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JANUARY 2010

UUCF/ASJMSF Annual Bass Fishing Tournament (see page 4 for details)



UUCF 2010 Convention ... 30th Anniversary Cruise (see page 5 for details)

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UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation Schedules Tenth Annual Bass Fishing Tournament

The UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation will be holding its two-day Bass Fishing Tournament on Friday, March 5 – Saturday, March 6, 2010 on the Kissimmee Chain of Lakes on Lake Toho at the Big Toho Marina. This tournament has been organized to raise funds for the *UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation*. The Fishing Tournament Chairman Scott Johnson has already started making plans for this event.

There will be a mandatory Captain's Meeting on Thursday, March 4, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. at the Kissimmee Steak House which is located across the street from the Quality Inn Heritage Park hotel. One representative from each team must be present at this meeting. The weigh-in for each day's tournament will be held at the Big Toho Marina. An Angler Dinner will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 5 at the Quality Inn Heritage Park hotel.

The tournament will be a two-day event. Five fish per boat, per team, per day. There is a minimum of two people on a team. No team can consist of more than three people. Paid professional guides cannot be considered as a team member. This will be a catch and release tournament and will be scored in accordance with the B.A.S.S. guidelines. However, the use of live bait is permitted! (After all, this is for FUN!) Professional guide services are available through the foundation.

The schedule for both days is as follows: Check in/Registration starting at 6:30 a.m.; Cast Off at 7:00 a.m. (or safe light); and Weigh-in starts at 2:00 p.m. The cost to register for this event is \$85.00 per

person. The registration fee includes a T-Shirt, hat and raffle ticket at registration. Hotel accommodations, meals, bait, boats and professional guides are not included in this fee.

Angler, Boat/Guide, Shiners and Hotel Registration Forms were mailed to the UUCF membership the first week of December and January. All registration forms, along with payment, must be submitted to the UUCF office **no later than January 22, 2010**.

UUCF is also accepting companies to be a part of the Major, General, Captain's Meeting Happy Hour, Angler Dinner Beverage, Angler Dinner, Grand Prize, Weigh-In and

Trophy Sponsorship Programs. All sponsorship forms were mailed to the UUCF membership the first week of December and January. If you are interested in participating in any of the sponsorship programs, please complete the appropriate sponsorship form and return with payment to the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation office **no later than January 22, 2010**. If you need a sponsorship or registration form, please visit the UUCF website at www.uucf.com or contact the UUCF office at (407) 830-1880.



The UUCF/ASJMSF would like to

(Continued on Page 11)

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UUCF 2010 Convention . . . 30th Anniversary Cruise

We at the Underground Utility Contractors of Florida (UUCF) are excited about celebrating our 30th Anniversary. This year, we are making the 2010 Convention special by having a 30th Anniversary Cruise. The cruise will be departing from Fort Lauderdale on Thursday, July 22, with stops in Key West and Cozumel, and arriving back in Fort Lauderdale on Monday, July 26. We hope you and your family will join us for this wonderful event.



When it comes to beautiful beaches and sparkling blue waters, the Caribbean is really in a league of its own. And beneath their tropical paradise settings, these islands are home to rich culture and complex histories.

The tentative 2010 Convention and sailing itinerary are as follows:

Thursday, July 22, 2010

Executive Committee Meeting

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Registration

3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Hospitality Room

3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Depart from Fort Lauderdale, Florida

5:00 p.m.

Thursday Reception

6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Thursday Dinner

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Friday, July 23, 2010

Arrive in Key West, Florida

7:00 a.m.

Registration

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hospitality Room

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Depart from Key West, Florida

2:00 p.m.

Friday Reception

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Friday Dinner

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 24, 2010

Arrive in Cozumel, Mexico

10:00 a.m.

Continuing Education Seminar (Continued on Sunday)

7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Registration

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Hospitality Room

2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Depart from Cozumel, Mexico

7:00 p.m.

Saturday Dinner

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 25, 2010

Cruising all day

Continuing Education Seminar (Continued from Saturday)

7:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

Registration

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Hospitality Room

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

Board of Director's Meeting

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Registration

2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Hospitality Room

2:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Sunday Reception

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Sunday Dinner

8:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

(Continued on Page 13)

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30th Anniversary**

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2010 Set to be Significant Year For Florida

Below is a quick snapshot of what lies ahead of us in 2010.

Elections

For the first time ever, every member of the state's Cabinet will be up for grabs in the same election. Governor, attorney general, chief financial officer and agriculture commissioner will each be filled by new people.

The U.S. Senate race will lead the parade.

All 120 state House seats are up for grabs and more than half of the Senate.

Qualifying for state office elections ends June 18.

Primary elections are August 24. The general election is November 2.

Independent voters, about one in five in Florida, will be a focus in all the statewide races.

Amendments

There are four proposed amendments already on the November ballot.

FairDistrictsFlorida is trying to meet the February 1 deadline to get 676,811 signatures.

(A) Amendment 1, proposed by the Legislature, would repeal the state's public-finance system for elections.

(B) Amendment 2, by the

Legislature, would expand property-tax credits for deployed military personnel.

(C) Amendment 3, by the Legislature, would cap annual assessment increases for non-homestead property at 5 percent and provide tax protection for first-time homestead buyers.

(D) Amendment 4, proposed by Florida Hometown Democracy by initiative petition, would require local votes on significant changes to comprehensive development plans.

Budget

A fourth year of constrained state finances awaits. Lawmakers will

(Continued on Page 11)

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Unemployment Compensation Tax Increases in 2010

The Unemployment Compensation taxes in Florida are expected to increase significantly in 2010. For employers who are at the lowest tax rate, their taxes will increase from \$8.00 per employee (per year) to \$100.00 per employee (per year). Tax rates are specific to each business and are determined based on several factors, including the number of your former employees claiming benefits the last several years.

