

North Carolina Masonry News

The Newsletter of The North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association

March 2022

Vol. 48 No. 1

This Issue Sponsored by



See Page Three



Featured Convention Presenters Adams, an Oldcastle company sponsors the First General Session on Friday morning at the March convention featuring National Technical Honor Society Executive Director and “TED Talk” presenter Peyton Holland (left,) and Christine “Tina” Subasic of Raleigh, President of The Masonry Society in Colorado.

Convention In Greenville, SC

The 2022 North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association Annual Convention is just a few weeks away! Take a few moments to complete and return your convention registration forms to ensure that you and your guests don't miss the fellowship and fun this spring as NCMCA visits beautiful downtown Greenville, South Carolina and the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Dates: **Thursday March 24 to Sunday March 27, 2022**

- Make your room reservations direct with The Hyatt Regency at the Hyatt central reservation line number: (800) 233-1234 group name “North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association” or simply “G-NCM2.” Hotel reservations and deposits are handled directly with Hyatt and must be made before Wednesday, **March 2, 2022** to ensure that you receive our special NCMCA convention room rates, subject to room block availability.

- Fill out and return the NCMCA convention form to the NCMCA office. (Note: “ala carte” registration is not available.) VISA and MasterCard payments are accepted and members in good standing may request to be invoiced.

Golfers should complete the separate golf registration form and include it with their NCMCA convention registration along with golf fees included in the total registration fee. Two days of golf at The Preserve at Verdae: Friday and the EZG Manufacturing Convention Golf Tournament Saturday.

Greenville is the headquarters for New South Construction Supply who will be hosting a special “Welcome to Greenville” reception as the 2022 Convention gets underway Thursday evening before everyone heads out for dinner in beautiful Downtown Greenville.

Friday morning, Adams, an Oldcastle company
See “Convention” continued on Page #11

In this Issue:

- A Message from the President
Page 2
- MCAA Leadership Includes NC
Page 2
- Sponsor's Page
Page 3
- WDTC Report
Page 4
- McGee Contest at Colfax in May
Page 4
- Board Meeting Report
Page 5
- Slate of Officers Announced
Page 8
- Welcome New Members
Page 8
- Dates to Note
Page 9
- March Certification Class
Page 9
- CMU Check-Off: What's Next?
Page 10
- Member News
Page 10
- Thanks Convention Sponsors!
Page 11
- NC at Masonry Madness Day
Page 12





Kent Huntley, CME, Chairman
Huntley Brothers Company, Monroe, NC

Danks Burton, CME, President
Pinnacle Masonry, Cary, NC

James "Bo" Black, CME, President-Elect
Carolina Masonry Unlimited, Willow Spring, NC

Clifton H. McGee, CME, Sec/Treas
McGee Brothers Company, Greensboro, NC

Doug Burton, CME, Eastern Vice Pres.
Whitman Masonry, Raleigh, NC

Brandon Hartsell, CMP, Central V Pres.
Gates Construction Company, Mooresville NC

Don Caldwell, Western Vice Pres.
C & R Masonry, Candler, NC

John Cramer AAI, Insurance Consultant
TriSure Corporation, Raleigh, NC

Pete Schantz RHU, Insurance Consultant
Mountcastle Insurance, Winston-Salem, NC

Lynn Nash, Executive Vice President
Hickory, NC

Ryan Shaver, NCMCA WDTC
Mount Pleasant, NC

Message From the President

Dear NCMCA Members,
This will be the last time you read "Message from the President" written by me.

When Lynn Nash sent me a request to write this "Message" he informed me it will be my last, and I was relieved. Not that I don't love NCMCA and masonry, and I like a helluva lot of you folks that read this, it's that I don't get excited about writing. It takes critical thinking and creativity; you want to be smart and entertaining; and hope you don't offend anyone with the remarks. You're "Under Pressure" to perform. As we use to say in engineering school when our writing skills were questioned, "I am an engineer". Give me a masonry job or golf club and I'm in a more comfortable environment.



Danks Burton

Seriously, thank you for the opportunity to serve

as President of this association. My hope is that I have served you well.

A few people to thank: Lynn Nash - he's the one that does all of the heavy lifting running this association, making things easy for the officers, and setting us up to succeed; Ryan Shaver - keep up the great work and your enthusiasm for workforce development and training; Kent Huntley, Bo Black, and Cliff McGee- it's been a pleasure serving with each of you and thank you for your service to the association.

There are many others that always make themselves and/or their companies available to lend a hand or ear so that everything we do is first class. Thanks!

Please plan to join us for the annual convention in Downtown Greenville, South Carolina March 24-27. There will be some education, information, networking, golf and socializing - an all around good time. We will welcome in our new officers: President Bo Black (also the new author of "Message from the President"), Cliff McGee as President-Elect, and Secretary-Treasurer TBD.

Farewell my masonry friends.

Danks Burton CME
President 2020-2022



NC Represented in MCAA Leadership At the Mason Contractors Association of America (MCAA) Las Vegas meetings in January, NCMCA Chairman and Past President Kent Huntley moved from the office of MCAA "Secretary" to the position of treasurer as he advances to the MCAA chairman's position in four years. Each MCAA office is a two-year term. Pictured *left to right*, MCAA officers Kent Huntley, Treasurer; Jeff Buczkiewicz, President; Paul Oldham, immediate past-chairman; Dick Dentinger, Vice Chairman; Larry Vacala, Chairman; and Paul Cantarella, Secretary. Past NCMCA President Gary Joyner continues to serve as MCAA Region B Vice President. Huntley will be only the second NCMCA member to reach the top position of MCAA leadership. Past NCMCA President Alan Griffin (1981-83) served as President of MCAA for the 2004-2006 term. *Photo courtesy of MCAA*

North Carolina Masonry News

March 2022

The Quarterly Newsletter of
The North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association

109 11th Avenue NW
Post Office Box 3463
Hickory, NC 28603-3463
Telephone (828) 324-1564
www.ncmca.com
Information@ncmca.com

Andy-the-Cat Productions

MARCH MADNESS SPECIAL!

D2W WORKHORSE MIXER \$5,950

NCMCA members ONLY! Starts March 1st ends March 31st at Noon!

The **SPEC MIX® D2W WORKHORSE** lets you mix mortar & coarse grout indoors, outdoors, floor to floor or on scaffolding. Plug into 120V power, hook up a hose and start mixing! There's no dust, no waste or job site limitations on how this continuous mixing system will maximize your profitability!

BUILT TO MIX WHERE YOU WORK!

LARGE HOPPER & BAG BREAKER

- Ideal for large residential & commercial interior projects
- Output: Over 1 cu.yd./hour
- Mixes materials with 3/8 in. or smaller aggregate

OPTIONAL DUST COVER

- Dust-Free mixing
- Connects to standard 6 gallon/6hp shop-vac

COMPACT & PORTABLE

- Weighs only 225 lbs /95 kg
- Mixer & frame transport in pickup bed

SIMPLE SET UP & OPERATION

- Plug into 120V power
- Adjustable water for product consistency
- 2-minute auto cleanout
- Quick & easy to move on site
- Low maintenance



**Call Your SPEC MIX Representatives
Direct to Purchase Your Workhorse.**

SPEC MIX - NORTH CAROLINA
Steve Bell - 704-294-5231 or Marty Schiraldi - 919-592-8993

SPEC MIX®

From the WDTC:

Partnerships!

