

# Kelepona Leo

## IBEW Local Union 1357



*"an informational newsletter published quarterly for the direct benefit of our members,  
for solidarity, security and family – today and tomorrow"*

### NOTICE OF NEW ELECTION FOR THIRD SEAT IN TWO RACES - HONOLULU EXECUTIVE BOARD AND INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATE

The U.S. Department of Labor has conducted its review of the Union's February 2010 election. The Department determined that a number of individuals whose votes were counted were not eligible to vote and that the number involved could have affected the outcome in the third seat of two races. Although the Local did not agree with the Department of Labor, the Local agreed to conduct a new election and installation for the offices of Honolulu Executive Board (3<sup>rd</sup> of 3 positions) and International Convention Delegate (3<sup>rd</sup> of 3 positions). All aspects of the election are being conducted under the supervision of the U.S. Department of Labor and in accordance with Title IV of the Labor-Management Report and Disclosure Act of 1959. Current Honolulu Executive Board members will continue to serve on the Board until the election process has been completed.

#### THE RACES AFFECTED BY THE RERUN ELECTION

- Third-placed position for Honolulu Executive Board
- Third-placed position for International Convention Delegate.

Proceedings for nominations for these offices will not be held. Only the third place winner in the two races and the candidates who ran in the February 2010 election and lost in those races are eligible to run in this rerun election. All eligible members may vote for International Convention Delegate. However, only Oahu members may vote for the Honolulu Executive Board Member. The candidate receiving the greatest number of votes in each race will be declared the winner. In the event of a tie, a run-off election will be held.

#### DATE, TIME AND PLACE OF THE ELECTION

The Election Judge and her committee will work with the U.S. Department of Labor in this rerun election. At a meeting held with the USDOL representative on September 17, 2010, the dates and deadlines for the rerun election were set by the USDOL representative.

Mailing of Ballots:	October 6, 2010, IBEW Local 1260 conference room, Honolulu
Last date to receive Ballots:	All ballots must be in the P.O. Box by 10:00 a.m., October 26, 2010
Counting of Ballots:	October 26, 2010, starting at 11:00 a.m., Painters Union training offices, 2240 Young Street, Honolulu
Mailing of Run-off Ballots:	October 29, 2010, location TBD
Counting of Run-off Ballots:	November 19, 2010, location TBD

Members, including new members, who have *not* received a ballot by Tuesday, October 12, 2010 should call the Union Office to request a ballot. Members who spoil their ballot should request a duplicate ballot. **Requests for ballots must be received no later than 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 21, 2010.** If you request a duplicate ballot and return more than one ballot, only the duplicate ballot will be counted.

*Continued on page 2 Notice of New Election*

Contributing Editors:

Summer Balocan, Andie Kahakui, Kimi Koge, Nadine Kaneakua Long and Scot Long

*Continued from page 1 Notice of New Election*

### **VOTER ELIGIBILITY**

Every member in good standing shall have the right to vote for the candidate of his or her choice. A ballot will be mailed to every eligible member in good standing and those whose good standing can be brought up-to-date. In order to have his/her ballot counted, a member must be in good standing as of October 21, 2010. Members will have until 4:00 p.m. on October 21, 2010 to pay any outstanding dues amounts. Members called to active duty military service may be eligible for a military service card that waives dues while on active duty. See page 5 about the application and requirements for a military service card.

### **NOTICE TO CANDIDATES**

Each candidate is entitled to have observers present at the various stages of ballot mailing, retrieval of ballots or returned envelopes, and tally. The USDOL representative has mailed to all candidates the General Rules for Electing Officers in IBEW Local 1357, including the election timetable. Candidates wishing to inspect the membership list or have campaign literature distributed shall call the Union Office to make such arrangements in accordance with the General Rules (941-7761 or 1-800-994-4239).

### **ELECTION PROTESTS**

Any member may protest this supervised election directly to the DOL Election Supervisor at any time during the election process. Protests must be in writing and must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 5, 2010 at the following address: Pearl Moenahale, Election Supervisor, U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Labor-Management Standards, 300 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 5-121, Honolulu, HI 96850 or by fax to (808) 541-2719. If a run-off election is held on November 19, 2010, the deadline to file a protest is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 29, 2010.

