



Ditchmen

Online

Underground Utility Contractors of Florida, Inc.

JUNE 2010

UUCF Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Gaylord Palms Resort
& Convention Center
Kissimmee, Florida
*(See page 4 for
details)*



2010 Legislative Session Update

*(See page 7
for details)*

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UUCF 2010 Convention . . . 30th Anniversary Cruise Moves to Dry Land

The Underground Utility Contractors of Florida (UUCF) are excited about celebrating our 30th Anniversary. We are pleased to announce that the UUCF 2010 Convention will be held at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Kissimmee on July 23–25, 2010. The theme is “*Journey to the Future . . . ‘Don’t Stop Believin.’*”



To view information on the Gaylord Palms Resort & Conference Center, please [click here](#).

The room block at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center expires on Friday, July 2, 2010. UUCF has secured an unbelievable room rate of \$129.00 per night which includes the \$15.00 resort fee. These rooms have an outside view without a balcony. You can upgrade to a room with a view of the atrium of the hotel with a balcony for only \$169.00. Executive suites can be secured for \$399.00 per night, and Deluxe suites can be secured for \$599.00 per night. As part of the \$15.00 resort fee, which is included in the room rate, is wired/wireless internet access in guest rooms, daily newspaper, access to fitness center, two bottles of water daily in guest room, transportation to/from Disney World and onsite putt-putt. The room rate does not include a \$12.00 daily self parking fee or \$20.00 valet fee plus tax. The room rate also does not include tax, which is currently 13% plus a 1% Osceola County Assessment Fee. All room

rates are good three days prior to and after the dates of the Convention.

This year’s convention will be a two-day event instead of the three-day event. In turn, this will save you and/your company money.

This year’s Convention Committee is being chaired by Flo Woodall of John Woody, Inc. in Jacksonville. We will still utilize the cruise theme of “*Journey to the Future . . . ‘Don’t Stop Believin.’*”

The 2010 Platinum Sponsors of the UUCF Convention as of June 25, 2010 are:

- CNA
- Nortrax
- Sunshine State One Call of

Florida, Inc.

To become a Platinum Sponsor, the cost is \$3,000.00.

The 2010 Gold Sponsors of the UUCF Convention as of June 25, 2010 are:

- Glenn Rasmussen Fogarty & Hooker, P.A.
- ITT Water & Wastewater Florida, LLC
- Linder Industrial Machinery Company
- Pensacola Concrete Construction Company, Inc.
- Ring Power Corporation




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UUCF Convention as of June 25, 2010 are:

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- Glenn Rasmussen Fogarty & Hooker, P.A.
- HD Supply Waterworks
- John Woody, Inc.
- Johnson-Davis, Inc.
- Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors
- Ring Power Corporation
- Utility Service Company, Inc.
- Valenti, Trobec & Woody, Inc.

To become a Silver Sponsor, the cost is \$500.00 per slot.

The 2010 Bronze Sponsors of the UUCF Convention as of June 25, 2010 are:

- Northwest Florida Utility Contractors Association

To become a Bronze Sponsor, the cost is either \$100.00, \$150.00, \$200.00 or \$250.00.

The Convention Committee has established that UUCF will be offering continuing education classes. There will be a total of seven hours offered for contractors who are required to fulfill their continuing education requirements by August 31, 2010.

For your convenience, the Hotel Registration Form is included on page 10 in this issue of the *Ditchmen* or [click here](#) to obtain the form.

For your convenience, the Convention Registration Form is also included on

page 11 in this issue of the *Ditchmen* or [click here](#) to obtain the form.

If you plan on attending the UUCF 30th Anniversary Convention, please complete and submit your Hotel and Registration Forms no later than **Friday, July 2, 2010.**

UUCF will be holding a Silent Auction this year, but there is a twist. The Silent Auction will be called the White Elephant Auction. As in past years, individuals or companies will make a donation to the Auction. The individuals, companies or UUCF office will wrap the item(s). Attendees at the convention will be provided with a list of each of the items donated; however, they will not know what package the items are located in. Throughout the Convention, individuals will bid on the items; however, they will not know what is in the wrapped package that they are bidding on. Once UUCF closes the Auction, wrapped packages will be awarded to the highest bidder; however, the highest bidder cannot open the package. Individuals who are the highest bidder are allowed to exchange their wrapped package for another wrapped package. Once the exchange is over, then each individual with a wrapped package will be allowed to open their package. Some of the items donated to the White Elephant Auction will be silent items and others will be live items.

Instead of holding a Chinese Raffle, UUCF will be holding a Lucky 30 Raffle. A Lucky 30 Raffle is where

UUCF will place the numbers of 1 – 30 on slips of paper in a bowl. Attendees at the Convention will pull a number from the bowl. Whatever number they pulled, that is the cost of their raffle ticket (i.e., if the number 30 is pulled, the individual would pay \$30.00). Half of the proceeds from the Lucky 30 Raffle collected go to the association, and the other half of the proceeds go to the winner. The Lucky 30 Raffle will be held on Saturday night.

When attendees pick up their registration package at the convention, each couple (or individual if you are not bringing a spouse/guest) will be given a GOTTA bag which will be empty. Couples (or individuals) will be instructed to put things in the GOTTA bag and carry with them while at the convention. UUCF will be assigning individuals to walk throughout the hotel. If they spot you with the GOTTA bag, they will approach you and ask you to pull a piece of paper from their bag. The piece of paper will read, "GOTTA (i.e., blue ink pen)?" If you pull a blue ink pen out of your GOTTA bag, then you will be given a ticket. Attendees can accumulate as many tickets as possible throughout the convention. On Saturday night, tickets will be pulled for various prizes.

We hope to see you all at the UUCF 2010 Convention at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Kissimmee on July 23-25, 2010!

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UUCF

**Underground Utility Contractors of Florida
2010 Annual Convention 30th Anniversary
Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center
July 23-25**

Journey to the Future ... "Don't Stop Believin'"

2010 Platinum Sponsors:

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ITT Water & Wastewater Florida, LLC

Linder Industrial Machinery Company

Pensacola Concrete Construction Company, Inc.

