



VOICE OF THE ILWU

HONOLULU HAWAII
LOCAL 142

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ILWU endorses Hanabusa for governor

ADDRESS LABEL



HONOLULU – Over 130 attendees of the Labor Institute flanked Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa as ILWU announced their official early endorsement of her candidacy for governor on February 1, 2018. “We know that Colleen understands the hopes and needs of the workers of Hawaii,” said Local President Donna Domingo, pictured above.

at the 2018 Labor Institute



Members from all islands came together to learn from some of the best instructors from labor education centers across the United States. The institute culminated on the last day in moments like this: moving shows of solidarity, backed by new ideas and strategies they learned and shared with each other all week.

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The Labor Institute is an intensive week-long program that empowers rank-and-file members with the knowledge they need to lead...in the workplace and beyond!

The last time the Local held this state-wide program was over ten years ago.

Whether the rank-and-file attendees had an idea of what to expect from institutes past, or were fresh to the union, everyone was hungry for knowledge.

“These are professional educators with all their material organized just for us,” said Matthew Britt of Unit 2523 Ritz Carlton Kapalua Spa. “What more could you ask for?”

(see inside for more Institute coverage!)

The next Local 142 Executive Board (LEB) meeting is scheduled to start at 9:00 a.m. on March 16, 2018, in Honolulu at the ILWU building on 451 Atkinson Drive. ILWU members are welcome to attend as observers.

News from The Dispatcher

History of “right-to-work”

In 1935, President Franklin Roosevelt signed the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) that legalized the right of workers to form unions, negotiate contracts and conduct job actions. It also recognized the importance of “union shops” where all workers shared the cost of maintaining their union. The President made a point of signing the NLRA (also known as the Wagner Act) in the port city of Tacoma, on July 5. That date, recognized then and now as “Bloody Thursday,” honored waterfront workers killed during the West Coast waterfront strike that gave rise to today’s ILWU.

Some workers were excluded

The new law helped millions join unions and improve working conditions during the next three decades – and created a more secure working class that was eventually called “middle class” by those who were uncomfortable talking about working class power. But the NLRA also excluded large numbers of workers in order to win enough votes to pass Congress where racist Southern legislators demanded the exclusion of farm workers, domestic workers and public employees. To this day, those three classes of workers lack the same federal protections that once protected most private-sector workers. Today those protections have been greatly weakened by big business, but until recently, they allowed millions of workers to join unions.

Business lost the first 4 rounds

Business owners who hated labor unions and President Roosevelt were furious when the NLRA passed in 1935. They sued to overturn the law in federal court and tried to block unions from collecting dues from everyone in union shops. In 1937, the Supreme Court sided with workers by allowing the NLRA to remain in place and confirmed the right of unions to collect fees from everyone in a union shop. In just two years following major strikes in 1934 and organizing by longshore, auto, steel and other workers, at least four dramatic victories had been secured: passage of the NLRA plus two victories in the Supreme Court, and passage of the Social Security Act that passed in 1935.

Excluded, but they organized

While private-sector workers were organizing during the 1930’s and three decades that followed, workers on farms, government jobs and private households continued to struggle on their own, forming unions occasionally when they could, but receiving little or no protection from the federal government.

Farm workers

In Hawaii, the ILWU made history with successful campaigns beginning in the early 1940’s that eventually organized the island’s sugar and pineapple workers on a mass scale, enabling them to become the highest-paid agricultural workers in America.

Labor activists helped farm workers organize powerful strikes and some unions during the 1930’s in California’s Central Valley, Salinas Valley, Imperial Valley and in eastern Washington State. Workers there continued organizing job actions throughout the 1960’s and beyond when the United Farmworkers Union passed the first farm labor law in the country in 1975 that allowed farm workers to organize unions in California.

In Southern states, activists helped tenant farmers and sharecroppers build unions during the 1930’s, helping both African-American and white farm workers to loosen the grip of debt and abuse that forced many families to live in virtual slavery since the Civil War.

Domestic workers

Domestic workers, including many African American women, also organized in the 1930’s with assistance from activists including Ella Baker, who described street corners in Manhattan and the Bronx as modern day “slave markets,” where women gathered each morning for a daily “shape-up.” Like longshore workers, they organized, and eventually forced New York’s Mayor La Guardia to create hiring halls with regulations that improved conditions for many. In recent times, new organizing efforts by domestic workers have passed new domestic labor laws in eight states, including California, Oregon and Hawaii.

Public workers form unions

Public employees were inspired during the 1930’s by gains made by private sector workers inside factories and warehouses. Some of the first public workers to form unions were postal workers and teachers concerned about pay, benefits and working conditions – but also about abusive politicians who encouraged bribery to determine pay and job assignments instead of civil service.

