

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

The summer's start has me excited about what the brick industry's future holds. To kick it off, as president of the Ohio Aggregates & Industrial Minerals Association (OAIMA), I had the pleasure, along with Joe Angel and John Streb, of hosting Session No. 2 of their 2022 OAIMA Emerging Leaders Program with a tour of our Sugarcreek facilities. We focused our outing on highlighting our unique mining techniques, the challenges involved in producing over 120 million bricks a year, and a brief history of the plants and their evolution over the last 100 years. I also recently reviewed the entries of the Brick Industry Association's (BIA) BNO brick photo contest, which had some stunningly beautiful project photos submitted, one of our own coming in first place from Tate Marks.

It's gratifying to recognize the effort it takes to extract the raw materials, the workforce, energy, and craftsmanship to form and fire a specified product to the culmination of delivering its final vision for the architect and mason. After experiencing this firsthand, I can't imagine why any designer would choose another building material other than brick.

The Belden Brick Company remains committed to delivering the highest-quality raw materials and offering a wide range of products that contribute to our customers' and communities' structural integrity and outstanding appearance. The Decorating Line at Plant 8 is now fully operational! Several glaze brick orders have already been taken, helping the backlog of glaze lead times at Plant 6. With the growing popularity of Alaska White, Plant 8 has also developed Glacier White, a NEW white Clay Coat. Glacier White will show less of the brick body than its counterpart, Alaska White, and comes in a smooth texture. Plant 8 provides an eased edge, or slight chamfer, along the stretchers and headers to limit the chipping while getting a coated brick to the job site.

We look forward to seeing some of these new styles in the future BIA photo contests. If you haven't seen the Glaze or updated Clay Coat product lines from Plant 8 in person, please be sure to order a sample.

Thanks go out to our distributors; orders and lead times currently remain healthy at each plant. However, I write this during the same month that natural gas futures crested at \$9, and the Federal Reserve raised interest rates by three-quarters of a percent, which is the most significant hike since November 1994. The brick industry is experiencing frequent cost increases, supply delays, and labor shortages. While we all need a break from these inflation-related headaches, none of us want to see demand slow to a crawl in a recession. Our best defense might be that brick remains the best value wall system in the market. BIA's photo contest highlighted all the qualities and design options brick can offer our customers while not breaking the bank like some inferior wall cladding products. It's up to all of us in the brick industry to show customers why brick remains the right choice for their projects.

Sincerely,



Bradley H. Belden
President, The Belden Brick Company



Congrats! Alan Richardson



The BIA Executive Committee awarded Alan Richardson the 2022 BIA Lifetime Achievement Award. This award honors outstanding individuals who have for a minimum of 25 years given themselves throughout their careers to the advancement and betterment of the clay brick industry.

Alan has been in the brick industry for 50 years, but it is not just longevity in an industry but what he does for others. Leadership, commitment, and ethics are traits that Alan has put a lifetime into practice resulting in achievements that make him worthy of receiving the BIA Lifetime Achievement Award.

Potomac Valley Brick has experienced exponential growth and success under Alan's direction. After the passing of his father, Jack, Alan took on a more prominent role, eventually becoming president in 1987. Alan has built the company from a one yard and ten employees' facility in Arlington, Virginia to the largest clay brick distributor in the Washington, DC, Maryland, Virginia, territory. The Belden Brick Company's relationship with Alan and PVB began shortly after the company's inception in 1976 and has remained strong throughout the years.

Alan lives and breathes masonry but bleeds brick. Commitment to the industry is second to none. His insistence on always doing the right thing is paramount, and it shows with the success of his company and relationships in the industry. The Belden Brick Company is proud to have such a great relationship with Alan and Potomac Valley Brick.

Patriot Project A Proud Sponsor of the Event

Over the past few years, The Belden Brick Company has been a sponsor of The Patriot Project, a grassroots movement providing chiropractic care to all active military, their families, wounded veterans, and Gold Star dependents. Each year four Belden military veteran employees are selected to attend the Patriot Ball, with their guests, on our behalf. This year they enjoyed a delicious dinner, many messages from Medal of Honor recipients, and a concert from a Journey tribute band.



Left: This year's attendees were Tabitha and Frank Alleshouse, Rodney and Ronni Alleshouse, and Richard and Beth Brink. Frank and Richard represented the Army and Rodney the Navy. Thank you for your service.



Right: Founder and President, Dr. Timothy Novelli, with Medal of Honor recipients Clinton L. Romesha, Leroy Petry, Melvin Morris, and Donald "Doc" Ballard. You can read more about the Patriot Project at <https://www.patriot-project.org/>



Are you using the Brick Central app? If not, be sure to contact us to get started on

- Browsing our full product catalog and information on technical data
- Checking availability on sizes, textures, and special pricing
- Ordering product samples

THE BELDEN NEWS

SUMMER 2022

Product Spotlight: Did You Know We Offer Firebrick?

Firebrick is formulated and produced to line surfaces to withstand high temperatures and repeated heating cycles. They are ideal for lining surfaces like the interior walls of kilns, pizza ovens, foundry furnaces, boilers, and fireplaces.

