

Brick, Block & Trowel

Masonry Institute Newsletter

November 2006 / Issue 10

Directors Corner

On September 12, 2006, our Masonry Institute members came together for a wonderful family dinner at Maggiano's Tysons II and to announce our launch of an important masonry initiative, developing and fostering the future workforce of our industry.

This program is intended to enlist the active participation of our membership in supporting the mentoring of the masonry apprentices at C.S. Monroe Vo. Tech Center in Leesburg, VA, under the direction of their instructor Mr. Paul Coates. Mr. Coates has been the instructor at this facility for the past seven years and shows a personal and professional dedication to the teaching of these young people.

We had the pleasure of meeting with Mr. Coates at the facility back in July. I, David Tahami, Ken Kealey, Lynn De Witt, and Pete Jacques had a meeting to assess how we as an association could lend pro-fessional expertise, material, tools, donations, and financial support to shore up the operations of this facility and to support this dedicated instructor.

He has informed us that he has 19 1st yr. apprentices starting this fall and 12 2nd yr. apprentices returning.

The response of a few of our members has been wonderful. To date we have the following commitments of resources, time

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Apprenticeship Competition



First Place Winners in 1st, 2nd & 3rd year apprenticeships.

They are from left to right. Jason Walker with Advanced Masonry, Curtis Hoover, Masonry Instructor at Center of Applied Technology North, Severn MD., Elizabeth Cleckley, Baltimore Masonry and Jason Thrift with Ka Ron Masonry.

On Saturday September 23, 2006, 25 apprentices came to compete in the 7th Annual Masonry Skills Challenge.

The Host of this years' event was **Betco-Supreme Old Castle Company**. The location was in Manassas Va. In the Gainesville block plant. There generous support of manpower, materials and the facility make this event possible. They even catered lunch for all the participants as well as the fans that

came to support their Apprentices. Here we a total of 85 people that attended the fierce competition. **Mark Muldowney** of Betco Supreme put it best, "The future of our industry has gathered before us and the future looks bright".

The breakdown of the classes was 15 contestants in the 1st year, 8 contestants in the 2nd year and 4 contestants in the 3rd year categories. Here are the final standings:

<u>1st Year</u>	<u>Contestant</u>	<u>Company Affiliate</u>	<u>Prize</u>
1 st Place	Jason Walker	Advanced Masonry	\$500.00
2 nd Place	Jason Shultz	JD Long Masonry	\$250.00
3 rd place	Eric Martinez	KaRon Masonry	\$100.00

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“Hopkins House” Thanks Masonry Institute

The Masonry Institute recently received a letter of Thank You for our memberships partnering with the Northern Virginia Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) to construct the Hopkins House Child & family Development Center in the Mt. Vernon-Lee community of Fairfax County.

When completed, this Center will house a preschool, computer-based technology center, children’s environment discovery center, community meeting room, and family health screening room. Over \$1 million in services will be provided to more than 200 children, youth and families annually.

Founded in 1939, Hopkins House is a learning center providing community- based education services to low-income, working families in the metropolitan Northern Virginia area. These are the families often earning too much to qualify for most government assistance and yet too little to afford quality childcare. Through annual fundraising, Hopkins House is able to provide the community-based education services these families and their children need and want.

I provided a partial listing in the last issue of BB&T of the volunteers on this project. The list has grown substantially and we” Thank” each and every group for any and all efforts they have lent to this project. If you would like more information on how to become a part of this project and the programs and services of Hopkins House please contact:

Angela Lynd, ABC, VA Chapter
14120 Parke Long Ct, Suite 111
Chantilly, VA 21051
703-968-6205
angela@abcva.org

Glen Hopkins, Hopkins House donor@hopkinshouse.org
1224 Princess St.
Alexandria, VA 22314
703-549-4235
Hopkins@hopkinshouse.org

Masonry Institute Member Sponsors Of Hopkins House Project

BETCO/ SUPREME/ KEN LAMPARD	Materials
CALVERT MASONRY/ TOM MC KAY	Labor
L.F.JENNINGS / JIM CRONIN	Site Contrete
L.F.JENNINGS/ ROB GREER, BRAD REED	Labor and Accessiruesm Coordination
POTOMAC VALLEY BRICK/ TOM SHERIDAN	Brick
QUIKRETE/ ED OWENS	Mortar, Grout, Silo
UNITED MASONRY/ DAVE TAHAMI	Labor

Thank you! From the Hopkins House and the community.