Ring Power Corporation

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

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.



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2010 Legislative Session Update

The 2010 Legislative Session ended on April 30, and the Governor has taken action on all bills.

The following is a summary of some of the bills that passed and were signed in to law by Governor Crist. UUCF will be working on a Final Legislative Report and will get it out to the membership in the future:

Chapter Law 2010-1 – Relating to Unemployment Compensation

For the business community at large, the severe increase in unemployment compensation rates that was effective January 1, 2010 was a major issue.

The increase was automatic after the number of unemployed spiked, but businesses complained that they weren't prepared for how steep the increase would be.

The legislature passed a bill, which

became law when the Governor signed it on March 2, 2010. The minimum tax rate will be \$25.20, and the maximum tax rate will stay at \$378. The law also extended benefits for eight weeks. Due to the record level of unemployment in Florida, the state UC Trust Fund has been paying out more for unemployment benefits than what it has been collecting from employers. The fund turned to red in August 2009; and since then, the state has received more than \$1.2 billion in federal advances in order to cover the benefits. The law requires the state to continue borrowing and repay the debt in several years.

Chapter Law 2010-100 – Relating to Underground Facility Damage Prevention & Safety

This makes changes to the Underground Facility Damage Prevention & Safety Act (One Call). This was a priority for UUCF for the 2010 Legislative Session.

The law adopts low impact marking provisions to minimize the amount and duration of paint on the ground; Clarifies intent to have statewide damage prevention regulation. Local governments are passing ordinances (mandatory white lining, use of only chalk based paint) that will create requirements different from Chapter 556, F.S., and make it difficult for utilities and contractors to know the rules; Requires Sunshine State One Call of Florida, Inc. (SSOCOF) to establish a voluntary alternative dispute resolution process to resolve disputes arising from excavation activities. **This was a UUCF priority;** and Provides an increase in penalties for violations of Chapter 556, F.S., including development of a process to allow SSOCOF to contract with the Division of Administrative Hearings (DOAH) to determine appropriate penalties for serious "incidents" (death, hospitalization, significant property damage) involving pipelines (natural gas, gasoline) that

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are identified as “high priority” installations by the operators of those installations.

The law also Clarifies provisions for underwater marking; Deletes the obsolete provision to conduct a feasibility study in 2007; Deletes redundant provisions regarding a limited waiver of sovereign immunity; Prohibits using any member’s required and shared information from being used for sales and marketing purposes; and Requires reports to SSOCOF of Chapter 556, F.S., violations filed with Clerks of Court.

**Chapter Law 2010-111 –
Relating to Local Government
Prompt Payment Act**

The law provides that a local governmental entity must identify the agent or employee of the local governmental entity, or the facility or office, to which the contractor may submit its payment request or invoice. This provision would result in having one receiving agent that would be identified in advance; Revises the definitions of “payment request” and “proper invoice” to provide that these requirements must be included in the contract for the project for which the payment is requested or for which the invoice is submitted, respectively; Provides that the applicable dispute resolution procedure prescribed in the construction contract or in any applicable ordinance must be referenced in the contract; Provides that the contract must provide for the development of a single punch list for the construction services purchased by the local governmental entity. The bill provides that the contract must specify a date for the delivery of the punch list, not to exceed five days after the punch list has been developed and reviewed; and is effective as of October 1, 2010.

**Chapter Law 2010-138 – Sale
of Tax Exempt Construction
Materials**

The law revises the sales tax procedure, which was given a “\$0” revenue impact by the Revenue Estimating Conference, creates a system of direct purchase that begins with the governmental entity certifying to the vendor that it is tax

exempt and that all purchases they make for the project in question are exempt. It also requires the governmental entity to confirm that they will follow the rules of the department in making their purchases. With this certificate in hand, suppliers can sell materials to the governmental entity without tax. The second part of the new procedure shifts the burden for any taxes that are determined to be due to the governmental entity, making it clear that the vendor and the contractor are not responsible.

**Chapter Law 2010-176 –
Relating to Building Safety**

Revises various laws regarding building safety, including elevator safety, home inspector and mold assessor licensure and regulation requirements, manufactured buildings and fire prevention and safety.

**Chapter Law 2010-106 –
Relating to Department of
Business and Professional
Regulation**

- Assigns certain programs to regulation by the Department of Business & Professional Regulation’s (DBPR) Division of Professions
- specifies that DBPR is responsible for regulation of certain professions and administration of certain examinations;
- authorizes DHSMV to issue reproductions of driver’s licenses to DBPR;
- revises certain licensing and continuing education requirements;
- authorizes temporary licensure of spouses of active duty service members;
- revises grounds for discipline of professional licensees;
- revises licensing requirements for home inspectors, mold assessors & mold remediators;
- deletes requirements for certificates of authorization for corporations or partnerships offering home inspection or mold-related services;
- exempts from punishment certain unlicensed activity occurring before specified date;
- extends time for licensure of home inspectors, mold assessors and mold remediators under certain

grandfather provisions and revises such provisions;

- revises certain exemptions from veterinary regulations;
- revises licensing requirements for real estate brokers and sales associates and cosmetologists;
- revises membership of Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board;
- authorizes certain board members and certain members of Florida Real Estate Commission to offer, conduct and teach certain courses;
- assigns departmental unit responsible for regulation of carbon monoxide hazards in certain public lodging establishments;
- authorizes DBPR to issue & enforce notices to cease & desist violations of provisions regulating pugilistic exhibitions.
- Becomes effective July 1, 2010

**Chapter Law 2010-143 –
Relating to Environmental
Control**

This law relates to the water policy and water management districts; however, limestone mining would be granted 30-year life of the mine permits was included in this bill.

