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**January 2012**

**2012 Dues:** The 2012 dues invoices will be mailed the first part of January. Please submit your dues payment within the month. Please note: dues will not be increased in 2012.

#### **Delinquency Corner**

Each month Fund Counsel for the MN & ND Bricklayer and Cement Masons reports to a Delinquency Committee about a number of matters, including an update on delinquent signatory employers to the Fringe Benefit Funds. In an effort to rid our marketplace of these employers and to make sure that our covered employees receive their Fringe Funds, a monthly list of Delinquent Contractors will be available upon request from Fund Counsel Andy Staab at Rosene, Haugrud & Staab, Chartered, 651-227-6621 or aes@rhschtd.com.



# Concrete & Masonry News

## **January Membership Meeting Tuesday, January 31, 2012**

### **Union Depot**

214 East 4th Street  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**4:30 p.m. Gather at Christos (1st floor) for Tour**

**4:45 p.m. Tour of Depot** (tour will start promptly at 4:45; please arrive on time)

**Social Hour (cash bar + appetizers) at Christos to follow tour**

**Cost: \$20** (payable to MC&MCA)

The Union Depot restoration and reconstruction project is scheduled for completion by the end of 2012. Five MC&MCA members are working on this historic project: **American Masonry Restoration, B&D Masonry, Carciofini Company, Twin City Tile and Marble and Adolfson Peterson Construction.**

Join us for a behind the scenes tour and first hand reports on the challenges and rewards of working on such a project.

**Safety Gear is MANDATORY. Please bring/wear hard hats, safety glasses, safety vest and work boots.** Ladies—please wear jeans or slacks (no skirts or heels).

**PARKING**—on street parking is available around the Depot. There are also various parking ramps and surface lots in the area.

**RSVP by January 23 to MC&MCA** at 651-293-0892 or e-mail renae@capitolconnections.com.

## February Membership Meeting

Thursday, February 16, 2012

Midland Hills Country Club, Roseville

MC&MCA has been invited by the MN Concrete Council to co-sponsor a breakfast meeting on February 16.

**7 a.m. Registration**

**7:30 a.m. Hot Breakfast Buffet**

**8 a.m. Presentation**

**9 a.m. Meeting Concludes**

**Cost: \$15 for breakfast, meeting materials and 1 PDH**

**Topic:** “Crack Free Concrete Repair—Are We There Yet?”

**Featured Speaker:** Frank Apicella, BASF Construction Chemicals

**Pre-registration required.** Register online at [www.mnconcretecouncil.com](http://www.mnconcretecouncil.com) or make arrangements to pay at the door by contacting Margaret Mills at the MN Concrete Council, 651-482-9549 or [Margaret@mnconcretecouncil.com](mailto:Margaret@mnconcretecouncil.com).

### MC&MCA AND TBG – PARTNERS IN SAFETY

MC&MCA continues to bring you benefits that will add value to your business. In 2011, we endorsed The Builders Group (TBG) as a new member benefit. TBG specializes in providing a workers’ comp program built specifically for the construction industry in Minnesota.

Another key component of TBG’s program is their commitment to providing customized Loss Control and Safety Services to their Members. This program consists of a partnership in safety where TBG’s certified Loss Control reps. design a safety plan for the specific needs of your business. TBG does this at no cost to the Member and they utilize their “state-of-the-art” Training and Demo Center at their headquarters in Eagan, MN. TBG has already seen over 4,000 Members and their employees utilize the training facility in the past few years.

Let TBG help you deliver your safety initiatives for 2012 and provide a lasting value to your business for long-term results.

Join more than 800 construction-related business owners in Minnesota who are already taking advantage of this great benefit, including 16 MC&MCA Members!

For more information contact Tina Morales, TBG Association Marketing Manager, at 651-203-6793, or by email at [tmorales@tbgmn.com](mailto:tmorales@tbgmn.com).

***TBG – the program designed with your business in mind!***



***Built by the Industry for the Industry***

# **2012 Convention & Excellence Awards Banquet**

**Friday, February 17, 2012**

This year's MC&MCA/MCMA Convention will be held on Friday, February 17 at the Double Tree Park Place Hotel in St. Louis Park. The award winners of this year's Excellence in Concrete & Masonry Design and Construction contest will be recognized. Many committee members and architects donated their time to the judging of these awards. A special thanks to these volunteers!

## **NEW THIS YEAR! TRAINING SEMINAR ON FLASHING**

The MC&MCA Education & Training Committee responded to your requests for additional educational opportunities and training sessions. The first seminar of 2012 will be held in conjunction with the annual convention and will focus on flashing. "Back to Basics: Construction Materials and Flashing Details" will be presented at 2 p.m.

Please encourage your supervisors and field staff to attend this seminar.

Thanks to the MC&MCA Education & Training Committee for the hard work you have invested in organizing this training session.