By Ryan Shaver

The NCMCA has many great partners across the state that work daily to progress our industry and meet the needs that our members have!

Recently I have been working with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) on updating the masonry curriculum that is being taught in all of our high school programs statewide.

The current curriculum was adopted in 2009 and has not seen major changes since then. The NCMCA has worked over the last year with NCDPI and the current curriculum. Our hope is to pilot a program this fall in multiple schools across the state to formulate the data of the updates and how it will help students when they enter the field of masonry.

It is very important to the masonry industry to have future employees come to us day one with skills that will make them more at ease when starting a new career. Skill set is very important in our trade and should be viewed on the same level as a written test! Allowing our masonry instructors to focus on various skills being taught that matches what the student will need in the field is vital to all parties involved!



Ryan Shaver

My goal is to have credentials that our masonry contractors will recognize because of the skills that the credentials identify that the student has learned. If the industry makes every attempt possible to work with our educational partners, the result will be phenomenal!

NCDPI has made the commitment to partner and work with the masonry industry and now it is our opportunity to show how much we support that partnership by contributing our time to this new initiative that will benefit us with the next generation of truly gifted and skilled young people!

NCDPI has also worked with a team that includes two masonry instructors, Mount Pleasant High School's Cody Alward and Fred Mason of Columbus College & Career Academy, to build a new program that introduces eighth grade students to masonry and get them excited about signing up for the course in high school.

This new program will be six weeks (30-35 hours) and will give the students a great introduction to our trade and allow them to hear from us about the opportunities that are waiting for them in our trade! They will learn trade terms, brick and block positions as well as the different sizes of material and where they are used. The students will learn the tools used in the trade and will end the course being able to use the trowel and get their hands on what will hook them for the high school class!

I would like to personally thank NCDPI, Trey Michael, Director of Career & Technical Education,

Angela Lemay, Assistant Director for Curriculum, Credentials, and Support Services, and Nolan Fahrer, Trade, Technology, Engineering, and Industrial Consultant. Without these great folks working on our behalf with all the new initiatives, none of this would have ever happened!

Stay tuned for the next steps and please be ready to jump on board and help progress all the new opportunities that these new programs will have!

Please call me if you need anything and I look forward to seeing everyone at the Convention!

Ryan Shaver is NCMCA Workforce Development & Training Coordinator. Reach him at ryan.shaver@ncmca.com or (704) 791-5240

McGee Memorial Contest in May

The Annual NCMCA Samuel A. McGee Memorial Masonry Apprentice Skills Contest heads to Colfax Saturday May 21, 2022 hosted by Adams, an Oldcastle company at their manufacturing plant.

Contest Chairman Ciff McGee and WDTC Ryan Shaver are encouraging NCMCA contractor member firms to enter their apprentices for a chance at prizes and prestige by participating in one of the toughest apprenticeship contests in the nation!

Adams/Oldcastle, and the Triad and Central Piedmont Chapters host the 2022 event and invite everyone out for a day of food, fellowship and friendly competition.

Contestants will compete for cash and tool prizes and the "David R. Sigmon" award for top score.

Last May at McGee Brothers Company in Midland, Helms Masonry took the top prize as apprentice Grant Helms finished first with a rare perfect score, winning \$1,000, the David R. Sigmon Award and a wheelbarrow full of tools.

The McGee contest champion earns the right to represent North Carolina in the Annual MCAA Las Vegas International Apprentice Skills Contest at the World of Concrete. Grant Helms went on to win the Las Vegas Third Year Division contest in June of 2021.

Members will be solicited for contributions and as volunteers.

Ryan Shaver says, "Like we introduced at last year's contest, we will have a First Year Apprentice group, so that you can get the apprentice's feet wet in a contest and give them experience before they compete in the Sam McGee Memorial. If you have a young apprentice that has just picked up a trowel and would like to compete, this is who will be in this level of competition! Please be ready to answer your phone when I call asking for help to make this great event possible!"

Everyone who competes wins cash and tool prizes.

For more information, contact NCMCA Workforce Development & Training Coordinator Ryan Shaver at ryan.shaver@ncmca.com or (704) 751-5240



Creating an Eighth Grade Introduction to Masonry A NC Department of Public Instruction committee is working to develop a program to introduce the state's eighth graders to masonry and encourage the students to consider taking masonry in high school. Left to right, Fred Mason, Columbus College & Career Academy; Coleen Young, Interpersonal Development Coordinator at Corriher-Lipe Middle School; NCMCA's Ryan Shaver; Cody Alward, Mount Pleasant High School; and Nolan Fahrer, Trade, Technology, Engineering, and Industrial Consultant. Photo by NCDPI

January Board Meeting Review

The Board of Directors January 5, 2022 via "Zoom" virtual conference. The following is a summary.

At the end of 2021, assets were \$846,038.90. Liabilities were \$88,400.59, which includes deferred income from dues. NCMCA held \$127,881.93 in the consolidated local chapter checking account. \$553,751.85 is invested with Morgan Stanley. Value as of 12/31/21: \$794,681.28 including accrued interest for an unrealized gain as of 12/31/21: \$240,929.43. Annual operating expense for 2021: \$286,547.29. President Danks noted that the investment account earned 17.5% in 2021 and complemented the investment committee on their good work.

At the end of 2021, \$145,775.75 had been received for the workforce development fund in 2021. Total received since spring 2018: \$471,425.75. The total includes two \$20,000 grants and a \$35,000 grant from the MCAA Masonry Foundation.

Pete Schantz provided a report on the Association's health and benefits program:

"And Just like that, we are into 2022. It seems 2020 took forever and 2021 flew by. Like every other aspect of our lives, COVID continues to dominate the benefits world.

"COVID UPDATES - nothing has changed since my last report in how testing or vaccines are covered:

- Waiving Cost-Sharing for COVID-19 Testing: Carriers will continue waiving member cost-sharing (copays, deductibles and coinsurance) for COVID-19-related screening visits and testing until the public health emergency is over.

- COVID-19 vaccines will continue to be provided free of charge to all people living in the US regardless of their immigration or health insurance status.

"However, with the Omicron variant running wild, most testing sites have a 2-3 day wait before appointments are available.

"Just like my last report, our compliance partners at eBen Employee Benefits will be hosting a webinar for our clients and important prospects about the status of the three pending federal COVID-19 related mandates:

- OSHA COVID-19 vaccine or testing requirements
- CMS Vaccine Mandate for Medical Facilities
- Federal Contractor/Subcontractor Vaccine Mandate

"Group/Individual Segments: This time of year, we see a fair amount of Rx formulary changes. Be on the lookout for notices from your insurers that your particular Rx is either changing in tier/price or may no longer be covered and replaced by a similar drug.

