## VOICE OF THE ILWU



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The VOICE of the ILWU—Published by Local 142, International Longshore & Warehouse Union

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# **ILWU** unit leaders deserve thanks and praise

There are three stories in this issue of the VOICE where awards and honors are given to individual union members and the union organization at their work places (we call them units in the ILWU). On page seven there are stories where Kauai and Maui Divisions recognized their outstanding unit leaders and units. On page eight is a story on how Hawaii Division has been honoring their units

and unit leaders at a Recognition Banquet which is now in its 36th year. Oahu Division also honors their unit leaders, but this function was put on hold this year.

The recognition of unit leaders is a long standing tradition and part of the culture of the ILWU. Unit leaders deserve our thanks and praise. They serve as volunteers and often spend a great deal of time helping their fellow union members and building the union at their workplace. Too often their

contributions go unnoticed or are taken for granted. You can help turn this around by showing your appreciation, saying "thank you," or even better getting involved and active with your unit.

Units are a vital part of the ILWU structure and enable the union to operate as a democratic organization run by the membership. All ILWU members at your company or workplace are organized into

a unit of the ILWU. Units are involved in contract negotiations, shape policy for the union, and elect the island and statewide officers of the union. Well organized units make the union

stronger and more effective.

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membership.

Members of a unit share common interests as workers. They negotiate together and are covered by the same collective bargaining agreement (or union contract). Each unit elects officers such as a chairperson, a vice-chair, a treasurer,

and a secretary. Larger units may have a network of union stewards who promote unionism in their departments, educate members about their rights, and help members with problems on the job.

Unions are strongest and most effective when union members are active and involved on the job. Unions are all about the solidarity and organization of workers. Solidarity is where workers are united around common interests and support each other to achieve these interests. Organization means there is some kind of structure or network where people can work together to get things done.

The ILWU was founded as a democratic union run by the membership. Members ran the union through their unit, which was usually the job site. This is written into the Constitution and Bylaws of ILWU Local 142 where there is a lot of detail on how units function as part of the ILWU structure, the duties of unit officers, and how elections are run in the units.

—See stories on pages 7 & 8 recognizing the work of unit leaders

New Kauai Division Election, see page 2

#### **Kauai Commercial closes**

LIHUE—Alexander & Baldwin (A&B), the parent company of Kauai Commercial, closed its trucking operations at the end of March and will focus on its A&B Fleet Services company which provides repairs and other services.

Some of the mechanics were retained as part of A&B Fleet Services and Hawk Tree International, the company that is taking over the trucking operation, hired some of the drivers. However, some Kauai Commercial workers will need to look for new jobs.

Kauai Commercial (also known as Kauai Terminals) has been operating for over 100 years, first hauling sugar and supplies for A&B plantations, then branching out into other trucking operations. Most of 35 truckers, maintenance workers, and clerical staff of Kauai Commercial have been long-time members of the ILWU. Kauai Commercial production workers have been part of the ILWU since 1951 and the clerical unit was organized in 1971.

"It's very sad to see a such a long-time company close down, but our main goal is to ensure the workers are employed—and we'll do whatever we need to do to make that happen," said Kauai Division Director Michael Machado. The union is keeping the workers informed and meeting with A&B.

The ILWU has negotiated with Kauai Commercial on the details of the closure and possible transfer of workers to other A&B companies.

Hawk Tree has taken over some of Kauai Commercial's business. The Honolulu based Hawk Tree owns Island Movers and other companies which provide moving, transportation, courier, and other logistical services. The ILWU represents about 100 Island Movers members on Oahu and Maui.

The next Local 142 Executive Board (LEB) meeting is scheduled to start at 9:00 am on June 21, 2013, in Honolulu at the ILWU building on 451 Atkinson Drive. ILWU members are welcome to attend as observers.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME ACTIVE MEMBERS OF INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE AND WAREHOUSE UNION, LOCAL 142, AFL-CIO, AND YOUR RIGHTS UNDER LAW

As a result of your current employment, you are eligible for membership in the International Longshore and Warehouse Union, Local 142, AFL-CIO. Union membership is a right and privilege to be proud of.

As an active member of ILWU Local 142 you have the right to participate in the affairs of the Union.

Your participation includes involvement in the formulation of proposals for contract negotiations, voting on proposed changes to your collective bargaining agreement, attending and participating in regular and special Union meetings, Union elections, and other affairs of the Union as provided in the ILWU Local 142 Constitution and Bylaws.

We believe that most people would want to become active members of the ILWU Local 142, and desire to fully participate in the affairs of their Union. Strong, active and informed members are essential to the strength of your Union. Your participation will benefit both you and your coworkers by helping the Union gain improved wages, benefits and working conditions.