**Chapter Law 2010-131 –
Relating to Uniform Commercial
Code**

Revises and provides provisions of Florida Uniform Commercial Code relating to electronic documents of title, warehouse receipts, bills of lading and other documents of title to conform to revised Article 7 of Uniform Commercial Code as prepared by National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

**Chapter Law 2010-101 –
Relating to Cost-benefit/Return-
on-investment/Dynamic Scoring**

The law authorizes the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives to request special impact sessions of consensus estimating conferences to evaluate proposed legislation based on specified techniques. It also requires the Office of Economic and Demographic Research to develop protocols and procedures to be used by the consensus estimating conferences when evaluating proposed legislation, etc. Became effective May 26, 2010.





UUCF Receives Nominations for 2010 Construction Performance Awards

UUCF will be holding its Fourteenth Annual Awards Presentation for the *Mitch Ellington Award* (Contractor Member of the Year), *Gary D. Sawyer Award* (Associate Member of the Year) and *Andrew J. Mayts Award* (Board of Director of the Year). The awards honor outstanding individuals who have made significant contributions (on the local level and continue on to the state level) to the industry and/or association. These contributions can be in any area that results in benefits, progress, achievement or recognition for our association or industry and must have local and/or state impact.

The winners will be announced and

awards presented at the UUCF 2010 Convention on Saturday evening, July 24 at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Kissimmee, Florida.

UUCF would like to take this opportunity to thank each chapter for submitting one contractor and associate member for this award. Picking an individual from the list of contractors and associates is a very difficult task. The following is a list of nominees and the chapter they represent:

Contractors:


- Northwest Florida UCA: Joe Cook (Pensacola Concrete Construction Company, Inc.)
- UCA of North Florida: Lauren

Atwell (Reynolds, Inc.)

Associates:

- Northwest Florida UCA: Donathan Johnson (Thompson Pump & Mfg. Co., Inc.)
- UCA of North Florida: Anthony "Tony" Zebouni (Regan, Zebouni & Walker, P.A.)

UUCF wishes each candidate the best of luck. We know that everyone cannot win; however, it is going to be a tough decision for the Awards Nomination Committee. The committee consists of UUCF President Bill Lee, UUCF President-Elect Bruce Wendorf and UUCF Executive Vice President Bruce Kershner.



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* Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Nationwide study 2007



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UNDERGROUND UTILITY CONTRACTORS OF FLORIDA ANNUAL CONVENTION

July 23 - 25, 2010

___ Run-of-the-House Guest Room
(outside view, no balcony)
\$129.00 (Single/Double Occupancy)

___ Run-of-the-House Guest Room
(inside view with balcony)
\$169.00 (Single/Double Occupancy)

___ Executive Suite
\$399.00 (Single/Double Occupancy)

___ Deluxe Suite
\$599.00 (Single/Double Occupancy)

*Rooms and room rates are based on availability. The above rates do not include applicable taxes (subject to change) at 13%, plus 1% Osceola County Assessment Fee. The above rates include a \$15.00 per day resort fee. For each additional adult in the same room above the double occupancy, there is a \$20.00 fee per person, per day. There are parking fees not included in the above rates for parking. The rates are Self Parking at \$12.00 per day and Valet Parking at \$20.00 per day plus tax.

This form is invalid unless received on or before Friday, July 2, 2010

All rooms are subject to applicable taxes. Group rates and availability for arrivals three days prior and departures three days after above group dates are on a space available basis only. Group rates may not be combined with any other special offer, package or discount. **When reservations are made, the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center will require a deposit equal to the room rate and tax for the first night of each reservation. An individual's deposit is refundable if the resort receives notice of cancellation three (3) days prior to the scheduled arrival.** Rooms will be held under the UUCF room block until July 2, 2010. After this time, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis at prevailing hotel rates.

HOTEL RESERVATION FORM *(PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION)*

FIRST AND LAST NAME

COMPANY

ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER

E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR CONFIRMATION

ARRIVAL DATE

HOUR (Check-in
time 3:00 p.m.)

DEPARTURE DATE
(Check out time 11:00 a.m.)

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ROOM/SHARING WITH

Please check (X) your preference of the following: KING BED _____ TWO QUEEN BEDS _____ All rooms are non-smoking.

Handicapped Person(s), please specify any special needs you may require _____

One night's deposit is required to confirm a reservation. Payment can be made by check or credit card. Check enclosed in the amount of \$ _____.

Please guarantee to: ___ MasterCard ___ Visa ___ American Express ___ Diner's Club ___ Discover

Card Number

Expiration Date

Name as on Card

Signature

Please return by mail to:

**Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center
Attn: Reservations Department
6000 West Osceola Parkway
Kissimmee, FL 34746**

By Fax:

(407) 586-2259

2010 UUCF CONVENTION**Convention Registration***Journey to the Future. "Don't Stop Believin'"***July 23–25, 2010****Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center**

NAME:		NICKNAME FOR BADGE:
COMPANY:		TELEPHONE:
ADDRESS:		FAX:
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
E-MAIL:		

Complete the following: ☐ Check here if this is your first UUCF Convention**MEMBER:** ☐ Contractor ☐ Associate ☐ Affiliate ☐ Executive Director
☐ Press ☐ Other _____ Chapter Affiliation _____**SPOUSE/GUEST REGISTRATION**

NAME:	NICKNAME FOR BADGE:
--------------	----------------------------

We would like to send a confirmation for your spouse/guest. Please provide home address and/or e-mail address:

ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
E-MAIL ADDRESS:		

REGISTRATION FEES:

REGISTRANT:	On or before July 2	On or after July 3	Amount Due
Each Registrant from Member Firm	\$295 x _____	\$350.00 x _____	\$ _____
Spouse/Guest	\$195 x _____	\$250.00 x _____	\$ _____
TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES ENCLOSED:			\$ _____

UUCF will be holding a Round Table Discussion on Friday, July 23, 2010 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. In order to provide ample seating, please register the following individuals for the Round Table Discussion:

NAME:	NAME:
--------------	--------------

UUCF will be providing seven hours of continuing education seminars on Saturday, July 24, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. with a one and a half hour break for lunch. To date the courses have not been finalized. Please register the following individuals for the continuing education seminar(s).