Tax rates are determined by the Florida Department of Revenue, and you should have received your new tax notice by the beginning of January. Taxes are paid quarterly, with the first payment for 2010 due at the end of April.

Because of this unprecedented tax

increase, UUCF along with other business associations, are asking legislators to consider suspending the scheduled tax increase before the first payment is due. While unemployment taxes will need to increase at some point in the future, now is an especially bad time to increase the tax burden on the state's business.

Key Points Related to Unemployment Compensation Taxes:

- Unemployment Compensation benefits are funded 100 percent by a payroll tax paid by Florida employers.
- In 2010, Unemployment Compensation taxes will be assessed on the first \$8,500 of earnings for each employee. In

2009, Unemployment Compensation taxes were assessed on the first \$7,000 of earnings.

- An automatic tax increase occurs when the unemployment fund reaches 4 percent of the state's total payroll. The fund fell below that threshold in 2009, and the automatic tax increase is in effect for 2010.
- Combined, the increase in wage base and the automatic increase will raise Unemployment Compensation taxes on employers by as much as 1,100 percent.
- The Florida Department of Revenue began sending Unemployment Compensation tax rate notices to employers on

(Continued on Page 11)

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OSHA Update

OSHA Issues Final Rule on Clarifying Employers' Duty to Provide Personal Protective Equipment and Train Each Employee

The final rule on Clarification of Employers' Duty to Provide Personal Protective Equipment and Train Each Employee was published in the Federal Register. The rule revises OSHA standards to clarify that, for employers to be in compliance, they must provide personal protective equipment (PPE) and hazards training for each employee covered by the standards.

Each employee not protected may be considered a separate violation and penalties assessed accordingly. This revised language is consistent with language in other standards for which per-employee citations have been upheld.

The final rule amendments do not add new compliance obligations. Employers are not required to provide new kinds of PPE or hazards training or use a different approach than what is already required. Additionally, employers are not required to provide PPE or training to employees not already covered by existing requirements.

"This technical correction to the PPE standard brings it in line with other OSHA safety and health standards," said Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Thomas M. Stohler. "By making this change, those few employers who egregiously violate the OSHA PPE standard can be held fully accountable for violations affecting each employee who is not provided proper PPE. This kind of vigorous enforcement is a vital component of OSHA's balanced approach to workplace safety and health."

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthy workplace for their employees. OSHA's role is to promote the safety and health of America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards; providing training, outreach and education; establishing partnerships; and encouraging continual process improvement in workplace safety and health. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.

OSHA Announces Informal Public Hearing on Hazard Communication Rule

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration will hold three informal public **hearings** to accept comments and testimony on the proposed rule to align the agency's Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) with the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).

The first hearing will begin March 2 at 9:30 a.m. in the auditorium of the U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. Additional hearings are scheduled for March 31 in Pittsburgh and April 13 in Los Angeles. OSHA will provide the location for the Pittsburgh and Los Angeles hearings at a later date.

A number of countries, including the United States, and international organizations participated in developing the GHS to address inconsistencies in hazard classification and communications. The system provides a single, harmonized system to classify chemicals, labels and safety data sheets with the primary benefit of increasing the quality and consistency of information provided to workers, employers and chemical users.

Those interested in attending the hearings must provide a notice of intention to appear by January 18, 2010. Notices may be submitted through the Federal Rulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Notices can also be submitted by regular mail to the OSHA Docket Office, Docket No. OSHA-H022K-2006-0062, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20210. Submissions not exceeding 10 pages can be faxed to the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693-1648.

Technical inquiries should be directed to Maureen Ruskin, OSHA, Office of Chemical Hazards-Metals, (202) 693-1950. Press inquiries should be directed to Jennifer Ashley, OSHA, Office of Communications, (202) 693-1999.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthful workplace for their employees. OSHA's role is to assure safe and healthful working conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, [visit http://www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

U.S. Department of Labor Unveils New 'Open Government' Efforts

The U.S. Department of Labor announced a broad array of efforts designed to improve the public's accessibility to its agencies and ensure the department can function more effectively. The work is part of the Obama Administration's continued commitment to improved accountability, transparency and service to the American public.

"True progress is not something that





happens to people. It happens because of them. And, it all begins with information that can be shared in a timely and effective manner," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. "People deserve to know what their government is doing on their behalf, and what they can do to participate actively in that work. I am proud of the steps we are taking to make that possible, and I look forward to broadening our efforts further."

Previously, only the Labor Department's Mine Safety and Health Administration posted worker fatality data on its Website. Now, the Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration is also systematically publishing employer-specific information about occupational fatalities online and making these data available for easy download. Comprehensive, weekly reports on this topic are now available at http://www.osha.gov/dep/fatcat/dep_fatcat.html. Employers with reported fatalities will have an incentive to take steps to improve safety and prevent future accidents. In addition, responsible employers will be able to use the database to identify dangerous conditions and take precautions.

Other agencies at the department are also making additional information available to the public. The Bureau of Labor Statistics is contributing a vast array of new information to <http://www.data.gov>, enhancing its already impressive searchable databases. The Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, meanwhile, recently launched a Web-based competition at <http://www.dol.gov/challenge>. It enlists entrepreneurs and technology firms, workforce professionals and the public to help identify the best online tools to enable America's job seekers to quickly and easily connect with jobs.

The department's commitment to enhance participation also extends to the regulatory arena. On Monday, December 7, the department rolled

out its regulatory agenda entirely online. All of the information – including more than eight hours of Web chats with the secretary of labor and other Department of Labor officials – can be viewed at <http://www.dol.gov/regulations>. The Web page also contains links to resources and testimonials, and it even helps visitors submit comments to specific regulations.

