



# THE FINISHER

HAWAII'S CHOICE TO FINISH THE JOB!

MARCH 2021



**Ko'ula at Ward,  
See page 3**





By Ryden Valmoja  
DC50 Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

# State of the Council

**"I hope that this message finds everyone keeping safe!"**

**Aloha All!**

**Happy New Year!**

I want to express my sincere thanks to all of you for keeping diligent and following COVID-19 guidelines to protect yourselves and your families while working in the field and at home. Since the start of the year, our government has launched an aggressive plan to vaccinate the majority of Hawaii residents by the end of summer. Vaccines were first administered to frontline essential workers, first responders, and kupuna 75 years of age and older. In order for us to move forward to gather together again for holiday dinners, birthdays, and other celebrations, I urge all of you to get vaccinated when your time comes – maybe then businesses can open up and we can all begin to enjoy time together. For more information on the vaccination process, please visit: [www.hawaiiicovid19.com](http://www.hawaiiicovid19.com).

## Local Union Shirt Distribution

Traditionally, at the end-of-the year, local unions hold annual holiday meetings to distribute shirts and present a gift to members in good standing. This past year, the pandemic changed everything! In December on Oahu, we opened up the union hall garage and had members walk in and pick up their shirts and leave – no talking story or hanging around – just a quick "Howzit!"

Unfortunately, because of the strict travel restrictions affecting the neighbor islands, we were unable to make distributions. But not to worry – we are working to secure dates and venues for each island, and more information is coming soon! We can't wait to see all of our neighbor island brothers and sisters!

## Pass the PRO-Act

I do not have to remind everyone about how contentious this past election was. Many of us are still reeling from the election results and are working to heal the divide between friends, families and co-workers.

Now we must move forward and leave political opinions behind us. We need to regroup and come together for the betterment of our families, union jobs, safer working conditions, and a better Hawaii. Last February, the Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2019 (PRO-Act) bill was introduced in the U.S. House to increase labor rights by abolishing work-to-right laws; enhancing worker rights to support boycotts, strikes and, most importantly, enhance and restore organizing rights. Sadly, this measure was not taken up in the U.S. Senate and failed to pass. This year, the measure was reintroduced and has the support of President Biden; we remain hopeful that it will be ratified and become law in the upcoming months. Our Business Representatives are out visiting job site, providing updates on the PRO-Act legislation and are available to

answer questions. We need your help and support so please visit [www.passtheproact.org](http://www.passtheproact.org) to sign up and join the fight!

## Social Media Messages

Nowadays, almost everyone depends on some source of social media, whether it's Twitter, Facebook or other sites to stay in touch with friends and family and seek information. A few years ago, DC50 created its own accounts to connect with members. On our pages, we highlight construction jobs, member accomplishments, training classes, upcoming community events, and political endorsements. This created a platform to share comments, expressions, thoughts, and

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International Union of Painters  
and Allied Trades

## District Council 50

2240 Young Street • Honolulu, HI 96826

Phone: (808) 941-0991

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**Ikaika Lacson**

*Trustee*

**Casey Nihipali**

*Trustee*

**Kurt Nishimura**

*Trustee, Chair*

[www.dc50.org](http://www.dc50.org)



## Ko'ula at Ward Village

Ko'ula is the Howard Hughes Corporation's sixth mixed-use project at Ward Village. Located at 1000 Auahi Street, just makai of The A'ali'i, this project has created more much-needed work for our District Council 50 Glaziers, Caulkers, Painters, Tapers and Floorlayers, with work extending into next year. The general contractor on this project is Hawaiian Dredging. Our subcontractors on this project include Kalu Glass, Caulking Hawaii, Jayco, WE Painting, BEK, BMK, and Honolulu Premier Flooring.

Ko'ula means red sugarcane in Hawaiian, which is why the exterior of the building is designed to mimic the sway of red sugarcane. Another unique feature is the lobby, which is located on the second floor.

The COVID-19 pandemic has not slowed down work for us at all. In fact, we are busier than we have ever been in recent years. Other ongoing and upcoming work includes the A'ali'i at Ward Village, C2F, The Central Ala Moana, The Lilia Waikiki, The Block, Puhulani Elderly, Victoria Place, The Park on Ward (Block H), Ulana Ward Village (Block F), 902 Alder Street, Kokua Elderly House, Halewai'olu Senior Residence, Sky Ala Moana, Mandarin Oriental Waikiki, 1500 Kapiolani, and others. 🏡

## Political Department Report

In the 2020 General Election, Hawaii's new mail-in voting process once again proceeded smoothly and without significant controversy, just as it did in the Primary Election. District Council 50's Political Department and your local unions worked hard to support candidates locally and nationally that will support our union. We were successful in many races locally, and we are now working with those elected officials to protect the rights of our members and working men and women across the state. As this goes to press, we are approaching the halfway point in the 2021 Session, and, so far, we have been successful in protecting our trades and ensuring that construction work continues uninterrupted.