NAME:	CONTRACTOR LICENSE #(s):
NAME:	CONTRACTOR LICENSE #(s):

Cancellation policy: A \$50.00 administrative fee will be charged for cancellations on or before July 2, 2010. On or after July 3, 2010, no refunds will be made for cancellations or no shows.

CREDIT CARD INFORMATION:

Please charge registration fees to the credit card indicated below:

☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐ AMERICAN EXPRESS

If charging your registration via credit card, please complete the credit card authorization form and return at the same time.

OFFICE USE:	Date Received: _____	Check #: _____	Amount: _____
	Confirmed: _____	Registration #: _____	



Amendment 4 Update

Educate Yourself About Amendments on November Ballot

This November, voters will be faced with a number of tough decisions at the ballot box. Fortunately, one of the most important decisions should also be the easiest. Amendment 4, a “citizens will have to VOTE ON EVERYTHING related to land use changes, amendments, and even text corrections to existing regulations”, would cause delays in the approval process that would kill jobs, raise taxes, increase costs and frequency of elections and lead to endless litigation at taxpayer expense.

Amendment 4 has been referred to in the past as a ‘stimulus package for special interest lawyers’.

Point in fact 1: Years ago, those who are proponent’s entitled it “Hometown Democracy”, but its anything but . . . they had difficulty getting the required signatures to place it on the ballot the first attempt, but they finally succeeded by getting an extension. Now their sound bites sound good – who doesn’t like “hometown decision making” or “democracy in action”?

Point in fact 2: this proposal would add costly new layers of bureaucratic red-tape to existing complicated planning processes. A few of you who read this may be involved in municipal planning, zoning, advisory boards and know your way through the process and its highly technical language, most of us don’t have the time to read hundreds or thousands of pages to determine whether

something is good for the community or not; and it would be virtually impossible to condense thousands of pages of technical planning data into the 75 word ballot summaries that are required by law (for each and every change to land use issues. Inevitably, disagreements – and lawsuits – would ensue (and have).

Voting for Amendment 4 encourages the special interests that lose at the ballot box to take their case to court, at taxpayer (your) expense.

Case in point: That is exactly what happened to the small town of St. Pete Beach in Pinellas County, which implemented a local version of Amendment 4 in 2006. The measure decimated their economy

(Continued on Page 14)

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Contractor Member of the Month

Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.

Founded as a Florida Corporation in October, 2007, Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. (PSCC) is the result of a unique transition of a well-established local contracting firm, Petticoat Contracting, Inc., combined with the entrepreneurial ventures of an experienced leader in the local underground utility industry, Ryan Schmitt.

Petticoat Contracting Inc. is a 20+ year civil contracting firm based in Jacksonville, Florida. The principal in charge, looking for a retirement exit strategy, found a unique blend of retirement for themselves and continuity of employment for their employees by engaging in a creative transition between Petticoat Contracting, Inc. and Petticoat-



Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. This dynamic purchase agreement provided a smooth transition between the two companies, it carried forward the "Petticoat" name and it provided the long time and loyal employees with a sense of stability and a future with the new organization of Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.

Petticoat-Schmitt performs underground utility, grading and roadway construction for the public and private markets in the Northeast Florida and Southeast Georgia areas. Recently completed and current projects include three extensive storm drainage

rehabilitation projects in existing neighborhoods, two streetscaping projects, a new roadway project and a master sanitary sewer lift station with gravity sewer and force main. PSCC is also providing Construction Management services for the FDOT. Some of our clients include the City of Jacksonville, JEA, Florida Department of Transportation, City of St. Marys, Georgia, Clay County Utility Authority and general contractors.

Petticoat-Schmitt holds a Florida state certified General Contractor's license, Underground Utility and Excavation license and Class V Fire Protection license and is also licensed in the State of Georgia as a Utility

(Continued on Page 24)

Best Management Practices

Erosion and pollution control practices employed during construction to protect surface waters and wetlands from construction activities



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**(Amendment 4 Update
Continued from Page 12)**

and created chaos at the polls. They repealed the law in 2008 and still to date, the citizens of St. Pete Beach have seen nearly a dozen lawsuits that were filed (by those who want you to vote yes on Amendment 4) during it's tenure and immediately after which have cost local taxpayers more than three-quarters of a million dollars in legal fees alone. This does not take into account the developmental delays and lack of decisions and failures in development projects.

As Florida attempts to recover from this devastating recession, the last thing we need is Amendment 4, a proposal that would raise taxes, cost jobs, and hurt Florida's working families and small businesses. This November, VOTE NO on Amendment 4!

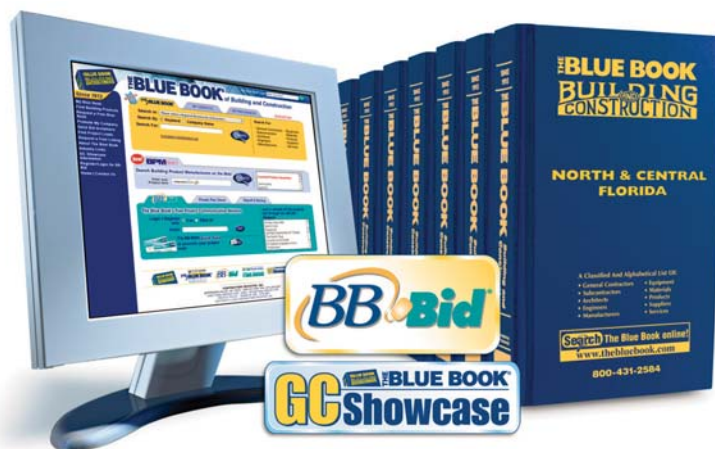
To learn more about how this will affect you and to better understand the impacts of this amendment is found at www.florida2010.org.

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



With May behind us and July approaching, I am looking forward to our Convention at the Gaylord Palms

Resort & Convention Center in Kissimmee. If you feel like I do, we need a break from the last couple of years of hearing about the poor economy, the high cost of business, with the exception of cheap cost of installing water, sewer and drainage lines, and now the oil leak. The Convention in July will give us a good break from these problems.

