



Brick, Block & Trowel

Masonry Institute Newsletter

Winter 2004 / Issue 3

Directors Corner

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On behalf of the Masonry Institute, I would like to "Thank our membership and the Architectural community for their generous support throughout 2003". Each and every endeavor we proposed was met with positive participation.

As we enter the New Year and stop to reflect on the past one and how quickly it passed, 2003 was a pretty busy year for our Masonry Institute. The following is a brief summary of our events and accomplishments:

- February: Craftsmanship Awards
- April: Dinner meeting with guest speakers from CMPC (Concrete Masonry Producers Council), Rob Zobel, Marian Marshall, Director of Government Affairs MCAA, who provided our members with items in legislation affecting our industry; Ergonomics and Insurance Issues that can have a big impact on costs in doing business.
- June: Annual Golf Outing held at Norbeck Country Club with 140 participants
- September: 1ST Masonry Expo held featuring seven educational seminars attended by over 100 Architects. Twenty-eight vendors

(continued on page 4)

1st Masonry Expo Receives Positive Feedback

On behalf of the Masonry Institute, Concrete Masonry Promotions Council, Masonry Institute of Maryland and the Professional Masonry Council, we would like to express our appreciation to those companies who exhibited and to all the professionals who attended the seminars at our first Masonry Expo, held September 17, 2003, at Martin's Crosswinds, Greenbelt, MD.

We had 28 exhibitors and 15 architectural firms sent representatives to one or more of the seven AIA accredited seminars offered. A total of over 110 attendees, including area contractors and suppliers, took advantage of a day of enlightenment about masonry.

We believe from the initial response that this event was of value to all who participated and attended. As with any new endeavor there is always room for valued feedback. A survey was compiled as well as a critique of the seminars speakers. We received over an 80% response and

New Product in Market Place

There is a new revolution in the construction industry, known as the Concrete Form Masonry Unit (CFMU). The CFMU is the brainchild of the **Pentstar Corporation**, based in Minneapolis, MN. The system has been designed

(continued on page 5)

it was found to be very useful. We also received a lot of information regarding what the participants would like to see in the future. We will be taking their advice and planning for another Expo within the next year.

A Special Thank You to those professionals who gave the seminars: Michael Gurevich, David Biggs, Patrick Rand, Glenn Kubany and Tom Sheridan, Rob Zobel and Steve Gordon

The dedication of the many associates of our masonry industry have made great strides in showing that directed information by educating the marketplace on how and why to use "Masonry" can be achieved. Our mission is to promote masonry through education, exchange of information and fostering good working relationships with Owners, Architects, Contractors and Suppliers.

Thanks again for your support in helping us accomplish these goals.

Architectural Design Awards

The Architectural Design Awards banquet was held on November 18, 2003 at Maggiano's Tysons II in McLean, VA. We had a good response for entries and 30 Architects from the area attended the awards banquet. Our membership showed strong support with over 100 in attendance. The following pages are a recap of the winners.



Architectural Design Awards

Held
November 18, 2003

at
Maggiano's Tysons II

Category 1A - Commercial Construction (Construction Costs under \$500,000)

Old Town Pet Resort

Architect: Mark R. Hafen Associates

Category 1B - Commercial Construction (Construction Costs of \$500,000 - \$1,000,000)

4501 N. Fairfax

Architect: Esocoff & Associates



Category 1C - Commercial Construction (Construction Costs over \$1,000,000)

Georgetown Incinerator

Architect: Handel & Associates
(BEST OF SHOW HONOR)

Architectural Design Awards

**Category 2A - Institutional /
Government Construction
(Construction Costs Under \$500,000)**

North Point Fire Station

Architect: Eddy Eckard Architects



**Category 2B - Institutional /
Government Construction
(Construction Costs of
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000)**

Saint Stephens Church Addition

Architect: Cox Graae & Spack



**Category 2C - Institutional / Government
Construction
(Construction Costs over \$1,000,000)**

Trinity Athletic Center

Architect: Hughes Group Architect



Category 3C - Apartment/Condos

Palisades of Bethesda

Architect: Architects Collaborative, Inc.

A Lifetime Member's Passing

HARLEN E. FRALEY

Harlen E. Fraley 78, died January 12, 2004 at Mary Washington Hospital in Fredericksburg, VA.

