Volume 62 · No.1

The VOICE of the ILWU—Published by Local 142, International Longshore & Warehouse Union

#### January/February 2022

## New leadership underway at **ILWU Local** 142 ADDRESS LABEI ILWU Local 142 The first Local Executive Committee (LEC) meeting of the year happened on January 10, 2022. The Local Executive has a new Committee is comprised of the three Local Titled Officers and the five Division Directors. They meet on a monthly basis as a group to provide updates on contract negotiations and grievance handling. These meetings are still being conducted via Zoom. Consideration is being given to meetings being held in person moving forward. Pictured above is all members of the acebook page! LEC swearing in the new Titled Officers, newly-elected Local President Christian West and newly-elected Local Secretary-Treasurer Michael Victorino, Jr. for the upcoming triennium. Top row L-R: Local Secretary-Treasurer Michael Victorino, "ILWU Local 142 Hawai`i" Jr., Local President Christian West, Local Vice President Corinna Salmo Nguyen. Middle row L-R: Maui Division Director Roberto Andrion, Hawaii Division Director Elmer Gorospe, Oahu Division Director Michael Yamaguchi. Bottom row Like or follow along for L-R: Kauai Division Director Rhonda Morris, Longshore Vice Division Director Edwin Hayashi (sitting in for Longshore Division Director Dustin Dawson) regular updates and we hope to see you there! **Titled Officers prioritize engagement** with membership

Happy Year of the Tiger

On the inside



STATEWIDE — As previously mentioned, there is a new team leading the way for ILWU Local 142. The three Titled Officers have hit the ground running from the beginning of this triennium and have been visiting each island Division and their units. Pictured above are the officers visiting members at their workplaces (Unit 3401 Kauai Coffee on the left and Unit 3511 Grand Hyatt Kauai on the right). They kicked off their visits on Kauai on February 9, 2022. Their trip ended by attending Kauai's Division Executive Board meeting (DEB). The following week, the Titled Officers traveled to Maui Division to follow a similar itinerary. These visits will be ongoing throughout each island. "The membership voted us in, and that is who drives this organization," said newly-elected Local President Chris West. "It is important to connect with them." Your three Titled Officers will be following through on this vision, and hope to meet you soon!

The next Local 142 Executive Board (LEB) meeting is scheduled to start at 9:00 a.m.on March 11, 2022 via Zoom. ILWU members are welcome to attend as observers.

## News from the Dispatcher

## In Memoriam: Former ILWU International Vice President Leonard Hoshijo passes

Former ILWU International Vice President Leonard Hoshijo passed away peacefully in the hospital on October 21, 2021, surrounded by his family.

Both in and out of the ILWU, Hoshijo dedicated his life to improving conditions for the working class in his many roles as an activist, organizer, educator, union staff member, union officer, and public servant.

Leonard Paul Hoshijo was born on November 3, 1951, in Chicago, IL. His parents, Andrew "Anki" Hoshijo, a veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Nori Oda Hoshijo, met and were married in Chicago, where Andrew attended Northwestern University on the GI Bill. Nori had relocated there from the World War II internment camp in Minidoka, ID.

#### 26 years of ILWU service

Hoshijo served the ILWU for 26 years in various staff and elected positions, including Housing Representative and Organizer for Local 142. He was appointed as an International Representative in 1981 and served in that position for 13 years, and was elected by the membership and served as an ILWU International Vice President (Hawaii) from 1994 to 2001.

#### **30 percent for organizing**

Hoshijo was the driving force in passing a resolution at the 1997 ILWU General Convention requiring the union to commit 30 percent of its budget to organizing. That resolution, which passed unanimously, enabled the International to create the Organizing Department, hire an Organizing Director and build a centralized and coordinated organizing program. into the world, outside of our own ILWU house. If we're stuck facing inward, we'll fall by the wayside as we talk only to ourselves," Leonard wrote in a column for the March 1997 issue of the Dispatcher.