Over the years, my family and I have met and made friends with many contractors, suppliers and people that are in our industry. My son, after over six years, still stays in touch with friends he has met at our conventions. As a matter of fact, I owe two families



many thanks for advice they have given him. Because of friendships

made, I have called on members of UUCF asking them to share their experiences and advice with me on issues that our company is experiencing. In our area, your best friends are also our best competitors.

I also enjoy meeting our NUCA representatives and staff members. They fill us in on the national issues and give us a report on other NUCA chapters. I also enjoy sitting around and floating in the pool solving the nation's problems and wondering when the greatest minds from UUCF will be summoned to

Washington for our report. If you are interested in joining, we usually start session mid afternoons in the three to five foot deep areas of the pool. It's very informal, and we will be glad to have you.

In closing, if you have not registered, I invite you to do so. We are anticipating a very good turnout and don't want you to miss out on the good times. If you have not yet checked out the Gaylord Palms, you can do so on line. It looks like the kind of resort the members of UUCF will enjoy. Continue to do business with UUCF members. We are all in this together, and we will all succeed.

See you at the Convention!

*Sincerely,
Bill Lee
President*



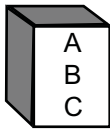
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Associate Member of the Month: MWI Corporation

Moving Water Industries (MWI) Corporation traces its roots back to 1926, when Hoyt Eller started a business in Deerfield Beach, Florida. The company grew over the years due to its reputation for customer service, quality and innovative designs. David Eller P.E., the current CEO/President, has over 20 US patents for his innovations in pump design. He is joined by his two sons, Dana and Daren and daughter Danielle, all graduate engineers.

MWI's international headquarters and extensive manufacturing capabilities are located in Deerfield Beach, Florida, very close to the original business. The manufacturing facilities are spread over four city blocks and total nearly 300,000 ft², to include a

10,000 ft² test lab. The company has a facility in Egypt and representatives throughout the United States, Latin America, Middle East, Africa and Asia.

MWI's pump product line includes: lineshaft, submersible electric, hydraulically driven, centrifugal, self priming, trash, rotary lobe and solar powered borehole pumps. Today, MWI is focused on:

- Axial and mixed flow pumps for drainage, irrigation, flood control and emergency pumping.
- Pumps for rental companies and contractors for construction dewatering, sewage bypass and industrial applications.
- Renting pumps directly in Central

and South Florida and nationwide when very large pumps are required.

- Solar powered pumps with water treatment capabilities for the developing world.

Our philosophy is simple: provide innovative, high-quality pumps at competitive prices and take care of each customer. Let us help you solve your water moving problems with our extensive engineering staff, years of experience and great products.

For more information on MWI Corporation, please visit our website at www.mwicorp.com or contact Ken Wachman at (813) 899-2863 or kenw@mwicorp.com.

<p>Linkhorst & Hockin, P.A. Attorneys at Law</p> <p>ADAM C. LINKHORST Board Certified Construction Law Attorney</p> <p>4495 Military Trail, Suite 106 Jupiter, FL 33458 Tel. 561-626-8880 Fax. 561-626-8885</p> <p>Tel. 954-776-5990 Cell. 954-562-9199 ac@FloridaHardhatLaw.com www.FloridaHardhatLaw.com</p>	<p>SHANNON & WILSON, INC. GEOTECHNICAL 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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<p>Fort Myers (239) 334-3627</p> <p>Miami (305) 592-5740</p> <p>New Tampa (813) 995-0841</p> <p>Orlando (407) 299-1212</p> <p>West Palm Beach (561) 848-6618</p>	<p>Your Business Card Could Be Here!</p> <p>Call (407) 830-1880</p>	<p>Call the UUCF Office at (407) 830-1880</p>





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Division of Workers' Compensation Continues to Offer 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 and dates. All seminar times are from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon:

July 13, 2010

Fort Myers
Career and Service Centers of Southwest Florida
4150 Ford Street Extension,
Conference Room 1
Fort Myers, FL 33916

July 15, 2010

Miami State Office Building
401 N.W. 2nd Avenue, North
Tower, Room 423
Miami, FL 33128

July 29, 2010

Tampa State Office
Building
1313 North Tampa
Street, Suite 605
Tampa, FL 33603

July 29, 2010

Pompano Beach
Workforce One
2301 West Sample
Road, Building 4
Pompano Beach,
FL 33073

August 6, 2010

Lakeland
Lakeland Public
Library
100 Lake Morton
Drive
Lakeland, FL
33801

August 10, 2010

Pensacola
West Florida
Regional Library
200 West Gregory Street
Pensacola, FL 32501

August 12, 2010

Orlando
State Office Building, Hurston
Complex
400 West Robinson Street, South
Tower, Conference Room A & B
Orlando, FL 32801

August 13, 2010

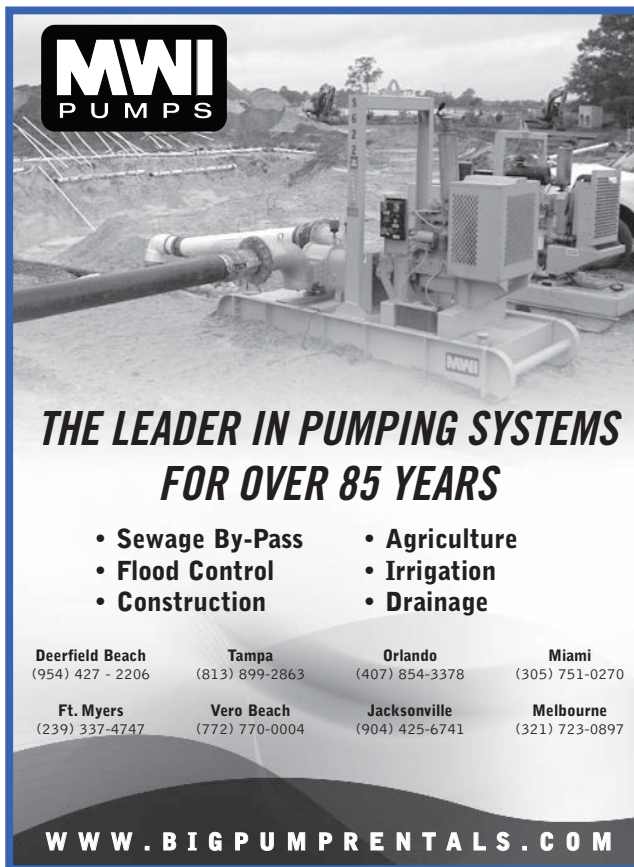
West Palm Beach
Central Career Center
1951 North Military Trail, Suite D
West Palm Beach, FL 33409