"Rx Deductibles are also starting to become more prevalent with both group and individual medical plans. These deductibles are separate from the medical deductibles but do count toward annual out-of-pocket maximums.

"ACA Major Medical plan out of pocket maximums

for 2022 have increased to \$8,700 self only coverage and \$17,400 for family coverage.

"Flexible Spending Account (FSA) contribution limit for 2022 is \$2,850

"Health Savings Account (HSA) contribution limits for 2022 is \$3,650 individual / \$7,300 Family with a \$1,000 catch up contribution for ages 55+.

"Now more than ever, alternative funding strategies – HSA, FSA, HRA, Self-funding, etc - are sensible to explore when performing your annual health insurance renewals.

"The Individual Marketplace will remain open to enroll for coverage for 2022 until January 15, for coverage going into effect February 1.

"Mountcastle continues to manage several groups, individual, Medicare supplemental, life, dental, vision and disability policies for NCMCA members. We greatly appreciate our partnership and look forward to seeing everyone soon. We are here to help! Please contact us for assistance with any and all employee benefits issues.

TriSure's John Cramer reported on the Association liability and workers' compensation program:

"The 3rd and 4th quarter of 2021 showed no signs of weakening in our construction segment. If anything, the delay in materials and pricing at historic highs, resulted in some project delays. Hopefully this will result in a release of pent up demand in 2022. Across all trades, our construction practice continues to expand.

"We recently released our Property and Casualty outlook for 2022 and it is available off our web site if anyone is interested, but for insurance, here are the basic highlights.

"Workers Comp – will remain competitive and reasonably flat in 2022

"General Liability – market trend will be up 5-10%

"Commercial Auto – market trend will be up 5-10%

"Commercial Property – very volatile. High risk exposures will be up as much as 25%, most will be single digit

"Inland Marine – will remain competitive and flat

"Umbrellas – Large layers, (above \$10M) are increasing as much as 50%. I expect most masonry accounts to remain fairly flat.

"2021 was a record year with over 22 separate Billion Dollar plus weather related losses. We hope 2022 settles down.

"Notes to everyone: I continue to stress the importance of proper written agreements with Subcontractors.

"Experience Mods continue to fluctuate wildly. Early return to work programs and light duty are critical for you to support.

"OCIPS/CCIPS and Sub-guard programs will continue to be in the market with large national

GC's. YOU MUST ENROLL ALL YOUR SUBS.

"COVID restrictions will continue and subject to Federal mandated changes.

"On a positive note, the Masonry Program is strong and we hope to grow it substantially in 2022. We feel our expertise and our markets can protect our existing clients from the wild fluctuations in the insurance market and allow us to attract and retain new masonry client.

"Thank you for your continued support and participation. Please never hesitate to call on us for assistance. "

Workforce Development & Training Coordinator Ryan Shaver provided an extensive report.

"This past Fall was the busiest we have had in a long while! We were able to get things back to some normality and pull off multiple events Statewide with everyone coming together in an unbelievable way! I have highlighted some of the great events from this past Fall and also some of our initiatives for the upcoming year.

"Eastern Chapter Instructor Night- The eastern chapter held an event in September that highlighted and recognized many of the eastern masonry instructors! This was a great event and we had a great time showcasing new things and equipment for their training as well as many manufacturers on hand to support the instructors in their needs for materials. With more than 50 people on hand, it was a great night and thanks to all that made this happen!

"East Tennessee Masonry Education Day- Tennessee has been watching how effective our Masonry Ed Day has been and got theirs off the ground this year! I was able to help with the event and had two schools from NC in attendance. The two schools are on the TN/NC line and have trouble traveling to events in NC because of distance, so this event got their students involved and they got the opportunity to compete in the Jr. Bricklayer where the team from Madison County HS won and their instructor Bryan Sams was super excited for his students to have the opportunity to showcase the skills that he has taught them!

"Subject Matter Experts- I was able to gather a team of SME's and meet in Memphis at the MCAA mid year meeting in September. One of my goals has been to get the NCCER masonry curriculum updated so that the Masonry Contractors will recognize the Credentials given. In order for that to happen we are making the hands-on skills taught as important as the written test that is given. This will help the instructors and allow them to focus on the craftsmanship of masonry as this is what is needed most in the field daily in our industry! We had a great meeting and NC will pilot the new changes at select masonry programs in the State for the 22-23 school year. Stay tuned because the Masonry Contractors will be needed to help with this pilot and it will better connect programs with contractors Statewide!!

"State Fair Apprentice Contest- The annual state fair apprentice contest was another great success!

We had 40 apprentices compete from 11 companies statewide! Our industry does an exceptional job of coming together with boots on the ground and making this contest the longest standing masonry contest in the country! The set up the evening before, material donations, prize donations, monetary gifts, hands on help, and judging are just some of the things that make this contest so extraordinary!! No other apprentice contest held at the State Fair even comes close to what the Masonry Contest is and that is because of you the masonry industry!

“Masonry Education Day- The 5th annual Masonry Education Day was great again this year! We had 17 High Schools represented along with a Middle School program that was started this year to introduce students to construction trades before they get to High School. We had almost 400 Masonry students present and 12 Jr. Bricklayer teams compete. The Jr. Bricklayer that was started in NC has taken off across the country! Our vendors that set up for the tutorials, the mentors, Masonry Contractors, and all the Stalite team were just some of the boots on the ground folks that make this day possible! We look forward to many more engaging, exciting, and encouraging days like this for our students to see the opportunity in the masonry industry!!

“OSHA Program- I was able to meet with some folks at NC OSHA on a few initiatives that will strengthen our industry in the next 10 years. I will make a formal presentation at the board meeting and talk about how we can better prepare students and apprentices for the jobsite.

“SCMA Masonry Framed Homes- The SCMA has been working on a program that will put emphasis on masonry framed homes. I have been working with them and traveled to Florida where we met with the three Florida Associations. Florida has been working on this for many years and offered their assistance to NC for getting this off the ground. Florida has also recognized the Workforce initiatives that NC has been doing for four years and had many questions along with hiring a new man to start these programs. A great trip that has and will benefit the NCMCA!

“Metrolina Recognition Night- The Metrolina Chapter held its annual recognition night and had

multiple winners from the Apprentice Contest this year on hand to be recognized for their efforts. Congressman Richard Hudson was on hand to help and the venue was a beautiful farm in eastern Cabarrus County called Farmstead. A low country boil was served and all folks on hand were treated with some very good homemade desserts! A great night that highlighted the youth and excited them to move up in our Industry!

“Career Fairs and Class Visits- I have had a full

- Apprentice Training
- NCMCA Apprentice Contest

“When March 1st rolls around that will make four years of the “leap of faith” that was made for Workforce Development and Training! I’m honored to work with you and for you and I look forward to many more years of growth in our industry! As always, if you need anything, call me! Chances are that I’ll call you, so thank you again for answering your phone!”



