



A Word from Our President

December 2020

"What A Long Strange Trip It's Been"

I'm not sure how everyone else feels, but this has seemed like a long year. I know there are a lot of people struggling during this time. I guess we can all feel some relief that we have been



Rusty Hobson
VMA President

considered "essential" through all of this Covid mess.

As the end of the year approaches, I would like to wish everyone a wonderful and safe Holiday Season. As we look forward to a new year, let's all be encouraged that we will be getting our Masonry Apprenticeship Training Program back on track and ensuring that our industry will grow. We can also look forward to a stronger presence with the Masonry Alliance of Virginia getting off the ground. Thank you all for your continued support of our association, the apprenticeship program, and let's look to build momentum for 2021!

The Virginia Masonry Association is an organization comprised of masonry contractors, manufacturers and suppliers that promote masonry construction in Central Virginia by providing a source of education for masonry apprentices, architects, contractors, homeowners and high school masonry programs.

VMA Masonry Apprenticeship Training Program

Tuesday Evening Classes resume February 9, 2021!



STRENGTHENING THE MASONRY INDUSTRY...ONE SKILLED APPRENTICE AT A TIME.

Would you like more information about our Apprenticeship Training Program?
Visit www.virginiamasonry.org or contact VMA at vma@virginiamasonry.org.



TIDEWATER

An Alliance: Three Virginia Masonry Associations Join Together for Masonry Workforce Development Strategies

It is not news that skilled masonry tradesmen are getting harder to find. Many seasoned masons are nearing retirement age and there aren't nearly as many ready to fill their shoes. The masonry industry cannot survive without installers of our products, which makes recruitment and training of new masons imperative to the success of our industry. For this reason, three Virginia Masonry Associations are joining forces to strengthen Workforce Development efforts in Virginia.

Headed by Sam Finney of Tidewater Block, members of VMA, Blue Ridge Masonry Association and VMA-Tidewater have been meeting in an effort to form an alliance, with the main objective being to increase the masonry workforce in Virginia (and beyond!). Having been spurred by the recently approved CMU Check-Off Program, the alliance hopes to be granted funds from this check-off program to be used for workforce development purposes across the state. The committee has been working on creating by-laws for the alliance as well as a dues structure for the three members of the alliance while keeping up-to-date about the progress of the CMU Checkoff Program. Committee Members are meeting with members of the NCMCA (North Carolina Masonry Contractors Association) later this month to discuss their successes in North Carolina, not limited to the hiring of their Workforce Development and Training Coordinator, Ryan Shaver, and their efforts therein.



For more information about the Block Check-Off Program, please visit CMUCheckoff.com

VMA MEMBERS ENJOYED TOPGOLF EVENT!



VMA members enjoyed some good old-fashioned togetherness (safely distanced, of course!) during our Masonry Mixer on October 29th. The weather was absolutely perfect for this open-air event. It was so nice to see everyone after such a long hiatus.



OCTOBER 29, 2020
TOPGOLF - RICHMOND



2021 BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED!

Click [HERE](#) to submit your nominations online!
Or go to www.VirginiaMasonry.org/Nominations
By no later than December 15, 2020

2020 VMA Board of Directors

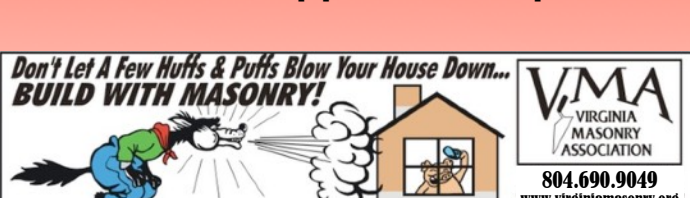
Rusty Hobson, James River Exteriors - President
Wayne Young, Bearing Masonry
Matt Ferguson, Masonomics
Jeff Carlson, Skyline Brick
James Tavenner, Shade & Wise Brick Company
Thomas Parrish, Riverside Brick & Supply Co.

Joe Rioux, Argos Cement
Stone Strotmeyer, Allied Concrete Products/Oldcastle
Mike Lewis, Workrite
Mike Chaney, James River Exteriors
Greg Kastelberg, Southern Brick Contractors
Randy Daniel, Seaboard Concrete

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Dec 17 - Masonry Alliance of Virginia - Zoom Virtual Meeting - 10am

Feb 9 - VMA Apprenticeship Training Classes Slated to Resume



Be sure to like us on Facebook!



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