The right, by law, to belong to the Union and to participate in its affairs is a very important right. Currently, by law, you also have the right to refrain from becoming an active member of the Union and you may elect to satisfy the requirements of a contractual union security provision by paying monthly dues and fees to the Union which reflect the representational expenditures of the ILWU Local 142. Please be advised: That 3% of funds were spent in our most recent accounting year (2011) for nonrepresentational activities (such as political activities, lobbying of issues not reasonably related to accomplish the union's representational duties); that nonmembers can object to having their union security payments spent on such activities; that those who object will be charged only for representational activities; and that if a nonmember objects, the Union will provide detailed information concerning the breakdown between representational and nonrepresentational expenditures. Any objections by a nonmember shall be filed within 30 days and sent to ILWU Local 142 at 451 Atkinson Drive. Honolulu, Hawaii 96814.

Please be advised that nonmember status constitutes a full waiver of the rights and benefits of ILWU Local 142 membership. More specifically, this means you would not be allowed to vote on contract modifications or new contracts; would be ineligible to hold Union office or participate in Union elections; and all other rights, privileges and benefits established for and provided for ILWU Local 142 members by its Constitution and Bylaws.

We are confident that after considering your options, you will conclude that the right to participate in the decision making process of your Union is of vital importance to you, your family, and your co-workers, and you will complete and transmit your application for membership in ILWU Local 142. Thank you.

## News You Can Use

## How to get help from your union

If you want more information about your union or union contract; if you have a problem on the job; if you want to become more involved with your union, the first person you should talk to is your union steward or unit officer.

Unit officers and stewards are elected by the members of your unit to help their fellow union members on the job. They serve as volunteers and receive no extra pay or special treatment.

If you don't know who your officers or stewards are, ask your fellow workers. Some units will post the names of the officers and stewards on the union bulletin board.

In large units or where there are many work shifts and job sites, you may have a hard time getting in touch with your unit officers. In this case, you should contact your business agent directly or call your ILWU Division Office on your island--the phone numbers and contact information is listed on pages 4, 5 and 6 in this paper.

Longshore members on all islands should call the Hawaii Longshore Division in Honolulu at 949-4161 or their longshore business agent. (See page 6.)

#### **Call your business agent**

You should call your business agent directly if there is any serious problem or if the company plans to discipline you. Always remember you have the right to request the presence of your union representative if the company begins to ask you questions which may lead to your discipline.

#### Know your time limits

You must respond to many problems such as disciplinary cases within the time

limit set by your union contract. The time limit in most hotels is six working days so you must act quickly. Know the time limit for a first step grievance for your contract.

The union gives all business agents a cell phone and agents are expected to carry their phones and be available during reasonable hours seven days a week.

Business agents give their business cards to unit officers and members and the cards list their cell phone number and email address.

#### See your agent on the job

Business agents are assigned to work with specific units and should visit your workplace regularly as needed. They use these visits to talk to unit officers and stewards, help out with any problems, and keep informed about what is happening at the company.

If you see your business agent making the rounds at your workplace, you can talk to them during your break or on non-work time. You should ask your supervisor for permission if you are on working time.

Your business agent may sometimes call you first. Many companies send the union copies of personnel changes and possible disciplinary actions. Your business agent or unit officer may contact you to gather more information or to ask if you need advice or assistance.

#### **Call your Division Office**

You can always call your Division Clerk during office hours between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm and ask to speak to your Business Agent. If you don't know your Business Agent, the Division Clerk may ask what company you work for. This is because every business agent is assigned to service a company or workplace in the ILWU.

If your Business Agent is not in the office, leave a detailed message with the clerk or on the agent's voice mail—your name, your workplace, and a phone

number and the best time to return your call for the next day or two. Repeat your phone number slowly as voice mail messages are sometimes hard to understand.

Business Agents spend a lot of time on the road but they usually check their phone messages and email when they first come into the office in the morning or when they return to the office in the late afternoon. They should return your call promptly.

#### What to do in an emergency

If your problem has an approaching time limit or in case of an emergency, you should ask your division clerk to call your business agent immediately and have the agent contact you as soon as possible.

Another option is for you to speak to the Division Director about the nature of your problem or emergency. The Division Director may give you advice, follow-up with the business agent involved, or take care of the problem directly.

#### No charge for service

As an ILWU member, you are entitled to all the services of the union at no charge.

You have the support and backing of an entire organization that is dedicated and committed to helping you.

The business agents in your Division work as a team and share their knowledge and expertise on your rights and benefits under the union contract, labor laws, and government benefits such as Workers' Compensation, Unemployment Insurance, Safety and Health, Wage and Hour rules, and more.