"As a legislator, I always felt it was essential for people to take part in the processes of their government. As a regulator, I feel exactly the same way," added Solis.

The department also has launched an extremely successful weekly e-newsletter, which offers readers the latest details in everything from the department's enforcement and compliance assistance to job openings at its various agencies. Not content with one-way communication, however, the department is also using social media tools to engage the public online – and tapping into the power of crowd sourcing. In fact, the Department of Labor's presence on Facebook and Twitter is already helping to link knowledge communities together and speeding up the sharing of valuable information among the department, state workforce agencies, a variety of stakeholders and, most importantly, the American public.

New OSHA Videos Provide Respirator and Facemask Safety Guidance

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has developed two new videos for healthcare workers that feature training and guidance on respirator safety.

OSHA's "Respirator Safety" video demonstrates how to correctly put on and take off common types of respirators, such as N95s. "The Difference between Respirators and Surgical Masks" video explains how they prevent exposure to infectious diseases.

"Respirators play an important role in protecting many workers from exposure to chemical and biological hazards in the workplace," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA David Michaels. "At a time when pandemic influenza has highlighted the risk to healthcare workers, these videos will prepare and protect workers from the very illnesses they are responsible for treating."

The videos also explain how workers can perform a user seal check to test whether a respirator is worn properly and will provide the expected level of protection. Viewers may watch both English and Spanish versions by visiting OSHA's [Respiratory Protection](#) page or the Department of Labor's [YouTube](#) site.

According to OSHA's respiratory protection standard [29 CFR 1910.134](#), respirators must be used as part of a comprehensive respiratory protection plan.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing a safe and healthful workplace for their employees. OSHA's role is to assure safe and healthful working conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit <http://www.osha.gov>.

U.S. Labor Department releases are accessible on the Internet at www.dol.gov. The information in this news release will be made available in alternate format upon request (large print, Braille, audiotape or disc) from the COAST office. Please specify which news release when placing your request at (202) 693-7828 or TTY (202) 693-7755. The U.S. Department of Labor is committed to providing America's employers and employees with easy access to understandable information on how to comply with its laws and regulations. For more information, please visit www.dol.gov/compliance.





**(UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson
Memorial Scholarship
Foundation Schedules Tenth
Annual Bass Fishing
Tournament
Continued from Page 4)**

take this opportunity to thank the following companies who have committed to sponsoring the Bass Fishing Tournament as of January 13, 2010: **Angler Dinner Beverage Sponsor:** Glenn Rasmussen Fogarty & Hooker, P.A. **Angler Dinner Sponsor:** HD Supply Waterworks. **Captain's Dinner Happy Hour Sponsor:** Centerline Utilities, Inc. **Trophy Sponsors:** U.S. Concrete Pipe Co. and U.S. Concrete Products Corp. **Weigh-In Sponsor:** Rockliner, Inc. **Major Sponsors:** Forsberg Construction, Inc.; Hubbard Construction Company, Inc.; Johnson-Davis, Inc.; Messier Land Developing, Inc.; The Friends & Family of Andy Johnson; The Mack Company; Trio Development Corporation; Wakefield Road Boring, Inc.; and Wells Fargo Construction. **General Sponsors:** Bruce and Julie Kershner; Pete & Nettie Thomson; and Simmons and White, Inc. Engineers.

**(2010 Set to be Significant
Year For Florida
Continued from Page 7)**

struggle to find solutions to a projected \$2.6 billion increase in health-care costs even as projections for tax revenue improve.

"The facts have not changed that Florida still faces significant economic challenges in the years ahead," House Speaker Larry Cretul said in December.

Revisiting expanded gambling, as well as offshore drilling are debates that will figure in the final budget.

There will be more than \$2.7 billion in federal stimulus money propping up the state's budget, but lawmakers will have to be looking forward to when that tap runs dry in the following year.

Census

The 2010 U.S. Census will define politics for the next decade.

First, there's the count. Florida is likely to vault to become the third most populous state and gain a congressional seat. Population for the state is a factor in federal funding formulas, including for counties and cities.

Then, after the count's in, state lawmakers get to work drawing the political lines for congressional districts and state House and Senate districts.

The whole process could get even more complicated if "FairDistrictsFlorida" makes the ballot with its redistricting criteria.

**(Unemployment Compensation
Tax Increases in 2010
Continued from Page 8)**

- December 10, 2009.
- For each employer, the total tax due is calculated by multiplying the number of employees by the wage base and tax rate contained in their notice:
$$\# \text{ of Employees} \times \$8,500 \times \text{Unemployment Compensation Tax Rate} = \text{Tax Due April 30}$$
 - Tax forms will be sent to employers in March 2010, and the tax is due April 30, 2010.

**UUCF Position Related to
Unemployment Compensation
Taxes**

- UUCF has called on the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to call a special session of the legislature in January to suspend the Unemployment Compensation tax increase for two years.
- The Unemployment Compensation tax system in Florida is designed to increase taxes after a recession has ended, and economic recovery and rehiring has begun. Due to the duration of the current recession, this massive tax hike will occur as employers continue to struggle delaying economic recovery in our state.

- During the suspension period, the legislature should address issues critical to making the Unemployment Compensation fund solvent again including benefit levels, duration of benefits, and fraudulent claims.



**Mark your
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2010
Convention.
UUCF will be
celebrating its
30th
Anniversary
aboard the
Royal
Caribbean
Grandeur of the
Seas on
July 22-26,
2010.**

**Watch future issues of
the Ditchmen for
additional information.**

Be Safe
Think Safe!





Division of Workers' Compensation Continues to Offers Free Classes

The Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Workers' Compensation, continues to offer free classes regarding Florida's Workers' Compensation Laws and Workplace Safety to Business Owners, Licensed Contractors and Employers.

