



# Ditchmen

Online

Underground Utility Contractors of Florida, Inc.

MARCH 2011

## UUCF/ASJMSF Eleventh Annual Bass Fishing Tournament

*(see page 4 for details)*

### First Place Team



*L to R: Don Webster, Monty Goodman and Tommy Thompson.*

### Second Place Team



*L to R: Bobby Wakefield and Gilmer Nelson.*

### Third Place Team



*L to R: Bob Hopler and Scott Johnson.*

### Overall Big Fish



*L to R: John Fernandez with his guide Jack Mitchell.*



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COMPANY

ADDRESS

( )

CITY, STATE, ZIP

AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER

E-MAIL ADDRESS FOR CONFIRMATION

ARRIVAL DATE

HOUR (Check-in  
time 4:00 p.m.)

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

NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN ROOM/SHARING WITH

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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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

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**In This Issue**

UUCF 2011 Convention	
Hotel Reservation Form ..	Page 2
UUCF/ASJMSF Eleventh	
Annual Bass Tournament to	
Benefit the Foundation's	
Scholarship Program .....	Page 4
Amendment 4 Has Been	
Defeated .....	Page 7
UUCF 2011 Annual	
Convention <i>Only the Best</i>	
<i>Survive in Key West</i> .....	Page 8
2011 Legislative Session	
Update .....	Page 9
UUCF/ASJMSF Scholarship	
Application Available .....	Page 10
Contractor Article .....	Page 13
President's Message .....	Page 15
2011 Platinum Sponsor of	
the Month .....	Page 16
Division of Workers'	
Compensation Offers	
Free Classes .....	Page 19
Calendar of Events .....	Page 20
There's an App for that!!!	Page 21
SSOCOF 2011 Calendar ..	Page 21
FDOT Letting Dates .....	Page 21
Chapter News .....	Page 22

**Index of Advertisers**

Bobcat .....	Page 25
CNA Insurance .....	Page 27
Flagler Construction	
Equipment .....	Page 26
ISCO Industries .....	Page 10
Mabey Bridge &	
Shore, Inc. ....	Page 7
MWI Corporation .....	Page 19
Oldcastle Precast, Inc. ....	Page 6
Professional Shoring	
& Supply .....	Page 11
R. H. Moore &	
Associates .....	Page 13
Reduced Business Card	
Ads .....	Pages 12, 15, 16 & 24
The Blue Book .....	Page 14
Thompson Pump & Mfg.	
Co., Inc. ....	Page 4
Trench Shoring Services ..	Page 17
U.S. Precast Corporation .	Page 18







# UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation Holds Eleventh Annual Bass Tournament to Benefit the Foundation's Scholarship Program

The UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. held its Eleventh Annual Bass Fishing Tournament on Lake Toho in Kissimmee on February 25–26, 2011. The tournament, held to raise funds for the foundation's scholarship program, was headed up by Fishing Tournament Chairman Scott Johnson with Johnson–Davis, Inc.

The Annual Tournament is held in memory of Andrew Scott Johnson, son of Scott Johnson. Andy Johnson worked summers with his father's company, but he especially liked to fish.

This is the eleventh year for the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Bass Tournament, and this year's event drew a field of 38 participants divided in to 16 teams.

This year's event began with a Captain's Meeting on Thursday evening. Teams fished on Friday and Saturday, with a weigh-in held following each day's fishing. Following the Friday weigh-in, participants enjoyed a barbecue dinner. Trophies and prizes were presented following Saturday's closing weigh-in.

Trophies were awarded for the largest fish caught on Friday and Saturday. In addition, first, second and third place team trophies were presented to the teams accumulating the greatest total two-day catch. Teams could weigh in a maximum of five bass per day.

At the end of the first day's fishing, the Precision Pipe & Products, Inc. team of Gilmer Nelson and Bobby

Wakefield were in first place with a total catch of 33.13 pounds. The HD Supply Waterworks team of Don Webster, Tommy Thompson and Monty Goodman were in second place with a total catch of 33.05 pounds. The U.S. Concrete Products, Inc. team of Greg Wolf and Steve Bails were in third place with a total catch of 25.27 pounds.

The biggest fish on the first day of fishing went to the team of Precision Pipe & Products, Inc. for catching a bass weighing 9.46 pounds.

On day two of the tournament, the




biggest fish went to the B.A.S.I.C. Engineering team of Justin James and John Fernandez. Their winning fish weighed 9.88 pounds.

The Big Fish Pot was held again this year. Participants paid \$10.00 toward the Big Fish Pot. The Big Fish Pot was paid to the participant/team with the single largest fish caught in the two-day tournament. One hundred percent of the funds collected were presented to the winner of the Big Fish Pot, John Fernandez of the team of B.A.S.I.C. Engineering. Congratulations John.

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When the second day's weigh-in was complete, the HD Supply Waterworks team of Don Webster, Tommy Thompson and Monty Goodman were the first place winners with a total day catch of 30.77 pounds. Second place for the day went to the Johnson-Davis, Inc. team of Scott Johnson and Bob Hopler with a total catch of 30.5 pounds. Third place for the day went to the Precision Pipe & Products, Inc. team of Gilmer Nelson and Bobby Wakefield with a total catch of 29.33 pounds.

With their total two day's tournament combination, congratulations to the following winners: **Overall First Place Winners:** Don Webster, Tommy Thompson and Monty Goodman with the team of HD Supply Waterworks with a total two-day catch of 63.82 pounds. **Overall Second Place Winners:** Gilmer Nelson and Bobby Wakefield with the team of Precision Pipe & Products, Inc. with a total two-day catch of 62.46 pounds. **Overall Third Place Winners:** Scott Johnson and Bob Hopler with the Johnson-Davis, Inc. team with a total two-day catch of 52.21 pounds.

Rounding out the top five were the U.S. Concrete Products, Inc. team (Greg Wolf and Steve Bails) with a total two-day catch of 44.07 pounds for fourth place and the Johnson-Davis, Inc. team (Walt Gainer and Carl Gainer with a total catch of

42.77 pounds for fifth place. Between all 16 teams, a total of 555.07 pounds of bass were caught during the two-day tournament.

The UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation thanks the following companies who sponsored the Fishing Tournament: **Angler Dinner Sponsor:** HD Supply Waterworks. **Angler Dinner Beverage Sponsors:** Glenn Rasmussen Fogarty & Hooker, P.A.; and Palmdale Oil Company. **Captain's Dinner Happy Hour Sponsors:** Centerline Utilities, Inc.; Community Asphalt Corporation; and Concrete Products of the Palm Beaches, Inc. **Trophy Sponsors:** U.S. Concrete Pipe Co.; and U.S. Concrete Products Corp. **Major Sponsors:** Burck Oil Company, Inc.; Burkhardt Construction, Inc.; Charles S. Whiteside, Inc.; Forsberg Construction, Inc.; Johnson-Davis, Inc.; Messier Land Developing, Inc.; Patrona Marble and Granite; The Friends & Family of Andy Johnson; The Mack Company; Trio Development Corporation; U.S. Precast Corporation; Underground Contractors Association of South Florida; Utility Service Company, Inc.; Wakefield Road Boring, Inc.; and Wells Fargo Construction. **Corporate Sponsors (Donations):** American Trophy Co.; Big Toho Enterprises, Inc.; Fish 'n Fool Guide Service; Florida Specialty Advertising, Inc.; Kissimmee Steakhouse; and The Heritage Park

Inn. **General Sponsors:** Armadillo Underground; Belvedere Contracting, Inc.; Bruce & Julie Kershner; C & M Road Builders, Incorporated; Central Florida Utility & Transportation Contractors Association; J.W. & Edith T. Dick; John Woody, Inc.; LGM Contracting Inc./Merucci Equipment Co.; Pensacola Concrete Construction Company, Inc.; Pete and Nettie Thomson; Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.; Pipeline Utilities, Inc.; Precision Pipe & Products, Inc.; Professional Shoring & Supply; Rangeline Tapping Services, Inc.; Simmons and White, Inc. Engineers; Suncoast Utility Contractors Association; and Valenti, Trobec & Woody, Inc. **Door Prize Contributors:** Armadillo Underground; J.W. & Edith Dick; Pensacola Concrete Construction Company, Inc.; and Utility Service Company.

The UUCF/ASJMSF would also like to thank the following individuals who participated in this event:

**Team 1 – Concrete Products of the Palm Beaches, Inc.** – Jeff Dick and Ryan Dick.  
**Team 2 – Burkhardt Construction, Inc.** – Vincent L. Burkhardt and C.J. Rhody.  
**Team 3 – Armadillo Underground** – Kirk Richmond and Kenny Richmond.  
**Team 4 – Precision Pipe & Products, Inc.** – Gilmer Nelson

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

and Bobby  
Wakefield.

**Team 5 – U.S.  
Concrete  
Products, Inc.** –  
Greg Wolf and  
Steve Bails.

**Team 6 – U.S.  
Concrete  
Products, Inc.** –  
Curt Parcells and  
Billie Parcells.  
**Team 7 –  
Johnson-Davis,  
Inc.** – Chris  
Johnson, Bryson  
Pacheco and Collin  
Pacheco.

**Team 8 –  
Johnson-Davis,  
Inc.** – Tyler  
Johnson and Alex  
Singer.

**Team 9 –  
Johnson-Davis,  
Inc.** – Walt Gainer  
and Carl Gainer.

**Team 10 – Johnson-Davis, Inc.** –  
Leonard Dennis and Tony Sabatino.

**Team 11 – Johnson-Davis, Inc.** –  
Scott Johnson and Bob Hopler.

**Team 12 – HD Supply  
Waterworks** – Don Webster,  
Tommy Thompson and Monty  
Goodman.

**Team 13 – B.A.S.I.C.  
Engineering** – Justin James and  
John Fernandez.

**Team 14 – Patrona Marble &  
Granite, LLC** – Chris Patrona, Nick  
Patrona and Goober Williams.

**Team 15 – U.S. Precast  
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Tilly and Pablo Reino.

**Team 16 – Charles S. Whiteside,  
Inc.** – Bo Moyer and Scott Tyska.

We look forward to next year's  
event. Once the date has been  
secured, we will post the date in the  
Calendar of Events section of the  
Calendar of Events section of the  
*Ditchmen* and on the website at  
[www.uucf.com](http://www.uucf.com). **Click here** to  
view photos of the Fishing Tournament.



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# Amendment 4 Has Been Defeated!

That is music to my ears. The voters of Florida saw through this attempt to hijack our political process.

Amendment 4 (Hometown Democracy) has been on the UUCF radar since 2004 because it had the potential of having a devastating effect on Florida's economy if passed. In the years and days leading up to November 2, 2010, it became very apparent that, based on the facts, this amendment would have a negative effect on jobs, taxes, growth and our voting system.

The UUCF PAC stepped up to the plate with a \$5,000 donation to **"Citizens for Lower Taxes & a Stronger Economy"** which was to be used for a statewide campaign against Amendment 4. **IT WORKED!!**



We can all breathe a collective sigh of relief . . . for now. But, we will face many new challenges in the future that will require an abundance of dedication and effort in order to protect the industry we love, an industry that provides for our families and an industry that we have poured our hearts and souls into.

The UUCF PAC will continue to work for its members, but now it's time for the members to give back to the

UUCF PAC. UUCF PAC Chairman Bruce Wendorf is asking every single member to contribute \$40.00 to "Rebuild and Reload" the UUCF PAC and help replenish the \$5,000 we committed to help save our industry and state.

The next threat to our industry is right around the corner. Let's be ready for the fight with a strong UUCF PAC.

By April 2011, the new headline will read – **"THE PAC IS BACK!"**

If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact the UUCF PAC office at (407) 830-1880. If you would like to contribute \$40.00 to "Rebuild and Reload" the UUCF PAC, please make check payable to UUCF PAC and mail to 231 West Bay Avenue, Longwood, FL 32750-4125.

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# UUCF 2011 Annual Convention

## *Only the Best Survive in Key West*

The 2011 UUCF Convention will be held at the Casa Marina in Key West on July 21–24. Built in 1920, Casa Marina, is a flawless merging of old Key West ambiance and contemporary luxury. Immerse yourself in a restful haven where emerald lawns meet a blue Atlantic – welcoming stunning sunrises each day. Come to the "house by the sea" enveloped in breezy elegance and shaded by graceful palms. Enjoy a taste of tropical living at the most legendary choice of Key West hotels and resorts – Casa Marina. Nestled along the southern edge of the island – spanning more than 1,100 feet of private beach. The Casa Marina is a proud new member of the Hilton family, and their level of service remains unsurpassed.

This year's Convention Committee is being chaired by Flo Woodall of John Woody, Inc. in Jacksonville. The theme of this year's convention is "Only the Best Survive in Key West."

