

BAC ON THE WALL

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Union Local 1 MD, VA and DC
Summer 2021 Newsletter

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President's Message

With the Freedom to live, travel and enjoy all that life has to offer, it is important to understand that our freedom carries with it the responsibility to preserve and protect our way of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness. And how do we do this? Some simple ways are akin to being a good Union member and supporting the various ideals that come with this responsibility.

Working safely and watching out for our Brothers and Sisters will keep us all safe, and able to return home to our loved ones. Environmental awareness helps us understand the dangers that may be close at hand and how best to limit these issues. The JATC routinely conducts training to keep up with current OSHA standards and reinforce long known principles. Check out our calendar for upcoming classes, but regardless of your training, if you see something that is not safe, Speak Up.

An obvious source of pride is Craftsmanship, which is essential to ensuring our standing on the job and preserving the crafts. It maintains the quality level of all those around us and sets the standard by which we demand our apprentices strive to achieve, thus ensuring our trades will stay in demand in the built environment. So, make sure those apprentices are doing their homework and attending classes, and Share the Craft.

Of course, the title of journeyman does not magically bestow upon us all the things we will ever need to know throughout our career, but

simply indicates that we have met the basic standard of a competent mechanic in our craft. We can always learn more, and we should always look to help our Brothers and Sisters who respectfully want to better themselves. This is mostly done on site, through watching, listening and critical thought, but we have upgrade classes throughout the year if you want to learn something new. Upgrade Yourself.

Let us not forget the idea of Community. Being tolerant and focusing on the commonalities that we share as a workforce and people, makes the workday, and life in general, so much the better. As a Local Union, our goals are to increase wages, benefits and working conditions in Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia. This is what we will continue to do, strengthening Labor together.

Prior to COVID 19, many took our freedoms for granted. No matter your viewpoint on the impact and response to the pandemic, we should realize that we are stronger and better off as a country, as a people, when we bridge our differences to work together and preserve our way of life. Not all our problems will be solved, nor will we all prosper in the same manner, but we can all agree – “We hold these Truths to be self-evident, that all Men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

With Solidarity,
Scott Garvin
President

Con la libertad de vivir, viajar y disfrutar de todo lo que la vida tiene para ofrecer, es importante comprender que nuestra libertad lleva la responsabilidad de preservar y proteger nuestra forma de vida, la libertad y la búsqueda de la felicidad. Y cómo hacemos esto? Algunas formas sencillas que son ser un buen miembro de la Unión y apoyar los diversos ideales que lleva esta responsabilidad.

Trabajar de manera segura y cuidar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas nos mantendrá a todos seguros y capaces de regresar a casa con nuestros seres queridos. La conciencia ambiental nos ayuda a comprender los peligros que pueden estar al alcance de la mano y la mejor manera de limitar estos problemas. El JATC lleva a cabo capacitaciones de manera rutinaria para mantenerse al día con los estándares actuales de OSHA y reforzar principios conocidos desde hace mucho tiempo. Consulte nuestro calendario para las próximas clases, pero si ve algo que no es seguro, dígame a alguien.

Una fuente obvia de orgullo es la artesanía, que es esencial para garantizar nuestra posición en el trabajo y preservar la artesanía. Mantiene el nivel de calidad de todos los que nos rodean y establece el estándar por el cual exigimos que nuestros aprendices se esfuercen por lograr, asegurando así que nuestros oficios seguirán siendo demandados en el entorno construido. Por lo tanto, asegúrese de que esos aprendices estén haciendo sus deberes y asistiendo a clases, y comparta el oficio.

Por supuesto, el título de oficial no nos otorga mágicamente todas las cosas que necesitaremos saber a lo largo de nuestra carrera, sino que simplemente indica que hemos cumplido con el estándar básico de un mecánico competente en nuestro oficio. Siempre podemos aprender más, y siempre debemos buscar ayudar a nuestros hermanos y hermanas que respetuosamente quieren mejorarse a sí mismos. Esto se hace principalmente en el sitio, a través de la observación, la escucha y el pensamiento crítico, pero tenemos clases de actualización durante todo el año si desea aprender algo nuevo. Actualícese.

No olvidemos la idea de comunidad. Ser tolerantes y enfocarnos en los puntos en común que compartimos como fuerza laboral y como personas, hace que la jornada laboral y la vida en general sean mucho mejores. Como sindicato local, nuestros objetivos son aumentar los salarios, los beneficios y las condiciones laborales en Maryland, Virginia y el Distrito de Columbia. Esto es lo que continuaremos haciendo, fortaleciendo a los laboristas juntos.