#### **Celebration of life**

Former Local 142 Secretary-Treasurer Guy Fujimura who knew Leonard for 50 years was one of several speakers at a memorial service held virtually on November 26th.

"Leonard's titles of Housing Representative, Organizer, International Representative, and ILWU International Vice President don't adequately convey Leonard's dedication, intelligence, and strategic insight or how he used his skills and talents to benefit the members and their families," Fujimura said.

He then went on to detail Hoshijo's career and legacy in the ILWU and his many contributions to the union and its members.

#### Worker housing

Fujimura explained that as Housing Representative for Local 142, Hoshijo worked diligently so that working-class families and pensioners could achieve affordable homeownership after the sugar and pineapple companies gave up their plantation camps. He also developed affordable rental housing for those who couldn't afford to buy a home.

"He had to become an expert in land use laws, zoning codes, and forms of federal funding," Fujimura said. "He networked extensively to better deliver affordable housing. In the end, Leonard developed five affordable rental-housing projects with 360-plus units in communities with concentrations of ILWU



Rest in power, Brother Leonard Hoshijo.

serving on various nonprofit boards and state commissions.

"He was the Organizer Coordinator for International's and Local 142 Joint Organizing Program which brought thousands of members into the ILWU. On top of that, Leonard helped to revitalize Local 142's connection to culture and the arts. He founded the Hawaii Labor Heritage Council to facilitate and coordinate the mural restoration project at Local 142's Honolulu Office," Fujimura said.

## Leadership in critical times

ILWU Local 142 member Tracy Takano recalled Hoshijo's important role during a critical period for the ILWU in Hawaii.

"Leonard came into the ILWU at a critical time for Local 142 in the

bers – including many former plantation workers—into growing industries such as tourism and healthcare.

"Leonard also headed up a housing program in Local 142 to help workers own their plantation camp homes or build new ones on closed agricultural fields. Leonard's legacy includes thousands of members who won their struggles to join the ILWU, and communities across Hawaii where workers have a roof over their heads. Rest in Power."

#### 2000 election

In 2000, Hoshijo lost a re-run of the election for International Vice President (Hawaii) to Wesley Furtado by a margin of 850 votes. Furtado challenged the first election, which Hoshijo won by 291 votes. The International Executive Board voted 12-8 to rerun the election for Hawaii International Vice President because Furtado was denied access to the membership voter eligibility list.

"Organizing is where we face out



The VOICE of the ILWU (ISSN 0505-8791) is published every two months by Hawaii International Longshore & Warehouse Union, 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814. Periodicals postage paid at the post office of Honolulu, Hawaii.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to VOICE of the ILWU, c/o ILWU Local 142, 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, HI 96814. Editorial Board: Christian West, Corinna Salmo Nguyen, Michael Victorino, Jr. Editor: Mie U. Omori; mie.omori@ilwulocal142.org

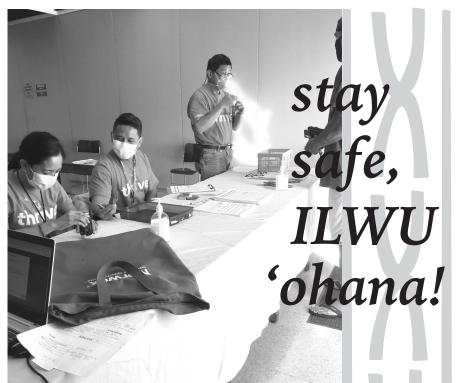
members and retirees."

Fujimura continued: "Leonard was able to get state assistance for agriculture and tourism workers. He worked on ILWU legislative issues. He taught Local 142 classes, educating thousands of member volunteers. Leonard successfully negotiated collective bargaining agreements, including for newly organized workers. He represented the ILWU in the community, mid- 1970s. Sugar and pineapple companies were scaling back – or closing – their operations and plantation camp housing. Members were losing their jobs and their homes. Local 142 began to shrink rapidly, as sugar and pineapple were the bulk of its membership," Takano said. "Leonard was an organizer and helped lead a strategic shift in Local 142 that brought in thousands of new mem-

#### **Post-ILWU career** After serving the ILWU for

continued on page 3

## Vaccine clinics held at union halls statewide



At the far left are nurses who came from Kaiser to take care of any members who showed up, and at the right is a doctor who was also onhand to answer any questions or concerns members would have.

