



7844 Madison Avenue, Ste 140
Fair Oaks, California 95628-3595
Phone (916) 966-7666
Fax (916) 966-1411
Julie Trost, ED
julie@mca-ca.org
www.mca-ca.org

President,
Jimmy Smith

Vice President,
Kevin MacDonald

Secretary,
Jeff Barber

Treasurer,
Dana Kemp

Immediate Past-President,
Dennis Withosky

Executive Director,
Julie Trost

WORDS TO LIVE BY

"There is no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs."

News At-A-Glance

Grout Voids – Finding and Filling: 3 Possible Fixes

In very timely fashion, The Masonry Society (TMS) has provided insight on how to detect and fill the grout voids that can occur in masonry walls. With the recent MIA and CMACN campaign to address coring on masonry projects (coring survey results on page 2), a Q&A on filling grout voids seems only fitting. The good news is that you do not need to tear down the wall if a void is detected. TMS offers infrared thermography, microwave radar, impact-echo, and the good old-fashioned ear-to-the-wall with a peen hammer as non-destructive methods to detect possible voids. With detection testing completed, the filling begins. Click [here](#) for 3 possible approaches to fill grout voids or visit the MCAC website at <http://mca-ca.org/> for the full article (scroll down to Industry News on the Home Page).

4.4% Workers Comp Rate Increase Expected for January 2014

If you have a new or renewing Workers Compensation policy effective January 1, 2014, be ready. The Workers Compensation Insurance Rating Bureau (WCIRB) is asking Insurance Commissioner Dave Jones to raise advisory pure premium rates by 4.38%. The WCIRB proposal cites escalating costs to injured workers for medical and indemnity payments as drivers of the proposed increase. The Insurance Commissioner has discretion to accept or reject the Bureau's proposal and, even if accepted, pure premium rates are advisory only and insurers are free to file their own rates. See the *Workers Comp Executive* report at <http://www.wcexec.com/4-4-Increase-Filed-For-Workers-Comp-Rates-For-January.aspx>

MCAC Executive Director Completes 1st Year of Institute for Organization Management

For the last few years I have wanted to further my professional development with non-profit specific training. With no money in the budget and a perpetually lagging economy, the timing just never seemed right and the outlook wasn't any more promising; yet, these were precisely the conditions that made the need so great. My commitment to each of you, our members, is to ensure I am doing my very best to deliver optimum value for your dues dollar, maintain the smooth functioning of our headquarters office, and position us for growth. So, this year, I decided to stop waiting for "the perfect time" and go for it. I applied for a scholarship to my first-choice training program and got it! The waiting was over and, July 14-18, 2013, I attended my 1st year of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organization Management (IOM) in Culver City, CA. The program is designed for C-level non-profit professionals and covers all aspects of association management including member recruitment, board governance, technology trends, and finances. It was a full week but I returned to the office feeling reinvigorated and with a very long to-do list. I want to thank the board of directors for supporting my professional growth. I look forward to trying out all the things I learned! See the IOM press release [here](#).



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News At-A-Glance

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OSHPD, Coring and the Mason Contractor: Survey Says...

Last month, we distributed a survey developed by the Masonry Institute of America (MIA) and the Concrete Masonry Association of California and Nevada (CMACN) to determine the impact of coring on the masonry industry especially as it relates to Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) projects. The results of the survey are in. Here is what you had to say (Note: Percentages have been rounded for this summary. Full survey results are available [here](#) and on the MCAC website at www.mca-ca.org.)