For further information, visit our website at [www.ibew1357.org](http://www.ibew1357.org).

## **Candidates for Executive Board Member - Honolulu County (Oahu)**

### **Michele Hernandez**

Initiation Date: 3-01-1977



- Unit 9 Executive Committee Member, 2007-present
- Unit 9 Recorder, 2004-2007
- Unit 9 Committee Member, 2003-2004

### **Kau'i Poaha**

Initiation Date: 6-01-1978



- Assistant to Election Judge, 2007
- Trial Board, 2007
- Unit 9 Recorder, 2008-2010

### **Lola Tanodra**

Initiation Date: 2-01-1976

No Picture Available

- Recorder, Unit 8 Executive Committee 4/2002-present

### **Celeste K. Lacuesta**

Initiation Date: 4-01-1998



- Unit 9 Executive Committee, 2010
- Unit 9 Recorder, 2007
- Shop Steward, 2006-2008

### **Rachelle Rodrigues**

Initiation Date: 2-01-1991



- Executive Board Member Honolulu County (Oahu) 2010-present
- Shop Steward, 1991-1996; 1998-2007
- Political Action Committee, Member, 1998-2001
- Election Committee, 2004, 2007

## Candidates for International Convention Delegate

**Aurora Emil**

Initiation Date: 1-01-2000

No Picture  
Available

- Unit 10 Executive Committee Member, 2010-present

**David Faust, Jr.**

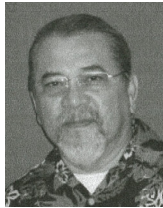
Initiation Date: 4-01-1998

No Picture  
Available

- Vice Chairman, Unit 6, 2004-2010

**Jeremiah "Jerry"  
Genovia**

Initiation Date: 1-01-1968



- Business Manager
- Assistant Business Manager
- Executive Board Member
- Trustee Building Corp
- Trustee Insurance Trust
- Negotiation Committee Member
- Shop Steward
- Chief Shop Steward
- Unit Chairman
- Unit Executive Committee Member

**Thomas F. Grogan**

Initiation Date: 2-01-1980



- Vice-President, 2007-present
- Chief Shop Steward, 2007-present
- Scholarship Golf Tournament, Co-Chair, 2008
- IBEW/Hawaiian Telcom Foodbank Golf Tournament, Co-Chair, 2009
- Bankruptcy/Pension Bargaining Committee, 2009
- Negotiations Committee, 2007; 2008
- Shop Steward, 1997-2000; 2005-2007

**Julia Ann Kaupu**

Initiation Date: 7-01-1971



- Assistant Business Manager, 2004-2007; 2007-2009
- Local Union Representative, 1987-1989, 1998-2004
- Recording Secretary, Executive Board, 2007, 2010-present
- Treasurer, Executive Board, 1992-1995
- Chairperson, By-Laws & Resolution Committee, 1982-1986, 1992-1995
- Chairperson, State Telephone Conference Hilo Committee, 1984
- Director, IBEW LU 1357 Building Corporation, 1980-1986, 1992-1995
- Trustee, IBEW LU 1357 Insurance Trust, 1980-1986, 1992-1995
- Delegate, TCC-2, 1990-1995
- Delegate, International Convention, 1986, 1991, 2001, 2006
- Delegate, 9<sup>th</sup> District Progress Meeting, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1998, 1999, 2003, 2007
- Delegate, State Telephone Conference, 1976-1988
- Shop Steward, 1975-1987, 1993-1998
- Recorder, Unit 1 Executive Committee, 1976-1979
- Recorder, Unit 3 Executive Committee, 1986-1987, 1991-1992, 1995-1998
- Member, TCC-2 Goals Committee, 1995
- Member, Executive Board-Hawaii, 1980-1986
- Member, Unit 3 Executive Committee, 1980-1983, 1989-1995
- Member, Hawaiian Telcom Negotiations, 2007, 2008
- Member, GTE Hawaiian Tel Negotiations Committee, 1982, 1985, 1988, 1999
- Member, Verizon Hawaii Negotiation Committee, 2002
- Member, Hourly Job Evaluation Committee, 1987
- Member, State Telephone Conference Committee, 1980-1982, 1987-1988