Public unions grow in 1960’s

Public sector unions saw relatively little growth until the 1960’s when large numbers began joining unions and demanding the right to become legal and bargain contracts. During the next 30 years, organizing continued on a large scale as teachers, firemen, ferry workers, police, security and prison guards, road repair, water and sewer workers, planners, librarians and others joined public unions. By the year 2000 the number of public sector union members equaled private sector union members – while private-sector union members declined to today’s level – just 6% of the workforce.

Good news and bad news

As public unions successfully organized for better wages and benefits in the 1960’s and beyond, they first tried to catch-up with better-paying jobs in the private sector that had risen because of union pressure. Workers also correctly noted that most public employees

received no Social Security (another exclusion granted to conservatives in 1935 when the Social Security Act was passed by Congress), so demands for a secure retirement were addressed with defined-benefit pensions approved by politicians in charge of school districts, cities, counties and state governments. Within a decade or so, public wage increases and benefits began to surpass what private sector workers were able to bargain because their unions were growing weaker.

Anti-union reaction

At the same time, capitalists were shifting investment to the non-union south and overseas, part of the “de-industrialization” and offshoring that still haunts much of middle America. Inflation also increased during the 1970’s because of massive spending for the war in Vietnam, along with funding for healthcare, education Medicare and other important programs. Fear increased among workers and pensioners that they were falling behind and might lose their homes – especially in California where property taxes kept rising to pay for the growing public sector, which accounted for one in six jobs in the Golden State. These factors – including the different fortunes of public and private sector union members – created dangerous divisions within the working class that were ripe for exploitation by right-wing politicians who used the opportunity to harvest votes by turning public and private sector union members – and the large non-union working class – against each other.

Division & conquest

One of the first high-profile battles for the heart and soul of America’s divided working class was fought and lost in California over Proposition 13. The property tax cap was the brainchild of two right-wing extremists; Howard Jarvis and Paul Gann, who called their plan to freeze property taxes, “the People’s Initiative.” The measure passed by almost 2-1 despite strong opposition from public sector unions and most politicians. The following year, Paul Gann passed another initiative to severely limit government spending and punish public union members. Politicians were terrified by the popular support for both initiatives, and some, including Jerry Brown, reversed course to support Paul Gann and become a self-proclaimed “fiscal conservative.”

Union-friendly politicians, meanwhile, tried to maintain loyalty to both private and public sector union members. But private sector members were increasingly anxious about their falling wages, rising taxes, and dim prospects – while public sector members continued to push for as much as they could win at the bargaining table – not always appreciating that their “employers” included many increasingly anxious members of the working class who were being lured with appeals to “cut taxes” and vote against “greedy unions.”

As this conflict brewed, the fiscal crisis grew worse because the public sector kept growing in response to demands for education, health care and services to help more families living in poverty.

Wisconsin and beyond

The culmination of these forces were on full view in Wisconsin during 2010, when voters transformed the state from a union and Democratic Party stronghold, to a state that elected anti-union Governor Scott Walker. After winning, Walker stripped collective bargaining rights from public employees, triggering massive protests and support from ILWU members who travelled there to show their solidarity. But Walker defeated a recall election in 2012 and was reelected in 2014. Similarly, House Speaker Paul Ryan has consistently won his swing district that once included many industrial union members before the jobs left when capitalists closed plants in search of cheaper labor. Similar changes have taken place recently in Illinois, Michigan, Ohio and other states where current and former union members were once a powerful progressive block, but now increasingly vote for anti-union politicians who support tax cuts, deregulation, low wages, “right-to-work” and other anti-union laws. The final insult to union solidarity came with the election of Donald Trump who had a long record of anti-union behavior that many current and former union members overlooked while accepting his promises to restore jobs and power for the working class – then flipping to embrace Wall Street and the one-percent after winning the election.

Business dream of “right to work”

The Supreme Court is now poised to outlaw the right of public unions to collect representation fees in “union shops,” and impose “right-to-work” laws on all public union members. This reversal marks the fulfillment of a dream going back to the 1930’s when Southern segregationists first peddled the idea of “right-to-work” as part of a strategy to thwart unions, stop “race-mixing” in workplaces, and block racial minorities from gaining their fair share of power and respect in society.

Trump backs anti-union case

On December 6, Trump administration lawyers in the Justice Department led a “friend of the court” brief backing the Janus case against union members.