The firebrick manufactured by The Belden Brick Company complies with the physical properties and characteristics specified by ASTM C1261, Standard Specification for Firebox Brick for Residential Fireplaces. Heat-resistant brick is designed explicitly for wood fireplace inserts or stoves and is not meant for exposed outdoor use, veneer walls, or horizontal paving applications.

They are available in 3 colors, red, buff, and black, and come in full size (9"x4-1/2"x2-1/2") and thin or splits (9"x4-1/2"x1-1/4") size firebrick. You work hard with your customers in choosing the perfect building materials, don't let this detail slip by!



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Congrats Alan Richardson

Keep your eyes on your emails! We've launched our new eNewsletter you'll love getting in your inbox. Add info@beldenbrick.com to your approved email senders' list, so you won't miss out.

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Distributor Spotlight

Ruel Brothers Celebrate 60 Years

Founded in 1962, Raymond and Jean-Marc Ruel started Ruel et Frère (Ruel Brothers) after working in the field and understanding the great potential of selling quality building products. Not long after opening, Raymond's wife, Raymonde, joined the brothers and helped expand the business while taking care of the accounting. Before acquiring direct agencies, they were purchasing from local distributors. As the demand grew and selling superior clay building products became a part of our company's fundamentals, Raymond Ruel made the trip to The Belden Brick Company in Canton, Ohio, and acquired the agency despite the major language barrier. This was the beginning of a great partnership.

In the early 2000s, after being raised in the business, their children, Nathalie and Dominic Ruel, took over with a level of experience that is unmatched. We have now become a third-generation business that has grown to add glazed products, terracotta panels, and stone, in addition to clay bricks and pavers, from around the world. We pride ourselves on our hard work, resourcefulness, and efficiency in all interactions.

Our history with The Belden Brick Company goes way back; we grew up hearing their names and are proud to suggest their products to our customers. Ruel Brothers and Belden Brick have been partners for over 50 years. We are celebrating our 60th anniversary this year, and companies like these are what allow us to succeed.

Working with The Belden Brick Company, you can always expect a quick response, high-quality products, and a team that thinks outside the box. Their equipment and facilities enable them to quickly develop new custom products, which is a great advantage for all distributors. We greatly appreciate the responsive feedback from the sales team. They are always helpful whether it is for technical as well as product information; we enjoy working with them. It is always a positive interaction and leaves us with more knowledge at the end of each project.

We are proud of each project and look forward to many more years working alongside them.



Ruth and Saul Kaplan Pavilion
470-479 Medium Range



Pediatric Rehabilitation Technopôle
Alaska White, English Gray, and Smoky Gray



Integrated Cancer Center (CIC) - Hôpital de l'Enfant-Jésus Expansion - 280-284 Smooth, 481-483 Velour, and Desert Sun Smooth

(BIA) Brick in Architecture Awards

Belden Used in Seven Award-Winning Projects

The Brick Industry Association's (BIA) Brick in Architecture Awards is the global premier design competition featuring clay brick and its infinite design versatility. That's why The Belden Brick Company is proud to announce that Belden brick was used in seven award-winning projects, including a Best in Class for Educational (K-12) on the Thomas J. Waters Elementary School North Annex.

Best in Class Winner:
Educational (K-12) - Thomas J. Waters Elementary School North Annex, Chicago, Illinois. **Architect:** Bailey Edward Design.
Brick Distributor: Brickworks Supply LLC, **Mason Contractor:** MPZ Masonry



Best in Class Project: Thomas J. Waters Elementary School

Gold Winner:
Paving & Landscaping - Canton Centennial Plaza, Canton, Ohio.
Landscape Architect: MKSK, **Brick Distributor:** Ed Schory & Son.
Mason Contractor: Enviroscapes, Inc.



Silver Winner:
Commercial - Altgeld Community Resource Center, S. Ellis Avenue - E. 131st Street, Chicago, Illinois. **Architect:** K00 LLC.
Brick Distributor: Brickworks Supply, LLC, **Mason Contractor:** All Masonry / All Construction Group



(BIA) Brick in Architecture Awards Continued ...

Bronze Winners:
Educational (Higher Education) - Hillsdale Christ Chapel, Hillsdale, Michigan. **Architect:** Duncan G. Stroik Architect, LLC.
Brick Distributor: Belden Brick & Supply Company, **Mason Contractor:** Weigand Construction

Educational (Higher Education) - St. Joseph's Arrupe Hall, Lower Merion, Pennsylvania. **Architect:** Moto Designshop,
Brick Distributor: Diener Brick Company, **Mason Contractor:** Dan Lepore & Sons Company

Education K-12 - Watkins Intermediate School, Pataskala, Ohio. **Architect:** Garmann Miller & Associates.
Brick Distributor: Hamilton Parker Company, **Mason Contractor:** Allman Brothers Masonry

Paving & Landscaping - Toledo Mott Library, Toledo, Ohio. **Landscape Architect:** EDGE Landscape Architecture.
Brick Distributor: Kuhlman Corporation, **Mason Contractor:** Mitch Cousino Hardscape LLC



Hillsdale Christ Chapel



Hillsdale Christ Chapel



St. Joseph's Arrupe



Watkins Intermediate School



Paving & Landscaping: Toledo Mott Library

