



Ha'aheo 675

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PLUMBERS AND FITTERS UNITED ASSOCIATION LOCAL 675, AFL-CIO

Bringing in the Year of the Boar



(left to right) Ronden Numasaki, Troy Sakamoto, Jordan Dawson, Benjamin Panis, Matthew Brady, Valentino Ceria, James Fan, and Chuck Shima at swearing-in ceremony.

January 2019 began with the Union's new leader, Valentino Ceria, elected in December as the Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer. Born in the year of the Boar, he leads the way with his fellow newly elected officers, President Matthew Brady, Vice President Benjamin "Benji" Panis, and Jordan Dawson who was unopposed as Sentry. Also re-elected unopposed were James Fan and Chuck Shima who sit on the Executive Board with Dean Kobashigawa and Sheung Man Wong. New Finance Committee Member Troy Sakamoto joins Kirk Kageno and Royce Akiona. On the Examining Board, Ronden Numasaki was unopposed and on board with Lance Hayashi and Richard Gordon. The officers were sworn in by past Local 675 President, Donovan Lewis at the Washington Middle School Cafeteria on January 7th.

Valentino "Val" Ceria began the year as the fifth Business Manager since 1919 and makes history as the first Welder to take the helm. "I would like to thank the members for coming out to vote. I feel fortunate to have this opportuni-

ty to lead this Union and implement changes to improve the overall benefits for our members. Moving forward, our administration will emphasize open communication, continuing education and foremost, service to the membership," Val Ceria expressed.



(l-r) Vice President Benjamin Panis, President Matthew Brady, and Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer Valentino Ceria take the oath of office.

Business Manager's Message

Valentino Ceria, Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer

The year began with renewed enthusiasm to fulfill the commitments we made toward our goals. One of which was to bring back the Ha'aheo newsletter for our members to communicate and keep everyone informed of the Union's activities.

The UA General Office under the leadership of Mark McManus stresses the continuing education in an ever-changing environment to keep you, the member, a valuable employee of our contractors. They just completed the new United Association Education and Conference Center at the headquarters of the UA General Office in Annapolis, Maryland. Classes for Local Union Officers and staff include topics such as collective bargaining, jurisdiction, legal changes and best practices, organizing, and training.

I recently attended the New Business Manager Seminar in February at the United Association's Center. There were 35 new business managers from all over the U.S. and Canada attending the classes. The training was aimed to teach the new leaders how to successfully represent the members, to understand the extent of their authority, how to protect the jurisdiction, and to expand the rank-and-file through organizing.

One of the topics that was mentioned was a contribution from each local union to the UA's new Organizing Fund. That is something that the UA is promoting and requiring of each union by this year. There will be more discussion on this subject matter as we receive more information from the UA.

Also discussed was how each local union need to be in compliance with the 2016 UA Constitution approved at the last UA Conven-

tion. We are currently working on revising our current Constitution, By-Laws and Working Rules of Local 675.

Our immediate goal for the new year is to make our offices and jobsites function at a higher efficiency level, through education and new initiatives. The UA International Training Fund recently approved a Grant to the PAMCAH-UA Local Union 675 toward the education and training of the apprentices and journeymen.

As I mentioned in my Business Manager's report this month, we



Val Ceria with UA General President Mark McManus (left) and UA Executive Vice President James Moss.

are looking forward to our year-end celebration with the 100th Anniversary of Local Union 675, chartered on November 15, 1919. More information on the big event will be forthcoming as we forge ahead into a prosperous New Year.

IAPMO Head Assists with Maintaining UPC Versus IPC

Dwight Perkins, Sr. Vice President of IAPMO (International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials), Field Services, recently visited Local 675 to assist with testimony in favor of maintaining the UPC on the island of Kauai. Building Code Bill 2612 would allow the IPC (International Plumbing Code) to be used as an alternate code. The UA and Local 675 support the UPC (Uniform Plumbing Code) for the jurisdiction of our licensed plumbers. Business Manager Val Ceria, President Matthew Brady, and Government Affairs Director Kika Bukoski are working with Dwight Perkins on this critical bill. Val Ceria expressed, "We are taking proactive steps to preserve the integrity of the State Plumbing Code and working diligently to protect the code through the legislative process." Val and Kika met with Derek Kawakami, Mayor of Kauai and Kauai Council Vice Chair Ross Kagawa for their assistance.