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ILWU Political Action

ILWU strength in numbers at Opening Day 2018

HONOLULU — Every year in January, ILWU Local 142 brings a delegation of members and pensioners from every division to the State Capitol on the first day the Legislature convenes or “Opening Day.” ILWU members work in nearly every industry, so one could easily say that the concerns of our members are the concerns of the whole state of Hawaii. On January 17, 2018, members from different units visited legislators from their communities to remind them that the choices they make impact working people everywhere.



Oahu Division with Representative Henry Aquino (District 38 Waipahu) L-R front: Annie Dickinson Unit 4405 Foodland, Dona Hamabata Unit 4405, Rep. Aquino, Sue Lake Unit 4405, Kehau Oyamoto-Maeha Unit 4524 Airport Honolulu Hotel, Elizabeth Visitacion Unit 4524, Gigi Agdeppa Unit 4524. Back L-R: Lori Kikuyama Unit 4405, Roberto Augustin Unit 4305 Dole-Wahiawa Plantation, Kaponu Keliikoa Unit 4405, Business Agent Dillon Hullinger, Francis Jamora Unit 4414 Ball Metal.



Kauai Division visiting Senate President Ron Kouchi (District 8 Kauai, Ni'ihau) L-R: Daryl “Hoku” Keamoai Unit 3511 Grand Hyatt Kauai, Rollan “Akira” Yadao Unit 3504 Princeville Utilities Company, Inc., Jesus Guirao, Senate President Kouchi, Business Agent Calvin Corpuz, Michael Machado, Stanley Dotario, Kauai Division Director Pamela Green, Business Agent Chad Pacheco.



Maui Division with Senator Rosalyn Baker (District 6 South and West Maui) L-R: Rosie Agdeppa Unit 2516 Hyatt Maui, Zenaida Barut Unit 2520 Grand Wailea, Lourdes Rivera Unit 2505 The Westin Maui, Sen. Baker, Violeta Natividad Unit 2505, Business Agent Steven Lee, Raymunda Ignacio.



Hawaii Division with Representative Nakashima (District 1 Hamakua, North Hilo, South Hilo). Last row: Business Agent Michael DeLaCruz. Second to last row: Roland Shimaoka Unit 1418 Kuwaye Trucking, Business Agent George Martin. Third row: Lloyd Matsubara Unit 1517 Hilton Waikoloa Village, Heather Sabado Unit 1421 Sack N Save Kona, Clyde Kihara Unit 1419 A&B Fleet Services, Rep. Nakashima, Hawaii Division Director Elmer Gorospe, Frankie Pang. Second to front row: Theresa Cabulizan Unit 1516 DHL Mahi Staffing Mauna Lani Bay Hotel & Bungalows, Leonor Corpuz Unit 1402 Mauna Loa Macadamia Nut Corporation, Patricia Dunn, Alvin Akina Jr., Clyde Silva. Sitting: Business Agent Tristie Licoan, Gilbert DeMotta.



Oahu Division with Representative Mark Hashem (District 18 Hahaione, Kuliouou, Niu Valley, Aina Haina, Waiialae, Kahala) Back L-R: Business Agent Jose Miramontes, Ivan Uagaleilei Unit 4409 Island Movers, Troy Liu Unit 4416 Polynesian Adventure Tours, Faavevela Tuigamala Unit 4416, Florence Pitoua Unit 4416. Front L-R: Rep. Hashem, Duncan Henry Unit 4405 Hawaii Logistics, Elijah Avilla Unit 4405.

Want to get involved in Political Action (PAC)?
Call the union!
 Hawaii: (808) 935-3727 • Maui: (808) 244-9191
 Kauai: (808) 245-3374
 Oahu: (808) 949-4161
 Hawaii Longshore: (808) 949-4161



LABOR INSTITUTE 2

HONOLULU — The 9th Labor Institute transformed the quiet halls on Atkinson Drive into a bright launching pad for the week of January 29 - February 2, 2018, thanks to the 136 members across all divisions who showed up to learn and grow as union leaders.

“Who thinks workers get a fair share of the profits they create?” asked instructor Stephen Lerner right off the bat.

“Who can just hear their boss saying, ‘I wish unions like ILWU would just disappear, so then I could do whatever I want!’?” continued Lerner.

What’s at stake

You could hear a pin drop in the room as members grew more and more disturbed as instructor Jono Shaffer segued from Lerner’s questions into a presentation about Trump packing his cabinet with the wolves of Wall Street, and research showing hotel consolidation reaching an all-time high.

“Wealth and power are concentrated in the hands of fewer and fewer people...and if that’s not bad enough, it’s the 1% running politics so they get more tax breaks, too...We need to turn this moment of peril into a moment of opportunity,” said Shaffer.