Your business agents also have the support of a professional staff in Honolulu, which includes a social worker, contract administration, and attorney. The ILWU also uses law firms and expert consultants on medical and pension matters.

The union dues you pay cover the cost of these experts, your business agents, the union staff, and the buildings that serve as offices and meeting places. You probably pay less in union dues then your phone, cable TV, electric or water, car insurance, gas, or any other bill. As an ILWU member you are protected on the job every day you go to work. It's an essential benefit every worker needs.

## New Kauai Division Business Agent election ordered for one of two positions

The Department of Labor's (DOL) Office of Labor -Management Standards (OLMS) has ordered a new election for Kauai Division Business Agent (for the second of two positions) which will be conducted under the supervision of the Secretary of Labor.

An inadvertent violation occurred in the November 2012 local election, and the union will comply with the order to conduct this new election to avoid legal action by the DOL. The DOL did not find ILWU Local 142 or its election

procedures responsible for the new election.

Per a letter dated May 15, 2013 from OLMS, the new election will be conducted by mail ballot and by walk-in voting in order to overcome challenges to "the proper and timely conduct of this election" for the supervised election only.

Ballot packets will be mailed out on June 21, 2013. ILWU members on Kauai should have received an official notice of the election, or will be receiving it shortly in the mail.

## Get to know your officers: Local Titled Officers



Donna Domingo Local President

Donna Domingo was hired at the Maui Lu Resort in 1981 and became a lead front desk clerk in 1995. She served as steward, secretary-treasurer, vice chair and unit chair of her unit. She also served as a Trustee on the Local Executive Board. Donna was elected as Local Vice President in 2003 and as Local President in 2012.



Teddy B. Espeleta Local Vice President

Teddy Espeleta was hired at the Maui Pineapple Company at Haliimaile in 1983. He served as unit steward in 1988, then as first vice chair in 1991, and as unit chairperson from 1994 to 2003. He was elected as a business agent in 2003 until 2012. Teddy was elected Local Vice President in 2012.



Guy K. Fujimura Local Secretary-Treasurer

Guy Fujimura became an ILWU member when he started work at Loves Bakery in 1974. He served the unit as head steward, unit chair and as an organizer for the Local. He was appointed Local Secretary-Treasurer in 1985, and then was voted in as Secretary-Treasurer in every election since then.

The top executive officers of ILWU Local 142 Hawaii are the President, the Vice President, and the Secretary-Treasurer.

They serve the same three year terms as business agents from January 2, 2013, to January 1, 2016.

In addition to their individual duties, the officers work collectively as a three-person team called the "Titled Officers." Together they direct and coordinate the work of the union and all other officers.

They work out of the Honolulu Office, but Donna and Teddy may sometimes work out of the Maui ILWU Office.

## ILWU Hawaii Division Information for Members

## Hawaii Division Office Information

Hawaii Division has two offices where a clerk will answer your call from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. from Monday to Friday (closed on holidays). Leave a message if you get the answering machine during their lunch break.

#### **Hilo Office**

Ann Chong works out of the Hilo Office. You can usually reach Elmer Gorospe, Delbert DeRego, and George Martin at the Hilo Office.

#### **Honokaa Office**

Sui Sin Poy Coloma works out of the Honokaa Office. You can usually reach Gregory Gauthier in Honokaa.

#### **Kona Office**

Francine Molina and Corinna Salmo work out of the ILWU office in Kona. Phone: (808) 329-2070; Fax: (808) 331-2571; Kaiwi Square, 74-5565 Luhia St, #A-3a, Kailua-Kona 96740. If you get their answering machine, call their cell phone or try the Honokaa or Hilo Office.

You can also phone or email your business agent directly; they will be available during reasonable hours. Check with your Unit Chair who usually has their business agent's cell phone number and e-mail.

#### You're welcome to attend your Executive Board Meeting

Hawaii holds their Division Executive Board Meeting starting at 6:00 pm on the last Wednesday on even number months in Hilo and on the last Friday on odd months in Kona. The meetings on May 31 will be in Kona, June 26 in Hilo, July 26 in Kona, August 28 in Hilo.



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Elmer C. Gorospe, Sr. Division Director

As the Hawaii Division Director, Elmer is the chief administrative officer of the Division. He directs the work of the Division clerks and business agents.

Elmer became an ILWU member in 1994 when he was hired by the Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Corporation as a power plant operator. He served as unit treasurer from 2001 to 2003. He was elected as a business agent in 2004 to 2011. He was elected Division Director and will serve his term of office from January 2, 2013, to January 1, 2016.



