Long time BAC 3 CA Field Representative and Labor Trustee Randy Smith will be retiring on March 30, 2018. Randy joined Fresno Local 1 in 1989 as a Bricklayer. Randy worked for 4 BAC signatory contractors in the Valley, including Gerry Smith Masonry, Ken Smith Masonry, Bratton Masonry, and Garcia Masonry. Randy moved to Monterey in 1997 and worked for Joe Patania Masonry.

Randy was appointed in 2000 as Field Representative for Monterey, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, and San Benito Counties. When we downsized our staff during the recession, we needed Randy to service the Fresno area on a regular basis as well: Randy took the extra territory willingly and has done an excellent job for all of our membership. Randy is easy going with a sense of humor, yet has a very strong presence. He has always carried out his duties with dignity and respect. Randy is a true BAC union man and advocate of all working people, and has a unique way of influencing others to see things the “union way”. Please read Randy’s article in this newsletter and take some time to wish him well.

I wish Randy and his wife Cynthia all the best in a well-deserved retirement.

As Randy and other long time local 3 Craftworkers retire, the need for qualified apprentices gets even stronger. We need to constantly replenish our work force with apprentices and make sure they get the necessary training to become productive Journey workers in their respective trade. At the Apprentice Committee level, we make sure they receive the required training at the training centers. On the job, contractors and members need to be teaching and directing apprentices in learning the work processes to master their trade. While some of these teaching traditions may have slowed during the recession when apprentice numbers were down, making apprentice training a priority now and in the future will benefit all union members and signatory contractors as well.

Our current organizing plan was drafted and put into action in 2016. We are currently adding active working members to the committee for their input, participation, and recommendations. We will meet in March and plan to meet quarterly after that. I encourage all members to sign up for COMET classes, which teaches construction organizing. Our first class was held on February 10 and we look forward to holding many more. Call the office to add your name to the list. See Organizer Dave Tafoya’s article.

I have been fortunate to recently visit some large projects constructed by our members, the best hands in the business. I visited Apple Campus 2 in Cupertino with Darin Compton, and this project is massive. Hundreds of BAC members applied their craftsmanship to complete a fine campus including the round
The BAC PACT continues into 2018 with very little change. The program is a reward based voluntary program for members who participate in BAC actions and attend meetings. The program will recognize members who attend meetings and participate in BAC Local 3 events.

- **ATTEND A TOTAL OF 4 CHAPTER AND/OR GENERAL MEETINGS IN 2018 AND RECEIVE NEW BAC LOCAL 3 JACKET**
  (Members must sign in and signatures must be legible. Members who have already received a jacket and attend 4 meetings in 2018 will receive an alternative gift.)

- **BESIDES THE BAC PACT JACKET PROGRAM; WE ARE ALSO AWARDING POINTS FOR PARTICIPATING IN UNION ACTIONS AND EVENTS**
  10 points BAC pickets, bannering and job-site actions.
  10 points Political actions approved by BAC 3 (Planning commission, phone banks, precinct walks, etc.)
  20 points BAC Community – COMET training, donation projects and job fairs
  (Please contact the local if you have a community project in your area)

- Other Union activities may be approved by the Management Committee.

Participating in Union actions will help BAC increase market share and create more job opportunities for our members.

In 2018, members who achieve the following points will receive the following:
- 30 Points—$100.00 gift card
- 40 Points—$150.00 gift card
- 50 Points—$200.00 gift card
- Members who have 40 points or more will be entered in the TV Raffle!!

**BAC P.A.C.T. RULES OF ELIGIBILITY**
- Participant must be a member in good standing at the time of awards
- Participant must sign in legible and follow all policies and procedures
- Maximum of 2 meeting credits per month
- BAC Local 3 Retirees are eligible
This year is off to a good start with job site hours continuing to be steady. Our focus is to continue organizing and growing BAC Local 3, with new members and a larger contractor base. We all know the greater Bay Area has been booming for some time now and the work is now shifting into areas throughout the Central Valley where Union density has not been as good.

One example is a large project in Merced County. The UC Merced 2020 project is well under way and is big enough to generate thousands of man hours for BAC Local 3 with three of our tile contractors; Superior, Ballard and Della Maggiorre awarded work on the project. The General Contractor (Webcor Builders) anticipates the job to be a 10 year build out with a price tag of $4 billion dollars. The first phase is scheduled to be complete by the year 2020 and other phases continue to follow as they continue to purchase land. I recently visited the project and as seen in the picture there were eleven tile members onsite, which include some newly organized members. I would like to thank Alex Cantu and Jeff Smith for a tour of the job-site. This project is one of many that are up and coming to the Central Valley; a few more are the Sonora courthouse, Modesto courthouse and the Elk Grove casino.

