



***Working to Build a Better Iowa -
with Brick, Block & Stone***

Dear MII Member,

I hope you like the new look to our newsletter! The stats from our summer newsletter showed many did not open the attachment. So in an effort to increase readership, MII is looking at a new format. I hope you like it! Another technological update is our website - members now have a log-in. Along with online dues notices, members can pay for contributions and registrations online. If you haven't been out to our website lately, take a moment and visit www.masonryinstituteofiowa.org.

Lastly, I would like to thank the MII membership for saying 'yes'. These past few months have been a whirlwind of masonry presentations and tours. I've called upon the membership to assist and lead these tours and could not host these educational events without your help...so again THANK YOU!

Hope you enjoy the new look of our online newsletter!

Jenny Stephenson

MI Association Director

From the MII President

I am happy to say that the Masonry Institute of Iowa had a great 2017. Throughout the year the MII promoted masonry in many levels. These included the Design Community with our educational seminar, the student designers with our 32 year of Student Fields Days for ISU & our second Student Field Day for UNI. The MII also made great strides in getting the masonry craft to the youth by letting several high school vocational programs experience bricklaying in their classrooms. All this helped the MII continue to be the voice of masonry in Iowa and benefits all involved in the trade to "Build A Better Iowa."

For 2018 the MII will continue to be the resource for quality masonry in Iowa. This will be done by growing our membership with our new Design Partner Membership for the design community, bringing more qualified mason contractors into the association and continue to promote the masonry craft at the high school level. This growth will benefit suppliers, contractors & designers by providing a better trained, more readily available workforce in the future.

Wishing all a Great 2018,
Scott Ellingson
President, MII

Initial Cost of Construction Survey

The MII Board of Directors voted this fall to participate in the Initial Cost of Construction survey. The objective of the 2017 study was to develop a construction cost model to accurately evaluate the relative construction cost of a multi-family building constructed using six different construction materials. The study shows that masonry is a cost-effective building material. [To view the results from the national study, click here.](#)

Along with the national study, MII had the opportunity to have an Iowa market analyzed. The MII board of directors chose the Des Moines market using prevailing wage. The relative cost presented is a percentage of the conventional wood frame system, and also shows masonry is a cost-effective building material. [*Click here to view the results from the Des Moines study.*](#)

To further educate the design community on the statistics of this survey, MII is securing Dr. Walter Schneider, lead of the study, to present a two-hour continuing education program on the initial cost of construction at MII's annual Masonry Seminar in February. In addition, MII will also be creating marketing materials and programs using this study as its backbone later this year. Please feel free to share the results listed above.



Want to read all about MII's accomplishments from last year? [Click here](#) to read MII's 'A Year in Review'.

ISU Student Field Day in Masonry

ISU hosted its 32nd student field day on Thursday, October 12. Nearly 90 architectural students and 35 construction engineer students spent the day learning about masonry with

tours of Glen-Gery brick and Rhino Materials block plants. The students also toured a finished masonry building (Vintage Main, Ankeny) and a job site (McFarland Clinic, Ames).

Thank you to all our members who helped make this day possible: Rhino Materials, Architectural Products Inc., TCC Materials, Glen-Gery Masonry Products, BAC3, Laborers 177, Star Equipment, United Brick and Tile, Seedorff Masonry & Forrest and Associate.



[Click here to view the photos from the ISU Field Day in Masonry!](#)

UNI Student Field Day

MII hosted its 2nd field day in masonry for the UNI construction management students on Tuesday, September 26. The students toured King's Material block plant, visited Panther Village (finished masonry project) and Jorgensen Plaza (job site). After the tours the students spent time learning to lay brick at Carl Schuler Masonry and in groups the students built planters in which they were judged.

Jenny spoke to the UNI construction management club in October as a follow-up to

student field day. She presented the top three winning bricklaying teams and spoke about masonry construction with the students. [Click here](#) to view more photos.

Thanks to the following MII members who made this day possible: Carl Schuler Masonry, BAC3, TCC Materials, United Brick & Tile, King's Material and Midland Concrete Products!



Masonry Institute of Iowa presents

2018 Masonry Seminar

Thursday, February 22, 2018
The Lodge at Terry Trueblood
Iowa City, Iowa

Earn up to 5 hours of Learning Units!

The 2018 Masonry Seminar will be held at the Park Lodge at Terry Trueblood Recreation Area in Iowa City on February 22. Programming will be announced next week. Please mark your calendar for MII's Annual Meeting the evening of Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at the Ned Ashton House in Iowa City.

MII Foundation Annual Golf Outing

On Thursday, August 31, the Masonry Institute of Iowa Charles Nicolay Educational Foundation hosted nearly 100 golfers at its annual charity golf outing to raise money for the Foundation. This year's outing raised over \$13,000 for student scholarships and initiatives. Thank you to our sponsors who helped make this year's outing a success!