George Martin Business Agent

George first became an ILWU member at Yamada & Sons, Inc. then at the Hamakua Sugar Company where he served as a shop steward and unit chair. When the sugar company closed, George was re-hired at Yamada in 1994 as a mechanic, where he also served as unit chair and shop steward.

George was elected business agent from 2006 to the present.



Delbert W. DeRego Business Agent

Delbert started with the ILWU when he got a job at Wailuku Agribusiness Company in 1973 as a mule handler. He worked his way up to road side sprayer driver, semi-trailer truck driver and IC truck driver and harvester operator.

Delbert served as a member of the pineapple negotiating committee in 1990 and chaired the committee in 1993. He served as the Wailuku Agribusiness Unit Chair and on the Local Executive Board.

Delbert became a Business Agent in 1995 and moved to the Big Island in 2011.



Gregory "Greg" Gauthier Business Agent

Greg Gauthier has been a Business Agent for the ILWU Local 142 since 2001. He began as a shop steward at the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel in 2000.

Greg has been fortunate enough to be assigned to nearly every industrial segment that the ILWU represents.

He is also currently developing and teaches classes for new shop stewards within his division, and helping other FTOs learn how to teach classes. Greg is based in the Honokaa Office.



Francine Molina Business Agent

Francine started with the ILWU when she worked at the Outrigger Keauhou from 2006 to 2012 at the front desk. She served as treasurer, editor, grievance chair and vice chair for the unit.

Francine started work at the Hapuna Beach Prince Hotel in 2012 as a cocktail server. She was elected business agent in 2012 and can be reached at the Kona Office.



Corinna Salmo Business Agent

Corinna became an ILWU member in 1984 when she worked at the Royal Hawaiian Orchards, L.P. as a tractor blower operator and hand harvester.

She served as the treasurer, editor, and secretary for the unit.

Corinna was elected business agent in 2006 to the present and is based at the Kona Office.



Ann Chong Division Clerk

Ann Chong works out of the Hilo ILWU

#### **Hilo Office**

8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday

Phone: (808) 935-3727 Fax: (808) 961-2490

hawaiidivision@ilwulocal142.org

100 W. Lanikaula Street Hilo, HI 96720



Sui Sin Poy Coloma Senior Clerk

Sui Sin Poy Coloma works out of the Honokaa ILWU Office.

## **Honokaa Office**

8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday

Phone: (808) 775-0443 Fax: (808) 775-0477

honokaa@ilwulocal142.org

45-3720 Honokaa-Waipio Road Honokaa, HI 96727

### ILWU Maui Division Information



Jocelyn Victorino Division Clerk



Joyce Naruse Senior Clerk

Both Joycelyn and Joyce work out of the Maui Division Wailuku Office.



Stephen Castro Sr. Division Director

Stephen Castro Sr. was hired at the Kapalua Bay Hotel in 1978 as an Engineer 2nd Class. He became a first class Journeyman in 1989. Stephen served as a unit steward, unit editor, and grievance chair at the hotel.

Stephen served as an ILWU local representative in 1994. He was elected business agent in 2002 to 2012. Stephen was elected Maui Division Director in 2012.



Claro Romero Jr. Business Agent

Claro Romero Jr. worked at Wailuku Sugar as a truck driver and served the unit as first vice chair. Claro then changed jobs and was hired at Island Movers in 1998.

He actively assisted the union on various organizing drives of new companies. Claro was first elected business agent in 2003 and has served to the present.



Roberto "Bobby" Andrion Business Agent

Roberto "Bobby" Andrion Jr. was hired at the Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company in 1985 as a machinist apprentice, and worked his way up to becoming a machine specialist.

Bobby served as a Unit Steward, and was part of the Local 142 organizing program. He was an organizer from 1989 to 2000. Bobby was elected business agent in 2003 and has held the position up to the present.



Stephen William West Business Agent

Steve has been an active ILWU member for over 30 years working at the Makena Beach & Golf Resort. He served as a shop steward, unit editor, grievance chair, and unit chair from 1997-2008.

Steve also worked at the Grand Wailea Resort and Spa for over 18 years, and served as unit vice chair. Steve has been working for the ILWU full-time since 2008 and was elected business agent last year.

The main office in Maui Division is in Wailuku at 896 Lower Main street. The ILWU also has an office in Lahaina, Phone: (808) 667-7155; 840 Wainee St. Unit H4 & H5 and on Lanai. These offices are open as needed for meetings and other activities.

Maui is the largest Division in the ILWU with close to 9,000 members. Maui Division includes Molokai and Lanai which requires travel among the islands to service members. Maui is also the only division which still has a sugar company. Most of Maui's members work in the tourism industry.

Maui holds their Division Executive Board Meeting starting at 6:00 pm on the third Wednesday every month at the ILWU Hall on Lower Main Street in Wailuku.