Antes de COVID 19, muchos daban por sentadas nuestras libertades. Independientemente de su punto de vista sobre el impacto y la respuesta a la pandemia, debemos darnos cuenta de que somos más fuertes y estamos mejor como país, como pueblo, cuando superamos nuestras diferencias para trabajar juntos y preservar nuestra forma de vida. No todos nuestros problemas se resolverán, ni todos prosperaremos de la misma manera, pero todos podemos estar de acuerdo: "Sostenemos que estas Verdades son evidentes por sí mismas, que todos los Hombres son creados iguales, que están dotados por su Creador de ciertos Derechos inalienables, entre los que se encuentran la Vida, la Libertad y la Búsqueda de la Felicidad".

En solidaridad,
Scott Garvin
Presidente

PRO Act 101

BY J. ANGLADA

The PRO Act has been a hot topic as of recent and for good reason! This Act will be the most comprehensive worker empowerment legislation since the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) of 1935, should it be passed. It is crucial to us as union members because it offers a crucial, reinforced backbone that will not only hold employers accountable, but also give employees the confidence and security needed to organize effectively.

First and foremost, this legislation revises the definitions of employee, supervisor, and employer to broaden the scope of individuals covered by the fair labor standards thus allowing more people to enjoy the protections herein. It will also make it easier for sympathy, or secondary, strikes. Undoubtably, there is strength in numbers and these two components alone are opening doors for union strength to increase immensely.

Strength isn't the only thing getting a face lift here. As the times change, legislation must follow. Specific to the PRO Act, it will give some attention to more modern forms of employee censorship and manipulation. With this act, employees will have the right to use electronic communication devices provided by the employer to engage in collective bargaining and union activities. It will also require employers to send out electronic notices about the employees' rights to organization. No longer will employers be able to ignore the presence of unions in their trade nor will they be able to stop their workers from talking about it. They will also be required to share the contact information of their employees with labor organizations to ensure eligible employees are well aware of their right to vote for representation. The PRO Act would also direct the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to implement electronic voting systems that enable employees to vote in a representation election over the internet or the phone.

Finally, this increase in transparency has been paired up with a boost in accountability. Employers will not be able to determine the terms of a worker's employment off their immigration status nor will they be able to engage in suspect agreements with their employees limiting their right to pursue lawsuits if malpractice takes place. Employers will not be able to sue unions conducting strikes against their company and should an employer be found guilty of interfering with a formal union election, the PRO Act will ensure the NLRB has the right to certify the union and require the employer to engage in collective bargaining.

CONTINUED ->

Now what does this mean for you, a current, pre-PRO Act, union member? In one word, security. Here at Local 1 MD, VA and DC, we preach that security is one of the strongest characteristics of union membership. With the passing of the PRO Act, job and welfare security will continue to grow providing the confidence one deserves as a member of the work force. Employers will be held to a standard higher than ever with civil and monetary penalties at risk should they deviate from their expectations.

If you are being treated unfairly at your place of work, you can be sure that going on strike will not cost you your livelihood, but rather improve it. "Permanent replacements" will no longer loom over the heads of those fighting for fair treatment, anti-union campaigns will be hindered while elections are sped up, back pay will be given in full, and union membership discouragement will be officially an unfair labor practice.

Organization is already an excellent way to ensure one's safety, security, and longevity are not compromised, but with the PRO Act, it rises to a whole new level. However, it is not a guaranteed luxury quite yet. The legislation is still making its way through the bureaucratic ranks, and it needs our help to get it through.

The most significant way to help this act is to contact your legislators, especially your senators, and vocalize support for passing the bill. Even increasing support and knowledge among current and perspective union members helps keep the conversation on workers' rights progression. You cannot support what you do not understand.

Our continued solidarity will be put on display now more than ever. By coming together to show our support for the PRO Act, we can ensure the certainty of our careers and the prosperity of our families.



For more information on the PRO Act, scan the QR code or visit:
<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/842>

Congratulations to our Apprentices!

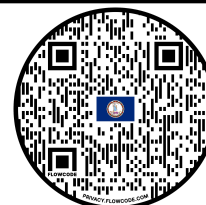
We are pleased to announce the recent achievements of members who have successfully completed their apprenticeship program.



