



*"Line Up"*



# Newsletter

## DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

Hello again and welcome back. I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer.

Since our last newsletter, some of our Locals have seen a slow down in work availability. A lot of this slow down is due to the poor economy and some is due to poor planning and management. Either way we still see a lot of jobs here in WV to be bid or are now in the bidding phase. Our staff has been monitoring "Bid Clerk" and "Dodge" to follow each and every job from the pre-planning phase to the bid results. We have set up a job networking system with many of our contractors to ensure that we have signatory contractors bidding these projects.

As we all have read about or watched on TV, many other states have been devastated by the poor economy. Our District Council receives calls every week from BAC members in other states that have been out of work for a long time and the work outlook for them is not very bright in the near future. Since none of us have a crystal ball to see into the future, we need to take a look back to what has helped build our strong Union. We need to go back to the "basics" and realize what is important to our future.

Some of the areas we need to focus on to ensure our survival as a union and ensure a prosperous life for all of us as an active member and retired member are:

- ✦ **Jurisdiction:** We need to now more than ever, protect our work jurisdiction and not give our work away to another craft or the non-union.
- ✦ **Working conditions:** This is an area that in a down time is attacked by some employers. If we give away any single condition that we have fought for, we will never get it back even in better times.
- ✦ **Training and Apprenticeship:** We can not let our training be neglected. Whether it is journeyman upgrade, cross training or

Apprenticeship, we must educate and train for new materials and train new apprentices or we will die out as a union.

- ✦ **Supporting our Locals and District Council:** In a down time it is more important than ever for every member to support our Union. Your District Council Staff needs the eyes and ears of every member to be more effective in securing work for you as a member. On the job, we need to support our Stewards and help protect our working conditions, safety and apprentices.

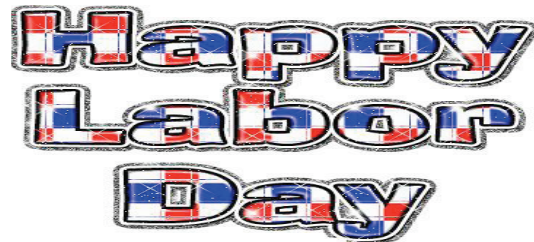
Please don't be naïve and pretend that we will not be affected by this down turn in the economy. Many of our Locals already have been. We need to all go on the offensive and dictate our future. We can not stick our head in the sand and hope that someone else will fix this country.

In the very near future you will be seeing some new programs, organizing campaigns and other changes in the masonry industry brought to your attention. Please take an interest, educate yourself on the issues and support our union with your involvement. In turn you will be building a better future for you and your family.

Please take the time to read and enjoy the rest of our newsletter and visit our web site at [www.wvbricklayers.com](http://www.wvbricklayers.com). Have a safe and prosperous summer and thank you for being a member of the BAC District Council of WV.

BAC  
We Build for You

Fraternally Yours,  
Leroy Hunter, Jr.



**Monday, September 7, 2009**

## THE ORGANIZING BLOCK

Since the last newsletter, organizing in West Virginia has become more crucial to members, contractors and the District Council. The downturn in the U.S. economy has caused owners and developers to put projects on hold or to cancel them altogether, creating a market that is seeing fewer and fewer projects bidding and more and more competition for the few projects that are bidding. The slow down has helped open the markets that our contractors once controlled, to contractors that are willing to take advantage of workers rights and that would do anything to turn a fast buck. We not only deal with these contractors, but also with the owners and businesses that try to exploit these situations, by shopping our competitive bids to other contractors, looking to undercut one price with another and then another, when finally you have a contractor that pays next to nothing and survives off the miseries and misfortunes of their employees who are just hoping to get by until their next check.



**Local #1 Wheeling members picket against Debello Masonry on the Sheetz project in Wheeling, WV.**

Across West Virginia, several Sheetz Gas Stations & Convenience stores have been planned. To date stores being built in Huntington, Barboursville, Milton, Hurricane and Wheeling have all gone to contractors that are paying below area wages with no health insurance or pension benefits. Attempts to work with the Sheetz Corporation and general contractors have been unsuccessful as prices of signatory contractors have been undercut by Debello Masonry and Tri-County Masonry on these projects. Talks with Stan Sheetz fell on deaf

ears, as Mr. Sheetz clearly expressed his responsibility to company stockholders to build Sheetz stores as cheaply as possible. When attempts to work with companies like Sheetz fail, it is up to us as bricklayers and community members to express our displeasure with these businesses. With several more stores to build in West Virginia, its time for your voice to be heard, please call **Stan Sheetz at 1-814-932-9930, "Together we can make a difference"**.