Jerrybeth "JB" De Mello Business Agent

Jerrybeth was hired at the Maui Surf Hotel in 1973 as a Culinary Cook II. The hotel is now the Westin Maui Resort and Spa. Jerrybeth became the unit chair of the Surf from 1973 to 1986 and also served on the Local Executive Board.

She became the unit chair of the Westin Maui Hotel from 1987 to 1991. She was elected as a business agent in 1991 and served to present.



Abel Kahoohanohano Business Agent

Abel was hired at Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co. as a heavy equipment mechanic from 1975 to 1988. He then worked at Ameron Maui in 1988 to 2003 as a heavy equipment mechanic.

At HC&S, Abel served as unit shop steward from 1980 to 1988. At Ameron, Abel served as a shop steward and unit chair from 1990 to 2003. Abel was appointed as a business agent from 2003 to 2012, and elected last year.



Cyrus M. Kodani Local Representative

Cyrus Kodani was hired at the Hyatt Regency Maui Resort and Spa in 1980 as a banquet porter. He served as unit chair of the Hyatt Regency Maui from 2006 and on the International Executive Board and Local Executive Board from 2009 to 2012.

Cyrus was appointed as a Local Representative in 2013. (See next page for more information on appointed Local and Division Representatives.)



Jason Medeiros Division Representative

Jason Medeiros started work at the Grand Wailea Resort and Spa in 1996 as a server. He also served as the unit chair from 2004 to 2012.

Jason served as the Maui Division Political Action chair from 2006 to 2012 and on the Local Executive Board from 2006 to 2009. Jason was appointed as the Maui full-time Division Representative in

Wailuku Office 8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday

Phone: (808) 244-9191 • Fax: (808) 244-7870 mauidivision@ilwulocal142.org

896 Lower Main Street Wailuku, HI 96793

## ILWU Hawaii Longshore Division Information

The Hawaii Longshore Division shares their phone number with the main switch board of the Honolulu ILWU Office. Longshore members should ask for the Longshore Division or Lynette Mau who can direct you to your business agent.

In December 2009, Hawaii longshore members voted to form a separate division and elected officers. Before then, longshore members were part of their island divisions.

The Longshore Division operates statewide and includes all longshore units and their members on all islands.

The Division is still part of ILWU Local 142 but operates more independently under special provisions of the ILWU Local 142 Constitution and Bylaws.

William "Baba" Haole IV

**Vice Division Director** 

Baba was hired 25 years ago at

McCabe, Hamilton & Renny, where he

worked until 2011. He currently works

as a longshoreman at Matson Terminals.

Baba has served as overall vice chair and

Unit 4201 overall Chair. He is currently

the Vice Division Director and a Local

Executive Board member.



Nathan "Nat" Lum Division Director

Nate was hired in 1978 at McCabe, Hamilton & Renny. He served as chair of his unit and of the overall longshore group. He served for many years as a Local trustee and member of the International and Local Executive Boards. He was elected trustee again in the 2012 election and sits on the current Local Executive Board.



Tyrone Tahara Business Agent

Tyrone was hired in 1987 at McCabe, Hamilton & Renny. Tyrone served as a shop steward and unit editor. He has worked as a Business Agent since 1991 for Oahu Division, then for the Hawaii Longshore Division after 2009. He is one of the longest-serving Business Agents in the state

Look for information on Kauai Division and Kauai elected officers in an upcoming issue of the VOICE



Lynette Mau Executive Secretary



Charles "Kimo" Brown Division Secretary-Treasurer

Kimo was hired in 1990 with McCabe, Hamilton & Renny. He was Unit 4201's long-time overall secretary before becoming Division Secretary-Treasurer in 2009 when the Hawaii Longshore Division was created. He is currently also sitting as a Local centralized fund trustee.



451 Atkinson Drive Honolulu, HI 96814

Fax: (808) 941-9428

Hawaii.Secretary@ilwu.org



Dennis Morton Business Agent

A former firefighter, Dennis was hired in 2001 at Hawaii Stevedores, Inc. which is now Horizon Lines. He was a Unit Executive Board member, and was first elected Business Agent in 2009, when the Hawaii Longshore Division was first created. Dennis is responsible for servicing neighbor island members.



On February 26, the Grand Wailea ILWU negotiating committee met planned their strategy with spokesperson Donna Domingo and Business Agent Stephen West.

Unit members elect the negotiating committee. Committee members are chosen to represent the workers in their departments and jobs, but must also consider what is best for their unit as a whole.