## **2012 Convention & Excellence Awards Schedule**

10 a.m. MC&MCA Annual Meeting

10 a.m.—1:30 p.m. Silent Auction

11 a.m. Lunch Registration and Social Hour

12 noon Luncheon and Awards Presentation

1:30 p.m. Silent Auction Winners Announced

2 p.m. Training Seminar

"Back to Basics: Construction Materials and Flashing Details"

4:30 p.m. Cribbage Tourney with Cash Bar

## **Silent Auction Items Needed!**

The silent auction has historically been a fun event for MC&MCA. While we've experienced a reduced number of contributions in recent years due to the economy, we are optimistic as the economy appears to be turning around and coming back *slowly*. We are hoping for a really fun event in 2012!

MC&MCA members are encouraged to donate one or more items for the silent auction on February 17. Past auction items have included tickets to sporting events, golf outings, fishing trips, fine wines, construction tools, power tools, garage items, gardening stuff, cabin ideas, etc. The Convention Committee will also accept cash contributions. The committee will purchase items of interest and value for the cause!

Thank you in advance for your generous contribution or gift!!



## Union Depot is Restored Back to Life \*

By Patricia Johnson

“We’re bringing the Union Depot back to life so the next generation can enjoy it,” says Mortenson Construction Superintendent Glenn VanHeel. “It’s very exciting.”

Located in downtown St. Paul near the Mississippi River, the Union Depot Multi-Modal Transit Center represents the next stage in the St. Paul-Minneapolis region’s transportation future, according to the Ramsey County Web site. The depot is the St. Paul termination point to its sister modal station located in downtown Minneapolis. The Central Corridor Light Rail Transit project is currently under construction; an 11-mile span of light rail system which will connect the two.



*Photo courtesy of Peggy Zetah*

The Union Depot restoration and reconstruction project is estimated at \$243 million which includes federal funding of approximately \$143 million.

The first St. Paul Union Depot was destroyed by fire in 1915. Reconstruction of the current building was completed in 1923, and in 1974 it was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

“First and foremost, we want to preserve the historic integrity of the structure,” VanHeel says. “This place was full of hustle and bustle with people and trains in the 1920s. The concourse area is a very unique piece of architecture in light of the time period it was built. You don’t see this type of old stone work anymore. The arched plaster ceilings, the old steel windows, the glass. It’s all being restored. The brick and stone piers and walls, all the details that show the horse drawn carriages, oxen and cart.”

Knowing it was going to be a difficult job with detailing, they have the “cream of the crop” working on the masonry. Workers were field tested to qualify to do the distinctive, intricate work which requires upgrades to the structure while retaining its historical craftsmanship.

Bill Dentinger of **B & D Masonry**, St. Paul, Minn., says his crew of about eight is setting Indiana limestone, in particular archways that are over the front entrance, building rooms and entrance ways on the train deck waiting area. They’ll be completed for the most part by the end of December.

“It’s a neat little building,” Dentinger says. “It’s a tough thing to do though; work on a 100-year-old building using new construction detail and methods.”

Dustin Sly, project manager for **American Masonry Restoration**, Fridley, Minn., has about 10 members working on the job site. Their tasks include interior and exterior building cleaning, repointing brick and stone masonry joints, resetting and replacing stone, and marble and terracotta repair and replacement.

“We’ve worked on historic buildings before, but to work on such a large structure with 20 other trades is extremely unusual,” Sly says. “Our project covers approximately 120,000 square feet. It cleans up pretty well. It just takes a little bit of testing to find the right product.”

The job was detailed well from the start so they haven't encountered many surprises. He expects his crew to be on the job site through August 2012.

Joe Becker, VP of the stone division at **Twin City Tile and Marble** (TCTM) in St. Paul, Minn., has a crew of about seven on site. They are refinishing the Tennessee marble floors and installing new Tennessee marble steps, base and floors. Tasks also include refinishing the existing granite steps and platforms and installing new granite paving. Terrazzo work includes new and refinished with new terrazzo tiling.

Joe Becker, VP of the stone division at **Twin City Tile and Marble** (TCTM) in St. Paul, Minn., has a crew of about seven on site. They are refinishing the Tennessee marble floors and installing new Tennessee marble steps, base and floors. Tasks also include refinishing the existing granite steps and platforms and installing new granite paving. Terrazzo work includes new and refinished with new terrazzo tiling.

"It's quite a large scope of work," Becker says. "It's a challenge because of the number of trades and the amount of paperwork stemming from state and federal financial involvement."

Because the structure is an existing building, versus new construction, there are many more people on sight, too. Mock ups were completed before work began to set realistic expectations.

"The architects have been real good to work with," he says. "They understand a 100-year old building won't look brand new." TCTM should be done by the end of August 2012.

