

# North Carolina Masonry News

The Newsletter of The North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association

March 2023

Vol.49 No.1

This Issue Sponsored by :



## CONVENTION TIME!

The NCMCA Annual Convention  
April 27-April 30, 2023  
Kingston Plantation  
Myrtle Beach

## Convention in April

The NCMCA Annual Convention and Business Meeting returns to beautiful Kingston Plantation resort in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Thursday, April 27 kicks off with "Welcome to Myrtle Beach Reception" at 6:00 PM. Friday and Saturday are filled with many new events. Download complete details here: <https://ncmca.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/2023ConventionRegistration.pdf>

## Christian Kluttz and North Carolina Win at Las Vegas

Christian Kluttz brought home the win January 18th at "Masonry Madness" in Las Vegas as part of the World of Concrete. Christian is the new MCAA Masonry Skills Challenge 3<sup>rd</sup> year Champion! Christian works for NCMCA masonry contractor member Huntley Brothers in Mint Hill, NC. Christian won the NCMCA, Sam McGee Memorial contest last May and that qualified him for the National stage in Las Vegas at the World of Concrete. Christian took masonry at Mt. Pleasant High School and upon graduation, went to work directly in the field. He worked through the

Pre-Apprentice program while in high school and that helped propel him full time when he graduated.

Christian also competed in the Jr. Bricklayer event in Vegas in which company owner Kent Huntley tended for him. This highlights the young masons that industry is in need of and gets them excited to move onto the Bricklayer 500 one day. Christian won this event and walked away with \$500.00 cash for winning.

Christian Kluttz (left) and Chet Huntley (right) both of Huntley Brothers.





# NORTH CAROLINA'S LINE OF COLORED MORTARS



The SPEC MIX 25 Color Channel Kit

## BRICK & BLOCK MORTARS



PORTLAND LIME  
& SAND MORTAR  
MASONRY CEMENT  
& SAND MORTAR

AVAILABLE  
IN COLOR

## ADHERED VENEER MORTARS



ADHERED VENEER  
MASONRY MORTAR  
POLYMER MODIFIED  
ADHERED VENEER MORTAR

AVAILABLE  
IN COLOR

## BUILDING STONE MORTARS



BUILDING STONE MORTAR  
(HARD OR SOFT STONE)

AVAILABLE  
IN COLOR

## PAVING MORTARS



SETTING BED MORTAR  
POLYMER MODIFIED  
SETTING BED MORTAR

AVAILABLE  
IN COLOR

## IWR-INTEGRAL WATER REPELLENT MORTARS



INTEGRAL WATER REPELLENT  
MORTAR

AVAILABLE  
IN COLOR

## TUCKPOINT MORTARS



TUCKPOINT MORTAR

AVAILABLE  
IN COLOR

**CHOOSE THE PERFECT MORTAR FOR THE JOB** At SPEC MIX® we lock in color consistency by weighing and preblending high quality pigments in our engineered mortar formulations to ensure maximum performance and color uniformity. Building owners, designers and contractors can choose from 25 standard colors or partner with your local representatives to produce a custom color that matches the vision for the project. When the specification includes CMU, brick, or stone, the complete line of SPEC MIX mortars are specially designed for the application to deliver optimal bond, workability and jobsite productivity—every time!

**SPEC MIX—NORTH CAROLINA**  
**RYAN COYNE—404.702.5944**

© 2023 SPEC MIX

**SPEC MIX®**





**Danks Burton**, CME, Chairman  
Pinnacle Masonry, Inc., Cary, NC

**Bo Black Jr.**, CME, President  
Carolina Masonry Unlimited, Willow Springs, NC

**Cliff McGee**, CME, President-Elect  
McGee Brothers Company,  
Greensboro, NC

**Tim Manning**, CME, Secretary/  
Treasurer, Manning Masonry,  
Williamston, NC

**Doug Burton**, CME, Eastern Regional  
Vice President Whitman Masonry,  
Raleigh, NC

**Brandon Hartsell**, CMP, Central Vice  
President Gates Construction  
Company, Mooresville, NC

**Don Caldwell**, Western Regional  
Vice President, C & R Masonry,  
Candler, NC

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

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

**Ryan Shaver**, CMP, Executive Vice  
President/NCMCA WDTC, Mt.  
Pleasant, NC

**Jodi Helms**, Office Manager,  
Mt. Pleasant, NC



The Quarterly Newsletter of  
**The North Carolina Masonry  
Contractors Association**