New Members 2006

Our Masonry Institute continues to grow in membership in the forum of our mission statement:

“The mission of the Masonry Institute is to Educate, Foster & Support Owner’s, Architect’s, Contractor’s and Supplier’s in the growth and betterment of the Construction Industry as a whole, With all entities working together we thereby meld a cohesive group of talent, expertise and quality to achieve our goals.”

So far in 2006 we welcome the following new members:

Senate Masonry, Inc.

Everett Greenstreet III,

Owner

Luck Stone Corporation

Jim Ryman, Representative

White Cap Companies

Mike Simon, Representative

Donald Blue Construction

Donald Blue, Owner

Brick & Block Tool Shop, LLC

Bernie Mallon, Owner

Foster Masonry

Dan Sawyer, Owner

NV Cast Stone

Carl Maine, Owner

We are pleased to welcome these companies and the expertise they

Field Trip with C.S. Monroe Apprentices

In 1998, after much research into the traditional techniques of lime burning, Virginia Lime Works was born. The purpose of their passion was to be able to work with traditional lime mortars for the preservation and restoration of masonry in historic structures. This lime is now being used throughout the United States, on such projects as Thomas Jefferson’s Poplar Forest, the Old Governor’s Mansion in Milledgeville, GA, Fort Adams & Ochre Court in Newport, RI and Brown University. In addition

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Apprenticeshop Competition *(continued from page 1)*

2nd Year	Contestant	Company Affiliate	Prize
1 st Place	Elizabeth Cleckley	Baltimore Masonry	\$500.00
2 nd place	Felipe Morales	KaRon Masonry	\$250.00
3 rd Place	Rudy Alvero	JD Long Masonry	\$100.00

3rd Year	Contestant	Company Affiliate	Prize
1 st Place	Jason Thrift	KaRon Masonry	\$500.00
2 nd Place	Ever Castillo	Baltimore Masonry	\$250.00
3 rd Place	Juan Conteras	JD Long Masonry	\$100.00

All contestants received tools and hard hats and bags, so no one went away empty handed. The First place finishers will now go to Orlando Florida in February 2007. This is where the National Skills Challenge will be held. Last year at the Nationals Finals, **Elizabeth Cleckley** finished 2nd place in the 1st year category and **Jason Thrift** finished 1st in the 2nd year category. It looks like we have another good chance for our region to take home more gold! I look forward to cheering on each of our Apprentices next year at the National Skills Challenge. Come to Orlando to see not only the competitions but also the MCAA Masonry EXPO.

There were many sponsors that must be thanked. **The Spec Mix Company** along with Ryan Coyne

supplied all the mortar and mixed all the mortar. Thank you Ryan for you time and quality mixing skills.

The following donated equipment, tools, cash, gift certificates, Hats, Shirts, Hard hats (special football team hats). They are **B & W Equipment, Campbell Sand & Gravel, Continental Fuel, Ernest Maier, Glen Gery Brick, Halfen Anchors, Hilti Fasteners, Hohmann & Barnard, L.C. Smith, L F Jennings, Inc, Potomac Valley Brick and Royals Insulation.** Thanks to all the people that aren't mentioned that without a team effort this competition would not have been such a success.



Paul Coates, Masonry Instructor addressing the Masonry Institute members at the September 12, 2006 dinner meeting where we introduced our apprentice mentoring program. If we ever had a candidate for cloning, this man, Paul Coates and Curtis Hoover from Center of Applied Technology North would be high on our list. These gentleman display such a dedication and commitment to these apprentice students that you just have to want to help facilitate their hard fought efforts!

New Masonry Institute Board Members Appointed

The Masonry Institute is pleased to announce the appointment of five new members to the Board. They are:

Lynne De Witt from L.C.Smith Brick
 Tom Sheridan from Potomac Valley Brick
 David Hayes from Glen-Gery Brick
 Brendan Quinn from Ernest Maier Block
 Tony Sneska from Essroc Cement



Paul Coates, Masonry Instructor at C.S.Monroe Tech Center, on his left Lauren Avila, 3rd yr. apprentice, who placed 9th in the National Skills Challenge held in Kansas City in July and on his right Brian Folmer a 2nd yr. apprentice who participated in our apprentice competition on September 23rd and showed their talents for their future! Great Job!

Each of these new members brings with them a wide range of experience throughout our industry and we welcome them and look forward to

Immigration Issues Not Going

The Department of Homeland Security has issued proposed regulations that could force businesses to fire hundreds of thousands of workers if they can't resolve the discrepancies between Social Security numbers reported by employees and government records.