Work on the General Jenkins Museum, in the Huntington Local, has been awarded to signatory contractor Advanced Restoration. After weeks and months of delays and threats from the U.S. Corps of Engineers, the hard work finally paid off when local members began working on the jobsite. The project which entails extensive restoration work to the brick structure was originally awarded to a non-union contractor, Purvis Restoration, from Virginia. When a local member contacted Organizers about the project, questions were raised concerning the general contractor, Purvis Restoration, and the bidding procedure. Organizers met with the U.S. Corps of Engineers and raised questions that went unanswered. Serious concerns regarding the project prompted organizers to issue a Freedom of Information Act Request and raise questions about the project being awarded to unlicensed contractors. When all the smoke settled, the contract to Purvis Restoration was pulled and signatory contractors were asked to rebid the project, with Advanced Restoration being awarded the project.

In Charleston, members began working on a new Buffalo Wild Wings project thanks to the efforts of organizers. Working last summer to acquire a project in the Moundsville area and having it awarded to a non-union contractor, organizers were determined to change the outcome of the Charleston location. When the project originally bid it was discovered that a non-union contractor, Summit Masonry, from Indiana was going to be awarded the job. However, contact with Summit Masonry led them to withdraw their bid and then contact with the general contractor, Wagner Design-Build and Buffalo Wild Wings led to talks, which led to signatory contractors being given additional bidding opportunities. Through the cooperation and partnership that was established with organizers, Wagner Design-Build, Buffalo Wild Wings and signatory contractor Garrett Masonry, the project is now being done by

local BAC members. Jeff Garrett, owner of Garrett Masonry said, "I appreciate all the work that was done by Steve Ruble, and it's great to see Buffalo Wild Wings, Wagner Design-Build, the Union and myself come together for the benefit of a good business, contractors and local bricklayers".



**Promoting good business practices on the new Buffalo Wild Wings project in Charleston are Organizer Steve Ruble, Jeff Garrett (Garrett Masonry) and Mike Tippman (Wagner Design-Build).**

Thank you! Wagner Design-Build, Buffalo Wild Wings and Garrett Masonry, together we are creating local jobs, good wages, healthcare, pensions and **GOOD BUSINESS!**

## **PARKERSBURG NEWS**

Work in the Local #6 Parkersburg area has continued at a slower than expected pace. Members have recently finished working for Harris Masonry on the Blue Cross Blue Shield building. Work on the ceramic tile continues with members working for G.A. Brown. Central Masonry has been working several members at Fairplains Elementary School and has begun work on the new connector link at Parkersburg High School. Garrett Masonry has a small project on the Jackson County Library and work to begin at the Pennsboro Wastewater Treatment Plant. International Chimney has been working a few members at DuPont relining one of the stacks at the Washington Works facility.

A couple of projects that were expected for the area are currently on hold or have been held up due to the downturn in the U. S. Economy. Members are asked to remain vigilant and are encouraged to take advantage of journeyman upgrade and cross training opportunities.

## **FAIRMONT/AREA II NEWS**

Work in North Central WV has yet to see much of a slow-down; we continue to have projects going strong all over the area. First is the Es-roc Concrete Kiln in Martinsburg that is still going strong with over 60 bricklayers working two ten hour shifts six and seven days per week. This project has been a great boost to the area and is expected to be completed in October. Work continues at the United Hospital Center in Bridgeport with M.I. Friday. There are currently about 25 bricklayers working on the project and will last into the fall months. R.G. Friday is also working a crew of pointer/cleaner/caulkers at the site. M.I. Friday has members working at the Suncrest Plaza on a strip mall and office building and members continue to work at Longview Power Plant. Marsa is still working on the Mountaineer Challenge Academy at Camp Dawson. The block work is near completion and the roughly one hundred thousand brick veneer units are about to begin. In addition, Marsa has begun working a small crew on the new Allegheny Power office building in Fairmont. Wilson Restoration has a couple of projects in the area, an apartment building and Adamstan Elementary School. Kusler continues working on the I-79 Rest Area project and the physician's office building near United Hospital in Bridgeport and a small amount of work remains at Wesleyan College. Members are currently working for Sidley Precast on the Van Voorhis Road parking garage. The Frank Sheesley Company is working Local 15 cement masons at the Mt. Storm Power Plant. Harris Masonry continues working several members on the Fairmont Connector project. Atkinson Masonry has begun working on the new Chick-Fil-A restaurant located near the East Point Mall in Clarksburg.

