



# Ditchmen

Online

Underground Utility Contractors of Florida, Inc.

## UUCF 2011 Annual Convention July 21-24 *(see page 4 for details)*

MAY 2011



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Key West, Florida**



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ANNUAL CONVENTION  
July 21 - 24, 2011**

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**This form is invalid unless received on or before Saturday, June 18, 2011**

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 Casa Marina Resort & Beach Club will require a deposit of one night's room and tax by guest check or credit card to be charged upon reservation. An individual's deposit is refundable if the resort receives notice of cancellation three (3) days prior to the scheduled arrival. After arrival, guests departing earlier than reserved will be charged a \$75.00 early departure fee plus tax.** Rooms will be held under the UUCF room block until June 18, 2011. 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 4:00 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 DOUBLE 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:**

**Casa Marina Resort & Beach Club  
Attn: Reservations Department  
1500 Reynolds Street  
Key West, FL 33040**

**By Fax:**

**(305) 296-4633**

**Attention: Group Rooms Coordinator**





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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, Gold and Silver 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.; Pensacola Concrete Construction Company, Inc.; and Utility Service 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.

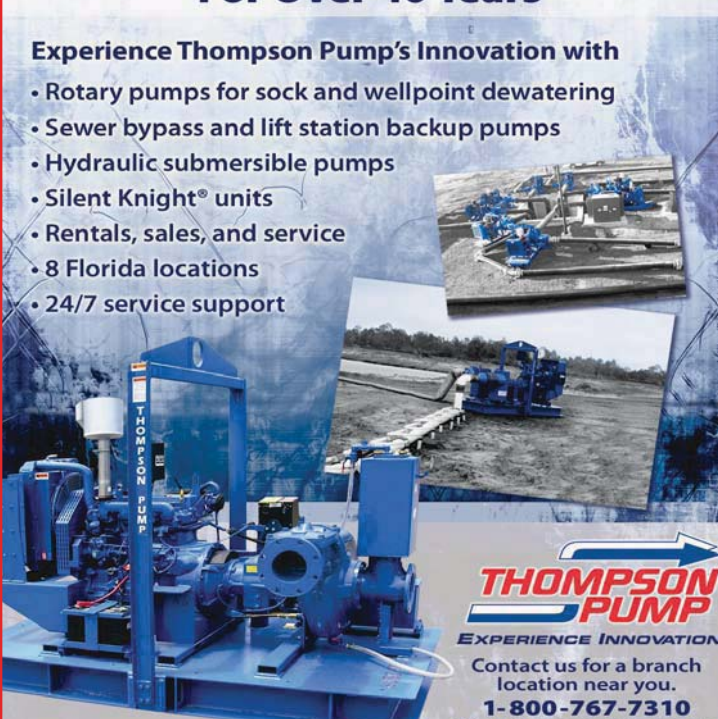
To become a Gold Sponsor, the cost is \$1,500.00. Gold Sponsors are entitled to the following benefits:

- Your company's name added to a handsomely printed sponsor sign which will be displayed at the

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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.

To become a Silver Sponsor, each event is given a slot value of one (1) to seven (7) depending on the event, and the cost is \$500.00 per slot. Silver Sponsors are entitled to the following benefits:

- A handsome printed sponsor sign displayed at the event you choose (i.e., This Reception is Proudly Sponsored or Co-Sponsored by "Your Company Name").
- Company name listed with other Silver Sponsors in our convention brochure which will be given to all attendees.
- First option on returning as a Silver Sponsor for the 2012 Convention.

UUCF would like to thank the following companies for committing

to be a Silver Sponsor for this year's convention: **Forsberg Construction, Inc.; Glenn Rasmussen Fogarty & Hooker, P.A.; HD Supply Waterworks; Ring Power Corporation; SUCA; Utility Service Company, Inc.; and Valenti, Trobec & Woody, Inc.**

**Sponsorship in the various programs are still needed. If you are interested in becoming a Platinum, Gold or Silver Sponsor, please contact the UUCF office as soon as possible.**

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 has finalized the details for the convention. On Thursday, UUCF will be holding its Board Meeting and a Welcome Reception. On Friday morning, there will be a breakfast. Immediately following the breakfast will be a Round Table discussion.

For those who don't want to attend the Round Table discussion after the breakfast, UUCF will be holding a Fashion Show.

[BoutiqueOnWheels.com](#) will be hosting the fun-filled Fashion Show which will last approximately one hour. The clothes are new, washable, travel, cruise and casual related separates and sets in sizes S-XL in average and petite lengths. Individuals who attend the fashion show will receive a 10% discount on any of the clothes they purchase on site.

On Friday afternoon, there will be a Corn Hole Tournament. Not sure what a Cornhole Tournament is? Well, go to the official website of the American Cornhole Association at [www.playcornhole.org](#) and read all about it.