STATEWIDE — ILWU Local 142 partnered with Kaiser Permanente to make it easy and convenient for members to get vaccinated or boosted.

Clinics were offered either at the union halls at different divisions or for certain Longshore units, at the worksite.

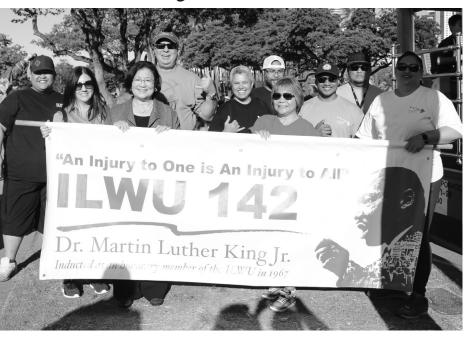
In January and February the following clinics were held:

- Maui ILWU Hall

- Hilo ILWU Hall
- Kona ILWU Hall
- McCabe onsite (Oahu)
- Oahu ILWU Hall (2 separate days)
  - Young Brothers onsite (Oahu)
- Kauai ILWU Hall
- Matson onsite (2 separate days)

All doses were administered free of charge for all members and their families.

## February is Black History Month



Before the pandemic, ILWU Local 142 would march every year without fail in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade. Pictured above is some of the Local 142 contingent in 2018. Dr. King was a union man. He saw the implicit link between racial justice and economic justice: "What good does it do to sit at a lunch counter if you can't afford a hamburger?" he asked. Rest in Power, Dr. King.

The month of February is an annual celebratory spotlight on the contributions and achievements of the Black community in the United States.

As the pandemic raged on the last two years, the Black Lives Matter movement reached new heights with global demonstrations against police violence and racial injustice following the death of George Floyd.

Even though those demonstrations are not at such a fever pitch anymore, the courage and struggle of our Black brothers and sisters will never be in vain.

ILWU Local 142 continues to stand against the same forces that plague the Black community: racism, systemic injustice and white supremacy.

## In Memoriam: Leonard Hoshijo, cont.

decades Hoshijo went on to become the Education and Political Director at the Hawaii Regional Council of Carpenters for fifteen years. In 2015, he was appointed Deputy Director of the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR). In December 2017, Hoshijo became acting Director of the DLIR and was appointed Director by Hawaii Governor David Ige in February 2018. He was re-appointed Deputy Director (LEAC) of the Center for Labor Education and Research (CLEAR) at the University of Hawaii, a member of the Hawaiian Electric Company Integrated Resource Advisory Group, a member of the 90th Anniversary of Okinawan Immigration Committee, a board member of the Hawai'i Visitor and Convention Center Bureau, a board member of the Hawaii Council for Housing Action, and a member of the national board of the Asian

Leonard understood the importance of organizing—not only for the strength of our union—but also for the strength of the working class," Adams said.

"I didn't have the honor of knowing Mr. Hoshijo but it was inspiring to learn about his life and his contributions," said ILWU International Vice President (Hawaii) Sam Kreutz. "We are both alumni from Kalani High School and we both have had the privilege of serving the ILWU membership. I am so thankful for all Leonard has done for the ILWU. I am humbled to see his many achievements and all the positions he held. He dedicated his life to uplifting workers. I hope to live up to the examples set by those before me who have served as ILWU International Vice President Hawaii. God bless the Hoshijo Ohana. May the Good Lord comfort you this season."

Paul Liem, Board Chairperson of the Korea Policy Institute was a close friend of Leonard dating back to their college days at Antioch where they helped to establish an Asian-American studies program at Antioch in 1972.