Workers' compensation topics covered include:

- Review of Key Statutory Definitions
- Contractor Responsibilities
- Exemptions
- Insurance Coverage Requirements
- Enforcement Provisions

Workplace safety topics presented by OSHA (U.S. Dept. of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration) include:

- Direct and Indirect Costs
- Inspections
- Florida Fatalities

The following is a list of class locations, dates and times for future sessions.

February 3, 2010

Fort Myers
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (English)
Career and Service Centers of Southwest Florida
4150 Ford Street Extension
Fort Myers, FL 33916

February 5, 2010

Lakeland
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (English)
Lakeland Public Library
100 Lake Morton Drive
Lakeland, FL 33801

February 12, 2010

West Palm Beach
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (English)
Center Career Center
1951 North Military Trail, Suite D
West Palm Beach, FL 33409

February 16, 2010

Tampa
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (English)
Park Trammel Building (State Office Building)
1313 North Tampa Street, Suite 603
Tampa, FL 33602

February 17, 2010

Miami
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (English)
State Office Building
401 N.W. 2nd Avenue
North Tower, Room 423
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February 17, 2010

Orlando
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (English)
State Office Building
Hurston Building Complex
400 West Robinson Street
South Tower – Conference Room
C & D
Orlando, FL 32801

March 16, 2010

Jacksonville
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon (English)
Florida Department of Law
Enforcement
921 North Davis Street, Building E
Jacksonville, FL 32209

March 23, 2010

Pensacola (Workers' Compensation
Presentation Only)
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. (English)
West Florida Regional Library
200 West Gregory Street
Pensacola, FL 32501

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provider (Provider Number:
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Number: 0010118 – one hour
satisfies the Workers' Compensation
requirement and Course Number:
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The form is available on the
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221-6518 or Fax (813) 233-3742.

**(UUCF 2010 Convention . . .
30th Anniversary Cruise
Continued from Page 5)**

Monday, July 26, 2010

Arrive in Fort Lauderdale, Florida

7:00 a.m.

Disembark

9:00 a.m.

This year's Convention Committee is
being chaired by Flo Woodall of John
Woody, Inc. in Jacksonville. This
year's Convention Theme is *Journey
to the Future. Don't Stop
Believin'*.

The Platinum and Gold Sponsors
from the 2009 Convention have
been solicited for the 2010
Convention. Once the UUCF hears
back from those companies, the
UUCF office will start soliciting for
additional Platinum and Gold
Sponsors.

The Convention Committee has
established that UUCF will be holding
two or three receptions during the
cruise. There will be continuing
education classes for contractors and
a Golf Tournament.

A Cabin Registration Form will be
finalized and sent to all UUCF

(Continued on Page 23)

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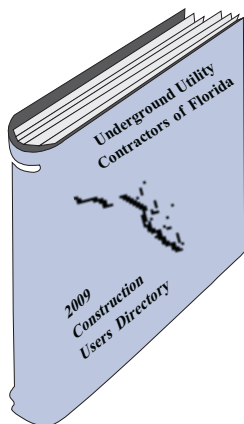
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Did You Receive Your Copy of the UUCF 2009 Directory?



The UUCF 2009 Construction Users Directory was mailed in August to all UUCF members.

This directory is your best reference guide to

members of the seven chapters in the state of Florida.

If you did not receive your **free** copy of the UUCF Directory or need an additional copy for your office, please contact your local chapter or the UUCF office at (407) 830-1880.

Certified Contractor License Renewal Reminder

Just a reminder that the Certified Contractor licenses from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) are up for renewal on August 31, 2010. Current law requires licenseholders to obtain 14 hours of continuing education with at least one hour in workplace safety, one hour in workers' compensation, one hour in business practices, one hour in the advance building code module, one hour in laws and rules (Chapter 489) and one hour in wind mitigation (this requirement only affects general, residential, building, roofing and glass and glazing contractors).

Don't forget to notify the DBPR office of any address change. Section 489.124(2) gives sole responsibility to the licensee for notifying DBPR in writing of the licensee's current mailing address and phone number. Failure to notify the department of a change of address shall constitute a violation of this section. In addition, if your address changes and you do not notify the department, you may not receive important mailings from the department such as your renewal notice.

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President's Message



I would like to wish everyone a Happy and Safe New Year. I think most of us are looking forward to the new year if for no other reason a new and fresh start putting last year behind us.

I would like to report that we have a good draft for our budget, and we will be presenting it at our Board of Director's Meeting this month. I do not expect a lot of modifications, but I do expect that there will be detailed discussions. UUCF is no different from your companies and households. Our money is short, and we look at each line item to see what we can trim without losing efficiency. Once we agree on the budget, Bruce Wendorf has a draft for our contract with the R. Bruce Kershner Company.

Legislatively, we need to be working to defeat Hometown Democracy. As I



mentioned last month, the new name is Amendment #4. Please continue educating

your employees, suppliers, neighbors and friends. It is not a surprise that most of the people I have spoken with do not know anything about this amendment or the consequences if it is passed. UUCF will continue its efforts; but like all politics, we have to pay to be heard and listened to. Thanks to those who have contributed to the UUCF PAC. If you haven't and are able to contribute, please send a UUCF PAC check to the UUCF office.

The two big upcoming events are the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation

Fishing Tournament and the UUCF 30th Anniversary Cruise. The UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation Fishing Tournament is scheduled for March 5-6 in Kissimmee at Big Toho. As in the past, it will be a great event. The UUCF 30th Anniversary Cruise will leave Fort Lauderdale on July 22 and return July 26. With Flo Woodall and her Convention Committee in charge, you will have a good time. There is reservation information as you know in the Ditchmen, and we encourage you to attend and sign up as early as you can.