August 18, 2010

Jacksonville
Florida Dept of Law Enforcement
921 North Davis Street, Building E
Jacksonville, FL 32209

August 20, 2010

Tallahassee
Southwood Complex, Betty Easley
Conference Center
4075 Esplanade Way, Room 180
Tallahassee, FL 32399



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The Division of Workers' Compensation is an authorized provider (Provider Number: 0004354) for continuing education purposes through the CILB. Course Number: 0010118 – one hour satisfies the Workers' Compensation requirement and Course Number: 0010630 – one hour satisfies the Workplace Safety requirement.

Advanced registration is required. The form is available on the Division's website at www.myfloridacfo.com/WC. For additional information, e-mail bocseminars@MyFloridaCFO.com, call (813) 221-6518 or Fax (813) 233-3742.





Calendar of Events

UUCF

July 23-25 30th Anniversary Convention,
Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, Kissimmee
July 23 Board of Director's Meeting,
Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, Kissimmee
Nov. 5 Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando

Northwest Florida UCA

July 8 Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola
Aug. 12 Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola
Sept. 9 Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola
Sept. 18 Fishing Tournament, Pensacola
Oct. 14 Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola
Oct. 22 Clay Tournament, Pensacola
Nov. 2 Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola
Nov. 12 Annual Meeting, Pensacola

Southwest Florida UCA

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

SUCA

July 8 Board of Director's/General Membership
Meetings (Scholarship Night)
Aug. 5 Board of Director's/General Membership
Meetings
Sept. 9 Board of Director's/General Membership
Meeting
Sept. 16 Fish Fry, Largo Central Park
Oct. 7 ... Board of Director's Meeting/Hall of Fame Night
Nov. 4 Board of Director's/General Membership
Meetings/Installation of Officers & Directors,
Rusty Pelican
Nov. 5 Clay Shoot, TBA
Dec. 2 Board of Director's Meeting, Tampa Club
Dec. 4 December Banquet, Tampa Club

UCA of North Florida

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 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 2011

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

July 14-16 The Casa Monica Hotel, St. Augustine





August 11-13..... Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention
Center, Kissimmee
Sept. 8-10 Grand Bohemian Hotel, Orlando
Oct. 13-15..... Doubletree Hotel, Tampa Westshore
Airport, Tampa
Nov. 10-12 Embassy Suites Orlando-North,
Altamonte Springs

Federal Contractors and Subcontractors to Post Required Union Rights Signs (Again)

Effective June 21, all federal contractors and subcontractors are required to post a notice titled "Employee Rights Under the National Labor Relations Act" in conspicuous locations throughout their workplaces. The new requirement is the result of an Executive Order (EO) signed in January 2009, and applies to all federal contracts with a minimum value of \$100,000, and federal subcontracts valued at more than \$10,000. The notice informs employees of various rights under the NLRA, including the right to organize or join a union, bargain collectively to set wages, hours, benefits and other working conditions, and strike and picket. The notice also describes illegal activities by employers and unions under NLRB law. The notice also indicates that NLRB "may order an employer to rehire a worker fired in violation of the law and to pay lost wages and benefits, and may order an employer or union to cease violating the law." It's important to note that contractors and subcontractors covered by this requirement will be subject to severe penalties for failing to comply, including contract cancellation and debarment from future contracts.

The requirement to post this sign is another example of the "ping pong" game played in Washington regarding labor regulations. During the Clinton Administration, similar notices were required at American work sites. When President Bush took office, the Executive Order rescinded the requirement. Days after President Obama took office, the sign was required again.

Play it safe – post this sign around your jobsites by Monday, June 21

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

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

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 Fifth Annual Northwest Florida UCA Golf Tournament was held May 5, 2010 at Marcus Point Golf Club. After two days of rain, the sun came out just in time for the tournament and what a great day! Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the friendly rivalry. We had a tie for first with a score of 47, the pro used the scorecards to break the tie. Listed below is a recap of the winners: **First Place Team:** Steve Smith, Keith Hobbs, Bill Ellis and John Wood. **Second Place Team:** Shain Cheney, Robert Barnes, Lain Cheney and Jerry Halfacre. **Third Place Team:** Rob Adamson, Brian Alberson, Randy Peterson and Scott Posey.

The Sponsor prize drawing, 8gb iPod Touch and \$25 i-tunes card, was won by Ferguson Waterworks.

The Player prize drawing, a Garmin GPS nuvi 1350, was won by Jim Oyler.

The longest drive contest was won by Rucker Brown and John Wood. They each won a box of Titleist NXT Tour balls.

The closest to the pin contest was won by Bryan Ball and Jeff Ramsey. They each won a box of Titleist NXT Tour balls.

The four rounds of golf donated by Marcus Point were won by Shain Cheney and Rod Hurston.

Door prizes were won by another 15 players.

Recognition of Support: **Super Sponsors:** Coastal Machinery Co.; Cowin Equipment Company; Ferguson Waterworks; Gulf Equipment; HD Supply Waterworks; Pensacola Concrete Constr.; SBP, Inc.; Southeastern Pipe; Thompson Tractor Co.; Utility Service Company; and Kelson Electric. **Regular Sponsors:** Advanced

Drainage Systems; Fisher Brown, Inc.; Sunshine One Call of Florida; and Thompson Pump & Mfg. **Hole Sponsors:** L. J. Ruffin & Associates; and Sun South Capital.