Harlen joined the Army Corps at age 18 and served as a Navigator for the next four years. He survived a fatal crash of a B29 bomber during WWII and received a Purple Heart Decoration. After leaving the Army in 1946, he and his father T. D. Fraley formed T. D. Fraley & Sons Masonry. He remained active in the company for forty years before retiring.

Harlen was a Master Mason for the Henry Knoxville Lodge of the Masonic Order and had received his 50 year pin. He was a member of the Scottish rite where he received the highest honor of 33 degree.

Harlan was a lifetime member of the Masonry Institute and a member of the MCAA. He became a bricklayer at the age of fifteen and got his driver's license the same year. He is survived by his wife of 58 years and three daughters.

The Masonry Institute mourns his loss and sends our sympathies to the family.

Directors Corner

(continued from page 1)

supplied the most up to date information on materials and equipment used in masonry today. Very positive feedback was received.

-- September: Apprenticeship Competition, was once again hosted by Supreme Concrete Block in Winchester, VA. Twenty area apprentices, comprising 1st, 2nd, 3rd year competed.

-- November: Architectural Design Awards Banquet held with 35 entrants and 135 attending the awards dinner at Maggiano's Tysons Corner.

Behind the scenes, I have been working with fifteen other masonry association executive directors in cooperation with the MCAA on development of a comprehensive promotional campaign to promote masonry and assist our customers with designing a masonry system. Our Masonry Industry Executives Council plans to unveil this campaign at the MCAA annual meeting in Las Vegas in March.

All in all, a very productive year with wonderful support of our membership. We also added eight new members to our association this year.

Fairfax Masonry
York Building Products
Parker Masonry

Frederick Brick, Block & Stone
Roanoke Cement
Hagerstown Block
Stafford Stone
York Lintel & Cast Stone

There's always room for improvement! In this New Year we want to strive for continued improvement of relations with our industries customers by educating those lacking the confidence to build masonry systems and thereby strengthening our mission statement for the promotion of masonry.

We also want to continue combined efforts to give back to our community. The article featured in this newsletter is a fine example of how our Masonry Institute members can take an active hand in accomplishing good things that strengthen the community.

We once again enlist our members' recommendations of how they think we can best achieve that goal.

In closing, Rob and I deeply appreciate the confidence and support shown to us throughout this year. Thank You! We look forward to continuing our efforts to building a strong productive association for our industry.

Regards,
Joyce Greer

Masonry Skills Challenge 2003

The masonry skills challenge was once again generously sponsored by Supreme Block Products at their plant in Winchester, VA on Saturday, October 4, 2003. Also again this year Spec-Mix provided the mortar, mortar pans and the physical labor of Ryan Coyne of Spec-Mix working tirelessly to keep the event running smoothly.

There were 17 apprentices that competed for the right to represent

their region in the National Skills Challenge. The winners will be in Las Vegas, March 24, 2004 to compete for national recognition, thousands in money and tools.

The winner of the "First Year" group is Luis Arakon, from L. F. Jennings. The winner in the "Second Year" group is Conrado Romerez, also from L.F. Jennings.

The winner of the "Third Year" group is Salvador Belmont. Salvador

is employed by Karon Masonry, Beltsville, MD.

Congratulations to all who participated and to the winners. Good Luck in Las Vegas!

Thank You to all the people who made this event successful again this year. We would like to see all our members encourage their field personnel to sponsor tenders and anyone interested in the apprenticeship. Our skilled craftsmen are a vital part of our future.

Community Project Sets Fine Example

The Masonry Institute would like to acknowledge a fine, strong example of what our Construction Industry members can accomplish when they combine their resources with the commitment to help the regional community.

ABC, Associated Builders & Contractors, Virginia Chapter has recently been an intricate part of the dedication of Urban Search & Rescue Training Facility in Fairfax County at no cost to Fairfax County Fire & Rescue. Materials and service for this project were 100% donated.

A dedicated team of members of our construction community joined together to accomplish this project. Centex Construction Co., Inc. was the general contractor chosen to build the 5,000 square ft., three-story building at an estimated cost of \$200,000.

The facility will serve a variety of emergency groups. USR&D will utilize the building for operational training regarding confined space entry, above grade rope operations, canine air-scenting, and penetration of concrete building material. The police department will utilize the facility for helicopter rope operations and SWAT tactical operations. Recruit Basic Training Groups, Hazardous Material Teams, Suppression Crews and Technical Rescue Groups will also make use of the facility.