"For Leonard, the story of Hawaii was part of the history of the American working class. When he came to Antioch, he understood if there was ever going to be real class solidarity in this country that we all needed to learn from each other. This could only happen if we organized. He was way ahead of his times for the task of organizing, for the task of educating." Leonard Hoshijo is survived by his wife Ronette Kawakami, sister Katherine O'Connor, brother William Hoshijo (Joyce), daughters Jennifer (Daniel) Leung, Andie Hoshijo, and Kai Hoshijo, and granddaughters Maggie and Charlotte Leung.

in January 2019, a position he held until he retired in September 2019.

#### Serving the community

Leonard was a director and officer of the Hawaii Labor Heritage Council, an arts and education nonprofit. He served on the State Judicial Selection Commission from 1979-1981. He was a trustee of the Blood Bank of Hawaii, a member of the Labor Education Advisory Committee Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA).

#### **Lasting legacy**

ILWU International President Willie Adams noted the lasting legacy that Hoshijo has had in the union.

"Leonard Hoshijo served the ILWU for 26 years and his contributions to the union are still with us today. Leonard understood that housing is a worker issue. OF VOICE THE ILWU

## Harriet Bouslog Labor Scholarship

Congratulations, 2021 Bouslog Labor Scholarship Recipients!

ILWU Local 142 is proud to advocate for working families in the state of Hawai'i. ILWU Local 142 has members in a diverse range of industries. Despite the range of jobs our members hold, chances are they will all have the same answer if you ask them why they work so hard: they do it for the sake of their family.

In the ILWU Local 142 ohana, the Harriet Bouslog Labor Scholarship is awarded to the children, relatives, and grandchildren of our hardworking Local 142 members. Harriet Bouslog was Local 142's first female labor and civil rights attorney (see more on next page). Her scholarship honors the legacy of labor in Hawaii and is given to relatives of ILWU members who are attending any school in the University of Hawaii system.

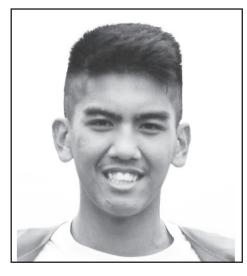
## **Scholarship Award Amounts**



UH Manoa: \$2000/semester

**UH Hilo/West Oahu:** \$1000/semester

UH Community Colleges: (Hawaii, Honolulu, Kapiolani, Kauai, Leeward, Maui College) \$750/semester



**Jerome Butac** Jerome's mother Marilyn Butac is a member at Unit 2407 Maui Federal Credit Union.



**Cassidy Chang** Cassidy's grandfather James Laheney works at Unit 4201 McCabe, Hamilton & Renny.

# ELIGIBILITY



have a qualifying relative who is an ILWU Local 142 member past or present



applying to or attending any of the 10 UH system schools (preference to high school seniors)

## Applications due April 1, 2022





Bo DeSilva

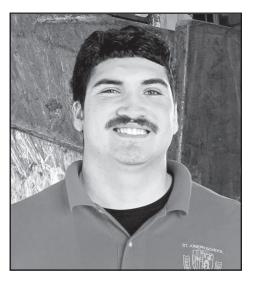
Bo's father James DeSilva is a member at Unit 4201 Hawaii Stevedores, Inc.

#### **Keanu Dotario**

Keanu's grandfather Stanley is a retired member from Lihue Plantation. If you have any questions about eligibility based on membership status, call the ILWU Local 142 Honolulu office at (808) 949-4161. Applications are accepted year round. Please visit www.harrietbouslog.com for more details, or apply directly through https://scholarsapp.com/scholarship/ harriet-bouslog-labor-scholarship