In closing, I thank everyone for your support with UUCF. There are many things we can achieve working together to enhance our industry.

Sincerely,
Bill Lee
UUCF President



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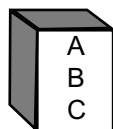
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UUCF PAC Needs Your Help!

The UUCF PAC needs your help today if it is to continue contributing to candidates who are business friendly. During the 2008 Election, UUCF expended more than \$60,000.00 to candidates running for House and Senate seats. Candidates and the UUCF PAC now need to replenish their funds for the 2010 Election. The UUCF PAC is currently receiving solicitations from candidates.

Facts pertaining to the 2010 Election:

- For the first time ever, every member of the state's Cabinet will be up for grabs in the same election. Governor, attorney general, chief financial officer and agriculture commissioner will each be filled by new people.

- The U.S. Senate race will lead the parade.
- All 120 state House seats are up for grabs and more than half of the Senate.
- Qualifying for state office elections ends June 18.
- Primary elections are August 24. The general election is November 2.
- Independent voters, about one in five in Florida, will be a focus in all the statewide races.

Legislative actions have a major impact on our industry. It is important to elect members to the Florida Legislature who are willing to listen objectively to our concerns,

understand them and act accordingly. Our opponents are powerful with seemingly unlimited resources. They spend big money to elect candidates who do not share our values and concerns.

UUCF has just come off another successful Legislative Session. The success was hard fought. These victories came because UUCF has worked hard to send elected officials to Tallahassee who will listen to our concerns.

UUCF has enjoyed much success over the years through its day-to-day lobbying efforts. The reasons for this success are clear — we are visible, vocal and effective. The UUCF PAC is one vehicle we use to

(Continued on Page 19)

<p>Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A. Attorneys at Law</p> <p>ADAM C. LINKHORST Board Certified Construction Law Attorney</p> <p>Palm Beach - Main Office 4495 Military Trail, Suite 106 Jupiter, FL 33458 Tel. 561-626-8880 Fax. 561-626-8885 acl@floridahardhatlaw.com www.floridahardhatlaw.com</p> <p>Broward - By Appointment Whitecliff Law Building 300 Southeast Thirteenth Street Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 Tel. 954-776-5990 Cell. 954-562-9199</p>	<p>SHANNON & WILSON, INC. GEO TECHNICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS</p> <p>MARK A. POPOVICH VICE PRESIDENT Office: 904.223.6676 Fax: 904.223.6448 Cell: 904.728.3053 map@shanwil.com</p> <p>13400 SUTTON PARK DRIVE SOUTH SUITE 1001-4 JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32224-0235</p>	<p>Don't adjust your manholes with bricks anymore! Use precast concrete grade rings! Do the job faster- easier! Call for pricing! Delivery Available!</p> <p>SCP</p> <p>3702 OLSON DRIVE DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32124</p> <p>OFFICE 386-238-6020 FAX 386-258-3788</p> <p>SOUTHEAST CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS</p>
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(UUCF PAC Needs Your Help!)
Continued from Page 16)

reach our goals. We need your help today to send Florida's best to Tallahassee.

One of the most important aspects of a successful legislative program is the ability to assist candidates financially during their campaigns. The UUCF PAC has been there in the past making contributions to "business friendly" candidates. The UUCF PAC is currently receiving solicitations for contributions for the 2010 election. This is why we are asking for your support today.

There are four UUCF PAC club memberships: President's Club – \$1,200.00 for the first year, \$1,000.00 for renewal years; Founders Club – \$500.00; Century Club – \$250.00; and Capital Club – \$100.00. The UUCF PAC also accepts donations in any amount that you are comfortable contributing. If you are interested in joining one of these clubs, please contact the UUCF office for a UUCF PAC Membership Form at (407) 830-1880.

Renewal of Qualified Business Licenses (Certificates of Authority)

Effective October 1, 2009, the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) will no longer issue Certificates of Authority (qualified business licenses). HB 425 eliminated the requirement for a separate business license for construction companies in Florida.

However, construction companies must still retain licensed qualifying agents, and the name of the company will still appear on the qualifying agent's license. Contractors will still be required to qualify construction businesses with their license and provide background information for the business they are seeking to qualify. House Bill 425 still provides for a fee to process applications to qualify a business and their renewals.


Construction Industry Licensing Board Frequently Asked Questions and Answers Pertaining to Certificate of Authority Elimination HB 425 (2009) Implementation

1. When does the new law take effect?

Beginning October 1, 2009 the Department of Business and Professional Regulation will not issue a separate certificate of authority (also known as "qualified business license") for construction businesses.
2. Will contractors still be required to qualify a construction business?

Yes, contractors will still be required to qualify a construction business with their individual license.
3. Will contractors still be required to provide the same background information to qualify a business?

Yes, contractors will still be required to provide the same background information to qualify



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a construction company.

4. Will the name of the construction business be listed on the contractor's license?

Yes, the name of the qualified business will continue to be placed on the contractor's license.

5. What happens to my existing certificate of authority?

The certificate of authority will no longer be regarded as a license, but the business information will remain on the Department's public website.

6. Will my application and renewal fees change?

The application fees for an initial contractor's license or change of status will remain the same. However, beginning with the renewal cycle in the year 2011, all licenses that qualify a business entity will be assessed an additional business qualification fee of \$50 in addition to the regular renewal fee.