Murdell Golf 2022 The team of, left to right, Thomas Johnson, Josh Martinez, Doug Burton, and Chris Mitchell are the Champions of the Raleigh Chapter’s Annual January Grand Strand “Murdell” Golf Tournament. For only the second time in Murdell Tournament history, there was a hole-in-one. Lee Amick took home the \$1,905 pot that has been building since 2014. Forty-eight golfers participated. 2022 represents the thirty-third year the Raleigh Chapter has conducted their golf tournament and the twenty-second year for the multi-day Grand Strand “Murdell” event. Raleigh’s golf tournaments have raised in excess of \$103,000, all dedicated to the promotion and betterment of masonry and the masonry industry. *Photo by Danks Burton*

calendar this Fall with multiple career fairs and class visits in counties across the state (Carteret, Wake, Mecklenburg, Stanly, Harnett, Cumberland, Yancey, Columbus, Onslow, Rowan, Lenoir, Wayne, Davie, Pitt, Polk, Henderson, Cleveland, Montgomery, Randolph, Davidson, and Forsyth Counties). We have been able to grow programs across the state and need instructors presently at five schools!

“These are just some highlights of the great things the NCMA is doing across the State and without you none of these would be possible! I have listed a few things below that are upcoming events and initiatives in the spring:

- Multiple Regional Masonry Contest in preparation for the State Skills Contest
- NC SkillsUSA State Masonry Contest
- Training Trailer Events!!
- NCCER/ NCDPI curriculum pilot adopted
- OSHA Alliance (Pending)
- Instructor Recruitment Program

- 7 suspended firms
- 7 expired firms

Lynn Nash and Kent Huntley reported on the NCMCA Sigmon Masonry Design Competition Scholarships at NC State and at Appalachian State that took place in the fall. The competition was held “in-person” at NC State with Doug Burton and retired NC State Professor Patrick Rand as judges, and with a virtual hybrid session at Appalachian with Kent and Chad Davis of Griffin Masonry serving as NCMCA judges. Nash commented that now that the program is some twenty-years old, we are beginning to see former program participants working in the design community.

Safety Committee Chairman John Cramer reported, “Big issue is whether the appeals on Federally mandated vaccination requirements for Employers with over 100 Employees will stand and if all states will cooperate.

“Regardless, we still encourage all our clients

NCMCA partnered with the Rocky Mountain Masonry Institute (RMMI) to do NCMCA’s first virtual certification class at the end of November. Because of distance, RMMI of necessity does all its certification classes online but this was an experiment for NCMCA and it went well. The Module Six “Blueprint Reading and Basic Jobsite Estimating” class was instructed remotely by Joe Canitano.

December Certification Statistics:

- 707 individuals, 107 firms participating (past and present)
- 97 Certified Masonry Professional (CMP)
- 72 “Suspended” CMP
- 66 “Expired” CMP
- 32 Certified Masonry Executive (CME)
- 33 “Suspended” CME
- 25 “Expired” CME
- 17 Company Certifications (in good standing)

to practice social distancing and wear masks when appropriate.

“If we asked all our clients to do certain safety issues in 2022, the list would include the following:

- Develop and implement an Early Return/Light Duty programs. Experience Mods are way too volatile.

- Written sub contract agreements on every job or blanket basis with proper risk transfer. (Additional Insured Status, Waiver of Subrogation and Primary/Non-Contributory wording as a minimum. KEEP CURRENT CERTIFICATES THAT HAVE RISK TRANSFER WORDING

- No texting and hands-free driving policies that are enforced.

- Maintain and enforce all Competent Person Training. Train on Silica, Scaffold/Fall Protection and Powered Lift Truck.

- Teach all Foremen and Supervisors the importance of daily documenting all safety inspections, scaffold sign offs, job delays, issues with GC's and other trades, discussions and deviations from plan design, etc.

- Maintain your written safety program and never pass a violation without addressing it.

- Use extreme care in enrolling all your subs in OCIP/CCIP programs when required.

“If you have a safety concern or question, never hesitate to call us for assistance. “

Ryan Shaver presented a proposal for NCMCA to partner in an alliance with NC OSHA Consultative Services. He provided details of the alliance agreement. In addition to providing programs for chapter meetings and opportunities for collaboration with OSHA in developing standards, the program could be a component in masonry students earning OSHA 10 and 30 hour certification, a valuable credential for future employment with masonry contractors.

Nominations Committee Chairman Kent Huntley reported a slate of officers for the 2022-2024 term will be presented at the convention annual business meeting in March. As is the custom, offices will each “move up” or “out” as is the case with Kent Huntley rotating off the executive committee as Chairman after eight years as an officer. Kent announced that Tim Manning of Manning Masonry has agreed to accept the nomination for secretary/treasurer. Kent reflected on how quickly the eight years had passed and said it had been a positive experience for him.

President Danks, who chairs the Future Staff Planning Committee reported on the activities of the committee, which includes committee members Calvin Brodie, Tim Manning, Gary Joyner, Bo Black, Cliff McGee, Kent Huntley, Bob Gates, and Lynn Nash. Nash plans to retire in May 2023 when he turns seventy. The committee is charged with selecting the next executive vice president of NCMCA and have that position filled by the end of 2022. On the committee's recommendation, the board voted to promote Ryan Shaver to NCMCA Executive Vice President effective

September 2022. Nash to continue employment until May 2023 to assist in the transition. The Future Staffing Committee will add Shaver as a member and begin the process of identifying additional staffing needs and coordinating the transition timeline.

Membership stands at 150 as of 12/31/21. The number was 149 in September and 144 at the end of 2020.

The Sigmon Memorial Scholarship fund holds \$18,144.01 as of 12/31/21.

The present list of 19 NCMCA “Distinguished” and “Leadership” member firms:

Brodie Contractors*
 Carolina Masonry Unlimited*
 Cherokee Masonry*
 Edgar Boettcher Masonry*
 Gates Construction*
 Huntley Brothers Company*
 Jollay Masonry* *New!*
 Joyner Masonry Works*
 Kirby Construction Services*
 LPS Enterprises*
 Manning Masonry*
 McGee Brothers Company*
 Mountcastle Insurance
 Pinnacle Masonry*
 Roanoke Cement Company
 Rush Construction*
 SPEC MIX*
 TriSure Corporation
 Whitman Masonry*

These firms voluntarily pay as “Leadership Members” (double normal dues) or “Distinguished Members” (double dues and maintain MCAA membership*)

Photos to be considered for the cover of the next membership directory must be submitted by April 1, 2022.

Brandon Hartsell, provided a Central Regional Vice President report:

“The January 2022 NCMCA Board Meeting is here. Face to face would have been great, but Zoom it is.

“I look forward to working with the NCMCA to advance our Industry into the future. Change is all around us. From the National Level to the State and Local Levels, we have positioned NCMCA to be the Leader in the Masonry Industry. I know the Association will remain solid and become more in tune with the Industry of tomorrow. Let's work together and keep NCMCA as the Industry Standard.

