

BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT

September 7, 2018

Aloha Sisters and Brothers!

This year's IBEW Membership Development Conference was held last month in Chicago and it made history as being the largest ever with 1,800 delegates in attendance. Getting back to basics and focusing on the fundamentals of organizing was the theme and direction this year, and judging by the attendees, it was well received. The workshops were educational and motivating and covered a wide range of topics ranging from: *Organizing with Social Media* and *Effective New Member Orientations* to, *After Janus: The Plan to Stay IBEW Strong*.

Accompanying me to this year's conference was Representative Lisa Parran, Shop Steward Lisa Taylor and Executive Board Member James Pilgrim. The excitement and passion they showed is definitely contagious and I am confident that they will share their enthusiasm with others throughout our membership.

In August, Network Operations had a leadership change and Vice President Ben Morgan was selected to oversee the department. Ben brings some much needed integrity to Network Operations, and the IBEW is looking forward to working with Vice President Morgan to make positive changes that benefit both our members and our loyal customer base. Along with that leadership change came an "apology tour" that left many of our members in the field scratching their heads with the awkwardness in its delivery. As many of us know, words mean nothing if the corresponding actions do not follow.

I would like to thank President Jason Ballman and Vice President Robbie Harris of CWA Local 4400 for their hospitality while I was in Cincinnati last month. President Ballman was kind enough to set up a meeting with CEO Leigh Fox and Cincinnati's leadership team. Local 4400 is still in contract negotiations with Cincinnati Bell and President Ballman and his team are working hard to get a new deal that is just for all of their members. While there, I was able to tour their main building, NOC, cable vault and the main C.O. in downtown. It was nice to see that Cincinnati Bell has a presence in the city and it is clear that they have a connection with the people in the areas they serve.

Hurricane Lane passed dangerously close to our islands last month and brought a record amount of rainfall to parts of the state. Fortunately, our island terrain and weather patterns broke down the storm and we were spared a direct hit. For many of us that grew up here in the islands, we know that a hurricane making landfall hasn't happened in a while but it is inevitable. Last month's scare should remind us that we should be ready and have Emergency Preparedness Kits and evacuation plans handy for our families and loved ones.

The Labor Community Services Committee has chosen Hilo's Chiefess Kapiolani Elementary School for the upcoming Labor of Love community service project. The project which showcases

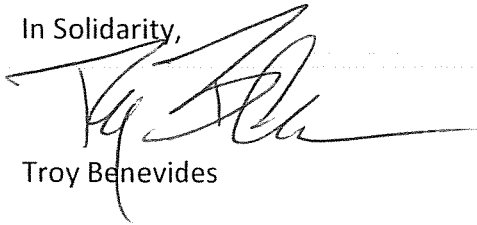
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what organized labor does to improve the communities we live in, is tentatively scheduled for Saturday February 2nd 2019. The last Labor of Love was at Waianae Elementary and the total value of contributions amounted to over \$72,000, and the campus looked amazing when we were done! I will pass on any further details when they are made available to our members.

The deadline for online voter registration in the General Election is Tuesday October 9th. These mid-term elections are important and no matter which party, or the candidates you choose to support, please make sure that you and your family members are registered to vote. Educated IBEW members and their families who are registered are armed with the facts necessary to vote for labor friendly candidates who will support our jobs and our right to organize.

In Solidarity,



Troy Benevides

Business Manager/Financial Secretary