Members can look forward to several projects to begin in the near future. Among these projects are the WVU Vivarium and VA Hospital in Clarksburg with Marsa. Harris Masonry will have members working on the Ridgedale Elementary School addition and Showalter Masonry has work on the 911 Center in Philippi, Mary Shiffer Library in Keyser and Wastewater Treatment Plant in Cumberland. In addition, Hetrick Masonry has work on the Dr. Alaway office building. There are two large projects currently bidding, the first at Hazelton Prison, is a twelve-hundred bed expansion to the

maximum security prison. The second at the FBI Complex, is for the construction of a new parking structure and office building. Both projects are being pursued by signatory contractors and would create hundreds of man hours during 2010.

Local 15 members can be proud of two recently completed projects. Building owners and contractors have expressed their gratitude and complemented the quality craftsmanship, manner of expertise and overall conduct of the bricklayers who recently worked on the Wesbanco project at Suncrest Plaza and WVU Nursery on Patterson Drive. Working together with Kriscrete and Fairchance Construction made both projects a model for success. "Sometimes it seems that our hard work goes unnoticed, but every once in a while, it's good to get positive feedback" said, Joe Dalton. "Compliments like these, make everyone want to do better and give a little extra effort". Good Job!

## WHEELING/WEIRTON NEWS

Field Representative Rich Wilson reports that although work has been relatively slow in the Local 1 area, several large projects are expected to begin by late fall. Among work to begin is a new addition at Wheeling Park High School, a new hotel to be built at the Highlands, in Ohio County and a \$50 million dollar addition to Wheeling Hospital. The Wheeling Hospital project should move forward soon after the mandated public hearing. In addition, work on the new Cameron High School, in Marshall County and work on the Great Escapes Amusement Park, also at the Highlands, should get underway by early 2010.

In the Weirton area, after a slow spring and summer, work for the remainder of 2009 and into 2010 is expected to pick up slightly.

Mountain State Carbon's Coke Plant at Follansbee is currently taking bids for major maintenance projects on the one, two and three coke batteries and possibly ceramic welding work on the eight battery. All of this should create several jobs for Local 11 members. In addition to the Coke Plant, there will be a boiler project at Mittal Steel expected to start in late September or early October and a galvanized furnace repair project at Wheeling Nisshan Plant scheduled for early fall.

## CHARLESTON/HUNTINGTON NEWS

Field Representative Denver Bash reports that work continues to remain steady. In the Huntington area, work continues at the Marshall University Alumni Center and Buffalo Middle School with Metro Masonry. Work on the new Barboursville Walgreens has begun with Central Masonry and B Masonry has started working on the Beale Elementary project. The restoration work on the Jenkins Museum has begun and members are working for Advanced Restoration on the project.

Several projects are moving closer to getting started in the area; among the projects is the new Mingo Central High School project with Kline Masonry. G & R Masonry had work to begin on the new Laurel Lake Bathhouse and Metro Masonry has work on the new Welcome Center at Beech Fork Dam. Metro also has work on two projects at the VA Medical Center in Huntington. Central Masonry was recently awarded work on the new IBEW Training Center, Harris Hall at Marshall University and The Healing Place. B Masonry has work to begin at the Huntington Museum of Arts.



