



North Carolina Masonry News

June 2026

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The Newsletter of the North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association

NCMCA's 52nd Annual Convention Recap

The annual NCMCA Convention was held March 26-28 in Wilmington, NC at the Hotel Ballast. We had great participation this year with 255 in attendance and over 66 companies represented. Our guest speaker was National Geographic's Adventurer of the Year Jennifer Pharr Davis, and her message to our association was "to remain steadfast, work together, and refuse to quit in order to build a strong foundation for our projects, families, and communities. You were built to last. So, keep going."

This was a pass the gavel year, with Tim Manning moving into the President position and Cliff McGee into the Chairman of the Board. The golfers had a sunny day, and in keeping with tradition there were wildlife sightings! The fishermen had a colder day, but it didn't stop them from catching some big ones!

The Eastern Chapter of the NCMCA presented Chris Joyner with an honorary brick on behalf of his father, former NCMCA President Gary Joyner. In recognition of Gary's dedication and service to the NCMCA, the Eastern Chapter has established a \$5,000 scholarship at Pitt Community College in honor of Gary Joyner.

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The following companies received Safety Awards presented by The Alera Group: Gates Construction Company, Manning Masonry, Brodie Contractors, Edgar Boettcher Masonry, Joyner Masonry.



This year's wildlife sighting during the golf tournament featured an 8' long alligator!



A special thank you to Brandon Hartsell for his service as the Central Region Vice President. Pictured left to right: Brandon Hartsell & Bo Black.



Congratulations to our First Place Winner of the Certified Spec Award. Pictured left to right: Paul Elder with Custom Brick, Parrish Hoffman with EastWest Products, Tim Manning with Manning Masonry, and Kirk Edens with Oldcastle APG. The project was Lenior Community College Aviation Center for Excellence.



Congratulations to our Second Place Winner of the Certified Spec Award. Pictured left to right: Chuck Vogel with Johnson Concrete Products, Kirk Edens with Oldcastle APG, Mike Radosa with Edgar Boettcher Mason Contractor, and Ken Holland with Triangle Brick. The project was Wayne County Detention Center.



Winners of the annual golf tournament were (left to right) Zack Hancock, Jake Burton, Steve Wheeler with EZG Hole Sponsor, Justin Bamonte, Dwayne Bryant - Golf Committee, Damian Lang with EZG Hole Sponsor, and Lee Heath - Golf Committee.



Charlotte Cable won the Calcutta Fishing Prize! She took home \$1,700 and beat out all the guys! Charlotte is the daughter Matt & Michelle Cable with McArt Masonry.

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Manning's Masonry Minute

Building Momentum: NCMCA's Strategic Initiatives for Industry Growth



For my first newsletter article as President of the NCMCA, I thought it might be best to catch you up to speed on everything that our association is doing on our behalf. If you hear anyone ask, “Why should I join NCMCA”, just give them a copy of this article.

The NC Clay Brick Initiative - The NCMCA is driving a multi-faceted agenda aimed at securing the long-term vitality and market share of the masonry industry in North Carolina. Our primary focus is the newly launched NC Clay Brick Initiative, spearheaded by the Masonry Contractor Clay Brick Committee.

This initiative is a voluntary program modeled after the successful CMU checkoff program, designed to promote clay brick installation and increase wall share across the state. The goal is to achieve a significant market share gain, targeting a 20% increase in brick units over three years, up from a current baseline of approximately 250 million to 260 million units.

The strategy for achieving this growth is focused on four key pillars:

1. **AEC Consulting** - The most critical early action is hiring a full-time Architecture, Engineering & Construction (AEC) Consultant. This consultant will serve as "boots on the ground", embedding with the design community—including architects and specifiers—to get clay brick specified more often.
2. **Workforce Development** - We cannot grow wall share without the hands to lay the brick. This initiative will run parallel to existing efforts, including working with the NCMCA apprenticeship pipeline, partnering with NC community colleges and trade schools to promote masonry as a career. Additional pilot programs to cultivate skilled labor are in process as well.
3. **Marketing and Promotions Campaigns** - This effort will target builders and homebuyers to address the cost vs. value perception gap. The messaging will highlight the durability, fire resistance, energy efficiency, and long-term home value of clay brick against competing products like fiber cement and stone veneer. We will explore co-branding and collaboration opportunities with organizations like BIA Southeast.
4. **Code and Fire Marshall Engagement** - We will pursue strategic advocacy to monitor the NC State Building Code adoption cycle and advocate for code language that favors non-combustible cladding, especially in multi-family and wildland-urban interface zones.

We are grateful for the early support from our manufacturing partners, including commitments from General Shale, Lee Brick, Old Carolina Brick, Palmetto Brick, Pine Hall Brick, Statesville Brick, Taylor Clay, and Triangle Brick. We will continue to work diligently to meet the January 2027 goal.