Thanks to National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) for donating several door prizes and ditty bag items.

Special thanks to Golf Committee Chairman Bill Davis for putting together a great outing.

Thanks also goes to Tim Dickens and Donathan Johnson for all of their help the day of the tournament.

We thank the sponsors as well as the players for their participation and support which contributed greatly to the success of this annual event!

SUCA

SUCA's Sawyer Memorial Spring Scholarship Golf Tournament was held on Friday, May 14 at The Eagles Golf Club in Odessa. SUCA members enjoyed a great round of golf in the beautiful Florida sunshine. Tournament Chairman Bruce Akers of Ferguson Waterworks, Inc. would like to thank everyone who participated for their support of our events and of our scholarship program. The only funding source for our scholarship program is the annual golf tournament. Thanks to Linda Shutt of David Nelson Construction Co. for assisting with this years' event.

In addition to great golfer participation, we sincerely thank the tournament sponsors for their extreme generosity: Acme Barricades, Ajax Paving Industries of Florida, Dallas 1 Corporation, David Nelson Construction Co., Ferguson Waterworks, Inc., Florida Gas & Electric Corp., LGM Contracting / Merucci Equipment Co., ME Wilson Company, Mabey Bridge & Shore, Inc., Nortrax Equipment, Oldcastle Precast, Pepper Contracting

Services, R.E. Purcell Construction Co., Ring Power Corp., RIPA & Associates, Inc., Service Pump & Compressor, Stuart Angelo & Co., CPA's, Thompson Pump & Manufacturing, U.S. Shoring & Equipment, Westra Construction Co., Woodruff & Sons, Inc., and Zurich Surety.

Congratulations to the following Spring Golf Tournament winners:

First Place Team – Bob's Barricades (John Sepa, Brad Petersen and Brian Forret). **Second Place Team** – Ferguson Waterworks, Inc. (Eric Barfield, Doug Koenig and Ian Lund). **Third Place Team** – Nortrax Equipment (Mike Festing-Smith, Jay Stafford, Angus Mora and Dave Walsh). **Longest Drive**– Mike Fisher (Gulfcoast Boring). **Longest Drive** – Jerome Evans (Ferguson Waterworks, Inc.). **Survival Pack Winner** of an iPod Touch – Ian Lund (Killibrew, Inc.).

Once again, thanks to everyone for their outstanding participation and support of SUCA's Sawyer Memorial Spring Scholarship Golf Tournament!

SUCA was represented at NUCA's Washington Summit in Washington, D. C., May 17 – 19 by Executive Director Misty McKendree. NUCA members delivered the NUCA message to lawmakers during visits to the offices of Senators and Representatives who serve SUCA's membership area. NUCA's top agenda items were: Funding for Water Infrastructure, Employer Verification Requirements and Permanent Reform of the Federal Estate Tax.

SUCA members are headed to the races! Please join us for an evening of simulcast horse racing action on June 3 at Tampa Bay Downs, 11225 Racetrack Road in Tampa. Registration and cocktails begin at 6:30 p.m. and a buffet dinner will be enjoyed at 7:15 p.m. Dinner includes Mixed Field Greens with Citrus





Vinaigrette, Fruit Salad, Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Boneless Fried Chicken, Honey Baked Ham w/ Pineapple Mustard Sauce, Au Gratin Potatoes, Honey Glazed Carrots, Key Lime Tarts & Orange Cake. The cost is \$35.00 per person. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Doug Calloway with Floridians for Better Transportation (FBT). FBT is a statewide business and transportation association dedicated to making transportation safer and more efficient in Florida. Advance reservations are required by phone, fax or e-mail. Reservations must be received by the SUCA office no later than noon on Monday, May 31, 2010. No-shows and late cancellations will be billed as SUCA pays for all dinners guaranteed.

The SUCA Scholarship Committee has completed the initial review of applications for 2010 and will be conducting interviews with a few of the applicants before making their final decision on this year's recipient. Scholarship chairperson Linda Shutt of David Nelson Construction Co. and committee members Jack Neu of Nielson, Wojtowicz, Neu & Associates, and Ron Sherwood of Service Pump & Compressor have their work cut out for them. The field of applicants is very impressive, and the decision will not be an easy one. SUCA's scholarship program has been in place since 1989 and has awarded over \$90,000.00 to the children of SUCA members. The 2010 scholarship awards will be presented at Scholarship Night on July 8 at The Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City.

Half of 2010 has already flown by and it is time to mark your calendars for SUCA's Annual December Banquet. This year's event will again be a grand affair at the beautiful Tampa Club on December 4, 2010. Details and registration information will be out to the membership at a later time.

SUCA PAC is gearing up for local elections this year and encourages

members to let us know of important races in their areas.

If you are interested in SUCA's projects or events, please contact our office at (813) 355-4879 or visit our website at www.suca.org.

UCA of North Florida

A group from our chapter recently attended NUCA's Washington Summit. We had some successful visits with our legislators and their staff members. Key issues this year included funding of Private Activity Bonds, Sustainable Water Infrastructure Investment Act, permanent relief from the federal estate tax, passage of legislation to remove the harmful government "3% withholding" provision from the tax code and to oppose the Employee Free Choice Act, better known as the "Card Check" bill. Please continue to read and act on the NUCA Legislative Alerts.

The attendees have spoken and proclaimed this year's golf tournament one of the best UCA of North Florida tournaments ever! May 25 started out with some early morning showers; but we were lucky, and the rain held off for the rest of the day. A BBQ lunch featuring ribs and chicken was served prior to the 1:00 p.m. shotgun start. A putting contest was held throughout the day with the final putt off held just prior to the Awards Ceremony. \$1,500 in gift cards were handed out as door prizes with the grand prize of a \$500 Visa gift card.

