



VOICE OF THE ILWU

HONOLULU HAWAII
LOCAL 142

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ILWU 142 endorses David Ige

HONOLULU—On August 18, 2014 ILWU Local 142 Political Action Committee (PAC) members voted unanimously to endorse primary election winner David Ige for Governor of the State of Hawaii.

Ige, who won the election by a surprising 2-to-1 margin, contacted ILWU President Donna Domingo after the primary was over and asked to meet with the union's leadership. He met with the PAC committee for over an hour, listening to the ILWU's questions about Hurricane Iselle's impact on access to voting, GMO foods, inter-state transportation, and other issues that are of concern to ILWU members.

"The ILWU thanks Neil Abercrombie for his support of labor during his decades of public service, but we now ask that members support the Democratic candidate for governor, David Ige," said President Donna Domingo. "David is sympathetic to the needs of union families, and has reached out to the ILWU, pledging to work with us."

The PAC also reaffirmed its support for Shan Tsutsui for Lt. Governor.

U.S. Senate race

Balloting was held in Puna on August 15—six days after the primary election—where two polling places had been shut

ACLU files primary election challenge

HONOLULU—The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) filed a lawsuit with the Hawaii Supreme Court on behalf of six Puna registered voters on Thursday, August 21, 2014.

The legal challenge alleges that voters in Puna were denied their constitutional right to vote, and requests that any Hawaii County registered voters who were affected by Hurricane Iselle be allowed to cast a ballot on or before the final primary election tabulation deadline on September 20.

According to the complaint, the lawsuit is "not a typical election contest," and does not ask the court to overturn the election results.

The court is also being asked to declare unconstitutional the law that allows the office of elections to determine how to handle voting when a natural disaster occurs.

At the time the VOICE of the ILWU went to press, Senator Brian Schatz was declared the primary election winner and is the ILWU's endorsed candidate for U.S. Senate. However, if the court orders another election and the outcome of the race is changed, the ILWU's original primary endorsements stand.



(Top) Oahu Division Director Mike Yamaguchi with endorsed gubernatorial candidate David Ige. (Above) Local Political Action Committee members with U.S. Representative District I candidate Mark Takai. (Sitting, l-r) Sec.-Treas. Guy Fujimura, Takai, President Donna Domingo. (Second row) Hawaii Division Director Elmer Gorospe, Vice President Teddy Espeleta, Maui Division Director Steve Castro, Oahu Business Agents Wilfred Chang, Jr. and Jose Miramontes, Oahu Division Director Mike Yamaguchi. (Third row) Oahu Business Agent Dillon Hullinger, Hawaii PAC Chair Frankie Pang, Kauai Division Director Michael Machado, retired Maui Division Director Willie Kennison, retired Kauai Business Agent Jesus Guirao, and Maui PAC Chair Jason Medeiros.

down because of Hurricane Iselle. When the voting was over, Brian Schatz was declared the Democratic primary winner.

"Colleen expressed her wish to have closure on the primary, so that the people of Hawaii can move forward and elect Democratic candidates in November who will best serve working people. We will follow her advice and work together with

our members and allies to make sure that the U.S. Senate retains its Democratic majority and that David Ige is our next Governor," said Secretary-Treasurer Guy Fujimura. ILWU members are urged to vote for Senator Schatz in the Senate race.

The ILWU PAC also declared support for Mark Takai, the Democratic primary winner in U.S. Representative District I.

Statewide pensioner conference is a hit

By Joanne Kealoha
ILWU Social Services Coordinator

The ILWU values its pensioners. They are the pioneers who helped build this union. They fought and sacrificed so that future generations could enjoy job security and good contracts. They remain loyal to ILWU principles and programs.

27th Biennial State Conference

The ILWU State Pensioners Association has been in existence for more than 50 years in various forms. Every two years, rotating among the islands, the Association holds a conference to bring pensioners

together to renew old friendship and establish new ones. This year's conference was held June 3-5 on Kauai and was attended by almost 100 pensioners representing 19 ILWU pensioner clubs statewide.

Funding for the conference is provided by the ILWU Memorial Association (M.A.), whose mission is to provide support to the ILWU and its retirees. The M.A. pays for two delegates from each club to attend the conference and for miscellaneous expenses to ensure a successful conference.

Many pensioners liken their conference to the Local Convention. They hear from

endorsed candidates (conferences are always held on election years) and others offering inspiration and information. They take positions on issues by adopting resolutions. They even debate among themselves in their deliberations.

This year, the conference welcomed elected officials from Kauai to speak—Mayor Bernard Carvalho, Senator Ron Kouchi, Representatives Dee Morikawa and Derek Kawakami—as well as Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui. In addition, conference participants heard from Local President Donna Domingo and Local Secretary-Treasurer Guy Fujimura.

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ADDRESS LABEL

See page 8 for more information on the upcoming general election and a complete list of ILWU endorsements. You may also visit: www.ilwulocal142.org or www.facebook.com/ilwulocal142

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The next Local 142 Executive Board (LEB) meeting is scheduled to start at 9:00 a.m. on September 19, 2014, in Honolulu at the ILWU building on 451 Atkinson Drive. ILWU members are welcome to attend as observers.

Statewide pensioner conference is a hit—continued from page 1

Adele Ching of the Executive Office on Aging and Sgt. Roderick Green of the Kauai Police Department cautioned pensioners about being wary of those who prey on trusting seniors and warned them to avoid becoming victims of scams and fraud.