The UUCF office is currently accepting sponsors for the 2011 Platinum and Gold Sponsorship Programs.

UUCF would like to thank the following companies for committing to be a Platinum Sponsor for this year's convention: **CNA; Nortrax; and Sunshine State One Call of Florida, Inc.** UUCF would like to thank the following companies for committing to be a Gold Sponsor for this year's convention: **Glenn Rasmussen Fogarty & Hooker, P.A.; Linder Industrial Machinery Co.; and Pensacola Concrete Construction Company, Inc.**

To become a Platinum Sponsor, the cost is \$3,000.00. Platinum Sponsors are entitled to the following benefits:



- Platinum Sponsor company name will appear alphabetically on all flyers and registration forms regarding the convention.
- A handsome banner with your company's logo will be displayed at all major functions during the convention.
- Each Platinum Sponsor will have an exhibit board to display information pertaining to their company in the registration room during the convention.
- A profile of your company will be included in the convention program and printed in one month's issue of the *Ditchmen*.
- One reserved table at the Friday and Saturday night dinners.
- Special name tags displaying "Platinum Sponsor" to all employees of your company in attendance.
- First option on returning as a sponsor for the 2012 Annual convention.

If your company is interested in becoming a Platinum Sponsor, please contact the UUCF office at (407) 830–1880.

To become a Gold Sponsor, the cost is \$1,500.00. Gold Sponsors are entitled to the following benefits:

- Your company's name added to a handsomely printed sponsor sign which will be displayed at the Thursday, Friday and Saturday night events (i.e., UUCF 2011 Annual Convention Gold Sponsors: "Your Company

Name". All companies will be listed in alphabetical order on the signage).

- Your company name listed with other Gold Sponsors in our convention program which will be given to all attendees.
- First option on returning as a Gold Sponsor for the 2012 Convention.

If your company is interested in becoming a Gold Sponsor, please contact the UUCF office at (407) 830–1880.

The UUCF office will be soliciting the membership for sponsors of the Silver Sponsorship Program in the near future.

The 2011 Convention Hotel Reservation Form can be found on **page 2** in this issue of the *Ditchmen*. The room block for the UUCF Convention expires on Saturday, June 18; however, we strongly encourage everybody to make your hotel reservation(s) as soon as possible. This year's Convention Committee has secured a run of the house guest room rate of \$219.00 per night, single/double occupancy, Island Vista room rate of \$219.00 and Ocean Vista room rate of \$299.00.

The Convention Committee is in the process of finalizing the details for the convention; however, there will be a roundtable discussion, a Chinese Raffle and Silent Auction. On Saturday evening, we have a fun-filled evening planned. Get ready to name your tribes and play our Survivor games.

The UUCF Convention Registration Brochure and Forms will be available around April 8. Please watch for more details in e-mails and future issues of the *Ditchmen*.







# 2011 Legislative Session Update

The 2011 Legislative Session began on Tuesday, March 8.

With a new Governor devoid of political experience who wants to run the state lean and mean like a business in a fiscal crisis, everything is fair game. The laundry list of changes being proposed is exhaustive, but major proposed changes for Florida include combining health care related agencies into one; creating a new Department of Commerce to head up economic development; reorganization, privatization, and/or dismantling of the Department of Children & Family Services, the Department of Community Affairs, and the Department of Corrections; an overhaul of the state Medicaid program with a goal of total managed care; major changes to state employee benefits requiring them to pay more for health insurance and contribute to their own retirement plans; and tightening the state's constitutional cap on revenue collection.

The following is a list of UUCF Priorities:

## **Local Government Self-Performing**

Florida Statute 255.20, Competitive Bid Law," requires local governments to bid competitively any public works project in excess of \$300,000. The construction industry continues to lag in recovery in Florida as the latest unemployment statistics show that construction lost 24,000 jobs (6.7 percent) over the past year. In five years, construction has lost 355,000 jobs or about 52 percent of its workforce. In light of these statistics, it is very important to have the Legislature address the issue of local governments continuing to self perform public works projects. UUCF has made this a priority issue for 2011. Please support the "free



market" and stop local governments from self-performing public works projects.

## **Open Competition Act**

*HB 923 by Van Zant; SB 1352 by Hays*

This is the prohibition of union only "Project Labor Agreements" (PLAs) in public construction which includes state funds. The bill also extends the existing time period for filing a notice of protest to a bid solicitation. Existing law only provides for 72 hours within which to notice a protest. The bill extends this time period to a more reasonable seven days. The bill also prohibits a governmental agency from prohibiting a contractor who is qualified and properly licensed from performing work on a public works project.

## **Bid Preference (State Funded)**

*HB 427 by Tobia; SB 574 by Wise*

These bills prohibit the use of geographic price preferences when public projects in Florida are state funded or state assisted.

## **Numeric Nutrient Water Quality**

*CS/HB 239 by Williams; SB 1090 by Dean; SB 1490 by Evers*

The bill prohibits the Department of Environmental Protection, water management districts and other governmental entities from implementing federal rules relating to

numeric nutrient water quality criteria.

## **Stop Raiding STTF**

The House Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee is proposing to raid the State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF) by taking \$880 million in cash . . . resulting in a negative impact of \$2 billion to FDOT's Work Program. That's \$2 billion worth of transportation projects already planned all across Florida – and the roughly 60,000 jobs associated with them! Jobs will be lost if the proposed cuts are approved.

## **Background Screening for Non-Instructional School District Employees and Contractors**

*HB 627 by Perry; SB 906 by Dean*

These bills provides that the employee may obtain a single certificate which is good statewide to meet the Class II Security Clearance. The certificate will be issued by the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services.

## **Unemployment Compensation**

*CS/CS/HB 7005 by the Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee; CS/CS/SB 728 by Detert*

The House bill decreases the state benefit from 26 weeks to 20 weeks, strengthens employer defenses to an unemployment compensation claim, and decreases the weekly benefit to 12 weeks when the employment rate reaches 5%. The Senate bill does not have the provision for decreasing the number of weeks state benefits are paid.

## **Other Construction-Related Issues:**

### **Construction Liens and Bonds**

*HB 1453 by Plakon; SB 964 by Wise*

*(Continued on Page 12)*





# UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation Scholarship Application Available

The UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. is pleased to announce that its scholarship application is now available. The scholarship application is available to any employee and/or their immediate family member (i.e., child, grandchild, etc.) who is employed by a company that is a member of UUCF. The applicant must be a senior graduating from high school who will be enrolling in an accredited two- or four-year college or university for the year beginning in August or September 2011 or an individual who is currently attending an undergraduate two- or four-year

accredited college or university for the year beginning in August or September 2011. The enrollment may be in a curriculum of any number of years but the scholarship will not exceed one year. (Applicants must be affiliated with a UUCF member in good standing with dues paid at the time of application. Out of state branches of member companies are not eligible.)

The UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. was established in memory of the son of a Past President of UUCF, Scott J. Johnson (Johnson-Davis, Inc.). On December 28, 1999, Andrew "Andy" Scott Johnson was killed in

an automobile accident. Andy was 19 years of age. He was an honor student and a 1998 graduate of Pope John Paul II High School. He was a sophomore at Vanderbilt University. He loved the outdoors, all kinds of sports, especially Lacrosse, music and sport fishing. Andy was especially dedicated and loyal to his many friends and family.

If you have any questions, need additional information or would like to request a scholarship application, please do not hesitate to contact the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation office at (407) 830-1880.

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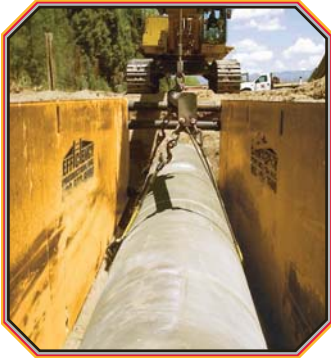
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## (2011 Legislative Session Continued from Page 9)

These bills have been stalled over the past week awaiting word from AGC on additional changes requested by the proponents. Without agreement on the issues, it will be difficult to move them forward this year.

### **Electrical Journeyman Requirements**

*HB 607 by Weinstein; SB 838 by Wise*

These bills are another attempt by the unions to require more electrical journeyman on industrial and commercial jobsites. The bills would lower the square footage requirement from 50,000 to 5,000 square feet and raise the voltage requirements from 77 volts to 98.

### **Regulation of Hoisting Equipment**

*HB 1057 by Artilles; SB 612 by Evers*

These bills are an ABC Crane Council priority and create a statewide crane safety act relating to radio communications between crane operators, preparation for high wind events and penalties for licensed contractors who violate the act. These requirements would preempt any local government regulations and create a statewide standard.

### **State Reciprocity in Workers' Compensation Claims**

*HB 723 by Weinstein; SB 1286 by Bennett*

These bills provide that an employee of a Florida company who is working on a temporary basis in another state is still covered by the employer's Florida workers' compensation coverage, and an employee from another state who is working on a temporary basis in this state is still covered under the Workers' Compensation policy in the home state. A temporary basis is

defined as no more than 10 consecutive days or 25 total days in a year.

### **Growth Management/Impact Fees**

*HB 7001 by Community & Military Affairs Committee; SB 174 by Bennett*

*HB 7021 by Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee; SB 410 by Bennett*

In 2009, the Florida Legislature passed a bill to codify the burden of proof for impact fee challenges, placing the burden of proof on the government to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the impact fee is valid. In response to litigation by local governments currently pending in circuit court, SB 410 and HB 7021 would re-enact the provisions. In order to ensure that the law is not an unconstitutional mandate, the new legislation requires

*(Continued on Page 14)*

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# Contractor Member of the Month: Gator Boring and Trenching, Inc.

**F**ounded in 1992 and incorporated in 1999, Gator Boring & Trenching, Inc. is a family-owned and operated company focusing on Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) for all types of underground installation.

Gator Boring began with a single drill rig installing primarily natural gas mains. Operations have grown to include water main, force main and gravity sewer main installation with directional drilling. The company now owns and operates numerous rigs with capacities over 200,000 lbs. Gator's service area has also expanded to cover Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana and Georgia.

Owners, Lisa J. Lyons, President, and Eric R. Lyons, Vice President, believe they have found their place

in the market by providing quality directional drilling operations on bores that are too big for most small drillers and too small for the big guys. Most importantly, the Lyons believe all of their success and growth is by the grace of God. "We deal with so many unknowns in this type of business, our one constant is our faith in God," said Ms. Lyons.

The Lyons spend a great deal of time assisting engineers, owners and other contractors on the practicality of HDD construction. Gator Boring has been featured in several trade publications and recently completed a 2,500' subaqueous bore under a bayou near Pensacola. Some of those operations have been documented and presented on youtube.

Unlike many other featured

contractors, Gator Boring generally operates as a subcontractor on municipal projects. However, the company's goal is to provide the highest level of excellence, professionalism and expertise regardless of the amount of HDD work on each project. "The key to our continued success will be in using our almost 20 years of experience to continue to build relationships with our customers by giving them successful bores on every project and in every situation," said Don Padgett, Senior Estimator.

Gator Boring and Trenching is an active contractor member of NUCA of Northwest Florida and regularly participates in chapter events. Don Padgett was recently elected as President of the 2011 NUCA of Northwest Florida chapter.

## Best Management Practices

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



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## (2011 Legislative Session Continued from Page 12)

approval of each house of the Legislature by two-thirds of its members. The House version adds language that the legislature finds that it "fulfills an important state interest" to further protect it from a mandate challenge.

### **Construction Liens and Bonds** *HB 1453 by Plakon; SB 964 by Wise*

These bills would make changes to the current Lien and Bonds laws. For a listing of the proposed changes, please see the Pre-Session Legislative Report which is posted under the Member's Only section at [www.uucf.com](http://www.uucf.com).

### **General Business Issues:**

#### **Right to Be Heard at Public Meetings**

*HB 285 by Eisenaugle; SB 310 by Negron*

These bills provide that all public

meetings "Shall include an opportunity for members of the public to be heard when an official act will be taken."

**Enforcement of Immigration Laws**  
*HB 7089 (formerly JDC 11-01) by House Judiciary; SB 2040 (formerly PCB 7066)*

## Registered Contractor License Renewal Reminder

Just a reminder that the Registered Contractor licenses from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) are up for renewal on August 31, 2011. 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.

*(Continued on Page 24)*

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# President's Message



With the opening of the 2011 Legislative Season, the UUCF Board of Director's Meeting was held at the

Governors Club in

Tallahassee on March 21. That afternoon, Bruce Kershner briefed and brought us up-to-date on the legislative issues that we have been working on earlier in the year. Some issues that are in the works are Local Bid Preference, Competitive Bid, Lien Law, Notice of Nonpayment and Immigration. With the cities, counties and municipalities out of money, we all need to focus on Competitive Bid. All of us have experienced municipalities wanting to self-perform more of their own work to justify their existence and turning emergency repairs into construction projects. On March 22, we had the opportunity to meet with our lawmakers to let them



know how we feel and discuss other issues we have. When we met, most

of the conversations were about what we would like to see changed, or we may criticize some of what is happening in Tallahassee. If your representative or senator is doing a good job, please compliment him on his job. As the old saying goes, "you catch the fly with honey not vinegar."