**(Julia Ann Kaupu, continued)**

- Member, Election Board, 1976
- Member, Labor Community Services

**Celeste K. Lacuesta**

Initiation Date: 4-01-1998

(See Profile under Candidates for Executive Board Member - Honolulu County (Oahu))

**Juan Manibusan**

Initiation Date: 9-01-1992

No Picture  
Available

Unit 10 Executive Vice Chairman, 2010-present

**Sean Marsh**

Initiation Date: 11-01-2000

No Picture  
Available

- Executive Committee, Unit 6, 2004-2009
- Chairman, Unit 6, 2010

**Kau'i Poaha**

Initiation Date: 6-01-1978

(See Profile under Candidates for Executive Board Member - Honolulu County (Oahu))

**Rachelle Rodrigues**

Initiation Date: 2-01-1991

(See Profile under Candidates for Executive Board Member - Honolulu County (Oahu))

**Augustin Romolor**

Initiation Date: 1-01-1999

No Picture  
Available

- Unit 10 Executive Committee Member, 2010-present

**Barbara Romolor**

Initiation Date: 8-01-1992

No Picture  
Available

- Unit 10, Recorder, 2010-present

## Candidates for International Convention Delegate, continued

### John Silva

Initiation Date: 5-01-1979

No Picture  
Available

- Local Union Treasurer, 2010-present
- Executive Board Member, 2007-2010
- Unit 1 Vice Chairman, 2007-present
- Unit 1 Executive Committee Member, 2004-2007
- Shop Steward, 1990-present

### Karenann Wedge

Initiation Date: 7-01-1979

No Picture  
Available

- Unit 1 Chairman, 2010-present
- Unit 1 Recorder, 1987-1989
- Unit 1 Executive Committee Member, 1990, 2007-2009
- Shop Steward, 1985-1998
- Chief Shop Steward, 1998-2009
- Political Action Committee, 1984-present
- Executive Board Member, 1998-2001, 2007-present
- Insurance Trust Trustee, 1998-2001, 2007-present
- Building Corp Trustee, 1998-2001, 2007-present
- Election Board, 1986, 1989, 1992
- Election Judge, 1995, 2001

### Allen Yamashita

Initiation Date: 3-01-1970



- Staff Assistant, March 2010-Present
- Senior Local Union Representative, 2004-2010
- Local Union Representative, 1986-2004
- Temporary Local Union Representative, 1985-1986
- Chairman, Unit 1 Easter Egg Hunt Committee, 1984, 1985, 1986
- Chairman, Officers Training Committee, 1983
- Chairman, Executive Board Policies Committee, 1980
- Vice Chairman, Insurance Trust, 1980
- Member, Executive Board-Oahu, 1980-1985
- Recorder, Unit 1 Executive Committee, 1980
- Member, Unit 1 Executive Committee, 1978
- Picket Captain, Hawaiian Tel Negotiations Strike Committee, 1974
- Shop Steward, 1972-1986
- Delegate, 9<sup>th</sup> District Progress Meeting, 1982, 1985, 1988, 1998, 1999, 2007
- Delegate, International Convention, 1982, 1985, 1988, 1996, 2001
- Delegate, State Telephone Conference, 1978, 1979, 1982, 1988

### (Allen Yamashita, continued...)

- Photographer, IBEW LU 1357, 1978-1998
- Member, Negotiations Committee, 1978, 1980, 1988, 1999, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2008
- Member, Hurricane Iwa Relief Fund Committee, 1983
- Member/Chairman, Unit 1 Labor Day Picnic Committee, 1983, 1985, 1986
- Member, March of Dimes Walk America Committee, 1983, 1985, 1987
- Member, Golf Tournament Committee, 1983-1988
- Coordinator, Safety Committee, 2002-2010
- Coordinator, Aloha United Way, 2002-present
- Member, Labor's Community Services, 2002-present
- Member, Unit 1 Christmas Party Committee, 1986, 1987, 1988
- Member, Political Action Committee, 2004-present
- Delegate, TCC-2, 2004

### SPECIAL ELECTION NOTICE

The following candidates in the February election notified the USDOL representative of their respective decision not to run in the rerun election:

- Steven "Steve" Canales - Executive Board Member, Honolulu County (Oahu) and International Convention Delegate
- McKay Haiku - International Convention Delegate
- JoAnne Nohara - International Convention Delegate
- George K. Stender, Jr. - International Convention Delegate
- Albert "Bert" Suguitan - Executive Board Member, Honolulu County (Oahu) and International Convention Delegate.