In the registration room, UUCF will be holding its Chinese Raffle and Silent Auction. The Silent Auction Donation Form will be available in the near future.

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 have been e-mailed to the membership but can also be found on the UUCF website at [www.uucf.com](#).

## **State Certified Underground Utility & Excavation Exam**

**August 16 & 17, 2011  
October 18 & 19, 2011  
December 13 & 14, 2011  
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June 19 & 20, 2012**

Applications may be obtained by logging on to  
[www.proftesting.com](#)

and their employees.

# **Do Business with a Member!**





**UUCF**

**The Underground Utility  
Contractors of Florida  
2011 Annual Convention  
Casa Marina Resort & Beach Club  
Key West  
July 21-24**

**2011 Platinum Sponsors:**  
**CNA**  
**Nortrax**  
**Sunshine State One Call of Florida, Inc.**

**2011 Gold Sponsors:**  
**Glenn Rasmussen Fogarty & Hooker, P.A.**  
**Linder Industrial Machinery Company**  
**Pensacola Concrete Construction Co., Inc.**  
**Utility Service Company, Inc.**

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

## **UUCF 2011 Annual Convention**

**July 21-24  
Casa Marina Hotel  
in Key West,  
Florida**

**Mark your calendar  
now be part of  
Only the  
Best Survive  
in Key West.**



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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 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.

UUCF has created a goal gauge on the UUCF website home page. We have been updating the goal gauge as donations are received into the UUCF office. To date, 52.6% of the \$5,000 has been contributed. To view the goal gauge, as well as a list of contributors, please visit the UUCF website at [www.uucf.com](http://www.uucf.com).

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 to the "Rebuild and Reload" campaign, please make check payable to UUCF PAC and mail to 231 West Bay Avenue, Longwood, FL 32750-4125.

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# 2012 Ballot Proposed Constitutional Amendments

The Florida House Office of Public Information has created a list of several proposed constitutional amendments that passed the Florida House and Senate this Session. All of the bills have been enrolled and are waiting to be “signed by officers” and presented to the Governor. Once the Governor receives the bill, he will have 15 consecutive calendar days from receipt within which to review the legislation and take action.

Here are some Quick Facts regarding the Florida Constitution:

**1838:** Florida’s first Constitution established.

**59:** Number of constitutional amendments proposed during the 2011 Session.

**7:** Number of constitutional amendments passed during the 2011 Session.

The Florida Constitution provides the framework for our state’s government, grants rights to its citizens, and outlines the process by which amendments to the Constitution may be proposed and enacted. There are several ways to amend the Florida Constitution, one of which is through a Joint Resolution passed by the Legislature. Joint Resolutions proposing amendments to the Florida Constitution must be passed by a 3/5 vote of all members in the Florida House and Senate, respectively. After both chambers pass a Joint Resolution proposing a constitutional amendment, the amendment text and title, as well as a ballot summary of the amendment (if there is a ballot summary) as it will appear on the electoral ballot must be printed twice in newspapers throughout the state before the election. The proposed amendment can then be submitted to Floridians for a vote, usually at the next general election.

The actual ballot given to voters on Election Day typically contains the amendment title and a summary of the amendment, which is called the “ballot summary.” If 60 percent of the people who vote on the amendment vote “yes”, the Florida Constitution is changed to reflect the amendment.

Floridians can take action in the form of a legal challenge to stop a proposed amendment from appearing on an electoral ballot if they believe the language used to identify and describe the amendment is inaccurate or misleading. This formal challenge is usually presented in a state court. When a challenge is filed, the court hears arguments from both sides and then makes a determination about whether the amendment, as it is titled and described in the ballot summary, can legally appear before Florida voters.

There are four other ways to amend the Florida Constitution, which include an initiative petition, proposal by the Constitution Revision Commission, proposal by the Taxation and Budget Reform Commission or a proposal by a Constitutional Convention.

The following is a listing of the Joint Resolutions passed by both houses of the Florida Legislature during the 2011 Legislative Session. For additional information regarding individual Joint Resolutions, visit the Florida House of Representatives website and search for each Joint Resolution by number.

**CS/HJR 7111:** Proposes a Constitutional Amendment to address reforms to Florida’s court system structure and function. The bill passed the House on May 3, 2011, by a vote of 80-38 and passed the Senate on May 5, 2011, by a vote of

24-11.

- Revises provisions relating to the repeal of court rules.
- Limits re-adoption of repealed court rules.
- Provides for Senate confirmation of Supreme Court justices’.
- Requires the Judicial Qualifications Commission (JQC) to make all files available to the Florida House Speaker.