PO Box 308

Mt. Pleasant, NC 28124

Telephone (828) 324-1564  
[www.ncmca.com](http://www.ncmca.com)

## Message From the President

Welcome to Spring 2023! The weather has gotten better, and I hope you are being productive on your jobs. We have several high school masonry contests across the state so far with great attendance. Skills USA is upcoming in April and the Sam McGee Apprenticeship contest in May. Please plan and prepare to participate. Our convention is only a month away, please plan on attending. This year's convention will have a new look and will be exciting and informational. I have visited most of our chapters this spring and I'm very excited about the passion and heart for the masonry industry that I see in every member. We certainly have challenges ahead, but I believe our passion, integrity, innovation and willingness to work together as a group will lead us to our common goal of improving the masonry industry. Work hard, have faith and stay the course.

See you guys soon and certainly at the convention in Myrtle Beach.

**-Bo Black, CME, President**



## Update on Certification Classes

In April, Module 5 "Mastering the Details of Masonry Construction" will be held at 73 & Main in Mt. Pleasant. Attendance has been great at the previous classes, it is so exciting to see lots of new faces in the classes as well as the returning ones each month. We have gotten lots of great feedback about the instructors as well as the food (it is definitely the reason to keep coming back, it is delicious!) If anyone is interested in attending, please contact NCMCA office.

### Upcoming Certification Classes

April 13th—Module 5

May 10th—Module 6

June 15th—Module 7

At 73 & Main

1467 North Main Street

Mt. Pleasant, NC 28124

## **O'Connor Wins Skills USA NC Southwest Regional**



In February Chandler Concrete in Salisbury hosted as seventy masonry students from twelve high schools participated in the SkillsUSA North Carolina Southwest Regional Masonry Competition. Pictured, winners of the Masonry II contest left to right, Third Place finisher Nicholas Sloop and First Place finisher O'Connor Leonard both of West Rowan High School, and Second Place finisher Israel Burgrain of Columbus College & Career Academy. Not pictured, Fourth Place Finisher Mason Ridenhour of East Rowan High School and Fifth Place Finisher Colby Kirkland of West Stanly High School. In the Masonry I competition, Khalib Kennedy of Columbus College and Career Academy finished in first place followed

by Gavin Burris of North Stanly High School and Abril Baza of Columbus College and Career Academy respectively. Dylan Smith of West Rowan High School finished in First Place for the Johnson Concrete Products Block laying Contest followed by Brandon Cole of North Stanly High School and Ben Grubbs of Carson High School respectively. The team of William Chesney and Jared Bonds of East Rowan High School won the Tender Competition. The Columbus College and Career Academy team of Ryleigh Pitman and Jaden Pope finish second and the team of James Whitely and Bowin Huntley of West Stanly High School finished third.

## **Bugarin Wins Eastern Top Trowel Contest**

In March, Adams/Oldcastle and the NCMCA Eastern Carolina Chapter hosted the Annual Lineburner and Top Trowel competition in Goldsboro. Pictured left to right, winners of the Masonry 2 "Top Trowel" competition: Fifth Place, Gaby Key, Columbus Career & College Academy; Fourth Place, Kris Nelson, White Oak High School; First Place, Israel Bugarin, Columbus Career & College Academy, who also finished first in the Lineburner competition; Second Place, Leslie Maldonado, Columbus Career & College Academy; and Third Place, Madison Newton, Pender High School. Michael Roberts of Jones Senior High School placed first in the Masonry One competition. Columbus Career & College Academy won the "Team Award" for

overall best school performance. 2023 marks the 41<sup>st</sup> year Adams/Oldcastle has hosted the high school masonry competition.