Over 40 team members contributed to building this structure that will serve an important function for providing a safer community.

Additional team members supporting the project include:

Advanced Caulking
Miller & Long
Advanced Technical Group
Miller & Associates
Bowman Consulting
Miscellaneous Metals
Color-Ad Signs & Exhibits,
Precision Wall-Tech.
Community Landscape
Pre-Mix Industries
Construction Labor Contractors
Prospect Waterproofing
Cox Cable
R. W. Murray Co.
Cristar Garage Doors & Controls

RCD Electrical
Gerdau Ameristeel Corp.
Rental Service Corp.
Greenwald Supply
Reprographics Technologies
Hallmark Ironworks
Safety Environmental
Engineering.
John Boy
Shirley Contracting
Skippy's Trucking Co.
Trowbridge Steel
SMI Rebar Virginia
United Rentals
T. W. Perry
Virginia Concrete
Thomas Rutherford
Vulcan Materials
Titan America
W. B. Hopke
Tradesman International
Waste Management
Williams Steel Erection Co.
Wilmot Modular Structures

Thank You ABC, Virginia for spearheading such a fine project and to all the team members for their generous participation.

And last but not least, we want to extend an added Thank You to our own Masonry Institute members:

L. C. Smith
Hagerstown Block
Calvert Masonry
Potomac Valley Brick
ECS, Ltd.
Supreme Concrete Block
Ernest Maier Block
United Masonry, Inc.
Genco Masonry, Inc.
L. F. Jennings, Inc.

Jill Diperna of L. F. Jennings serves on the community service committee of the ABC, Va. Chapter and was instrumental in getting other firms on board for the project.

Bradley Reed, Director Masonry Operations and Rob Greer, Masonry Division was instrumental in coordinating other aspects of their company's participation.

Great Job by all involved! We hope to see more examples of our members sharing in the worthwhile cause of giving back to our community.

New Product

(continued from page 1)

to create an energy-efficient, disaster-resistant, environmentally friendly and cost-effective solution to masonry construction.

The Pentstar system is a unique concrete/masonry hybrid product that changes the internal design of a typical concrete block by removing the standard webs and cells, and replacing them with an engineered polymer insert connector. This connector acts as a form tie between two masonry face shells. Additionally, the connector segregates the interior of the unit into three distinct elements. The first element is a one-inch weep cavity for water drainage. The second element incorporates two inches of rigid insulation for thermal performance, and the third element is a six-inch grout cavity for structural concrete. The resulting wall assembly is watertight, energy-efficient, disaster-resistant, and tremendously strong.

The use of attached face shells allows the designer to select a wide variety of finish options. Brick, block, stone, marble, or tile finishes can be simply snapped on to the connector to provide whatever aesthetic look the architect requires, both on the interior and exterior of the building. The product is assembled in a factory so the contractor simply installs a complete system in the field. This reduces complexity and increases quality assurance for the project.

The Pentstar CFMU has been used on projects throughout the country including schools, churches, fire stations, and recently the new training headquarters for the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) near Dulles, VA. The Hagerstown Block Company is one of the many manufacturers of face shells for the system. For more information on the Pentstar CFMU, you can go to www.Pentstar.com or contact your local Pentstar distributor.

MASONRY INSTITUTE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 8, 2004	MIMI Bull Roast, Martin's, Baltimore, MD
February 24, 2004	General Membership Meeting & Board Meeting Maggiano's Tysons II Board Meeting 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Dinner Meeting 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Introduction of Board Members & State of the Institute
March 21st thru 25th	2004 Masonry Expo (MCAA) Las Vegas
April 2004 (Date to be set)	Dinner Meeting with Speaker TBA
June 21, 2004	MI Golf Outing, Norbeck Country Club

Hagerstown Block

860 Oak Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
(301) 733-3510
Contact: Robert Carmody
www.masonrygroup@aol.com

On behalf of the Masonry Institute, we would like to thank Rober Carmody of **Hagerstown Block** for graciously agreeing to sponsor this issue of ***Brick, Block & Trowel***.

Masonry Institute, Inc.

P. O. Box 707

Fall Church, VA 22046