**CS/SJR 2:** Proposes a Constitutional Amendment to prohibit any laws from compelling any Floridian or employer to purchase, obtain or provide health care coverage. The bill passed the Senate on March 9, 2011, by a vote of 29-10 and passed the House on May 4, 2011, by a vote of 80-37.

- Allows a person or employer to purchase services directly from a health care provider at their own discretion.
- Allows a health care provider to accept direct payment for services if a patient chooses to pay out of pocket.

**CS/CS/CS/CS/CS/HJR 381:** Proposes a Constitutional Amendment to prohibit increases in assessed value of homestead and specified non-homestead property if the property’s value decreases. The bill passed the House on May 2, 2011, by a vote of 105-11 and passed the Senate on May 4, 2011, by a vote of 25-12.

- Reduces limitations on annual assessment increases for non-homestead real property.
- Provides additional homestead exemption for owners of homestead property who have not owned homestead property for a

*(Continued on Page 13)*







# Distracted Driving: No Texting

**M**ore workers are killed each year in motor vehicle crashes than any other cause.

Businesses can help solve this big problem.

## **Workers' Safety is Your Business**

Texting while driving puts millions of Americans who drive on the job at risk every day. That risk continues to grow as texting becomes more widespread. As a business owner or manager, it's your legal responsibility under the Occupational Safety and Health Act to safeguard drivers at work. This holds true whether they drive full-time or only occasionally to carry out their work, and whether they drive a company vehicle or their own. When your workers are behind the wheel doing your company's work, their safety is your business. That's why the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), which enforces worker safety laws, has joined with the Transportation Department, other Labor Department agencies and key associations and organizations to enlist the help and cooperation of businesses – large and small – in a nationwide outreach, education and enforcement effort to stop the dangerous practice of texting while driving. OSHA is prepared to act quickly. When OSHA receives a credible complaint that an employer requires texting while driving or organizes work so that texting is a practical necessity, we will investigate and will issue citations and penalties where necessary to end this practice.

## **Safety at Work is No Accident**

Building a workplace culture of safety requires clear, explicit policies and sound practices. Send a clear message to workers and supervisors that your company neither requires nor condones texting while driving. Employers

should:

- Prohibit texting while driving. OSHA encourages employers to declare their vehicles "text-free zones" and to emphasize that commitment to their workers, customers and communities.
- Establish work procedures and rules that do not make it necessary for workers to text while driving in order to carry out their duties.
- Set up clear procedures, times and places for drivers' safe use of texting and other technologies for communicating with managers, customers and others.
- Incorporate safe communications practices into worker orientation and training.
- Eliminate financial and other incentive systems that encourage workers to text while driving.

## **How OSHA Helps**

OSHA's distracted driving webpage ([www.osha.gov/distracted-driving/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/distracted-driving/index.html)) provides useful resources, including:

- a model policy to use or adapt for your business
- information about how employers are combating this hazard
- research findings
- educational materials

The U.S. Department of Transportation website ([www.distraction.gov](http://www.distraction.gov)) provides updates and information on the national campaign to prevent distracted driving.

## **Additional Assistance**

OSHA's consultation program can help small and medium-sized businesses, at no cost, keep workers safe by providing:

- free and confidential advice
- on-site consultation
- assistance with identifying

workplace hazards

- advice on compliance with OSHA standards
- assistance with safety and health programs

To learn more about how OSHA can help, visit [www.OSHA.gov](http://www.OSHA.gov) or call OSHA at (800) 321-OSHA (6742).

## **Dangers of Distracted Driving**

- Distracted driving crashes killed more than 5,400 people and injured nearly 500,000 in 2009.
- Researchers report that texting while driving claimed more than 16,000 lives from 2001 to 2007.
- Reaction time is delayed for a driver talking on a cell phone as much as it is for a driver who is legally drunk.
- Drivers who are texting take their eyes off the road 400% more than when they are not texting.
- More texting leads to more crashes. With each additional one million text messages, fatalities from distracted driving rose more than 75%.

**Be  
Safe**

...

**Think  
Safe!**





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

**T**he UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. is pleased to announce that its scholarship application is 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.

This year, the foundation will be awarding two one-time only \$6,000.00 scholarships. The first \$6,000.00 scholarship is for an individual who is currently a senior graduating from high school and enrolling in an accredited two- or four-year college or university for the year beginning in August or September 2011. The second

\$6,000 scholarship is for 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 "Andrew" Andy Scott Johnson who is 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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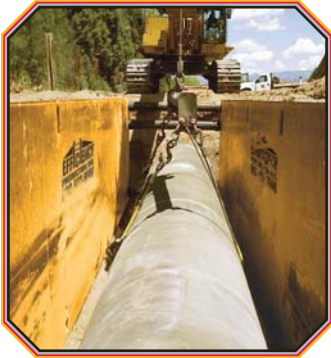
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# UUCF Receives Nominations for 2011 Construction Performance Awards

UUCF will be holding its Fifteenth 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 2011 Convention on Saturday evening, July 23 at the Casa Marina in Key West.

