



Erik Absalon

Erik Absalon is President and CEO at Basalite Building Products, LLC, in California and has more than 30 years of experience in the construction/masonry industry. Erik began his career with Peterson Consulting and has held numerous positions with Basalite including Operations Manager, General Manager, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. As a director for the CMU Checkoff, Erik hopes to create better representation of concrete masonry unit design in architectural and engineering curricula at the university level.



Kendall Anderegg

Kendall Anderegg is President and CEO at Mutual Materials in Washington. With 20 years of experience in the concrete masonry industry, Kendall previously worked as a group manager of the server projects group for Intel and as a project manager for Intermac. As a CMU Checkoff director, Kendall hopes to positively contribute to organizing programs and processes for the industry, while prioritizing both national and regional priorities in the industry that lead to growth, awareness and stronger market share. Kendall's hobbies and interests include running, skiing, cycling and other outdoor activities.



Dwayne Aucoin

Dwayne Aucoin is vice president at State Block, Inc., in Louisiana. With nearly 20 years of experience in the masonry/construction industry, Dwayne was previously the vice president of operations for The Cross Group. Dwayne is excited to serve as a director for the CMU Checkoff and steer the direction of the concrete masonry industry for future growth. In his free time, Dwayne enjoys spending time with his family, cooking, hunting and fishing.



Michael Finch

Michael Finch has more than 50 years of experience in the masonry industry working in his family's business. As president and CEO at RCP Block & Brink, Inc., in California, Michael has been highly involved in national and state trade associations to grow and promote the masonry industry. In his term as a director for the CMU Checkoff, Michael hopes to see the industry advance through education on the superiority of concrete masonry unit construction. In his free time, Michael enjoys watching the San Diego Padres, snow skiing, golfing and spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren.



Sam Finney

Sam Finney is the president of Tidewater Block, LLC in Virginia. With more than 25 years of experience, Sam is excited to be part of the revitalization of the concrete block industry. He hopes to see the CMU Checkoff enable owners to more comfortably design and build with concrete block in future projects, to rebuild previously lost market share compared to other building materials. In his free time, Sam enjoys golf, tennis, fishing and hunting.



Rocky Fizzano

Rocky Fizzano is president of Fizzano Brothers Concrete Products, Inc. in Pennsylvania. He brings more than 30 years of experience in the masonry/construction industry, including involvement in National Concrete Masonry Association's (NCMA) education programs. Rocky hopes that the CMU Checkoff will build demand for and increases the market share of concrete masonry in the construction industry, helping to build a stronger future, block by block.



James Gendron

James Gendron is in masonry sales at Fendt Builder's Supply, Inc., in Michigan. In his 40+ years spent in the masonry and construction industry, James has also served as the owner for National Block and a salesperson for General Portland Cement. As a member of the CMU Checkoff Board of Directors, James hopes to see concrete masonry units utilized more frequently in new construction, resulting in market share growth in the construction industry. In his free time, James enjoys fishing.





Greg Gibbel

Greg Gibbel is president of the hardscapes and masonry division at Georgia-based Best Block, a QUIKRETE^O Company. He brings to the Board over 30 years of experience in the masonry/construction industry. Gibbel believes the CMU Checkoff is critical to growing sales of the concrete masonry industry and the company he runs. In his free time, Greg enjoys golfing and fishing.



Gary Hensley

Gary Hensley is the vice president of masonry at Oldcastle Adams in North Carolina. Previously, Gary was director of operations at CEMEX. With 25 years of experience in the masonry and construction industry, Gary believes the CMU Checkoff will be a key mechanism for sharing the benefits of masonry on a national scale. Ultimately, Gary hopes the Checkoff will grow masonry's market share by halting the decline of masonry in commercial and residential construction.



Heidi Jandris

Heidi Jandris works in technical services at Jandris Block in Massachusetts. Growing up in the masonry/construction industry, she has held numerous roles at her family-owned block company. As a director for the CMU Checkoff, Heidi looks forward to being part of a larger, cohesive effort to promote the concrete masonry industry. In the future, Heidi hopes the Checkoff will lead to more masonry design educational programs at the university level. In her free time, Heidi enjoys spending time with her family, mixed-media art and welding.



Melissa Kline

Melissa Kline has more than 20 years in the masonry/construction industry and is currently the sales manager for manufactured and resale products at Consumers Concrete Corporation in Michigan. Melissa is passionate about concrete masonry as a superior building product, with resilience that creates immediate value in the community. Through the CMU Checkoff, Melissa hopes to create awareness of the long-term value of building with concrete products versus other building materials, resulting in a greater demand for masonry. In her free time, Melissa enjoys spending time with family, traveling, watching Notre Dame football games, golfing and boating on the St. Joseph River.





Mike Littrell

Mike Littrell is the purchasing manager at ABC Block & Brick in Arkansas. In his more than 40 years in the concrete masonry industry, Mike's previous experience includes roles at Friday Lumber Company, BlueLinx, Stock Building Supply, Ready USA, Block USA and Littrell Lumber & Ready Mix. As a director for the CMU Checkoff, Mike aims to help guide the utilization of resources to their best use. He also hopes to see concrete masonry take its rightful place as a premier building component as result of the CMU Checkoff. In his free time, Mike enjoys golf, hunting, boating and traveling.



