



# Cement Masons Local 600



February 2018

Also View on [Local 600 Website](#)

## A MESSAGE FROM FITZGERALD

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 be 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 a 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 a accurate count of those attending.



Country, State, and Local flags proudly wave over Local 600.

## 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.

### 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

## 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, journeyman upgrades are also being offered. Schedules for OSHA 10 are available at your local union halls.

*SEE OSHA 10 SCHEDULE  
ON BACK PAGE*



## Meet Your Representatives



To Our Members:

I would like to personally encourage each of you to be involved in your union. It's an exciting time for our organization, we have a new Business Manager and continue to grow with new inspired contractors and members. We are transforming the way we operate to continuously improve and ensure Cement Masons Local 600

remains on the cutting edge.

Along with our contractors and members, we continue to meet the challenges of the industry despite any setbacks. We are proud of where we are today and where we are headed. As leaders, we cannot succeed without your support. You continue to be our best asset to achieve success. I ask you to remain engaged and help us continue to shape the future of our local. Work in downtown Los Angeles, Hollywood and UCLA continue to be busy.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions at 323-816-0763 or thony@cementmasons600.org.

Sincerely,  
Thony Sarmiento  
Local 600 Business Representative



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/](https://www.simplyrecipes.com/recipes/banana_bread/)*



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## Local 600 on the Job



## Southern California Cement Masons Apprenticeship OSHA – 10 SCHEDULE

**FREE OSHA-10 HR CONSTRUCTION COURSE CLASSES FOR CEMENT MASONS JOURNEYMAN and Apprentices  
MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND CLASSES, SIZE LIMITED TO 25 STUDENTS PER CLASS. SIGN UP NOW!!!! 626-367-4710  
MUST ATTEND BOTH FRIDAY AND SATURDAY CLASSES TO RECEIVE OSHA CARD. Breaks and lunch, test are not include in the 10 HRS.**

OSHA-10 CLASSES	DATES	LOCATION	START TIME	END TIME
DAY 1	FRIDAY March 9, 2018	5417 Peck RD Arcadia CA, 91006	5:00 PM	9:00 PM
DAY 2	SATURDAY March 10, 2018	5417 Peck RD Arcadia CA, 91006	6:00 AM	2:00PM
DAY 1	FRIDAY April 13, 2018	1016 E. Cooley Drive Suite Q, Colton CA 92324	5:00 PM	9:00 PM
DAY 2	SATURDAY April 14, 2018	1016 E. Cooley Drive Suite Q, Colton CA 92324	6:00 AM	2:00 PM
DAY 1	FRIDAY May 11, 2018	5417 Peck Rd Arcadia CA, 91006	5:00 PM	9:00 PM
DAY 2	SATURDAY May 12, 2018	5417 Peck Rd Arcadia CA, 91006	6:00 AM	2:00 PM
DAY 1	FRIDAY June 8, 2018	5417 Peck Rd Arcadia CA, 91006	5:00 PM	9:00 PM
DAY 2	SATURDAY June 9, 2018	5417 Peck Rd Arcadia CA, 91006	6:00 AM	2:00 PM

Visit: [www.CementMasons600.org](http://www.CementMasons600.org)