As we continue to organize and supply our signatory contractors with man power; it is imperative that we “teach” non-union workers on how to perform work on a safe and productive job site. There is a lot of good craftsmen in the valley and we will continue our organizing efforts to gain new members and to establish more signatory contractors to increase market share in the Central Valley. BAC 3 is committed to expand in areas where we have not been present during the up swing in the economy and residential market; it is important to capture a percentage of that work.

I will close in memory of Ed Lee, the 43rd Mayor of San Francisco, who passed away on December 12, 2017. Lee was the first Chinese American Mayor in the City. During his three decades of public service, Mayor Lee was a steadfast advocate for the powerless, a voice for the overlooked and a person who fought for those in need. During his time as Mayor, Lee was a good friend of Labor. He created numerous construction projects and jobs, expanded high-tech business in San Francisco, and substantially lowered the unemployment rate at a critical time. He played a major role in building affordable housing and developing Project Labor Agreements.

Mayor Ed Lee will be remembered for his integrity, humility, and decency; he will be missed.

Work Safe and Honor All Pickets!

Dave
BAC COMET CLASS
(Construction Organizing Membership Education Training)
by: Dave Tafoya

BAC 3 held its first COMET class on February 10th, 2018. I would like to thank everyone who attended. We had a good size class of 18 rank and file members. Darin Compton and I instructed the class with the help from the IUBAC, Ray Keen (west regional director) Ernest Adame and Francis Jacobberger (west region representatives).

COMET is designed to help BAC 3 members on the “why’s” and “how’s” of organizing to maintain and improve wages and benefits, and also generate a wealth of information members will carry with them onto the streets. The class also explains how non-union contractors exploit their workers, intimidate them and make them work under unsafe conditions, all while putting more profits in their own pockets.

BAC Local 3 is committed to help educate the membership. With the mandate of IU President Jim Boland and the great leadership of President Dave Jackson, we are well under way. We hope our members will keep an eye out in the mail, or at your next chapter meeting to find out when our next class will be scheduled. This class is very informational and will be very helpful in the organizing efforts of BAC. I hope to see you at the next one.

ORGANIZE!!!
COMET CLASS
OPEN TO ALL MEMBERS
April 7, 2018 — 8 am to 12 pm
You must call the Union Hall to sign up @ 510-632-8781
Class will be held at the Mason Development Center

ACT ORIENTATION
FOR TILE JOURNEYMAN
MARCH 10, 2018
Please call the Tile JATC to sign up
For ACT On-line and Hands-on testing contact the Tile JATC at 510-632-8453
For upcoming classes visit www.nctijatc.org
BAC REFRACTORY BRICKLAYERS
AT CHEVRON REFINERY IN RICHMOND

by: Troy Garland

If you didn’t know, BAC refractory bricklayers have been working in Bay Area refineries and industrial plants throughout Northern California for over 100 years. Local 3 refractory bricklayers also travel throughout the nation and even overseas. These highly skilled bricklayers lay brick to intricate standards to withstand the high heat generated by the refining process. They also install fireproofing, gunite, ram plastic, weld and much more.

Refractory work often comes with long hours and night work, especially on turn arounds where major repairs are done. Multiple requirements must be met to work in this industry; all workers in the refineries will need 20 hours of high hazard safety training by July 1st, 2018. A background check for a Transportation Worker Identification Card (TWIC), and drug testing is mandatory.

We have made substantial progress in implementing refractory training for our local apprentices. With the help of the contractors and IMI; a curriculum is being completed for apprentices at our Mason Development Center. This will expose our apprentices to the industry and create a pathway for those that are interested in this specialized industry.
"BAC GAINS STRENGTH THROUGH DIVERSITY"

Over the years I have learned that one of the most valuable opportunities afforded us all as members of the Bricklayers and Allied Crafts is the ability to work alongside craft workers from different backgrounds, skill levels, and working styles developed through years of individual experience. This opportunity allows workers of a diverse workforce to pool their knowledge and skill in order to benefit all. Sharing each other’s unique and separate strengths gained through training, culture, background and experience, allows us to leverage individual strengths and compliment weaknesses to create a work force that is greater than the sum of its parts! Working as part of a diverse team creates opportunity for innovation through the sharing of knowledge and ideas on the job. As we continue to grow OUR union, our diversity is truly one of our greatest strengths!