Resolutions adopted

Each pensioner club gave a report on their membership and their activities. Robert Girald, president of the M.A., provided a report to the conference about its activities to maintain properties for use by the Local and to support and revitalize the ILWU's pensioner program. Delegates passed resolutions on a number of issues such as: support for the ILWU political action program and ILWU-endorsed candidates, continued participation in the Hawaii Alliance for Retired Americans, Justice at Pacific Beach Hotel (celebrating the historic victory when a union contract was finally negotiated after a decade of struggle), and continued support for the Affordable Care Act (aka "Obamacare"). One big issue that drew debate was the Hawaii Division ILWU Pensioners' Council resolution to urge the Local to allow both voice and vote to pensioner representatives on the Local Political Action Committee. After some debate, the resolution passed.

Time for fun

Despite the heavy topics discussed, the pensioners managed to make time for lots of fun. They picnicked at nearby Lydgate Park, played bingo, went shopping, sat around the hotel visiting with friends from other islands, enjoyed the hospitality room (yes, pensioners have hospitality rooms just like active members do at conventions!), and overall had a great time. On the last night of the conference, the pensioners were treated to entertainment by Tamatea Nui O Kauai as well as song and dance by their fellow pensioners. The next day, everyone went to Kilohana Plantation just outside of Lihue to tour the grounds on a real train and to have lunch at Gaylord's, an old plantation manager's house.

New Kona club welcomed

Although membership in each of the clubs is declining, this year's conference was happy to welcome a new club from Kona, headed by retired business agent, Roy Jardine, who brought along



(Above) Kauai pensioners take a break after riding the Kilohana Plantation train: (l-r) Merlin Dahilig, Dolly DeCosta, Elsie Takata, Eveline Malina, and Connie Baniaga.



(Right) Oahu pensioners pose in the hotel lobby: (l-r) Steven Inouye, June Kurita, Dennis Pang, Esther Scharsch, Juanita Augustiro, Dorothy Sakamoto, Vivian McCoy, and JoAnne Trask.

seven women delegates from his new club. They were enthusiastic, lively, and thoroughly enjoyed their first pensioner conference. The ladies are retired from hotels in Kona and hope to recruit more hotel retirees into their club. We hope this represents the start of new expansion for the ILWU pensioner program.

A sad announcement

In the midst of the good times, conference participants received sad news that Moses Moke passed away. He will be missed by the Hawaii Division ILWU Pensioner Council, which he served as treasurer for many years, and all who knew him.

New officers installed

The 2012-2014 officers of the ILWU State Pensioners Association helped to ensure that the conference ran smoothly. Particular thanks go to Ernest Domingo (Kauai), president, for presiding over the conference. Other officers were: Richard Baker, Jr. (Hawaii), vice president; Dorothy Sakamoto (Oahu), secretary; and Erlinda Bayaca (Maui), treasurer.

New officers for the next term are: Richard Baker, Jr. (Hawaii), president; JoAnne Trask (Oahu), vice president; Mona Bio (Maui), secretary; and Ernest Domingo (Kauai), treasurer.

Conference a huge success

Judging from the smiles and contented faces as the delegates left for the airport, this year's pensioner conference was a huge success. Many thanks to the Kauai pensioners and the Kauai Division FTO's, who worked together and planned for months to make the conference one that all would enjoy. The next conference will be held on the Big Island in 2016. Not to be outdone, Hawaii Division pensioners have already started planning!

Retired? Join a club

If you are retired and would like to join or form a pensioner club on your island, contact the Division Pensioner Coordinator on your island: Pamela Green (Kauai); Wilfred Chang (Oahu); Steven Lee (Maui); and Francine Molina (Hawaii).

You may be able to join the fun as a delegate for the next pensioner conference in 2016!

Photo by Joanne Kealoha

Photo by Joanne Kealoha



Pat Ebreo, Jane Matsumura, Cathy Salgado, and Violet Carvalho of the Paailo ILWU Pensioner Club share a Filipino song at the conference banquet.

Photo by Michael Machado



Lt. Gov. Shan Tsutsui poses with Maui pensioners, Conchita DeCampra, Manuela Domingo, Lydia Coloma, Paz Manuel, and Mona Bio.

Photo by Michael Machado



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Maui recognizes outstanding units and individuals

WAILUKU—In what has become an annual event, ILWU Local 142's Maui Division honored their outstanding members and units at a special awards dinner after the regular Division Executive Board (DEB) meeting on April 16, 2014.

The division presented awards in eight categories, with awards for both male and female winners in individual categories.

Recognition of Unit Member: **Gail Manibog**, Unit 2511 - Makena Beach and Golf Resort and **Kelly Ruidas**, Unit 2101 - HC&S Company.

Recognition of Unit Chairperson: **Maraia Dacey**, Unit 2511 - Maui Prince Hotel and **Sheldon Biga**, Unit 2101 - HC&S Company.

Recognition of Unit Leadership: **Kele-Jo Kahai**, Unit 2408 - Foodland Farms, Lahaina #42, **Nicole Scida**, Unit 2520 - Grand Wailea Resort Hotel & Spa, and **Daniel Martinez**, Unit 2101 - HC&S Company.

Recognition of Pensioner: **Ruby Yoshisato**, Unit 2306 - Maui Pineapple Company and **Howard Takemoto**, Unit

2406 - Hawaiian Cement/Maui Concrete.

Maui's outstanding units

The Outstanding Unit award is categorized based on the number of members in the unit. The following units were recognized for their achievements in 2013.