With your help, we were also able to elect President Joseph Biden, who has pledged to support unions and the working class. We also worked hard to flip control of the U.S. Senate so that both chambers of Congress are now controlled by Democrats. We expect that this change will mean a federal government that no longer actively works against unions like ours, but instead works with us. We are currently working with our International Union to have a bill passed in Congress that will strengthen unions, ensure better benefits for their members, and empower working people.

Over the years, we have constantly been stressing to you the importance of voting for politicians who support us. Your support and your votes this election cycle demonstrated the power of your vote and has enabled us to make significant political gains that will help us reverse the tide of anti-union thought and action. Rest assured that your Political Department will be working hard to ensure that the politicians we endorsed follow through with their commitments to support us in our efforts to strengthen and improve our trades. 🏡

## State of the Council

*Continued from Page 2*

information. However, this past year, things changed, and our accounts were often used to air vulgar, derogatory and even belligerent statements. We, as a union, acknowledge the right to free speech, but we will never condone the condemnation of our union – this will not be tolerated. If there are any issues that are of concern, I encourage you to attend union meetings to ask questions and get information. Contact any Business Representative or give me a call. You are a valued member, and together we are ONE UNION!

### Local Union Meetings

ALL Local Union general meetings continue to be held virtually via ZOOM. Members are encouraged to register at least one day prior to the meeting – please call the union hall for more information at 808-941-0991 or toll-free at 888-811-4020. Meetings are held on the following days: Tapers LUI944 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month; Specialty Workers LUI941 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month; Painters LUI791 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month; Floor Layers – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month; and Glaziers LUI889 – Last Thursday of the month. DC50 Retirees Club meetings are currently suspended until further notice. I encourage everyone to sign up and attend meetings – all you need is your cell phone, a tablet or computer – it's super easy! 🏡

*Ryden Delgado*



# Drywall: Exceeding the Limits

Stilts go back as far as the 6th Century and have been used for many different purposes, from entertainment to construction. In recent years, the use of stilts has increased by at least 200 percent – mainly due to construction workers like drywall finishers, hangers and plasterers, as well as painters.

Stilts were introduced to the drywall field in the early '60s by

wasn't until the '90s that the Tapers Union introduced them in its apprenticeship classes. Still, many contractors viewed them as a safety issue. The potential for injury was mainly due to poor house-keeping on the job site, including construction debris, extension cords, pipes, voids in the floor, and other safety factors.

In the latter part of the 1980s, there was a Proposed Rulemaking

as Safety Standard developed by the OSHA for the use of stilts, classified in the same category as scaffolds. Still, usage remained limited. It was not until sometime after 2002 that stilts were put into the OSHA Standards and its use was allowed on construction sites under certain conditions. Ever since then, its popularity has grown, as more younger apprentices and journeymen started to use them and considered them as a necessary part of their personal tools.

With the increased demand, construction supply houses have begun to sell them and the cost of a pair of stilts has risen. On the mainland, they are also using them consistently. At the Drywall Trade show there are many vendors with various brands of stilts. Stilts are an integral part of construction technology, following the introduction of drones, power tools, cordless tools, and better heavy equipment. Why we even



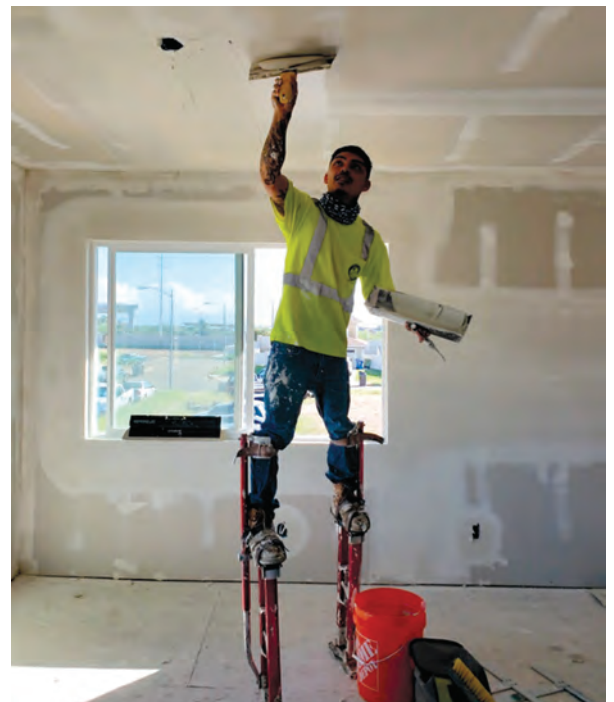
enterprising piece workers. It allowed them to get work done faster without using cumbersome ladders, sawhorses and scaffolds. It

have robots scurrying around job sites doing take offs and reporting on daily progress. Will it ever end? 🤖