Below are some BAC Local 3 members, as diverse a group imaginable from extremely different backgrounds; all working together as BAC brothers and sisters to collectively become “the best hands in the business!”

**Tony Rebeiro:** Tony was born in 1965 on the island of St. George, Portugal, and immigrated to the USA in 1998 and became a BAC3 member shortly after in 1999. “I never had a Union in Portugal; the Union here helped me a lot. I am very happy working Union!” Tony is a Foreman, currently working for Mazza Masonry.

**Barry Danner:** Barry has been in the trade 22 years, and joined BAC 3 in July of 2000. Barry says: “There seems to be an added sense of pride that comes with projects that are union built.” Barry has worked on many large projects like Apple 2 and Facebook and enjoys both the “(union) brotherhood and infrastructure that allow him to thrive in the trade.”

**David Salas:** David was born in Mexico, emigrated to the U.S. in 1999 and became a BAC Local 3 member in 2004. David won the Local Tile Apprenticeship contest in 2013 and went on to compete in a total of 5 contests including the IUBAC International Apprenticeship Contest in Bowie, Maryland. “I believe that by being in the Union, we receive many benefits that help us grow as workers, which allows us to provide our families a better quality of life.” David is a Journeyman and Foreman now, and continues to participate in upgrade training in order to “master those new materials.”

**Nihad Hidic:** Nihad was born in Bosnia and moved to Germany during the Yugoslavian Civil war. Nihad has travelled through much of Western Europe working in construction in Germany, Slovenia and Italy. Nihad continued to travel until he visited California in 1997 and said “the U.S. is the country for me!.” Nihad is a foreman working for Deanza Tile, and brings a unique perspective to his craft. Nihad joined BAC Local 3 in 2004.

**Depeng Tang:** Tang was born in China and emigrated to the U.S. in December of 1992. Both Tang’s father and grandfather worked in construction. Tang found that he also enjoyed “the good pay and benefits of trade work.” Tang was the foreman for Della Maggiore Tile and Stone at the San Francisco Forty Niner’s Levi Stadium which went on to win the IUBAC Craft Award for “Best Use of Masonry Products” in 2015. Tang was flown to Baltimore for the presentation of this prestigious award!

**Alicia Castellon:** Alicia started her construction career as a Union Welder building trains! She is currently a Journeyperson Tile Finisher at Deanza Tile where she works alongside of her son who is an Apprentice Tile Finisher with BAC Local 3. Alicia has worked on some very large projects such as Cathedral Hill Hospital for D&J Tile and Stone. Alicia says: “I really like the benefits of working union.”

The ability to work alongside a diverse group of dedicated craftworkers makes us stronger and better, and has enabled me personally to gain knowledge and valuable lifelong friendships from around the country and indeed around the world. I consider this to be one of the highlights and strengths of my career, OUR union, and one of the great opportunities given to every generation of members of the Bricklayers and Allied Crafts. Our diversity is our strength.

“Live proud, there is no substitute for skilled labor.”

Darin
Brothers and Sisters,

As I’ve witnessed the growth of our UNION, I am constantly reminded that the more things change, the more they remain the same.

I reported last fall that several BAC 3 bricklayers, myself included, judged the WESTERN REGIONAL BRICKLAYER 500 CONTEST. That competition tested the skill and stamina of Dave Jones Sr., a second generation bricklayer, his son Davey, the third generation, and six other journeyman bricklayers in an hour long race for the title of “BEST WESTERN REGIONAL BRICKLAYER” and advancement to the world finals.

On the day of the 2018 world finals held recently in Las Vegas, I found Dave Jones Sr. accompanied by his son Davey at one of the twenty eight contest stations. Davey, who would serve as his fathers’ mason tender, would also compete in the “TOUGHEST TENDER” event that is held in order to set up and stock the contestant stations for the “BRICKLAYER 500” main event.

When the judging was completed, Dave Jones Sr. had layed 527 brick in one hour with only a 2 point deduction. And while it may not have been enough to beat the “CRAFTSMANSHIP TROPHY” winner who scored 625, you could tell by the determined smile that this would not be the last time the Jones family was represented here. It was apparent to those present that today had been a testament of the craft being handed down from a highly skilled father to a motivated skill driven son. The family legacy in the masonry craft had once again been secured.

As journeyman, we may not have a son or daughter to pass on the craft to, but we all have the solemn responsibility to share our knowledge and train the next generation of BAC craft workers. During a recent Saturday donation project, I witnessed a younger journeyman patiently instructing an apprentice who then rewarded his mentor with some noticeably improved workmanship. And while we as journeymen may not always be rewarded with the same spontaneous improvement, we owe it to ourselves and the craft to be patient and persistent. Many of us, myself included, had no relative in the trade, yet we became skilled productive craft workers due to the daily diligence and guidance from the journeyman around us.