1-100 members: **Unit 2406** - Ameron, Hawaiian Cement, Walker Industries and Maui Blocks.

101-300 members: **Unit 2506** - Kaanapali Beach Hotel.

301-500 members: **Unit 2505** - The Westin Maui.

501 or more members: **Unit 2101** - HC&S Company.

Unit editor awards

Best Unit Bulletin: **Joseph Aquino**, Unit

2101 - HC&S Company.

Recognition for participation: **Seini Dennis**, Unit 2505 - The Westin Maui, **Crystal Momi Tupou**, Unit 2516 - Hyatt Regency Maui, and **Melissa Widing**, Unit 2520 - Grand Wailea Resort Hotel & Spa.

About the DEB

Each division holds a DEB meeting once every month to discuss and make decisions on division issues as well as to keep members informed about division-wide happenings. All unit officers are automatically DEB members and should attend the meetings on behalf of their membership. Any member in good standing is encouraged to attend their DEB meeting. *Participation is the key to a successful union!*



Outstanding Unit, 101-300 members: Patricia Balderas and Wesley Medeiros from Unit 2506 - Kaanapali Beach Hotel with Business Agent Jerrybeth De Mello.



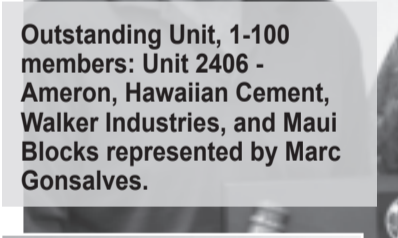
Outstanding Unit, 501 or more members (l-r): Ben Wilson, Mark Macanas, Rogelio Acoba, Business Agent Abel Kahoohanohano, Wesley Bissen, Sheldon Biga, Arnold Trilles, Ian Cabatingan, Daniel Martinez, Beato Verceluz and Joseph Aquino from Unit 2101 - HC&S.



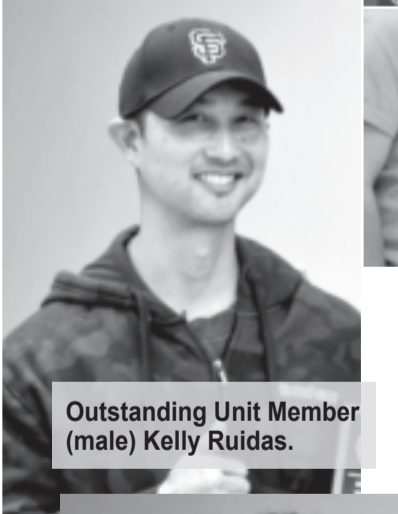
Best Unit Bulletin: Joseph Aquino, HC&S.



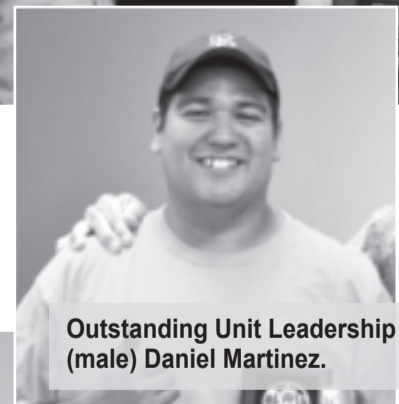
Outstanding Unit, 301-500 members: Westin Maui leaders Alex Ajolo, Adeline Castillo, Lourdes Rivera, Representative Steven Lee and Heidi Michel-Bunyard.



Outstanding Unit, 1-100 members: Unit 2406 - Ameron, Hawaiian Cement, Walker Industries, and Maui Blocks represented by Marc Gonsalves.



Outstanding Unit Member (male) Kelly Ruidas.



Outstanding Unit Leadership (male) Daniel Martinez.



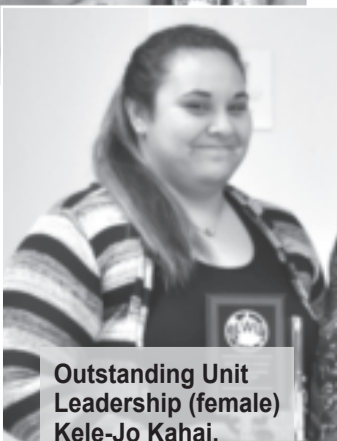
Outstanding Unit Member (female) Gail Manibog.



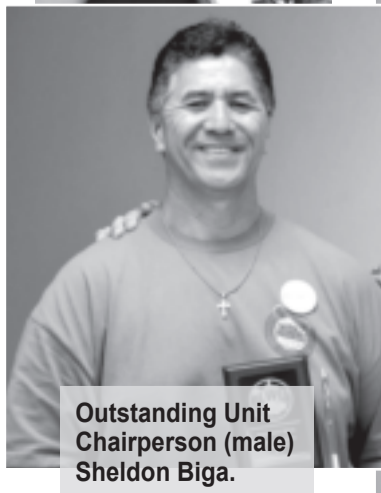
Outstanding Unit Leadership (female) Nicole Scida with Business Agent Stephen West.



Outstanding Unit Chairperson (female) Maraia Dacey.



Outstanding Unit Leadership (female) Kele-Jo Kahai.



Outstanding Unit Chairperson (male) Sheldon Biga.



Outstanding Pensioners: Ruby Yoshisato and Howard Takemoto with Business Agent Abel Kahoohanohano (center).

Statewide Negotiations Update

New contract in place at Valley Isle Motors

WAILUKU—Wage increases and reductions in medical insurance premium co-payments are the highlights of a new three year agreement for Valley Isle Motors, according to union spokesperson Maui Division Director Stephen Castro. The agreement will run from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2017.