We appreciate our Vendor Showcase Participants:

Administrators Advisory Group, Inc.; Duval Asphalt Products, Inc.; Earthwave Technologies, Inc.; Greene-Hazel & Associates, Inc.; Industrial Tractor Company, Inc.; M.D. Towing; Mabey Bridge & Shore, Inc.; Myers-Seth Pumps, Paul Murray Oil, Inc.; Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers, Inc.; Service Painting; TB Landmark Construction, Inc.; and Vermeer Southeast. **Event Sponsors: Lunch Sponsor** – Standard Precast Corporation.

Lunch Beverage Sponsor –

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Putting Contest Sponsor – United Rentals Trench Safety. **Closest to**

the Pin Sponsor – Reliance

Supply. Trophy Sponsor – Linda

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– Southeast Industrial Sales. **Tee/**

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Inc.; GHG, HD Supply Waterworks;

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Contractors, Inc.; PGD Disposal, Inc.; Reynolds, Inc.; Seamar Ranch; The Gibbs Group; and Thompson Pump & Mfg Co., Inc.

A special thank you to Golf Chairman Rick Erickson and his committee, Ryan Schmitt, Ed Porter, David Hinson, Saraveen Fields, Charlie Barbour and John Kirkland for all their hard work to make this event a huge success.

Our Bettering Your Business series continues with an Occupational Injury Management Meeting on June 2 at 8:30 a.m. with guest speakers Dr. Nathan Newman from Solantic Baptist Occupational Health and Rufus White from The Health Bridge, which is a telephonic nurse case management company located in West Point, GA. We will be hosting an Engineer's Night on June 24. We have invited local engineers to come and discuss their upcoming

projects.

Now that the convention has been moved to land, we hope everyone makes plans to attend at the Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center in Kissimmee on July 23-25.

(Contractor Member of the Month: Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. Continued from Page 13)

Contractor. Petticoat-Schmitt is one of the few civil contractors in Northeast Florida to have a LEED AP on staff and they are also bonded by an AM Best A Rated surety.

Members of Petticoat-Schmitt's management have been highly involved in the promotion and the support of the construction industry at many levels since 1995. Both Ryan Schmitt and Kim Bryan are past presidents of the Utility

Contractors Association of North Florida (2001 and 2007, respectively) and recipients of the UUCF *Mitch Ellington Award* (2008 and 2009, respectively). Ryan is past president of the Underground Utility Contractors of Florida (2005-2007) and is currently Chairman-Elect of NUCA. They have worked with and/or participated on numerous committees with and have represented the construction industry through legislative action in Jacksonville, Tallahassee and Washington D.C.

Petticoat-Schmitt is proud to be the 2009 recipient of the NUCA William H. Feather Award for meritorious achievement in construction safety for the 0-50,000 man-hours category, as well as the 2009 NUCA Community Service award for volunteer work at Seamar Ranch, PSCC's adopted charity.

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OSHA Update

OSHA Publishes Proposed Rulemaking to Prevent Injuries from Slips, Trips and Falls on Walking-Working Surfaces

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has announced in a notice of proposed rulemaking published in the Federal Register its plans to require improved worker protection from tripping, slipping and falling hazards on walking and working surfaces. A public hearing on the revised changes will be held after the public comment period for the NPRM.

"This proposal addresses workplace hazards that are a leading cause of work related injuries and deaths," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Dr. David Michaels.

The NPRM describes revisions to the Walking-Working Surfaces and Personal Protective Equipment standards to help prevent an estimated annual 20 workplace fatalities and more than 3,500 injuries serious enough to cause people to miss work. For example, in July 2009, a worker at a chocolate processing plant was killed after falling from an unguarded work platform.

"This is a clear and grave example of the human cost incurred when fall protection safeguards are absent, ignored or inadequate," said Michaels. "The loss of a worker's life might have been prevented if the protective measures in these revised standards had been in place and in use."

The current walking-working surfaces regulations allow employers to provide outdated and dangerous fall protection equipment such as lanyards and body belts that can result in workers suffering greater injury from falls. Construction and maritime workers already receive safer, more effective fall protection

devices such as self-retracting lanyards and ladder safety and rope descent systems, which these proposed revisions would also require for general industry workers.

The current walking-working surfaces standards also do not allow OSHA to fine employers who let workers climb certain ladders without fall protection. Under the revised standards, this restriction would be lifted in virtually all industries, allowing OSHA inspectors to fine employers who jeopardize their workers' safety and lives by climbing these ladders without proper fall protection.

More information is available in the Federal Register notice at <http://s.dol.gov/3J>.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to assure these 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>.

New OSHA Training Emphasizes Workers' Rights

"Introduction to OSHA," a new training **component** emphasizing workers' rights, is required content in every OSHA 10- and 30-hour Outreach Training Program class. OSHA developed the information in support of the Secretary of Labor's goal of strengthening the voice of workers.

This information affects hundreds of thousands of workers who complete Outreach Training Program classes each year, and more than 50,000 authorized OSHA Outreach Trainers. It focuses on the importance of workers' rights and advises them of their right to safe and healthful workplaces know about the presence and effects of hazardous chemicals

review information about injuries and illnesses in their workplaces receive training request/file for an OSHA inspection and participate in the inspection be free from retaliation for exercising their safety and health rights

"For too long workers have avoided making claims of unsafe work conditions out of fear of losing their jobs," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA David Michaels. "We are confident that this new training will embolden workers to speak up when they find work practices that endanger their lives and the lives of their co-workers."

During the 10- and 30-hour outreach training program classes, OSHA trainers will cover topics on whistleblower rights and filing a complaint, and will provide samples of a weekly fatality and catastrophe report, material data safety sheet and the OSHA Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses. Trainers can obtain test and answer sheets from their authorizing training organization.

The OSHA Outreach Training Program is a voluntary program that seeks to teach workers about their rights and how to identify, reduce, avoid and prevent job-related hazards. The program includes 10- and 30-hour courses in construction, general or maritime industry safety and health hazard recognition and prevention that is taught through a network of OSHA-authorized trainers. Over the past three years, nearly two million students have received training through this program.

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