as we are able to gather with our families this year.

At November's monthly meeting, 18 turkeys were handed out to our members for the holidays.

This has been a tradition we started a few years back to show our appreciation for all their hard work and for those that attend meetings throughout the year.

As I type this, we are getting ready for our December meeting/Christmas Party for all members. This included a raffle for gift cards and other prizes. Ole Zim's catered the dinner.

Next year, we hope to plan our party during our regular December meeting. However, we want to be able to include our spouse/significant other.

If we can make this happen, you will receive an RSVP request.

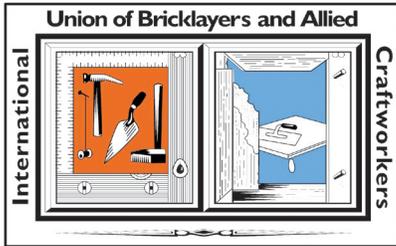
This is another important reason to be sure we have an updated address for every member. Phone number and/or address changes need to be reported to me at the Union Hall so I am able to keep you up-to-date of any changes.



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

Phone: 800-442-0479  
Email: oadc@oadc.net  
www.oh-kyadc.com

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



## REPORTS

### TRAINING UPDATES



If you are interested in any updated training, please watch the Local 46 Facebook page for additional information. Another to watch is the OH-KY ADC page.

I am looking to have another steward class this winter to update those of you that need it.

### IMPORTANT REMINDERS



A reminder to all members: when you work in a Local other than the one you are signed up through, you must check-in with that Local.

Many of us take for granted that we are getting the right pay, or that our money is reciprocated to our home Local automatically.

Never assume anything. Make sure you are keeping track of your hours, so you can reach out to me if any issues arise.

It is my job to provide you with information. This information is communicated through our newsletter or our regular monthly meetings.

It is your responsibility to make the

time to attend.

Meetings are held on third Monday of the month, at 7:30 p.m.

Also, check the expiration date on your drug card and any other cards that you may hold so you can do what is required to stay current.

### WORK OUTLOOK



So far, 2022 is not looking super busy in our Local, like it has been the last few years.

If you are looking for work, please call me and I will try to get you on somewhere.

I have contractors constantly calling, needing a workforce.

If you get laid off, you need to let me know, so I can turn in your paperwork to Unemployment.

You must be current with your dues in order for me to turn in this paperwork. The dues number is 440-986-3000.

### IN CLOSING

Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year. ■

## IN MEMORIAM

**James C. Jacobs**, 3 OH

**Steven A. Sattler**, 3 OH

**Vincent Cali**, 5 OH

**Ermi J. Moroso**, 5 OH

**Robert G. Peck**, 5 OH

**James P. Keane**, 6 OH

**Stanley G. Surmay**, 6 OH

**Julius E. Ramler**, 18 OH

**Gerald L. Dornbusch**, 22 OH

**Daniel E. Shaver**, 36 OH

**Ronald L. Dowler**, 45 OH

**James A. Weber**, 46 OH

**Dale A. Horney**, 55 OH