Calendar of Events

UUCF 2010

Mar. 5-6 UUCF/ASJMSF Bass Fishing Tournament,
Lake Toho, Kissimmee
Mar. 22 Board of Director's Meeting, Tallahassee
June 4 Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando
July 22-26 30th Anniversary Cruise
Royal Caribbean Grandeur of the Seas
July 25 Board of Director's Meeting
Nov. 5 Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando

Southwest Florida UCA 2010

Jan. 28 General Membership Meeting, Holiday Inn,
Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers
Feb. 18 General Membership Meeting, Holiday Inn,
Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers
Mar. 18 General Membership Meeting, Holiday Inn,
Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers
Apr. 8 Trade Show, Harborside Event Center,
Downtown Fort Myers
May 15 Scholarship Golf Tournament
June 24 Scholarship Night & Dinner Meeting
July (TBA) Board of Director's Meeting
Aug. 19 General Membership Meeting, Holiday Inn,
Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers
Sept. 17-19 Fishing Tournament,
'Tween Waters Inn, Captiva Island
Oct. 21 General Membership Meeting, Holiday Inn,
Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers
Nov. 18 Board of Director's Meeting
Dec. 4 Christmas Party

UCA of North Florida 2010

Jan. 19 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
Jan. 21 Board of Director's Meeting & Installation
of Officers Dinner, Jacksonville Marriott
Feb. (TBA) Bettering Your Business Series
Feb. 9 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
Mar. 9 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
Mar. 18 Board of Director's & General
Membership Meeting Meetings
Apr. 7 Safety Director's Forum
Apr. 13 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
Apr. 29 ... Jacksonville Suns vs. Mississippi Braves Game,
Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville
May 12 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
May 20 Board of Director's Meeting
May 25 Annual Golf Tournament,
Deerwood Country Club

June 3 Bettering Your Business Luncheon Series
June 8 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
July 6 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
July 15 Board of Director's Meeting
Aug. 4 Safety Director's Forum
Aug. 10 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
Aug. 19 General Membership Meeting
Sept. 7 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
Sept. 16 Board of Director's Meeting
Oct. (TBA) Fishing Tournament,
Sister's Creek Marina/City of Jacksonville
Oct. 6 Bettering Your Business Luncheon Series
Oct. 12 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
Nov. 3 Safety Director's Forum
Nov. 9 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office
Nov. 18 Election of Officers Meeting
Dec. 14 Executive Committee Meeting,
Conference Room/UCA of North Florida Office

NUCA 2010

Jan. 11-13 Expo '10, Walt Disney World Dolphin
Hotel, Orlando, Florida
May 17-19 Washington Summit,
Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill, Washington, DC

2011

Jan. 18-21 Expo '11, The Executive Experience,
The El Conquistador Resort, Las Croabas, Puerto Rico

Sunshine State One Call of Florida, Inc. (SSOCOF) Meetings 2010

Feb. 18 Committee Meetings, DeBary Call Center
Feb. 19 Board of Director's Meeting,
DeBary Call Center
Mar. 2-4 ... CGA Excavation Safety Conference & Expo,
San Diego Convention Center, San Diego, CA
Mar. 19 Executive Committee Meeting,
DeBary Call Center/Conference Call
Apr. 1-30 National Safe Digging Month
May 20 Annual, Board of Director's and Committee
Meetings, DeBary Call Center
May 21 Golf Tournament, DeLand
June 18 Executive Committee Meeting,
DeBary Call Center/Conference Call
Aug. 19 Committee Meetings
Aug. 20 Board of Director's Meeting
Sept. 17 Executive Committee Meeting,
DeBary Call Center/Conference Call
Nov. 18 Committee Meetings,
DeBary Call Center





Nov. 19 Board of Director's Meeting,
DeBary Call Center
Dec. 17 Executive Committee Meeting,
DeBary Call Center/Conference Call

2011

Feb. 17 Committee Meetings, DeBary Call Center
Feb. 18 Board of Director's Meeting,
DeBary Call Center
Mar. 18 Executive Committee Meeting,
DeBary Call Center/Conference Call
May 19 Annual, Board of Director's and Committee
Meetings, DeBary Call Center
May 20 Golf Tournament, Deland
June 17 Executive Committee Meeting,
DeBary Call Center/Conference Call
Aug. 18 Committee Meetings
Aug. 19 Board of Director's Meeting
Sept. 16 Executive Committee Meeting,
DeBary Call Center/Conference Call
Nov. 17 Committee Meetings,
DeBary Call Center
Nov. 18 Board of Director's Meeting,
DeBary Call Center
Dec. 16 Executive Committee Meeting,
DeBary Call Center/Conference Call

Construction Industry Licensing Board Meetings 2010

Feb. 10-12 Crowne Plaza Tampa Westshore, Tampa
Mar. 10-12 ... The Florida Hotel and Conference Center,
Orlando
Apr. 14-16 TBA
May 12-14 TBA
June 9-11 TBA
July 14-16 TBA
August 11-13 TBA
Sept. 8-10 TBA
Oct. 13-15 TBA
Nov. 10-12 TBA

Contractor V License Renewals

Just a reminder that the Contractor V license from the State Fire Marshal's office is up for renewal on June 30, 2010. Current law requires Contractor V licenseholders to obtain 14 hours of continuing education with at least one hour in fire protection discipline.

Reciprocity was established between the State Fire Marshal's office and the Construction Industry Licensing Board (CILB). Any hours obtained through CILB approved courses can apply towards your Contractor V license. The same applies to courses obtained through the State Fire Marshal's office.

Sunshine State One Call of Florida, Inc. 2010 Holiday Calendar

New Year's Day	01/01/10
Martin Luther King Day	01/18/10
Memorial Day	05/31/10
Observance of Independence Day	07/05/10
Labor Day	09/06/10
Thanksgiving Day	11/25/10
Day after Thanksgiving Day	11/26/10
Christmas Eve	12/23/10
Christmas Day	12/24/10

SSOCOF's business hours are Monday through Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. **Please keep the above dates in mind when calling for locates two business days prior. The law now requires two full business days prior to digging.**



2010 FDOT Letting Dates

March 3	March 31
April 28	May 26
June 23	July 28
August 25	September 29
October 27	December 1

2011 FDOT Letting Date

January 26	February 23
March 30	April 27
May 25	June 22





Chapter News

Northwest Florida UCA

The 2010 membership investment dues have been mailed. Dues become delinquent on February 15. Please address your dues responsibility promptly. We hope you will continue to invest in your association and industry.