Manning's Masonry Minute Continued

In addition to the Clay Brick Initiative, the NCMCA is advancing in several other key areas that support the entire masonry industry:

- **Strategic Partnerships with Home Builders.**

We are actively building a relationship with the North Carolina Home Builders Association (NCHBA), which is viewed as a "huge win" for the Clay Brick Initiative. We recently secured a Silver Level Business Partnership, including securing an exhibit tabletop at the Carolina Builders Conference (CBC). This is a crucial step toward gaining a "seat at the table" with the NCHBA and securing long-term wins for the industry in residential construction.

- **Commitment to Workforce and Education.**

The NCMCA maintains an intense focus on workforce development, with a highly successful Apprenticeship and Training program. Ashton is doing an amazing job. The spreadsheet she has compiled for students interested in summer opportunities is a game changer. Just recently we were able to highlight our pre-apprenticeship and apprenticeship program as part of Governor Stein's executive order on housing. Ryan gave an impactful testimony on the value of apprenticeship training in his life.

Skills Contests: North Carolina masonry students have demonstrated outstanding success in national competitions, bringing home 40 Gold medals in the 59 years the SkillsUSA masonry contest has been running. We continue to host high-impact events like Masonry Ed Day and Sam McGee Memorial which was recently held at Ben Ketchie Park. Many thanks to Stalite and Johnson Concrete Products for their hospitality.

Scholarship Initiatives: The Eastern Chapter announced a new scholarship and paid 10-week summer internship program in partnership with Pitt Community College for students in relevant programs, to proactively market careers to a new workforce and address the labor shortage. The Gary Joyner Scholarship will not only highlight opportunities in our industry; it will continually honor the legacy of one of our industry pillars.

Certification Program: Our Certification Program continues to surpass expectations, having now certified over 850 individuals. Additionally, we are seeing the certified specification requirement used more frequently and embraced by new architectural firms.

- **Embracing New Technology**

The NCMCA is also exploring the strategic utilization of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to enhance our work, particularly in relation to predictive analytics for market share and developing content to promote and educate as it relates to clay brick masonry and structural concrete masonry.

- **Codes and Standards Committee**

As I write this article, a subcommittee of NC industry professionals is meeting in Greensboro with the lofty goal of creating a masonry standard derived from ASTM, IBC, and MSJC criteria. This would be an adopted standard created for the sole purpose of better evaluating masonry workmanship and tolerances. Additionally, the collective group will continue to work hard for us as it relates to codes and enforcement. This is an area that impacts all of us and it provides assurance that there is a concentrated effort to work on our behalf.

As you can see, many of the initiatives I spoke about in Wilmington are in motion. We are excited about the momentum we are building and thank every member for their time and dedication to our industry. If I can ever help, please don't hesitate to reach out – 252 217-8115. As always, be safe and do good!

Manning Masonry Inc. Wins Inaugural NCMCA Certified Masonry Project of the Year

Manning Masonry Inc. has been awarded the inaugural NCMCA Certified Masonry Project of the Year by the North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association (NCMCA). The historic, landmark award recognizes outstanding architectural craftsmanship, strict adherence to rigorous standards, and an uncompromising commitment to masonry principles on the landmark Lenoir Community College New Aviation Center For Excellence. The NCMCA Masonry Contractor Certification Program is a premier pre-qualification tool utilized by regional architects and owners who desire to achieve a standard of excellence on their masonry projects. "This inaugural award establishes a baseline for masonry excellence in the Carolinas," said NCMCA Executive VP, Ryan Shaver.

The Lenoir Community College New Aviation Center For Excellence stands as a testament to what happens when masonry design aligns harmoniously with certified, highly trained, elite field execution. The award winning project utilized a number of masonry products including structural CMU, brick, and integrally colored polished CMU. The project team was formally honored at the NCMCA Convention recently held in Wilmington, NC. Manning Masonry Inc., Custom Brick, East West Products, Oldcastle, and Whitecap Construction Materials were all recognized for their contributions to the project. Additionally, a commemorative plaque was presented to architect, JKF Architecture and general contractor, Clancy & Theys.



Brian Farkas and John Farkas with JKF Architecture, and Joe Gedrimas with Manning Masonry.

Edgar Boettcher Mason Contractor, Inc. Wins Second Place in the NCMCA Certified Masonry Project of the Year

The Wayne County Detention Center stands as a powerful reflection of what's possible when thoughtful masonry design meets the precision and craftsmanship of a highly skilled field team. This award-winning project brought together a dynamic blend of materials, including structural CMU, brick, and integrally colored polished CMU, resulting in both strength and visual impact.

