



Ha'aheo 675

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

Holiday Tribute To Our Milestone Members



Longevity is sweet for our crop of new super seniors still active with Local 675. Shown in photo at left, flanked by Union leaders Val Ceria and Reggie Castanares are 55-year veterans Manuel Cano, Arthur Fong, David Tancayo, Duke Ota, and Vernon Tyau. Among members who marked 50 years with the Union, in photo at right, are Adam Duncan, Daniel Hirata, Stanley Kim, Milton Taura, Denis Sumida, and Edward Yamashita. The inside pages carry additional photos of the awards presentations on Oahu and Neighbor Islands.

Saturday, December 12 turned out eventful not just as continuing active members, but Local 675's latest celebrants also found timely the opportunity to congratulate **Reggie Castanares** on his recent re-election as their leader, since 2007.

The genial business manager warmly expressed his appreciation before a capacity turnout at the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. After summarizing highlights of the Union's activities for the year he and president Val Ceria presented the years-of-service awards to the honorees (in five-year increments), as follows:

25 Years (Total 37)

Edgar R. Agonias, Brandon M. Akima, Nelson Akina Jr., Norman S. Arakawa, Michael G. Barbadillo Sr., Ian S. Boteilho, Nestor A. Cabo, Deric B. Ceria, Scott K. Galdeira, Gregory L. Gier, Gilbert K. Heanu, Shane R. Henderson, Walter K. Iaea III, Alan E. Ibanes, Reed S. Ikegami, Melvin S. Kakazu, Russell J. Kato, Nevin K.

Keaulii Sr., Michael J. Killion, Chad Kim, Randall D. Lee, Betty A. Lee-Mara, Thomas J. Lines, Lenny M. Lunasco, Mason R. Makishima, Jeffrey A. Martin, Lance T. Matsuoka, Randall R. Mitsui, Wayne S. Ono, Glen W. Paik, David L. Perry, John J. Rodrigues, Mark K. Smith, Grant Y. Taura, Sheldon Y. Tokoro, Edward K. Wong, Garrett S. Wong.

30 Years (Total 7)

Thomas Falahee, Kevin K. Kanekoa, Raymond W. Lara, Raymond M. Sakurai, Gavin K. Sato, Joseph F. Sheetz, Joseph Simeona.

35 Years (Total 44)

Andy B. Alfiler, Wesley H. Arakaki, Reynold N. Arakawa, Norman P. Enos, Elbert Fraticelli, Gilbert K. Hamasaki, Kenneth H. Hara Jr., Terence T. Higaki, Neal K. Hirasuna, David B. Hu, David N. Ikeno, Preston M. Jordan, William E. Kaina, John K. Kioshi, Jason K. Konno, James S. Matsumura, Zachary K. Matsuzaki, David T. Miyamoto, Myles Y. Miyazaki, Byron Y. Muraoka, Darren

Y. Niino, Grant K. Nishida, Darren J. Nitta, Aaron T. Nozawa, Roger I. Oba, Edgar S. Okada, Steven T. Okikawa, Scott T. Ono, Kendall T. Oshima, Clyde M. Oshiro, Kerry T. Oshiro, Benjamin Panis, Rogelio L. Patao, Alfred Patanio, Roy Patinio, Andrew K. Sato, Wilfred K. Shim, Peyton D. Siliado, Jay Y. Tanaka, Glenn Y. Tango, Anthony C. Toledo, David H. Tsuji, Mark Y. Yoshizu, Allen Zukemura.

40 Years (Total 20)

Alfred Acopan, Kerry M. Akiyama, Alfredo Antonio, Howard DeLima Jr., Keith Fujishima, Cecil E. Hale Jr., Walter Hayashi, Randal Hiraki, Glenn H. Inasaki, Kyle C. Ito, Keith M. Lee, Ron A. Matsuzaki, Harold P. McDermott Jr., Allen H. Onuma, Michael J. Silva, Rodney S. Sojot, Eugene Uyeno, Clyde Y. Watanabe, Allen P. Yee, Ronald M. Yotsuya.

45 Years (Total 59)

Robert T. Abe, Robert D. Ahn Jr., Rudolph C. Arreola, Robert K. Beck,

(Continued on Page 7 - Holiday Tribute)

Key Projects Encounter Issues, Manage to Survive

Reginald Castanares, Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Much preferable is to end the year believing that for the most part economic calamities were avoided and we now can look forward with optimism on what lies ahead.

