

National Masonry Instructors Association

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Membership Form NMIA

Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

School: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Home Fax: _____

School Phone: _____ School Fax: _____

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

Upcoming Events

June 20-25	SkillsUSA National Conference Louisville, Kentucky	October 19-21	Hardscape North America Expo Louisville, Kentucky
July 12-15	NMIA Annual Conference Myrtle Beach, South Carolina	January 17-20	MCAA Annual Convention World of Concrete Las Vegas, Nevada
October 2-4	MCAA Mid-Year Meeting Scottsdale, Arizona		



National Masonry Instructors Association

Letter from the President

Dear NMIA members, business partners and sponsors, It's been a long and challenging school year. As we face more and more requirements from each of our school districts and the State Department of Education, I often wonder who comes up with these requirements and how are they going to benefit our students? We have all been there before at one time or another. They want every child to attend college, not that that is a bad thing, but not all students are cut out for college, nor do they want to attend. MCAA is working on congress to make the playing field even for trade and technical schools. The article is in the May issue of the Masonry Magazine. It is enclosed in the news-letter. I suggest everyone read it. This is a win-win, as we are all in this together.

Being this is my last year as the President of NMIA, it's been a great 5 years! I cannot express my gratitude to all who have helped along the way. I first got involved in 2003 at the MCAA first Masonry Skills Challenge in Tampa, Florida. There I met Mr. Milton Young (NMIA first President), Mr. Eugene Johnson (past President) and Mr. Merrit (Bud) Johnson. From that day on I was hooked, I joined the NMIA and now had fellow instructors around this great country of ours to share our teaching strategies, techniques, and ideas to make our students successful. This network we have developed is second to none.

I also would like to thank the many Business Partners who have helped us over the years. Brian Light (BIA Southeast-SKILLSUSA National Masonry Competition Chair), Al Herndon (Florida Masonry Apprentice and Education Foundation), Steve Fechino (Mortar Net), Tim O'Toole (MCAA), Jeff Buczkiewicz (MCAA), Dana Martini (Superior Clay Products), the late Sam McKee (McKee Brothers, Inc.), Lyne Nash (NCMCA), Gary Joyner (NC-MCA), Calvin Brodie (Brodie Contractors), Bill Kjolien (Argos), Rolly Cox (Multiquip), John Bongiovanni (Bon Tools), Bill Behie (Holcolm Cement), Ryan Coyne (Spec Mix), Brian Carney (Spec Mix), Kim Haley (Marshalltown Tools), and there are so many more. Please accept my apologies if I have missed you.

I have seen our association grow over the last 5 years. Membership, business partners and sponsors. We all have a vested interest and we can do more. GET INVOLVED!!! Recruit a new instructor or business partner. If they want to see what our organization is all about, invite them to our summer conference. We keep getting better and better every year and this time we hit a home run. The agenda is inside the newsletter.

Everyone who reads this, please try to make it to this year's conference in beautiful Myrtle Beach, South Carolina July 10-13. Bring the whole family. You will have a great time, meet new friends and reminisce with old

ones. If you cannot make it this year, we will miss you. However, please don't forget to send in your dues. It helps to keep our organization going. Remember, we are all in this together and financial support is critical. Look forward to seeing you at the conference! Have a great summer.

God Bless,
Curtis C. Hoover

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.





It is with great sadness that we have lost a great friend to the Masonry Industry and the National Masonry Instructors Association.

Sam McGee was inducted to our "Hall-of-Fame" in July of 2012 and in 2014 MCAA inducted him into the Masonry Hall-of-Fame.

Rest in peace my friend.

2016 World of Concrete

2015 Conference



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
- Superior Clay Products
- Exact Match Masonry Staining
- Multiquip
- Spec Mix/Quikcrete
- Mortar Net

Student Spotlight

Jonneice "Jay" Collins recently became the first female to win first place in masonry arts competition at the SkillsUSA statewide championship in April. As a result of her hard work, Collins is now invited to the national SkillsUSA Championships in June, where she will represent Alabama.



Jonneice Collins, and her mother after winning first place at SkillsUSA.

In addition to being an incredible Mason, Collins also stands out in the classroom for her grades – landing on the Dean's list once and the President's list twice. Originally from the Black Belt town of Demopolis, Collins exhibited her drive and motivation from an early age, when she worked a normal job in high school and attended Masonry classes at night. She currently works at Masonry Arts in Birmingham. "Jay is smart, dedicated, self-motivated and a hard worker," said Antonio Hamilton, her SkillsUSA coach. "There is no doubt in my mind she will do great things in life. She's already accomplished greatness for our college and industry, in the state. Following her victory at SkillsUSA, Go Build Alabama had a chance to sit down and catch up with Jay. See how she responded to our five simple questions below:

1. Go Build Alabama: What is your favorite part about the work you do?

I really like being outside, and working with my hands. It's also nice to know I have the skills and experience to build buildings that will last a lifetime.