The project team was proudly recognized at the NCMCA Convention in Wilmington, NC, celebrating the collaboration and expertise that made this achievement possible. Edger Boettcher Mason Contractor, Oldcastle, Johnson Concrete Products, Triangle Brick, and Whitecap Construction Materials each played a vital role in bringing the vision to life. In addition, a commemorative plaque was presented to the design and construction leaders, including Moseley Architecture and TA Loving Construction, honoring their contributions to this standout project.



Ryan Shaver with NCMCA, Ashley Dennis and Steve Nally with Moseley Architecture, and Jason Oliver with Edger Boettcher Mason Contractor.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Annual membership dues notices have gone out by email. If you did not receive your notice or if you are interested in moving up to a Leadership or Distinguished member, please contact Brandy Shaver at brandy.shaver@ncmca.com.

Leadership members pay double dues. Distinguished members pay double dues and are members of the MCAA. All dues are payable by July 1st.

CERTIFICATION UPDATE & FUTURE CLASSES

If you are interested in signing up for a class, please contact Brandy Shaver at brandy.shaver@ncmca.com. All classes include lunch and dessert and are held at 73 & Main Restaurant in Mt. Pleasant.

Future classes:

Module 7 - June 18: Masonry Special Inspection

Module 8 - July 23: Masonry Estimating & Bidding Workshop

Module 9 - August 19: Management Strategies (CME requirement)

Module 10 - August 20: High Performance Teams (CME requirement)

CURRENT LEADERSHIP & DISTINGUISHED* MEMBER FIRMS

as of 6/15/26

Alera Group

Brodie Contractors*

Carolina Masonry & Concrete*

Carolina Masonry Unlimited, Inc.*

Cherokee Masonry

Custom Brick & Supply Company

Edgar Boettcher Mason Contractor

EZ Grout Corporation*

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NCMCA's Visit to the Governor's Mansion



Many thanks to Governor Josh Stein for inviting ApprenticeshipNC, our apprentices, and employer partners to the signing of Executive Order 36: Increasing Housing Opportunities for All North Carolinians.

During the announcement, Governor Stein recognized the important role skilled trades Registered Apprenticeships play in building a workforce that meets the state's growing housing needs. He also highlighted continued support for workforce initiatives like ApprenticeshipNC in his 2026-2027 budget, noting that the number of construction apprentices in North Carolina nearly doubled from FY 2023-24 to FY 2024-25.

Ryan Shaver, Executive Vice President of the NCMCA, also spoke about the life-changing impact of Registered Apprenticeship Programs: "My apprenticeship got me pointed in the right direction for a career path that I've never left... So, that's why I'm excited to have these apprentices behind me today, because we are pointing them in a direction for the rest of their lives."

North Carolina's sustained commitment to workforce development is helping drive our state's recognition as Site Selection Magazine's #1 State for Business and CNBC's #1 State for Workforce Development. ApprenticeshipNC looks forward to continuing to partner with employers, industry leaders, and state leadership to expand Registered Apprenticeship opportunities and strengthen North Carolina's skilled workforce for the future.



NCMCA Executive Vice President, Ryan Shaver to be inducted to MCAA Masonry Hall of Fame

After a record-breaking 27 nominations, the MCAA is pleased to announce that the selection committee has chosen Ryan Shaver to enter the Masonry Hall of Fame. He will be formally inducted on Wednesday, September 16th, 2026, during the MCAA Midyear Meeting at the JW Marriott Hill Country Resort & Spa in San Antonio, TX.

The Masonry Hall of Fame was created to recognize and award those individuals who have dedicated their lives to the masonry industry. Each year, nominations are accepted to recognize individuals who have been a part of the masonry industry for 25 years or more and have had a major impact on the trade.

All inductees are nominated by their peers and carefully reviewed by the Hall of Fame's previous inductees. Nominees must receive two-thirds of the eligible votes in order to be accepted into the Hall of Fame.

For the first time in the program's history, inductees will sit down for in-depth, on-camera interviews at the MCAA's new MASONRY STRONG Network studio prior to being honored at the closing Hall of Fame Reception and Dinner. The conversations will capture Ryan's career, perspective, and contributions to the trade in his own words, becoming a permanent part of the MASONRY STRONG Network.

Ryan Shaver has spent his career building the systems that bring the next generation into masonry. He is widely regarded as one of the most impactful leaders in masonry education and workforce development in the United States, shaping how young people enter the trade and how associations across the country structure their training programs.

Ryan is the driving force behind SkillsUSA masonry competitions, where his energy, planning, and commitment elevate the experience for every student, instructor, and contractor involved. He treats SkillsUSA not as just a competition but as a gateway into the industry, and he runs it that way year after year.