One positive view is the apparent end to the controversy on whether the revised 20-mile, 21-station rail transit project survives after the City Council continued to keep it on a tenuous tight-rope. It still requires, however, a federal clearance on its huge share of the funding, which hopefully is forthcoming.

The emerging Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope (DKIST) on Haleakala,

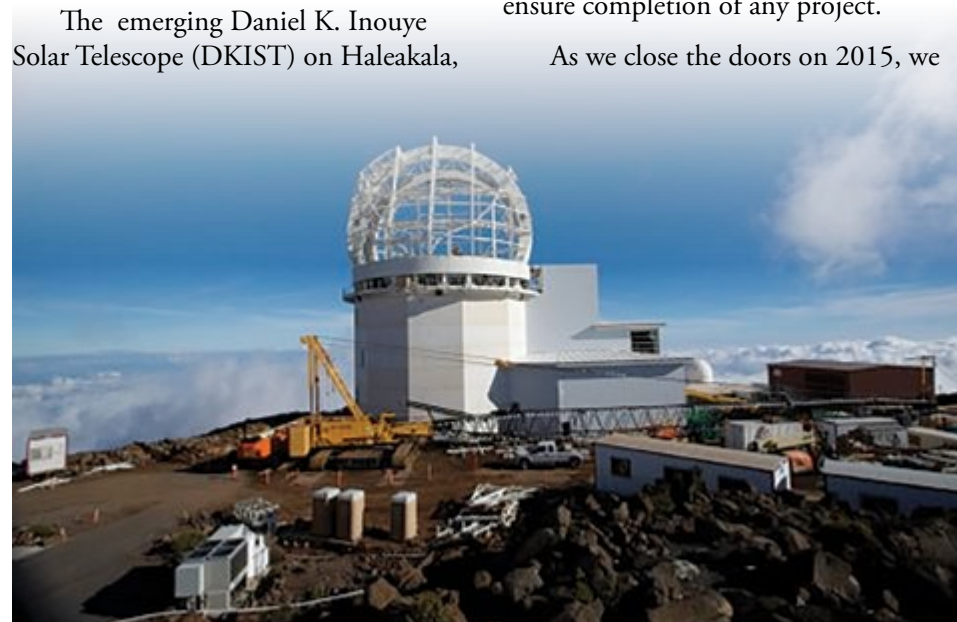
pictured, hopefully will not fall victim to another protest based on a native claim of the mountain's sacredness. Labor and other proponents of the project respect people's right to raise questions but also allowance for open discussion that would result in a court review, if deemed necessary.

Organized labor tries not to take for granted that because a major project is approved it could not encounter opposition once work begins. Our inhabitants must be occasionally reminded it takes considerable planning and budgeting to ensure completion of any project.

As we close the doors on 2015, we



look ahead with our loyal Local 675 Team and industry colleagues, for a truly fulfilling 2016!



Trades Net Two Valued Project Labor Agreements

D.R. Horton, one of the nation's larger home developers, has made Hawaii the only locale provided a project labor agreement with organized labor.

"We in the building trades managed to obtain a 17-year PLA recently, Horton's action arising from our successful joint support to help the firm secure a major land use change needed by the firm to launch Ho'opili as a new residential community," noted business manager Reggie Castanares.

Ho'opili is a long-term joint venture with island developer James K. Schuler.

Major isle project also factored in to a PLA is the structure to house the Daniel K. Inouye Solar Telescope on Haleakala.

APPRENTICESHIP RECRUITMENT

OAHU REGISTRATION

The Honolulu Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee (JATC) for the Plumbing & Pipefitting Industry will be establishing waiting lists for the Plumber, and Fire Sprinkler Fitter apprenticeship programs on the island of Oahu. Interested persons may apply at:

PLACE: Plumbers & Fitters Training Center
731 B Kamehameha Hwy.
Pearl City, Hawaii 96782

DATE: January 19, 2016 thru
January 29, 2016
(Monday thru Friday only)

TIME: 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Go to plumbershawaii.com for more information on applying.