### MEMBERS ON MILITARY LEAVE



Article XII, Section 10, of the IBEW Constitution reads, in part, "Any member holding good standing immediately prior to the first of the month in which the member enters the military service for the first time or is recalled to such military service, under the laws of the United States or Canada, shall be issued a Military Service Card by the F.S. of his L.U. on application by such member. ... During the period that any member holds a valid Military Service Card, such member shall not be required to pay dues or per capita tax, but shall retain all membership privileges, including, but not limited to, eligibility to be a candidate for L.U. of-fice or for International Convention delegate. In addition, all "A" members holding a valid Military Service Card shall maintain their continuous good standing and entitlement to all "A" members' benefits provided by the Pension Benefit Fund."

Following are some prerequisites for Military Service Card:

- Applicants must be dues-paying members in good standing at the time they are ordered to active duty
- Member must submit a signed application for Military Service Card to the Financial Secretary c/o the Union Office prior to departure for active duty
- Application for Military Service Card must be accompanied by all enlistment agreements and active duty orders for the covered period
- Member must be ordered to perform such duty, as opposed to volunteering, and the period of duty must be at least 90 days or more
- Within 60 days of release from the military, the member shall redeposit his/her Military Service Card in the Local Union, together with a photostatic copy of his/her discharge papers (form DD-214) showing the date of discharge
- Member must not have reentered or reenlisted in the military since his/her last Military Service Card was issued
- Refer to Article XII, Section 10, of the IBEW Constitution for further details.

If you will be going out on military leave and wish to preserve your rights as an IBEW member, please call the Union Office (941-7761 or 1-800-994-4239) to request an application for a Military Service Card.

### NEW STAFF MEMBER



Due to the unanticipated workload we recently incurred, we have hired a part-time Staff Assistant to ease the pressure on the staff. Please welcome Mark Uyehara.

Mark has strong software, hardware and administrative skills, and will be a welcome relief as we continue to position our membership for what's ahead of us.

### CELEBRATE UNION PRIDE



As we continue our efforts to promote Unity, we are asking our membership to celebrate Union Pride by wearing Union apparel every Friday. If you do not have a Union shirt, then wear something blue. You may also purchase Union apparel from the Union Office.

It is time we show our elected officials, regulatory officials, customers and our fellow Brothers and Sisters how proud we are to be members of IBEW.

### CHANGE OF ADDRESS



If you have moved recently, or plan to do so, please call the Union Office at 941-7761 or 1-800-994-4239 to advise us of your new mailing address.

## **IBEW 1357 PAC ENDORSEMENTS**

### **U.S. SENATE**

Senator Daniel Inouye

### **U.S. HOUSE**

District 1

Senator Colleen Hanabusa

District 2

Representative Mazie Hirono

### **GOVERNOR**

Neil Abercrombie

### **LT. GOVERNOR**

Brian Schatz

### **STATE SENATE**

District 2: Russell Kokubun

District 4: Shan Tsutsui

District 8: Larry Price

District 9: Les Ihara, Jr.