## Habitat for Humanity – Leeward Oahu

In December 2020, the tapers apprenticeship program was approached by Habitat for Humanity Leeward Oahu to help finish taping a house in the Kapolei Hawaiian homestead. We got to meet a wonderful woman by the name of Jo Bautista, executive director for Habitat Leeward Oahu, who does a great job helping those in need.

After finalizing the dates and course schedule, our apprentices got to show-off their taping skills. It was a big house made up of five bedrooms and three bathrooms, a big living room, high ceiling, two staircases and a two-car garage. It was a splatter finish on the ceilings and walls, and it took the apprentices two Saturdays to do most of the taping. Instructors Glen Frigillana, Linda Espinoza, and Alex Magnuson donated extra time to complete the house. Habitat for Humanity provided instructors and apprentices with lunch, snacks and lots of soft drinks to show their appreciation. 🍷







## Turtle Bay Resort

The Turtle Bay Resort stands as a prominent landmark along Oahu's North Shore. In addition to its 410 rooms and 42 cottages, the property includes restaurants, swimming pools, gyms, spas and golf courses. It also boasts sandy shores, beautiful ocean views, and a cooling onshore breeze. Like most resorts and hotels, however, the pandemic brought business at Turtle Bay to a screeching halt. The owners made a wise choice to renovate and repair the resort while there are hardly any guests on the property.

Around April 2020, Turtle Bay received preliminary approval to make \$116 million in renovations and repairs to the resort. Work started in 2020 and continues into 2021. Although there are multiple general contractors working on various areas of the resort, we have been fortunate to have many of our DC50 signatory contractors being awarded the finishing work bids. There is no doubt that our members training and experience will produce high quality results. The renovations are extensive and will help keep the property beautiful for years to come. After pandemic restrictions are loosened and the contracting work is done, employees and guests will return to a beautiful, newly renovated resort! 🏡

## Floorlayers Report

**A**loha! Welcome to the year 2021! Although 2020 forced us to deal with many new issues raised by Covid-19, we were very fortunate to have many hours of stable work.

For instance, here on Oahu, Ho'opili continues to provide work for BMD Flooring. Other projects – such as Keali'i, North Parkway and Koa Ridge – are providing work for Allied Flooring. In downtown Honolulu, The Residences at Bishop Place continues to provide work for Floor Tech, while the A'ali'i provides work for BMK Flooring. On other islands, projects include the Ka'anapali Beach Hotel, Princeville Resort, and Waikoloa Hotel.

Please keep in mind that many of the projects mentioned will provide work for years to come. That, we can be thankful for!

We would like to remind you to keep your safety certifications up to date. If it expires, please call the training office to schedule a class.

On a side note, congratulations to members of the newly elected executive board. Thank you for your dedication and commitment. And, as we move to Tier 3 of the pandemic, please continue to do your part in being safe.

Aloha! 🏡





## Floor Layer Instructor Richard Kawelo

Richard Kawelo recently became an instructor for the Floor Layers Union Local 1926. He has worked in three different states and has been trained by multiple journeymen. Now, Richard is a well-versed combination installer. When he was asked to become an instructor, he did not hesitate to accept the opportunity. As an instructor, Richard's goal is to pour all the knowledge he has into the apprentice program and hope that they retain what they were taught and take it to the field – not only to perform their own job well, but to share the knowledge they have received with others. 🧐



## New Health Requirements

There are new health requirements for all University of Hawaii campuses. To comply with the Department of Health requirements for post-secondary instruction, effective Spring 2021, all students who will be enrolled at Honolulu and Hawaii Community College must meet special health requirements before being registered. Students need to submit a TB clearance and a record of specific immunizations. Students will not be able to attend classes until they are cleared by the records office. For students on Oahu, you can email your documents to [honcctrade@hawaii.edu](mailto:honcctrade@hawaii.edu) 📧

## CAS Certification

From December 5-12, 2020, the District Council 50 Apprenticeship and Training Department administered a CAS Level I and II certification for our members at Honolulu Community College.

FTI Apprenticeship Training Representative Ken Seal was able to proctor the testing. Apprentices in PD-5 and PD-6 were able to be tested in CAS Level I, while eight journeymen participated in the Level II certification.