I would like to compliment Ken Wachman, Misty McKendree and the SUCA chapter. You were nice enough to let some of the UUCF and NUCA members visit your chapter meeting in St. Pete, and we were blown away by the show of members and the amount of

involvement your board and membership have with the association. All of your committee chairmen had good reports, you have active programs for your members and your members seem to be active in the programs. I think we all will be sharing the experience we had at your meeting with our membership. Also, congratulations to the nine members with their 20 plus years of membership.

This year, UUCF will be holding its Annual Convention, "Only the Best Survive in Key West," in Key West. The dates are July 21-24. We all need to promote the convention. This year seems to be a little bit better financially, and it seems that we have a few more business opportunities than we had last year. This should make it easier to be able

*(Continued on Page 21)*

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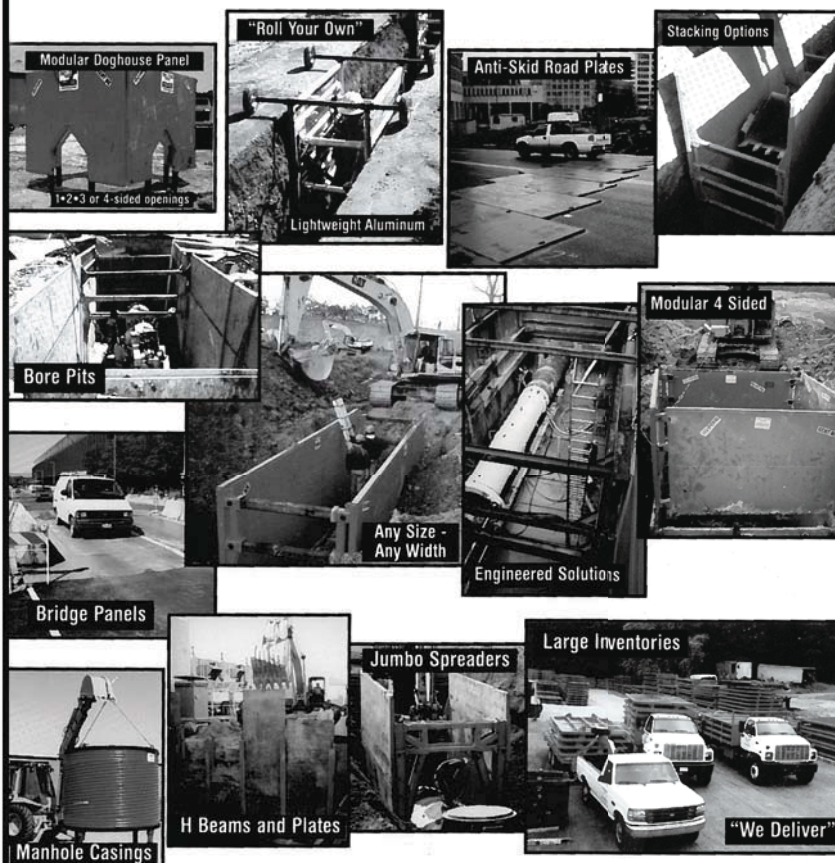
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# Division of Workers' Compensation Offers Free Classes

The Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Workers' Compensation, is offering 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.

## **April 14, 2011**

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

## **April 19, 2011**

Fort Myers  
State of Florida Office Building  
2295 Victoria Avenue, Room 165A,  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

## **April 22, 2011**

Miami  
State Office  
Building  
401 NW 2nd  
Avenue, North  
Tower, Room 423  
Miami, FL 33128

## **May 13, 2011**

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

## **May 19, 2011**

Jacksonville  
Florida Dept of Law  
Enforcement  
921 North Davis  
Street, Bldg. E,  
Room A  
Jacksonville, FL  
32209

## **May 26, 2011**

Pensacola  
Alabama Associated General  
Contractors, Northwest Florida  
Section  
201 South F Street  
Pensacola, FL 32502

## **May 26, 2011**


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

## **June 2, 2011**

Largo  
Pinellas County Construction  
Licensing Board  
12600 Belcher Road, Suite 102  
Largo, FL 33773

## **June 9, 2011**

Tallahassee  
Southwood Complex, Betty Easley  
Conference Center  
4075 Esplanade Way, Room 180  
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## **June 10, 2011**

West Palm Beach  
Central Career Center  
1951 North Military Trail, Room 204  
West Palm Beach, FL 33409

These seminars are open to all licensed contractors, business owners and employers. 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](http://www.myfloridacfo.com/WC). For additional information, e-mail [bocseminars@MyFloridaCFO.com](mailto:bocseminars@MyFloridaCFO.com), or call (813) 221-6518.







# Calendar of Events

## UUCF

June 3 ..... Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando  
 July 21 ..... Board of Director's Meeting,  
 Casa Marina Resort & Beach Club, Key West  
 July 21-24 ..... Annual Convention,  
 Casa Marina Resort & Beach Club, Key West  
 Sept. (TBA) ..... President's Cup Golf Tournament  
 Nov. 4 ..... Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando

## NUCA of North Florida

Apr. 12 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
 May 10 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
 May 19 ..... Board of Director's Meeting  
 May 19... Jacksonville Suns vs. Mississippi Braves Game,  
 Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville  
 June 14 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
 July 12 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
 July 28 ..... Board of Director's & General  
 Membership Meeting Meetings  
 Aug. 9 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
 Sept. 13 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
 Sept. 22 ..... Board of Director's & General  
 Membership Meeting Meetings  
 Oct. (TBA) ..... Fishing Tournament,  
 Sister's Creek Marina/City of Jacksonville  
 Oct. 11 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
 Nov. 8 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
 Nov. 17 ..... Board of Director's & Election of  
 Officers Meetings  
 Dec. 13 ..... Executive Committee Meeting

## NUCA of Northwest Florida

Apr. 14 ..... Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
 May 5 ..... Golf Tournament, Pensacola  
 May 12 ..... Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
 June 9 ..... Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola

## NUCA of Southwest Florida

Apr. (TBA) ..... General Membership Meeting  
 May (TBA) ..... Golf Tournament  
 June 16 ..... General Membership Meeting,  
 Holiday Inn, Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers  
 July 21 ..... General Membership Meeting,  
 Holiday Inn, Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers  
 Aug. 18 ..... General Membership Meeting,  
 Holiday Inn, Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers  
 Sept. (TBA) ..... Fishing Tournament  
 Oct. 20 ..... General Membership Meeting,  
 Holiday Inn, Gulf Coast Town Center, Fort Myers  
 Nov. (TBA) ..... Board of Director's Meeting  
 Dec. (TBA) ..... Christmas Party

## SUCA

Apr. 7 ..... General Membership Meeting,

Temple Terrace Golf Country Club, Tampa

May 12 ..... Membership Mixer  
 June 2 ..... General Membership Meeting,  
 Imperial Lakewoods, Palmetto  
 June 17 ..... Scholarship Golf Tournament,  
 Eagle Golf Club, Odessa  
 July 14 ..... Scholarship Night,  
 Columbia Restaurant, Ybor City  
 Sept. 8 ..... Membership Mixer,  
 Howl at the Moon, Channelside  
 Sept. 15 ..... Fish Fry, Largo Central Park, Largo  
 Oct. 6 ..... Annual Meeting & Elections  
 Oct. 21 ..... Clay Shoot,  
 Tampa Bay Sporting Clays, Land O'Lakes  
 Nov. 3 ..... Membership Meeting & Installation of  
 2012 Officers & Directors, Rusty Pelican, Tampa  
 Dec. 3 ..... Year End Banquet

## NUCA

May 10-12 ..... Washington Summit,  
 Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, Old Town Alexandria, VA

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

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

Apr. 13-15 ..... Hampton Inn & Suites Amelia Island,  
 Fernandina Beach, FL  
 May 11-13 ..... Embassy Suites - Fort Lauderdale,  
 Fort Lauderdale, FL  
 June 8-10 ..... Crowne Plaza Jacksonville Riverfront,  
 Jacksonville, FL  
 July 13-15 ..... Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention  
 Center, Kissimmee, FL  
 Aug. 10-12 ..... Embassy Suites Tampa/USF,  
 Tampa, FL  
 Sept. 14-16 ..... TBA  
 Oct. 12-14 ..... Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention  
 Center, Kissimmee, FL  
 Nov. 9-11 ..... Hampton Inn & Suites Amelia Island,  
 Fernandina Beach, FL







**(President's Message  
Continued from Page 15)**

to attend and sponsor the different events. When you factor the quality of the people that make up our membership and the fact we are in Key West, one of my favorite places, this should equal a GREAT TIME for everyone. Please register as soon as you can, plan to come a day early and stay a day later. There is no penalty for having more fun than you think you deserve.

Continue doing business with your chapter and UUCF members.

*Sincerely,*

*Bill Lee  
UUCF President*

## There's An App for That!!!



During the week of March 1, 2011, DBPR developed the first free iPhone and Android apps for a state agency. These apps will allow people to search for state licenses by name or license

number, enabling people to check instantaneously whether an individual has a business or professional license in the State of Florida.

These apps will help DBPR answer questions faster and be more responsive to their customers who are on the go, increasing transparency and accessibility for Floridians. And, because DBPR wants to keep improving their services, they are already working on the second version with additional consumer tools.

Announcing these apps was the result of more than just several months of development and creative thinking; these apps represent DBPR's never-ending quest to be quicker, smarter and faster. They built these applications entirely in house, working with their staff to determine what options would be most useful to our customers. They are a testament to DPBR's commitment to continue growing, improving and providing the best customer service they can and, after only a few days of being available, the iPhone app has already landed in the upper half of Apple's top 100 list of free business applications!

If you have an iPhone or Android phone, take a minute to download the apps, test them out, and send DBPR your feedback. Version 2 is in the works, and they'd love your input to keep making it better! You can send your thoughts to [website.feedback@dbpr.state.fl.us](mailto:website.feedback@dbpr.state.fl.us).

## Sunshine State One Call of Florida, Inc. 2011 Holiday Calendar

Memorial Day .....	05/30/11
Independence Day .....	07/04/11
Labor Day .....	09/05/11
Thanksgiving Day .....	11/24/11
Day after Thanksgiving Day .....	11/25/11
Christmas Eve .....	12/23/11
Christmas Day .....	12/26/11

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.**



### 2011 FDOT Letting Date

April 27	May 25
June 22	July 27
August 31	September 28
October 26	December 7

### 2012 FDOT Letting Date

January 25	February 29
March 28	April 25
May 23	June 20





## Chapter News

### NUCA of North Florida

On January 27, we held our annual officer installation meeting. Our 2011 Officers and Board of Directors were sworn in by Ryan Schmitt, Chairman of NUCA. Ryan also provided a brief update on the NUCA Expo '11 and plans for the year ahead. Our 2010 monthly sponsors, A. J. Johns, Inc.; Ellis & Associates, Inc.; Industrial Tractor Company; Professional Shoring & Supply; Regan, Zebouni & Walker, P.A.; Reynolds, Inc.; Ring Power Corporation; Standard Precast, Inc.; and Thompson Pump and Manufacturing Co., Inc., were recognized with plaques and certificates. Our 2010 Committee chairs were also recognized with certificates. They include: **Fishing Tournament** – Steve Dempsey; **Golf Tournament** – Rick Erickson; **Scholarship** – Ted Turnbeaugh; **Education Advisory Committee** – Mike Gruber; and **Legislative** – Tony Zebouni. Rick Erickson, Industrial Tractor Company, was presented with the *President's Award* for his leadership as Chairman of the Golf Tournament and contributions to the Board of Directors. Kim Bryan, Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc., received the *Outstanding Board Member Award* for her work as Secretary/Treasurer and contribution to the Board of Directors. Ed Porter was presented with a gavel plaque in appreciation of his work as President this past year.

The UCA of North Florida Annual Golf tournament has been set for Tuesday, April 5 at Deerwood Country Club. Josh Hunt, Ferguson Waterworks, Inc., is this year's golf Chairman. Sponsorships are available beginning at \$260.00 for Tee/Green sponsors to \$600.00 Vendor Showcases. The cost for players is \$125.00. Thank you to the following companies who have already agreed to sponsor: **Gold Vendor Showcase:** All Pro Asphalt; Cecil W. Powell &

Company; Duval Asphalt; and Ferguson Waterworks, Inc. **Event Sponsor:** HD Supply Waterworks and Professional Shoring & Supply. **Tee/Green Sponsors:** The Blue Book; Ellis & Associates; Great Southern; John Woody, Inc.; and Reynolds. Please contact the office at (904) 296-1230 to register or for additional information.