District 10: Brian Taniguchi

District 11: Carol Fukunaga

District 13: Suzanne Chun Oakland

District 15: Glenn Wakai

District 19: Mike Gabbard

District 20: OPEN

District 24: Jill Tokuda

### **STATE HOUSE**

District 1: Mark Nakashima

District 2: Jerry L. Chang

District 3: Clifton Tsuji

District 4: Faye Hanohano

District 5: Robert N. Herkes

District 6: Denny Coffman

District 7: Cindy Evans

District 8: Joseph M. Souki

District 9: Keith Keith-Agaran

District 10: Angus McKelvey

District 11: Joe Bertram

District 12: Kyle Yamashita

District 13: Mele Carroll

District 14: Hermina M. Morita

### **STATE HOUSE, continued**

District 16: Daynette Morikawa

District 21: Scott Y. Nishimoto

District 22: Scott K. Saiki

District 23: Tom Brower

District 25: Della Au Belatti

District 26: Sylvia J. Luke

District 28: Karl Rhoads

District 29: Joey Manahan

District 30: John Mizuno

District 31: Linda Ichiyama

District 34: K. Mark Takai

District 35: Henry Aquino

District 36: Roy M. Takumi

District 37: Ryan Yamane

District 38: Marilyn B. Lee

District 39: Marcus R. Oshiro

District 43: Jason Bradshaw

District 45: Maile S.L. Shimabukuro

District 46: Larry Sagaysay

District 47: Jessica Wooley

District 51: Chris Lee

### **HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL**

District 2: John White

### **MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL**

East Maui: Bill Medeiros

Kahului: Joe Pontanilla

Molokai: Danny Mateo

Upcountry: Gladys Baisa

Wailuku-Waihee-Waikapu:

Mike Victorino

### Unit 10 Visitation by Andie Kahakui, Assistant Business Manager

I was given the opportunity to travel and spend 5 days on Saipan to meet and have discussions with employees both hourly and management in IT&E. Although the people and culture on Saipan are quite different, the challenges that the employees of IT&E face are very similar to those here at Hawaiian Telcom.

The cost of medical care on the island of Saipan is very expensive and the rates are expected to increase in 2011. The employees are concerned about the rising cost of their medical care, as well as the distance they need to travel to get adequate medical attention. Currently, the employees are paying 35% of their medical coverage and IT&E is picking up the other 65%. Most of the Medical Specialists are located on Guam and the employees need to fly there for medical attention if they have a condition that requires it. The members are asking for the employer, IT&E, to help them by covering a greater portion of the medical and dental premiums.

The Saipan government, just like Hawaii, has imposed that furlough days be taken by each employee. But, they are required to take 1 furlough day per week which equates to

16 hours of no pay for each pay period. Can you imagine that? Well, the employees of IT&E are fearful that this may happen to them soon when their contract ends in early 2012. Not to mention, while I was there the government was not able to pay the federal employees on time and they were asked to wait another week to receive their paychecks. Knock on wood, this has not happened to any member of IBEW Local 1357 and we don't anticipate this occurring in the future either.



Training was another hot button topic when speaking with the members on Saipan. They are eager to learn and they understand the importance of staying current and relevant in the telecommunications market. However, with very little training opportunities on their little island, they feel as though they are outdated and not valued as employees. Many employees expressed their interest in cross-training to different positions, attending night classes if available or learning other functions on-the-job. IT&E has a new Chief Operations Officer, Joe Camacho, and the word on the street is that Mr. Camacho is looking to invest in some much

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### 2010 IBEW Membership Development Conference by Kimi Koge, Local Union Representative and Organizer

This year's annual Membership Development Conference was held in downtown Los Angeles from September 8-10, 2010. There were a little more than 1,300 members from throughout the IBEW in attendance, including myself. The focus of this year's Conference was organizing the unorganized in hard times. The theme was "Mission Possible: Building Power in Hard Times".

Over 13 speakers participated, including our International Officers, political speakers, motivational speakers, AFL-CIO speakers, and others. And there were various workshops to help guide the Locals when running a campaign to organize the unorganized. The message from all speakers and lead organizers throughout the conference was very clear ... ORGANIZE, ORGANIZE and ORGANIZE!

Here's a brief overview from 3 of the speakers:

**International President Edwin D. Hill's** message was sober-

ing, but insightful: "If we don't build union density, we will be gone in 5 to 15 years. Organizing is an absolute must. The economy is crushed badly, but it will not crush us. This is our mission; we must not fail." President Hill also addressed concerns about the Labor Movement and our children: "People are forgetting what the Labor Movement was about. The kids today don't know what it is." He talked about President Obama and the criticism that Obama is faced with. This is what he said: "Don't listen to the B.S. about President Obama. Get ready for the next elections."



