Brother and Sisters,

First, I would like to wish each and every one of you and your families a very Happy Prosperous 2018. Work in the Southern California area continues to be relatively strong with good indications of this trend continuing. PLA’s negotiated by the Building Trades, help to fuel jobs on a number of these projects throughout our area.

Your Business Representatives continue to be vigilant, working hard to protect our jurisdiction from those trades who wish to raid and perform Cement Mason work. We continue to be successful in signing contractors throughout the year and are working diligently along with our compliance officer, monitoring public works projects awarded non-union contractors. Through the Cement Masons Labor Management Cooperation Committee (LMCC), Locals 500 and 600 are having great success obtaining violations against non union contractors who choose to cheat the system.

Local 600 continues to be financially strong and in sound condition. As I mentioned, work is good, work hours are up, and the membership continues to grow with new apprentices and journeymen joining our ranks.

I am happy to announce that on November 28, 2017, the Trustees of the Cement Masons Pension Trust approved a 14% increase. If you are a retiree or beneficiary receiving a monthly pension benefit, as of January 1, 2018 your benefit will increase by 14%. For all service units earned on or after January 1, 2018, the benefit you earn will be increased by 14%, from $10.85 for each 300-hours unit of service to $12.37 for each unit. I would like to thank the Management Trustees, Pam Ackrich, Wes May and Dan Long, they truly partnered with Jack Alvarado, Phil Salerno, Jaime Briceno and myself to get this increase passed for our participants.

Remember to contact your local area office should you have any questions or to placed on the out of work list.

Sincerely & fraternally yours,

Fitzgerald Jacobs
Business Manager & Financial Secretary

Retirement News

I would like to announce that on October 31, 2017, after 20 years, Scott Brain retired as Business Manager of Local 600. Prior to the merger of 1995, he was Business Manager of Local 741 in Ventura. During his tenure, he grew Local 600 financially, increased our membership, reinstated a successful work compliance program, and navigated the Local through the bad recession that began in 2008. On behalf of the Officers, staff and membership, I would like to thank Scott for his many years of service.

Area Meetings Note

For those members who attend the Ventura, Bakersfield, Santa Maria or Palmdale area membership meetings, please note that scheduling conflicts do come up periodically and the meeting day may need to be changed. If you plan to attend, contact the Business Representative prior to the date to confirm.

Dates to Remember

February 15, 2018-Bakersfield Area Meeting 6:30pm
February 27, 2018-Santa Maria Area Meeting @ 6:30pm
March 8, 2018-Bell Gardens General Meeting @ 7:00pm
April 3, 2018-Ventura Area Meeting @ 6:30pm
April 12, 2018-Bell Gardens General Meeting @ 7:00pm
April 18, 2018-Palmdale Area Meeting @ 6:30pm
May 10, 2018-Bell Gardens General Meeting @ 7:00pm
May 17, 2018-Bakersfield Area Meeting @ 6:30pm
May 22, 2018-Santa Maria Area Meeting @ 6:30pm
May 28, 2018-Memorial Day (Union Holiday)
June 14, 2018-Bell Gardens General Meeting @ 7:00pm
July 3, 2018-Ventura Area Meeting @ 6:30pm

Calendar Continued on Page 2
A Celebration of Achievements Luncheon!

This year our Awards Luncheon will be held in April. If your anniversary year is 2018 and you will be attaining 25, 30, 40, 50, and yes 60 or 70 years of continuous service, you will receive an invitation to join us in celebration of this achievement. If you are invited and plan to join us, please remember to R.S.V.P so we can have an accurate count of those attending.

Dues Assistance Available

If you’re injured on the job and become or currently disabled and cannot work, you may be eligible for dues assistance. A signed doctors letter will need to be submitted by the member for approval by the Locals’ Executive Board. Once approved, the Local will pay the members monthly dues while they are disabled. The local will only pay the members monthly dues beginning the month in which the doctor’s letter has been submitted and up to twelve (12) months. Should you have any questions regarding dues assistance, please contact our main office.