Committee members include: Robert Apo Negotiating Committee Chair, Henry Oandason, Merlina Valdez Unit Chair, Perly Manlansing Unit Treasurer, Nicole Scida, Valerie Salmon, Dickson Manzano, Lei Kaiahua, Haren Soril, Alex Garcia, Kim Javier, Adrienne Tsukiyama, Kenneth Hunt, and Vanessa Bautista.

### ILWU Oahu Division Information

Oahu Division shares their phone number with the main switch board of the Honolulu ILWU Hall. Serena will usually answer your call and you should ask for Oahu Division and talk to Division Clerk Lisa Maehara. Lisa can direct you to your business agent or take a message.

After hours you can also phone or email your business agent directly. Check with your Unit Chair who usually has their business agent's cell phone number and email.

Business agents are required to carry their cell phone which is supplied by the union and to be available during reasonable hours seven days a week.

You're welcome to attend your Executive Board Meeting, and Oahu holds their Division Executive Board Meeting starting at 6:00 pm on the fourth Friday every month at the ILWU Building on 451 Atkinson Blvd. The date of the November meeting may change depending on the Thanksgiving Holiday. There is no meeting in December.



Michael S. Yamaguchi Division Director

Michael became an ILWU member at the Honolulu Advertiser in 1996 where he worked as a merchandiser.

Michael served as unit secretary and unit editor for the Honolulu Advertiser unit from 1998 to 2003. He served as an Oahu Division representative and business agent from 2004 to 2012. Michael was elected Division Director in 2012.



Wilfred "Wil" Chang Business Agent

Wilfred Chang was hired at Waikele Country Club in 2006 as an irrigation specialist.

Wilfred served as unit chair from 2007 to 2011. Wilfred also served as the Oahu Division Political Action Coordinator in the important 2012 election period. Wilfred was elected as business agent in 2012 and will serve from January 2, 2013 to January 1, 2016.



Paris E. J. Fernandez Business Agent

Paris Fernandez became an ILWU member when he was hired at Honolulu Ford in 1997 as a mechanic. Paris served the unit as a secretary and on the negotiating committee from 2008 to 2010, then as unit vice chair and again on the negotiating committee from 2010 to 2012.

Paris was elected as a business agent in 2012 and started his term of office on January 2, 2013.



Lisa Maehara Division Clerk



Dillon M. Hullinger Business Agent

Dillon Hullinger was hired at Foodland Supermarket in 1989 as a courtesy clerk and worked his way up to a fulltime produce clerk. Dillon served as the unit vice chair of the Foodland unit from 1997 to 1999. He served as unit chair from 2000 to 2011. Dillon also served on the Local Executive Board from 2010 to 2011. Dillon was appointed as an Oahu Division business agent in 2011 and was elected as a business agent in 2012.



Karl Lindo Business Agent

Karl Lindo was hired at the Hawaiian Waikiki Beach Hotel (now the non-union Aston Waikiki Beach Hotel) in 1981 as a steward. Karl served as unit vice chair from 1989 to 1992, then as unit chair from 1992 to 1995. Karl was appointed as a local field representative from 1993 to 1994, then was appointed as a business agent in 1995. He was elected as a business agent from 1995 to present.



Jose M. Miramontes
Division Representative\*

Jose Miramontes was hired at Hawaii Logistics in 1997 as a selector. He served the unit as a shop steward from 2003 to 2004 then as second vice chair from 2004 to 2012.

Jose also served as the co-chair of Oahu's Political Action program in 2010 to 2012. Jose is serving as a temporary Division representative, doing the job of replacement business agent.



Brian Tanaka Business Agent

Brian Tanaka became an ILWU member when he started working for the Hawaii Newspaper Agency in 1978 as a district manager. Brian served as unit chair, vice chair, and steward from 1978 to 1993. Brian also served on the International and Local Executive Boards from 1993 to 1997. Brian was elected as a business agent from 1994 to the present.

# What's the difference? Division Representative, Local Representative or Business Agent?

Division Representatives usually do the same job as a Business Agent. Division Representatives are appointed by their Division Director and serve as needed.

Local Representatives also do the same job as Business Agents but may be assigned other responsibilities. They are appointed by the Titled Officers of the Local and serve as needed.

Business Agents must be members of the union. They take a leave of absence from their workplace for the three years of their term of office.

8:00 am to 4:00 pm Monday through Friday

Phone: (808) 949-4161 • Fax: (808) 941-5867 oahudivision@ilwulocal142.org

451 Atkinson Drive Honolulu, HI 96814

# **Kauai Division honors its units**

Kauai Division held their Recognition Banquet on March 15, 2013, at the ILWU Hall in Lihue.

The award winners were:

Outstanding Unit Leader for units with up to 30 members—Bryon Ponte from Unit 3408 - MidPac Auto.