**International Secretary-Treasurer Lindell Lee** expressed that we must "rebuild the industry and regain our Brotherhood. We must organize, mobilize politically, keep the faith alive; we cannot forget what our predecessors gave us, and

*Continued on page 9 K. Koge*

## Business Manager's Message

Dear Friends,



### Emergence from Bankruptcy -

The PUC has just approved Hawaiian Telcom's Plan of Reorganization. Having reduced its debt by over \$500 million, the Company will be better positioned for competition. However, declining revenues, failing consumer confidence, multiple changes to the administration, and over 200 hourly members exiting since cut have all contributed to a shell of a company known as Hawaiian Telcom. With the Federal Communications Commission having recently approved Hawaiian Telcom's application for change of control, the Company should emerge from bankruptcy within the next 3 weeks. It has been a long journey for our members ... since May of 2005 ... and there have been many casualties along the way.

Tied to the emergence from bankruptcy are our members' interest in the Pension Plan. The Lump Sum Option has been frozen since December of '08. With our emergence from bankruptcy, and depending on the level of funding, a portion or all of the Lump Sum Option may return. The Company made a payment of \$14 million into the Plan this month, with earlier contributions of \$3 million in April and another \$3 million in July. According to the actuaries, the Plan should be around 70% funded when we emerge, which would allow our members a 50% Lump Sum Option and 50% in annuity. The percentage level of funding may vary depending on market performance and employee

accruals.

**Elections** - With Primary Elections behind us, over 90% of our endorsed candidates were elected, with Neil Abercrombie and Brian Schatz pulling off huge victories. We need to finish the job and carry the momentum into the General Elections. Let's send a message throughout the nation that Hawaii supports Labor-friendly candidates. Our endorsements are not about Gun Control, Same Sex Marriage, Right to Life issues, etc. Those are personal choices. The candidates we endorse will support:

- Card Check (organizing the unorganized)
- Pre-paid Health Insurance
- Minimum Wage
- Project Labor Agreements (prevailing wages)
- Workers Compensation
- Family Medical Leave
- Social Security
- Etc.

Deadline to register for the November 2, 2010 General Election is Monday, October 4, 2010. Check the Union website for a list of our endorsed candidates, and please get your family and friends out to exercise their voices by voting in the General Election.

**Unit 10 Visitation** - Assistant Business Manager Andie Kahakui recently returned from Saipan where

she was in constant meetings with our members, getting feedback on prevalent issues. She also had a chance to meet with HR Director Shirley Dotts and Vice President Larry Knecht, with discussions centering on upcoming bargaining. During some of the most difficult times in CNMI history ...

- Families migrating to the States
- Businesses closing
- Medical costs continuing to rise
- One day a week furloughs
- Payroll lags
- Layoffs ...

IT&E employees still have not lost any benefits. This is no accident. We will continue to work with our Unit 10 Chairman and Executive Board Member, Hector Venus, to try and improve the quality of life for our members. With the recent changes to the IT&E Executive Team, and given the tough economic times, it would be in everyone's best interest to start positioning our membership for what's ahead. The collective bargaining agreement expires in January of 2012.

### 2010 Membership Development Conference

- Local Union Rep and Organizer Kimi Koge recently returned from IBEW's annual Membership Development Conference, where the theme was "Mission Possible: Building Power in Hard Times". 1,300 business managers and organizers met in Los Angeles, California to compare notes on the past year's organizing triumphs and failures, and to build support systems for their organizing efforts

*Continued on page 9 BM Msg.*

*Continued from page 8 BM Msg.*

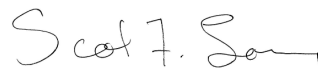
going into the next year. As always, it was a great opportunity to reconnect with Sisters and Brothers from across the entire IBEW organization responsible for their Locals' organizing campaigns.

**Negotiations** - We still need to prepare for two bargaining sessions next year. And with Hawaiian Telecom's contract expiring on September 12, 2011, and IT&E's contract ending on January 7, 2012, we are going to need our members' support more than ever. We will be talking to both Companies about early bargaining, and have already begun discussions with our Union leaders on the most pressing issues.

**Support for Working Families** - Labor Day has come and gone, and I hope you took some time to

enjoy the day with family and friends. But, I also hope that part of that time was spent reflecting on the benefits and privileges you enjoy because of your Union and the leaders who fought for those benefits. And I hope that you make it an ongoing effort to teach and remind the young people in your lives about what it means to work hard, to support one another, and to help those less fortunate. Working people supporting working families; that's what Unionism is all about.

