

THE BENCHMARK

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 3
JANUARY/FEBRUARY/MARCH 2022

OF THE OHIO-KENTUCKY ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT COUNCIL



This Newsletter
is intended for
Members Only

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Thank you for your service, Don Mays

By Ken Kudela



For those of you who are not aware, Brother **Don Mays**, the Field Representative for Locals 9, 10, 44 and 52 and a member of the Executive Board, announced his retirement, effective May 31.

His work as a Field Representative began on a part-time basis in 1992, and 10 years later became full-time. Over the course of his tenure, he has represented the membership in the 13-county area in southeast Ohio.

Throughout his time as a Field Representative, Don strived to make a difference, and to make things better within his jurisdiction for all BAC members. He worked with his Locals to establish the Southeast Ohio Industry Advancement Program, which helped increase market share and reduce the hot and cold nature of work in rural communities.

As a member of the Executive Board, his experience and input was vital in helping us grow and expand. He has been a trusted voice for the members and for our leadership team.

Don has been a steady voice when it comes to organizing. Over the years, he has continued to remind members that it is imperative to help new members understand how to do things the union way. He urged members not to judge those who were making the transition from non-union to union work, and instead teach them how to be better at their trade and show them how to be a good union bricklayer.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 8
The OH-KY ADC congratulates Don Mays, Field Representative for Locals 9, 10, 44 and 52 and a member of the OH-KY ADC Executive Board, on his upcoming retirement. The above photo of Brother Mays was taken in 2019, as Don was working to recruit new members at the Ohio Valley Mall Job Fair.

As he correctly pointed out, we need them to work and pay into our pension system. Each time we successfully organize someone, we weaken the non-union sector.

I have been blessed to call Don a friend. I will miss his support and dedication to the District Council. This is a well-earned retirement for someone who kept taking on additional duties throughout his time as a Field Representative.

Don always wanted what was best for each Local and the District Council as a whole.

On behalf of all our members, we wish Don and his wife Joyce a happy and healthy retirement.

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



Recently, our District Council became the first BAC organization to complete the Mentorship Maters training program.

This is an important step for us as we begin to train the next generation of OH-KY ADC jobsite leaders.

With members of the Baby Boomer generation continuing to retire in consistent numbers, we do not want to create a vacuum of inexperience on jobs.

By completing this training, we hope to ensure the knowledge is not lost as one generation of journeymen passes the baton.

See MESSAGE on page 3.

THE SECRETARY-TREASURER'S MESSAGE

By Don Huss



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

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

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

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

After having conversations with several people in the construction industry, it appears the 2022 construction season is going to be a very good year again throughout the entire jurisdiction.

Reports of new schools, industrial projects, and of course public and private projects, are all ready to go as soon as the weather breaks.

If you find yourself looking for work this spring, please make sure you contact your Field Representative so they are aware that you are searching for employment.

NEGOTIATION UPDATES



Contract negotiations have started for Local 36 and Local 16.

Later in the spring we will go into negotiations with Local 8, Local 22 Tile and the Heavy Highway agreement.

As always, it is the goal of the entire negotiating committee to come to an agreement and get the membership the best possible wages and working conditions in the area.

NATIONAL APPRENTICE CONTEST



This past January, the OH-KY ADC had the pleasure of sending two of our apprentices to Las Vegas to compete in the MCAA National Apprentice Contest.

Third-year apprentice **Kurtis Sutter** (Local 3), and second-year apprentice **Andre Smith** (Local 55) represented their home locals and the District Council very well.

I am pleased to announce to the membership that Kurtis Sutter took home third place in his division.

Andre Smith produced a well-built project and just missed being on the podium by a few points.

A special congratulations needs to be extended to both of these individuals for a job well done.

If you happen to run into one these members, please make sure that you recognize them for their accomplishments.

ELECTION SEASON



This year brings the mid-term elections, and spring is the unofficial start of the political season.

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

I urge every member of the OH-KY ADC to educate himself/herself and their family members.

As a Union, we need to make sure we are supporting only union-friendly candidates, not only at the local level, but all

the way up to the national level as well.

APPRENTICE CONTESTS 2022



The International Union is holding its National Apprentice Contests again this year, and the finals will be held the last week of September in Boston.

On June 11, at the Southern Regional Training Facility in Batavia, Ohio, we will host the North Central Regional P.C.C. and Cement Contests, which will draw some of the best apprentices from the 14-state region that makes up the North Central Region.

Two weeks later on June 25, we will host another local contest at the Northern Ohio Regional Training Center in Amherst to select which tile, terrazzo, marble and stone apprentices will advance to compete at the national level.

The top contestants from the North Central Regional will earn automatic berths to the national contest in Boston.

Both contests will be open to anyone that would like to stop by and see what the next generation of journeymen will be working on, or just to visit the training centers.

DUES REMINDER



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

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

Your monthly dues can be paid several ways: Mail them to OH-KY ADC, 8497 Leavitt Road, Amherst, OH 44001; call 1-800-442-0497; pay online through the B.A.C. Member Portal or have them directly withdrawn from a bank account or credit card. ■

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

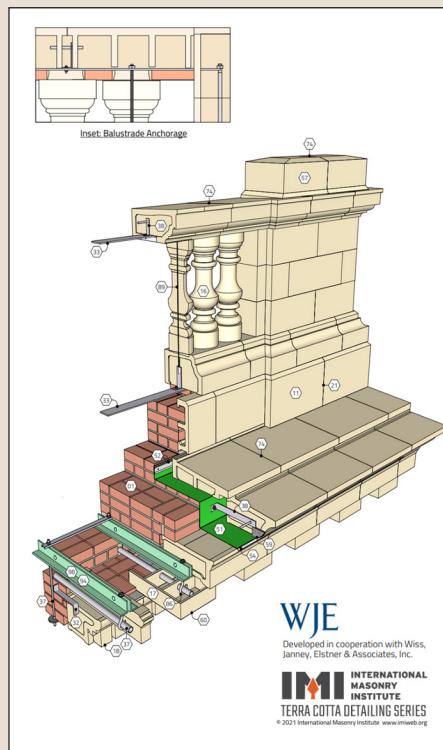


The IMI's Masonry Detailing Series (MDS) is an exhaustive collection of illustrative construction details and

diagrams produced by the International Masonry Institute (IMI) for architects and engineers to use as a design resource.

This compilation includes hundreds of details for brick, block and stone masonry systems, as well as details for ceramic tile, marble, terrazzo, plaster, rainscreen systems, terra cotta, AAC and masonry restoration.

The details are developed by IMI's technical team of architects and engineers and are reviewed by International Masonry Training and Education Foundation (IMTEF) masonry apprentice instructors, Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers (BAC) journeymen and BAC contractors to ensure constructability.



The MDS can be a great onsite resource for craftworkers who may have installation or best practice questions.

It can be accessed via your phone or tablet.

As an example, I have included a detail that was created collaboratively with Wiss Janney Elstner (WJE), a national firm of architects and engineers, and Boston Valley Terra Cotta, one of two producers of terra cotta in the United States.

STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS



The IMI recently presented at Brick Forum 2022, hosted by the Brick Industry Association (BIA), and attended by brick distributors and manufacturers from across the United States.

IMI showcased its unique method of educating design professionals through hands-on programming at local and national training facilities.

Educational collaborations with brick suppliers and other industry members help provide designers a deeper understanding of masonry, an appreciation of our training and craft and a desire to specify our materials and craftworkers on their projects —

Message

Continued from page 1.

to the next generation of journeymen.