Neighbor Isle Service Award Honorees

This page is a montage of Neighbor Island service award honorees at their respective home base celebrations, held separately and congratulated and flanked in the photos by Local 675's top officials, business manager Reggie Castanares and president Val Ceria. The number parenthesized indicates each awardee's years of service



Maui: L to R, Larry Yamamoto (50), Kyle Ito (40), Michael Suzuki (45), Keary Kaitsu (45), Ronald Yotsuya (40), Chad Kim (25).



Kauai: L to R, Hansen Martin (50), John Lopes (50), Wesley Arakaki (35), Andy Alfiler (35).



Hilo: L to R, Howard DeLima (40), Dennis Kapuras (45), Charles Rosa (55).



Kona: L to R, Daryl Wilson (50), Edgar Okada (35).

Additional Snaps of Honorees

Pride in Their Longevity With Local 675



After 45 years: L to R, Harry Nakamura, Chester Chagami, Kenny Iboshi, Glenn Hashimoto, Walter Takara, Glen Goya, Edwin Kashiwamura, Bruce Hiraiwa, Allen Holton, Michael Uyehara, Edwin Mendoza, Charles Ota, Edwin Yamaguchi, Mike Nua, Craig Yanagibashi.



40 Years: Alfredo Antonio, Glenn Inasaki, Keith Lee, Allen Onuma, Mike Silva.



35 Years: Grant Nishida, Scott Ono, Clyde Oshiro, Mark Yoshizu, Glenn Tango, Edgar Okada.



25 years: Brandon Akima, Deric Ceria, Nelson Akina, Shane Henderson, Nestor Cabo, David Perry, Gregory Gier, Nevin Makishima, Randall Lee, Scott Galdeira, Grant Taura, Mark Smith, Edward Wong, Garrett Wong.



Recruitments in 2015 Yields Needed Apprentices

It was close to a record-breaker for the Plumbers apprenticeship program this year which saw 118 recruits qualified and initiated.

“Our program has been like a magnet and bodes well for the future,” business manager Reggie Castanares told members at the year-end holiday celebration.

He further reported that Local 675 gained four new signatories this year.

In addition, the Union welcomed seven new journeymen.



Special thanks for their service, above, Benjamin Panis (35 years), a member of the Finance Committee, and below, Willy Kanno (45 years), Retirees Club president.

Growth of Trust Funds on Steady Course

Business manager **Reggie Castanares'** status report on Local 675's trust funds at year-end indicated mild improvements, the total for each as follows:

Pension, \$386 million; Annuity, \$152 million; Health & Welfare, \$18 million; and Training, \$8 million.

“We expect the present economic momentum should ensure steady growth of the funds,” Castanares said.

DAGS and DOLIR

Agencies Carry Out Governor's Concerns for Labor Community

Judgments and predictions may perhaps be premature at this juncture regarding the performance of a new administration that has just concluded its first year at the state's helm.

Seasoned observers will point out, nevertheless, that Governor David Ige's start is impressive, noting he is not daunted even by issues inherited before he took the oath of office. They say his experience in dealing with damage control as the former longtime head of the powerful Senate Finance Committee is attributable for his political aplomb.

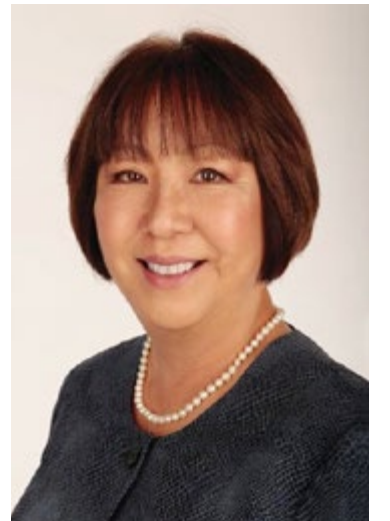
Local 675 business manager **Reggie Castanares** seconds the assessment, noting in particular the governor's evenhandedness in considering approaches to a wide range of problems. “The Governor seems not timid or awed when faced with an unfamiliar matter for the first time,” he speculated. By the same token, he is not flummoxed should a move he makes appears unpopular. An example was the choice of a prospective cabinet member rejected at the outset of his takeover. All other cabinet nominations cleared unanimously, indicating his resiliency and desire for team members he believed matched his ardor for public service and earned his trust,” Castanares clarified.