The BAC 3 signatory contractors were recently sent a letter to formally remind them of their obligation to provide the “ON THE JOB TRAINING” and to insure that superintendents and foreman provide the time and opportunity for journeymen to train by “THE HANDS ON” method. This is the only proven method to develop the skills that will lead to the success of both the apprentice and the contractor and they need be to taught and practiced daily.

The objective is clear. The future of the Union masonry industry is in our hands. We need to hold the contractors and each other responsible. For in doing so, the agreement will be reinforced and remain the cornerstone of the craft and our members. As journeymen we can create our immortality and invest in our retirement by training and guiding the apprentices. The apprentices will learn to respect the knowledge and experience of the journeymen and themselves if given the opportunity to learn and advance their skillset every day on the job.

It has been said that “KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL ARE POWER”. Brothers and Sisters, we must continue to empower our UNION and control our destiny with skill and solidarity. This is our UNION and our legacy. This is BAC!

Be well. GARY.
SMITH RETIRES AS BAC 3-CA FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

From Field Representative RANDY SMITH

Change is a part of life and as we move toward the sunset years of our lives, many new and different aspects of life take on new meaning and priorities are forced to change.

From the days of the long hours on the wall, commutes to far away jobs, mortar and grout covered clothes and sore wrist, elbows, knees and back, to the endless hours in BAC Committee and Trust meetings, fund raisers, donation jobs, contractor, developer and job site meetings, Building Trade Council meetings, PLA Pre-jobs, BAC negotiations, on the computer, answering phone calls and emails long after the usual evening and weekend hours should have begun, this has all been a part of a career built on service and dedicated to the BAC trades. Although there have been great rewards in all areas of my BAC career from being a part of creating a building from the dirt to the sky and to helping members with benefit details and making decisions for the good of the Union, it is now time to let the sun set on this chapter of life.

With both feelings of melancholy and new energy, March 30, 2018, will be my last day as a BAC 3 CA Field Representative. There is no doubt that it will be a big change and that my world will be a different place without this position, but it is solely my decision to hang up the hard hat, put away the job site boots, safety vest and glasses and let a new generation fill this position. I can guarantee that the trowel won’t stay in the bag forever as I will always be a bricklayer and I’m sure there will be many home projects to do using the skills that were acquired only because of the fine leaders and brotherhood of BAC 3. For today, however, the new focus will be taking extra time to enjoy my family, supporting my wife Cynthia and finally starting on some of those projects involving home and car restoration that have been waiting years for my attention.

Over the past nearly 40 years we have seen a variety of changes in the masonry business, enjoying times of great prosperity and growth, to enduring the very difficult economic struggles and hard times. All of these times have been filled with experiences to learn about myself, the Union, our great country and how important the relationships developed through BAC have shaped my ability to stay strong and to always be steadfast in personal dedication which is the basis on which the brotherhood is built and will remain a part of a commitment to work together and build with pride and quality.

I take great pride in what has been achieved over the years and feel very privileged to have shared the journey with all of you. The times shared with my fellow journeymen laying block, brick, stone and pavers were not only opportunities to refine our skills together, but also a great time to build a camaraderie that will last a lifetime. I am so thankful for these relationships and it has been an honor to work beside you on the wall and also to serve as a BAC representative for you, my fellow members. I am grateful for our BAC Signatory Contractors who provided work opportunities and an environment that was safe, clean and respectful, upholding the commitment to the contract that they signed to be a part of BAC. With the common goals and efforts of all of us working together under the BAC leadership, my experience has been gratifying in many ways. It is only because of the quality workmanship and project labor agreements through BAC that I have had the opportunity to be a part of some of the grandest and most extraordinary projects like The NFL 49er’s Levi Stadium and the Apple Campus, not to mention many high-tech, commercial, educational, institutional, religious and residential projects that showcase masonry as an enduring and beautiful product compared to many other building materials.

As I moved into the second half of my BAC career as a Field Representative, I was given new responsibilities and gained new relationships with our BAC members, their families, my fellow Field Representative, the Officers and BAC office staff. I am proud to be a part of the member representation team at BAC and to work with of the finest Union leadership in the industry. We have been honored to serve the BAC International Union under the leadership of former BAC 7 and BAC 3 CA President Jim Boland; even though he is now leading the International Union from Washington D.C., he still has a special way of watching over us, his home local. At the helm of BAC 3 CA today is President Dave Jackson. We are very fortunate to have his leadership as he understands every phase of BAC 3 through practical on-the-job experience and leadership, providing guidance and support daily. Our current team of Field Representatives, Officers and Organizers

(continued on next page)
DO YOU HAVE YOUR CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION OF APPRENTICESHIP?