He has also become the country's go-to leader on apprenticeships. When the MCAA, a state association, or a local chapter needs help launching or improving a program, Ryan is the first to respond, providing curriculum, paperwork, structure, and guidance with a servant's mindset. He coordinated and led the effort to rewrite the NCCER masonry apprenticeship curriculum, reshaping it to be more hands-on, more practical, and more aligned with what the trade actually needs. His work expanding masonry education at the high school level has brought apprenticeship-style training into numerous schools in North Carolina alone.

Ryan's work ethic is as visible at major industry events as it is in policy and curriculum. Months before World of Concrete, he is already planning the apprenticeship competitions, and he personally builds the starter walls for the SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500. Within the industry, Ryan is a household name, respected by contractors, educators, and students alike, and the systems he has built will carry the trade forward for generations.

Article by Dan Kamys, MCAA



The Wall Evaluator AI program took center stage in Charlotte, NC. MCAA continued our ongoing conversations with the Department of Labor, joined this time by workforce officials and the NC Department of Public Instruction, exploring how AI can help assess high school students on hands-on performance rather than traditional testing methods. More to come in the very near future. Thank you Griffin Masonry for hosting us!

Land of the Sky High School Contest

The NCMCA, Land of the Sky Chapter based out of Asheville, NC, held its annual high school masonry contest across Western North Carolina. Congratulations to all the winners and a big thank you to the Land of the Sky Chapter for a great contest!



Masonry 1

- 1st Place - Milichail Fomin Chase HS
- 2nd Place - Savannah Cortor Chase HS
- 3rd Place - Nathan Thomas Chase HS
- 4th Place - Nicolas Scheid West Henderson HS
- 5th Place - Dexter Hodge Chase HS



Masonry 2

- 21st Place - Brian Blowers Chase HS
- 2nd Place - Esteban Guillen Chase HS
- 3rd Place - Slayde McWhirter Chase HS
- 4th Place - Carter Boyd McDowell HS
- 5th Place - Gabriel Sakaki AC Reynolds HS



Caldwell County Trades Competition

On May 8, students from Hibriten High School, South Caldwell High School, and West Caldwell High School competed in the 14th Annual Caldwell Trades Competition. A total of over \$5,000 in cash prizes, tools, and gift cards were awarded to these hardworking students.



Masonry 1 Contest:

- 1st: Miley T - West Caldwell HS
- 2nd: Hunter S - Hibriten HS
- 3rd: Lavaris D - West Caldwell HS



Advanced Level 3 Masonry Contest:

- 1st: Noah D - West Caldwell HS
- 2nd: Jaxson F - West Caldwell HS
- 3rd: Garrett H - Hibriten HS

SkillsUSA North Carolina

The North Carolina SkillsUSA Masonry Contest wrapped up another victorious season. This year we had 114 total masonry students compete at the Greensboro Coliseum on April 16. This included our Masonry Estimating contest, Masonry Bulletin Board contest, Masonry 1 contest, Secondary Masonry contest, and Post-Secondary contest.

In preparation for the State contest, there were multiple regional contest that enabled the students to practice in a contest setting, as well as getting them ready for the State contest. We have extremely talented masonry instructors that teach the skills needed for their students to be successful, not only in a contest, but more importantly in the real world.

This year's contest winner was Levi Greene from West Stanly High School. NCMCA would like to thank everyone who helped make this contest possible, from materials, prizes, judging, banquet serving, and cleaning up! There was a great turnout from across the state to encourage the students and show them what the masonry industry has to offer them. We look forward to next year's SkillsUSA contest April 21-23, 2027, in Greensboro. Please mark your calendars and enjoy the excitement of the masonry industry in our youth programs!



Left to right: Ty Sweat 2nd place from East Rowan HS, Levi Greene 1st place from West Stanly HS and James Whitley 3rd place from West Stanly HS.



Left to right: Ashton Fairchild, Christian Spell, SkillsUSA, Chelle Travis, Executive Director of SkillsUSA, Ryan Shaver, Glen Barefoot, retired SkillsUSA NC Director.



We were happy to have Danielle Mokris, Region 2 Technical Director with the Block Design Collective, with us at the NC SkillsUSA Masonry Contest! The only way for her to learn was to get hands on training with Greg Huntley to show the Beauty of Block!

Top Trowel and Line Burner Contest

Oldcastle hosted its 44th annual Top Trowel and Line Burner Contest in March in partnership with the Eastern and Raleigh chapters of the N.C. Masonry Contractors Association. More than 60 students from 14 high schools across NC competed in both individual and team contests to win cash prizes totaling more than \$7,500. The contest began with Masonry 1 and Masonry 2 students competing as individuals and as a teams based on the number of contestants from each high school. After a lunch break, a select group of students then competed in the Line Burner contest hosted by the Eastern Chapter. The Jr. Blocklayer also made it's Eastern debut with 4 teams competing. Throughout the day each student was busy increasing their exposure to the masonry industry as they visited a host of vendor booths set up to increase the awareness of all the opportunities available in our field. We thank all those who volunteered and sponsored the event.