Pay hikes amount to a 10% increase over the duration of the contract. The union committee also achieved a reduction in the members' medical insurance premium co-payment. The ratification was held June 27, 2014, and the memorandum of agreement (MOA) was approved overwhelmingly.

Valley Isle Motors, located in Kahului, is a new and used Ford and Mazda car dealership. The dealership has been in business since 1923, and employs 46 ILWU members, including all employees of the service, parts, and body & paint departments. Some of the job classifications include technicians, rust proofers, polishers and parts salespersons. Jim Falk is the owner of the Falk Automotive group which include Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Ford, GMC, Hyundai, Mazda and Nissan franchises in Hawaii and a Lexus showroom in Beverly Hills, California.



(Left) Local Vice President Teddy Espeleta, Ron Brittain (retail shop), Kevin Okuhata (heavy truck shop), Maui Business Agent Cyrus Kodani, and Maui Division Director/Spokesperson Stephen Castro.

(Below) Members of Unit 2405 - Valley Isle Motors listen intently as the negotiating committee presents the terms of the memorandum of agreement (MOA) during the ratification meeting.



ILWU members approve three contracts



Pulama Lanai (Trades) negotiating committee (l-r): Aurelio Batoon, Cyrus Kodani, Keonehana Mano, Marino Barsatan and Local Vice President Teddy Espeleta.

LANAI CITY—The mission of the company Pulama Lanai is to develop, maintain and ensure a sustainable future for the island of Lanai. It was formerly known as Lanai Resorts LLC and changed its name to Pulama Lanai in July 2013.

Unit 2401 Pulama Lanai is comprised of four sub-units based upon the job classifications of the members. They are as follows:

- Heavy Division—which includes jobs related to construction. They include heavy equipment operators, such as tractor, excavator, backhoe and bulldozer operators. Also included are

lift truck, cement truck, and semi-trailer drivers.

- Landscaping—which include jobs related to landscaping. They include nursery workers, landscape workers, and irrigation and pesticide technicians.

- Trades—which include jobs related to utilities, facilities, fleet, housing maintenance and freight. They include waterworks maintenance, carpenters, electricians, welders, light vehicle technicians, housekeepers, and heavy equipment mechanics to name a few.

- Retail, Transportation & Purchasing—which include the guest

services representatives, shuttle bus and van drivers.

Local Vice President Teddy Espeleta categorized these talks as “a very interesting negotiations considering it was with a new employer.”

Pulama Lanai (Trades)

A new four year contract for 50 members of Pulama Lanai (Trades) is now in force. It has been announced by Local Vice President Teddy Espeleta, who was the chief union spokesperson. Running from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2017, the settlement is a 12% wage increase over the four



Pulama Lanai (Landscaping) negotiating committee (l-r): Elton Atacado, Orlando Raqueno and Maui Division Business Agent Claro Romero. Missing Maui Division Director/Spokesperson Stephen Castro.

year duration. Other improvements include stronger language to the contract, higher reimbursements for certification testing and personal protective equipment such as steel toed shoes. The ratification was held June 10, 2014, and the memorandum of agreement (MOA) was approved overwhelmingly.

Pulama Lanai (Heavy Division)

A new agreement for Pulama Lanai (Heavy Division) brings a 3% wage increase in each year of a three year contract according to chief union spokesperson Maui Division Business

Statewide Negotiations Update

Unanimous contract “yes” vote by Mililani Town Association members

MILILANI, Oahu—The forty-five ILWU members employed by Mililani Town Association (MTA) are now working under a new contract that runs from June 1, 2014 to May 31, 2017. According to union negotiations spokesperson Wilfred Chang Jr., the settlement calls for wage increases of 2.5% compounded each year of a three year agreement. Other gains include a substantial increase in the contribution to the pension plan and the establishment of premium rates.

The ratification was held May 29, 2014 and the memorandum of agreement (MOA) was approved unanimously.

Mililani Town Association was established in 1968 and represents the interests of the home owners in the planned community of Mililani Town. ILWU members are responsible for the grounds maintenance of the common areas of the community. They are also responsible for the maintenance of the community’s seven recreation centers.

Members of the negotiating committee are as follows: Unit Chairperson Fernando Tadena, Oahu Division Director Michael Yamaguchi and Oahu Division Business Agent/Spokesperson Wilfred Chang Jr.



ILWU members at Unit 4415 - Mililani Town Association work as utility operators, grounds maintenance persons, and building maintenance persons.

with Pulama Lanai



Pulama Lanai (Heavy Division) negotiating committee (l-r): Maui Division Business Agent/Spokesperson Cyrus Kodani, Local Vice President Teddy Espeleta, Generoso Fernandez Jr., 1st Vice-Chairperson Garrett Hera and Paul Alconcel.

Agent Cyrus Kodani. Local Vice President Teddy Espeleta assisted in the negotiations. It will run from July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017 and covers 14 ILWU members.

The settlement calls for the following gains: stronger language to the contract and higher reimbursements for personal protective equipment such as steel toed shoes. The ratification was held July 08, 2014, and the memorandum of agreement (MOA) was approved unanimously.

Pulama Lanai (Landscaping)
Twenty-nine members of Pulama

Lanai (Landscaping) are receiving a 3% wage increase in each year of a three year agreement running from January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2016, according to chief union spokesperson Maui Division Director Stephen Castro. Other key gains includes: stronger language to the contract and higher reimbursements for personal protective equipment such as steel toed shoes. The ratification was held June 12, 2014, and the memorandum of agreement (MOA) was approved overwhelmingly.