The Mentorship Matters on-the-job mentoring program enables unions and JATCs to establish and apply industry best practices in knowledge and skill transfer between journeymen and apprentices.

It can include mentorship training for apprentices and journeymen, train-the-trainer training and tools for our Local Unions to effectively deliver the program.

Thousands of apprentices and journeymen across North America have been trained using this program, with proven results in increased skills acquisition, productivity and safety, intergenerational communication and enhanced job satisfaction and retention.

Our staff completed the train the trainer program training. This provided our own staff with the necessary tools and resources to ensure the OH-KY ADC trainers are prepared to effectively deliver

the core mentorship workshops directly to our members.

It included one-on-one training, instructor guides and presentation tools and access to student training manuals, impact surveys, a Mentorship Matters App and other post training tools.

We plan to train all our staff, so they can provide the valuable training to as many members as possible.

This is another investment in our union, our members and our future. If you have a chance to receive this training, I strongly urge to you to take it.

WORK OUTLOOK



With the worst of winter behind us, many areas of our jurisdiction are forecasting a busy season ahead. There is perhaps no hotter spot for construction in the District Council than in the central Ohio region. Jobs in this area are plentiful.

In other areas, the work outlook remains bright despite the rising cost

of materials due to supply chain issues and inflation.

For some Locals, the outlook is not quite as good. These members certainly should investigate work opportunities with neighboring Locals where the help is needed.

Collectively, work is available for all our members who want to work.

IN CLOSING



According to the calendar, it is officially spring.

As the temperature warms up and you prepare to go back to outdoor jobsites, it is important you remember to follow all your safety training.

There are many hazards on jobsites, including wet and muddy surfaces. This is in addition to getting back into the swing of things after being off during the winter.

Stay safe and if you are looking for work, please contact your Field Representative. —

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

LOCAL 3



Toledo,
Ohio

Matt Aberl

Welcome to spring! We had a great winter at Local 3, with lots to share.

Since our last Benchmark, we hosted our annual Holiday party in December.

During this event, members enjoyed great food, each other's company and we had a raffle to show our gratitude to members.

We also honored a number of men for their many years of membership.

For 25 years of membership: **Timothy Butler, John Delgado, Russell Hodges, Donald Huss, Mark Miller, Wayne Mistiatis, Patrick Nawrocki, John Nusbaum, Richard Ruffier, Steven Sattler, and Bernard Williamson.**

For 40 years of membership: **Scott Cox and Phillip Knurek.**

MCAA COMPETITION



On Jan. 18, one of our younger members proudly represented Local 3 at the World of Concrete MCAA Masonry Skills competition.

Our first participant in this competition, **Kurtis Sutter**, is a third-year apprentice. He took third place among 11 other competitors from 10 different states.

Projects for this event are kept a surprise until the competition begins, and contestants have only three hours to complete the project.



Kurtis Sutter (center) at the World of Concrete MCAA Masonry Skills competition with Donald Huss (left) and Matt Aberl (right).

TRAINING UPDATES



With the loosening of pandemic restrictions, we are now opening classes for OSHA 10- and 30-hour classes, as well as steward training.

If you are interested, please contact me.

WORDS TO REMEMBER

"...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



Paying your dues is an important part of membership. 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.

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.

SHARE YOUR INFORMATION

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.



PHOTOS: COURTESY OF LOCAL 3
Left to right are Wayne Mistiatis, Richard Ruffier, Donald Huss, Bernard Williamson and Matt Aberl.

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.

Meetings are your opportunity to voice your opinions and concerns, so we hope you attend. ■

LOCAL 5 EAST



Cleveland,
Ohio

Gary Browning

Good day to you and your family. I hope to find all in good health.

We are finishing the first quarter of the year, a time when it can sometimes feel like all four seasons happen in the same week.

WORK OUTLOOK



The work outlook in the area for this season is looking to be strong.

Almost every one of our contractors is looking for help. If you are not working, or your previous employer has not contacted you about starting up work, contact us.

We must man these jobs coming up, as the industry demands it!

We have worked hard to get to where we are today. We cannot let the trade pirates steal our work.

Every hour taken from this Local is crucial to the survival of this Local.

All organizations don't survive without a cycle. Let us compare this to a train.

The retirees have laid the track that the train will ride on. Then you have the train, which is comprised of an engine and cars. Journeymen are the engine, needed to move the train. Depending how big the train is, it will determine how many apprentices (the caboose) are needed. Finally, the fuel to feed the train is hours worked.

Without all these components the Local won't move.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

Men and women of this Local, I don't write this to entertain you, but to educate you.

We are losing our foothold. Each year, we are losing more and more hours and members.

There are components missing to keep the train moving, and if we don't fix it, the cycle will come to an end.

Take advantage of the \$500 stipend that the District Council is still offering for the Recruitment Program – the same deal they have offered for the past two years.

SERVICE AWARDS



Congratulations to these members for their years of service:

For 25 years of service: **Michael S. Wojdacz.**

For 50 years of service: **William C. Dunlap.**

Thank you.

IN CLOSING

I remind you to keep your monthly dues and drug program cards current.

If you are dropped for non-payment of your monthly dues, it is possible that the Funds Office will be notified and your benefits could be suspended.

This is an issue that neither you, nor your family members need to deal with if an accident occurs.

More projects are requiring workers to be part of a drug program.

Keeping your drug card current will allow you to start on a project without an obstacle to deal with. ■

LOCAL 5 WEST



Cleveland,
Ohio

Jairo Cabrera

Greetings Brothers and Sisters: We are off to a good start in the second quarter of 2022, and we must continue to stand firm, together, and reset our focus to the future of all the Brothers and Sisters that make up The Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 5 Union.

With the opportunity of work ahead

for us all, it is imperative we continue to work together and support our contractors in order to secure a healthy, strong career with growth for our future.

Why do I say future? Because the purpose of everything that you work for in life is to have a future.

For example, you save money to buy something important to you, and you start a college fund for your kids so they can go to college after high school.

The idea is to never wait until it's too late to do something that will make a difference for your future, or your family's future.

This is why it's essential for all of us to continue organizing new members and contractors in order to grow our Union.

Your future depends on it.

The District Council is still promoting the Membership Recruitment Program in 2022 to all members.

This is an example of how you can help us with organizing and growth. It's also a simple way for you to earn a \$500 check, and get some extra money back in your pocket.

It would be the easiest \$500 to make; just by referring three new members.

Another way to help yourself with these hard times, especially if your child is looking to attend college after high school, is to have them apply for the MCA Scholarship. The eligibility requirements are as follows: the applicant must be a U.S. Citizen, have a minimum 2.5 GPA and be an undergraduate student of a 2-year, 4-year, or 5-year degree program.

The MCA Scholarship is available through The Mason Contractors Association.

In addition, the International Union is offering the 2022 U.S. Bates Scholarship Program.

If you would like more information regarding any of these scholarship programs, reach out to the Bricklayer Local 5 office at 216-447-9965.

The future! Again, what does that mean to you? How do you value your future and your family's future?

This Union has provided for us all in so many ways. So I ask you, how can we make this Union grow stronger?

One way is to make sure that this Union, which is made up of all us members, has a future so that when you retire, someone else could pick up the baton and continue to carry on the tradition.

Your future does not stop when you retire. Whatever happens to this union, it

will affect you when you're gone as well.