**Presenting Local #9 member Talmadge "Gene" Adkins with his 50 year gold card are from left, Dave Carte, Gene Adkins and Denver Bash.**

In Charleston, members continue working for Metro Masonry on the new Dormitory and for Capital City on the new parking garage at the University of Charleston. Metro Masonry is also working on the Kanawha County Sheriff Offices. G & R Masonry continues working a small crew at Thomas Memorial Hospital and B Masonry is working at Scott Teays Elementary and Clendenin Elementary Schools. Kline Masonry has been going strong at Concord College, Yeager Airport and Mt. Vernon Baptist Church. Workman

continues working several members on the school projects in McDowell County. Work with JHL Masonry and Metro has begun at the Tri-State Racetrack and Gaming Center. Garrett Masonry has begun work on the new Buffalo Wild Wings project on Corridor-G. Several projects are yet to be started, but should begin in the near future. Among these projects are the Raleigh County Judicial Center with Reckart, WV State Complex Electrical Courtyard with Metro Masonry, WV State Complex Building 5 with JD & E, Braxton County Armory with Paramount Builders, Hurricane Town Elementary, Beckley BB & T Bank and CAMC with Central Masonry, Yeager Airport and Summersville Hospital with Wiseman Construction.

### THE GREEN ZONE

On Saturday, April 25, 2009, the District Council of WV J.A.T.C. held its annual apprentice competition at the training center in Harrisville. Apprentices from around the state competed in three different categories according to their total number of on-the-job training hours. First and second place prizes were awarded for each category.



**Judges meticulously score a project.**

After a competitive effort from the apprentices, everyone enjoyed a cook-out lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs. Then, the scores were in:

- 50-60% 1<sup>st</sup> place, Chase Douglas (local #15)  
2<sup>nd</sup> place, Chris Sexton (local #5)
- 70-80% 1<sup>st</sup> place, Michael King (local #5)  
2<sup>nd</sup> place, Bill Sadler (local #11)
- 90% 1<sup>st</sup> place, B.J. Williams (local #9)  
2<sup>nd</sup> place, Ernie Bart (local #15)

Congratulations and great job! Also, I would like to extend my appreciation to all the helpers and judges, who once again help make the event a success.

This year B.J. Williams and Ernie Bart represented the West Virginia District Council during the BAC/IMI North Central Regional Apprentice Contest in Kansas City, MO. There were approximately 33 apprentices from 14 states participating in the event. B.J. and Ernie did a superb job and should be proud of their efforts.



**Ernie Bart (Regional Contest in Kansas City, MO)**



**B.J. Williams (Regional Contest in Kansas City, MO)**

Following the contest in Kansas City, B.J. was selected to compete in the 2009 BAC/IMI International Apprentice Contest. The contest is scheduled for September 28 - 30 at the IMI Training Center located in Bowie, MD. GOOD LUCK B.J.!!

## DIRECTIONS FOR THE NEW WEBSITE!!!

[WWW.WVBRICKLAYERS.COM](http://WWW.WVBRICKLAYERS.COM)

Click: Members Only  
Email Address Enter: **bricklayersunion**  
Password Enter: **bac001**



## JOKES

### EXACT WORDS

The homeowner was delighted with the way the bricklayer had built the new garage onto his house.

"You did a great job!" he said, and handed the bricklayer a check.

"Also, in order to thank you, here's and extra \$100 to take the missus out to dinner and a movie."

Later that night, the doorbell rang and it was the bricklayer.

Thinking the bricklayer had forgotten something the man opens the door and asked, "What's the matter, did you forget something?"

"Nope," replied the bricklayer. "I'm just here to take your missus out to dinner and a movie like you asked."

### STORY OF THREE MASONRY CONTRACTORS

Three masonry contractors were visiting a tourist attraction on the same day. One was from Charleston, another from Wheeling and the third from Fairmont.

At the end of the tour, the guard asked them what they did for a living. When they replied that they were masonry contractors, the guard said, "Hey, we need one of the piers on the rear gate redone. Why don't you guys take a look at it and give me a bid?"

So, to the back gate they all went to check it out.

First to step up was the Charleston masonry contractor. He took out his tape measure and pencil, did some measuring and said, "Well I figure the job will run about \$900. \$400 for materials, \$400 for my crew, and \$100 profit for me."

Next was the Wheeling masonry contractor. He also took out his tape measure and pencil, did some quick figuring and said, "Looks like I can do this job for \$700. \$300 for materials, \$300 for my crew, and \$100 profit for me."

Without so much as moving, the Fairmont masonry contractor said, "\$2,700."

The guard, incredulous, looked at him and said, "You didn't even measure like the other guys! How did you come up with such a high figure?"

"Easy," he said, "\$1,000 for me, \$1,000 for you and we hire the guy from Wheeling."