God bless you and God bless the IBEW.



Scot F. Long  
Business Manager-Financial Secretary

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needed training for the employees.

However, after meeting with employees and hearing what's on their minds, I do know that they are appreciative and grateful to IT&E for all the benefits they currently enjoy. IT&E happens to be the employer of choice on the island and having a job there and being covered by a collective bargaining agreement is truly a blessing. But, just like everyone else, the employees, both management and hourly, need a little reminder of what's at stake for all of us; what goal all employees should be working toward and what contribution we can make. The economy on Saipan is at an all-time low and we need to seriously think about what's in the best interest of all the employees and IT&E as a whole.

I have brought back some concerns from members and will be working with the management of IT&E to address them as soon as possible. I ended my work trip on Saturday after our Unit 10 membership meeting, which I am happy to announce that we had 24 members in attendance. Thank you to all the members and employees of IT&E for making me feel so welcome, and a special Mahalo to Unit 10 Chair, Hector Venus, for showing me around and arranging the Baseyard visits. I believe this was a successful and worthwhile trip and hope that the members continue to put their trust in the IBEW and Local Union 1357.

Hafa Adai!

*Continued from page 7 K. Koge*

the immediate task at hand is to rally everybody for the November elections."

**AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler** reported that she's been working on her project, "Next Up". This program is geared toward young workers and young union leaders. These workers and leaders are making sure that their ideas are heard at all levels of the union movement. Liz also shared the importance of having Labor Education in all Public Schools across the nation. "Young people don't know about the Labor Movement," says Shuler. She also touched upon President Obama and how they are trashing him. Shuler says, "Obama created more jobs than GW Bush; all the good stuff.....Obama has done".

As usual, the conference was three solid days of invaluable information and opportunities to talk with other Locals and industry insiders about organizing strategies and pitfalls. And quite frankly, it was a much needed shot in the arm. Organizing is grueling work, but in today's economy the task is even tougher. Knowledge and communication skills are essential, and there were numerous workshops provided to support the organizers in running their organizing campaigns. Conferences such as this are important for Local 1357 because they provide exposure and resources not necessarily available here in Hawaii. So, *mahalo* to our Union Leaders for a great meeting.

**International Brotherhood of  
Electrical Workers  
Telephone Local Union 1357  
2305 S. Beretania St. Rm. 206  
Honolulu, HI 96826**

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

Phone: 808-941-7761  
Fax: 808-944-4239  
Toll free: 1-800-994-4239



**After Hours Phone Extensions:**

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Allen Yamashita	ext. 227
Andie Kahakui	ext. 225
Kimi Koge	ext 226
Nadine Kaneakua Long	ext 221
Helen Madarang	ext 223
Summer Balocan	ext 222
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**Monthly Unit Membership Meetings**

**Unit 1 - Honolulu**  
3rd Monday  
6:00 PM  
IBEW LU 1260 Meeting Hall  
2305 S. Beretania Street

**Unit 4 - Kauai**  
4th Tuesday  
5:00 PM  
ILWU HALL  
4154 Hardy Street  
Lihue

**Unit 7 - Molokai**  
3rd Thursday  
12 Noon  
Location to be announced

**Unit 9 - Leeward, Oahu**  
3rd Thursday  
6:30 PM  
Ironworkers Union  
Waipio Hall

**Unit 2 - Maui**  
3rd Wednesday  
5:00 PM  
Kupau Hall  
330 Hookahi Street

**Unit 5 - Kona**  
3rd Tuesday  
6:00 PM  
Old Kona Airport Large Pavilion

**Unit 8 - Windward, Oahu**  
3rd Thursday  
6:30 PM  
Makule Clubhouse  
Keaahala Rd.,  
across from Kaneohe  
Playground

**Unit 10 - Saipan**  
4th Saturday  
1:00 PM  
Location to be announced

**Unit 3 - Hilo**  
4th Friday  
5:00 PM  
HELCO Union Hall  
535 Oceanview Drive

**Unit 6 - Kamuela**  
3rd Wednesday  
5:00 PM  
Location to be announced