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:

- NUCA of North Florida: Flo Woodall (John Woody, Inc.)
- NUCA of Northwest Florida UCA: Joe Cook (Pensacola Concrete Construction Company, Inc.)
- NUCA of Southwest Florida: Frank Gibson (Denco Construction, Inc.)
- SUCA: Linda Shutt (David Nelson Construction Co.)

#### Associates:

- NUCA of North Florida: Steve Dempsey (Ring Power Corp.)
- NUCA of Northwest Florida: Matthew Hall (Holland Pump Co.)
- NUCA of Southwest Florida: Jerry Haas (Coastal Precast of Florida, Inc.)
- SUCA: Kenneth Wachman (MWI-Moving Water Industries Pump Rental Division)

UUCF wishes each candidate the best of luck. We know that everyone can not 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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**(2012 Ballot Proposed  
Constitutional Amendments  
Continued from Page 8)**

specific time.

- Removes future repeal of provisions limiting annual assessment increases for specified non-homestead real property.

**CS/SJR 592:** Proposes a Constitutional Amendment to expand the property tax discount to an increased number of veterans who became disabled as a result of a combat injury. The bill passed the Senate on May 2, 2011, by a vote of 38-0 and passed the House on May 4, 2011, by a vote of 117-0.

- Provides property tax discount benefits to veterans who were not Florida residents when they entered the military in addition to those who were Floridians when they began their service.

**CS/SJR 958:** Proposes a

Constitutional Amendment to replace the existing state revenue limitation with a new state revenue limitation based on inflation and population change. The bill passed the Senate on March 3, 2011, by a vote of 27-13 and passed the House on May 4, 2011, by a vote of 78-40.

- Requires any revenue collected above the state cap to first be deposited in the Budget Stabilization Fund, then used to support public education, then be given back to the taxpayers if there is enough excess.
- Authorizes the Legislature to increase the revenue limitation for any fiscal year by a supermajority vote in the Legislature or a 3/5 vote by the Florida electorate.
- These increases are only valid for one year and are not factored in when calculating the cap for subsequent years.

**CS/HJR 1179:** Proposes a Constitutional Amendment in order

to prohibit public dollars from funding abortions. The bill passed the Senate on April 28, 2011, by a vote of 27-12 and passed the House on May 4, 2011, by a vote of 79-34.

- Prohibits the State Constitution from being interpreted to create broader rights for those seeking an abortion than the rights contained in the U.S. Constitution.

**CS/HJR 1471:** Proposes a Constitutional Amendment in order to allow any individual or entity to use revenues from public treasury to aid any church, sect or religious denomination in aid of any sectarian institution. The bill passed the House on April 27, 2011, by a vote of 81-35 and passed the Senate on May 6, 2011, by a vote of 26-10.

- No individual can be denied any government benefit, funding or other support based on religious identity or belief.

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Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

### **Ajax Paving Industries, Inc. of Florida**

Bob Berry  
Nokomis, Florida  
(941) 486-3600  
Contractor  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

### **All Star Equipment Rental/Sales Ft. Myers**

Chris Clinton  
Fort Myers, Florida  
(239) 931-9848  
Sustaining  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

(Continued on Page 23)

## 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.

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## President's Message



I hope May finds everyone doing well. For those who have signed up for the convention, we thank you for your early registration. For those who have yet to sign up, we are looking forward to seeing you in Key West. As I mentioned last month, Flo and the Convention Committee have done a Great Job planning our annual Convention knowing everyone will have a good time. The room block is open until June 18, and the reservation forms are on-line and in the *Ditchmen*. For those who have not visited the Casa Marina, it overlooks the beautiful green waters of Atlantic Ocean, and the accommodations are first class. From the Casa Marina, it's a short distance to the Southernmost Point. From there, it's only seventeen blocks to



the historic "Old Town" Key West.

The upper Keys start at Key

Largo and run south to Layton and Long Key. As a note, Layton is noted for issuing speeding tickets. The middle keys are from Grassy Key through Marathon to Bahia Honda. If you are hungry at this point, there is a waterfront restaurant in Marathon. The Keys Fisheries Market and Marina, its located on the bay side. Good food, a good view and is in the middle of a working lobster and crabbing business. The lower keys are from Big Pine to Key West. When you get into Big Pine, note the night and day time speed limits. The limits are enforced for the

protection of the Key Deer. If you are driving at night, there is a real good chance you will see the deer on the left side of the highway just after you cross the cattle gap grating crossing U.S. 1. If you are in the lower keys and are hungry, Boondocks located on Ramrod Key is good for lunch or dinner. In all, it should take about three hours from Key Largo to Key West if the traffic is not heavy.