To corroborate his view, the Union chief called on *Ha'aheo 675* to interview the Governor's picks for two agencies with oversight of activities that directly concern the building industry and its personnel. Their heads, coincidentally, worked on regulatory issues throughout earlier career commitments.

Our first stop, the **Department of Labor & Industrial Relations**, was a surprise that its director, **Linda Chu Takeyama**, with an extremely diversified



Included on the Governor's cabinet are, at left, DAGS director/comptroller Douglas Murdock and his deputy, Audrey Hidano, shown after being approved by the state senate. Right, Linda Chu Takayama, new Labor Department head.



background would be the first woman ever to head it.

Eight months into her current capacity, her previous ties were primarily with both public and social service agencies, most of which she headed as principal executive. Among them: staff chief for the office of Sergeant-at-Arms, US Senate; state insurance commissioner; and City department of economic development. Also a year deputy director of the State Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. In the private sector she remains active as chair of the Hawaii Foodbank, founder/treasurer of Hawaii 3Rs, devoted to remodel and restore public schools, and a director with the Hawaii Health Information Corporation.

She views as a key challenge actively pursuing meaningful dialogue with both businesses and the workforce, the latter generally through their union representatives. “We don't want to be regarded passive and rather want those we service that we're conscious of the importance of seeking collaboration and making

the parties subject to our regulations recognize we prefer to educate and inform,” Takayama explained, referring as a recent example complaints of alleged work illegalities at the Ewa wing of the massive Ala Moana Center.

Such complaints or actual violations provide the opportunity to interact with contentious groups and move them to a positive, harmonious relationship, she explained. Labor groups insist on members to be attuned to safe work practices. The state appreciates the awareness but expects increased vigilance based on increase of accidents deriving mainly from the rise in rooftop solar contractors who need in-house safety programs.

“We're aware how quickly marketplaces change and the impact these have on the workforce,” Chu Takayama said.

“Hopefully our preventative approach through use of our staff resources, including training, can do much to repel potential owner-worker disputes,” she added.

(Continued on Page 6 - State Agencies)

State Agencies (Continued from Page 5)

Safety is also a concern for the **Department of Accounting & General Services**, a principal state source of construction work. It annually doles out hundreds of contracts, awarded mostly by either bidding or procurement.

To protect against blunders in the administering and implementing of its myriad projects, the agency carries out continuous staff training, pointed out **Douglas G. Murdock**, the state comptroller and DAGS director since Jan. 1.

A career background in law and procurement, Murdock offers a combination of expertise the state could apply in light of reported shortcomings in the latter area. He previously served a three-year stint as vice president for administrative and fiscal affairs with the Hawaii Tourism Authority. Enhancing his credentials include a 25-year tie as a partner with a prominent local law group and as a certified professional contracts manager through the National Contract Management Association (NCMA). He currently serves as president of its Aloha Chapter that involves service with the State Procurement Policy Board.

When asked, Murdock replied his skill would not extend to the University of Hawaii system, which still has underlying procurement issues.

On labor's continued interest to expand project labor agreements to the public sector, the new DAGS head said there are no plans to do so. Currently it is used only on the ongoing renovation of the Kamamalu Office Building, across from Iolani Palace.

Murdock praised the work of his key functionaries, deputy director **Audrey Hidano**, who held similar roles earlier with DOLIR and the Transportation Department, and public works administrator **James Kurata**. "They have the hands-on know-how that is also appreciated by the clientele we service," he said.

Barry Lai

PAMCA Leader Finds Own Niche in the Industry

A priority for **Barry Lai** upon obtaining a UH-Manoa degree in finance management and information systems was finding an industry and company compatible with a long-term interest centered on growth shared by partner and the work force.

To his delight, he found what he sought: a business, newly organized, feeling the excitement in 2001 of an economy primed for a long run.

"The timing couldn't have been better for one in his early 20's with a firm specializing in sheetmetal and air condition work," Lai recalls.

More propitious were the training programs, in particular, the one signatories partnered with the **Plumbers & Fitters Local Union 675**, he explained. "I noticed in my early years with the trades that those who successfully completed its vigorous five-year apprenticeship have proven over the years as standouts," he added. "That makes the difference in the quality of the workmanship customers rave about."