#### VOICE OF THE ILWU

## Harriet Bouslog Labor Scholarship



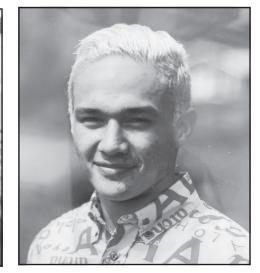
Nathan Faletoi Nathan's uncle Chad Adrian is a member at Unit 1417 Hawthorne Pacific Corp. - Hilo



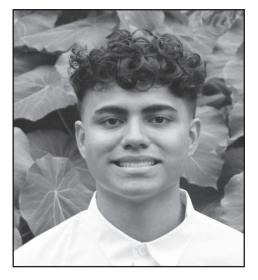
**Cade Kilbey** Cade's father Rich Kilbey works at Unit 4201 McCabe, Hamilton & Renny.



Ashley Kouchi Ashley's late grandfather Takeshi Kouchi worked at Foodland on Oahu.



Kamuela's father Joseph is a member at Unit 1513 Transcontinental (Waikoloa Dev.)



**Josiah Liu** Josiah's uncle William Haole, IV is a member at Unit 4201 Matson Terminals.

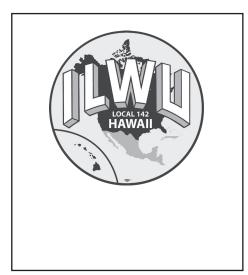


**Koali Nishigaya** Koali's father Miles is a member from Unit 4201 McCabe, Hamilton & Renny.



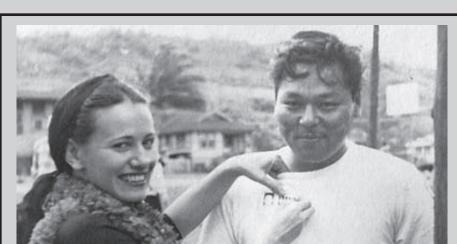
Toafalotemaile Stark Aoelua

Toafalotemaile's father Daniel is a member at Unit 4415 Diamond Head Memorial Park.



Maybe your child will be next!

Don't forget to apply for the fall semester by April 1, 2022!



Harriet Bouslog was born in Florida and raised in Indiana, but her politics exemplified the aloha of Hawai'i. She was ILWU's labor lawyer, brought on to help defend workers arrested during the 1946 sugar strike. Her experience as a woman in a maledominated field helped her empathize with the multi-ethnic plantation workers who were underdogs when it came to battling structural injustice. The typical plantation worker had no extra money, during a strike no less (!) to hire a lawyer. But she never turned away a client or cause because of a lack of funds and took on over one hundred cases, as strikers were constantly being targeted by the government for disrupting the status quo. A radical woman, Sister Harriet was more than happy to advocate for workers to receive the justice they deserved. The Harriet Bouslog Scholarship was created in 1989 to continue her extension of goodwill toward the workers of Hawai'l by helping the children and grandchildren of ILWU Local 142 members go to college. Harriet Bouslog's legacy is a prime example of aloha in action, and is a proud facet of our ILWU history.

page 5

Mahalo Harriet!

## **Resolution on the Retirement of Pamela Green**

*Editor's* Note: Usually the ILWU Local 142 Conventions include written resolutions for recently retired Full-Time Officers of the Union. It is with sincere apologies that one commemorating Pamela's retirement was not written in time to be included during the duration of the Convention.

Pamela Green retired from her role as Kauai Division Director at the end of 2019, but her impact is still felt today on Kauai and beyond.

Pamela was born in Coos Bay, Oregon and moved to Kauai when she was 13 years old. She got her start in the ILWU in 1980 as a cashier at Waipouli Foodland. She was elected as Local Trustee in 2003 and served as Unit Chair until 2004.

## Leadership from Foodland days

Former Kauai Division Director Clayton Delacruz recalled, "She was the Foodland Unit Chair for many years, so we recognized her capabilities right away. She stood out because she was passionate. We brought her on for some temporary assignments as a Business Agent. I remember her starting off being so gung ho about fighting for the members, we had to say, 'Whoa, don't have to charge and fight from the gate! Let's look at all sides of the story first, Pam!' But she figured it out and didn't give up easily. She explored all avenues to settle issues."