“Metrolina Chapter Update: 2022 is here! 2021 was a year of special challenges. Do we meet in person? Do we have a golf tournament? Should we or should we not get vaccinated? Now there is a Booster? Who has COVID? Here we are. I was looking forward to this Board Meeting being in person, but I understand and respect the protocol. So, with all this being said, it is time to put our issues aside, and help to make sure NCMCA stays at the forefront of setting the standard for the Masonry Industry.

2022 is a year of change. 2022 is going to be one we look back at and smile. Sure, we are in a situation currently where COVID seems to be dominating the news. But, we need to remember what NCMCA stands for. We need to remember all the people NCMCA is bringing to the table for this industry. We are so very fortunate to live and work in North Carolina. We are the nucleus of the Masonry Industry, and we should be proud. Let's continue to work as a Team and keep setting the standard for our Industry.

“We have done a few things in 2021. We look forward to gearing back up for a successful 2022.

“Metrolina Golf Tournament: What a great tournament we had! Mike Cook, Brandon Roberts, Chet Huntley, and Greg Huntley are the winners of the chapter golf tournament held at the Mooresville Municipal Golf Course November 2, 2021. Thank you to all our tournament sponsors: Adams/Oldcastle, Johnson Concrete Products, Carolina Firestop, P & D Architectural Precast, MSC Masonry Construction, General Shale, ACT Equipment, The Metrolina Chapter of NCMCA, Palmetto Brick, L&D Kirby Investments, Lynn Ladder & Scaffolding, Pyramid Masonry, Cast Stone Systems, Jollay Masonry, Tucker-Kirby Company, Argos USA, R & N Construction, Wire-Bond, Chandler Concrete, Lehigh Hanson, Gates Construction Company, Carolina Masonry & Concrete, Taylor Clay Products, Brand Safway, Holcim US, Hydro Rents, Vega Construction Company, and Triangle Brick.

“Metrolina Recognition Night: In November, the Metrolina Chapter held its Annual Recognition Night dinner to honor local apprentices who have won masonry competitions over the last year. Pictured top, left to right, Metrolina Chapter President Brandon Hartsell; North Carolina Eighth District US Congressman Richard Hudson who was on hand to help congratulate the apprentices and provided comments; Mason Saunders of Huntley Brothers Company who won the October Annual North Carolina State Fair Masonry Apprentice Skills Contest and placed second in the May 2021 NCMCA Samuel A. McGee Memorial Apprentice Skills Contest; Grant Helms of Helms Masonry, winner of the 2021 Sam McGee Memorial Contest with a rare perfect score and winner of the 2021 Mason Contractors Association of America (MCAA) Apprentice Challenge Skills Contest, third year, at Las Vegas in June; NCMCA President Danks Burton; and MCAA Chairman Paul Oldham who flew in from Indiana for the event. Bottom, left to right, Grant Haney of McGee Brothers Company, who finished in third place at the State Fair Contest; Christian Klutz of Huntley Brothers Company, fourth place in the Sam McGee Contest; Bayden Huntley, Huntley Brothers Company, second place in the State Fair Contest and fifth place in the Sam McGee contest; and NCMCA Workforce Development & Training Coordinator Ryan Shaver. Cyress Brown won third place in the Sam McGee Contest but was not present for the picture. The apprentices

and their families were hosted for a low country boil dinner prepared by chef and journeyman mason Jerry Talley and sponsored by Huntley Brothers Company, the Metrolina Chapter, and the Porter Family's Farmstead Wedding Venue in Mount Pleasant. The event included special recognition of Veterans Day."

Brandon commented about Ryan Shaver's role in making the very successful Annual Metrolina Chapter Recognition Night happen on short notice, giving Ryan all the credit for the event's success. Ryan was quick to add that Kent Huntley worked with him to make the evening a success and deserved a lot of the credit.

Hartsell continued, "Finally, I would like to thank the Metrolina Chapter Officers; Greg Huntley (VP) and Carson Grief (Secretary) for helping me to honestly be able to say, there is no "I" in the word Team! When we travel to other parts of this country and your state is recognized as the Standard, you know you belong to a Strong Organization. I would like to thank everyone who has helped with each Chapter in the central region. We will only remain a strong organization if we work together. When we travel to other parts of this Country and your State is recognized as the Standard, you know you belong to a Strong Organization. Thank you to everyone for all you do! Thank you, Brandon Hartsell, Gates Construction Co., Inc."

Western Regional Vice President Don Caldwell reported the chapter plans their annual school masonry competition for March or April and hope it can be done in person. The contest was remote in 2021.

Western Carolina Chapter President Larry Kirby says the chapter meets every other month. They usually have a Winter Party in January but will not be doing so for 2022 even though he voted to do so.

Raleigh Chapter President Bo Black reported. "The following chapter meetings/presentations were held: September 7th, 2021, Raleigh Chapter held a social event at the Durham Bulls Athletic Park watching The Durham Bulls host the Norfolk Tide AAA baseball in division battle. Raleigh Chapter members and their families had a great night with a buffet dinner provided by our social sponsors Holcim, Hydro Rents and General Shale. November 15th, 2021, Raleigh Chapter hosted an Oyster Roast and cookout at Chapter Associate member Adams Products facility in Morrisville, NC. Good food and good company were had by all in attendance. Thanks to Adams Products and Argos for sponsoring the event. Special appreciation to Chris Mitchell and Donnie Howard for cooking and the rest of the Adams Products family for helping set up and clean up.

"Upcoming meeting schedule, Raleigh Chapter meeting topic committee consisting of Macy Williams, Donnie Howard, Chris Mitchell, Kevin Scheele, Juan Vergara and Kelly Black have worked extremely hard during 2020 and 2021 to keep our chapter meeting and functioning including procuring a NEW VENUE for all future chapter meetings. Starting

with our January 3rd, 2022, meeting, Cantina 18, 433 Daniels St. Raleigh, NC will be our new venue for regularly scheduled Monday meetings.

"I'd like to express our gratitude to the Peddler Steak House and their staff for over a decade of hosting our chapter meeting with a wonderful staff and great food. Thanks Peddler!

"January 3rd, 2022, Raleigh Chapter hosted a panel of local industry leaders for a roundtable discussion on the topic of "How has COVID-19 affected your business" moderated by chapter members. The panel included the following guests Todd Jones, Principal with Anderson Jones, PLLC; Sean Loftis – Safety Director with Pitt Electric; Jimmy Edwards, Principal Architect with Davis Kane Architects, PA; and Marc Marotta, Preconstruction Manager with Barnhill Contracting.

"Thanks to fellow Chapter Officers: VP Calvin Brodie, Secretary Donnie Howard, Treasurer Chris Mitchell, Eastern Region VP Doug Burton."