Just 41, Lai is the youngest tapped by industry colleagues to head the **Plumbing and Mechanical Contractors Association** over the next two years. "Again, it was good timing though I've been in the business some 14 years, first Air Controls Inc., and in recent years, as vice president of Air Central, Inc.," he said. The latter is headed by **Greg Kiyon**, who oversees the presidential duties.

The business is at 1717 Colburn Street in a Kalihi neighborhood filled with small to medium trade specialty shops. "We like its central location given how Oahu has developed to such an extent that more businesses have to operate in distant locales outside the city," he noted.

Air Central has some 20 active refrigeration mechanics and 25 sheet metal workers. Lai himself also serves on the Sheetmetal Contractors Association board. "What I truly enjoy is the time spent with the **Joint PAMCA-Local 675 Apprenticeship Committee**. There one can proudly see what recent upgrades in enrolling prospective tradesmen has meant for consumers in quality work, and for that we're thankful **Reggie Castanares** and his apprenticeship training team are unquestionably great models," he enthused.

Another critical joint effort with the Union is PAMCA's support of raising code standards.

Lai said the Union has taken various initiatives in other concerns that PAMCA shares. "Legislation is always something we join hands in, supplemented by our ties with the **Subcontractors Association of Hawaii**. It continues to resist efforts by general contractor organizations to be allowed to be licensed in various specialty contracting areas. That would harm tried and true subcontractors," he said.

Holiday Tribute (Continued from Page 1)

Chester H. Chagami, Stephen D. Eby, Glen K. Goya, Bruce C. Graham, Jerry K. Hamada, Glenn I. Hashimoto, Bruce I. Hiraiwa, Allen G. Holton, Kenny K. Iboshi, Jayson N. Inouye, Keary K. Kaitsu, Thomas B. Kamikawa, Wilfred N. Kanno, Lovell K. Kaopua, Dennis M. Kapuras, Stephen Y. Kashiwagi, Edwin Kashiwamura, Roy M. Kashiwamura, Albert Keomaka Jr., Melvin T. Kirihara, Robert K. Kuhns, Glen Medeiros Sr., Edwin Mendoza, Paul Michael, Leslie Miyamoto, Wayne S. Murakami, Raymond T. Nakagawa, Harry S. Nakamura, Paul T. Nakata, Roy S. Nakayama, Terrence R. Nicely, Paul K. Nishimura, Dennis K. Nouchi, Mike Nua, David I. Okada, Charles M. Ota, Allan S. Ro, Gary H. Sato, George Sato, Guy M. Seiki, Aaron Shiohira, Kingsley Simeona, Sunao Soga, Michael S. Suzuki, Lance M. Takahashi, Walter A. Takara, Gary H. Tsukamoto, Michael K. Uyehara, Dennis K. Watanabe, Donald R. Williams Jr., Robert H. Yamada, Edwin G. Yamaguchi, Mitsutoshi Yamashita, Craig H. Yanagihashi, Clyde Yoshida.

50 Years (Total 27)

Randolph Abafo, Stanley C. Ajirogi, Raymond M. Akimoto, William K. Asato, Adam L. Duncan, Mark H. Fujimoto, Jiro Fukushima, George Hamasaki, Daniel Y. Hirata, James S. Kai, Patrick K. Kanekoa, Stanley D. Kim, John K. Lopes Jr., Hansen K. Martin, Charles Nakashima, Earl Y. Shigemitsu, Roy T. Shirafuji, Denis M. Sumida, Kenneth K. Takamoto, Stanley M. Takasane, Masamitsu Tateishi, Milton Taura, Robert Thomas, Daryl Wilson, L.S. Yamamoto, Edward Y.T. Yamasaki, Edward M. Yamashita.

55 Years (Total 26)

Manuel J. Cano, Robert N. Fernandez, Sidney J. Fo, Arthur Q. Fong, Juro Fukuda, Thomas M. Fukumoto, Paul Y. Hirakawa, Arthur M. Hoomalu, Takeyasu Kaneshiro, Herbert Kaopua Sr., Henry G. Lee Jr., Donald M. Masaki, Kenneth K. Meyer, Wallace K. Miyata, Mineo Nagata, Robert Y. Nakata, Robert K. Naki, Walter Nii, Duke M. Ota, Platon K. Reyes, Charles Rosa, David Tancayo, Vernon A. Tyau, Masaichi Yagi, James T. Yamane, Richard T. Yoshimura.