(l-r) Dir of Govt Affairs Kika Bukoski, President Matt Brady, IAPMO's Dwight Perkins, and Business Manager Val Ceria.

Local 675 Members and Families Take on the 35th Annual Great Aloha Run

Thousands of runners and walkers hit the streets of Honolulu for the annual Hawaii Pacific Health Great Aloha Run that took place on President's Day. In celebration of the 35th anniversary of the Run, Local 675 members and families took off from Aloha Tower and ended 8.15 miles later to the finish line at Aloha Stadium happily wearing their commemorative medals.

The Plumbers Union as part of the Presidents' 100 Club is rated No. 4 of the top 10 organizations participating in the Great Aloha Run this year. For the last 16 years, Local 675 has fully sponsored the participation of Local 675 members, active and retired, and their families, who registered for the event. The Union's coverage included the cost of the registration fee, a Union t-shirt, as well as a complimentary breakfast after the Run at the Stadium's Hospitality Room.

First in at the Union's breakfast event were Richard and Shawna Pabingwit timed at 1 hour 45 minutes. Richard is an A/C apprentice at Dorvin D. Leis, Co. on Maui and Shawna works in HR at Maui Com-

munity College. Richard will be on military leave heading for Afghanistan next month. He was surprised, "to be the first ones in," and appreciated the warm welcome and breakfast.

Retiree Ernie Theodore came in at 1 hour and 50 minutes said this is his 9th year of doing this and expressed, "It's an honor to represent Local 675 for this worthwhile cause and where the monies go to various charities in the state." He wears all the Local 675 t-shirts and mentioned the orange one is his all-time favorite.

Assistant Training Coordinator, Kirk Kageno and his family have been doing the Run for the past 9 years and happily exclaimed, "with no training!"

Craig Yanagihashi, retiree was "very appreciative of the breakfast but if there's no Portuguese sausage then I won't come," he said jokingly.

Doug Stewart, a retiree A/C fitter with Honeywell has been doing the Run with his wife Kathy for the last 3 years now and 2 years with the Union. He said, "We would

definitely do this again with the Union. More members should participate knowing that the Union pays for our entrance fees."

Business Manager Val Ceria and staff were at hand to welcome the incoming members, families and friends. He stated, "We're pleased everyone had a great time enjoying themselves participating in this worthwhile event and also striving for their own personal best."



Val Ceria with Richard & Shawna Pabingwit first in at the Union's breakfast event.

More photos on next page



Members and their families in line at the Union's breakfast buffet.



Chauncey Louis Family



Blake & Shari Moniz Family



Baret Morishige & Tricia



Craig & Terry Yanagihashi Family



Brian & Piloni Taira Family



Donovan Lewis & Linda



Darrell & Emelyn Bucsit Family



Errol Domrique & Aaron Pule Families



David Young, Sara & Kailee



Wilder Chock Family



Brandt Watanabe & Jodi

For a gallery of the Great Aloha Run



Gordon & Alecia Caughman



Isaac Sanchez, Jr.



John & Joanna Ridings Family



Benji & Susan Panis with Kelcie



Ryan DeLima with Jadan & Jaryd



Lance Takara Family



Stanley & Maureen Chun Family



Valeriano Quitoles Family



Edward Lum & Alec Hamaguchi



Doug & Kathie Steward & Leslie



Theodore & Lisa Kaneshiro Family



Kirk & Lori Kageno Family



Chad Murakawa



Matt Brady



Ernie Theodore



Wade Yamamoto & Reena

UA International Training Fund Provides Local 675 Grant of \$218,148

The UA International Training Fund provided the much needed grant approval in the amount of \$218,148.46. The Grant provides financial assistance to the PAMCAH-UA Local Union 675 Training Fund for the purposes of increasing education and training for apprentices and journeymen of the United Association. To date, the grant amount received from the UA Training is just under one million dollars.