Hawaii Logistics members ratify new agreement

HONOLULU—Hawaii Logistics workers numbering 130 ILWU members are now covered by a new four year contract which went in to effect on October 13, 2013 and expires on October 14, 2017. The following warehouse workers are covered by the agreement: dock foreman, loader, forklift operators and selectors.

A subsidiary of C&S Wholesale Grocers, Hawaii Logistics is the largest wholesale grocery supply company in the State of Hawaii. Some of the companies that Hawaii Logistics supplies are: Foodland Super Market, Ltd., Sack N Save, Times Supermarkets, Don Quijote,

all the Commissaries, Longs Drugs, Burger King, Jack In The Box and KFC to name a few.

Chief union spokesperson Karl Lindo says that the settlement calls for wage increases ranging from 4% to 6% over the four years, depending on the job classification. Other gains were: stronger language to the contract, increase in vacation hours, an additional step in progressive discipline, an incentive for “perfect attendance” and substantial increase in the contributions to the pension plan. The ratification was held June 21, 2014 and the memorandum of agreement (MOA) was approved overwhelmingly.



The Unit 4405 - Hawaii Logistics Negotiating Committee. (Sitting, l-r): Steward Frazer Nuu, Oahu Division Business Agent/Spokesperson Karl Lindo and Oahu Division Business Agent Jose Miramontes. (Standing, l-r): Vice Chairperson Milburn “Hale” Halemano, Treasurer David “Stixx” Kepaa, Chairperson Dexter Nakayama and Secretary James Duh. Missing: Oahu Division Business Agent Wilfred Chang, Jr.

Kauai pensioners enjoy annual picnic

By Joanne Kealoha, ILWU Social Services Coordinator

About 150 Kauai pensioners enjoyed their annual picnic on July 19—not at the beach or in the park, but at their union hall! They sat with their clubs—Lihue, Kekaha, McBryde, Gay & Robinson, and Golden Years—and enjoyed fun games, prizes, speeches, food, and a chance to talk story with old and new friends.

Unlike some activities where pensioners sit all day listening to speeches, eating, and playing bingo, Kauai pensioners actually get up and get active. They participated in dart blackjack, mini golf, and ring toss (aka “Portuguese horseshoes”). These activities require a mix of skill and luck, but the pensioners were “game.” They lined up to take their turn at each activity and their chance to win a package of prizes—then lined up again for another try. With all the competitive banter and laughter, no one would suspect that the game participants were in their 70’s and 80’s!

The pensioners also challenged their brains with a word puzzle and guessing the number of sugar packets in a plastic container. Kauai Division Director Michael Machado always makes sure that the pensioners have a mix of mental and physical activity. Judging from the crowd that day, the pensioners already seem to incorporate exercise and brain stimulation into their daily lives. Everyone looked fit, healthy and had a grand time.

Endorsed candidates speak

And what’s a union picnic during an election year without political speeches? The mayor, two state legislators, and most of the endorsed candidates for the County Council came to say a few words.

Mayor Bernard Carvalho said his father was a Lihue Plantation truck driver so understands what most of the pensioners went through when they worked on the plantations. He is grateful for the the hard work and sacrifice of all retirees and for the good relationship he enjoys with the Division.

Council Chair Jay Furfaro worked in management at Sheraton Kauai

and Princeville and appreciates the support he has from the ILWU. Councilmember JoAnn Yukimura thanked the pensioners for their sacrifice and assured them she is working on expanding Kauai bus service and affordable housing for them. Councilmember Tim Bynum thanked the ILWU for being the first union to endorse him when he first ran for the Council and says he feels an affinity for the ILWU because his son-in-law is a member at St. Regis. Councilmember Ross Kagawa came directly from a youth athletic activity and expressed his appreciation for continued support. Councilmember Mel Rapozo was traveling and unable to attend.

House Rep. Derek Kawakami thanked the pensioners for their sacrifices to make life better for those like himself. House Rep. Dee Morikawa emphasized her own union roots as an HGEA member and said she represents working families in the Legislature.

Candidate KipuKai Kualii said his father was an ILWU member from sugar, and he himself was a member when he worked for the Westin Kauai. Candidate Arryl Kaneshiro, not to be confused with his father Darryl, former Kauai councilmember, said he went away for school but returned home to Kauai and hopes to serve his community.

Candidate Dylan Hooser, running for a House seat, is proud of the ILWU’s endorsement and pledged to keep an open mind and an open door if elected.

Business Agent Doreen Kua also read a message from Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa, running for U.S. Senate.

Bingo fun

As with most pensioner activities,



(L-r) Retired Business Agent Jesus Guirao, Tarcala Sanigumba, Division Director Michael Machado and Solidad Lagazo. Tarcala, who received a necklace made by Dylan Hooser, and Solidad, who got a microwave oven were the grand prize winners at this year’s picnic.

the highlight of the day was bingo—with prizes, of course. The coveted bingo prize was a big bag of rice, which pensioners proudly carted off to their cars soon after they shouted “bingo!” Bingo caller Robert Giraldo was assisted by his wife, Gloria, and runners, Jesus Guirao, Ernest Domingo, and Alfred Castillo. This year, Councilmembers Bynum and Kagawa as well as candidate Hooser also helped to deliver prizes to winners.

