



# STEVE METZGER

## 2012 APPRENTICE OF THE YEAR

# SPOTLIGHT

### On Steve Metzger:

**Title** Foreman for Eureka Metal & Glass (Philadelphia, PA)

**Hometown** Somerton Section of Philadelphia, PA

**Family** Married with a daughter and a son - ages 2 1/2 and 3 months

**Hobbies** Music - Steve is a classic rock fan who knows music trivia.

He also played baseball and football for years.



## ABOUT STEVE

Steve Metzger is a foreman for Eureka Metal & Glass, where his responsibilities include field supervision, project coordination, and layout. His work experiences range from interiors to new exterior curtain walls to renovations and window replacements.

After high school, Steve worked full time and went to community college at night. At 26, he became an apprentice. "I jumped at the chance because I didn't have a direction," he explains. Steve became the first apprentice to obtain his associate's degree through the Finishing Trades Institute (FTI) accredited program. He then combined his earlier credits to gain his bachelor's degree through the National Labor College (with a 3.9 GPA to boot). In 2012, Steve was named Apprentice of the Year.



*Left: Steve earning his bachelor's degree; right: Steve teaching at Architectural Glass Boot Camp*

"I like working with my hands and working on teams," says Steve. "I like every aspect of my job, from being different places to seeing a project through from start to finish." Steve enjoys working indoors or outdoors and doesn't mind heights. Only cold weather occasionally gets to him.

Today, Steve is a trustee for Local 252 and a part-time FTI instructor. He teaches Health & Safety and leads instruction for Wilson Partitions. Steve enjoys exposing young people to careers

in glazing. Recently, he was part of the OSHA 10 scaffold awareness team working with high school students in Grays Ferry. "The kids had no idea what a glazier does," Steve said. "It was fun to get to know them and share what I do."



## ADVICE FOR APPRENTICES

When he was an apprentice, Steve says there were many older guys who showed him the ropes and taught him the craft of glazing. As a foreman, he shares that same knowledge, paying it forward to help the next generation. He advises apprentices to appreciate the exposure to different opportunities and to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow glaziers.

## FAVORITE PROJECTS

Steve has participated on several interesting projects in the last year, but three in particular stand out. He recently worked on the American Bible Society interior in the Wells Fargo Building in Old City, Philadelphia. The space features back-painted glass with inscribed Bible scriptures that are combined with wood panels to form a Tree of Life. Steve also worked on the new Cheesecake Factory building at 15th and Walnut Streets, where he spent three months at the start of the project developing layouts for glass and special interior steel trusses. He also worked on the Turner Construction office headquarters at 15th and Spring Garden Streets. Large sliders and back-painted glass figured prominently in the renovated interior design. "I don't always have the pleasure of seeing a project after it is complete," Steve adds. "But it's a cool feeling to see the final product."

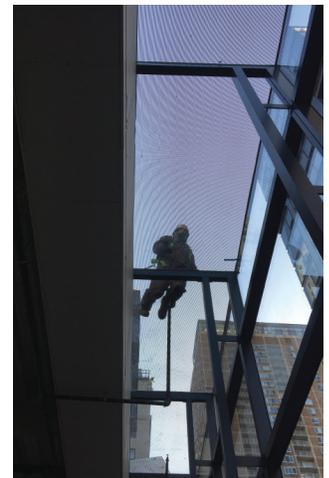
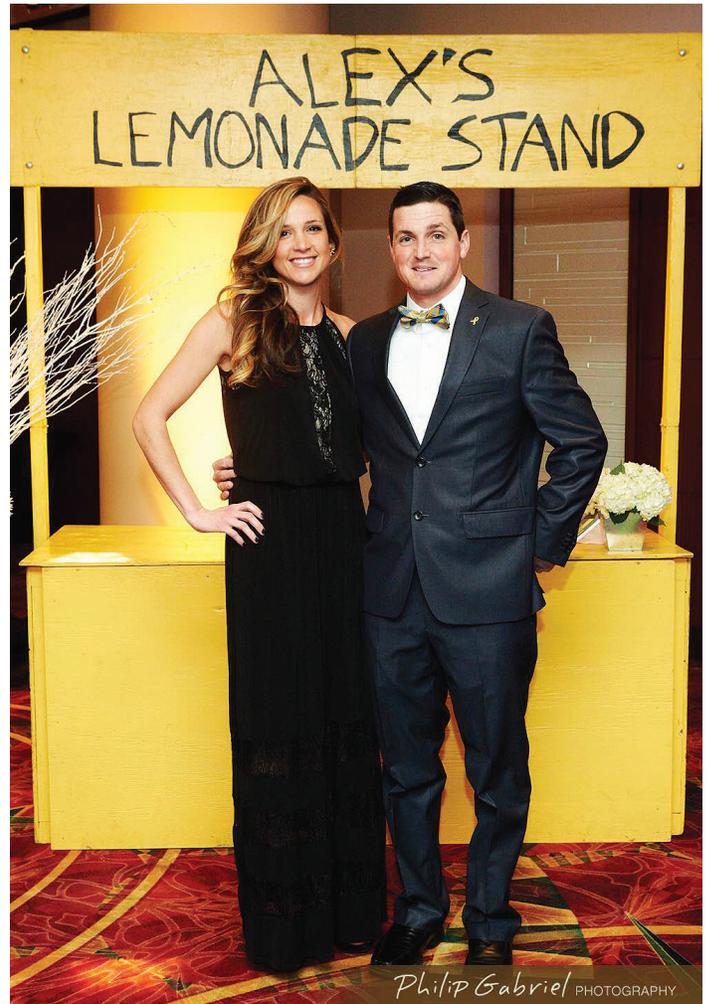
## GIVING BACK

Steve takes seriously his role as a glazier, and gives back to the union as a trustee, an FTI instructor, a member of the softball team, and a teacher in AGI's Architectural Glass Boot Camp. Steve also gives back to his community in a very significant way.

At just six months of age, Steve's daughter was diagnosed with cancer. Now 2 1/2 and cancer-free, Caroline motivated Steve and his family's involvement with the nonprofit Alex's Lemonade Stand. The Metzgers are a Hero Ambassador family for the organization, using the power of their own experience to help fight childhood cancer. Steve and his wife Lisa, a CHOP nurse, participate in events including the recent CBS3 telethon and the annual Lemon Run, and offer fundraising support through lemonade stands and other activities. Steve personally donates blood platelets as often as he can; a platelet donation can be as beneficial as 8-10 blood donations, offering a full therapeutic dose for a patient undergoing chemotherapy or other treatment.

To learn more or to support the Metzger family, visit:  
<http://www.alexslimonade.org/hero/caroline-metzger>

*"It's rarely one guy doing anything. It's all about teamwork and that's a cool aspect to this work." - Steve Metzger*



*Clockwise from top: Steve and his wife Lisa; Steve on-site at the Cheesecake Factory project; Steve's kids Caroline and Stephen*