We are trying to determine the interest level in conducting the following training classes: Excavation/Trenching Competent Person; Excavation/Trenching Competent Person Refresher; FDOT Maintenance of Traffic-Intermediate level; FDOT MOT Refresher; FDOT MOT Advanced level. If you are interested in sending employees to any of these classes, please advise the Northwest Florida UCA office which class(es) and approximately how many would attend each class.

Annual Sponsorships are available in four different levels with Northwest Florida UCA:

Platinum – \$ 500.00

Gold – \$ 350.00

Silver – \$250.00

Bronze – \$100.00

Sponsors receive a listing in each month's newsletter, as well as on signage posted at all events. In addition, a 10% discount is received for two attendees at all chapter functions.

Sponsorships are available to members and nonmembers alike. This is an excellent opportunity to show support of our industry through a sponsorship. Forms should be returned no later than February 20.

Southwest Florida UCA

Southwest Florida UCA ended the year with a bang with their Hawaiian Christmas Party and Installation of Officers and Directors. The party was held on Saturday, December 5 in the beautiful Holiday Inn ballroom.

We would like to thank everyone who attended and supported the party by sponsoring. Thanks also to Kathi Moore, Christmas Party Chairperson, and the committee, Jerry Haas, Pres Bliss and Sharon Fugatt. The ballroom was decorated Christmas Hawaiian style and everyone attending dressed the part. The tropical buffet was delicious. Even the games carried out the theme with a hula hoop contest, the limbo and many more fun games. The music was great, and we also had a little karaoke going on. Great talent among our members! Of course before everything started, announcements were made and the Installation of Officers and Directors ceremony was held. 2009 Committee Chairs were recognized and the 2009 Chapter President Kirk Richmond was awarded a plaque. Thank you Kirk for your dedication to our industry and serving as 2009 Southwest Florida UCA President.

Thank you to the following sponsors for keeping the faith and making this event possible. It is so appreciated!

Pineapple Gold Sponsors:

Advance Drainage Systems, Inc.; Gulf Coast Underground, Inc. and Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers, Inc.

Coconut Silver Sponsors:

Nortrax Equipment and Valenti Trobec and Woody.

Hula Sponsors:

Armadillo Underground; B.J. Enterprises, Inc.; B & J Linings, Forsberg Construction, Inc.; ITT Water & Wastewater; LLC; Kelly Tractor Company and Rinker Materials, Concrete Pipe Division.

During 2009, Mark Nottingham with Christo, Inc. took the lead to help Southwest Florida UCA raise money through Football Mania. The first year of a new thing is always tough,

but Mark made it happen. We appreciate all who sold tickets and to those who participated. The biggest sellers were the crew at Linder Industrial Machinery Co. There was quite a few winners. Thank you Mark for all the hard work.

We are gearing up for our semi-Annual Southwest Florida UCA Trade Show that will be held on Thursday, April 8 at the Harborside Convention Center in downtown Fort Myers. It is known as one of the best trade shows in Florida in our industry for the price. So make plans to attend and secure a booth. Information will be sent out soon. If you would like to be on the list to either attend or have a booth, contact Sharon at the Southwest Florida UCA office at sharonswfuca@comcast.net.

I hope you all had a great holiday season with family and friends and are gearing up for a prosperous new year. Thank you to each Southwest Florida UCA member for your commitment and dedication to our great association. There are always members working for us on a local, state and national level who are committed to the betterment of our industry. Please check out the dates listed under the calendar events. I hope you will mark your calendar and get involved. When things get tough, we need to keep moving forward together.

The first Southwest Florida UCA Membership Dinner Meeting of the new year will be held on Thursday, January 28, 2010 at the Holiday Inn, Gulf Coast Town Center. This will be a night to invite first time potential new member guests at no extra charge. The member who brings a new guest that joins in January or February 2010 will also receive their February dinner for free. So start your year off right. Get involved and attend the next Southwest Florida UCA dinner meeting.





UCA of North Florida

Hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and are ready to take on 2010! A group from our chapter is starting the year out right by attending the NUCA's Utility Construction Expo '10 at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Hotel beginning on January 10. If you can't attend the whole convention, single event registration is available. Visit www.nuca.com for additional information. Hope to see all of you there!

At our Board of Director's Meeting on November 17, the board approved a resolution by the association opposing an amendment to the Florida Constitution that would force voters to decide all changes to a city or county's comprehensive plan. If you would like a copy of the resolution, please contact Kathy at (904) 296-1230. We urge all of the other chapters in Florida to take a similar action.

The UCA of North Florida 2010 Officer Installation & Annual Meeting will take place on Thursday, January 21 at 6:00 p.m. at the Jacksonville Marriott. At this meeting, we will be establishing the *Don Davis Excellence in Service Award*. This award may be presented annually to a non-member who has made a significant contribution to the industry or association. In addition, the recipient must demonstrate the qualities of the late Representative Don Davis. Those qualities include distinguished public service, sound business acumen, dedication to family, a deep sense of faith and selflessness. The candidates may hold office on a state, local or national level. The Davis family has been invited to accept a plaque to commemorate the establishment of the award.

The UCA of North Florida office has moved to a different suite in the same office building. Our new mailing address is:

Jacksonville, FL 32216

We are pleased to welcome the following members who recently joined our association: ACME Barricades, LC and Piertek Phillips Highway. Our contact at Acme Barricades is Christian Cummings. Steve Goulette is our contact at Piertek Phillips Highway.