[Click here to view all the photos from the day!](#)

DMPS Skilled Trade Alliance

MII and BAC3 presented to the Des Moines Public Schools' Skilled Trade Alliance in September. BAC3 Apprenticeship Coordinator, Chris Busch, spoke to the students on the history of the BAC union and how to enter the apprenticeship program. The students were then given the opportunity to practice laying brick. BAC3 will once again be the DMPS classroom next week, educating the students on jobsite safety and giving them a hands on demonstration on stone chiseling. Thanks to BAC3 - Chris Busch, Jeff Forrest and Ray Lemke - and MII President Scott Ellingson for assisting.



AIAS Back-to-School Picnic

MII partnered with the Brick Industry Association (BIA) - Heartland Region to host a back-to-school picnic for the ISU college of design on Wednesday, September 6. In cooperation with the AIAS - the student chapter of the American Institute of Architects at Iowa State - approximately 125 students were treated to a free meal. AIAS' officers were on hand to talk about their organization. Students signed up for door prizes and over 25 students received gifts including t-shirts and a Bluetooth speaker cooler. Any student who signed up for AIAS that week was given a \$30 VISA gift card, courtesy of MII and the BIA - Heartland Region. MII director Jenny Stephenson presented about designing

with masonry at the October AIAS meeting. She also handed out flash drives and VISA giftcards to AIAS members.

2017 Architectural Design in Masonry Awards

MII had 21 entries from 14 firms in this year's Architectural Design Awards in Masonry. The jury was from Detroit, Michigan. Eight projects were recognized at the AIA, Iowa Annual Convention's award ceremony in September.

2017 Architectural Design Awards in Masonry Winners

GRAND AWARD Dubuque Regional Airport Dubuque, IA Architect: Straka Johnson Architects, PC Mason Contractor: Cummer Masonry	AWARD OF MERIT WITH DISTINCTION City of Grinnell - Downtown Revitalization Grinnell, IA Architect: RDG Planning & Design
AWARD OF MERIT Finley Grandview Expansion Dubuque, IA Architect: INVISION Architecture Mason Contractor: Cummer Masonry	HONORABLE MENTION Basilica of St. John's - Elevator Addition Des Moines, IA Architect: Walker Coen Lorentzen Architects Mason Contractor: Forrest and Associate
BEST USE OF INTERIOR MASONRY Mary Greeley Medical Center Ames, IA Architect: Shive Hattery, Inc. Mason Contractor: Seedorff Masonry, Inc.	MASONRY RENOVATION AWARD Roosevelt School Apartments Clinton, IA Architects: ASK Studio
BEST USE OF MATERIALS AND DETAILING Ottumwa Theatre - Facade Renovation Ottumwa, IA Architect: Walker Coen Lorentzen Architects Mason Contractor: Forrest and Associate	PEOPLE'S CHOICE OF AWARD St. Paul's Lutheran Church Waverly, IA Architect: AHTS Architects Mason Contractor: Carl Schuler Masonry



Check out the architectural design award in masonry video highlighting all 21 entries!

Former ISU Professor Bruce Bassler Receives Golden Trowel Award

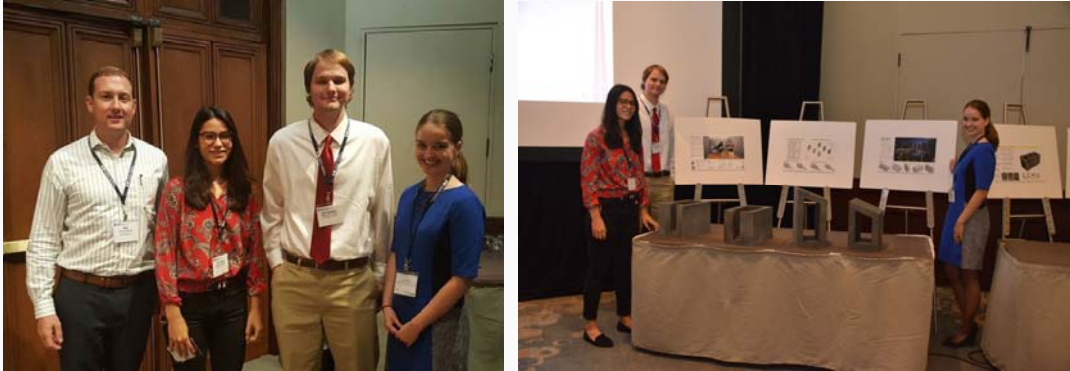
MII is pleased to honor former ISU professor Bruce Bassler during MII's Architectural Design Awards in Masonry awards ceremony. Bruce was honored for his years of service for helping educate ISU architectural students about masonry. Bruce was instrumental in establishing MII's student field day. Congratulations Bruce!



ISU Wins 1st Place in National Unit Design Competition

Last spring the Masonry Institute of Iowa, along with King's Material and Midland Concrete Products, hosted a unit design competition at Iowa State University's college of design. The goal of the annual competition is to design a new concrete masonry or hardscape unit that

can be manufactured on a block machine or a big-board machine. Iowa State's top team was one of three chosen to advance to the national competition, held in August during the National Concrete Masonry Association's (NCMA) midyear meeting. For the first time in school history, the ISU team won the national competition. This year's winning design was "Ampi Block". This block was designed for both indoor and outdoor theater applications with four distinct block configurations. ISU's unit design team included Colleen De Matta, Ayla Hendrickson, Nathaniel Jones and ISU instructor Bo-Suk Hur.