When Pamela recently reflected on her time in the union, it was very clear that she had the members' best interests at heart. "I just know that people's jobs are so important to them. And that's what we do in a service position like this. We serve members in their time of need at their jobs. You have to be sure to follow up and not be dismissive. I don't really think of myself in terms of having a 'legacy.' I just think of myself as another person with a job, and I wanted to show up and do the work with as pure a heart and intentions as possible."

#### **Business Agent Experience**

Pamela was a Business Agent for 11 years before becoming Division Director in 2016.

Chad Pacheco, a current Business Agent for Kauai Division was thankful for her experience as a Business Agent and her willingness to guide him: "She was extremely patient with me in terms of teaching me things that would help me be a better Business Agent, and also for my well being in general," said Chad. "She knew I liked the outdoors to recharge, so she suggested things like cleaning a member's yard. She showed me there's so many ways to show you care. And to not forget to care for yourself too. There is never a time I feel like I can't call her for assistance til today."

Pamela always followed through on an instinct of responsibility, not just in terms of guiding new Business Agents, but also stepping up into new leadership roles.

After the late Division Director Michael Machado retired in 2015, she found the courage within to progress into unfamiliar territory.

In her candidate statement for Division Director, Pamela wrote, "As the Senior Business Agent, I feel it is my responsibility to take a deep breath and run for the position of Division Director. I would like to ask for your continued support and vote and in return I will continue to give you all I can give."

#### Women Empowerment

Her legacy as Kauai's first woman Division Director set in motion women leaders for the future.

"We sent her to the Institute for Union Women in California, and she took it and just ran with it. Justice for women in the workplace was one of her favorite subjects," recalled Delacruz.

Always one to pay it forward, it was practically inevitable that Pamela would see another woman Division Director in her lifetime.

Rhonda Morris, the newly elected Division Director of Kauai remembers the values that Pamela guided her with. "I call her 'Yoda' and it's so funny because her last name is Green," said Morris. "Her biggest thing was working for the betterment of all. Being part of negotiations for the hotel I worked at, she would often ask me, 'Do you want this so it benefits just your department or is this for the whole unit?' She always reminded me of what is at stake: the members, who we are either lifting up or letting down."

Mahalo nui Pamela for consistently lifting up so many during your time working at the ILWU Local 142! We honor your committed leadership and passion and wish you the sweetest enjoyment of your beautiful family and health.

Pamela recently welcomed a baby boy to her blessed assortment of grandchildren. She stays true to her commitment of mind, body, and spirit and walks almost daily and keeps up a regimen on her Peloton bike.



Pictured above is Pamela with her husband Joel Green at the Kauai Division Pensioner Labor Day Picnic in 2017. Joel would often participate in ILWU Local 142's Statewide Sports Program in basketball, and assist in the Sports Program in general.



January 2017 Opening Day of the Legislature. "Pam really stepped up to the plate for PAC (Political Action)," said Delacruz. "She wasn't the most political person at first, but she knew she had to educate herself on politics to know what was going on with the membership, so of course she stepped up to do that." Sitting L-R: Pamela Green, Ernie Domingo, Kauai Division Director Rhonda Morris. Standing L-R: Jesus Guirao, Stanley Dotario, Joey Silva from Unit 3511 Grand Hyatt Kauai, Jesse Vaughn.





Pamela's last Division Executive Board Meeting that celebrated her retirement in December 2019. Front L-R: Chad Pacheco, Jonarene Agbisit Unit 3401 Wilcox Memorial Hospital, Dolly DeCosta, Dianne Lopez Unit 3401, Kai Lopez. Back L-R: Calvin Corpuz, Liberty Corpuz, Clayton Delacruz, Jesus Guirao, Pamela Green, Michael Machado, Trudy Azeka Unit 3511 Grand Hyatt Kauai, Rollan Akira Yadao Unit 3504 Princeville Utilities, Mona Dotario-Agor.