1. # of OSHPD projects completed over the past 10 years?		
	1 – 5 =	30%
	6 – 10 =	23%
	> 10 =	46%
2. Is masonry on OSHPD projects more difficult to construct?		
	Yes	100%
	No	0%
3. What would your premium charge on an OSHPD project be?		
	2.5 – 5%	15%
	> 5%	85%
4. Would you support an industry effort to modify the OSHPD code so that it would be more like commercial private and other types of government work?		
	Yes	100%
	No	0%
5. Would your company be willing to be named in an industry effort to modify the OSHPD code?		
	Yes	83%
	No	17%
6. Would you be willing to financially support an industry effort to modify the OSHPD code?		
	Yes	50%
	No	50%
7. If you have worked on an OSHPD project in the past 10 years, have you had problems with coring issues, specifically where the face shells separated from the grout during the coring process or the core test results were less than the required shear bond?		
	Never	62%
	1 - 5	38%
8. If you have experienced reported core failures on an OSHPD project over the past 10 years, what do you estimate the economic impact of addressing the issue(s) (justifying acceptance of the wall, replacing masonry, repair of excessive coring, etc.)?		
	\$0 - \$5,000	57%
	\$5,000 - \$10,000	14%
	\$10,000 - \$25,000	14.5%
	\$25,000 - \$100,000	14.5%
9. Have you ever had any other unusual code issues related to OSHPD projects?		
	Yes	50%
	No	50%

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Thank You Sponsors of the MCAC 152nd State Meeting

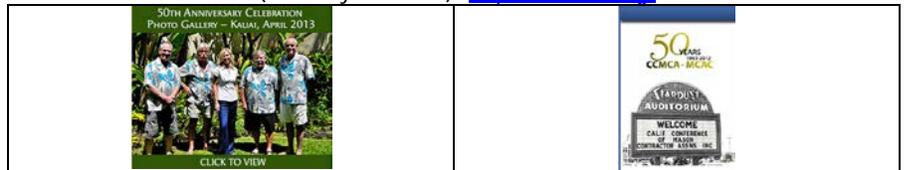


News At-A-Glance

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MCAC Celebrates 50 Years and You, Our Members

The MCAC (formerly CCMCA) celebrates 50 years this year...and we could not have done it without you, our members. This association was originally formed to represent mason contractors in labor negotiations. Over the years, the scope of the association's services has evolved to include insurance products, legislative and regulatory advocacy, educational seminars, and alliances with other industry groups to give mason contractors a greater voice on key issues. **August is Member Appreciation Month and we Thank You for being a part of MCAC** and its evolution over the past 50 years! If you missed the official anniversary celebration in Kauai earlier this year, **please check out our website for event photos as well as a special commemorative photo exhibit that takes a look back at some of the notable historic moments** of the first and only statewide mason contractors association, the MCAC (formerly CCMCA). <http://mca-ca.org/>



Calendar of Events

- [September 9, 2013 – MITA Golf Tournament:](#)
10am Tee-Off Indian Hills Golf Club, Riverside, CA
- [September 20, 2013 – MCAC 152nd State Meeting & 2014/15 BOD Election:](#)
8am – 1pm The Island Hotel, Newport Beach, CA
- [September 20, 2013 – Concrete Masonry Design Awards Banquet:](#)
6pm Cocktails / 7pm Dinner The Island Hotel, Newport Beach, CA
- [September 26, 2013 – Healthcare 2014 Conference by Capitol Weekly and UC Sacramento Center:](#)
9am - 3:30pm The Crest Theatre, Sacramento, CA
- [September 26, 2013 – Affordable Care Act Breakfast Seminar by Cook Brown LLP](#)
9-10:15am The Firehouse Restaurant, Old Sacramento, CA
- [October 2-4, 2013 – MCAA Midyear Meeting:](#)
Walt Disney World Resort, Lake Buena Vista, FL
- [October 5, 2013 – Northern California Fastest Trowel:](#)
Basalite Concrete Products, Dixon, CA
- [October 12, 2013 – Southern California Fastest Trowel:](#)
ORCO Block, Riverside, CA
- [October 19, 2013 – SPEC MIX BRICKLAYER 500 Regional:](#)
Quikrete, Sacramento, CA

MCAC Safety Contact and Online Resource

MCAC strives to inform its members on the importance of safety in the workplace and help members obtain tools that can be used to provide a safe work environment for employees. We do this by providing articles, access for State Fund Group 58 participants to a comprehensive safety library, seminars at member meetings, and other resources such as the Cal/OSHA pocket guide. If you would like safety information, MCAC wants to help.

Safety Contact - Julie Trost: (916) 966-7666
Online Safety Resource - Julie Trost: julie@mca-ca.org