Therefore, this is a true brotherhood; you're in it for life.

TRAINING INFO



Here is some information if you're looking to update your 10 hours of OSHA training.

You can go to www2.careersafeonline.com/construction-course

If you're looking to take your drug test, or update your annual, contact <http://safetycontrolstech.com/> or call 800-204-1729. Finally, here is another good website to go to for further training, <http://imiweb.org/event-calendar>.

MOBILE APP

The Bricklayers and Allied Craft Workers International Union has provided us with the BACMobile App.

Be sure to set your account up. The District Council can also set up automatic payments for your monthly dues. ■

LOCAL 6



Canton,
Ohio

Justin Gartrell

Fellow members, I hope this newsletter finds everyone doing well.

Work remained quite busy this past winter in Local 6 considering some of the weather that our members and contractors had to endure.

Looking ahead at the amount of work coming to this area, we may have our hands full trying to staff all the jobs.

We will have four schools keeping our members busy come mid-spring.

North Canton has two scheduled to start around the middle of April. It's looking like Valentine and Beaver will be awarded these projects.

Valentine kept quite a large crew of members working this past winter at Fairless School. This project will continue going strong for several more months.

Lencyk Masonry will also be geared up at Tusky Valley School by the time this newsletter reaches everyone.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

In addition to all the school work, we will have ongoing work at the Hall of Fame. It looks like Beaver and Valentine will also be doing these projects.

Beaver also has work starting at AmbaFlex Manufacturing, and a little work to button up at Canton South.

Refractory work in the area also remains strong.

Resco has a full crew at Timken Faircrest, with quite a bit of overtime being worked by these members.

I just recently received a call from JT Thorpe regarding work coming up at the Marathon Refinery. This work is scheduled to start sometime around late April.

REMINDERS

 Just to remind everyone that wage increases will take effect in Local 6 on May 1. Anyone in need of updated wage sheets can contact the office, or view them on the Local 6 website at bricklayerslocal6.com or cantonbricklayers.com.

Any apprentices attending school need to email or text their completion certificate at the end of the week to myself or Paula Bellamy so you can get paid on time.

Please remember to update any beneficiary changes, addresses or phone numbers with the union.

IN CLOSING

Stay safe, and have a great summer! ■

LOCAL 7 OH



Akron,
Ohio

Noah Carmichael

Hello Brothers and Sisters of the labor movement.

The snow is finally starting to melt, and the sun is beginning to mix in with the grey dull of winter.

Work is starting to pick up slightly, and if the ground is solid enough for digging footers, work should pick up soon.

Work has continued as weather and winter protection allowed on multiple projects this winter, including Penske Truck

Rental (Lencyk), Crouse Hall (Lencyk), Brimfield Fire Station (Valentine), Kent Roosevelt High School (Valentine), Tallmadge Fire Station (Crowe) and Summa Behavioral Center (Foti and Cleveland Marble).

Upcoming projects look decent for the year, but we are awaiting bid dates for some and bid awards.

Cuyahoga Falls Schools and Manchester Schools will be building this year, with bid dates to follow architectural designs.

Hopefully, we can get an early start on each of these projects and then more.

Please attend the Local monthly meeting for a full report on work or any questions.

UNDERSTANDING PLAS

The last few years, the Tri-County Building Trades Council has put together a significant amount of Project Labor Agreements (PLA) with local municipalities and even some private entities.

This is a direct result of good relationships with local public officials and their understanding why utilizing union workers is so valuable to the community.

So, what is a PLA? Essentially, it's an agreement between a client (hospital, city, state, county etc.) and labor unions in the area to agree that the project is going to be done according to uniform wages and working conditions outlined in the agreement.

That means no bottom feeder contractors can come in from two states away and pay substandard wages to their workers and beat local workers and contractors out of the price.

We call that practice a race to the bottom.

PLAs eliminate the race to the bottom, so they are good for construction workers, good for the industry (because unions have industry leading apprenticeship programs) and good for the community because the wages that workers earn get put back into the local economy.

For more information, please check out ACT Ohio's comprehensive webpage on PLA's at: www.actohio.org/project-labor-agreements/

This is part of what ACT Ohio does with the dues they receive, so feel free to check out the resources they provide.

Those folks are working to protect your work along with your union.

PREVAILING WAGE EXPLAINED

Pervailing Wage is similar in its protection of working standards, but just does so

on the wages end of things.

Simply put, the set Prevailing Wage in your area is set by union wages and applies to projects with state (Ohio) and federal money applied to them.

This means all contractors bidding on the project, union and non-union, are forced to pay the Prevailing Wage set during the duration of that project.

It's another good thing for us. It levels the playing field and prevents that same race to the bottom mentality.

Check out ACT Ohio's Prevailing Wage information. There is a lot of good information about the many benefits of each of these things available on the ACT Ohio site.

That is what it is there for: www.actohio.org/issues/prevailing-wage/

Not all states have Prevailing Wage laws. Ohio has kept the law firmly in place, thanks in large part to active and strong union members.

Look at all the states around us that lost Prevailing Wage laws. You might be surprised. It's an important fight to keep it.

ELECTIONS MATTER



In summary, we may not all love politics, or politicians, but elections matter.

Having good relationships with end users and governments who understand organized labor are incredibly important to our lives in the construction industry and as union members.

If someone asks for your vote or support, ask if they support unions. Ask if they support PLAs. Ask if they support Prevailing Wage laws. Ask if they support the Protecting Right to Organize Act (PRO ACT).

The only acceptable answer for those questions is a resounding yes. If they duck the question or give you some other mealy mouth form of politic-speak, then they are no friend of labor, and they will hurt your ability to earn a good living for your family.

LOCAL NEWS

Our pension relief application should be submitted to the U.S. Treasury Department within a few weeks of this article, according to the pension board. The determination is expected to be issued within three to five months.

We are told by the Administration Board that the pension should be funded by summer with back pay to the retirees that had to take the reduction since last October.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

IN CLOSING

Spring was always my favorite time of the year for work, even though it's a bit muddy.

I hope all of you are having a great start to the work year and get to enjoy performing our noble craft in the sun soon.

If I can do anything for any of you, please don't hesitate to reach out. —

LOCAL 7 KY



Ashland, Kentucky

Richard "Willie" Moon

Greetings Brothers and Sisters. I hope this article finds everyone well and employed.

The weather has been on our side lately, which has prompted projects to start sooner than expected.

CURRENT PROJECTS

Central Masonry still has several ongoing projects, and has picked up some work at Kentucky Farmers Bank, as well as three more buildings at Pure Cycle Technology.

Apache is still at Marathon.

RC Refractory had slowed down the maintenance at Calgon, but has a scheduled reline for the react unit and said that Calgon may build a brand new react unit in the future.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 7 KY
Charlie Leasure (left) and Billy Leasure (right) at the IMI Welding Class.

POLITICAL UPDATES



Some of you may have been contacted via text or phone about House Bill 4 here in Kentucky.

It is a bill that will cut your unemployment from a 26-week draw to 12 weeks.

The House voted 57-37 in favor and the Senate voted 22-13 in favor.

This is a terrible bill for seasonal workers. Back when COVID-19 was closing down jobs, we became the "Essential Workers." We worked through a pandemic to keep things moving. This is how the House and Senate thank us, by wanting to cut our Unemployment weeks.

The Governor said he will stand with labor and veto the bill, but it is not too late to contact your local Representative at 1-855-771-2108, and tell them that you are against House Bill 4.