For those traveling from Fort Myers on the Ferry, you should have good weather and sea conditions this time of year, and it should be a short two hour ride to Key West. If you have not seen the Ferry, it is sleek, clean, modern, and air-conditioned and features sundecks, snack bar, cocktails and big-screen TVs. One

*(Continued on Page 20)*

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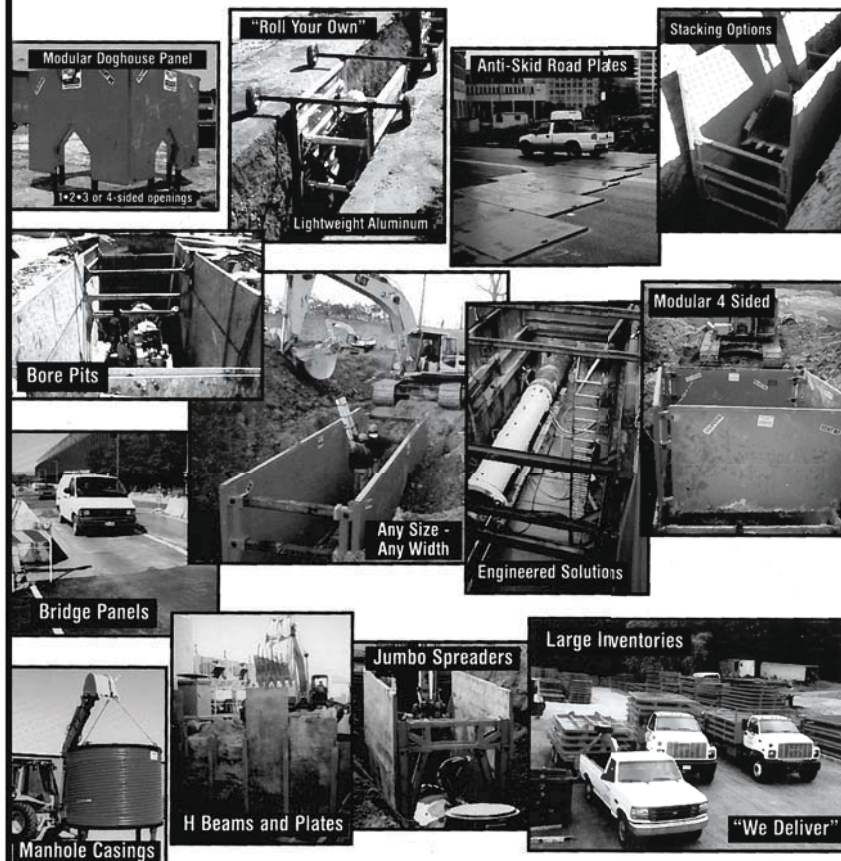
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The Florida Department of Financial Services, Division of Workers' Compensation, is offering free classes regarding Florida's workers' compensation laws and workplace safety to business owners, licensed contractors and employers.

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.

### **May 26, 2011**

Pensacola  
Alabama Associated General Contractors, Northwest FL 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  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

### **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.



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## Convention Travels Update in the Florida Keys

Construction of the Florida Keys Overseas Highway (also known as the 18-mile "Stretch") is scheduled to wrap up this spring. This means that UUCF Convention attendees will be able to get to the Keys more easily and quickly. The 18-mile "Stretch" crosses the fringes of the Everglades and is one of two roadways that lead into and out of the Keys. The 18-mile "Stretch" is being updated with a new high-span bridge, a concrete center barrier to prevent head-on collisions, new wider roadbed and numerous culverts to protect indigenous wildlife.





# 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

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

June 9 ..... Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
 July 14 ..... Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola

## NUCA of Southwest Florida

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

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  
 Aug. 4 ..... Membership Meeting  
 Aug. 25 ..... Trade Show,  
 DoubleTree Westshore, Tampa  
 Sept. 8 ..... Membership Mixer,

Howl at the Moon, Channelside  
 Sept. 15 ..... Fish Fry, Largo Central Park, Largo  
 Oct. 6 ..... Annual Meeting & Elections,  
 Rusty Pelican, Tampa  
 Oct. 21 ..... Clay Shoot,  
 Tampa Bay Sporting Clays, Land O'Lakes  
 Nov. 3 ..... Membership Meeting & Installation of  
 2012 Officers & Directors  
 Dec. 3 ..... Year End Banquet,  
 Tampa Club, Tampa

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

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

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)

day I plan to make this trip myself.