Major Ogilvie

Major Ogilvie joined Block USA, part of the Ready Mix USA Family of Companies, later acquired by CEMEX, as a general manager in 2003. Since then, he's been increasingly engaged in the Checkoff effort based largely on the respect he's developed for the men and women involved in the industry. Ogilvie believes The CMU Checkoff offers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to transform our industry for future generations, while returning concrete masonry to its rightful place as a superior building product. Major is active in his community, and has also served on numerous industry organizations including the Board of Advisors for the University of Alabama College of Engineering. He and his wife, Jayne, have three children and two grandchildren. In his free time, he enjoys hunting, fishing, golf and playing gin.



Richard O'Connor

Richard is president of Taylor Concrete Products, Inc. in Watertown, New York. With nearly 25 years in the masonry/construction industry including time as a vice president at PaineWebber, Richard is experienced with and passionate about growing the concrete masonry industry for future generations. Specifically, he looks forward to CMU Checkoff investments in marketing, research and training to advance concrete masonry in the construction and building materials markets.



Brendan Quinn

Brendan Quinn has spent more than 25 years in the concrete masonry industry, and is currently the president of Ernest Maier, Inc. in the greater Washington D.C. area. Brendan is dedicated to the mission of growing concrete masonry unit market share in residential and commercial construction, and hopes the CMU Checkoff will help the industry work together to promote a quality, durable construction material. He is also optimistic that Checkoff research will contribute to strengthening the concrete masonry workforce. Brendan's hobbies and interests include golf and history.





Ryan Ross

Ryan Ross is the CEO and owner of Block-Lite in Arizona. Over the course of his 22 years in the masonry/construction industry, Ryan has held the roles of forklift operator, production laborer, diesel mechanic and machine operator. Ryan is actively involved in the Arizona state volunteer checkoff program and is hoping to see the benefits of that program applied at the national level. Ryan also hopes to see the concrete masonry industry start an apprentice program for machine operators at a national level. In his free time, Ryan enjoys spending time with his family, barbecuing and sports.



Sean Rustad

Sean Rustad is vice president of marketing and retail at Lee Building Products. Sean has spent more than 15 years in the masonry/construction industry and previously served as retail and marketing manager at Keystone Retaining Walls. As a director for the CMU Checkoff, Sean is excited to work with industry leaders on a synergized promotional program that is focused on regional and national strategies to increase market share, create new markets and grow product demand. He hopes that the Checkoff will provide a unified industry message focusing on the value and benefits of using concrete masonry units for all construction needs – residential, multi-family and commercial. In his free time, Sean is an avid golfer who also enjoys hunting and attending his children's sporting events.



Preston Sparkman

Preston Sparkman is the vice president of sales at Quality Block & Supply in Florida. With more than 35 years of experience in the masonry/construction industry, Preston's previous roles included sales manager for City Ready Mix, district manager for Rinker Materials and general manager for Carolina Concrete. As a director for the CMU Checkoff, Preston hopes to assist in the promotion and use of concrete masonry units so that owners, architects and engineers are better informed of the benefits masonry has to offer. In his free time, Preston enjoys fishing, sporting clay, boating, going to the beach and traveling.



Patrick Sauter

Patrick Sauter brings to the Board over 15 years of expertise in the masonry/construction industry, currently vice president at King's Material, Inc., in Iowa. Previously, Patrick was the general manager for King's Material and a project engineer for Rinderknect Associates. A third-generation block producer, Patrick wants to see the industry thrive for future generations. He believes the CMU Checkoff will make a big difference in the future of the industry by making some big investments and take advantage of new opportunities that will change the momentum for concrete masonry. In his free time, Patrick enjoys golfing, traveling and spending time with family and friends.





Mark Wilhelms

Mark Wilhelms is the vice president of architectural sales at Midwest Block & Brick, a QUIKRETE^O Company in Missouri. His 37 years of experience in the masonry/construction industry includes previously working at Kirchner Block & Brick. As a director for the CMU Checkoff, Mark hopes to help move the industry forward by educating the market on how concrete masonry is a trusted building system. He also hopes that the Checkoff will help design professionals and communities to see the value of building with resilient concrete block. In his free time, Mark enjoys traveling and gardening.

CMU CHECKOFF BOARD Chief Executive Officer



Kim Spahn (Chief Executive Officer)

Kim Spahn joins the Checkoff after spending the past 17 years leading the American Concrete Pipe Association (ACPA), cultivating trusted partnerships with industry stakeholders, government agencies and elected officials throughout North America. She served most recently as ACPA vice president of operations, supporting the executive committee and spearheading state directors, while immersing herself in regional management responsibilities and budgets. She led several key initiatives collaborating with the ACPA board and committees, the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), and the American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) to drive the goals of ACPA and its foundation forward. Kim and her husband live with their two children just south of Denver, Colorado. Outside of work, the Spahns spend most of their time outdoors mountain biking, hunting and snowboarding.



Ray McVeigh (Executive Advisor; former Chief Executive Officer)

Mr. McVeigh has a BA in Economics from Michigan State University and a JD from Boston College Law School. He maintained a commercial trial practice in the Detroit area for over 16 years. He was responsible for starting up and operating several state and regional 501(c)(6) nonprofit trade associations for the cement industry over a 30 year period that functioned as voluntary check off organizations. In that role, he oversaw the investment of cement industry "assessments" in concrete masonry promotion activities throughout the "Great Lakes" region of Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin. He has been an advisor to the cement industry with respect to antitrust and promotion issues for more than 35 years. In his "free" time, he enjoys training and hunting bird dogs, fine cigars and Kentucky bourbon.