### SIX PHASES OF A MASONRY PROJECT

1. Enthusiasm
2. Disillusionment
3. Panic
4. Search for the Guilty
5. Punishment of the Innocent
6. Praise & Honors for the Non-Participants





**IN MEMORY OF**

**Brother Paul Frazier  
54 Year Member,  
Local #1WV**



**SPECIAL THANKS**  
For years of Service in  
2009!

Local #9

Talmadge Adkins, 50 years

John Wright, 40 years

Local #5

Terry Arthur, 40 years

Ralph Justice, 40 years

James Lawson, 40 years

Local #1

Lewis Rodgers, 40 years

Local #11

Gary Landers, 40 years



**UNION MEETINGS**

**Local # 1 Wheeling**

2nd Monday of every month  
@ 7:30 p.m. @ the Elm Grove Eagles,  
2153 National Road, Wheeling, WV.

**Local #5 Huntington**

1st and 3rd Wednesdays of  
every month @ 7:30 p.m. @ 234 4th  
Avenue, Huntington, WV.

**Local #6 Parkersburg**

2nd Tuesday of every month  
@ 7:00 p.m. @ the  
Parkersburg/Marietta Building Trades  
Office, 3100 Dudley Avenue,  
Parkersburg, WV.

**Local #9 Charleston**

3rd Thursday of every month  
@ 7:30 p.m. @ the Operating  
Engineers Hall, 606 Tennessee  
Avenue, Charleston, WV.

**Local #9 Beckley Chapter**

2nd Thursday of every month  
@ 7:00 p.m. @ the United  
Mineworkers, 2306 South Fayette  
Street, Beckley, WV.

**Local #11 Weirton**

2nd Wednesday of every  
month @ 7:00 p.m. @ the Weirton  
Holiday Inn, 350 Three Springs Drive,  
Weirton, WV.

**Local #15 Fairmont**

3rd Tuesday of every month @  
7:30 p.m. @ the District Council  
Office, 19 Middletown Road, White  
Hall, WV.

**Local #15 Area II**

1st Wednesday of every  
month @ 7:00 p.m. @ the Western  
MD Central Labor Council Office,  
152 North Mechanic Street,  
Cumberland, MD.

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If you have any questions, comments or suggestions about the newsletter, please contact:

Steve Ruble at [wvbricklayers@aol.com](mailto:wvbricklayers@aol.com) or at (304) 422-3273 or write to BAC District Council Field Office, P. O. Box 89 Davisville, WV 26142

If you would like to receive the newsletter via the Internet, e-mail your contact information to [wvbricklayers@aol.com](mailto:wvbricklayers@aol.com).

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### STEWARD'S TRAINING

- First Quarter (Jan., Feb., Mar.)  
Local #6 Parkersburg
- Second Quarter (Apr., May, June)  
Local #1 Wheeling & #11 Weirton
- Third Quarter (July, Aug., Sept.)  
Local #15 Fairmont & #15 Area II
- Fourth Quarter (Oct., Nov., Dec.)  
Local #5 Huntington & #9 Charleston

### MOVE CLASS SCHEDULE

- First Quarter (Jan., Feb., Mar.)  
Local #5 Huntington & #9 Charleston
- Second Quarter (Apr., May, June)  
Local #6 Parkersburg
- Third Quarter (July, Aug., Sept.)  
Local #1 Wheeling & #11 Weirton
- Fourth Quarter (Oct., Nov., Dec.)  
Local #15 Fairmont & #15 Area II

Any member interested in attending either the Steward's training or MOVE Class is asked to contact your local Field Representative

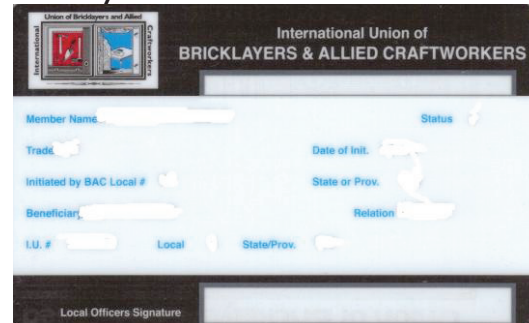
### NEW POLICY FOR DELINQUENT DUES PAYMENTS

Please be advised, effective July 1, 2009, all delinquent dues payments made after the 14<sup>th</sup> of the month dated on the members delinquent dues notice will be charged a twenty five dollar (\$25.00) late fee. This late fee option will only be available from the 15<sup>th</sup> of the date on the member's delinquent dues notice until the end of the same month. After the end of that month, the member will have to reinstate according to the I.U. BAC Constitution and By Laws.

