

## National Masonry Instructors Association

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● Make checks payable to/Mail to: National Masonry Instructors Association; 1156 Starview Drive, West Columbia SC 29172 ●

### Upcoming Events

June 23-27	SkillsUSA National Conference Kansas City, Missouri	Oct. 22-24	Hardscape North America Expo Louisville, Kentucky
July 6 - 9	NMIA Annual Conference Myrtle Beach, South Carolina	Feb. 2 - 6	World of Concrete Las Vegas, Nevada
Sept. 10-12	MCAA Mid-Year Meeting Milwaukee, Wisconsin		



## National Masonry Instructors Association

### Letter from the President

Dear NMIA Members,

As we wrap up another school year, we would like to welcome you to our first National Masonry Instructors' Association newsletter. This has been long over due. We encourage all to contribute to future newsletters and consider becoming a member of this organization. Whether you're an instructor, contractor, or business leader, all are welcome. As the saying goes, we have strength in numbers.

We keep hearing that we are going to need masons. Through working with the MCAA and local Masonry Associations, we can see that starting the training in our schools as a means of promoting masonry is a win-win for all of us.

I encourage each and every one of you to get involved, not only in our organization but also with your local Masonry Association, MCAA, and SkillsUSA.

We are having our summer conference in Myrtle Beach, SC, July 6th-9th 2014. Information can be found inside this newsletter or on NMIA web-site. Bring the entire family for a great time.

As I wrap up my final year as President, I have many people to thank. I don't want to forget anyone, but you know who you are. Being a part of this organization has opened up so many doors for so many people from businesses and masonry organizations that have supported our efforts as instructors.

In closing, we keep getting more and more dumped on us each year from our school boards. Sometimes we wonder why we do what we do. As we train our young men and women to be successful in a career and in life I think we can all agree this is what keeps us going and enjoying what we do. I would not have it any other way. Have a great summer and many successful years to come. Hope to see you in Myrtle Beach in July!

Curtis C. Hoover  
President

### Mission Statement

The National Masonry Instructors Association's mission is to develop collaborative partnership with the education community, business and industry to create awareness of the professionalism of the masonry occupation by promoting quality masonry programs and keeping members informed of innovative trends and changing technology.

### NMIA Goals and Objectives

- Promoting masonry training programs throughout the United States
- Assist in the unification of masonry programs
- Improving curriculums and teaching materials
- Upgrading recruitment and training methods
- Increasing partnership with business and industry
- Promote annual workmanship and seminar for professional development

### Purpose

- To promote effective articulation between professional educators and business and industry.
- To provide comprehensive seminars, workshops and masonry specialists from all over the construction industry to share ideas, techniques and solutions for future success.
- To teach skills to increase performance and productivity.



## Masonry Students Win Top Honors

LAKE CITY - A Lake City High School student will represent South Carolina in the national masonry competition in Kansas City, Missouri, in June after winning the state competition earlier this month.

Justin Braveboy advanced to the national competition after finishing first in the state masonry competition in Columbia March 14-15. Braveboy received a \$300 cash prize and \$500 worth of masonry tools.

He and Lake City High School masonry instructor Calvin Cade will travel to Kansas City to the national competition June 24-28. The trip is sponsored by the Carolina Concrete Association.

Three other masonry students from Lake City High School brought home awards from the state competition.



Pictured from left to right are (standing): LCHS masonry instructor Calvin Cade, Justin Braveboy, Kenneth Epps, Robert Jones, Antoine Graham; kneeling: Jamal Hardy and Ryion Major.

Kenneth Epps placed first in the district competition on March 14, while Braveboy placed second. Antione Graham finished third in the competition and Robert Jones placed fourth. Epps' first place finish won Lake City High \$1,000 to be used to enhance the school's masonry program.

The strong showing in the district competition was the first time in history that four students from the same school swept the final four awards. Their performance also advanced them to the state competition on the following day.

Lake City High comprised a quarter of the 16 students competing in the state contest. In addition to Braveboy's first place finish, Antione Graham took seventh place, Kenneth Epps finished tenth and Robert Jones placed fourteenth.