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Apprenticeship Program

There is a lot going on at the Apprenticeship schools. Under the guidance of Director Armando Pena, new certification classes are being offered throughout Southern California. The classes include Concrete polishing, silica awareness, forklift certification, and OSHA 10. In addition to apprenticeship classes, journey-person upgrades are also being offered. Schedules for OSHA 10 are available at your local union halls.

SEE OSHA 10 SCHEDULE ON BACK PAGE

Dates to Remember Continued

July 4, 2018-Independence Day (Union Holiday)
July 12, 2018-Bell Gardens General Meeting @ 7:00pm
July 18, 2018-Palmdale Area Meeting @ 6:30pm
August 9, 2018-Bell Gardens General Meeting @ 7:00pm
August 16, 2018-Bakersfield Area Meeting @ 6:30pm
August 28, 2018-Santa Maria Area Meeting @ 6:30pm
September 3, 2018-Labor Day (Union Holiday)
September 13, 2018-Bell Gardens General Meeting @ 7:00pm
October 2, 2018-Ventura Area Meeting @ 6:30pm
October 11, 2018-Bell Gardens General Meeting @ 7:00pm
October 17, 2018-Palmdale Area Meeting @ 6:30pm

Country, State, and Local flags proudly wave over Local 600.
Meet Your Representatives

Hello Sisters & Brothers,

Please allow me to introduce myself; I’m Ricardo Gonzalez, business representative for Local 600. I would also like to wish the members of Local 600 and their families a blessed and prosperous 2018. My services as business representative began when I was appointed in 2016 and currently working out of the Bell Gardens office along with Business Manager/Financial Secretary Fitzgerald Jacobs, and representative Thony Sarmiento. I cover the South Los Angeles and surrounding areas. 2018 as we know will be greater construction boom than 2017. Some high-profile projects that will be, or have broken ground, are the George Lucas Museum, luxury suites at the Coliseum, Clippers Arena, and the LAMP project at LAX to name a few. Many of our signatory contractors have been awarded these projects, which is a huge win for us.

As 2018 progresses, I look forward to continue serving our membership. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact me at any time.

Best regards,

Ricardo Gonzalez

Local 600 Business Representative

For Our Members and Families Who Bake

Banana Bread

No need for a mixer for this recipe!
Clean up is easy too, if you want, you can mix everything in one mixing bowl.

The best bananas to use for banana bread are those that are over-ripe. The yellow peels should be at least half browned, and the bananas inside squishy and browning.

Prep time: 10 minutes  Cook time: 55 minutes  Yield: Makes one loaf

Ingredients

- 2 to 3 very ripe bananas, peeled
- 1/3 cup melted butter
- 1-teaspoon baking soda
- Pinch of salt
- 3/4 cup sugar (1/2 cup if you would it less sweet, 1 cup if more sweet)
- 1 large egg, beaten
- 1-teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1-1/2 cups of all-purpose flour

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F (175°C), and butter a 4x8-inch loaf pan.
2. In a mixing bowl, mash the ripe bananas with a fork until completely smooth. Stir the melted butter into the mashed bananas.
3. Mix in the baking soda and salt. Stir in the sugar, beaten egg, and vanilla extract. Mix in the flour.
4. Pour the batter into your prepared loaf pan. Bake for 50 minutes to 1 hour at 350°F (175°C), or until a tester inserted into the center comes out clean.
5. Remove from oven and let cool in the pan for a few minutes. Then remove the banana bread from the pan and cool completely before serving. Slice and serve. (A bread knife helps to make slices that aren’t crumbly.)

From Simply Recipes ~ https://www.simplyrecipes.com/recipes/banana_bread/
Local 600 on the Job

Southern California Cement Masons Apprenticeship
OSHA - 10 SCHEDULE

FREE OSHA-10 HR CONSTRUCTION COURSE CLASSES FOR CEMENT MASON JOURNEYMAN and Apprentices
MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND CLASSES. SEE LIMITED TO 25 STUDENTS PER CLASS, SIGN UP NOW! 424-367-4710
MUST ATTEND BOTH FRIDAY AND SATURDAY CLASSES TO RECIEVE OSHA CARD. Breaks and lunch, test are not included in the 10 HRS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OSHA-10 CLASSES</th>
<th>DATES</th>
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Visit: www.CementMasons600.org