For those who are familiar with Key West "Old Town", as it is called, is where most of the sites are that we all hear about. If you have been to Key West, you know it's a GREAT place to visit (my wife made me underline visit) and you probably have your favorite shops, restaurants and points of interest. If you have not been there before or have only been there a few times, it is worth your while to pick up a tourist map and carry it with you until you get oriented. While in Key West, there are several "go to" locations like the famous Mallory Square and sunset entertainments. A points of interest list will be made available next month of places that we have been and things that my family has done and enjoyed while in Key West and the lower keys.





I can't say enough about how much fun it will be at this year's convention. When you combine our members, the Casa Marina Hotel and Key West, how can we not have a GREAT TIME. This is our opportunity to change into a pair of shorts, bright shirts, good sun glasses, a ball cap, a Jimmy Buffet tape, put on a pair of comfortable flip flops and get away for three or four days (or more) and enjoy ourselves. You deserve a relaxing weekend.

In closing, continue to work with your fellow UUCF members. Working together and sharing ideas and information helps us all be successful. I hope to see you and your family at the Casa Marina on July 21-24. I can assure you a good time will be had by everyone, and don't forget sun block.

Sincerely,  
Bill Lee  
President

## Business Alliance Asks Rick Scott to Veto Transportation Trust Fund Raid

**Kevin Derby's blog** | Posted:  
May 23, 2011 3:00 PM

Bob Burleson, the president of the Florida Transportation Builders Association, led a coalition that presented petitions with more than 3,600 signatures to Governor Rick Scott on Monday asking him to knock a budget line, which would take more than \$150 million out of the State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF). Other groups behind the effort include the Asphalt Contractors Association of Florida, the Associated Industries of Florida, the Florida Engineering Society, the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers, the Florida Public Transportation Association, Florida TaxWatch, Florida Trucking Association and Underground Utility Contractors of Florida. They pointed to a study from the state Department of Transportation (FDOT) which found that more than 8,400 jobs would be lost by taking money out of the trust fund.

"We applaud you on your efforts during your inaugural legislative session to push for policy which creates jobs and helps ensure Florida is a state companies want to bring their business to," wrote the signers. "While there have been many successes, there currently is a job-killing budget appropriation that deserves your attention. We, the undersigned, believe the 2011-2012 General Appropriations Act (SB 2000) is a conservative appraisal of our state's dire fiscal reality, but unfairly places a burden on Florida's ability to save and create jobs with a multimillion raid on the State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF). We encourage you to veto this portion of the budget and restore the \$150 million back to the STTF."

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

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

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**

Thank you to everyone who came out for our golf tournament on April 5. The weather had us on pins and needles until just before tee off time. A big storm had come thru earlier in the morning but the sun came out just in time for our event. We had a total of 117 golfers play in the tournament. Eight Vendor Show Case participants treated the players to beer on the course and gave away various items. This event would not have been possible without the support of our vendor showcase participants, event sponsors, and tee/green sponsors.

#### **Vendor Showcase Participants:**

Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.; All Pro Asphalt; Cecil W. Powell & Company; Duval Asphalt Products; Ferguson Waterworks, Inc.; Harry Warren/Watts; Oldcastle Precast, Inc.; and Surety Associates/Construction Ins. Co. **Event Sponsors: Lunch Sponsor** – United Rentals Trench Safety.

#### **Lunch Beverage Sponsor** – Standard Precast. **Putting Contest Sponsor** – Professional Shoring & Supply. **Closest to the Pin** – Nextran. **Longest Drive** – Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers, Inc. **Closest to the Pin** – Service Painting. **Trophy Sponsor** – Greene-Hazel & Associates. **Reception Sponsor** – Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. **Beverage Cart Sponsors** – HD Supply Waterworks. **Longest Drive** – Curb Systems of NE FL.

**Tee/Green Sponsors:** Barco-Duval Engineering; Blue Book; C & B Piping; C & G Mechanical; Ellis & Associates, Inc.; Great Southern Equipment; Industrial Tractor Company; ISCO Industries; John Woody, Inc.; North American Pipe Corporation; Reynolds, Inc.; The Ford Meter Box Company; Commercial Real Estate Solutions; and MSC Waterworks.

Applications are now being accepted for the Mike Allen Scholarship from any High School Senior, High School graduate, Undergraduate College Student or Graduate Student who is the daughter or son of a NUCA of North Florida member company employee and will be enrolling full- or part-time in an academic institution of higher education, beginning in August/September. The enrollment

may be in any curriculum for any number of years. This may be a four-year college or a community college anywhere in the United States. The Mike Allen Scholarship is a \$1,000 one-time award. Special consideration will be given for those pursuing degrees in construction related field. Call the NUCA of North Florida office at (904) 296-1230 to request an application. Application deadline is Tuesday, June 14.