## Message from Ryan

Spring has sprung in NC! With the beginning of spring upon us, NCMCA has a ton of great events lined up for the spring! SkillsUSA NC Masonry contest will be on April 19th, and we need everyone possible to help with this great contest. We have 118 students registered to compete that day and this exceeds the numbers we had pre-Covid. I would really like to have as many of our industry folks there as possible! If you need help and have said that youth “now” days don’t want to work, then I challenge you to show up in Greensboro on April 19th and build relationships to hire these great young students! The contest will be held at the Greensboro Coliseum on Wednesday, April 19th and if you have any questions or you are willing to come help, please call me!

The next big event on the calendar is NCMCA Convention. Our room block is almost full, so please plan on attending the convention. We will have a few new items this year and the sponsors have gone above the board to make this happen. Mackie Bounds will be on hand to run the live auction and we have some really great things to auction off, and all proceeds will go towards Workforce Development in our state! The Saturday night banquet will have a real twist and will highlight monumental things in our association. If you have not registered, please do so quickly! Next year’s convention location will be unveiled, and this year’s convention will be huge!

Our association is on a great path, thanks to the continued support of many great leaders past and present!

Rounding out the spring events will be the Sam McGee Memorial Contest that will be held at East West Products in Kinston, NC on May 20th. This contest has grown and is the largest apprentice contest in the country! We anticipate over 50 apprentices competing and the contest committee has been hard at work. Please make sure you see the registration form in the newsletter. The NCMCA has traditionally made sure that each participating apprentice leaves that day with tool bag full of tools so on Monday they can show their crew. This is all possible because of the donations that members make to the contest and we are looking forward to keeping this going strong this year. Please keep all these upcoming events in mind, so please come out and show your support.

Thanks to each one of you for all you do to make NCMCA so strong! Please call me if you need anything!

**-Ryan Shaver , CMP, Executive Vice President/NCMCA**

## Member News

Land of the Sky Chapter Vice President Steve Stout of Merrill Masonry lost his father. Blaine O. Stout was ninety years old and lived in Mountain City, Tennessee.

Past NCMCA President Dickie Robertson's wife Scarlett passed away. She was 75 and lived in Burlington.

Ken Holland's (Triangle Brick) mother, Helen Holland of Chapel Hill passed away February 6.

Masonry instructor, NCMCA member, and past president of the North Carolina Masonry Instructors Association, Rodney Harrington is “Career & Technical Instruction (CTE) Teacher of the Year” at West Rowan High School. Harrington’s masonry students have won numerous awards including National SkillsUSA Masonry Championships awarded to Luke Dutton (2015,) Ashton White (2018 and 2019,) Grant Helms (2019, pictured left,) and Anderson Pruett (2022.) In addition to producing champions, Harrington has excelled in introducing young people to

successful construction careers. (Pictured below, Grant Helms (left) and Rodney Harrington (right))

Matthew McKnight continues to battle pancreatic cancer and he asks for continued prayers. Ronnie Miller is serving as an interim at this time.

Please keep Gary Kitchen in thoughts and prayers, he lost his shop/garage due to a fire. Tools, vehicles, etc. were all lost. He would appreciate your support and prayers.

Bruce Davis of RBD & Associates lost his mother. Hazel Brookshire Davis was 101 years old and lived in Lenoir.

Masonry instructor, Wayne Miller is “Career & Technical Instruction (CTE) Teacher of the Year” at Providence Grove High School.





The 34th Annual Raleigh NCMCA Golf Tournament and 23rd Annual Chapter Golf Tournament took place in mid January in Myrtle Beach with forty-six individuals participating . The 2023 “Murdell” Champions are the team of (left to right) Konner Klingenberg, Jimmy Wall, Doug Burton, and Drew Burton. Tournament Chairman Doug Burton says, “Twenty-third trip for us to Murdell and we have raised (more than) \$112,000 which has, or is, all going to masonry promotions. Good event, good cause, low overhead.” Sponsors include Tucker Kirby Company, Brodie Contactors, P&D Architectural Precast, Reed & Crocker, LLC, Custom Brick & Supply, Fay Block Materials, Frank Werner, Gates Construction Company, Hydro Rents