Example:

- Delinquent dues notice dated September 1, 2009.
- Notice states member must pay dues by the September 14, 2009.
- If the member pays between September 15<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009, a \$25.00 late fee will be charged.
- If the member does not pay by September 30, 2009, the member will have to reinstate and all fees will apply according to the I.U. BAC Constitution and By Laws.

Please, be sure to stay current with your monthly dues.



Monthly dues payments should be made payable and mailed to the following address:

**NEW ADDRESS!!! NEW ADDRESS!!!**  
**BAC District Council of WV**  
**19 Middletown Road**  
**White Hall, WV 26554**  
**NEW ADDRESS!!! NEW ADDRESS!!!**





**International  
Masonry Institute**

The James Brice House  
42 East Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
phone 410.280.1305  
fax 301.261.2855  
toll free 800.803.0295  
www.imiweb.org

**Masonry Hotline**

800.IMI.0988  
(800.464.0988)  
masonryquestions@imiweb.org

**Training Hotline**

800.JOBS.IMI  
(800.562.7464)  
training@imiweb.org

# 2009 FLYNN CENTER TRAINING SCHEDULE

The John J. Flynn BAC/IMI International Training Center • 17101 Science Drive • Bowie, Maryland 20715

## Pre-Job Training

*Classes begin every Monday*

January – December

- Brick • Tile • PCC • Stone • Marble • Terrazzo
- Cement • Plaster

## Train the Trainer Courses

May 4-8	OSHA 500/502
June 2-6	MSHA (Mine Safety) requires current OSHA 500 certification
October 3-9	Instructor Certification Program (ICP)
October 6	Grout Certification
October 19-23	OSHA 500/502
November 16-20	OSHA 500/502

## Continuing Education Courses

April 13-24, May 4-15, October 26 - November 6, November 30 - December 11	Refractory Familiarization
April 13-17, May 18-22, July 27-31, October 26-30, December 7-11	JAHN Certification
January – December	Cross-Craft Familiarization (All crafts)
January – December	Craft Upgrade Training (All crafts)
Please call Ed Bellucci at (301) 291-2120	Additional Courses Available (Specialty materials, specific job installation techniques/tasks, etc.)

## International Apprentice Contest

**September 28** - Craft Contests

**September 29** - Craft Contests

**September 30** - Contest Banquet and Awards

***For specific training requests or additional courses available, contact Ed Bellucci at (301) 291-2120 or [ebellucci@imiweb.org](mailto:ebellucci@imiweb.org).***

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### **BAC DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICE**

19 Middletown Road  
White Hall, WV 26554  
Office: (304) 363-9250  
Fax: (304) 363-3470  
Leroy Hunter Jr., Director

### Locals #1, #6 & #11 Field Office

2301 Pleasant Avenue  
Wellsburg, WV 26070  
Office: (304) 737-3716  
Fax: (304) 737-1762  
Rich Wilson, Field Representative

### Organizing Line

BAC District Council, Field Office  
P. O. Box 89  
Davisville, WV 26142  
Office: (304) 422-3273  
Fax: (304) 422-3273  
Steve Ruble, Organizing Director

### Apprenticeship Information

JATC Field Office  
P. O. Box 103  
MacFarlan, WV 26148  
Office: (866) 918-9795  
Fax: (866) 918-9795  
Chris Ford, Apprenticeship Coordinator

### Locals #5 & #9 Field Office

3060 Mt. Vernon Road  
Hurricane, WV 25526  
Office: (304) 757-5600  
Fax: (304) 757-5600  
Denver Bash, Field Representative

### Locals #15 & #15 Area 2

BAC District Council Office  
19 Middletown Road  
White Hall, WV 26554  
Office: (304) 363-9250  
Fax: (304) 363-3470  
Leroy Hunter Jr., Director  
Joe Dalton, Field Representative

### BAC District Council, Field Office

P. O. Box 6144  
Wheeling, WV 26003  
Office: (304) 242-3664  
Fax: (304) 242-3664  
Brad Milton, Organizer



**Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers**  
District Council of WV  
19 Middletown Road  
White Hall, WV 26554