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to **Charlie Leasure** and **Billy Leasure** for taking their masonry experience to the next level during the winter months off.

They attended IMI's Welding, Historical Preservation, Yahn, Conproco, Edison and Lime works Installer classes.

IN CLOSING

With the work picking back up, we still encourage our members to contact the Union Hall for any TWIC, DISA LEAD and OSHA-10 updates.

If you are in need of any updates, please contact the Local.

Let's be safe and have a prosperous year. —

LOCAL 8



Youngstown, Ohio

Brian Collier

Greetings Brothers and Sisters: Spring is back and despite some lingering turbulent weather, construction is starting to move again in Local 8.

PROJECT STATUS



Cleveland Building Restoration has some work on the front of the Youngstown Public Library which should finish their project.

Lencyk Masonry has work at the Youngstown Public Library, Brookfield and Warren Water Treatment Plants, the Boardman Dairy Queen, the Ohio Turnpike, Akron Children's Hospital in Boardman and various other jobs.

Mike Coates Construction is still working at Warren Water Treatment.

Coon Caulking and A-1 Industrial Maintenance are still fire caulking at the Ultium Cells Battery Plant.

Tervo Masonry has work left at Mosquito Water Treatment, a stairwell at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Youngstown, Starbucks in Austintown and Fuel Express in Brookfield.

Wilson Restoration has resumed work on McKinley Towers Apartments in Niles after a winter shutdown.

Youngstown Tile and Terrazzo has work at the Indian Creek Schools, St. Patrick's Church in Hubbard, Oxford Place in Canton, Tuscarawas Valley Schools and future work at Hollywood Gaming in Austintown.

THANK YOU, LABOR MOVEMENT

On a recent visit to a facility in Local 8's jurisdiction where one of our BAC contractors was doing some maintenance work, I could not help but notice a "Free Snack Room" adjacent to their lunch room.

You see this a lot now a days.

Dangling carrot that it appeared to be, and please don't think me ungrateful, I just couldn't help but think that this non-union facility is so typical of many modern manufacturing facilities – a lack of good fringes and perks as compared to what we BAC members or many of the working people I knew growing up.

Immediately, Homer Simpson, from the parody animation "The Simpsons," came to mind. Specifically, the episode where his daughter Lisa needed braces, but the employees at the power plant had given up their eye and dental plan for a free keg of beer at every monthly union meeting.

Of course, that episode was also a half-baked dig at poor bargaining, but it makes me think of what people will sometimes accept.

Don't get me wrong, any additional perk is a good thing. If a perk is in addition to good wages, health insurance and retirement planning, I would have to praise the

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

employer, but sadly in this case, it was not.

I've seen similar situations when trying to recruit people from the non-union masonry world, where an individual is grossly underpaid, but is debating the merits of what we have to offer thinking they are doing well because the contractor allows them to drive a half worn out pickup truck home every night.

Again, if the vehicle/perk was in addition to good wages and benefits, I would be grateful, but not so much as a stand-alone perk.

My final thought is that I was raised in a household where my father, a production line welder, was paid a good living wage working in a plant organized by the United Steel Workers.

We had our share of hard times, but overall, my siblings and I got a boost in life that allowed us to enjoy quality in our own lives when we moved out into the world.

I remember when I was very young, that on Friday nights when my father would come home from working second shift, he would bring me candy he had purchased at the shop Canteen. It was something that I always looked forward to.

He paid for that small treat out of his hard-earned union wages. It wasn't a perk, and therefore I am eternally grateful to the

American Labor Movement, and to have grown up in a union household!

RELOCATED FUND OFFICE



If you happened to miss the mailing from our local BeneSys Inc. office in Local 8, they have moved from Austintown to Canfield.

The new address is: 3660 Stutz Drive, Suite 101, Canfield, OH 44406.

I have heard complaints from a few of our members recently about interrupted service, which I have addressed with BeneSys, and I hope these problems have been resolved.

It seems likely that the recent disruptions were a result of the move.

They outgrew their old building, and I believe they are supposed to add some new staff members to better serve us.

Hopefully they will be more efficient moving forward.

BAC MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

With the uncertainty of COVID, Local 8 decided to cancel our annual awards banquet for the past two years. As the pandemic has subsided, we managed to have a Christmas Award Meeting to get caught up.

Congratulations to 25-, 40- and 50-year recipients from both 2020 and 2021!

Special thanks to PCC apprentice **Joel Coblenz** for taking photos at the meeting.

25-year members: **Dave Villano, Todd Bussard, Spencer Frew, Jason Erb, Jeff Vollnogle, Chris Vetterly, Ljubodrag Andjelkovich, Dave Wagner, Dave Ratliff, Jay Walton, Eric Miller, Matt Ross** and **Harold Miller**.

40-year members: **John Olson, Dominic D'Angona** and **Junior Harkelrode**.

50-year members: **Dennis Hageman, John Koranicki** and **Jim Letcher**.

Also, at the Feb. 10 Local 8 meeting, President Kurtz swore in TMT Finisher apprentices **Aaron Wolfe** and **Ashley Hrosar** and journeyman **Steve Cook**.

MUCH APPRECIATION



Thank you to all the local construction workers who helped protest at the new Chick-Fil-A in Austintown in January.

The group was concerned about the exploitation of immigrants in the industry.

IN CLOSING

Thank you, BAC members, for your dedication and loyalty. ■



Thank you to all the local construction workers who helped protest at the new Chick-Fil-A in Austintown in January. The group was concerned about the exploitation of immigrants in the industry.



25-year members: **Dave Villano, Todd Bussard, Spencer Frew, Jason Erb, Jeff Vollnogle, Chris Vetterly, Ljubodrag Andjelkovich, Dave Wagner, Dave Ratliff, Jay Walton, Eric Miller, Matt Ross** and **Harold Miller**.



40-year members: **John Olson, Dominic D'Angona** and **Junior Harkelrode**.



50-year members **Dennis Hageman, John Koranicki** and **Jim Letcher**.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 8
President Kurtz swears in TMT Finisher apprentices **Aaron Wolfe** and **Ashley Hrosar** and journeyman **Steve Cook** at the Feb. 10 Local 8 Monthly Meeting.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

LOCALS 9, 10, 44 & 52



East
Liverpool,
Ohio

Don Mays

As we move into spring, I am hopeful that you are all well.

Some areas, including parts of my jurisdiction, were in a post-election and winter slump. It looks like we are starting to come out of it.

If we can secure most of the projects coming up, we should have another good year.

This should also give us another opportunity to increase our membership, including our apprenticeship.

As we do, we must realize it is up to all of us to assist the new members. Some or most of them have not had the opportunity to reap the benefits of the apprenticeship programs we have developed, or realize the benefits of such.

It is important for us not to judge or condemn these new members for their lack of opportunity, but to assist them in getting what they need to become good union pension contributing members.

To assist us, we will be scheduling training for our members, foremen, superintendents and contractors to better mentor our new member journeymen and our apprentices.

It is important to not only our survival but growth as a union.

The long-term benefits contribute to good pension health for us all, as well as increased market share.

When you have the opportunity to participate in the mentoring class, please do.

AN HONOR TO SERVE YOU

I am announcing my retirement.

I will be 65 in May, so my last day as a field representative will be May 31.

I have been involved in representing Locals 9, 10, 44 and 52 for some time now.

