Masonry’s Future

The Pioneer Career and Technology Center hosted the Annual Masonry High School Competition. Students from Ohio and Pennsylvania participated in the event. Junior and Senior High School Students compete with separate projects and are judged by industry representatives.

The competition is a timed event and judges review the projects for a multitude of categories, including plum, level, correct design, square, manipulation, etc.

OMA Members attended the event and either donated materials, money, prizes, and labor or served as judges. Some of the OMA Members are pictured above left. If you have not visited a vocational school, please take the time to show your support by talking to the students or, better yet, volunteer to serve on their advisory committees.

Student Winners
Below are the finalists for the Ohio High School Masonry Competition for 2018.
National Conventions

The year 2018 started out with two major masonry industry events. Both the National Concrete Masonry Association and the Mason Contractors Association of America hosted their national conventions.

MCAA hosted theirs at the World of Concrete in Las Vegas, Nevada. Many OMA members were in attendance learning about new technologies for the masonry industry.

Walking the floors and visiting the outdoor was to say the least a very good workout. The convention spanned the majority of the convention hall and outside parking lots.

MCAA hosted many competitions for the masonry labor force with prizes including a new truck. Contestants put 100% into their efforts to win the prize. You could see the pride which contestants have for their industry.

Many companies that participated as vendors had hands-on displays where you could try out their new equipment. It was truly a one-stop-shop for companies looking for safety apparel, equipment, tools and be able to compare products at one facility. “Better than shopping out a catalog”, one contractor stated.

If you did not attend this year’s show, consider 2019.

Many OMA Members were showcasing their products and services at the world of Concrete. The following are some pictures from the convention floor.

During the convention MCAA hosted educational sessions for contractors. Each session was carefully chosen to provide trending issues within the masonry and construction industry.
NCMA hosted their convention in Indianapolis, Indiana. This year was the start of their 100th Year Celebration.

Many attendees visited and remembered the history of the concrete masonry industry. Remembering those who helped build the industry that have passed, those who have retired and those who continue to serve the industry.

Larry Wilson, Past Chairman of the Ohio Masonry Association, visited the floor and shared stories from the past. NCMA had a one of a kind machine on display which caught the attention of many multi-generation companies.

NCMA provided educational opportunities for the industry as well as hosted committee meetings to shape the future of NCMA and the industry.

Below are some pictures of OMA Member companies and attendees from the show floor.

NCMA is celebrating their 100-Year Anniversary Celebration, July 31 - August 3, 2018, in Chicago, Illinois.

Highlights of the Midyear Meeting include:

- Gala 100-Year Anniversary Celebration
- NCMA Town Hall Meeting
- NCMA Member Reception
- NCMA Committee Meetings
- 100-year Anniversary Special Sessions
- Family Business/Small Business Forum
- Unit Design Competition Presentations and Awards
- NCMA Business Lunch
- NCMA PAC Reception
- Optional Tours and more...

The MCAA Midyear Meeting will be held September 24-26, 2018 in Austin, Texas.

MCAA will host a golf tournament, “speed dating” (a rapid series of short and concise business-to-business meetings between mason contractors and manufacturer and suppliers to openly discuss business needs as well as the latest product and equipment innovations advancing the masonry industry) and networking roundtable discussions.
OMA Meetings

ANNUAL MEETING, W. CHESTER, OH

The Ohio Masonry Association held its Annual Meeting March 8, 2013 in West Chester, Ohio. The annual meeting was a one day educational event including a panel discussion with designers, presentation from a CPA on new tax laws, session on brick staining, workers compensation and the Annual Meeting of Members.

OMA started off with a social event the night before with food, beverages, bowling, laser tag and gaming. Attendees had a good time and talked about doing go-kart racing next year.

OMA members and masonry industry representatives came away with great information from the educational sessions.

One important item was during the panel discussion. Producers realized that communicating with the architect and designers about what strengths their block is testing at can directly affect the size and spacing of rebar and the amount of grouted cells.

Designers will use the ASTM C=90 Specifications which is 2000 psi. By talking to the designers and informing them of the actual block strength of the block, it can affect the cost of the wall system saving the owner money.

With the costs of steel increasing, including rebar, keeping wall systems cost competitive is essential to be competitive with other wall systems.

One producer was visiting an architect soon after the meeting and was planning on using precast for a new project. The architect wanted to use concrete masonry, but, in his opinion, CMU did not have enough strength. After sharing with the designer their testing data, the architect changed his design to CMU!

Wyatt & Associated LLC presented to the group options for reducing Workers Compensation costs. Wyatt & Associates: “We enjoyed the opportunity to present to you at the OMA Annual Meeting. We encourage each business to reach out to us directly to discuss how our services can benefit you. From implementing a workers’ compensation program to handling a claim, we hope you will consider us in helping you navigate the BWC waters.”

During the OMA Annual Meeting the Membership approved the Board of Directors slate. Here is the Board roster as approved.

OMA Officers & Trustees

Chairman
Greg Schuerman, PCC Masonry
Vice Chairman
Mike Homan, Wayne Builders Supply
Treasurer
Mark Vidika, Krete/Vidika Corporation
Immediate Past Chairperson
Paul Oldham, Ollier Masonry

Producer Trustees
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Rick Oberhauser, W.L. Tucker Supply Company, Inc.
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Contractor Trustees
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Adam Jacob, Jacob Masonry Contractors
Hoss Hoskinson, Lang Masonry & Restoration Contractors

Promotion / Manpower Committee Chairperson
James “Hoss” Hoskinson, Lang Masonry Contractors

Membership Committee Chairperson
Mike Homan, Wayne Builders Supply

Codes Committee Chairperson
Steve Reibold, Lehigh White Cement

OMA Office/ 800-443-6779
masonry@hughes.net
www.ohiomasonry.org
Education

Josh Naragon, Executive Director, provides designers educational opportunities with Lunch and Learns as well as seminars. Josh is an accredited presenter for the National Concrete Masonry association and the Brick Industry Association.

OMA provides opportunities for members to provide education to designers by partnering with them to provide AIA Accredited Courses. The member sets up the lunch and learn, provides the lunch and Executive Director Josh Naragon will provide the accredited course. All architects in Ohio, whether they are a member of AIA or not, are required by the state to complete required amounts of approved education. This education must include Health Safety Welfare (HSW) requirements.

The Ohio Masonry Association partners with Pella Windows to provide a complete day of education for designers. Pictured on this page is the program on April 10th hosted at the Great Lakes Science Center in Cleveland. This program brought in 80 architects for the education. Each of the Pella programs hosts the education at a venue that in itself is a draw. Attendees receive their education, lunch and a pass to the venue’s activities.

If you would like a complete list of the AIA programs available and would like to set up a Lunch and Learn or seminar, contact Josh.

OMA Golf Outing

THURSDAY MAY 24, 2018

Once again OMA is partnering with the Columbus Chapter of CSI in a joint effort to offer members a great golf experience and opportunities to socialize and make new business/professional contacts.

The outing starts with a shotgun start at 10:00 AM with dinner and awards around 3:30 PM. For registration and sponsorship opportunities, visit the OMA website at www.ohiomasonry.org.

OMA Awards

EXCELLENCE IN MASONRY

Keep an eye out for the 2018 Excellence in Masonry Call for Entries. Start putting a list together of projects you want to submit.