Always a good picnic

It was a beautiful summer day—hot and sunny—and the Kauai pensioners enjoyed a wonderful picnic with nary a glitch, thanks to the hard work of Division FTO’s (Mike Machado, Pamela Green, Doreen Kua, and Calvin Corpuz), Division Clerk (Mona Dotario-Agor), and their spouses. Even the pensioners who did not win a prize went home contented.



Pensioners focusing on their putting skills in mini golf.



Pensioners tried their hand at “Portugese horseshoes,” among other games. “The Kauai Labor Day is special to us because of the retirees’ active participation in our ILWU event,” said Division Director Michael Machado. “Their enthusiasm and spirit sets an example for all ILWU members on Kauai.”



ILWU endorsed candidates Daynette “Dee” Morikawa (House District 16), Arryl Kaneshiro (Kauai County Council) with Jesus Guirao, who is a member of the ILWU Local Political Action Committee.

In memory of Maui's Pepito Ragasa

Pepito Ragasa passed away on April 9, 2014 at the age of 90. He was a long-time member of the ILWU, a Business Agent for ten years, and was heavily involved in the Union and his community. Pepito is survived by his wife Alice; son Guy; brother Dado Rola, one grandchild and two great-grandchildren. William Kennison, retired Maui Division Director, gave the following eulogy at Pepito's service.

**By William Kennison
Retired Maui Division Director**

Pepito Ragasa was a many-faceted man. He was a family man, a pillar of the community, a respected Filipino, a devout Catholic, and a union leader.

I have known Pepito for 40 years because of our mutual involvement with the ILWU. Pepito came to Hawaii from the Philippines in 1946 on board the S.S. Maunawili along with 6,000 other Filipino contract laborers (or "sakada") heading to work on the sugar and pineapple plantations in Hawaii and hoping to make a better life for themselves. In preparation for what was to be the Great Sugar Strike of 1946, the ILWU had organizers on the ship who talked with the Filipino workers and got them to sign union cards. Pepito said he signed a card not knowing what he was signing, but he never regretted his decision.

Pepito was assigned to work for Maui Pineapple Company, but after a year, he was hired by Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company in 1947. At HC&S, Pepito worked in the mill as a utility man, but eventually got into the trades progression program and became a journeyman welder. Pepito didn't have much education in the Philippines but studied hard and got his G.E.D. from Baldwin High School.

The ILWU unit at HC&S recognized Pepito's leadership potential and soon after

he went to work at HC&S, he was elected unit secretary. Pepito was later elected unit vice chair, then chairman of the unit, which, at the time, had more than 1,000 members. Pepito also served on the union's Local Executive Board, the second-highest governing body that made decisions for the Local Union between conventions.

Pepito became a well-respected and popular rank-and-file leader at HC&S. In fact, through his involvement with the ILWU's Maui Division, he was known throughout Maui and decided to run for and won the position of Business Agent in 1976. As a B.A., Pepito also assumed the responsibilities of Membership Service Director, helping countless members with immigration issues, workers' compensation, unemployment insurance, and the like. He was always forthright and compassionate in his dealings with the members, and they respected him for his honesty and concern. Pepito served as an ILWU business agent on Maui until his retirement in 1986.

In his job with the ILWU, Pepito assisted workers from various industries and was respected for his knowledge and fairness. He had to understand the type of work the members did, how their contracts were similar or different, and the culture of various ethnic groups. Pepito was well-spoken and could relate to all workers.

Yet he was most effective among

Filipino workers. Pepito often interpreted for other business agents who did not speak the Filipino language and was widely seen as a resource within the union. The Filipino community also recognized his leadership abilities and elected him to responsible positions in Binhi At Ani, the Maui Filipino Community Council, the Maui Filipino Catholic Council, the Diocesan Congress of Filipino Catholic Clubs, and the United Filipino Council of Hawaii. Pepito won numerous awards as a model Filipino leader. In 2006, Pepito was Grand Marshal for Maui County Fair as a Maui sakada and one of the top 50 "Outstanding Filipinos of Maui Centennial and Gintong Pamana."

Pepito also believed that public service was important for ILWU leaders to stay in touch with the community and with issues affecting union members. During his career at the ILWU, Pepito served on several boards and commissions—the Maui Police Commission, the Selective Service System, Maui County Commission on Employment of the Handicapped, Maui Traffic Council, Maui Liquor Control Commission, and the Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, and Landscape Surveyors. Pepito also served as a board member of the J. Walter Cameron Center and the Kahului Filipino Community Association and as advisory council member of Borthwick Mortuary Services.



Pepito was a determined, hard-working man. He wanted to come to Hawaii so he convinced the recruiters in the Philippines that he was a laborer. He wanted to get an education so he studied and got his G.E.D., then became a journeyman welder. He wanted to be active in his union, the ILWU, so he got involved in the sugar strike in 1958, helping to keep his fellow workers together. He wanted to be a union leader so he ran for office and won election several times over. He wanted to serve his community so he volunteered for numerous organizations and lent them his knowledge, his expertise, his leadership skills. He wanted to be a family man so he married Alice and raised his only son, Guy.

Pepito led a long, full life. We mourn his passing, but we celebrate his life. Pepito accomplished more than most in his lifetime. From a struggling immigrant from the Philippines, Pepito became a leader in the community, both respected and admired. The ILWU is grateful to have had Pepito among its ranks, and I feel blessed to have had him as a mentor.