I started in 1992 as a part-time Rep. for Local 10. I started for the District Council in January 2002, full time, representing

Locals 10 and 14, as well as safety training for the Northern District Council Locals.

I was then assigned to add Local 9. My safety training was moved to the two training centers, and Local 52 and part of Local 44 also was added.

That comprised of 13 counties in southeast Ohio until present.

It has truly been my honor to represent the membership. I am extremely proud of this Union, the OH-KY ADC and each Local.

I am proud of my represented Locals putting their heads to smart business and voted collectively to establish the South-East Ohio Industry Advancement Program (SEOIAP).

It has been an important tool to increase our market share and reduce the hot and cold nature of work in our rural communities.

The District Council has put a plan in place to ensure all four Locals will be well represented.

Some of you have met your new representative. If you have not met your Rep. yet, and if you want to get to know your representative, make sure to attend your meetings to meet them or learn who to contact.

I believe you are all in very good hands moving forward.

As we move through the transition, I will be working with them as they need me through all of May.

I will miss many things and many of you, but it is time. ■

CONTINUED EDUCATION

On Feb. 5, IMI and IMTEF taught "Mentorship Matters," a journeyman upgrade training that was hosted by Local 16, where journeymen from five Locals in the state attended to tackle the ever-growing problem of apprentice and newly organized craftworker retention.

This was easily one of the best continued education classes I've attended, and that was a shared sentiment among the participants.

It's been a lifetime since many of us carried the title of apprentice or cub. And it was quickly pointed out through hands on exercises how many of us have forgotten how stressful not knowing a procedure can be.

This was not about coddling over sensitive Millennials. It was about treating a fellow union member with the same respect you demand.

When the opportunity arises to attend this class this summer, please make every effort to attend and learn just how important retaining a future workforce is to not only you personally, but to the industry and your Union.

Apprentices will be taking a companion course as part of their curriculum at the regional training centers.

This doesn't wholly fall on the backs of one party or another. Some people must be instructed on how to be taught.

The leadership fully recognizes that and will make sure the next generation of masons are ready and willing to accept direction.

FOCUS ON RETENTION

At the risk of turning this horse into glue, let's dive into the subject of apprentice retention, yet again.

This topic has been covered multiple times by multiple representatives in the pages of this publication, and until we as a whole stop shooting ourselves in the foot when it comes to chasing prospects out of this Union, we will continue to address it.

Admittedly, our business isn't right for everyone. However, there is no need to make a physically demanding craft more difficult than it already is through degradation and disregard.

Most of the building trades are having difficulty finding the right help for their respective trades.

But where we differ from the rest of the building trades is our attitude toward new blood. This seems to be a very specific

LOCAL 16



Mentor,
Ohio

Dan Musacchio

Brothers and Sisters, work in the area is starting to pick back up after a more traditional northeast Ohio winter.

Education, municipal and private work will generate a handsome amount of work opportunities for BAC members in the jurisdiction this year.

A full overview of the work outlook is given monthly at the regular meeting. We look forward to seeing you there.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

trend in the trowel trades in particular.

As an agent, I find myself surrounded by representatives from different trades across the state. So, when I make the comment that our views on apprentices are different than the mechanical trades, for instance, my comment is supported by fact.

To my surprise, these reps. often must police their contractors for using too many apprentices and not enough journeymen.

This is the polar opposite of what policing a masonry project looks like.

In nearly every pre-jobsite staffing discussion, it takes a conversation with an owner or superintendent where we (the Union) have to insist on enforcing the apprentice ratio, only to hear things like, "this just isn't a good job to have an apprentice on," or "there's just no time to teach on this one. The schedule is too tight."

These excuses are then met with force and then from the moment the unwanted apprentice walks on site, they are resented and treated like a burden, rather than an asset.

Then, we couple this attitude with the fact that our expectations are set extremely high. How quickly we have forgotten what we were like at 18 or 19 years old?

I scratch my head and wonder why the masonry industry doesn't embrace the idea of teaching someone at a third of the cost of a journeymen how to do nothing other than lay material from the moment they walk onto a job.

If a different approach was used, by the end of a year they would be nearly as proficient as the rest of the line burners, and making money for the contractor hand-over-fist due to their reduced wages.

It's time we start looking past the tips

of our noses, and stop being so nearsighted when it pertains to the future of this industry, specifically our pension security.

The only way we get to hang up the tools is if there is someone positioned to take our place.

NEGOTIATION PROGRESS

By the time you receive this publication, we should be through the negotiation process, and the negotiating committee will be examining ways to allocate the raise that best suits the needs of the membership.

As always, I encourage each of you to get involved in that process at any level, whether it be running for a seat on the negotiating committee or just actively participating in healthy discussions at these Special Called Meetings.

Remember, our contract that we collectively bargain is the only thing that separates us from our non-union counterparts.

With that clearly stated, the following commentary is not meant to reprimand, but rather encourage involvement in what some have claimed to be the most transparent, member-focused direction the Local has ever taken.

During a poorly attended pre-negotiation "wish list" meeting, a group of members discussed for some length of time their vision of the contract and monetary concerns as it related to them directly.

No suggestions were stifled or dismissed. In fact, a written survey was handed out and taken, and those very recommendations went on to become contract proposals.

One could only imagine how long we could have discussed and addressed contractual issues if all the members who

claim they don't have a voice would have attended the meeting.

We would have met the contractor's association with proposals that reflected the entire body's concerns, not just a portion.

This organization is only as strong as you the members want it to be.

If you can't be convinced that every opinion counts here and want to incorrectly believe your ideas and thoughts aren't heard, continue to not show up and make that falsehood your reality.

BE ON THE LOOKOUT

On May 1, the new contract and wages negotiated will take effect. April's regular meeting should be one you don't want to miss.

We will be discussing and interrupting any contract language changes, along with furnishing you with new wage rate sheets to compare to your check stubs.

Should you be unable to attend, be sure to ask your Steward for a wage sheet, as they will have them on site and be checking for any pay issues on the jobsites.

IN CLOSING

This is going to be a busy year for the Local. There will be new faces – some seasoned and some green.

Welcome these Brothers or Sisters, and let's continue to grow this Union, making it something someone wants to be a part of.

That will take all hands to accomplish, and I'm confident it is possible.

As always, continue to work safe, looking out for one another on site. ■



In February, Local 16 hosted "Mentorship Matters" training. Members from five Locals in the state attended to tackle the problem of apprentice and newly organized craftworker retention.

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

LOCAL 18 NORTH



Cincinnati,
Ohio

Brian D. Wear

The work in the area has started to pick up.

After a few setbacks and the winter, the two Batavia schools have started to roll. Both are nice projects that will carry on throughout the year.

Bricklayers are needed on several projects.

Local 18 has once again teamed up with the country radio station WNKN 105.9 FM for advertisement and promotion of the masonry trade.

It's no secret our negotiated wage and fringe packet is the best in the tri-state area. Sometimes, it takes a different approach to get that information to the public.

The Local has participated in these advertisements on several other occasions. It has helped boost morale and generate new members to the Local.

The increase in work hours and new members pays for itself in a matter of time.

The advertisements are played at peak times to catch people going to work.

In the current economy, everyone seems to be looking for new people. We are no different.

Organizing new members is the key to keeping this union going.

We need work hours to sustain the pension and the health insurance fund.

We need members to replace the ones who are retiring.

If you look around, everyone is getting older. Who is going to fill your shoes when you go?

Please keep this in mind when you are working with the younger members of the Local. They need all the help we can give them. I know I did!

