

BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT

March 1, 2019

Aloha Sisters and Brothers,

February 15th was the day the ballots were counted for our local union elections, and the results are posted on our website and also on our Local Hub App. I would like to congratulate all the candidates that chose to stand up and run for the various offices within the units and our local and it is great to see members getting involved with the running of our union. I look forward to working with our new Executive Board in the upcoming term and I am confident that they will continue to move our local forward with new ideas and strengthen our membership by getting more members involved and keeping them informed. A big mahalo goes out to our 2019 Election Committee for all their hard work and sacrifice. Their dedication preserves the integrity of this important undertaking and allowed for a smooth election process. Congratulations to Election Judge Joy Galariada, Assistant Judge Kawai Smith and the committee for a job well done!

Our first meeting with Executive Director Michael Contreras about his idea of a Universal Call Center was on Thursday February 28th. No agreement has been made between HT and the IBEW and his idea is in the very early stages and nothing is set in stone, however he did say this is a direction that he would like the company to move toward. The last time HT merged jobs was when ICARE and ECARE was combined and that took many months of talks and discussions. We have committed to engage in discussions with Mike and his team going forward, but this is a topic that will be ongoing for quite some time and an agreement is definitely **not** right around the corner. I would like to ask all of our members in the call centers to forward any questions, rumors or concerns that arise to your stewards or our office for us to get answers.

We had a brief conference call with IT&E leadership last month regarding the collective bargaining agreement. Management did say that they would like to come to an agreement prior to the end of our current agreement in May, and they do agree that coming to an early agreement is the best for all employees of IT&E. Management also said that they would get back to us within a week, however it has been over two weeks and they have not responded.

Thank you to all the Unit 3 members that helped at the Labor of Love community service project at Chiefess Kapoilani Elementary School in Hilo! Labor Community Services Program Director Cathy Lederer said that the total contributions for the school totaled

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\$64,000 and it was great to show the community how we as union members help build stronger communities. Some of the improvements included fresh paint throughout the campus, new colorful bulletin boards, new carpet in the library and four new basketball poles and hoops for the playground.

The next community service opportunity will be the National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive on Saturday May 11th. The NALC food drive benefits the Hawaii Food Bank and all donations stay within the communities that they are collected in. Volunteers will be need on Saturday May 11th to help sort and package the donated goods so if you are interested, please contact the union office to get on the list!

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