Hawaii Division's Akira Omonaka—a life well lived

**By Joanne Kealoha
ILWU Social Services Coordinator**

Akira Omonaka passed away on May 9, 2014 at the age of 86. Akira retired as an ILWU business agent in 1991, but he was much more than his title would suggest, especially to those he represented and mentored.

Akira left school in the eighth grade to help support his family. He recalled taking one of the sugar plantation's donkeys down to the mill, with flies swarming around him, while classmates riding the bus to high school passed by and waved at him. He said that at the time he put his head down in shame, but being part of the ILWU taught him that workers should always be proud of the work that they do, no matter how difficult or dirty.

He earned the equivalent of a high school diploma in his thirties by taking General Equivalency Development (G.E.D.) tests, and went to trade school to study drafting—all while he was working full-time. But like many union leaders from the sugar industry in those days, Akira was mostly self-taught and educated through his life experiences. He was intelligent, articulate, and could hold his own among those with much more formal education than he had.

For almost 20 years, Akira worked in the sugar industry—first for Hakalau Sugar Company, then Pepeekeo Sugar Company. He was a machinist by trade but made his mark as a unit leader for the ILWU. Akira was just a young man when he was elected unit chairman at Hakalau. At Pepeekeo, he moved up in union office quickly, being elected as first vice chair, then chair.

After serving on the Local Executive Board for a time, Akira demonstrated his leadership skills and was elected a business agent for Hawaii Division in 1969. He served in that capacity for 22 years until his retirement in 1991.

Akira was of the "old school." He believed in hard work. He believed in honesty and integrity. He believed in service. He believed in his union, the ILWU. He may have seemed gruff and tough at times to his peers, but he wanted them to live up to the history and reputation of the ILWU and build it to even greater heights. The members he represented also knew him as someone who listened carefully to their concerns and who took the time to try and teach them how to improve their work and family lives.

Akira represented ILWU members throughout the Big Island and served them well. He logged thousands of miles each year traveling to Kau, Kohala, and Kona to handle grievances and get members out of one scrape or another. He was a skillful negotiator whose word was his bond. He was a fierce adversary across the table, yet he easily earned the respect of management because of his fair and responsible actions. He assisted members injured on the job with their workers'

compensation claims, he helped those who were laid off or even fired apply for unemployment benefits and helped them appeal denials. He guided members considering retirement about how to prepare for life after work.

In the tradition of ILWU officials, Akira believed in public service. He served on the Hawaii County Charter Commission for 16 years and as a member of the Statewide Health Coordinating Council (SHCC) for more than five years. On SHCC, Akira represented ILWU members and retirees who relied on the safety net services provided in rural areas through the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation, which ran hospitals throughout the state.

As dedicated as Akira was to the ILWU and the community, there was never any doubt about his love and concern for his family. At his memorial service, his son Guy spoke about the lessons he learned from his father—about duty and service, about always being prepared, about developing relationships. He also helped his children understand the union that he loved. His daughter Eadie works in the ILWU's Education Department, where part of her job is teaching members about the union's principles and values.

In his retirement, Akira joined the Pepeekeo ILWU Pensioner Club and served as treasurer of the Hawaii Division Pensioner Council. He also worked out at Spencer's Gym daily, helped out at his church religiously, kept up with politics and current affairs, and spent quality time with his beloved wife Yuri, his children, his daughter-in-law, and grandchildren Chad and Riley, on whom he doted.

As his son Guy said, Akira valued

relationships. If he counted you as a friend, you were indeed special. Throughout his life, he made many friendships—with union leaders like Yoshito Takamine, his boss at Hawaii Division; with union members; with fellow Honomu Hongwanji members who shared his Buddhist faith; with young boys he coached in baseball and judo, and their parents; with professionals in the community; with management personnel.

Interdependence is a tenet of Buddhism and Akira understood this well. He knew that we are all connected and dependent upon one another. He also knew that karma was a fact of life—thus the importance of living a good and true life on this earth.

Akira was able to integrate the principles of unionism with the principles of Buddhism into a life well lived. We will miss Akira and will remember the valuable lessons he left, the standards he set, and the example he was to all.



Omonaka taking the oath of office upon being elected to the ILWU Local Executive Board in 1971.

ILWU Hawaii Division General Election Endorsements Tuesday, November 4, 2014

U.S. Senate Brian Schatz
U.S. Rep. Dist. II Tulsi Gabbard

Governor David Ige
Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui

State Senate
District 1..... Gilbert Kahele
District 3..... Josh Green
District 4..... OPEN

State House
District 1..... Mark Nakashima
District 3..... Richard Onishi
District 4.... Joy A. Sanbuenaventura
District 5..... Richard Creagan
District 6..... Nicole Lowen

County Council
District 5..... Daniel K. Paleka Jr.
District 9..... Ronald S. Gonzales

Office of Hawaiian Affairs Trustee
At-Large..... John D. Waihee
Maui Residency... Carmen Hulu Lindsey

- Constitutional Amendments**
- Relating to Disclosure of Judicial Nominees.....OPEN, vote as you choose
 - Relating to Agricultural Enterprises.....YES
 - Relating to State Justices and Judges...YES
 - Relating to Early Childhood Education ... NO
 - Relating to Dams and ReservoirsYES

OPEN ENDORSEMENTS: An "OPEN" endorsement means that the union has no recommendation for any candidate and members may vote as they choose.