Training Coordinator Chuck Shima said that the UA Grant approved the following for Local 675 Training: digital projectors, upgrade of computers, Hampden AC



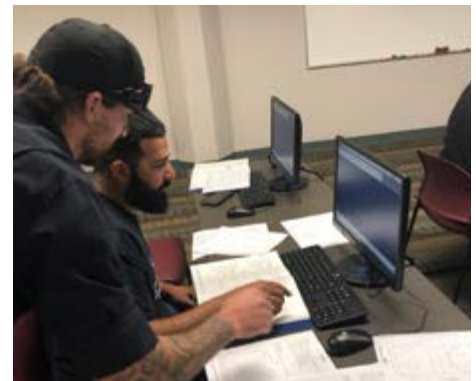
Grant provided plumbing repair equipment for training.



Iwilei Training Computer Lab

and electrical card trainers, new welding machines and plumbing service tools. He stated that they had recently completed upgrading computers at the Iwilei training computer lab and working to install new welding machines at the Pearl City training facility. The new plumbing service tools are currently being used in the plumbing service class and other grant items are still coming in.

Chuck Shima who spearheaded the grant assistance, attended the International Pipe Trades Training & Technology Conference in San Diego recently. He mentioned, "The conference was well attended and very informative. I was very impressed with the efforts being made by the UA to use technology



Instructor John Fry and Apprentice Ruben Raman review program.

in their Education and Training program. Attending this conference really showed me what resources are available to our training center."

Spring 2019 Apprenticeship Classes

The Spring 2019 classes started on January 7, 2019 with 431 apprentices registered. Here is the breakdown on apprentices registered for school:

- **Oahu:** 357 (Plumbing-189; AC-126; Fire Sprinkler-41; Steam Fitter Welder-1)
- **Maui:** 31 (Plumbing-19; AC-11; Fire Sprinkler-1)
- **Kauai:** 17 (Plumbing-14; AC-3)
- **Big Island:** 26 (Plumbing-3; AC-22; Fire Sprinkler-1)

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*APR-Annual Percentage Rate. Subject to credit approval. Rates are subject to change at any time and are not guaranteed. Individual rates may vary depending on credit worthiness.

A Visit to the Big Island

Here's what Roddy Saito, Air Conditioning Department Superintendent, Heide & Cook, LLC, had to say, "The University of Hawaii, School of Pharmacy at Hilo project is a continuation of UH's growing national prominence in the medical sciences. A first for the State, this new Nationally Accredited Pharmacy School will pave the way for future Pharmacists to serve our community. Heide & Cook, LLC was proud to be selected as the Mechanical Contractor for this project and staffed it with a young and ambitious crew from Local 675."



Matt Brady, Jonah Kim, Val Ceria, Ikaika Kupukaa, Reis Marushige, Lawrence Keamo, and Jarryd Miyashiro on the Big Island job.

NEW PENSIONERS

Congratulations and happy retirement to the following pensioners:

- Michael Sueda 11/1/18
- William Kaina12/1/18
- Donald Nicholson 1/1/19
- Anthony Gomes 2/1/19

Scholarship Opportunities Now Available

We are pleased to announce three scholarships opportunities available to upcoming high school graduates whose parents, grandparent or legal guardian is a member of UA Local 675.

The 2019 scholarships are:

1) **UA Local 675 Scholarship** - This scholarship program is to encourage attendance to a 2 or 4 year institution of higher learning. A one-time scholarship grant of up to \$1,000 is available to high school seniors and prior year graduates whose parents, grandparents or legal guardian is a member of UA Local 675 in good standing. **All submissions are due at the Union office by June 15, 2019**, with awards to be announced in July. To download the application form, visit our website at www.PlumbersHawaii.com.