Carolina, Jeb Burton, Johnson Concrete Products, Lafarge Holcim, Palmetto Brick Company, Pinnalce Masonry, Scaffold Mart, SPEC MIX, and Whitman Masonry.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

### **Gilgeours Construction Corporation**

Lisa Gilgeours  
Greensboro, NC  
*recruited by NCMCA*

### **Edward L. Duke Builders Inc.**

Ed Duke  
Concord, NC  
*recruited by NCMCA*

### **DACO Group, PLLC**

Daniel Furr  
Rockwell, NC  
*recruited by NCMCA*

### **Hilti North America**

Jonnie Crabb  
Greenville, NC  
*Recruited by Tim Manning*

### **Rhino Carbon Fiber**

Anthony Bertone  
Naples, FL  
*recruited by NCMCA*

### **UPDATE ON FOREMAN IN THE FIELD**

Session 1 and 2 have been a huge success. Over 50 foremen from more than 16 companies have represented each session. Many thanks to everyone that have attended and especially to the instructors. Session 3 “Race to the Finish” (Are You the Lead Horse?) will be held in May. More information will be coming soon!

### **DATES TO REMEMBER:**

- 4/13— Certification Class/Module 5, Mt. Pleasant, NC
- 4/15—ACE Mentor Trades Day, Raleigh, NC
- 4/19—NC SkillsUSA, Greensboro, NC
- 4/27-30—NCMCA Convention, Myrtle Beach, SC
- 5/4—Caldwell County Masonry Contest, Hibriten Supply Company Lenoir, NC
- 5/10—Certification Class/Module 6, Mt. Pleasant, NC
- 5/11—Greene County Tennessee Masonry Ed. Day
- 5/18—Land of Sky Chapter Masonry Contest, Smoky Mountain Event Center, Lake Junaluska, NC
- 5/20—Sam McGee Memorial Contest, Kinston, NC, East West Products
- 5/26—Foreman in the Field: Session 3, Greensboro, NC
- 6/15—Certification Class/Module 6, Mt. Pleasant, NC
- 6/19-25—National SkillsUSA, Atlanta, GA
- 7/13-15—SCMA Convention, Myrtle Beach, SC
- 7/17-21—CTE Summer Conference, Winston Salem

## **CMU Checkoff Assessments start April 1st 2023!**

The Newly Federal Mandated CMU Checkoff Program is kicking into high gear nationwide for all CMU producers. Starting April 1st, all CMU producers will be required to have safe harbor language added to all invoices pertaining to the penny assessment for CMU sold. The penny per block assessment will be collected at the point of sale. All producers will be required to send in the assessments on a quarterly basis.

## **EastWest Products LLC to Host Annual McGee Contest**

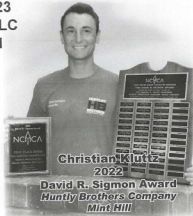
NCMCA's best apprentice masons will compete in Kinston, Saturday, May 20 for the Annual NCMCA Samuel McGee Memorial Apprentice Masonry Skills Contest. The McGee contest champion earns the right to represent North Carolina in the Annual MCAA Las Vegas International Apprentice Skills Contest at the World of Concrete in Las Vegas. Everyone who competes will win cash and tool prizes. Please look for an email with the registration form or contact Ryan or Jodi. **DEADLINE IS MAY 1** for all registration forms. Sponsorship donation are needed and are greatly appreciated, please send to NCMCA PO Box 308, Mt. Pleasant, NC 28124. If anyone is traveling and needs hotel information, please call: Holiday Inn (252-559-8888), Hampton Inn (252-468-0420), or Quality Inn.

### **The NCMCA Samuel A. McGee Memorial MASONRY SKILLS CONTEST**



**Schedule:**  
8:30 AM Contestants Register, Briefing  
9:30 AM Contest Begins  
11:30 AM Contest Ends, Judging Begins  
Noon Lunch Hosted by EastWest Products  
1:00 PM Award Presentations

Saturday, May 20, 2023  
EastWest Products LLC  
720 E New Bern Road  
Kinston, NC 28501



Entry Application

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TRAINING HOURS COMPLETED\* \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
EMPLOYER \_\_\_\_\_  
EMPLOYER ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL\* \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
SUPERVISOR NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMPLOYMENT BEGAN (YEAR) \_\_\_\_\_

I certify that the above apprentice is qualified for this competition per the rules listed below.