“I didn’t even know we were

for sale,” said Heidi Namaau (Unit 2520 Grand Wailea Resort), referring to the presentation that showed which hotels are up for grabs by corporate consolidation (Grand Wailea was just bought by financial group Blackstone). “But everyone is for sale for the right price. I’m going to learn all I can so the workers who actually make these hotels run can have a say in what’s right.”

“I can see how they’re (management) trying to divide us,” said Ron Johnson (Unit 2516 Hyatt Regency Maui). “But I make sure I talk story with people working at other hotels anyway, because we know we’re owned by the same corporation. What’s coming down their pipeline will head our way, too. We need teeth in our contracts and we can see how just one word changes the whole bargain.”



Members in the Core Class “How to Educate your Members and the Bosses About A doing yoga as a way to connect to their true power. “How long does it take for so form an initial impression of you? Studies show it’s only 10-15 seconds. In those your whole body is perceiving the encounter, not just your brain. Yoga helps you ge larger way of being, which means more ways to connect authentically and successf instructor Tracy Chang.

Empowerment through education

Instead of feeling powerless and defeated by an economic reality that thrives on greed, the members were not ready to back down so

easy. Their winning attitude could be summed up in Henry Velasco’s (Unit 4203 Matson Maintenance) response to the teachers that morning: “How do we fight back?”

to be continued in next issue with updates on how members are applying what they learned here...we’re just getting started!



All the core classes (classes held Tuesday - Friday from 8:30 am-11:30 am: Mobilizing for Collective Bargaining; Make Your Unit Strong!; Advanced Lead highlight the main things they learned all week. From explaining different personality types to simulated marches in the street, all the presentations reso

2018



"When it comes to big business, I'm thinking of the 2008 bailout... if they see that they will get bailed out anyway, what kind of accountability will they have? Unions need to hold them accountable," said Gabrielle Pacheco, clockwise from bottom left (Unit 1426 Hilo Federal Credit Union)

continuing clockwise: Jonarene Agbisit Unit 3410 Wilcox Medical Center, Diana Lopez Unit 3410, Malisa Fely Unit 1417 Hawthorne Pacific Corp., and Jovena Moses Unit 1414 Punaluu Bake Shop).



Union organizing goes beyond the workplace. We organize and rally support for politicians who have workers' best interest at heart.

"Everyone who has grown up here, or who has called Hawaii their home, has got to understand the history that this wonderful state has and how closely entwined it is with the ILWU. When you think about the ILWU history and its battles -- literally battles! -- for the working people, I get chicken skin to know I am getting the endorsement from you and your members," said Hanabusa, waving up at members on the left.

Anything?"
meone to
seconds,
t into this
ully," said

Keep your eyes on the prize... ORGANIZE!

(pictured above is Lawrene Noelani Rasmussen Unit 1515 Fairmont Orchid chanting and singing along on the last day of the Institute).



Membership Skills; How to Educate your Members and the Bosses about Anything; Winning in the Workplace) did an interactive demonstrative presentation to
ated profoundly: We are stronger together!

Around the Union

Mahalo for making the union work, Kauai Outstanding Members!

LIHUE — On December 15, 2017, Kauai Division held its recognition night to honor members who promote union solidarity at the workplace. Here are this year's winners:

Outstanding Unit Leaders

Outstanding unit leader with 0-30 members: Bernard Almarza Unit 4402 Love's Bakery.

Outstanding unit leader with 31-99 members: Ricky Brun Unit 3514 Hokuala Golf Club.

Outstanding unit leader with 100+ members: Kyle Cloos, an electrician at Unit 3401 Kauai Coffee Company.

Inspirational leader (male): Sonny Chang Unit 3515 St. Regis Princeville

Inspirational leader (female): Darlene Iwai Unit 3410 Wilcox Medical Center

Awesome Leader of the Year

Rhonda Morris Unit 3511 Grand Hyatt Kauai.

Outstanding Pensioner

Jesus Guirao.

Inspirational Leaders of the Year



BERNARD ALMARZA



JESUS GUIRAO



KYLE CLOOS

"It's amazing how much the union improves the life of the average worker. If anything questionable goes on, you can fight it and organize and get things done."



SONNY CHANG



RHONDA MORRIS

"I like to fight, so I might as well fight for what's right!"



RICKY BRUN

Around the Union

"I have a dream..."

"In a real sense, all life is interrelated. The agony of the poor impoverishes the rich; the betterment of the poor enriches the rich...
Whatever affects one affects all.
 -- Dr. King, *Where Do We Go from Here?* 1967



Local Vice President Teddy Espeleta, Alan AhYo of Unit 4526 Alohilani Resort at Waikiki Beach, Zenia "Malu" Adams, and Sui Ling Poy hold the banner in front of the ILWU trolley. On January 15, 2018, members from Oahu and Hawaii Longshore Division marched in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day parade through Waikiki.