OUR 75-YEAR MEMBER

I recently had the pleasure of presenting **William C. Smith** with his 75-year member award.

William is a proud member of BAC Local 18, and he was thrilled to have received this award.



PHOTO: COURTESY OF LOCAL 18
75-year member William C. Smith getting his award for service.

I have only seen two other members receive this. It's truly an honor and privilege to present these awards to members like Mr. William C. Smith.

Thank you for your 75 years of service.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



The Local 18 Family Picnic is set for July 23 at 1 p.m. at Harvest Home Park.

As always, the food and beverages will be provided. Please try to attend.

The pandemic slowed the event. Last year's turn out was down.

Let's see if we can make this year a better one.

There is currently a renovation of the lodge at Harvest Home. They are trying to get the air conditioning in on time. Let's hope so. ■

LOCAL 18 SOUTH



Cincinnati,
Ohio

Jeff King

Today, public sentiment toward labor is more positive and public feelings toward big business more negative than at any time in the past five decades.

Americans like unions, but very few belong to one, a discrepancy that places

the U.S. labor movement in a precarious state.

In 2017, about 11 percent of all Americans belonged to a union, but a PBS NewsHour poll found that nearly half of all Americans said they'd join a union if they could.

Union membership hasn't budged much since then, even as overall support for unions reached its highest level in a decade – 65 percent of Americans polled by Gallup in 2020 said they approved of unions, up from a low of 48 percent in 2010.

Even with all the positive attitudes, union membership is still in decline.

For most of the past three decades, Americans have viewed unions at least somewhat more favorably than unfavorably.

Despite those views, unionization rates in the United States have dwindled in recent decades – even though the absolute number of union members has grown slightly in the past few years.

As of 2017, just 10.7 percent of all wage and salary workers were union members, matching the record low set in 2016, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

When I joined this union in 1982, about a fifth (20.1 percent) of wage and salary workers belonged to a union.

Unionization peaked in 1954 at 34.8 percent of all U.S. wage and salary workers.

The long-term decline of organized labor has affected most parts of the U.S. economy, but not uniformly.

In general, the biggest declines in unionization have come in those occupations and industries that were – and to a large extent still are – the foundations of the American labor movement.

In many respects, the government has been anti-union and anti-worker for decades.

A major reason for the artificially low number of union members in the U.S. is our outdated labor laws that benefit anti-union companies and their armies of lawyers over every day American workers.

These laws are preventing Americans who want to have a union from joining or forming one in their own workplace, keeping union membership and workers' pay artificially low.

That's the untold story that's getting clearer every day.

And it's why we need to do everything we can to make it easier for workers to band together and form a union, if they want one.

In the federal workplace, President Biden took action to bolster union membership by forming the White House

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment.

The administration has moved quickly to strengthen union rights for federal workers, recently directing agencies to take concrete steps to bolster union membership in the federal government, and ensure workers are fully informed of their union rights.

Having card-carrying union member Marty Walsh as Secretary of Labor is a step in the right direction.

More broadly, the House approved legislation in March 2021 that would protect the right of all U.S. workers to organize, but it stalled in the Senate.

If we have any hope of improving the economic situation of workers in this country and ensuring that all working Americans have the benefits and support needed to balance work and home life, then we must pass meaningful legislation protecting workers' right to form a union.

Because of political appointments, the Department of Labor, the very organization that was created to protect workers, has not effectively served its intended role.

We must remain vigilant and continue telling our elected leaders to reject laws that deny workers the right to organize collectively.

We must demand the Senate pass the Protecting the Right to Organize Act (PRO Act) and lift the voice of workers everywhere.

Some strides have been made. President Biden's signing of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) finally addressed a decade-long effort to fix the multiemployer pension system.

This Bill provided funding relief for nearly 200 multiemployer pension plans that were facing insolvency or near-insolvency over the next several years.

Another advancement is the recently approved \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), which includes \$550 billion for new programs and \$650 billion for the continuation of core programs.

This approval represents a significant amount of new funding and programs. The bill includes large sections on Build America and Buy America, strengthening existing Buy America requirements.

The infrastructure package is another item with potential to significantly expand pathways into good jobs for all working people.

It also goes to greater lengths to create jobs in the United States. All too often,

laws designed to ensure that the federal government purchases American-made products, and that federally supported construction projects use American-made inputs, are poorly enforced and cover only a limited number of spending programs and end products.

Then, on Feb. 4, President Biden signed an Executive Order mandating the use of Project Labor Agreements (PLAs) for Federal Construction Projects over a certain value.

The Order's effective date is immediate. PLAs control the terms and conditions of employment of workers on specific construction projects, including wages, hours, working conditions and dispute resolution methods, in exchange for banning work stoppages and strikes.

Having PLAs in place is a helpful tool in securing work for our signatory contractors.

We still need to pass the PRO Act, which would modernize and update a lot of the loopholes and the broken parts of U.S. labor laws.

The PRO Act concerns itself with a narrow question: "whether certain workers possess rights" under the National Labor Relations Act.

In short, politics and policy matter. Public policy plays a crucial role in forming the guidelines and principles of our society. And since public policy is formed as a collective effort between governments, institutions and regular citizens, it's an important and effective way to have your voice heard.

Politicians and parties change over time, as do positions and views. But public policies are more difficult to remove.

For better or for worse, public policies outlast governments and politicians, so your voice and your vote matter.

You are important!

What's more important is that you engage, become informed and support people who support policies that matter to you most.

Your vote matters!

While progress has been made recently at the federal level, anti-worker legislation is being passed at the state level.

For instance, Kentucky is going to pass into law an unemployment compensation bill that will drastically reduce the benefits available.

The Governor's veto is not expected to hold up to the anti-worker super majority.

In recent years, we've seen low voter turnout, mixed with large swaths of the

American working-class vote who come out against issues that would have been extremely beneficial to them.

We continue to vote in significant numbers against our own best interests.

So, one must ask, when will we stop being our own worst enemy?

Unions bear some responsibility for not getting our message out. It is not about political parties. It is about policies that affect workers.

Thinking about how legislation can positively impact our industry, I immediately think how if it were to become illegal for a contractor to 1099 their employees, it would raise the standards of the flooring industry.

Without laws being written to change this model, our signatory contractors will continue to have an uphill battle winning bids from low-road contractors who exploit their workforce.

Now some good news.

It just so happens organized Labor is in an exceptional period of transition and opportunity right now.

Not in any of our lifetimes has there been a political and social environment this favorable to working people and our right to organize!

If not now, then when?

It's simple, we must get involved, become informed and get out and act up!

We must fight for what is rightfully ours.

We need to fight for protections like our right to collective bargaining agreements, the right to health and safety protections and the right to a livable wage.

We must fight for these basic rights and continue to turn unorganized workplaces into union shops with union safeguards, protections and all the good that solidarity delivers.

And as union Sisters and Brothers, we cannot resort to raiding other unions for membership. We must concentrate on organizing the unorganized.

This is what we can do.

Then finally, we must be equally purposeful in raising up a new generation of labor leaders so that all we have fought for and have struggled to win can be handed down to the stewardship and safe keeping of the next generation.

This is what we can be doing right now.

This is what solidarity looks like – or should anyway.

And it needs to start right now! ■

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

LOCAL 22



Dayton,
Ohio

Shawn Herzog

Brothers and Sisters, winter is finally behind us. Work has been slow for the last few months, but it's time to get back to work.