Masonry 1:

Fred Mason 1st Place Award: Adam Arreola - Pender High
 2nd Place: Elijah Morris - DH Conley
 3rd Place: Fabian Morales - DH Conley
 4th Place: Samuel Howell - Pender High
 5th Place: Collin Esquer - Carson High



Masonry 2:

1st Place: Ty Sweatt - East Rowan
 2nd Place: Ethan Eddings - Carson High
 3rd Place: John Walters - West Rowan
 4th Place: Parker Larhmer - Carson High
 5th Place: George Major - Fuquay Varina



Lineburner Contest:

1st Place: Ethan Eddings - Carson High
 2nd Place: Ty Sweatt - East Rowan



NCMCA Jr. Blocklayer:

1st Place: Kevin Villa Manica, John Walter & Nick Hinson - Rowan County Schools



NCMCA Jr. Blocklayer:

2nd Place: Sean Seaborn, Jayde Syvindki & Avery Miller - Richlands High School



HA Butch Hardy Team Award: Richlands High School

Sam McGee Memorial Contest

NCMCA's best apprentice masons competed in Gold Hill, NC on Saturday, May 16th at the NCMCA's Annual Samuel A. McGee Memorial Apprentice Masonry Skills Contest. Congratulations to our 2026 Samuel A. McGee Memorial Apprentice Contest Winner, Nicholas Sloop from McGee Brothers! He will go on to represent NC at the World of Concrete in January 2026. Congratulations to Grayson McGee (mason) and Colter McGee (tender) on their 1st Place finish in the Fastest Trowel on the Block Contest. Grayson and Colter will also represent NC at the World of Concrete! Congratulations to Donaldo Ventura from Brodie Contractors, Inc. for his 1st place finish in the 1st year apprentice contest. Thank you to all of our sponsors. We could not do this event without your support!



Left to right: Tim Manning, NCMCA President, Mike Rogers, NCMCA President-Elect, Nicholas Sloop from McGee Brothers and Cliff McGee, NCMCA Chairman of the Board.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!!!!

Hosts	\$1,000	
Johnson Concrete Products	Griffin Masonry	Sandhills Chapter
Stalite	\$600	Southeastern Contracting Inc.
Materials	Huntley Brothers Co. Inc.	Tucker Kirby
Johnson Concrete Products	\$500	Vega Construction Co.
Triangle Brick	Amrize	Western Chapter
Amerimix	Brodie Contractors Inc.	White Cap
Meal & Refreshments	Central Piedmont Chapter	\$400
Johnson Concrete Products	Eastern Chapter	Kirby Construction Services
Stalite	EZG Manufacturing	\$350
Financial Sponsors	JB Overman Masonry	Land of the Sky Chapter
\$5,000	Manning Masonry	\$250
McGee Brothers Company	Metrolina Chapter	Carolina Masonry Unlimited
\$2,500	Michael J. Rogers Masonry	Joyner Masonry Works
Gates Construction	Old North State Masonry	Palmetto Brick
\$1,500	PSD Precast	\$200
Carolina Masonry & Concrete	Pyramid Masonry	Whitman Masonry
Oldcastle APG	Raleigh Chapter	\$125
	Roanoke Cement	Lee Brick & Tile



Left to right: Mike Rogers, NCMCA President-Elect, Donaldo Ventura from Brodie Contractors, and Cliff McGee, NCMCA Chairman of the Board.



Left to right: Tim Manning, NCMCA President, Mike Rogers, NCMCA President-Elect, Colter McGee (tender), Grayson McGee (mason) and Cliff McGee, NCMCA Chairman of the Board.

Sam McGee Memorial Contest

A day for family!



SAVE THE DATE



Annual NCMCA State Golf Tournament
Tuesday, September 22
Stoney Creek Golf Club | Whitsett, NC

This year's tournament will feature a new location and a buffet breakfast before a 10am shotgun start.

Sponsorship opportunities will be available soon. Please reach out to Brandy Shaver at brandy.shaver@ncmca.com with any questions.

"Promotion & Outreach in Motion"

by Ashton Fairchild

I have traveled so much since January that I have about 6,000 miles on the van (for reference, I received it at less than 200 miles). I have really enjoyed meeting students, instructors, & NCMCA members along the way. As I travel, I have been promoting our Pre-Apprenticeship program to the schools. Hopefully, you have already seen the list of students interested in working this summer. If you did not receive this list and would like to connect with these individuals, please reach out to me directly and I will be happy to share it.