After a successful CAS certification week on December 23, the Kaeser compressor that was used for the CAS certification was stolen from Honolulu Community College campus. HPD was contacted and the case is still open until the culprits have been caught. 🚔



## ATTENTION GLAZIERS!

## Architectural Glass and Metal Technician (AGMT) Certification

District Council 50 Training Department is currently accepting applications for qualified Glaziers interested in becoming a certified Architectural Glass and Metal Technician. Currently there are over 300 certified technicians within the entire IUPAT organization. This certification is already being written into the project specifications as a requirement and it'll only be a matter of time that we will be seeing it more commonly added. With that in mind, the IUPAT, District Council 50, and the rest of the District Councils, are working hard to get our Glaziers through our written and practical exam prep classes.

Becoming a certified technician requires passing a Knowledge Based Test (KBT) as well as a Performance Base Test (PBT) normally done at the same time in person with a proctor. With the current situation of COVID-19 at hand, the Knowledge Based Test (KBT) is now being offered as an online exam.

The Practical Based Test (PBT) is currently postponed till further notice but will resume as soon as it is safe.

Prerequisites. In order to qualify and apply for the AGMT exam, there are a couple requirements an applicant must have, such as an OSHA 10 certification and proof of 7,500 hours of glazing experience over five years.

Please contact the District Council 50 Training Department at (808) 947-6606 for more information. 📞

NEW YEAR'S DAY - January 1

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY - January 18

PRESIDENTS' DAY - February 15

GOOD FRIDAY - April 2  
(only observed by Local 1889)

MEMORIAL DAY - May 31

KING KAMEHAMEHA DAY - June 11

INDEPENDENCE DAY - July 4  
(observed on Monday, July 5)

LABOR DAY - September 6

DISCOVERER'S DAY - October 11  
(only observed by Local 1889)

VETERANS DAY - November 11

THANKSGIVING DAY - November 25

CHRISTMAS DAY - December 25  
(observed on Friday, December 24)

NEW YEAR'S 2022 - January 1  
(observed on Friday, December 31)



IUPAT • DISTRICT COUNCIL 50 • HAWAII

# 2021 HOLIDAYS

Painters • Tapers • Glaziers • Floor Layers • Specialty Workers

## JANUARY

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## SEPTEMBER

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International Union of  
Painters and Allied Trades  
District Council 50  
2240 Young Street  
Honolulu, HI 96826

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Wanted: Please submit news clips, photos and articles on special events to: [Lwoo@dc50.org](mailto:Lwoo@dc50.org)

## District Council 50 Meetings

- Retirees Club meeting – have been CANCELED until further notice.
- All local union meetings are being held via Zoom. If you would like to participate in the monthly meetings and have not registered before, please contact the union office and provide them with a valid email address so the registration link and instructions can be sent to you. If you have already registered, you will be automatically included in all future meetings.

### SPECIALTY WORKERS LOCAL UNION 1941

- Membership meetings – Second Saturday of the month at 8:30 a.m.

### PAINTERS LOCAL UNION 1791

- Membership meetings – Third Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

### DRYWALL TAPERS FINISHERS LOCAL UNION 1944

- Membership meetings – Second Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

### GLAZIERS, ARCHITECTURAL METAL AND GLASSWORKERS LOCAL UNION 1889

- Executive Board meetings – Second to the last Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.
- Membership meetings – Last Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

### CARPET, LINOLEUM AND SOFT TILE LOCAL UNION 1926

- Membership meetings – Third Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

## OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY – FRIDAY:  
7:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

SATURDAY:  
7:30 A.M. – 10:30 A.M.

## District Council 50

Painters - LU1791	808-941-0991
Tapers - LU1944	808-946-6621
Glaziers - LU1889	808-946-3329
Floor Layers - LU1926	808-942-3988
SpecialtyWorkers-LU1941	808-941-0991
Toll-Free Neighbor Island	888-811-4020

DC 50 Joint Apprenticeship Training  
808-947-6606  
808-941-0991, Option 2

Trust Funds	808-523-9411
Toll Free Neighbor Island	877-523-9411

## IN MEMORIAM

FREDERICK MARTINES  
ABORDO (FORMER  
MEMBER OF LU1926)

MICHAEL BALASBAS –  
LU1791

GREG DAVIS – LU1926

BERNARD GONZALEZ –  
LU1791

PATRICK ISHII (FORMER  
MEMBER OF LU1889)

JOSEPH MARTOS (FORMER  
MEMBER OF LU1791)

GLENN SHIROMA (FORMER  
MEMBER OF LU1926)

HAROLD TAONE – LU1791