Having your state certified Journeyperson certificate is becoming more important each year. Many state school projects performed under AB 566 or AB 1358, now require you provide proof of graduation from an apprentice program. Many more prevailing wage, refinery, and locally negotiated construction projects will require the same.

If you have graduated from a program and have your certificate, you may need to show it to work on certain projects. If you no longer have your certificate, I encourage you to get proof of your graduation from the Department of Apprenticeship Standards (DAS) as it may be required on a job you are asked to work on in the near future. Please follow the procedures below for a replacement. Keep in mind there will be processing time, especially if you graduated in the 1970’s.

Journeypersons that graduated from a California registered apprenticeship, can check the DAS website to obtain an apprentice certification letter, that can be used to verify that the journeyperson successfully completed/graduated.

http://www.dir.ca.gov/das/appcertpw/AppCertSearch.asp

If the graduated apprentice’s records fail to show up on the DAS website (as directed above), the graduated apprentice (not a third party or employer) can submit a written request to DAS Head Quarters, Record Unit, 1515 Clay St, 3rd floor, Suite301, Oakland, CA 94612, requesting a manual search of the DAS archives. The written request should include the following information in order to make a thorough manual search of the record archives:

- Full Name
- Full social security number
- Full Address
- Phone number/e-mail address
- Date of Completion
- Occupation
- Apprenticeship Committee Name (if available)

If the graduated apprentice’s records are found in the archive, DAS will issue a letter indicating that the person in question successfully completed a State registered apprenticeship, identify the occupation and the date of completion.

If the graduated apprentice’s records are not found in the manual search, DAS will not be able to issue any confirmation that that person complete a state registered apprenticeship program. The graduated apprentice should attempt to contact the apprenticeship program they graduated from to see if they may have some record of their completion.

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Randy Smith

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are not only my colleagues, but my friends. The team of Troy Garland, Secretary-Treasurer; Darin Compton, Steve Kantonemi, Gary Peifer, Officers; and David Tafoya, Organizer; are a very fine group of men dedicated to serving the Union. I also must acknowledge all of the behind the scene work of office staff Cecilia Aguilar, Lani Chen and Carmen Olivo-Garcia who keep the day-to-day operations running and are always there supporting us.

I am also grateful and honored to have had the opportunity to serve as a member of a variety of BAC Trust Funds. This has given me the insight into just how important BAC is to our members and their families, allowing me to serve the membership in a personalized way that is one of the most gratifying aspects of being a Field Representative. I’m pleased to have been able to play a part in decisions that affect BAC and the future, serving as BAC Trustee for BAC Brick 3 Health and Welfare, BAC 16 Pension, BAC Apprenticeship and Negotiation Committees as well as serving as Monterey Chapter Recording Secretary. Working with our Administrators, Attorneys, Investment Managers and Actuary have given me invaluable insights into the inner-workings of the Union. This responsibility has instilled in me the importance of being a part of BAC and all of the benefits Union membership provides, not only throughout the working years but also how important it is to retirement and future planning.

I feel very fortunate to come from a family where the Union was a part of every day. Their example provided me with an understanding and respect for the American work force and the benefits of being a Union member. BAC has honed my masonry skills, provided work opportunities, family benefits and pension plans that are so very important. I will always be a proud card-carrying member of BAC 3 CA and am grateful to have had a fulfilling career working with amazing people, having a variety of job responsibilities and the privilege and confidence in a secure future.

Whether you are reading this sitting on a stack of blocks, pallet of mortar mix, scaffold, at your desk or in your easy chair, I wish to thank you all for the part you have played in my BAC career. May your future be blessed with good health, happiness and success for you and your family. Thank you for the opportunity to be of service.

All the best, Randy Smith
2018 CRAB FEED – BIGGEST EVER!!

On January 27th, BAC 3 held its 19th annual Crab Feed. This year was our biggest year ever with over 400 attendees. The crab was great and there were great raffle prizes. The Crab Feed is the only event that funds our BAC Local 3 Scholarship Fund for our members. We raised over $7,000 dollars in raffle sales and over $25,000 in attendance and donations.

We wish all this year’s scholarship recipients the best of luck in furthering their education. Please join us next year for great prizes, food and fun.