X \_\_\_\_\_ X \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTESTANT'S SIGNATURE EMPLOYER'S SIGNATURE

#### **Contest Rules and Regulations**

- 1) Must be sponsored and employed at the time of the contest by a masonry contractor member of NCMCA in good standing to win contest championship and advance to additional contests representing NCMCA. (contractor member sponsored contestants not employed by the member contractor may compete but are not eligible for the championship.)
- 2) Must furnish tools including trowel, level, square, hammer, modular rule, concave jointers, etc.
- 3) Must wear proper clothing and footwear, safety goggles or safety glasses, and an approved hard hat.
- 4) \*Must not have completed more than 6,000 hours or three years of training before the competition. Limit of three NCMCA Apprentice Masonry Skills competitions, regardless of hours.
- 5) **Entry fee is \$50 for each contestant.** Fee must accompany this complete application.

\*Upon receipt of this completed application, the NCMCA member employer company sponsoring the apprentice will be emailed a link to use to complete the registration process. Please return the application and complete the email-linked form in a timely fashion.

Please send checks made payable with completed applications to:

North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association, PO Box 308, Mount Pleasant, North Carolina 28124  
Questions? Phone (704) 791-5240. Email: ryan.shaver@ncmca.com www.ncmca.com  
Contest winner will receive the "David R. Sigmon Award" as the 2023 NCMCA Apprentice Skills Contest Champion.

### **EastWest Products LLC**

720 East New Bern Road (US Highway 70)  
Kinston, NC 28502  
(252) 523-5136

<https://www.eastwestmasonry.com/>



**See NCMCA's best apprentices compete for cash and tool prizes!  
Come join the fellowship and fun Saturday, May 20 in Kinston.**

This form may be photocopied. Donations of cash and tools for prizes are solicited. Donors recognized. Special thanks to EastWest Products and the NCMCA Eastern Carolina Chapter for hosting this year's event. Contest Chairman: Cliff McGee, McGee Brothers Company. Judges' decisions are final. Ryan Shaver, Contest Coordinator.

#### **Mr. Sam's Contest**

Samuel Alexander McGee (1939-2015) was co-founder and President of McGee Brothers Company in Monroe. Recognized as an innovator in the industry, Sam was inducted into the Masonry Contractors Association of America "Hall-of-Fame" in 2014. He was inducted into the National Masonry Contractors Association "Hall-of-Fame" in 2012 and was among the first individuals to earn the designation "Certified Masonry Executive" in the NCMCA Masonry Contractor Certification Program. He had a passion for the masonry industry and for encouraging and teaching young people craft skills, especially masonry. In recognition of his contribution and dedication to masonry in the Carolinas, the annual contest is named in his memory.

#### **The David R. Sigmon Award**

The apprentice that finishes with the top score will be presented the "David R. Sigmon Award" as first place finisher of the Annual NCMCA Samuel A. McGee Memorial Apprentice Skills Contest. The award is named in memory of David Sigmon, a journeyman mason from Hickory who passed away in 1998 while serving as NCMCA president-elect and who had been active in promoting this contest and other programs around the state to recruit and develop young craftsmen for masonry careers.

This Issue Sponsored by :





# Thank You 2023 Convention Sponsors



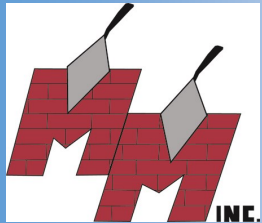
## Platinum Sponsors



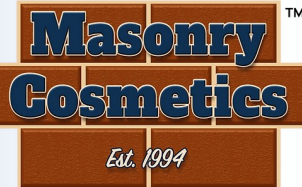
## Diamond Sponsors



## Gold Sponsors



## Silver Sponsors



## Golf Tournament Sponsor



## Speed Dating



## Bronze Sponsors

RBD Associates