Luis Banos Menijar	Bricklayer
Atilio Ardaiz	Stonemason
Gustavo Barahona	Stonemason
Michael Clark	Stonemason
Inmer Contreras	Stonemason
Luis Blanco	Stonemason
Sacramento Vergara-Garcia	Stonemason
Edwin Rivera	Stonemason
Hugo Vaca	Stonemason
Jose Portillo	Stonemason
Jose Ordonez	Stonemason
Luis Alfaro Soto	Stonemason
Selvin Mejia Mejia	Stonemason
Donadin Mejia	Stonemason
David Favorite	Stonemason
Doug Campese	Stonemason
Francisco Abundez	Stonemason
Wilver Lara-Zavala	Stonemason
Patrick Ryan Kiernan	Stonemason
Ernesto Marchardo	Stonemason
Aaron Lopez	Stonemason
Daniel Rivera	Stonemason
Jose Cruz-Chavez	PCC
Yobany Diaz Machuca	PCC
Oscar Granados-Reyes	PCC
Jose Candido Jimenez	PCC
Fredis Mendez Mejia	PCC
Alvaro Hernandez	Finisher
Hector Cornejo	Finisher
Juan Cabrera	Finisher
Mardong Guevara	Finisher
Belkis Ruiz Ayala	Finisher
Ana Hernandez Escobar	Finisher
William Figueroa	Finisher
Jonathan Torres Beltran	Finisher
Juan Romero	Finisher
Amineen Manraj	Finisher



VIRGINIA ELECTION AND VOTING DEADLINES



- **General Election:** November 2, 2021
- **Offices on ballot:** Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, House of Delegates, some local offices (varies by locality)
- **First day of in-person early voting** at [local voter registration office](#): Friday, September 16, 2021
- **Deadline to [register to vote, or update an existing registration](#):** Tuesday, October 12, 2021.
- **Deadline to apply for a ballot to be mailed to you:** Friday, October 22 2021. Request must be received by [local voter registration office](#) by 5:00 p.m.
- **Voter registration offices open Saturday**, October 23, 2021 for early voting
- **Last day of in-person early voting** at [local voter registration office](#): Saturday, October 30, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.
- **See who is on your ballot** by viewing the [candidate lists](#).
- **Register to vote or apply for a ballot online** using the [Citizen Portal](#).

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ELECTIONS SITE:
<https://www.elections.virginia.gov/casting-a-ballot/calendars-schedules/upcoming-elections.html>

ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS

Giving BAC

Our unity and generosity can be seen throughout the BAC community. Alongside other Locals, Local 1 MD, VA, and DC donated to the March of Dimes/March for Babies in support of the cause. Seeing our reach go beyond the trade is always something to be proud of.



TRAINING

*= Starting September 13th

MW - Welding @ 3:30pm - 7:30pm (By Appointment Only)*

MTh - English as a Second Language @ 4:30pm - 7:30pm*

Sep. 11th - Brick & Stone Masons and PCC @ 6:30am - 2:30pm

Sep. 18th - TMT & Finishers @ 6:30am - 2:30pm

Sep. 25th - Brick & Stone Masons and PCC @ 6:30am - 2:30pm



MEETINGS

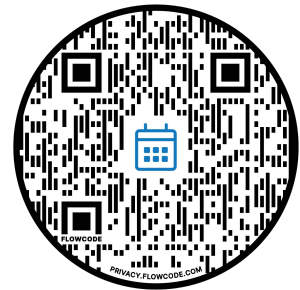
Aug. 4th - DC Chapter Meeting @ 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Aug. 12th - Baltimore Chapter Meeting @ 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Sep. 8th - DC Chapter Meeting @ 5:30pm - 6:30pm

Sep. 11th - Dinner Dance @ 7:00pm - 12:00am

Sep. 16th - Baltimore Chapter Meeting @ 5:30pm - 6:30pm



^USE THIS QR CODE TO SEE THE FULL CALENDAR^

No 001 No 001	Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____	Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 <i>Dinner Dance</i> Saturday, September 11, 2021 7:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. Bleues on the Water 7696 Altoona Beach Road • Glen Burnie, MD 21060 \$20.00 Pre-Sale \$30.00 At the Door	No 001
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Masonry Arches

BY MATTHEW REDABAUGH

For a number of years one of the most popular classes, per IMI's Instructor Certification Program (ICP), was a course I'd taught titled, "Arches, Domes and Vaults". That as they say, is today's lesson, or at least a small excerpt from that course.

Prior to the development of the arch (thousands of years ago) the only available means for spanning an opening such as a door or window was the '**post and lintel**' method. Utilizing two vertical elements, called **posts**, which were set to plumb to left and right of the opening and then spanned by the horizontal/level piece called a **lintel** (see # 1). When constructed of masonry the problems were as follows; the posts being under compression can withstand phenomenal loads in this position. However, masonry in a horizontal orientation, the lintel, is under tension and fails miserably in this condition. And so, the material of choice for the lintel (until the introduction of reinforced concrete) was wood because it performs exceptionally well in tension. The problem then was time, as wood in a relatively short period of time decays and fails which ultimately can lead to the failing of large portions of the building. Unwilling to accept defeat b builders continued their search to resolve this age-old design problem of how to successfully span an opening with masonry.