Photos (left photo): Pat Sauter, King's Material, along with the winning ISU team (right photo) The ISU unit design team poses by their boards.

MII Partnering with Iowa High School to Present Masonry

MII visited Belmond-Klemme High School in October to speak to the school's industrial technology masonry class regarding the history of masonry and how it is manufactured. BAC3 demonstrated bricklaying to the students, MII President Scott Ellingson taught the students about mortar and Seedorff Masonry project manager Austin Norberg spoke about project management on the masonry jobsite. Belmond-Klemme offers its 9 week masonry course as part of its industrial tech program. Thanks to Midland Concrete Products for helping coordinate this initiative.

IF YOU KNOW OF A HIGH SCHOOL IN YOUR AREA THAT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE MII PRESENT ON MASONRY, PLEASE CONTACT JENNY STEPHENSON.



SkillsUSA Update

Jenny Stephenson, MII director, has joined the SkillsUSA board of directors. In an effort to become more involved, MII has approached the schools involved with the SkillsUSA construction contests and offered to do masonry presentations. MII presented to Ft. Dodge, Perry and Southeast Polk High Schools this fall. The state masonry contest will be held in late April.

Masonry Row at the AIA Convention

MII, along with nine of its members, participated in the AIA, Iowa Annual Convention exhibit hall. MII talked to over 100 architects that came through the exhibit hall. MII also raffled off a \$400 VISA gift card. The winning architect was Tim Veatch from FRK Architects in West Des Moines.

Pat Conway Speaks at AIA Iowa Convention

Pat Conway, architect with the International Masonry Institute (IMI), was one of the speakers at this year's AIA Iowa, Annual Convention. Pat spoke to a class of over 100 architects on Thursday, September 28. His program, *Designing & Detailing High-Performing Masonry RainScreen Walls*, was well received and MII is always pleased to have Pat as a speaker to help promote the profession!



MII Partnering With Iowa's Community Colleges

MII has approached Iowa's Community Colleges that offer construction programs about presenting masonry in their classrooms. This spring MII will facilitate bricklaying demos, tours and lectures with many of the state's community colleges.

In November, MII hosted its first community college - Kirkwood Community College. Jenny Stephenson presented about the masonry in the classroom. The students also toured King's Material block plant and Prairie High School renovation job site. Thanks to Sedorff Masonry and King's Material in assisting with this great learning opportunity.

In December, the Northern Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) building trade students toured Midland Concrete Products in Clear Lake. Jenny Stephenson also presented the Masonry 101 powerpoint to the students. This spring the students will also participate in a bricklaying demo. Thanks to Midland Concrete Products for facilitating the tour.



AIA Dine & Discover

MII presented its second 'Dine and Discover' to AIA members in October. Jenny Stephenson, Association Director, presented the newly updated Masonry 101 Powerpoint now entitled 'Back to the Basics - Building with Brick, Block and Stone' to the South Central Section of AIA. Four architects attended the one-hour program.

Welcome New Design Partner Members!

AHTS Architects
Shive Hattery, Inc.
Studio Melee

Member Spotlight

Ron Hopkins - Edwards Cast Stone



Edwards Cast Stone Co. was founded in 1964. Located in Dubuque, Iowa, Edwards is focused on providing the highest quality cast stone products with the best customer service possible. Ron Hopkins takes pride in his role as National Sales Manager. Ron has been engaged in the architectural and masonry communities for over 15 years. His involvement includes some of the largest construction developments throughout the Midwest including several projects on the Norte Dame campus. Visit Edwards Cast Stone Co. online at www.edcstone.com.

"I see the MII as the voice of masonry in Iowa and I am proud to serve on the Board of Directors and be a member of the MII," said Hopkins.

A photograph of a "2018 MII Foundation Scholarship Application" form. The form is white with red and blue text. It includes fields for "Applicants Name:", "Present Address:", "Phone:" (with sub-fields for "Home" and "Mobile"), "Fax number:", "E-mail:", "Place of Birth:", and "Date of Birth:". A black pen is resting on the form. The form is placed on a wooden desk next to a stack of colorful brochures and a spiral-bound notebook. A red banner at the bottom of the image contains the text: "Applications Due March 2, 2018. Apply online at www.masonryinstituteofiowa.org".

2018 Scholarship Applications Now Being Accepted

The Charles Nicholay Educational Foundation was set up to support Iowa students continuing their education in the Construction/Architecture/Engineering field. Entries must be submitted online by filling out this form: <https://form.jotform.com/72924978607169>. Entries are due March 2.

Requirements:

- Must be an Iowa high school student or college student;
- Must attend an Iowa institution;
- Attend a program related to construction/architecture/engineering/masonry field; and
- Complete the entire application and submit with accompanying documents.

For more info visit <https://masonryinstituteofiowa.wildapricot.org/Scholarships>.



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