Outstanding Unit Leader for units with 31 to 99 members—Richard Brun Jr. from Unit 3514 - Mori Golf/Kauai Lagoons.

Outstanding Unit Leader for units with 100 or more members—Rhonda Morris from Unit 3511 - Grand Hyatt Kauai.

Outstanding Female Unit Chair—Edwina "Ipo" DeMello from Unit 3402 - Foodland.

Outstanding Male Unit Chair—Jessie Felipe from Unit 3510 - Poipu Bay.

Outstanding Inspirational Female Leader—Ligaya Ansagay from Unit 3511 - Grand Hyatt Kauai.

Outstanding Inspirational Male Leader—Philip "Toppy" Miyashiro from Unit 3515 - St. Regis Princeville.

Outstanding Leader—Herbert Kekuawela from Unit 3411 - Kauai Commercial.



Kauai Division award winners (I-r) Rhonda Morris, Ligaya Ansagay, Herbert Kekuawela, Bryon Ponte.

## Maui's outstanding members and units



Marc Gonsalves from Walker Industries and Business Agent Abel Kahoohanohano.



Flora Vila from the Four Seasons Resort Lanai and Business Agent Claro Romero.

## Maui Division recognized their outstanding members and units at the February 20, 2013, meeting of the Maui Division Executive Board.

Outstanding unit and member awards went to: Recognition of Unit Chairperson—**Esther Manibog**, Unit 2101 - Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Co.; **Francis Kamakaokalani**, Unit 2406 - Ameron.

Recognition of Unit Leadership—Merlina Valdez, Unit 2520 - Grand Wailea Resort, Hotel and Spa; Steven Lee, Unit 2516 - Hyatt Regency Maui

Recognition of Unit Member—Daphne Viitala, Unit 2501 - Royal Lahaina Resort; Henry Oandasan, Unit 2520 - Grand Wailea Resort, Hotel and Spa. Recognition of Retiree—Louise Corpuz; Richard Mukogawa.

Recognition of Unit with 1 to 100 members— Cement Companies, Unit 2406 - Ameron, Hawaiian Cement, Maui Blocks, Walker Industries.

Recognition of Unit with 101 to 300 members— Unit 2506 - Kaanapali Beach Hotel.

Recognition of Unit with 301 to 500 members: **Unit 2509 - Four Seasons Resorts Lanai**.

Recognition of Unit with 501 or more members—Unit 2520 - Grand Wailea Resort, Hotel and Spa.



Merlina Valdez, Perlita Manlansing, Lei Kaiahua-Sado from the Grand Wailea Resort with Division Representative Jason Medeiros and Business Agent Stephen West.

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#### More on John Arisumi—organizer, Division Director, outstanding union leader

We ran a story about the ILWU Memorial Association and John Arisumi on page 7 in the January/ February 2013 issue of the VOICE of the ILWU.

We didn't have a lot of space in the article so we said only a few things about John, although his contributions to the ILWU could fill a book or two. We plan to gather his history and will tell you more about John Arisumi in future issues of the VOICE.

John worked as a business agent, organizer, International Representative, and was elected Maui's Division Director. He often came to work as early as 6:00 AM and went home as late at 9:00 PM. John often spent his weekends talking to workers to organize them into the ILWU.

John retired in 1991, but he

continued to help the ILWU in organizing, starting pensioner clubs, helping the Division officers, and serving on the Memorial Association until 2012 as a director.

John actually started working at Maui's Hawaiian Commercial & Sugar Company (HC&S) in 1938 at the age of 14 when school kids were hired during the summer months.

John planned to attend Maui Vocational School, but the school was full so he got a two year contract as a cultivation contractor for HC&S. After four years, John's friend got him a job in the auto shop and John went to night school and became a journeyman mechanic. By 1944, John was actively organizing the ILWU at HC&S.

## Hawaii Division recognition night

For the 36th year in a row, Hawaii Division held its Recognition Awards Banquet on February 23, 2013, to honor and recognize members, units, and pensioner clubs who have demonstrated leadership in supporting the ILWU and promoting its programs. And as it has in many of those nights, it rained in Hilo. But despite the sound of pounding rain and coqui frogs, the program was filled with camaraderie, music, food, and aloha.

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Emceed by Burton Wallen III, unit chair at Mauna Loa Mac Nut, the program started with a blessing of the food by Sui Sin Coloma, Senior Clerk. Following introduction of guests, which included Local Officers Donna Domingo and Teddy Espeleta, Division Directors Michael Machado (Kauai) and Steve Castro (Maui), and Brian Tanaka representing Oahu Division Director Michael Yamaguchi, the emcee called upon Elmer C. Gorospe, Sr., Hawaii Division Director for words of welcome.