"The competition was tough at both levels," LCHS masonry instructor Calvin Cade said, "and for our students to perform that well when they were matched against other masonry students from 60 students across the state is something I'm very proud of."

"We have a fine group of students in our masonry program, and this kind of performance just shows how well they stack up when you put them in a competition with other students in the state," Cade said.

## 2013 Hall of Fame Inductee



Willie Leaverette received his primary and secondary education and his vocational training in masonry at Bettis Academy in Aiken/ Edgefield County, South Carolina. He obtained his equivalent Masters Degree from South Carolina State University and Clemson University. During his professional career, Leaverette continued to stay current in masonry by attending seminars, workshops, and conferences. Past and present association affiliations include: American Vocational Association; South Carolina Vocational Association; Barnwell, Hartville and Allendale County Education Association; South Carolina Education Association; South Carolina Education Association; National Education Association; South Carolina Masonry Instruction Association; the National Masonry Instructors Association and others. Leaverette began his career as a masonry vocational teacher. He worked at Freeman Vocational High School (16 years), Aiken High School (5 Years), Barnwell Vocational Center (3 years), Hartsville High School (2 years) and Allendale-Fairfax High School (2 years). During his years as a teacher he worked



as a brick mason during the summer. After retiring in 2000 Leaverette became a full-time brick mason. Many private homes, commercial buildings, schools, dormitories and military facilities bear his expert and highly professional work. Willie Leaverette, Jr was born in Aiken, South Carolina, and grew up on his grandparents farm in Aiken County. Willie has been happily married to his wife of 57 years, Ruth. They have two married daughters and a married son who have given them three grand children. He is a life-long member of Mt. Canaan Baptist Church where he serves on the Deacon Board and in other ministries. "I became a teacher because I loved to teach. The expression on the face of a young person when they get it, is very rewarding. For many years I worked with Special Needs students. This was both my biggest challenge and my greatest reward at their successes" -Willie Leaverette, Jr.

## Student Projects

**"We built it one brick at a time!"**

If being the only masonry technical academy class in Prince Georges County isn't enough to make a person full of pride and joy, then being the only masonry class to build a brick veneer on a house for the whole neighborhood to see should do the trick. With trowel in one hand and a brick in the other the students of the Crossland High School Masonry class completed the brick veneer of a house located in Clinton Maryland. The process wasn't easy and the students can attest to that statement. The project took about 3 weeks to complete and about 30 dollars worth of pizza.

The students spent months preparing for the House project under the supervision of the Masonry instructor Mr. Chew. The students were taught to lay brick to the line, build Jam leads and much more. And by the look of the brick veneer I can say they were taught well.

The first day on the job site the students had to work together to build a scaffold that was roughly 20 feet in the air. Many fears were met during this project. The crew was split between Mason Tenders and Brick layers. The mason tenders were in charge of mixing mortar and getting brick while the brick layers were in charge

of making sure ever brick was laid to the line a struck up evenly.

The students were highly involved in the house project." I was determined to finish this house, and be the best class." quoted by Eddie Reeves. James West another student said "It was a great experience and it was an honor to be a part of the house project."

As a class "We finally believed we earned our titles as Brick Masons." After the project was completed Nelson Munguia, Jason Buffalo, DeAsia Parchment all students of the Masonry class are contemplating to make Masonry their long term career. As a student myself I would highly recommend taking up a technical academy class, because with a trade you will always have a job.

Ronai Williams

## Outstanding Supporters

- Bon Tool Company
- Henry Brick Company
- Carolina Concrete Masonry Association (CCMA)
- Brick Association of the Carolinas
- Brick Southeast
- Giant Cement Co.
- Holcim Cement Co.
- LaFarge Cement Company
- Mason Contractors Association of America (MCAA)
- McGee Brothers
- Brodie Contractors
- Marshalltown Tools



Students from the Carroll County Career and Technology Center, Westminster, MD showing off an outside fireplace.

Instructor Mike Campanile