Even if Congress does not pass immigration reform legislation, new regulations and public pressure may make it harder for employers to keep hiring illegal aliens.

Homeland Security plans a major marketing campaign for its Basic Pilot Program, a voluntary electronic system that employers can use to verify whether a new hire is eligible to work in the US. Both the House and Senate immigration reform bills would require employers to participate in this program. Even if the program doesn't become mandatory, any business that does not participate raises a red flag to the government agencies that will be looking at the programs for voluntary compliance.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE also is rolling out a new program, called IMAGE, that will reward companies that participate in Basic Pilot and follow other good hiring practices.

Our industry should be mindful of these programs and not losing sight that you will bare the sole

responsibility for not following guidelines set forth by Homeland Security and ICE.

The information for this article was gathered from a recent article in the Washington Business Journal written by Kent Hoover a Washington Bureau Chief.

The following is a listing of Best Hiring Practices:

___Use the electronic Basic Pilot employment verification program for hiring.

___Establish an internal training program on how to complete I-9 employment eligibility forms and detect fraudulent documents.

___Arrange for external I-9 audits.

___Establish a procedure for reporting violations.

___Establish a protocol for responding to no-match letters from the Social Security Administration.

___Establish a tip line for employees to report employment of unauthorized aliens.

___Establish safeguards against use of the verification process for unlawful discrimination.

___Establish protocol to assess adherence to hiring guidelines by contractors and subcontractors.

This article is meant for information only, all areas of this issue have broad consequences for our industry, but we do have to stay abreast of what is being proposed and

Field Trip *(continued from page*

to lime putty, they offer traditional custom pre-made mortars, plasters and limewashes.

On Friday November 17, 2006 the masonry apprentice's class from C.S. Monroe Technology Center, in Leesburg, VA, travel to Madison Heights, VA., to attend a day long fieldtrip with Mr. James Price, owner of Virginia Lime Works. Mr. Price invited us to spend the day and show the students of masonry skills the opportunities and skills needed to preserve historic masonry.

These workshops are held at their offices and warehouse and they will be given a full tour of all their facilities. They will be given a seminar on historic masonry, given lunch by our hosts, then return into the blue room for an introduction to Traditional Masonry Binders (Quicklime, Lime Putty, Natural Hydraulic Limes, natural Cements and more).

Mr. Price has also promised a tour of the "Old Virginia" Brick Plant. Mr. Coates, the instructor for the class, Joyce Greer, ED Masonry Institute, Dan Macario, and retired Pres. Genco Masonry will be accompanying the group. Everyone is very excited about this generous opportunity being afforded by Mr. Price. We believe this will prove to be a wonderful learning experience for each and every participant.

Top Ten Reasons to Build with Masonry

2. One-third of building costs are spent on Day 1; two-thirds are spent maintaining the building. Masonry can substantially reduce maintenance over the life of the building.
1. It's cost effective, beginning with the first day and over the life of the building.
3. It's easy to maintain, and requires no paint or harsh chemicals when properly designed for interior use."
4. It's safe-from fire, tornado, and hurricane issues, to mold and other indoor air quality problems. Masonry is the solution."
5. It can be cleaned when it gets wet-no demolition required."
6. It's durable-try to kick a hole in a masonry wall. Try the same thing with wallboard."
7. It's environmentally friendly. When you use masonry, you don't spend your annual maintenance dollars on reconstruction costs."
8. It's beautiful-nothing looks like a masonry building."
9. It's flexible, adaptable and appropriate for most design solutions."
10. It's the best, most proven, wall system on the market today."

Directors Corner

(continued from page 1)

and expertise, from within our association and from the industry players outside our group.

David Hayes with Glen-Gery Brick: Has proposed to hold a brick plant tour with presentation and possible barbecue for the students and other members of our association in Mid- October.

Harry Junk with NCMA (National Concrete Manufacturers Association) has offered to set up a tour of the laboratory facilities at NCMA in mid-Nov. or early Dec.

Tony Sneska with Essroc Cement, can arrange a plant tour possibly in Front Royal, The Frederick plant is presently undergoing major renovation. They are building a new plant in Martinsburg that will be a \$320 million facility (may be able to arrange construction site visit), but if we can wait until the first of the year more options will be available.

Andy Mooney with Allied Concrete Products, Richmond has offered to make a presentation at the Vo Tech, or maybe a plant visit to introduce them to hardscape applications of masonry, retaining walls, pavers and other landscape uses.

I have been in touch with James Price, of James Price Masonry Contractor's of Monroe, VA. and owner and operator of Virginia Lime Works .This gentleman has been involved in preservation and restoration of masonry for over 30 yrs. and is a big proponent of mentoring apprentices in this field of expertise.