#### **Our unsung heroes**

Gorospe thanked everyone for coming, despite the dreary weather, and pointed out that Recognition Night was an opportunity to remember and thank those who serve the Division but also the

unsung heroes—the wives, husbands, children and significant others—who allow their loved ones to support the union. He noted that our union struggle is more important than one personality or another and that we are far from perfect and will make mistakes. But Gorospe said his administration of the Division will be one of "transparency, inclusiveness and compassion." He

welcomes new ideas and will revisit old ones as well. He pointed out that "wisdom is gained by trial and error," and asked for guidance from the members and retirees.

Gorospe introduced his staff: Business Agents Greg Gauthier, George Martin, Corinna Salmo, Delbert DeRego and Francine Molina; Division Clerk Sui Sin Coloma; and Custodian Malcolm Osaki. Division Clerk Ann Chong was not able to attend. He also recognized the spouses of the staff who were in attendance.

Donna Domingo was introduced as

the first woman president of the ILWU Local 142. Domingo said she served the Local for the past nine years as Vice President and is pleased and humbled to now serve as President. She commended Hawaii Division for being a leader to the rest of the Union with this tradition of Recognition Night that honors active members and pensioners.

Domingo extended support to the Hawaii Division team and is gratified by its new vision and energy. When she was elected Vice President in 2004, she looked to then-President Fred Galdones for his mentorship and guidance. She publicly thanked Galdones, who was in the audience, for his support as well as the kindness and support of other full-time officials and members.

Domingo noted that 2013 started off

with a bang. After a 10-year battle, the ILWU finally has a contract at Pacific Beach Hotel. The ILWU persevered and would not walk away from the fight and ended up with a win that was through a great team effort. We are proud to have the workers of Pacific Beach Hotel as members, and they are proud to be ILWU.

## Pension club winners

Emcee Burton called on George Martin and Francine Molina, past and current Division Pensioner Coordinators, to announce the winners of the pensioner club awards: the Pepeekeo Club for the Most Activities and the Laupahoehoe Club for the Most New Members.

Unit awards went to: Unit 4402 - Love's Bakery with 1-29 members and Unit 1421 - Sack N Save Downtown Hilo for units with 30-99 members; Unit 1503 - Mauna Kea Resort Services for tourism units with



Members from Unit 1402, Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Corporation do everything in a group so they attended the banquet as a group and take their picture as a group (along w/ B.A. Gregory Gauthier and Hawaii Division Director Elmer C. Gorospe, Sr in the background).



Unit 1503 Mauna Kea Resort Services won the award for tourism units with 100 or more members. From left to right: Delbert DeRego, Cathleen Ishizu, Elmber C. Grosope, Sr and Tristie Licoan.



Laupahoehoe Pension Club President Tom Poy; former Division Pensioner Coordinator George Martin; Laupahoehoe Pension Club Treasurer Mrs. Beatrice Cabral; Division Pensioner Coordinator Francine Molina; and Laupahoehoe Pension Club Advisor George Cabral.

100+ members; Unit 1402 - Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut for general trades units with 100+ members. Rep. Clift Tsuji provided legislative certificates to all four units.

#### **Retirees recognized**

Recognition Night also recognized particular individuals who retired during the past year. Unfortunately, all of them were not able to attend the event due to illness and the weather, but they were honored with special messages from the members they served who will miss their presence.

Wilma Revilla, past chair of Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Corporation, was recognized by fellow member Mercedes Habab, who thanked Revilla for never letting the company "work us over." Habab said Revilla was a strong, principled leader who wanted women to be recognized within the union and by the company.

Wallace A. Ishibashi Jr., past Hawaii Division Director, was recognized by Gladys Ablao of Hamakua Health Center. Ablao said Ishibashi was their business agent and always there for the members. She wished him well in retirement.

Richard Baker Jr., past Hawaii Division Director, was recognized by Juanita Pedra, who worked with Baker and the Division for many years as PAC Coordinator. She saw how hard he worked and was inspired to become a better union member. She said he looks happier now that he's retired and with his two grandchildren—"no stress."

Isaac Fiesta Jr., past Local President, was recognized by Ernesto Ballo of Royal Hawaiian Orchards, L.P. Keaau Division. Ballo said Fiesta started as a Business Agent, diligently serving Ballo's unit in Keaau, then was elected President. Born and raised in Honomu, Fiesta did a great job and will be missed.

Although the rain continued, some drove to their homes as far away as Pahala to the south and Waimea to the north while others stayed to enjoy the karaoke provided by FTOs, members and guests. For Big Island natives, a "little" rain does not deter driving or having a good time.

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