Our March general meeting will be held on March 17 at Latitude 30 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., the new Jacksonville entertainment hot spot. Other upcoming events include our Candidate's Forum for Mayoral and City Council Candidates on April 14 and our annual Jacksonville Suns Baseball Outing on May 19.

NUCA's Washington Summit & Spring Board Meeting has been rescheduled to May 10-12 at the Holiday Inn Old Town in Alexandria, VA. This three-day-event includes the Federal Issues Conference, Annual Awards Luncheon, a full day of lobbying on Capitol Hill and important association meetings. Registration forms are available at [www.nuca.com](http://www.nuca.com).

We are gathering a group together to attend the UUCF Tallahassee Board of Director's Meeting and Legislative visits on March 21-22.

### NUCA of Northwest Florida

In an effort to achieve uniformity, chapters across the country are rebranding with the NUCA logo. Our chapter is now known as NUCA of Northwest Florida and began utilizing the new logo on March 1. The logo/name is the only change – each individual chapter will continue to operate autonomously.

### NUCA of Southwest Florida

We would like to thank all of the members who attended our last membership meeting on February 24. We had a great turnout and appreciate Bruce Kershner for making the trip down to socialize with us and keep us up-to-date on

UUCF and the happenings in Tallahassee. We appreciate all of those who supported and donated to the UUCF PAC Rebuild and Reload Campaign at the meeting. Thanks to: Peter Walters, Darryl Equipment; Mark Stefanacci, Ferguson Waterworks; Alan Orvin, Florida Rock/Vulcan Materials; Fred Russell, Guymann Construction; Matt Cogsdale, MWI Pump Rentals; Howard Blair, Quality Pumps; Denis Rohaley, Rohaley and Sons Plumbing; and Mark Wentzel with Johnson Engineering who won the 50/50 and donated his winnings back to the UUCF PAC. Also thank you to previous contributors: Kirk Richmond, Armadillo Underground; Keith Richmond, Armadillo Underground; Chris Stewart, ITT Flygt; Bruce Wendorf, Forsberg Construction; and Sharon Fugatt. Three people from U.S. Precast have also committed to making a contribution. How wonderful it is that our members see the importance of a strong UUCF PAC. If you would like to contribute, you can download the contribution form at [www.uucf.com](http://www.uucf.com) or contact the NUCA of Southwest Florida office.

Our next membership meeting is Thursday, March 17 at The Holiday Inn, Gulf Coast Town Center in Fort Myers. Cocktail hour starts at 6:30 p.m. and dinner starts around 7:30 p.m. The menu will be out soon. We look forward to having Bill Lee, UUCF President, as our guest and speaker. Mark your calendar and make plans to attend.

You are invited to attend the NUCA of Southwest Florida Meet and Greet Happy Hour at Pelican Larry's in Naples on Wednesday, March 9 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. This is an opportunity to socialize and get to know the people with whom we do business and continue to establish good relationships between contractors, excavators, suppliers, engineers and all who are interested in sharing our common interests. We are constantly working on new ways





to reach out to all areas in Southwest Florida and hope that you will come and enjoy happy hour for awhile at Pelican Larry's. If you know of anyone who would like to attend, please let the NUCA of Southwest Florida office know, and we will send a flyer out to them. Look forward to seeing you there.

All NUCA of Southwest Florida members are invited and encouraged to attend the UUCF Board of Director's Meeting and Capitol visits during the Legislative Session in Tallahassee. The dates are March 21-22. This is an outstanding opportunity to get to know our state government and how it works. With so many critical issues facing us, the more each of us get involved the better we can make the construction industry and make our voices heard. If more information is needed either contact the UUCF or NUCA of Southwest Florida office.

Make sure that the NUCA of Southwest Florida office has your up-to-date information as we will be working on a new NUCA of Southwest Florida membership directory soon. All paid members will be included. Advertisers are also needed.

Tee up! One of our most popular and fun events of the year is coming up soon! The NUCA of Southwest Florida Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, May 21 at the beautiful Forest Golf and Country Club in Fort Myers. This is a fun tournament to help fund our scholarship awards program. There will be refreshments, lunch, great giveaways and prizes. We always have great attendance at the tournament and teams are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Look for more information soon by e-mail and forms will be available on the association's website at [swfuca.com](http://swfuca.com) soon.

### **SUCA**

SUCA's Community Affairs Committee made a \$570.00

contribution to the 'Heroes of the St. Pete Police' with proceeds from the February membership meeting 50/50 raffle. Thanks to all of our generous members who participated!

SUCA's March membership mixer was held at Tampa's premier comedy venue, Tampa Improv. Members enjoyed dinner, drinks and listening to one of the funniest comedy acts, Craig Shoemaker: The LoveMaster on our private balcony. If you missed it this time, be sure to join us next year, as we plan to return to this fabulous venue.

SUCA's April membership meeting will be held Thursday, April 7, 2011 at the Temple Terrace Golf & Country Club in Tampa. Guest speaker Chris Bergstrom of Wallace, Welch & Willingham will speak on 'Healthcare Reform and Its Impact on Your Business.' Advanced reservations are required by phone, fax or e-mail. The cost is \$35.00 per person.

SUCA's Annual Family Barbecue was held on Saturday, March 19, 2011 at Starkey Ranch in Odessa. All in attendance had a wonderful time at the long time favorite event. In addition to the fabulous food and drinks, everyone enjoyed an equipment display, hay rides, bounce house, choo-choo train, petting farm and DJ. The horseshoe tournament, **sponsored by Florida Gas & Electric Corp.**, awarded cash prizes to the First, Second and Third place winners. Door prizes, **sponsored by Professional Shoring & Supply**, included two tickets to the Jimmy Buffett concert, five tickets to Lowry Park Zoo, two Orlando theme park tickets, a \$100.00 restaurant gift card and a two night stay at a local resort. The door prizes were won by competing in 'Minute To Win It' type games. Congratulations to all of the horseshoe tournament winners and door prize winners.

SUCA Scholarship applications were mailed to members at the end of March. The \$4,000.00 scholarship

is offered to the children of SUCA members who are seniors in high school this year and will be attending college in the fall. The scholarship is \$4,000.00 paid at \$1,000.00 per year for four years. In addition to SUCA's scholarship, UUCF and NUCA have programs available to members as well. The Scholarship Committee is excited to read all 2011 entries!