2. Go Build Alabama: Can you tell us more about your experience with the co-op?

The experience has been great, I've been able to work on different jobs in Birmingham, Opelika, and Pensacola since I've been at Masonry Arts. It has been different going to the construction field from school, but being in the co-op classes at Wallace has helped with the transition. I've been able to learn more about masonry and construction in general.

3. Go Build Alabama: What are your plans for the future?

I'm planning to get a degree in construction management, then own my own business.

4. Go Build Alabama: What do you think other women need to know about working in the construction industry?

I would caution them that construction isn't easy. It's a lot of work, but it's fun and pays well.

5. Go Build Alabama: Do you have any advice for other young people who may be looking to follow in your footsteps, and/or who are considering pursuing work in the construction industry? I would tell them to pray about it and seek God, and if it is something they really want to do go for it and give it your best!

2015 Hall of Fame Inductee



Mr. Andrew Fuller - 30 year masonry instructor - Drake State Technical College

Mr. Al Herndon - 30 years in the industry - Florida Masonry Apprentice and Educational Foundation

Hall of Fame Members

Instructors

Paul Ford
Jack Murphy
Calvin Gatlin
Bernard Hubbard
Jessie Grissom
William Hodge
Alonzo Lewis
Milton Young
Joe McMillian
Luther Hightower
James Ham
George Readon
Archie Crawford
James Alston
Buddy Combs
Richard McKnight
James Fryer
Morris Wilson
Jack Davis
Max Randolph
Willie Levette
Edward Mims
William Young
Andrew Fuller

Industry

Butch Hardy
Billy Freeman
Sam McGee
Brian Light
Calvin Brodie
Paul LaVene
Sam McGee
Doug Drye
Bill Behie
Richard Rick Cummings
Donny Kirtley
Pete C
Al Herndon



Jonneice Collins, and instructor proud of her work.



Constructing a wall in the 2016 Masonry Arts competition with SkillsUSA

Workforce - A Change in Perception and Practice

By Jeff Buczkiewicz

The MCAA is getting ready to embark on a rather significant task of trying to change the way our country prepares young people for their futures. For far too long, we have had our government pushing kids to go to college when they graduate from high school. The trades have taken a back seat and have been relegated to the thing for kids who are "not capable of college" or for the "troubled kids." As a result of years of this type of action, the perception young people - and in some cases, more importantly, their parents - have of our profession has taken a beating.

The MCAA's legislative committee will be working to get the "trades" back on equal footing with college-bound kids. Oftentimes, high schools have monetary incentives to get their students to enroll in college upon graduation from their states. Our committee is looking to level the playing field and to give those same incentives to high schools that graduate "career-ready" individuals. The construction industry is a great industry that can provide wonderful opportunities to young graduates. Not only can they immediately become productive members of their communities, but construction careers provide tremendous opportunity for young people to advance to the level of owning their own business if they choose. Our message will be clear: we need a level playing field during high school in order to effectively recruit needed craftspeople into our industry. Without it, serious work-force shortages will continue to plague the industry.

One way the federal government gives incentives to states and schools to pursue certain policies is through Perkins grants. Congress is currently working on re-drafting authorization of the Perkins program, and the timing is perfect for us as an industry to be heard and work for prioritization on the trades in the next round of Perkins funding. We need to make it clear to Congress that our industry needs and expects its support in our effort to change perceptions of the crafts.

A prime example of this working well is what has happened in the state of Florida. For many years, the state rewarded high schools with a flat dollar incentive for any student who graduated and then went on to college. School districts had a huge incentive to steer kids, regardless of what was in their best interest, to go to college. The law was recently changed in Florida. It now gives the same incentive to school districts that graduate students who trained in school for a trade and then upon graduation became employed in that trade. These are "career-ready" students. This new law has repositioned the trades in the school districts dramatically and has leveled the playing field on the recruitment side. School districts now have an incentive to direct a student based on what is best for the student and his/her interests versus what is best for the district. This issue is a real problem in most states today, and we need to change these laws and disparities so we can effectively work to change perceptions of craftspeople.

We need to **change laws** and **disparities** so we can **effectively work** to **change perceptions** of **craftspeople**

The construction industry has a great story to tell. The American dream is alive and well in our industry. Every day, craftspeople work their way up, in some cases to becoming owners of companies. Mobility within our industry is completely up to each individual. Many business owners in our industry have a great story to tell. They started at the bottom and worked their way up. Of course, we have quite a few others in our industry who are very happy in whatever position they aspire to. They are able to provide for themselves and their families, and they also contribute to the great communities they live in. Our industry offers tremendous opportunity. It is our goal to make those stories heard, to begin to change the perceptions and practices, and to give incentives to schools to graduate career-ready individuals no matter where that career path takes them. If you are interested in helping us make these changes, please join us in our efforts.

Contact me today at jeffb@masoncontractors.org.IMAS

The Voice of the Masonry Industry