Plans are already underway for our Annual Golf Tournament & Vendor Showcase to be held on Tuesday, May 25 at the Deerwood Country Club. This year's golf chairman is Rick Erickson with Industrial Tractor Company. Call the UCA of North Florida office at (904) 269-1230 for additional information.

Welcome New UUCF Members January 13, 2010

Killebrew, Inc.

Sam Killebrew
Lakeland, Florida
(863) 701-0273
Contractor
Chapter: SUCA

MWI-Moving Water Industries Pump Rental Division

John Mendez
Orlando, Florida
(407) 608-9641
Associate
Chapter: UUCF At Large

Piertek Phillips Highway

Steve Goulette
Jacksonville, Florida
(904) 647-6533
Associate
Chapter: UCA of North Florida

(UUCF 2010 Convention . . . 30th Anniversary Cruise Continued from Page 13)

members in January. If you plan on joining us for the 30th Anniversary Cruise, please complete and submit your Cabin Registration Form, along with payment, to the UUCF office as soon as possible. **Cabins will be on a first-come, first-serve basis and will not be reserved until payment is received.**

In January, UUCF will also be sending out a Convention Registration Form which will cover the registration fee for all private UUCF functions during the cruise.

Please note: Due to the heightened level of security in 2005, all passengers are required to have a passport. A passport at embarkation is strictly enforced. Anyone arriving at the port without a passport will be denied boarding and NO REFUND will be issued. No exception will be made, per Royal Caribbean. Everyone MUST have a passport when taking a cruise to any foreign port of call. If you do not have a passport, go to the U.S. Department of State website at http://travel.state.gov/passport/forms/forms_847.html.

**UUCF
wishes
everybody a
prosperous
and Happy
New Year!**

4110 Southpoint Blvd, Suite 112





UUCF to Hold Board and Committee Meetings in Tallahassee

The 2010 Legislative Session will begin on March 2. The Underground Utility Contractors of Florida (UUCF) Board of Director's and Committee Meetings will be held in Tallahassee while the state legislature is in session. The date is Monday, March 22, 2010. As with every board meeting, UUCF members are invited to attend. However, this is a special invitation to all UUCF members to attend this "legislative session" Board of Director's Meeting.

The UUCF Executive and Convention Committee Meetings and Board of Director's Meeting will be held on Monday, March 22, 2010 at

the Governors Club located at 202 South Adams Street in Tallahassee. The Executive and Convention Committee Meetings will be held from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, lunch will start at 12:00 noon and the Board of Director's Meeting and Legislative Briefing will be held from 12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

On Tuesday, March 23, 2010, attendees are encouraged to walk the halls of the Capitol and meet with their local representatives and senators. Attendees will be briefed on the issues to discuss with their legislators during the Legislative Briefing on Monday, March 22, 2010.

UUCF has secured a block of rooms at the Doubletree Hotel Tallahassee. The rate is \$139.00 single/double occupancy. Information, along with a Hotel Reservation Form, was e-mailed to all UUCF members. Please feel free to contact the hotel directly at (800) 222-8733 or call the UUCF office for a Hotel Reservation Form. **The room block will expire on Friday, February 19, 2010**, so make your room reservations now. Tallahassee is busy this time of year.

Don't forget to make appointments with the senators and representatives from your district on Tuesday, March 23.

 <p>MACK CONCRETE INDUSTRIES, INC. P.O. Box 157 • 23902 c.r. 561 Astatula, FL 34705</p> <p>ASTATULA FAX (352) 742-2333 (352) 742-0799</p> <p>Manholes Sewage Treatment Systems Florida DOT Products Septic Tank Box Culverts Secondary Containment Vessels</p>	<p>As Low as \$125 For a Year</p> <p>Your Ad Could Be Here!</p> <p>Call (407) 830-1880</p>	<p>SHENANDOAH CONSTRUCTION</p> <p>Office: (954) 975-0098 Fax: (954) 975-9718</p> <p>PIPELINE CLEANING, VIDEO INSPECTION, TRENCHLESS REPAIRS, GROUTING 24 HR. SERVICE 1888 NW 22nd Street Pompano Beach, FL 33069 Staffin Zebarth License #CUC1223821 Email: staffin.zebarth@shenandoahconstruction.com</p>
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Underground Utility Contractors of Florida/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation



Charitable Contribution Form

Looking for a business or personal charitable contribution for this year? Why not contribute to the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation? The foundation has been approved as a non-profit corporation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Since its inception in 2000, the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation has awarded \$155,500 in scholarships to very deserving individuals. The foundation's only current source of revenue is its Annual Bass Tournament which is held each spring.

The UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. was established in memory of the son of two-time Past President of UUCF, Scott Johnson (Johnson-Davis, Inc.). On December 28, 1999, Scott and Robin Johnson's son Andrew "Andy" Scott Johnson was tragically killed in an automobile accident at the age of 19. At the time of his death, Andy was a sophomore at Vanderbilt University studying Civil Engineering with hopes of entering the family business.

In less than three years since its formation, the foundation, through the generous gifts of family, friends and a concerned industry, has established a scholarship fund that will hopefully serve the association's membership to enable college bound students and forever memorialize a bright young man. Please consider taking this opportunity to continue funding the foundation by making a contribution today.

Please accept my charitable contribution in the amount of \$_____ for the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc.

Name: _____
Company Name: _____
Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Fax: (____) _____

Please complete form and return with check made payable to UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation and mail to:

UUCF ASJMSF/Contribution
231 West Bay Avenue
Longwood, FL 32750-4125
Phone: (407) 830-1880 • Fax: (407) 260-1582

Contributions to the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. help support its scholarship. Your support of the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. qualifies as a charitable contribution and is deductible for federal income tax purposes to the maximum extent provided by law. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.





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