Thanks to those members who have continued their support of the associations by renewing their membership dues for 2011. Keep in mind that dues were due in March. If you are not sure whether you have paid your 2011 dues, please contact the SUCA office.

SUCA's Safety Training Committee held a Competent Person Training Seminar on Saturday, February 26, 2011 at the Ring Power Corporation training facility in Riverview. Thanks to all 33 members who attended this seminar!

SUCA partnered with the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) to sponsor a Florida Advanced Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) training class and a Florida Advanced Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) Refresher training class. The classes were held on March 23-25, 2011 (refresher class on Friday, March 25, 2011 only). The outstanding benefit of co-sponsoring the course is the monetary savings for SUCA members.

Mark your calendars now for a day of fun in the sun while fishing on the Queen Fleet out of Clearwater Beach! SUCA will host a family-friendly chartered fishing trip on Saturday, May 21, 2011. Additional information will be sent out as details become available.

If you are interested in SUCA's projects or events, please contact the SUCA office at (813) 355-4879, e-mail [mtjader@suca.org](mailto:mtjader@suca.org) or visit our website at [www.suca.org](http://www.suca.org).







## (2011 Legislative Session Continued from Page 14)

by Senate Judiciary

In addition to other provisions in the bill, the main sections of the bills affecting employers would require all employers by July 1, 2012 to check new hires through the federal government's E-Verify system. It requires contractors and subcontractors working on public projects to do so by January 1, 2012. The Senate Bill allows an employer to avoid utilization of E-Verify if they obtain an unexpired drivers' license, passport or national identification card when utilizing the current I-9 process.

### Secondary Metal Recyclers

HB 343 by Metz; SB 622 by Hays  
These bills would implement electronic transaction reporting to law enforcement for secondary metal recyclers.

### Tangible Personal Property Taxes on Heavy Equipment

HB 243 by Workman; SB 384 by Bogdanoff

These bills authorize a person who rents heavy equipment under short-term rental agreements to collect a TPP recovery fee from the renter.

### The "Paycheck Protection Act"

CS/HB 1021 by Dorworth; CS/SB 830 by Thrasher

These bills prohibit local governments from providing automatic withdrawal of union dues used for political purposes without annual approval by the employee.

For additional updates on the 2011 Legislative Session, please visit [www.uucf.com](http://www.uucf.com) and click on the Member's Only section. The UUCF office notifies its members every Monday during the Legislative Session when each week's report is available on the website.

## UUCF 2011 Annual Convention

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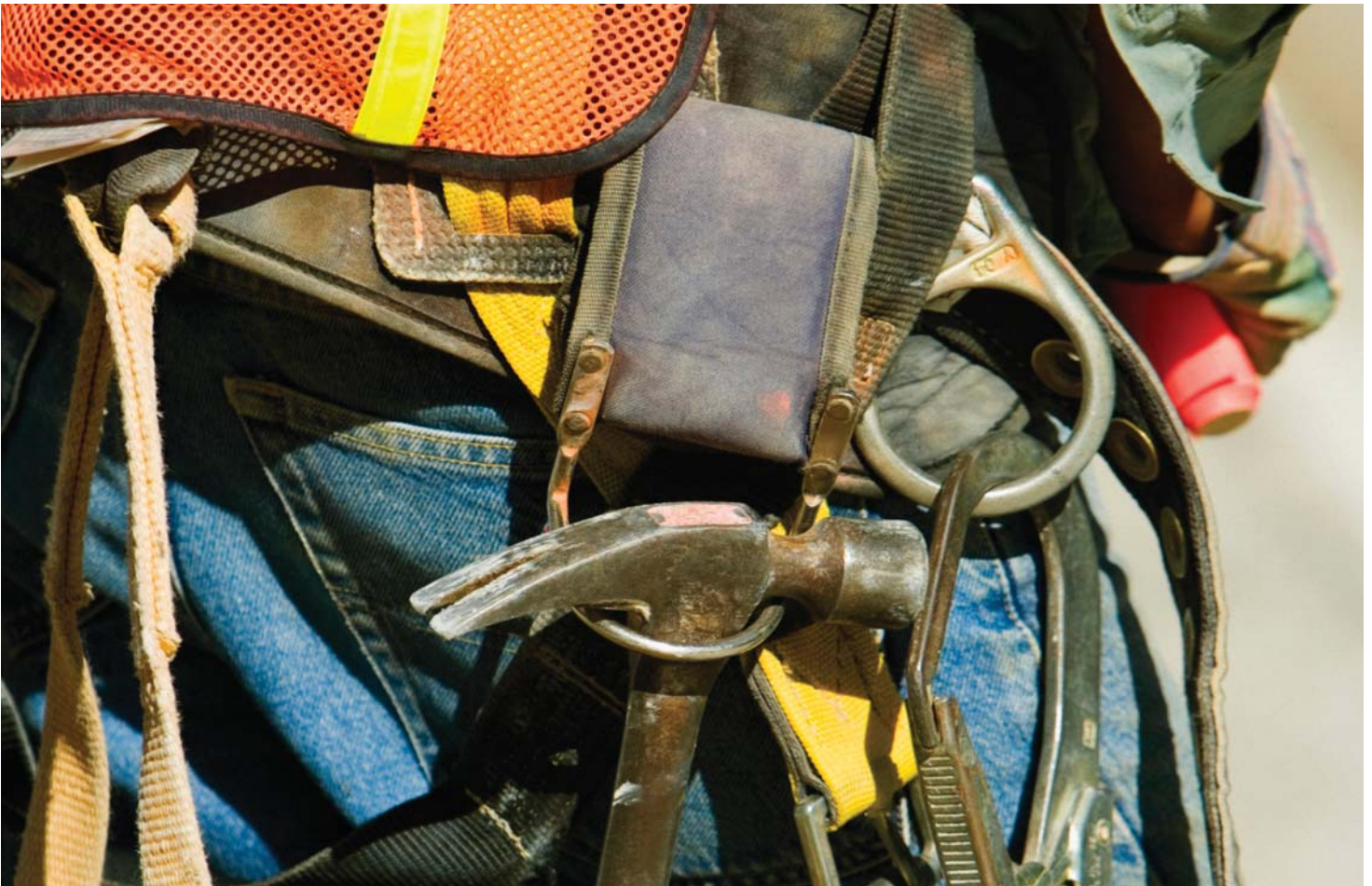
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