Pictured above is Pamela with clockwise from left Local Vice President Corinna Salmo Nguyen, Maui Business Agent Teddy Espeleta, Organizer Colleen Antonio, and Bryon Ponte from Unit 3408 Mid-Pac Auto Center at the ILWU Local 142 Christmas Party in 2017.

## Negotiations Update

# **Congratulations Unit 2505 Westin Maui on a successful ratification of your contract!**



Sitting L-R: Unit Treasurer Lourdes Rivera (Culinary), Liwayway Jimenez (Housekeeping), Adeline Castillo (Housekeeping). Standing L-R: Unit Vice Chair Lolohea Hong (Front Desk), Leonard Sevall (Engineering), Unit Chair Mike Bunyard (Food and Beverage), Michael Clarkson (Food and Beverage), Alena Bolor (Bell/Valet), Unit Editor Seini Dennis (Front Desk), Negotiating Spokesperson/Business Agent Teddy Espeleta. Not pictured is Business Agent for the Unit, Steven Lee (mahalo Steven for the photo).

KA'ANAPALI — On February 8-9, 2022, Unit 2505 Westin Maui held the ratification of their new collective bargaining agreement with management. An overwhelming majority of the workers who came to vote voted "YES" to their new contract.

## Strong negotiating team, strong contracts

These contracts are a major feat for the rank-and-file members who bargain with the company on behalf of their fellow workers.

At large hotels such as the Westin, it is crucial that every department is represented at the bargaining table. How would the company know the day-to-day reality of its workers without any feedback from them?

"When you want anything

their case and needs known without the fear of retaliation for expressing their opinions.

The members on the negotiating team provide a strong and united front to make a case for what they deserve.

It was Alena Bolor's first time coming on board to help the negotiating committee. "I enjoyed every moment of it," said Bolor, a member from the bell desk/valet clerk. I learned so much, like how premiums, wages, medical, and pension are all included with the benefits we get with the union."

"It was interesting because being on the committee kind of goes back to what I was raised with: If you don't ask, the answer will always be 'no'; it will always be a 'no' until you ask. It was exciting to learn how we can ask for what we looked at him and said, 'Well, you need to remember you need to work with us, the workers, who got this business through the pandemic.'

Seini, continued, "Coming out of lockdown, it is just a fact that companies cannot find and keep employees. To make our case in negotiations, we stood up for the value of our loyalty and keeping on working, on still finding aloha to give the customer even when it's hard to find it in ourselves. Negotiations are tricky but the simple fact to the employer is, if you treat us well, we will have reason to stay. And you need us to stay."

#### Successful Gains, Stronger Together

The concerns and points that the negotiating committee articulated

behalf of her fellow workers in the Housekeeping Department, in no small part to Liwayway Jimenez and Adeline Castillo who both stepped up for the first time to participate in the negotiating committee to highlight the concerns of their department.

"I am so proud of Gigi (Liwayway) and Adeline because I know sometimes with English as a second language there is a fear around speaking in case you may be misunderstood. But they really spoke up and helped get things for their whole department, like giving them a better working environment so they don't have to stress about getting their job done to the standard the company demands," said Dennis.

Negotiating committee member Lourdes Rivera is from the culinary

accomplished, it just doesn't make sense to rely on someone else to make your case for you," said negotiating committee member Michael Clarkson from the Food and Beverage department. "When you want change, and you have a cause, whether in your department or another one, no one will sell that better than yourself."

The union helps workers be the change they wish to see by providing a structure and foundation for workers to make want through the union and succeed in getting what we want."

## Not taking 'NO' for an answer

"The company's lawyer actually came on our negotiating Zoom call and made a bowl shape with his hands," recalls Seini Dennis, a negotiating member from the Front Desk Department.

"He said, 'All I have to give you is in this small bowl; that's all we're working with.' We just to management were undoubtedly successful.