It is evident that the masonry industry is strong in NC just by seeing the level of skill and dedication displayed at the 2026 NC SkillsUSA State Masonry Contest. Thank you to everyone who came out to support the future of the industry at this contest. Please be on the lookout, or reach out to me, for upcoming events! Thank you for your support and I will see you soon!



Ashton Fairchild, NCMCA Masonry Promotion & Outreach Coordinator, recently visited West Stanly High School to deliver prize money to the school's top finishers in the state masonry contest. Congratulations to James Whitley for earning 3rd Place and Levi Greene for taking home 1st Place! Levi will represent the state of North Carolina at the SkillsUSA National Masonry Contest on June 4th in Atlanta, Georgia! Way to go guys! Pictured left to right: Ashton Fairchild, Levi Greene, James Whitley, and instructor Steven Huneycutt.

Welcome New Members!

Sentinel Risk Advisors

Leon Masonry Corporation

Sunstate Equipment



The Junior Blocklayer Series

The NCMCA has developed a new Junior Blocklayer series through the CMU Checkoff, The Beauty of Block initiative. We have worked with the CMU Checkoff team to trademark, build a new logo, and a whole series of contests under the Junior Blocklayer theme. Last October the NCMCA had a vision to highlight CMU in a team event for the high school students that attended Masonry Education Day at Ben Ketchie Park. We had eleven teams of three from eleven different high schools compete in the Junior Blocklayer team event. This new Junior Blocklayer team contest was very well received and the winning team from Columbus Carrer and College Academy laid 36 total CMU in under 14 minutes with the least amount of deductions to win the 2nd Annual Junior Blocklayer Team Contest. We look forward to expanding the offering of the Junior Blocklayer series at the 2026 Masonry Education Day on October 8 at Ben Ketchie Park, as well at any other masonry events statewide.



CHAPTER NEWS

Land of the Sky Chapter

The Land of The Sky chapter is actively working on organizing a planning committee to organize events and speakers more efficiently and more beneficial to the group. We have several good presentations and events lined up for the remainder of the year that can be found on the NCMCA schedule. This includes an upcoming event to an Asheville Tourist baseball game. We also have presentations lined up from NCOSH and Stabila. I am working on scheduling Builders Mutual to present sometime near the end of the year. The planning committee (once fully established) will work on an event for the fall. More details to come on that as they develop. At our May meeting we heard from Louis Williams and Sons. They presented Makita and Diablo tools geared towards the industry. We ended the meeting by raffling off a "Patriotic" Special Edition Yeti. Ronnie Ewart was the winner of the raffle, pictured alongside Don Caldwell.



Western Carolina Chapter

The Western chapter continues to meet bimonthly at Dos Amigos restaurant on Highway 70 in Hickory NC at 6:00. Our next meeting will be August 11th. Our attendance is steady with an average of 6-10 showing up. We helped with the Caldwell County Masonry contest again this year with financial support and manpower the day of the contest. It was well attended with several local general contractors and county commissioners in attendance. All three high schools in the county participated. We also helped with the Land of the Sky's contest again this year. The Western Chapter also provided financial support for the Sam McGee contest and judge. We have no projects planned for this year.

Central Piedmont Chapter

The next Central Piedmont meeting will be at Bleu Restaurant located at 3425 Frontis Street, Winston-Salem on Monday August 10th. We'll meet at 5:30 and we're still working on getting a speaker, any suggestions would be appreciated. Our golf tournament will be Thursday, June 11th at Stoney Creek Golf Club. We look forward to seeing you there!

NCMCA Raleigh Chapter

The Raleigh Chapter had a social event on Monday May the 4th be with you at Cantina 18 in Raleigh.

Murdell 2026 Continued..... per Doug Burton - We got rained out of our Sunday, Murdell 26 tournament and needed to identify a champion. We scheduled a local tourney in lieu and that got rained out as well. We don't have a rain plan for the rain out so all will have to wait until Murdell 27 which is set for January 15-17. That is only 220 days from now, so start planning. Golf courses and new hotel are on the horizon so get us on your calendar.

Our next Chapter meeting will be held on Monday August the 3rd at Cantina 18 in Raleigh. Program details will be forthcoming.

Thank you to all our associate members for your continued support!

CHAPTER NEWS

Metrolina Chapter

The Metrolina Chapter has had an eventful first half of 2026.

At our last meeting, we were fortunate to have Mr. Todd Jones as our presenter. Todd shared valuable insights on the potential impacts that Artificial Intelligence (AI) may have on various aspects of contract law. His presentation was both informative and thought-provoking, generating excellent discussion among attendees.

