

DESIGN and REMODELING *trends*

VOLUME 29 NO 3 - FALL 2017

The sign of Excellence in your Yard - a letter from Tim

Greetings Friends and Customers,

Sadly, it has been a while since we've reached out to you and sent out a newsletter. Things have been busy around here over the last year, and time has slipped by us.

In the midst of all of our normal hustle and bustle of designing, estimating, selling, producing, and completing multiple jobs, one of our long-term team members has moved on to a new phase in his life—The Rocking Chair. We were sorry to have lost our own “Mr. Positive”; Jim Stade retired this year, but we wish him well in his efforts to wear out the rockers on the bottom of his chair.

Because of the loss of Jim and our search to find additional tradesmen, we realized that not many of the younger generation are entering this field of work as a career option. It is also not being promoted to young people at the middle and high school level, therefore there is a shortage of skilled workers. Since we have been in business 38 years this December, we feel we have the professional expertise to mentor the younger generation. This past summer we were excited to offer three internships to the up-and-coming Construction Industry students. We hope to continue to offer this next summer, because we feel it is important to do our part in keeping this industry strong and alive to meet the ever growing demands of our loyal customers and our community.

As fall is upon us we have been reflecting on the past year and planning for the New Year. We have been thinking about the upcoming Home Expo (March 2018), and we came across an old job sign that we used years ago. We think the slogan still applies today, “The sign of Excellence in your Yard.” This is STILL our goal in our day-to-day work—to be excellent in our workmanship, service and attitude, and to continue to give you our best.

With that being said, the BRHI Team would like to wish you and your families a Happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year!

Best Regards,



Tim Lawrence



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Saving the Foundation

THINGS TO remember

EPA Lead Certified. It's The Law!

Federal law requires contractors that disturb painted surfaces in homes, child care facilities and schools built before 1978 to be certified and follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination. Always ask to see your contractor's certification.



NAHB Certifications

Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR)

Remodelers with at least five years of experience in the industry can apply for the Certified Graduate Remodeler (CGR) educational designation. Courses in the CGR curriculum are designed to emphasize business and project management skills as the key to a successful remodeling operation.

Regulation of Contractors

"Class A contractors" perform or manage construction when a project is \$120,000 or more, or the total value of all such construction within any 12-month period is \$750,000 or more.

"Class B contractors" perform or manage construction when total project value is \$10,000 or more, but less than \$120,000, or the total value of all such construction within any 12-month period is \$150,000 or more, but less than \$750,000.

"Class C contractors" perform or manage construction a project is over \$1,000 but less than \$10,000, or the total value of all such construction within any 12-month period is less than \$150,000.



Graduate Master Builder (GMB)

The ultimate symbol of the building professional, the Graduate Master Builder (GMB) designation is for experienced veterans only. Before beginning the GMB designation process, you must have the CGB designation or the CGR designation with five years of building experience, or 10 years of building experience and successful completion of three CGB/CGR courses.



Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS)

The Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) designation program teaches the technical, business management, and customer service skills essential to competing in the fastest growing segment of the residential remodeling industry: home modifications for the aging-in-place. The CAPS designation offers your potential clients what they need most: reassurance that you'll help them make the choices that will help them stay in their homes safely and securely.



Fortress Stabilization Certified Installer

Fortress Stabilization Certified Installers are specifically trained in the techniques and methods of applying Fortress Carbon Fiber / Kevlar products and receive a high degree of training in composite strengthening for use in construction related applications.



Pella Certified Contractor

Pella only works with the best. So as a Pella Certified Contractor, you are part of an elite group of building professionals selected to partner with us. By joining together, the industry's leading contractors along with Pella deliver quality projects and products that ensure homeowners are completely satisfied.

Certified Green Professional (CGP)

The Certified Green Professional™ designation recognizes builders, remodelers and other industry professionals who incorporate green and sustainable building principles into homes—without driving up the cost of construction. CGP coursework is closely aligned with the ICC 700 National Green Building Standard, which includes chapters on energy, water and resource efficiency, indoor environmental quality, lot and site development and home owner education.



IN THEIR OWN WORDS

If you are considering remodeling,
consider what our clients say:

"My wife and I are very pleased with the quality of their work, their professional approach and conduct, including their sub-contractors, and how they addressed all of our questions and concerns."

- BRHI Customer – Blacksburg, VA



"Tim and Jim were excellent to work with. As the project grew when other problems were found, Tim and Jim worked to take care of the additional foundation and drainage without delay. Thank you for not abandoning me when the new problems added weeks to the job! The backyard is growing in and my work and weaving studio in the basement has been a pleasure to work in."

- BRHI Customer – Blacksburg, VA



"We moved from Chicago to Blacksburg to retire, bought a house that needed some updating, and went looking for a contractor. We worked with a great home improvement contractor in Chicago, where there is lots of competition and choices, so we were a little apprehensive about finding a contractor as good in Blacksburg. Even by Chicago standards, Blue Ridge is exceptional. Before we moved in, on a very tight timeline, Blue Ridge removed and installed shelves/cabinets/desks, moved walls, remodeled a bathroom, installed new lighting, converted a laundry room to a wet bar and repainted the interior. Since we moved in, Blue Ridge remodeled all of our other bathrooms, converted a garage into a den, rewired much of the house, added electrical service, built new piers under the foundation, and installed a spiral stairway to open up a previously inaccessible loft area. These guys can do anything. The best part is – and anyone who has ever worked with an HI contractor will understand this – their estimates were spot on every time, there were never any hidden surprises (because they did their homework before giving us the estimates), they started and finished the jobs when they said, the work was very high quality and the guys on the job were always finding simple little improvements to make along the way that, in the end, made a big difference. I cannot express how rare this combination of attributes is. I should also point out that we have friends who have used other contractors in the area who were a bit lower than Blue Ridge but invariably discovered hidden problems that significantly drove up the cost and duration of the jobs. Over multiple projects, this has never happened to us with Blue Ridge. We're fans for life."

- BRHI Customer – Blacksburg, VA



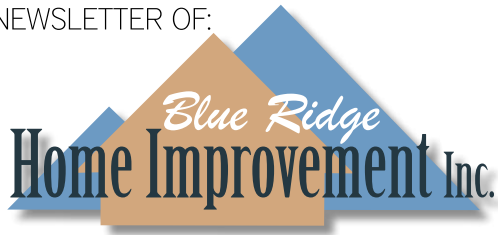
If you ever have questions,
call us at 540-951-3505.
We're here to help!

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trends

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NEWSLETTER OF:



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PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS



Project Files

Saving the Foundation

Problem:

Cracks formed in the basement foundation wall due to the nature of the clay type ground in the Appalachian mountains are caused due to the expansion and contraction of the ground from moisture.



Solution: Fortress Stabilization Systems

By using a newer technology of Carbon Fiber/Kevlar strips, we were able to save the client considerable cost and time without having to raise the home off the foundation, dig, and backfill. A basement wall repaired with Fortress Carbon Fiber will never crack or bow again. Learn more at www.fortressstabilization.com.