Vote for ILWU endorsed candidates

The officers and rank-and-file members of the ILWU Political Action Committee (PAC) endorse candidates only after a thorough vetting process. The committee interviews candidates and reviews their positions on issues that are important to workers. If candidates have previously held public office, the PAC discusses their overall performance in office. The PAC takes the time and effort to go through this process so that ILWU members know which candidates will best serve the working people in our community. **Vote for ILWU endorsed candidates with confidence; they will work in the best interests of you and your family.**

ILWU Maui Division General Election Endorsements Tuesday, November 4, 2014

U.S. Senate Brian Schatz
U.S. Rep. Dist. II Tulsi Gabbard

Governor David Ige
Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui

State Senate
District 5..... Gil Keith-Agaran
District 6..... Roz Baker

State House
District 8..... Joe Souki
District 10..... Angus McKelvey
District 11 Kaniela Ing
District 12..... Kyle Yamashita

Mayor Alan M. Arakawa

Office of Hawaiian Affairs Trustee
At-Large..... John D. Waihee
Maui Residency... Carmen Hulu Lindsey

County Council
East Maui..... Bob Carroll
West Maui..... Kaala Buenconsejo
Wailuku-Waihee-Waikapu... Mike Victorino
Kahului..... Joseph Pontanilla
South Maui Don Couch
Makawao-Haiku-Paia Mike White
Upcountry Gladys Baisa
Lanai..... Riki Hokama
Molokai Stacy Crivello

- Constitutional Amendments**
- Relating to Disclosure of Judicial Nominees.....OPEN, vote as you choose
 - Relating to Agricultural Enterprises.....YES
 - Relating to State Justices and Judges...YES
 - Relating to Early Childhood Education ... NO
 - Relating to Dams and ReservoirsYES

OPEN ENDORSEMENTS: An "OPEN" endorsement means that the union has no recommendation for any candidate and members may vote as they choose.

The specific language for the ballot initiative regarding GMO was not available as the VOICE went to press. While the ILWU Maui Division opposes the initiative if it hinders the ability of HC&S to farm effectively, the exact initiative language was not yet available. Look for your union endorsement card for updated information.

ILWU Kauai Division General Election Endorsements Tuesday, November 4, 2014

U.S. Senate Brian Schatz
U.S. Rep. Dist. II Tulsi Gabbard

Governor David Ige
Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui

State House
District 14..... Derek Kawakami
District 15.... OPEN ENDORSEMENT
District 16... Daynette "Dee" Morikawa

Mayor Bernard P. Carvalho Jr.

Kauai County Council
Tim Bynum
Jay Furfaro
Ross Kagawa
Arryl Kaneshiro
KipuKai Kualii
Mel Rapozo
JoAnn Yukimura

Office of Hawaiian Affairs Trustee
At-Large..... John D. Waihee
Maui Residency... Carmen Hulu Lindsey

- Constitutional Amendments**
- Relating to Disclosure of Judicial Nominees.....OPEN, vote as you choose
 - Relating to Agricultural Enterprises.....YES
 - Relating to State Justices and Judges...YES
 - Relating to Early Childhood Education ... NO
 - Relating to Dams and ReservoirsYES

OPEN ENDORSEMENTS: An "OPEN" endorsement means that the union has no recommendation for any candidate and members may vote as they choose.

General voter registration: October 6, 2014
Early walk-in voting: Oct. 21, 2014 - Nov. 1, 2014
General absentee application: October 28 2014
General election: Tuesday, November 4, 2014

ILWU Hawaii Longshore Division and ILWU Oahu Division General Election Endorsements Tuesday, November 4, 2014

U.S. Senate Brian Schatz
U.S. Rep. Dist. I Mark Takai
U.S. Rep. Dist. II Tulsi Gabbard

Governor David Ige
Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui

State Senate
Dist. 12 Brickwood Galuteria
Dist. 17 Clarence Nishihara
Dist. 18 Michelle Kidani
Dist. 21 Maile Shimabukuro
Dist. 23 Gil Riviere
Dist. 24 Jill Tokuda

State House
Dist. 17 Chris Stump
Dist. 18 Mark Hashem
Dist. 19 Bert Kobayashi

Dist. 20 Calvin Say
Dist. 21 Scott Nishimoto
Dist. 22 Tom Brower
Dist. 24 Della Au Belatti
Dist. 25 Sylvia Luke
Dist. 26 Scott Saiki
Dist. 27 Takashi Ohno
Dist. 28 John Mizuno
Dist. 31 Aaron Ling Johansen
Dist. 32 Linda Ichiyama
Dist. 33 OPEN ENDORSEMENT
Dist. 34 Gregg Takayama
Dist. 35 Roy Takumi
Dist. 36 Marilyn Lee

Dist. 37 Ryan Yamane
Dist. 40 Rose Martinez
Dist. 41 Matthew LoPresti
Dist. 42 OPEN ENDORSEMENT
Dist. 43 Karen Awana
Dist. 44 Jo Jordan
Dist. 45 Michael Magaoay
Dist. 47 Kent Fonoimoana
Dist. 48 Jarrett Keohokalole
Dist. 50 Cynthia Thielen
Dist. 51 Chris Lee

Office of Hawaiian Affairs Trustee
At-Large..... John D. Waihee
Maui Residency... Carmen Hulu Lindsey

Honolulu City Council
District IV Tommy Waters
District VI Carol Fukunaga

- Constitutional Amendments**
- Relating to Disclosure of Judicial Nominees.....OPEN, vote as you choose
 - Relating to Agricultural Enterprises.....YES
 - Relating to State Justices and Judges...YES
 - Relating to Early Childhood Education ... NO
 - Relating to Dams and ReservoirsYES

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