He has generously offered a full days tour of his facilities in Monroe, VA., with a lunch provided.

He has projects of merit like the 1667 Chapel at St Mary's City, MD., Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest, and James Madison's Montpelier and has won numerous awards from AIA

and Preservation Trades Network.

He is presently mentoring craftsmen in Falmouth Jamaica on making and using traditional lime mortar from local sources.

We want to ask our members to volunteer their time and expertise.

It is our hope to be able to expose these apprentice students to the many facets of our masonry industry.

For example: Spending two weeks in estimating of masonry to see how drawings are taken off, bids prepared and purchasing and scheduling that follows the process all the way to the field.

From the Supplier side, they can be afforded the opportunity to see how brick and block are made and witness the sales end of the business.

Having these apprentices spend time with a contractor, supplier and being exposed to their everyday operations can afford them the opportunity of seeing how far reaching a career in masonry can be. There are many aspects of this industry that can enlighten these students to their potential if they work hard and are conscientious to the trade.

Also we have had a donation from the Bricklayers Pension & Welfare Fund of \$1,500.00 to be used for our apprenticeship program. We have chosen to purchase an item on Mr. Coates's wish list that being a Laser with tripod for his use. We were very pleased to present this to him at dinner. As it turned out Brenden Quinn, owner Ernest Maier Block, purchased and generously donated the laser in support of the initiative.

The Vice Principal for Monroe Tech Center attended this meeting to meet us and show his support and appreciations of our endeavor.

We also had the honor of meeting two young gentlemen who have shown tremendous initiative and commitment to learning the skills

necessary for a masonry career. They were articulate, well mannered, and enthusiastic young men and we were proud to think we have chosen students like them to mentor. They were Lauren Avila, who by the way participated in the National Skills Challenge in Kansas City back in June and placed 9th. We also met Brian Folmer, another seriously focused young man working hard for his career in masonry.

All in all it was an evening, for which, I take great pride in being the Director of our association and the members who have come out in full force in support of this important initiative. I just know we are going to be able to do good things for these young people, the school and instructor that educate them, and our industry that needs them to succeed!

Thanks to all who have stepped up to the plate, we know you won't regret it!

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Website Update
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You are cordially invited to visit the updated website for our Masonry Institute:

www.masonryinstitute.us

We hope you will be able to have a better understanding of our association and we also hope you will find the many useful links for technical information, training, featured projects, membership opportunities, and be able to read our quarterly newsletters online.

If you have any questions, or need more information please contact us toll-free at 866-529-7994 or fax your requests to 804-529-5351.

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MASONRY INSTITUTE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 7 TH , 2006	MAFSCAC SUMMIT, ROB ZOBEL /HOST, BWI AIRPORT, LINTHICUM, MD.
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 17 TH , 2006	C.S.MONROE VO TECH FIELDTRIP TO VIRGINIA LIME WORKS, MADISON HEIGHTS, VA. 7:00 A.M. DEPARTURE FROM LEESBURG
WEDNESDAY NOV.29 TH - DEC.1 ST	EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS COUNCIL , MEETING /CHICAGO
SATURDAY DEC. 2 ND , 2006	THE SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 MARYLAND REGIONAL CONTEST LOCATION: QUIKRETE PERRYVILLE PLANT. FOR MORE INFO CALL RYAN COYNE AT 443-306-1027
WEDNESDAY DEC. 6 TH - 7 TH	WASHINGTON CONVENTION CENTER,. ECO-BUILD/ GREEN BUILDING
JANUARY 23 RD -27 TH 2007	WORLD OF MASONRY/ WORLD OF CONCRETE, LAS VEGAS, NV.
FEBRUARY 22 ND -24 TH 2007	MCAA CONVENTION, ORLANDO, FL.

Tony Izzo
Genco Masonry, Inc.
 Bethesda, Maryland

Bruce Sieling
EGS Masonry, Inc.
 Bethesda, Maryland

Everett Greenstreet, III
Senate Masonry, Inc.
 Bethesda, Maryland

Tom McKay
Calvert Masonry
 Manassas, Virginia

On behalf of the Masonry Institute, we would like to thank Tony Izzo, **Genco Masonry, Inc.**, Bruce Sieling, **EGS Masonry, Inc.**, Everett Greenstreet, III, **Senate Masonry, Inc.** and Tom McKay, **Calvert Masonry** for graciously agreeing to sponsor this issue of *Brick, Block & Trowel*.

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