Adam Bauchle, project manager and estimator for **Carciofini Company**, Burnsville, Minn., has about three crew members working on masonry block and stonework, architectural precast, expansion joints, traffic coatings, and the granite stairs and all caulking.

"It's been an interesting project because you're dealing with all existing conditions," he says. "There have been no surprises and it will look pretty cool when it's done."

The crew should be done by early summer 2012.

In terms of safety, Mortenson continues to hold fast to a strong safety culture, including stretching exercises every morning, plan-of-the-day meetings at 6:30 a.m. and worker orientation and reorientation.

The redevelopment of the Union Depot will be complete by the end of 2012 and the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit will open for service in 2014.

"It's going well," VanHeel says. "In fact, we're one-half hour ahead of schedule."

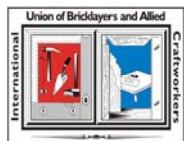
For additional information, log onto [www.co.ramsey.mn.us](http://www.co.ramsey.mn.us).

(Patricia Johnson can be reached at [patricia@johnsonwriting.com](mailto:patricia@johnsonwriting.com) or 952-891-3276)

\* Reprinted with permission from the BAC Local #1 MN-ND Quarterly Update.

## MINNESOTA MASONRY COALITION

After more than 6 months of hard work, the MN Masonry Coalition has officially been launched. Below are excerpts of a letter that was recently mailed to masonry contractors, suppliers and producers. We hope you will seriously consider contributing to this important endeavor. We need everyone on board to raise the funds necessary to match the union contributions. Thanks to all those who have already worked countless hours towards accomplishing this very worthwhile promotion.



### MINNESOTA MASONRY COALITION MISSION & GOALS

The Minnesota Masonry Coalition (MMC) is an ad-hoc committee of representatives from labor and management organizations committed to increasing the masonry market share by actively promoting masonry directly to engineers. Neighboring states, such as Michigan and Wisconsin, have implemented similar programs resulting in increased masonry sales and projects. It's time for Minnesota to join this effort!

#### **We will grow the masonry market!**

The model for this promotion has been to retain a structural engineer as a consultant who will make calls on local engineering firms with a goal of teaching affordable masonry construction. This will be accomplished with updated software, a proven job tracking system, and an industry-appointed engineering call team.

**Budget and Funding:** The Coalition will work with a \$100,000 annual budget:

Bricklayers Local 1	\$25,000 annually for four years
Laborers District Council	\$25,000 annually for four years
Masonry Contractors	\$25,000 annually for four years
Suppliers, Block Producers	\$25,000 annually for four years
IMI	Contribute labor for lead generation, job tracking, engineer sales calls

The administrative management needed to collect revenue and manage the day-to-day finances will be handled by the MC&MCA. The MMC will join MMPC in providing a much needed, two pronged masonry promotional effort.

#### **How will this Goal and Mission be accomplished? In the first year we will:**

- Identify and visit 18 local and regional engineering firms to establish, maintain, and grow a ***strong on-going working relationship*** with both the company and individual engineers.
- Train engineers on software that they already use to reflect the latest MSJC codes and other technology advances. This training will ***advance*** their ***skills in creating structural masonry designs***.
- ***Pursue*** smaller ***portions of larger buildings*** including stairway and elevator shafts and sheer walls.
- Implement a ***tracking system*** that will identify building projects as early as possible; meet with the engineer firm designing the building and ***work toward structural masonry redesign***.
- Hire ***consulting engineers*** to produce specific project plan re-design.
- Send regular, timely ***email blasts*** to educate and inform our members on the activities and progress of the promotion.

***Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 MN/ND      Midwest Masonry Promotion Council  
International Masonry Institute   MN Concrete Masonry Association   Labors District Council of MN & ND  
MN Concrete & Masonry Contractors Association   MN Laborers Employers Cooperation & Education Trust***

## MC&MCA EVENTS

We hope you can join us in 2012 for both the social and educational gatherings that have been planned.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speaker/Program/Event</u>
<b>January 31</b>	Membership Meeting, Tour of Union Depot, St. Paul
<b>February 16</b>	Membership Meeting, Breakfast with MN Concrete Council Midland Hills Country Club, Roseville
<b>February 17</b>	MC&MCA Convention & Excellence Awards Training Seminar: "Back to Basics: Construction Materials and Flashing Details" Doubletree Park Place Hotel, St. Louis Park, MN
<b>June 20</b>	MC&MCA / MCMA / MMPC Golf Tournament Mississippi Dunes Golf Course, Cottage Grove, MN
<b>September 21</b>	2012 MC&MCA Sporting Clay Shoot Wild Wings Hunt Club, Hugo, MN
<b>December 7</b>	Membership Meeting, Bird Hunt Wild Wings, Hugo

What other events would you like to see on the MC&MCA calendar? If you have ideas—if you would like to host a site tour, coordinate an educational presentation or sponsor a motivational speaker, please let us know. We will help you make it happen!



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