During the meeting, we also announced that Greg Huntley would be stepping down as Vice President of the chapter. Greg's contributions and service to the chapter have been greatly appreciated. Following his nomination as Greg's successor, Mike Prince was presented to the membership for consideration. The chapter voted unanimously to elect Mike as the new Vice President of the Metrolina Chapter.

Upcoming Event: Metrolina Topgolf Tournament

Our next event will be the Metrolina Topgolf Tournament on July 24, 2026. We would love to see participation from all chapters if possible.

Location:

Topgolf

8024 Savoy Corporate Drive

Charlotte, NC 28273

Check-In: 10:00 AM

Event Time: 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Please RSVP as soon as possible to:

mike@carolinamasonry.com

michael.teague@oldcastle.com

Upcoming Chapter Meeting

Our next chapter meeting is tentatively scheduled for late August. The planned discussion topic will focus on Procore and Textura, including the potential ways these platforms may collect, utilize, or share company information and data. We anticipate a valuable discussion regarding data ownership, privacy concerns, and best practices for contractors using these systems.

Congratulations to all the contestants who showcased their talents in the Sam A. McGee Memorial Apprenticeship contest. Congratulations to the Contest Winner, Nicholas Sloop from McGee Brothers! Mike Prince from McGee Brothers states, "I am extremely proud of Nicholas for bringing the traveling apprentice award back to McGee Brothers after an incredibly long drought. Nicholas works for Kyle Sechler and is a young man with a very bright future. As happy as I am he brought back the award to us, it reminds me how many awesome Masonry contractors we have in the North Carolina market. The competition gets tougher every year." The Metrolina Chapter is proud to have him represent NC at the World of Concrete in January 2027.

We look forward to seeing everyone at Topgolf and appreciate your continued involvement and support of the Metrolina Chapter.

Eastern Chapter

The Eastern chapter of the NCMCA recently attended the ECU and NC State baseball game. We also invited the construction management students at ECU to join us. We had 38 people in attendance and made some great connections with students and prospective employees. At least 3 students have landed summer intern opportunities from that outing.





METROLINA CHAPTER **TOPGOLF**

★ SOCIAL ★

FRIDAY, JULY 24

8024 SAVOY CORPORATE DRIVE
CHARLOTTE, NC 28273

10:30AM-2PM

CHECK-IN 10:00-10:25AM

- **FOUR PERSON TEAMS**
- **\$150 PER PERSON OR \$600 PER TEAM**
- **FIFTEEN AVAILABLE TEAMS**
- **BUFFET STYLE MEAL, TWO DRINK TICKETS,
AND SODAS/TEA INCLUDED**
- **ACCESS TO SIGNATURE ROOM**
- **SPONSORSHIPS \$650 EACH**
- **SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE: 3 DRINK, 3
FOOD, 1 LONGEST DRIVE, 2 CLOSEST TO THE
PIN**

MORE INFORMATION:

MIKE@CAROLINAMASONRY.COM

MICHAEL.TEAGUE@OLDCASTLE.COM



NCMCA "Program Highlight"

The NCMCA has been highlighting masonry programs across the state in each newsletter. We are excited to showcase Mr. Nathan Robinson and his program at Alexander Central High School in Taylorsville, NC.

The Masonry program at Alexander Central High School is a cornerstone of the school's vocational education, enrolling nearly 100 students annually across Masonry 1, 2, and 3. The program provides students with a rigorous, hands-on shop environment where they master the fundamental techniques of laying brick and block, pouring concrete, and applying cultured stone. Beyond the classroom, the program serves as a vital community partner, engaging in high-impact service projects that include building foundations for Habitat for Humanity and maintaining infrastructure within the local school system. From constructing custom brick signage for the Volunteer Fire Department to installing walkways for county tennis courts and repairing middle school stadiums, ACHS Masonry students don't just learn a trade— they build the lasting physical and civic infrastructure of Alexander County.

By: Nathan Robinson



In Loving Memory

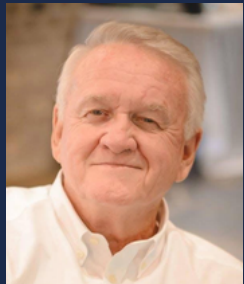


Marcus "Mark" Ray Kirby of Granite Falls passed away surrounded by his loving family on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at Frye Regional Medical Center.

Born September 1, 1946, in Caldwell County, he was the son of the late William Frank Kirby and Bertha Bumgarner Kirby. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother Gerald Franklin Kirby; and uncle Clark Kirby.

