

BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT

December 1, 2017

Aloha Sisters and Brothers!

Contract negotiations with Hawaiian Telcom and the IBEW are progressing. Over the past few weeks before the Thanksgiving holiday, both parties met more frequently to come closer to an agreement. I understand that some members may be anxious with the unknown details of our collective bargaining process and the eminent expiration of our current agreement, however I again ask for your trust and support of our negotiating team. This has been a long process and as we continue to inch toward a new contract, fear and uncertainty grows. Corporations have many different tactics in trying to divide membership and one of the more prevalent ones is stalling to incite fear, especially during the holidays. Understand that if negotiations go past the expiration date of this CBA, we will extend the current contract until we come to an agreement. Just because the date is near, our team will not rush to settle a contract that is not fair for our members.

Solidarity is what keeps us strong and is the most powerful bargaining tool that we have. Times like this when our union values and middle class way of life is under scrutiny is when we must stand even stronger. We are all brothers and sisters working towards the same goals of providing for our families and loved ones. When we demonstrate our solidarity we show that our members are committed to our values and that we are the ones that make the company successful. Please continue to come ready to work, giving an honest 8 hours, remain accountable for your actions by being where you are supposed to be and work safely during this holiday month.

There is still time to volunteer for the Labor of Love project at Waianae Elementary School on January 20th. The Labor Community Services Committee looks to continue the success it had at Wailuku Elementary last year and spread it here on Oahu. Please call our office to get on the sign-up sheet for the awesome community service project put on by the labor community.

As 2017 comes to an end, I would like to thank each and every one of our members for their hard work and dedication to our local. Attendance at our unit meetings have been increasing as more people are getting involved in our local. With the hard working and dedicated members of Local 1357 continuing to move our membership forward, I am excited to see the great things that 2018 will bring us. Happy Holidays to everyone!

In Solidarity,



Troy Benevides

Business Manager/Financial Secretary