"This is the third round of negotiations I participated in," said Clarkson. "This was by far the easiest of the three, and we got things done in the shortest amount of time. They (the company) always wants explanations of why we're asking for what we want, and we had good explanations ready for them. That definitely moved it along."

Bolor, Clarkson and Dennis all noted the happiness they felt on

department, but recalled how she got her start in the housekeeping. "I was so hesitant to speak up at first, but other workers that were involved in the union convinced me there's no harm in trying." We are so proud of our union brothers and sisters in tourism for helping their fellow workers stay union strong. Thank you for helping the company understand the workers' worth, especially after the pandemic. We honor your hard work and commitment to doing what is in the best interest for all!

## Labor-friendly President **Biden releases latest** initiatives to help unions

At the start of this year, President Joe Biden entered the second year of his presidency. After running a campaign that emphasized his pro-labor leanings and solidarity for the working class, he has made consistent efforts on behalf of strengthening unions. When he took office in January 2021, the unemployment rate was 6.4% (Bureau of Labor Statistics). Near the end of his first year in December, it had dropped to 3.9%.

In April of last year, he issued Executive Order 14025 that established a cabinet-wide labor task force called the "Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment." Earlier this February, this task force produced a report that included 70 distinct policy proposals. Although the bulk of the report focuses on implementing policies for federal workers to organize, this is still good news for workers everywhere.

Other promising features to note are a ban on federal contract dollars going to anti-union activities by the Defense, Health and Human Services and Labor departments. The full report can be found at https://www.documentcloud.org/ documents/21198625-white-house-task-force-worker-organizingand-empowerment-report

## Longshore Statewide **Caucus gears up for** negotiations



year's caucus was from February 22 - February 25, 2022. All longshore units in Hawai'i, Alaska and the West Coast ports are going to be heading into negotiations at the same time. This unique convergence is a prime opportunity for a united front when it comes to negotiating with the company. Each day starts with guest speakers, or as Longshore Division Director Dustin Dawson noted, not really 'guests' as much as fellow brothers and sisters. Pictured above from left to right are Longshore Vice Division Director Eddie Hayashi, Longshore Division Director Dustin Dawson, Local President Chris West, Local Vice President Corinna Salmo Nguyen and Local Secretary-Treasurer Michael Victorio, Jr.

# MEMBERSHIP MANA'O



The Sack N Save negotiating committee met via Zoom on February 15, 2022. On the Zoom screen on the left is Ariel Cantiberos from Sack N Save Kona and the bottom of screen is Katey Ezra from Sack N Save Puainako. In front are Business Agent Jose Miramontes and Kawika Noa-Nakamoto from Sack

**Question:** What is the biggest difference between being union vs. non-union?

**Answer:** The biggest difference is that with a union, you're surrounding yourself with knowledge. And knowledge is power. So ultimately, being with a union means you are surrounded by power, which is in the hands of the worker who keeps learning.

## -- Kawika Noa-Nakamoto Unit 4405 Sack N Save Oahu





from Unit 4203 McCabe, Hamilton and Renny Maintenance. ILWU International Vice President Bobby Olvera and ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer Ed Ferris (to the right) were guest speakers that morning, and spent the week going to different rooms of the caucus to answer questions relating to the West Coast ports and providing perspective and input.

Each different classification in the Longshore industry had its own caucus room. The main conference room held the Wharf Clerks from different units. Pictured above from front clockwise is Anthony "Keaka" Sardine from Unit 2201 Kahului Stevedores, Kenny Flores from Unit 4202 Hawaii Stevedores Inc. - Wharf Clerks,

"Especially with the pandemic, there were so many things out of our control. Luckily, with the union, we can make proposals to the company, and actually have a shot at making what we want happen."

-- Kenny Flores Unit 4202 Hawaii Stevedores Inc. -Wharf Clerks

### MORE COVERAGE OF CAUCUS **TO COME IN NEXT ISSUE**