Such changes in construction were exclusively 'experiential' or based on trial and error from which it was hoped that better methods were developed as a result. In addressing the continuing problem of spanning an opening builders began experimenting with 1. Triangular units such as found in the '**jack-arch**', which is a segmented lintel based on an inverted triangle (#2). The use of **corbelling** units to create the span sometimes coupled with various keyed or triangular units. Again, through numerous attempts with subsequent successes and failures and roughly somewhere between these two approaches the arch was developed (#3&4).

The ARCH was used extensively throughout the history of architectural design and construction that is up until recently when the "**architectural engineers**" started organizing and imposing their will on the design and construction industries. Although an indispensable profession to the overall process of building today it has lost faith in the ARCH, or all **domical** forms (forms based on the arch, such as domes and vaults) in general.

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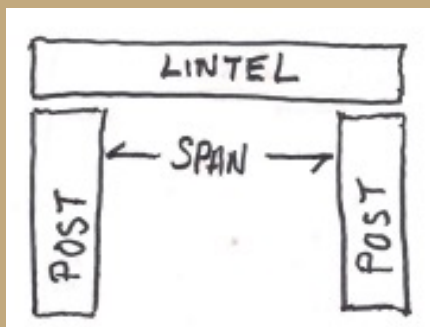
Despite the evidence of countless number of existing arches, domes and vaults the engineering industry has turned its back on the concept of a true masonry domical form and will only sign-off on such constructs if they are reinforced and fully dependent on large amounts of steel straps and suspenders.

When engineers are confronted with the question as to why they are so remiss about the use of 'true' masonry arched or domical elements they have, after much conversation and dodging, will finally admit that "the United States is a very litigious culture and thus we cannot take the risk of a failure". Bottom line is they have not spent the time or energy to learn MASONRY. Not to mention that their training/ education never included much outside of reinforced concrete, steel and glass and as such the same holds true for architects as well. Disheartening as it sounds it is true.

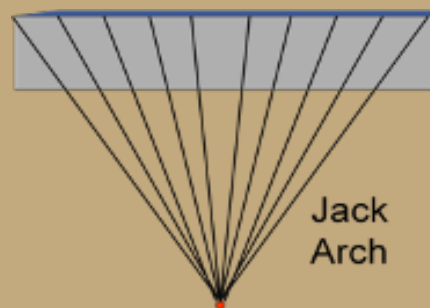
Keep in mind that the origin of the word 'architect' was in definition of the trades-man referred to as a **technician of arches**, and that originally there was no architect but only the **MASTER MASON**. The master mason who held fast to the 'sacred geometry' (that process and art of designing using stereotomy, geometry, and ratios & proportions) was responsible for designing, engineering and ultimately building of structures such as cathedrals, castles and fortresses.

Luis Khan, 20th century architect, said "ask a brick what it wants to be, and it will answer an ARCH!". Along the same train of thought, if I ask a mason what they want to build, the answer is probably the same.... An ARCH!

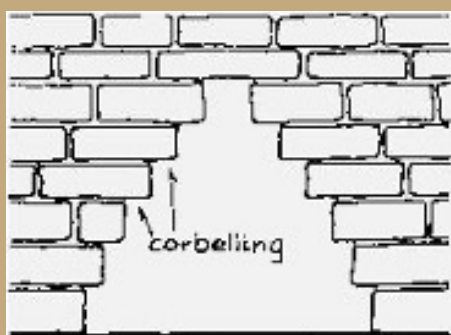
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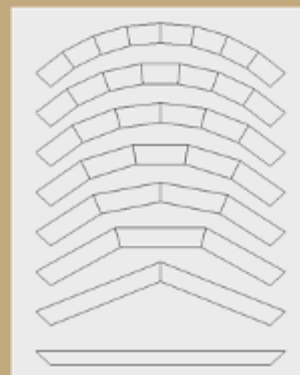
#2



#3



#4



Trowel Blazers

Our community of brothers and sisters take pride in the work they do on-site and the service they provide to the Union as a whole. These are a just a few of the dedicated men and women who make BAC Local 1 Maryland, Virginia and DC so great.