There are a lot of projects that started in March, and contractors are looking for help.

To name a few projects:

PCC Masonry has started Fairborn High School and Bethel School.

Hagerman has a big project in Lewisburg that has just started, along with a couple smaller projects.

Gostomsky has multiple projects on the books, including additions at Tri Village School District.

Day Masonry also has multiple projects on the books, and a few have started.

Combs and Weisbord Masonry will be starting East Clinton School in Sabina by the end of March.

It's going to be a good, but busy, 2022.

HELP OUR APPRENTICES

I ask that if you are working with an apprentice or a new journeyman Brother or Sister to mentor them, and welcome them into our Union.

They are the future of this union, and the future of our contractors.

A FEW REMINDERS



In closing, I have a few reminders and some dates and times to mark in your calendar.

The Local 22 picnic will be at the Polish Picnic Grounds on Needmore Road, starting at 1 p.m. on Sept. 10.

Local 22 union meetings are held on the first Monday of every month, starting at 7 p.m.

Finally, remember there are multiple ways to pay your monthly dues.

You can pay by check, by phone, calling 440-986-3000, by automatic monthly withdraw if you choose to do so or by the BAC Portal.

I don't like to see members getting dropped and paying the \$70 reinstatement fee, so try to keep up on your monthly dues. —

If you are not working, give me a call or call any of the contractors on your contact list.

REMINDERS



Union dues and drug cards tend to fall to the wayside as things get busy and our schedules get tighter.

Please don't let these items stop you from working

You can call 440-986-3000 to pay your dues over the phone, and you can schedule a drug test appointment with S.C.T at 440-499-6000.

LOCAL 36



Cleveland,
Ohio

Matt Neeson

Brothers and Sisters, 2022 has started off fast, and we are looking for a new contract.

Our current CBA expires on April 30. As of March 30, we are going into our continued talks to get the best deal possible.

I wish I had more to tell you, but we won't know until the end of March. Look for the April edition of The Labor Citizen for more information.

LOCAL ELECTIONS



March 22 was also the date for nominations for our Local 36 E-board.

We will have an election this year, as there is interest in the President and Vice President positions.

Tom Sigley will be running against current President **Andrew Yanok**, and **Michael Soltice** will run against **Angel Fievet** for Vice President, as the current Vice President, **Jeremy Slivka**, steps down.

The Secretary Treasurer and the Sergeant-at-Arms positions were not challenged.

The elections will take place on April 26, from 5 to 5:30 p.m. at our Local 36 Hall, 980 Keynote Circle in Brooklyn Heights.

We hope to see you all there. Good luck to all.

WORK OUTLOOK



The work outlook has us all working and growing, as Local 36 has put on five new Tile Setters and one Tile apprentice in the months of January and February.

The contractors are bidding heavy and looking to secure union density as we head into the 2022 season.

SEEKING GOLFERS



Local 36 is still looking for a foursome of golfers for this year's Cleveland Building Trades golf outing on June 3 at Mallard Creek. Registration starts at 7:30 a.m., with a 9 a.m. shotgun start.

Call me at 216-440-3000 or 440-799-4246 if you are interested. —

LOCALS 39 & 45



Portsmouth,
Ohio

Heath "Luke"
Henry

Greetings Sisters and Brothers. We have had a pretty harsh winter by Southern Ohio standards, and it has delayed many of the projects that were scheduled to start early this year.

We are now seeing those projects getting started, and without a doubt, the delayed starts will mean an increase in the amount of craftworkers needed to meet the schedules.

We are all looking forward to the longer days, warmer weather and increased work opportunities that come with each spring.

This spring will start off very busy, and will pick up throughout the summer.

We will need to organize some new members to fill these jobs, so we want to remind each of you that the OH-KY ADC organizing incentive is still in effect.

Basically, it works like this: Any member who is responsible for recruiting three new members will receive a \$500 check

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

from OH-KY ADC.

Local 39 has seen two members achieve this award since its inception, and we hope to see more this year.

NEW MEMBERS



We have brought in some new members since the last edition of The Benchmark.

We welcome **William Ruth**, **Robert Strouse**, **O'Bryan Bell** and first-year apprentices **Hunter Ruby** and **Eon Spears** into our union.

Let's all do our part to make these new members feel at home, and to help them succeed in our craft.

SERVICE AWARDS



We have welcomed our newest members, and now we say thank you to some of our long-time members who will receive Service Awards this year.

25 years of service: **Scott Gambill**, **Dean Warner** and **Bryan Williams**.

40 years of service: **Timothy Harr** and **Carl D. Montgomery**.

50 years of service: **Patrick Mullen**.

We thank all of you for your commitment and dedication to the BAC.

REMINDERS

Please remember to update your LEAD card. We have several projects that will require an up-to-date LEAD card for employment.

If yours has expired, please contact me and we will get it updated. —

LOCAL 40



Mansfield,
Ohio

Matthew R.
McClester

We have made it through another winter and springtime is upon us.

Fortunately, here in the Local, we have had as busy of a winter for work as there has been in a long time.

We had several jobs that worked right through the winter, which kept a large majority of our Local membership busy with hours

going into their Health and Welfare and pension funds – as well as in their pockets.

As gas prices rise, inflation increases and the inevitable economic downturn before the next presidential election draws near, it is of great significance that the active members work as many hours as possible to build up their funds to stretch through the leaner times.

For those who think it is no big deal to miss a day here and there, turn down overtime when offered and you are available, there may be some distress when you receive a self-payment or go to retire some day and there is not as much there as you thought.

Also, starting last year, we now pay into an annuity fund. It only grows by working hours that are available. Like we have always been taught, it is all about hours worked!

There should be plenty of work opportunities available again this spring and into summer. If anyone is looking, please contact the office.

LOOKING TO GROW

We will continue to look to recruit apprentices and journeymen.

If anyone has referrals, please have them contact the office.

The District Council is continuing to offer a \$500 stipend for any active member who refers three new members within a calendar year.

NO-COST COLLEGE

I would like to make all members aware of a benefit of union membership that I have been personally taking advantage of.

By being members of the AFL-CIO here in Ohio, all members and their families are eligible to attend Eastern Gateway Community College, with no out-of-pocket costs.

This is a two-year community college with campuses located in the Youngstown and Steubenville.

However, as I have done since January of 2021, you also have the option of attending online.

After completing a two-year degree, you then have the option to transfer to either Franklin University or Central State College under the same benefit to complete a four-year degree.

This is a wonderful opportunity for any member or their family to receive college education without incurring the debt that is normally associated with this type of education.

If anyone has any questions or would like more details about how this works, please feel free to contact me. You can also visit this website: <https://egcc.edu/admission/application/union>.

CONDOLENCES



We would like to offer our condolences to the family and friends of **Ezell Taylor**, who recently passed away. —

LOCALS 44 & 55



Columbus,
Ohio

Bill Hulet Jr.

Hello BAC Brothers and Sisters. Spring is around the corner, and that means it is time to start thinking about summer cookouts, camping, amusement parks, hiking trails or whatever you feel like doing in the great outdoors.

Stop and smell the flowers, take time for yourself. Life is too short to keep constantly working and not take time for your family or yourself.

Don't miss out on your family's functions, whether it be the kids' sports games, family get-togethers, outings or what have you.

Enjoy it while you can, and make those memories so you can sit around on the front porch during your retirement years and have those memories to cherish.