Southeast Concrete Masonry Association (SCMA) President James Cain provided an update on SCMA and National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA) activities. Producers voted and approved the CMU Check-off. The process for setting up nominations for the national CMU Check-off governing board will now begin. The merger of the National Concrete Masonry Association (NCMA) and Interlocking Concrete Pavement Institute (ICPI) is underway. SCMA had almost a thousand architects and engineers participate in SCMA monthly education session in 2021. 226 "internal" employees were trained either by SCMA or other outside speakers. Good engagement with AIA, CSI, and Structural Engineers Association chapters continues throughout the SCMA five-state region. SCMA has projects underway with twenty-six universities in the five-state area. COVID has presented some challenges. SCMA scholarships are available in engineering and architectural departments. SCMA has a competition coming up at NC State on February 26th. SCMA is starting a new "Hardscapes" committee. Chris Mitchell's internal training committee will resume programs in February for training member company employees. Cain characterized 2021 as a very successful year with production up about 12% and membership increasing across the five states. Cain recognized NCMCA for helping promote workforce development outside of North Carolina.

Nash commented on NCMCA contractor members who traveled to Washington and worked in partnership with NCMA, MCAA, and SCMA to lobby for the CMU Check-off program.

Nash reported that David Bass was recognized with the 2020 Upton Award at a dinner in Asheville during October. Several folks appeared in a video (now available on YouTube) that was played at the dinner to announce David's recognition. David McQueen, the Upton Award's most recent previous recipient, was on hand in Asheville to recognize Bass.

After a review of present compensation, the board increased staff salaries beginning with January 2022 pay.

The next board meeting will be combined with the association annual business meeting March 26, 2022 in Greenville, SC.

Slate Announced

Nominations Committee Chairman Kent Huntley has announced the committee's slate of NCMCA officers for the 2022-2024 term.

For President, James "Bo" Black of Carolina Masonry Unlimited in Fuquay-Varina. Bo is President of the Raleigh Chapter. He is a Certified Masonry Executive (CME) in the NCMCA certification program.

Proposed for President Elect is Cliff McGee of McGee Brothers company in Greensboro. Cliff is a CME.

The committee will nominate Tim Manning of Manning Masonry in Williamston to be Secretary/Treasurer. Manning is a CME also.

NCMCA Executive Director Lynn Nash is proposed to remain as Executive Vice President and CEO.

The committee proposes to retain the present regional vice presidents: Doug Burton, CME, of Whitman Masonry in Raleigh as Eastern Regional Vice President; Brandon Hartsell of Gates Construction Company in Mooresville as Central Regional Vice President; and Don Caldwell of C & R Masonry of WNC, Candler as Western Regional Vice President.

Current NCMCA President Danks Burton will move into the Board Chairman's position.

The vote for officers is Saturday March 26, 2022 at the Annual Business Meeting in Greenville, SC, at which time, nominations may be made from the floor. Prior consent should be confirmed by the nominee before making a nomination from the floor.



Bo Black

Welcome New Members

G. E. Masonry LLC

Bill Brooks, Rob Haas, Bryan Smith
Eastern Carolina Chapter (R2)
Clayton, NC
Recruited by NCMCA

Humphrey Masonry Supply, Inc

Shane Humphrey (A1)
Mountain City, TN
www.humphreymasonry.com
Recruited by Ryan Shaver

A. E. Masonry

Allen Butler, Phillipe Poulin
Eastern Carolina Chapter (R1)
Wilmington, NC
Recruited by NCMCA



Inspectors Workshop In January, the North Carolina Building Inspectors Association held the first of three 2022 Winter Code Seminars in Greenville, NC with 140 attending in person and online. The seminar began with a two-hour masonry construction workshop presented jointly by Southeastern Concrete Masonry Association (SCMA) and NCMCA. The first part of the presentation dealt with code interpretation while the second portion featured hands-on demonstrations with a mock brick and block panel. Raleigh PE Tina Subasic made the masonry codes presentation and NCMCA's Ryan Shaver (*pictured left*) along with Doc McGee of McGee Brothers Company (*pictured right*) and Tim Manning of Manning Masonry provided the demonstrations. Our masonry presenters fielded questions, which include over twenty inquiries pertaining to weep holes, carbon fiber, wall ties, rebar, and control and expansion joints. SCMA President James Cain was on hand for the program and said, "Thanks to all speakers as well as the SCMA and NCMCA for making this event a huge success." The NC Building Inspectors Association will repeat the seminar during February at Aberdeen and in March at Hickory. SCMA and NCMCA researched problem issues concerning masonry with both masonry contractors and building inspectors in developing the masonry presentation.
Photo by James Cain

Dates to Note

- 3/2/22 Cut-off date for NCMCA Convention hotel room block
- 3/11/22 Oldcastle APG Adams Top Trowel Masonry Contest, Adams/Oldcastle - Goldsboro
- 3/24-3/26/22 NCMCA Convention, Hyatt Regency Downtown – Greenville, SC
- 4/1/22 Deadline for submitting photos as candidates for the 2022-2023 membership directory cover
- 4/27-4/29/22 NC SkillsUSA Annual Conference (masonry contest) Greensboro Coliseum
- 5/21/22 Annual Samuel A. McGee Masonry Apprentice Skills Contest, Adams/Oldcastle – Colfax
- 5/23/22 Deadline for advertising orders, copy and listing updates for the 2022-2023 membership directory
- 6/19-6/22/22 Southeast Concrete Masonry Association Annual Conference – St. Simons Island, GA
- 7/18/22 NC DPI T & I Summer Conference Masonry Day – Greensboro
- 8/14-8/18/22 MCAA Mid-Year Meeting, Grand Geneva Resort & Spa, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin
- 9/22/22 NCMCA Annual Fall Golf Tournament
- 1/13-1/15/23 Raleigh Chapter Annual Murdell Golf Tournament – Grand Strand
- 4/27-4/30/23 NCMCA Convention, Kingston Plantation – Myrtle Beach

Additional details and registration forms are always available on the "Calendar" page of NCMCA.com.

March Certification Class

Christine A. Subasic, PE will instruct the Module 7 NCMCA Certification Program class "Overview of Masonry Special Inspection, Codes & Standards" on Wednesday, March 30, 2022 beginning at 8:00 AM at the Airport Marriott in Greensboro.

This class is required for Certified Masonry Professional (CMP) candidates and an elective course for Certified Masonry Executive (CME) candidates.

Because of new course material, updates, and a new instructor for the course, Module 7 is recommended as continuing education for previously NCMCA certified individuals. Registration Form:

<https://www.ncmca.com/PDF/SubasicCodesStandardsMarch2022.pdf>

New Directory

The new NCMCA Membership Directory for 2022-2023 will go to press in July. Watch for details about how you can use the directory to promote and advertise your firm and its services.

Congratulations to Gates Construction Company for providing the cover photo for the 2021-2022 directory.

The deadline for submitting photographs for consideration as the cover of the new 2022-2023 NCMCA Membership directory is April 1, 2022.

The subject can be of a recently completed masonry project done by a masonry contractor member of NCMCA or of a masonry related scene such as a jobsite or training program.

Pictures in "portrait" orientation are preferred

and should be high-resolution professional quality. Any recognizable individuals included in the pictures must be identified.

