

Aloha Members Help Create Work of Art

Local 1245 members in Honolulu, HI, got an unusual opportunity to work with world-renowned marine artist Wyland on a design for an Aloha Airlines' Boeing 737 that depicts endangered Pacific whales and dolphins.

Aloha is helping promote the non-profit Wyland Foundation, which is dedicated to protecting the world's oceans, waterways and marine life.

"Our members worked with Wyland for three days," said Ken Choy, Local 1245 Aloha mechanics' chairperson. "They said he was very down-to-earth." Wyland is best known for his mega-sized murals of marine life painted in cities around the world. He's also an official artist for the 2008 U.S. Summer Olympic Team.

Local 1245 members Steven Kim and Gilbert Serraon apply a clear coat to an Aloha Airlines Boeing 737 painted by world-renowned artist Wyland. Members David Ono, Kenny Tolentino and Stanley Hasegawa also helped.

Machinist to Lead Kentucky Labor Department

Kentucky's Democratic Governor-elect Steve Beshear named IAM member J.R. Gray as the state's new Commissioner of Labor. Gray is a retired Directing Business Representative (DBR) of District Lodge 154 in Calvert City, KY and has served 26 years in the Kentucky House of Representatives, much of that time as Chairman of the House Labor and Industry Committee.

"This is a great appointment for the working men and women of Kentucky," said IAM President Tom Buffenbarger. "J.R. Gray's

deep commitment to bettering the lives of working families has shown through in everything he's done in his outstanding career."

Gray first joined the IAM in 1964 as a member of Local 1294 in Calvert City, KY. He was elected District Lodge 154 DBR in 1967. He was elected to the Kentucky House in 1975 and served 26 of the next 32 years in public office.



Kentucky Governor-elect Steve Beshear, center, introduces members of his new administration including long-time IAM member J.R. Gray, second from right, who will be the new commissioner of the Department of Labor.



Machinists Mourn Dave Hambleton

Dave Hambleton, retired Assistant Secretary to the General Secretary-Treasurer (GST), died September 9, 2007 at the age of 80. Hambleton joined Local 660 in East Alton, IL in 1943.

He became a Grand Lodge Auditor in 1967, Administrative Assistant to the GST in 1978 and Assistant Secretary in 1983. He retired in 1989.

"Dave served the IAM and our members well for a very long time," said GST Warren Mart, "and he continued helping people long after his retirement. He was a great trade unionist with a big heart."

IAM Scholarship Deadline Feb. 22

Each year, the IAM scholarship program helps many IAM members and children of IAM members complete a four-year college degree or two-year technical/vocational program.

Scholarship applications for members, or children of IAM members, who meet the eligibility guidelines must be postmarked no later than February 22, 2008.

For application information and complete eligibility rules, go to www.goiam.org/iamscholarship or call 301-967-4708.

IAM Members Remember Troops for the Holidays



District 34 President Chet Ellis, right, and Asst. DBR Dave Brandenburg pack more than 2,500 pounds of items donated by IAM members to Holiday Care Packages for our troops serving abroad.

To honor those serving in the military, District Lodge 34 in Columbus, OH asked their 64 local lodges in five states to donate to a Holiday Care Package Drive.

IAM members came through with shining colors, donating more than 2,500 pounds of goods that filled 53 boxes. U.S. Army officials at nearby Fort Hayes volunteered to ship

the donations to military personnel overseas.

"I am very proud of our members who participated and gave of their time and donations to this very worthy cause," said District 34 Directing Business Representative Mike Hall. "Our men and women in uniform deserve to have something from home, especially for the Holidays."