HAPPY RETIREMENTS

In the past few months and the months ahead, we had or will shortly see some senior active journeymen retire.

I thank **Jeff Baker** for all his years of service in Local 55, as a foreman and as an outdoor Union enthusiast.

Thank You for your enlightened instructions during my apprenticeship and helping me during my learning curve on shooting sporting clays.

Enjoy your retirement. I am sure that we will see you at our BAC shoots down the road.

Also, I have had the pleasure to be trained by **Don Mays** as a steward, to get

BRICKLAYERS LOCAL REPORTS

my 10-hour OSHA training and a few other certificates over the years.

In the past 6 years, I have had the pleasure to work with Don as a neighboring Field Rep. in Local 44 and the southeast Ohio area.

Having him as a mentor has really helped me grow as a Field Rep.

For all of your hard work over the years, for all of the stories, for all the helping advice that you have given over the years, thank you.

Thank you very much for your service. You will be missed by all.

And to all others members who have recently or soon will retire, enjoy your retirement.

RETIREES LUNCHEONS

 Our retirees meet for lunch quarterly, in March, June and September, on the last Wednesdays of those months, and in December, on the third Wednesday.

The Retirees Luncheon will resume on June 29, starting at 11 a.m. The food is ready around noon.

I hope to see the retirees there.

IT'S OUR BAC UNION

Our union is not a union without its members. Our wages, our benefits, like Health and Welfare and retirement funds, are not something to take for granted.

We all want these benefits, and to have the means to retire with a good pension, live out the rest of our lives in comfort, do the things that we want to do and not have to work the rest of our lives to survive.

You may not think it is important to show up to the monthly union meetings, or you think someone else will show up and you should not have to worry about it.

It might not be a long meeting or it might not be a very productive meeting in your eyes.

But it is our BAC Union.

Every dues paying member needs to be involved, and we need to make it better in every way possible.

You need to get more involved in your Local union. It is not your President's Local Union and not your Field Rep.'s Local Union.

It is your Local Union, and you should get more involved.

You can do this by going to the meetings, and then speak to your fellow BAC members and get them to start going to the meetings.

See what else you can do to help out your Local.

It's also a good way to find out what jobs are coming up, and who is going to need manpower in the future in your Local.

Sooner than later, the older members sitting on the Executive Boards are not going to be there, and younger members are going to need to step up and take the reins of your Local Union.

As a reminder, Local 55 Union Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month. If the first Monday is a holiday, then the meeting moves to the following night. The rank-and-file meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.

Local 44 Union Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month at the Jackson Street Civic Center, 928 Jackson St., in Zanesville. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m.

DUES REMINDER



It's important to keep your monthly dues paid up to date.

If you want to have your monthly dues taken out of your checking account, or paid once a month on your credit card, contact your Local Field Rep. for the enrollment forms.

You can also go online to BACWEB.org and pay your dues there.

Another option is to get the BACMobile app on your phone and pay them on the app.

You can also pay your dues by phone calling 440-986-3000, or in-person at the Amherst Office.

IN CLOSING

We are all family in one aspect or another either by blood, marriage or fraternal as in the BAC fraternal membership.

Treat each other with respect and kindness. Help your fellow Brothers and Sisters out when they are down.

Enlighten them with your wisdom when helping out your fellow BAC member, whether it be an experienced Union member, a new journeyman or an apprentice.

We all should have open minds to learn our crafts in new ways of instruction.

We all have skills that shine, and we all have some skills that need polishing. The help that we give each other can help each of us shine a little better.

Remember, do it right the first time. We are paid to be that professional craftperson, so strive to be that professional craftperson.

Stay safe. Stay healthy. Be kind to one another. ■

LOCAL 46



Fremont,
Ohio

Tim Linder

Everybody knows that spring in Ohio means it can be 23 degrees one day and 72 degrees the next.

Although we are not quite out of the woods when it comes to potential snow, we are definitely on the upswing coming out of the "winter blues."

Meeting attendance has been slowly growing, but I still want to remind everyone that we have monthly meetings on the third Monday of the month, starting at 7:30 p.m. at the Hall.

THINGS TO KNOW

Since the pandemic, fraud has plagued the state's unemployment benefits system, leading to more than \$475 million being paid to criminals, while another \$3.3 billion in overpayments were made.

Because of this, unemployment payments are already delayed.

If you are laid off, contact me!

If I don't know you are laid off, I can't get the appropriate paperwork submitted on your behalf, which could lead to even longer delays.

Your union dues must be current.

Also, new union cards have been issued.

If you have completed any recent training, it can be updated on your card by sending me the information.

GOLF OUTING RETURNS



After a couple year hiatus, I would like to resume our annual golf outing for all Local 46 members.

We are still in the planning stages, so plan to attend our monthly meetings or check out the next newsletter for event details.

Note, you must be a member in good standing to participate. That means your dues must be current.

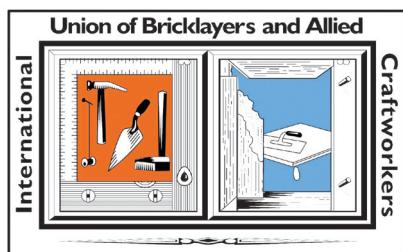
If you are interested in helping out, contact the Hall.



**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



SIGN & DISPLAY
SINCE 1946 • CLEVELAND, OHIO

REPORTS

SHARE CONTACT INFO

It is very important that I have your correct contact information.

Updates to your contact information, such as mailing address, phone numbers or email address need to be turned in to me at the Union Hall.

Also, be sure you contact the Local Field Rep. in the area where you are working to confirm you have a completed reciprocity form filled out.

This is the only way your funds will be sent back to your home Local so we can verify your contributions are distributed accurately.

CONDOLENCES



I offer my condolences to the family of **Wayne Pylant**, who passed away in January.

IN CLOSING

If you're looking for work, or have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to me at 419-967-5168.

Enjoy your spring and work safe! ■

IN MEMORIAM

Raoul Y. Bernardon, 3 OH

James C. Jacobs, 3 OH

Raymond L. Keller, 3 OH

Steven A. Sattler, 3 OH

Frank Bercheck, 5 OH

David D. Bina, 5 OH

Vincent Cali, 5 OH

Michael A. Chomyk, 5 OH

James T. Darcy, 5 OH

Vincent Didonna, 5 OH

Paul Miraglia, 5 OH

Ermi J. Moroso, 5 OH

Raymond J. Pate, 5 OH

Robert G. Peck, 5 OH

John A. Plascak, 5 OH

Frank Slapnicker, 5 OH

William F. Terrion, 5 OH

Kenneth G. Weinman, 5 OH

Michael Shaffer Jr., 6 OH

Charles H. Thomas, 6 OH

George W. Glaze Sr., 7 OH

Raymond J. Lafeber, 7 OH

John G. Jerek, 8 OH

Richard E. Wilkes, 8 OH

Brian E. Zordich, 8 OH

William M. Runion, 18 OH

Bradley J. Smith Jr., 18 OH

Kyle A. Tuttle Wheeler, 18 OH

James E. Cooke, 22 OH

Gerald L. Dornbusch, 22 OH

Russell F. Woolery, 22 OH

Daniel E. Shaver, 36 OH

Ezell Taylor, 40 OH

Ronald L. Dowler, 45 OH

Wayne A. Pylant, 46 OH

Bobby G. Alley, 55 OH

Dale A. Horney, 55 OH

Charles S. Watzek, 55 OH