

Bricklayers Cut Back Wage Package

Early summer is labor negotiation season in Chicagoland, and the Builders Association's Denise Herdrich has been keeping members constantly updated on development.

Bricklayers District Council No. 1 agreed to a one-year extension agreement with a wage package increase of \$3.25 last year. The agreement was modified in an unprecedented action by Bricklayers District Council President James Allen, who decreased the wage package from \$3.25 to \$2.75.

"Since I became President five years ago, my goals have been simple – work hard to get the best wages, benefits and working

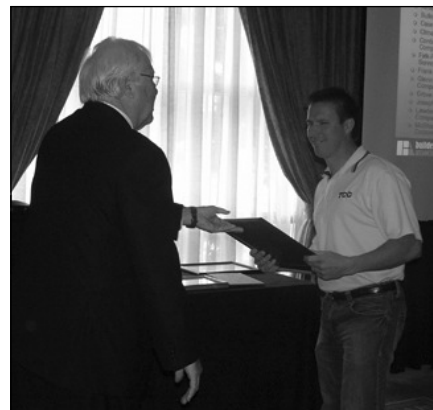
conditions for my membership, while protecting work opportunities by trying to make sure the contractors' businesses remain viable and profitable," Allen said in a letter to associations. "I am hopeful this step will accomplish those goals."

The Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Authority of Northern Illinois (PAMCANI) met with Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 501 June 19 and reached a deal on a three-year pact that has been ratified by the Union. The agreement calls for pay and benefit increases of \$2.50 the first year and \$2.75 each in the second and third years. Local 501 membership had previously rejected what management

called its "best, last and final" offer.

In other labor negotiations impacting area contractors:

- Ironworkers Local 1 (Cook, DuPage, Lake) has reached a three-year agreement with economics of \$2.76, \$2.75 and \$2.85.
- Ironworkers Local 63 (Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry) reached an agreement including increases of \$1.50 (effective June 1), \$1.25 (January 1, 2010), \$2.75 (June 1, 2010) and \$2.85 (June 1, 2011). Foremen will receive an extra 25 cents effective June 1, 2011.



(Above, left) McShane Construction Company representatives Jim McShane and Vic Bishop accept a Safety Excellence Award from the AGC of America. (above, center) Jack Aldworth of William J. Scown Building Company accepts a Best Of Class Award from Builders Association Board Chairman John Russell of W.E. O'Neil Construction Company. (above, right) Association President Al Leitschuh presents Tessler Construction Company's Safety Recognition Award to Ron Tessler. (right) A group shot of Safety Recognition Award winners for 2008. Read more about the Safety Awards and the Spring Meeting later in this issue, beginning on page 10.