HONOLULU — Most people know Martin Luther King, Jr. for his "I have a dream" speech. But Local 142 marches every year on MLK Day to honor the tireless union and organizing work he did to turn those dreams to

reality. The children, family and staff of Local 142 passed out candy attached to messages of Dr. King (pictured above is Matt Arakawa handing out candy and the Longshore Division getting ready to march).

Howzit, Hanabusa!



Hawaii Division



Maui Division



Oahu Division



Kauai Division

ILWU Sports

Big Island State Champs again!

PAIA — On December 9, 2017 teams from Oahu, Maui, Kauai and the Big Island gathered on Maui for the 37th State Basketball Tournament. Maui Division hosted the tournament at Paia Gym and encouraged fun and sportsmanship.

Semi-finals

The first semi-final game was between Oahu (Unit 4404 Pepsi Beverages Company) and Maui Longshore. Pepsi scored first, but Maui followed up in quick succession.

The final score resulted in 52 for Pepsi and 43 for Maui.

The second semi-final game was between Kauai and the Big Island. Big Island scored first with a three pointer, followed by Kauai with a three pointer of their very own. In the end the score was 55 Big Island and 30 for Kauai.

Consolation game

The consolation game between Kauai and Maui was exciting from start to finish. They were neck and neck right through and tied until the last second. Maui scored at the buzzer, resulting in Maui 54 and Kauai 52.

Championship game

The championship game between Big Island and Pepsi was close from the get-go.

With 1:43 left in the game the teams were tied at 35-35. In the end, the Big Island decisively turned it in their favor and won with 42 and Pepsi 36.

Individual awards

Most Valuable Player: Ryan Bautista (Big Island)
3-Point Shooting: Emery Souza (Kauai)

Teamwork makes the dream work

The tournament and awards luncheon was organized by hardworking people from the Maui Division: Business Agents Joe Aquino, Steven Lee, Jerrybeth De Mello, Nicole De Rego, Bobby Andrión, Clerks Joycelyn Victorino and Joyce Naruse.

State Sports Coordinator Teddy Espeleta also assisted along with Business Agents Brian Tanaka from Oahu, and Corinna Salmo from the Big Island.



“Proud of you boys!” said Big Island Business Agent Corinna Salmo (center). Front L-R: Chase Cazimero Unit 1513 Waikoloa Village Golf Course, Chance Pang Unit 1517 Hilton Waikoloa Village, Salmo, Reeve Cazimero Unit 1513, Ryan Bautista Unit 1503 Mauna Kea Beach Hotel. Back L-R: Christian Kapeliela, John Allan Antonio Unit 1517, Darin Puckett Unit 1513, Cameron Naihe-Tabiolo Unit 1503, Kenneth Kapeliela Unit 1516 DHL Mahi Staffing, Ryan Carvalho Unit 1516.



Runner-up Team Oahu (Unit 4404 Pepsi Beverages Company): Back L-R: Corey Shippy, Lekeli Watanabe, Gaylen Teraoka, Daniel Zane, Marcus Fonoti, Jerry Cabayan, Tim Rose, Maurice Johnson. Front: L-R: Jason Haskell, Brad Guillermo, Leonid Manayan, Dayna Ohelo. Pictured at left is Oahu Business Agent Brian Tanaka and Maui Business Agent Joe Aquino organizing the three point shoot-out.



Sportsmanship Award Team Kauai: Front L-R: Joel Green (husband of Kauai Division Director Pamela Green), Sean Bisarra Unit 3515 St. Regis Princeville, ArJay Baniaga Unit 3515, Emery Souza Unit 3511 Grand Hyatt Kauai. Back L-R: Angelo Ladera Unit 3511, Keane-Shane Agot Unit 3515, Cody Dolor Unit 3515, Severino Butay Jr. Unit 3511.



3rd Place Team Maui Longshore: Front L-R: Sam Ka`aihue (coach) Unit 2201, Mike Deponte Unit 2201, Mark Albino Unit 2501, Wayne Naruse Unit 2201. Back L-R: Nahe Noa Unit 2201, Keaka Sardine Unit 2201, John Lapez Unit 2501, Kalua Noa Unit 2201, Erwin Decoite Unit 2201, Brad Scott Unit 2201. Not pictured: Jackie Ka`aihue

Congratulations to all teams for playing with heart and keeping the ILWU Sports Program fun year after year!