



John J. Flynn
President, International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

Since becoming an apprentice bricklayer in 1952, President John J. Flynn worked steadily for the next twenty years in the trade as a journeyman, foreman, and superintendent on all types of masonry construction jobs.

Flynn was born and raised in St. Louis where he learned the trade. His official Union service on behalf of the members of BAC Local 1 Missouri – his home local to this day – began in the early 1970s. In 1971 he became a Business Agent for the Local. Three years later he became Business Manager of Local 1 – a position he held until 1982 when he was appointed to the International Union's headquarters staff as Director of Trade Jurisdiction.

In 1986 he was promoted to Assistant to the President. It was in this capacity that Flynn established the IU's highly regarded organizing program. The following year he was named to the Executive Board as Executive Vice President. He was elected to a full Executive Board term in 1990 and again elected in 1995 as BAC Secretary-Treasurer. John was named BAC President in June 1999 and elected to serve a full five-year term at the 2000 IU Convention.

As President, Flynn's responsibilities include formulating and supervising the IU's programs and activities consistent with the policies established by the IU Convention and according to the IU Constitution.

President Flynn is the Labor Co-Chair of the International Masonry Institute (IMI), a labor-management trust established to strengthen labor relations, apprenticeship and training, market development, and research and development in the masonry industry. He is Co-Chair of the International Trowel Trades Pension Fund (IPF) and the International Health Fund (IHF). In addition, President Flynn serves on the AFL-CIO's Executive Council and its Committees on International Affairs, Organizing, and Political Education, as well as the AFL-CIO's Building and Construction Trades Department (BCTD) Governing Board of Presidents. He also serves on the Board of several organizations, including ULLICO's Board of Directors, the AFL-CIO Housing and Building Investment Trusts, the AFL-CIO Working for America Institute, and the Seabees. He is a graduate of the Harvard Trade Union Program.

Flynn's previous board and committee posts have included the General Presidents' Committee on Contract Maintenance, the National Joint Heavy and Highway Committee, the Associated General Contractors Basic Trades Committee, the Board of Directors of Pride (the St. Louis Construction Industry Labor Management Committee), the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of St. Louis, and the United Way of St. Louis. He has served as President/Chair of the St. Louis Building and Construction Trades Council, the St. Louis County Democratic Party, the Legislative Advisory Committee of the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association, Local 1 Missouri's Pension Trust Fund, Health and Welfare Trust Fund, and Vacation Trust Fund. He has also served as an advisor to the St. Louis Masonry Institute.

In his election acceptance remarks in 2000, President Flynn expressed his appreciation to all those that have stood with him. "I am humbled...I started out as a bricklayer just looking for a steady job. I will do the best job I can for all of you and all of the members."