

BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT

August 2, 2019

Aloha sisters and brothers!

The IBEW 9th District Progress Meeting is an annual event put on by our International Vice President to go over the specific challenges and successes within the IBEW and to identify current industry trends. This year the Progress Meeting was held last month at the Grand Wailea on Maui. The 9th District is comprised of construction, railroad, utility, manufacturing and telecom jurisdictions representing workers in CA, NV, OR, WA, AK, HI, Northern Idaho along with Guam and Saipan, making the 9th District the largest district in the IBEW with over 140,000 members.

This conference is a great way for employers, signatory contractors and leaders of the IBEW to engage and discuss what is happening within the various industries in the IBEW, while promoting friendly relations. The three day conference included keynote speakers, educators, politicians, community advocates, business partners; and workshops designed for our respective jurisdictions.

Since it was in Hawaii this year, Locals 1186, 1260 and 1357 were the hosts and together we did a great job! Local 1357's delegates represented our membership well, and the family events that we were responsible for was the talk of the conference. Business Managers Damien Kim, Russ Takemoto and I got an abundance of compliments and praise for the amazing job our members did in making our guests feel welcomed and treated like family.

Hawaiian Telcom President and General Manager John Komeiji and I were on a panel discussion about the Successes and Challenges in the Telecom Industry and we were able to share some of the positive things that we are doing together for the betterment of the company, its employees and our members. President Komeiji shared the success of the Malama Hours Program and how many other companies' throughout the islands are reaching out to HT to get more info on how this innovative program can work for them.

This year's Progress meeting was a resounding success for the 9th District and it was all because of the successful teamwork of the three Hawaii IBEW locals. We should all be proud of the great job President Sakai, Vice President Medeiros, the Executive Board and the Maui Stewards did in representing 1357 to the rest of the 9th District, our

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International Officers and their families. Thank you to our Staff Assistants, Kai Poaha and Tabitha Field for planning the two family events that showcased the beauty of Maui to our guests and selling our logo items at the conference. The next time Hawaii will host the Progress Meeting will be in 5 years, however with this year's meeting being such a huge success, our turn to host again may come sooner than that.

In Solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Troy Benevides', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Troy Benevides

Business Manager/Financial Secretary