25 Years

July	Lee D. Karwacki	Stonemason
August	Byron Holley	Bricklayer
	Anthony M. Nickoles	Bricklayer
	Paul G. Snyder	PCC
	Juan G. Villatoro	Finisher
September	Kenneth A. Buffalini	Stonemason

40 Years

July	Charles B. Gipe	Finisher
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50 Years

July	John C. Schweitzer	Bricklayer
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Becoming a member in July of 1971, Brother John C. Schweitzer joined the union as a third-generation Bricklayer. His dedication to the trade found him in leadership positions within just a few years and his commitment to the Local remains as strong as the first day he picked up a trowel.

John, we sincerely thank you for half a century of service to the Local and applaud the remarkable work you did during your time in the trade.

Leaving A Legacy

The Officers and Staff of BAC Local 1 extend their sincere condolences to the families and loved ones of the following members who have passed:

20-May	Craig G. Wagner	Bricklayer
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VIDEOS ARE BAC!

CHECK US OUT ON YOUTUBE
USING THIS QR CODE



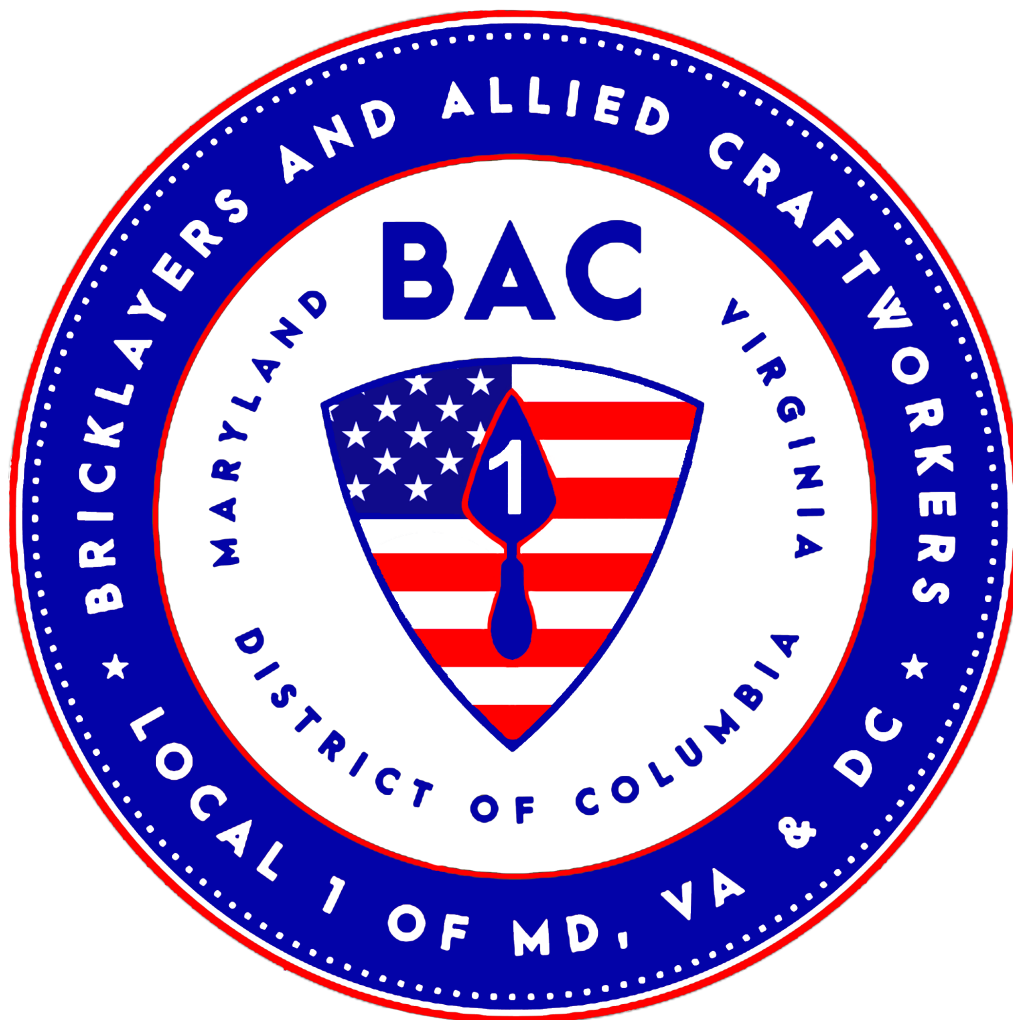
WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

USE THE QR CODE BELOW TO TAKE OUR
SURVEY AND HELP US BE EVEN BETTER!



Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers
Local 1 of MD, VA & DC
5879 Allentown Road
Camp Springs, Maryland 20746

Summer 2021



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