2) **United Association (UA) Scholarship** - The UA Scholarship Fund benefits UA members and their dependents. Up to 112 scholarships totaling as much as \$222,000 will be awarded this year. Scholarships range from \$1,500 to \$5,000 each. **The deadline for submitting application is June 1, 2019**. Applications will now only be accepted electronically through <https://uascholarshipfund.communityforce.com/>.

3) **Hawaii State AFL-CIO 2019 Scholarship** - This scholarship is open to any graduating senior. There will be TWO scholarships awarded in the amount of \$1,000 each. A \$250 scholarship will be awarded to FOUR current union members to pursue labor studies and union leadership courses with the Center for Labor Education & Research at UH West Oahu. **All submissions must be received or postmarked by April 19, 2019**. For detailed instructions, visit our website at www.PlumbersHawaii.com.

Please call our Office at (808) 546-5454 ext. 222 if you have any questions.

In Memoriam

Heart felt sympathy and condolences to the families of deceased members.

- George Okada 12/6/18
- Mineo Nagata1/1/19
- Micah Moikeha1/14/19
- Albert Freitas Jr 1/22/19
- Frank Masaki1/27/19
- Preston Sato 2/10/19
- Donald Masaki 3/4/19
- Kiyoshi Nakasone 3/7/19



Ha'aheo 675 is the official publication of the Plumbers and Fitters United Association, Local 675
1109 Bethel Street, Lower Level, Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 536-5454

www.plumbershawaii.com

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Business Manager/

Financial Secretary-Treasurer

MATTHEW BRADY

President

BENJAMIN PANIS

Vice President

LANCE HAYASHI

Recording Secretary

JORDAN DAWSON

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Send contributions or questions regarding Ha'aheo 675 to the editor (808) 536-5454

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United Association
Local 675**

1109 Bethel Street, Lower Level
Honolulu, HI 96813



News from Local 675 Retiree Club

Join us for breakfast – meet old friends, make new ones, discuss issues of interest. Membership to the Retiree Club is open to all who, 1) are retirees of Local 675, 2) are active UA members, and 3) maintain the annual Retiree Club dues of \$20. The quarterly breakfast meeting paid by the Club is held at the Moanalua Golf Club, 1250 Ala Aolani Street, at 8:30 a.m., with meeting starting at 9:00 a.m. Up-

coming meetings are on Tuesdays – May 14, August 13, and November 12. For more information, please call Willy Kanno at (808) 487-2773.

President – Robert M. Fernandez
Vice President – Wilfred Kanno
2nd Vice President – Jonathan Lee
Secretary – Elpidio Tivera
Treasurer – Derek Hirao
Director – Glenn Hashimoto
Director – Alan Arakaki

**CALENDAR
OF EVENTS**

APRIL

Monday, April 1, 2019
General Membership Meeting
Washington Middle School Cafeteria

Tuesday, April 2, 2019
Maui Rap Session
Maui Community College

Wednesday, April 3, 2019
Kauai Rap Session
Kauai Community College

MAY

Monday, May 6, 2019
General Membership Meeting
Washington Middle School Cafeteria

Tuesday, May 7, 2019
Kona Rap Session
Hawaii Community College - Palamanui

Wednesday, May 8, 2019
Hilo Rap Session
Waiakea Intermediate School

**CONNECT
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**LOCAL 675
OFFICE**

1109 Bethel Street
Lower Level
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 536-5454

**ADMINISTRATIVE
OFFICE**

1109 Bethel Street
Suite 408
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 536-4408

**APPRENTICESHIP
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720 Iwilei Road
Suite 222
Honolulu, HI 96819
(808) 456-0585

**CREDIT
UNION**

1109 Bethel Street
Lower Level
Honolulu, HI 96813
(808) 537-9135



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