On May 19, we will be heading to the Baseball grounds of Jacksonville to see the Jacksonville Suns take on the Mississippi Braves. The cost is \$22 per person and includes an all you can eat buffet and your ticket for the game.

We are offering a Geo Tech Training class. Come learn about Geotechnical Engineering Evaluation, Construction Materials Testing & Inspection and Environmental Engineering. This class will provide an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of geotechnical services and give you some hands-on demonstrations. This two night class will be held on June 7 and June 9 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person and a light dinner will be served. Class will be presented by Ellis & Associates, Inc. at their corporate office and laboratory at 7064 Davis Creek Road.

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.

We are pleased to welcome the following members who recently joined our association: Curb Systems of NE FL (Associate Member) and G & H Underground Construction (Contractor Member).

### **NUCA of Northwest Florida**

The chapter welcomed members and guests to the After Hours Mixer held April 19 at the Fish House's Deck Bar. Attendees had the opportunity to network and

fellowship with their peers and industry representatives. Guests were treated to fantastic food and a scenic view of Pensacola Bay. A special thank you to Utility Service Company who was our event sponsor.

### **NUCA of Southwest Florida**

Representing NUCA of Southwest Florida in Tallahassee in March were Bruce Wendorf, Kirk Richmond and Sharon Fugatt. We all attended the UUCF Board of Director's Meeting, Legislative Briefing and legislative visits. We had some great visits and meetings with our Senators and Representatives and their assistants which included; Representative Kathleen Passidomo, Representative Matt Hudson, Representative Trudi Williams, Representative Paige Kreegel, Representative Gary Aubuchon, Representative Kenneth Roberson, Representative Matt Caldwell, Senator Garrett Richter and Senator Lizbeth Benacquisto. The major issues discussed were: Local Governments Self-Performing, Open Competition Act, Bid Preference, Numeric Nutrient Water Quality, Stop raiding State Transportation Trust Fund, Background Screening for non-instructional school district Employees and contractors and Unemployment Compensation.

Members from around the country and Southwest Florida head to Capitol Hill May 10-12 to advance legislation for the underground utility construction industry. NUCA of Southwest Florida was informed that our chapter was selected to receive the NUCA Chapter Award of Excellence for a Special Event for our 2010 Tradeshow at Harborside Event Center. NUCA of Southwest Florida will also be presented with the NUCA/PAC Teamwork and NUCA/PAC Grassroots Awards. All awards will be presented at the National Awards Luncheon on May 10. Congratulations to the members of NUCA of Southwest Florida.

We are looking forward to our Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament which will be held on Saturday, May 21 at The Forest Golf and Country Club in Fort Myers. Check in begins at 7:15 a.m., and there will be a shotgun start at 8:30





a.m. This is a very popular event and a fun tournament to help our students so if you have not already sent in your registration forms, please do so as teams are filling up fast. Sponsorships are also still being accepted. There will be refreshments, lunch, great giveaways and prizes. Registration and Sponsorship forms may be downloaded on our website at [www.swfuca.com](http://www.swfuca.com).

NUCA of Southwest Florida will be awarding several scholarships to deserving students at our next membership dinner meeting which will be held on June 16, 2011 at The Holiday Inn, Gulf Coast Town Center in Fort Myers. If you are a member and are interested or have a child who is interested, scholarship applications and information are available on our website at [www.swfuca.com](http://www.swfuca.com). Scholarship amounts are based on proceeds from the 2011 Scholarship Golf Tournament.

Our second NUCA of Southwest Florida Social was held on April 13 at Laishley's Crab House in Punta Gorda, Charlotte County. We had a great turn out and appreciate all those who attended.

Thank you to all those who attended the Past President Reunion Dinner Meeting on April 21. This was a tough date as it was so close to Easter, but we still had a great turn out and appreciate all those past presidents who attended. Claudia Cowart (First president) Dick Wendorf, Dennis Bubar, Fred Russell, Rod Bubar, Bruce Wendorf, David Scafidi, Kirk Richmond, Frank Gibson and of course our current president Keith Richmond. Also many thanks to Ryan Schmitt, NUCA Chairman of the Board, who was our special guest and speaker.

### **SUCA**

SUCA's Community Affairs Committee made a \$200 contribution to the 'Spring of Tampa Bay' with proceeds from the 50/50 raffle held at SUCA's general membership meeting on April 7. Thanks to all of our generous members who participated!

SUCA was represented at NUCA's Washington Summit in Washington, D. C. on May 10-12 by Tim Smith of Dallas 1 Construction &

Development and Tom Butler of RIPA & Associates. NUCA members delivered the NUCA message to lawmakers during visits to the offices of Senators and Representatives.