Get Rescued from Low FCU Rate Loans

Felt overly generous this holiday season? You can make 2016 hassle-free with an unsecured loan.

It was fun playing Santa then, but now has come the time to pay the piper.

Chuck the worry. Consider consolidating the holiday debt via an easy-to-do single monthly payment. Visit the Plumbers & Fitters Local 675 FCU. You'll find rates start at 4.99%, lower than current high interest credit cards. To rescue yourself, call 808-537-9135.

Recalling Their Starts as Tradesmen



Haa'heo 675 enjoyed chats with old-timers at the annual Christmas dinner meeting. Here's what those pictured recall about their first days as tradesmen:

Left, **Denis Sumida**, with wife **Winni**: "Heide & Cook got me started on a Waikiki hotel doing rough-in work. That's a half century ago, and, yes, the hotel's still doing well." Middle, **Joseph Correia Jr.** recalls after switching from ironworker to pipefitter assigned his first work day by Hawaiian Dredging to its Campbell refinery project. Right, for **Michael Kiyabu**, plastic pipe joined by glue was then a trade novelty 47 years ago while with Hi-Grade Plumbing.



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

www.plumbershawaii.com

Reginald Castanares
Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Valentino Ceria
President

Matthew Brady
Vice President

Tracy Tanouye
Recording Secretary

David Kamakea
Sentry

Send Contributions/questions regarding Ha'aheo 675 to Editor, Elroy Chun

Plumbers and Fitters United Association Local 675

1109 Bethel Street, Lower Level
Honolulu, HI 96813



Calendar of Events

JANUARY

Monday, January 4, 2016
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Washington Middle School-Cafeteria

Tuesday, January 5, 2016
MAUI RAP SESSION
Maui Community College

Wednesday, January 6, 2016
KAUAI RAP SESSION
Kauai Community College

FEBRUARY

Monday, February 1, 2016
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Washington Middle School-Cafeteria

Tuesday, February 2, 2016
KONA RAP SESSION
Kahakai Elementary School

Wednesday, February 3, 2016
HILO RAP SESSION
Waiakea Intermediate School

Monday, February 15, 2016
PRESIDENT'S DAY - GREAT ALOHA RUN

MARCH

Monday, March 7, 2016
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Washington Middle School-Cafeteria

Tuesday, March 8, 2016
MAUI RAP SESSION
Maui Community College

Wednesday, March 9 2016
KAUAI RAP SESSION
Kauai Community College

Retirees Re-elect Officers

The **Local 675 Retirees Club** on Nov. 10 returned three incumbents for another year to their elective offices: President, **Willy Kanno**; Treasurer, **Robert Fernandez**; and second vice president, **Wayne Okubo**.

Members were updated by business manager **Reggie Castanares** on recent federal changes to the pension law.

The club's next meeting is Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2016, at the Moanalua Golf Clubhouse, starting at 9 a.m. Recent pensioners are invited to join the group. For particulars, call Mr. Kanno, 487-2773 or 256-0704.

In Memoriam

Heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the families of recently deceased:

Stanley C.T. Ajirogi	10/06/15
Thomas M. Fukumoto	09/25/15
Carl S. Harano	07/05/15
Ken Kaitsu	12/14/15
Raymond T. Nakagawa	07/27/15
Joseph K.J. Travis	11/02/15
Takeo Yamamoto	09/04/15

Pension Roll Adds Seven

New pensioners approved were:

Michael G. Barbadillo	08/01/15
Cecil E. Hale	11/01/15
John K. Kea	04/01/15
Chad Y.K. Kim	12/01/15
Harold P. McDermott	09/01/15
Robert A. Pagan	07/01/15
Craig T. Tsukimura	11/01/15

YOUR PHONE CONNECTIONS

Local 675 Office 536-5454
1109 Bethel Street, Lower Level
Honolulu, HI 96813

Administrative Office .. 536-4408
1109 Bethel Street, Suite 403
Honolulu, HI 96813

Health & Welfare
Pension, Annuity
Vacation & Holiday

Training Workshop 456-0585
97-731B Kamehameha Hwy.
Pearl City, HI 96782

Credit Union 537-9135
1109 Bethel Street, Lower Level
Honolulu, HI 96813

Call office promptly on address change.