Final selection of the cover photograph is entirely at the discretion of the directory editor and will be highly weighted on the quality of the photography.

The deadline for advertising orders and advertising copy is May 23, 2022. That date is also the deadline for adding or revising listings in the directory. An advertising order form is available on ncmca.com.

Raise the Line and Raise Money for NC SkillsUSA!

By Ryan Shaver

The annual SkillsUSA State Masonry Contest will be back on go April 28th at the Greensboro Coliseum! The last time the contest happened was in 2019 pre-pandemic and we had 114 masonry students compete for one spot at the National SkillsUSA contest.

That contest will be one to remember, with the overhead sprinklers going off midway during the contest and we had to evacuate the area. I will say, I hope that never happens again but our team of Industry Professionals rose up and got the contest area swept out and we were able to start the contest back after a slight delay.

Normally NCMCA has budgeted prize money for this contest to the top five as well as a limited tool donation. This year, I would like to recognize the top 10 at the banquet we have for them the night of the contest in Greensboro. The student that places tenth has just as much potential and possibility of being a future mason as the first place finisher! I would really like to show them how much our industry supports them by giving the top ten a nice set of tools so that when they come to our job sites they are prepared, not only with skill, but also with the tools they need!

I have reached out to a local gun shop, Ideal Sportsman Inc. in Concord. They have helped us with a gun raffle and all the proceeds from that raffle will go towards purchasing the tools needed to award the top ten finishers in the NC SkillsUSA Masonry Contest! Tickets will be sold at local chapter meetings and events in February and March and at the convention. The drawing for the Benelli SB3 shotgun will be at the Saturday night banquet at the NCMCA Convention in Greenville, SC on March 26th. Tickets are \$5.00 per or 5 for \$20.00.

I encourage everyone to get involved in this fun raffle that will benefit the students in our programs statewide with the tools they need to be successful! Like my Dad used to say, "I need to dig up a fruit jar". Dig up your fruit jar and bring the money for the tickets and I look forward to seeing a very happy raffle winner at the convention!

For more information, contact NCMCA Workforce Development & Training Coordinator Ryan Shaver at ryan.shaver@ncmca.com or (704) 751-5240

CMU Check-Off Approved: What Next?

By James Cain

It's exciting times within the masonry community with passage of the CMU Checkoff Program.

Among CMU Producers, it was a 62% to 38% vote in support. Among CMU Cavities, it was a 53% to 47% result also in support.

The checkoff program is an industry-supported, industry-led program designed to have industry-wide participation and funding to advance the industry and to create a preference for the CMU product.

The purpose of the Concrete Masonry Checkoff Program is to: strengthen the position of the domestic concrete masonry products industry, maintain, develop, and expand domestic markets for concrete masonry products, and promote the use of concrete masonry products in construction and building.

The Order empowers a CMU Checkoff National Board made up of 15-25 small, medium and large CMU manufacturers to be appointed by the Department of Commerce Secretary, to "fund and establish research, education, and promotional programs in support of the Concrete Masonry Units industry.

What is the role of the Department of Commerce with the CMU Checkoff National Board? 1) Board appointments, 2) Program oversight, and 3) Budget approval.

Now it's time for our industry to roll up our sleeves and get to work building the best checkoff program ever!

Since January 5th we have worked to get CMU Producers who are interested in serving in a leadership capacity nominated for the CMU Checkoff National Board. The nomination process is open to all producers but does close on March 11th.

On April 11th, DOC Secretary Raimondo will announce the CMU Checkoff National Board members.

Along with the nomination process we're working on an alternate list of nominees as well. The overall process of getting the CMU Checkoff National Board in place has an expected time-line of June 2022

Currently, the CMU Checkoff Leadership team is working to accomplish as much as possible of the pre board administrative details and topics to help our Board 'Be Ready' to move forward at its first CMU Checkoff National Board meeting later this year. The more prework that can be accomplished now will help ensure the CMU Checkoff Program hits the ground running.



James Cain

Here are some recommendations of what the CMU Checkoff Board will be responsible for. 1) Establish dates for assessments and collections, 2) Develop bylaws and policies, 3) Establish regional advisory committees, 4) Conduct strategic planning, 5) Hire and manage staff and contracted services, 6) Manage collection of assessments, 7) Develop and conduct compliance program, 8) Develop budgets and approve programs, 9) Disperse funds and manage finances, and 10) Conduct industry communications and complete required reporting.

At the regional level, we currently working with state executives across the industry to gather their questions, concerns and feedback on how to build out the CMU Checkoff Regional Advisory Committees (RAC) and what their roles and responsibilities will be and how they will interact with state associations.

So what is the goal of the RAC? They will be designed to create the tools and recommendations at the regional level and will serve as a functioning subcommittee of the checkoff board.

With five regions, we'll have five regional advisory committees led by producers to get programs at the regional level sent up to the CMU Checkoff National Board for approval and funding.

Keep in mind with all programs there will be a standardized submission process with metrics to measure the success of each program. With every penny per block collected, it is important to note that a minimum of 50% of the money has to come back to the region.

There is a small group who is tasked with pulling it all together and helping the CMU Checkoff Leadership with coordinating, managing timing expectations touching a large part of our industry along with 'Being Ready' as the assessments collection date gets closer.

So what will be the role of the RAC? Here are a few recommendations of the regional advisory committee role. 1) Execute directives from national board, 2) Create a Regional Budget, 3) Solicit regional programs, 4) Coordinate with local industry partners, and 5) Manage programs.

There will be plenty of transparency and communicates on programs and our overall efforts as we get all the pieces to the puzzle in place. The key thing to remember is the future is extremely bright for the masonry industry! There are many great people who have build the foundation and now the CMU Checkoff Program will serve as the mechanism to regain our market share for tomorrow!

James Cain is President of the Southeast Concrete Masonry Association (SCMA.) Reach him at jcain@scmaonline.org (704) 352-6831.

Member News

Austin Babb of Fay Block Materials lost his mother at the end of November. Judy Ingram Babb was 72 and lived in Fayetteville.

Land of the Sky Chapter Vice President Steve Stout and wife Debbie have a new granddaughter. Merrill Ann Condon was born December 2nd in Winston-Salem. You will recognize "Merrill" as in past NCMCA President and MCAA Hall-of-Fame member Bob Merrill, her late great grandfather.

Jody Wall, Stalite/Johnson Concrete Products lost his mother December 12th. Kathy Craig Jagers was 69 years old and lived in Pembroke Pines, Florida. She had battled leukemia.

Cementos Argos has announced that it is starting the process for an initial public offering (IPO) for its US business. Getting listed on the New York Stock Exchange is expected to help the company 'optimise' its capital structure and promote growth, due in part to the recent approval of the US Infrastructure Bill and a general positive cycle expected for the local construction materials sector over the next decade. At present Argos USA is the ninth largest cement producer in the country by cement production capacity. Argos is part of an interconnected group of companies known as the Grupo Empresarial Antioqueño (GEA), which each own stakes in each other.