Mark was a loving husband, father and Paw Paw. Taking care of others, especially his family, was what he loved most. He served as a deacon for many years and was a long time member of First Baptist Church in Granite Falls. He was a craftsman by trade like his father. Being a General Contractor for 56 years, he built homes and businesses, leaving his mark all across town and the surrounding counties. He also built and ran with his loving wife the Kirby's Kountry Kitchen for over 12 years.

When he wasn't building or cooking, you could find him on the golf course where he made many lifelong friendships. He is survived by his wife of 60 years Glenda K. Kirby of the home; daughters Sherri Kirby Edwards and Gina Kirby Fox both of Granite Falls; brothers Ted Kirby and wife Gail of Granite Falls, Larry Kirby wife Deanie of Conover; sister Linda Kirby Story and husband Gary of Granite Falls; three grandchildren Bryson Kirby Edwards, Ashton Thomas Fox, and Logan Marcus Fox; numerous nieces and nephews; sister-in-law Luda Richards and husband Darrell of Granite Falls.



Cletus "Clete" Huntley passed away Sunday, April 19, 2026. Clete was one of the owners of McGee Brothers Company. He worked there from November 1, 1983, until his retirement in 2009. Clete is survived by his wife Lib Huntley and his ten children: Keitha, Buffy, Trisha, Suzanne, Megan, Ed, Kent, Greg, Tim, and Chet. Clete will be deeply missed in the company family and the community. Please keep the Huntley family in your thoughts and prayers during this time.

Michael Berry Bundy, 71, of Williamston, died peacefully at his home surrounded by his loved ones on Monday, May 18th, 2026.

Mike was born on October 25th, 1954, in Elizabeth City, NC, to Haywood Garland Bundy and Fanelia "Boots" Sawyer Bundy who preceded him in death. He later moved to Williamston and met the love of his life. On January 30th, 1974, he married Rebecca Goff Bundy. He was a devoted brother, father, and husband, but perhaps his best role was "Pop" for his adoring grandchildren.

Mike graduated from Williamston High School. He enjoyed a celebrated athletic career while excelling in football, baseball, and track and field. He also attended East Carolina University. After a few years in the restaurant industry, he ventured into a career in sales. Throughout Mike's career he was focused on providing excellent customer service and he looked forward to bringing that quality to The Bundy Realty Group, working aside his son Brooks Bundy. Mike worked diligently in real estate until his recent sickness.



He was a lifelong member of First Christian Church in Williamston, where he served as a Deacon and later an Elder. In addition, he was moderator of the church board, CMF President, and Property Chair. The Christian love and service he exemplified was an example for his family and community of faith.

Mike took great pride in coaching youth sports and serving as a volunteer on many levels. He served as the President of the Williamston High School Sports Club. He also coached numerous sports with Williamston Parks and Recreation, including both flag and tackle football, soccer, and softball. Mike also made an impression on numerous youth through Williamston Youth Baseball where he coached Farm League, Little League, Pony League, and served as Vice President. He was a proud organizing and charter member of the Tarheel League District 6 Board of Directors.

He is survived by his wife Becky Goff Bundy of Williamston; children: Dawn Bundy Manning and husband Tim of Greenville; Michael Brooks Bundy and wife Jessica of Greenville; father in law: James Warren Goff; sister-in-law: Luanne Griffin and husband Georgie, brothers: Lyle W. Paradise of South Carolina; Haywood G. Bundy Jr. of Florida; grandchildren: Hutch and McKinley Manning, Asher and Finley Bundy, and Aliza, Anaston, and Jesslyn Sandy; nephew: Gus Griffin of Williamston; niece: Rebecca Griffin Wright and husband Zach of Raleigh.

Dates to Remember

Remember to check the calendar on the NCMCA website for the latest dates, times, and locations for all events!

June 17, 2026 - Module 7 Certification Series 13

July 1, 2026 - All Membership Fees Due

July 16, 2026 - Masonry Instructor Summer Conference, Greensboro, NC

July 24, 2026 - Metrolina Chapter Topgolf Social

July 22, 2026 - Module 8 Certification Series 13

September 13-17, 2026 - MCAA Mid-Year Convention,
San Antonio, TX

September 22, 2026 - State Golf Tournament,
Stoney Creek Golf Club, Whitsett, NC

October 8, 2026 - NCMCA Masonry Education Day and
SPECMIX Bricklayer 500 Qualifier
Ben Ketchie Park, Gold Hill, NC

October 19, 2026 - 72nd Annual Apprentice State Fair Contest, Raleigh, NC

October 29, 2026 - Annual In-Person Board Meeting, Triangle Brick, Durham, NC

December 9, 2026 - Module 1 Certification Series 14

January 15-17, 2027 - Raleigh Chapter Murdell Golf Trip

January 19-21, 2027 - World of Concrete, Las Vegas, NV