Robert Carmody's (Adams/Oldcastle) father passed away December 14th. Lieutenant Colonel (retired) Robert W. Carmody, Sr. was 91 and lived in Raleigh. He was interred in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Triangle Brick and McGee Brothers Company were among the companies that participated in a "Folds of Honor" home project in Stallings. With contributions and donations, the house was fully furnished (including stocking the pantry and refrigerator) and turned over to U.S. Army Purple Heart recipient Sergeant Carl Roush mortgage-free. Folds of Honor reviews long lists of nominees to determine veteran who have made extraordinary sacrifices and are deserving of a helping hand.

Brandy Shaver, Ryan's wife, read 377 books in 2021. She's a librarian. Ryan says they were "real books, not thin ones." Lately, Brandy has taken an exceptional interest in Mount Everest. He says she's "now a Mount Everest expert."

LafargeHolcim US has announced the launch of TerCem, a blended cement which claims 65% reduced CO2 emissions compared to ordinary Portland cement according to the company. LafargeHolcim will produce TerCem at its Whitehall, Pennsylvania plant. Holcim's Patrick Cleary says the company "has invested heavily in broadening the industry's range of superior sustainable products designed to lower our carbon footprint with no compromise in quality and long-term durability."

NCMCA member firm White Cap Supply Holdings, LLC ("White Cap") is acquiring NCMCA member



firm Ram Tool Construction Supply Co., LLC (“Ram Tool”). White Cap President Alan Sollenberger says, “This combination will increase our products, services, and locations to enhance our customer convenience and experience, while bringing together two incredible teams of knowledgeable professionals focused on delivering exceptional customer service.” The companies say there will be no immediate changes to the services and offerings from White Cap or Ram Tool “as the integration of the two businesses is approached thoughtfully over time.”

Past President Calvin Brodie’s sister passed away January 20th. Nellie Gray Chavis was 74.

Leland Eckard, Master Masonry, has his first grandchild. Blakely Rae Eckard was born January 25th.

Past NCMCA President Calvin Brodie and his company, Brodie Contractors, are among the minority-owned firms selected for Business North Carolina magazine’s list of “25 minority-owned companies excelling across the state.”



Each year, the Mason Contractors Association of America (MCAA) presents the C. DeWitt Brown Leadman Award “to an individual who has provided exemplary leadership in advancing the masonry industry.” Congratulations to Don Foster of NCMCA member firm Masonry Cosmetics who was recognized with the 2022 award at the Las Vegas World of Concrete MCAA membership meeting in January. Foster is pictured above (left) with MCAA Chairman Paul Oldham. (MCAA photo)

News from the Carolina masonry community for publication in “Member News” is always welcomed. Medical and other personal news is not shared unless the individuals concerned have confirmed their approval for publication. Send member news to information@ncmca.com or call the NCMCA office.

A Successful Pre-Apprentice Annayeli Dionisio of Columbus Career and College Academy was among the high school students completing the NCMCA Masonry Pre-Apprenticeship program in 2021. The Pre-Apprentice program is available for sixteen and seventeen-year-old students statewide. NCMCA’s Ryan Shaver says the program “is a great tool to expose them to the masonry trade before they graduate high school.” Pictured right, left to right: Fred Mason, instructor at Columbus Career and College Academy, Annayeli Dionisio and Ryan Shaver.

Thank You 2022 Convention Sponsors

Platinum Sponsors



Diamond Sponsors



Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



Golf Tournament Sponsor



Bronze Sponsors



“Convention” continued from Page 1

ny presents our first session featuring National Technical Honor Society Executive Director and “TED Talk” presenter Peyton Holland, and Christine “Tina” Subasic, President of the Masonry Society. Friday evening’s President’s Reception is an opportunity to meet old friends and to make new ones.

Saturday morning is the Annual Business Meeting featuring reports from the past year, and an opportunity for input for the Association’s future plans. Officers for the 2022-2024 will be elected.

Your Convention features a special Saturday Spouse Brunch, hosted by NCMCA First Lady Joanne Burton and Paige Black, wife of president-elect Bo Black.

The Annual NCMCA Convention Golf Tournament, sponsored by EZG Manufacturing, is Saturday afternoon, featuring an EZG Mud Hog MH-9 Mixer hole-in-one-prize valued at \$8,495. Saturday evening, President Danks Burton presides as we enjoy the Tucker-Kirby closing banquet featuring the “passing of the gavel.”

Maximize the benefit of your investment in NCMCA! Participate in the 2022 North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association Annual Convention!

Special Social Sponsor

Welcome to Greenville,
Headquarters for
New South
Construction Supply



Spouse Event Sponsors



This Issue Sponsored by



See more pictures from
 NCMCA events and
 activities linked at the
NCMCA.com News page



2022 Masonry Madness Day

In January, Mason Saunders won the Mason Contractors Association of America (MCAA) Second Year Apprentice Contest at the World of Concrete “Masonry Madness Day” in Las Vegas. Mason is an apprentice with Huntley Brothers Company.

Mason (pictured above, right, with Huntley Brothers Company co-owner Chet Huntily) earned the right to represent North Carolina in the MCAA apprentice contest by winning the Annual North Carolina State Fair Masonry Apprentice Skills Contest in October 2021.

No stranger to the winner’s circle, he was the National SkillsUSA High School Masonry Champion in 2018 as a student in Cody Alward’s masonry class at Mount Pleasant High School and placed “Second” in the NCMCA Annual Samuel A. McGee Memorial Apprentice Skills Contest in May of 2021.

Finishing in second and third place respectively for the Second Year Division was Oscar Montano, Sun Valley Masonry, Tuscon, AZ, and Kurtis Sutter, Rudolph Libbe, Inc., Grand Rapids, OH. In the First Year Division, first place went to Frank Kocjancic, Bricklayers Local 9 PA, Pittsburgh.

Josh Rehme, Patrico Masonry, St. Louis finished first in the Third Year Division. Also at Las Vegas, Haron McGee (pictured left) tending for his brother Wriston, of McGee Brothers Company won the title of “Toughest Tender” at the SPEC MIX Bricklayer 500 World Championship. His winning time was 17 minutes and 19 seconds.

Cole Stampfer of Masonry Structure in Lexington, Kentucky won the 2022 SPEC MIX Bricklayer 500 with a total of 720 brick. Scott Tuttle of Quik Trowel Masonry in Clearfield, Utah earned the “Top Craftsman Award.”

Roberto Cimental of Arizona State Masonry, Gilbert, Arizona won the MCAA “Fastest Trowel on the Block” competition.

Las Vegas Photographs by Ryan Shaver



A Murdell Ace! Lee Amick scored a hole-in-one at the Raleigh Chapter’s Annual January Grand Strand “Murdell” Golf Tournament, only the second ace in the tournament’s twenty-two-year history. The Late Wayne Coleman scored the first one in 2003. Lee made the hole-in-one on #17 at the Glen Dornich course and takes home the \$1905 pot that had been building since 2014. *Photo by Steve Bell*