SUCA members networked beachside on May 12 at the Magnuson Hotel Marina Cove in St. Petersburg. Everyone really enjoyed the beautiful scenery while listening to live music

by musician Pat Best. Members also participated in games of corn hole, a best legs contest and best Hawaiian shirt contest. Thanks to all members that came out for the event!

Over 150 SUCA members and families flocked to Clearwater Marina to fill the Super Queen on May 21. All who participated in the family fishing trip enjoyed 5 hours of fun in

### **(Welcome New Members Continued from Page 14)**

#### **American Cast Iron Pipe Co.**

Scott Ferguson  
Lake Mary, Florida  
(407) 804-1420  
Associate  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

#### **CONTECH Construction Products, Inc.**

Jim Hough  
Sarasota, Florida  
(239) 834-9320  
Associate  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

#### **Diamond B Commercial Tire LLC**

John Grubb  
Jacksonville, Florida  
(904) 262-0007  
Associate  
Chapter: NUCA of North Florida

#### **DNS Contracting LLC**

David Sundstrom  
Jacksonville, Florida  
(904) 724-6005  
Contractor  
Chapter: NUCA of North Florida

#### **G & H Underground Construction, Inc.**

Wade Gibby  
St. Augustine, Florida  
(904) 829-8119  
Contractor  
Chapter: NUCA of North Florida

#### **HD Supply Waterworks**

Bruce Berry  
Fort Myers, Florida  
(239) 334-1997  
Associate  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

#### **Johnson Engineering, Inc.**

Mark Wentzel  
Fort Myers, Florida  
(239) 334-0046  
Sustaining  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

#### **Rohaley & Sons Plumbing Contractors**

Denis Rohaley  
Fort Myers, Florida  
(239) 437-0123  
Contractor  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

#### **Service Pump & Compressor - A Hertz Company**

Marty Benton  
Tampa, Florida  
(813) 621-5994  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

#### **U.S. Foundry & Manufacturing Corp.**

Jeff Wenglariski  
Medley, Florida  
(305) 885-0301, 800/432-9709  
Associate  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

#### **U.S. Precast Corporation**

Sandra Morgan  
Naples, Florida  
(239) 513-0618  
Associate  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

#### **U.S. Traffic Technologies**

Randy Lynn  
Fort Myers, Florida  
(239) 267-0272  
Sustaining  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida

#### **Youngquist Brothers Rock**

Shannon Mirabilio  
Fort Myers, Florida  
(239) 267-8232  
Sustaining  
Chapter: NUCA of Southwest Florida





the sun while fishing for gray snapper and red grouper. This trip was a huge success and will definitely be held again next year! We are grateful to the following companies for their sponsorship of the fishing trip:

**Platinum Sponsor** – M.E. Wilson Co.; **Gold Sponsors** – David Nelson Construction Co. & RIPA & Associates; **Silver Sponsors** – Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc., Associated Construction Products, Inc., Diversified Construction Safety, Freightliner of Tampa, LGM Contracting, Inc./Merucci Equipment Co., Lanier Upshaw Insurance, Leftcoast Surveyors, Inc., Liberty Mutual Insurance, Pepper Contracting Services, Inc., Ring Power Corp., Safety Training & Consulting, South End Development, Inc., Stahl & Associates Insurance, Inc., Stuart Angelo & Co., CPA's, Wallace Welch & Willingham, Westra Construction Corp. and Zurich Surety.

SUCA's June 2 membership meeting will be held at Imperial Lakewoods in Palmetto. Manatee County Commissioner Joe McClash (District 7) will be our guest speaker. Cost is

\$30 per person. Advance reservations are required. Please contact Misty at the SUCA office at (813) 355-4879 to make your reservation(s).

SUCA's Spring Scholarship Golf Tournament is Friday, June 17 at Eagles Golf Club in Odessa. A return to this beautiful course was requested by our members after a great tournament last spring. The cost remains \$90 per person with survival packs available to purchase for \$20 each. The registration fee includes a nice tee prize for all players at check-in, cart, greens fee, range balls, mulligans, beverages on the course, breakfast, barbecue lunch, awards & contest prizes. If you are not golfing and wish to join us for the lunch and awards ceremony, the cost is \$25 per person. Don't wait too long to register as we can only take the first 144 players registered. Sponsorships are available and appreciated.

The SUCA Scholarship Committee has completed the initial review of applications for 2011 and will be conducting interviews with a few of the applicants before making their

final decision on this year's recipient. The field of applicants is very impressive and the decision will not be easy. SUCA's scholarship program has been in place since 1989 and has awarded over \$95,000 to the children of SUCA members. The 2011 scholarship awards will be presented at Scholarship Night on July 14 at The Columbia Restaurant in Ybor City.

SUCA's Trade Show Committee is working to put together an event for August 25 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Tampa. This will be a table top expo which is sure to sell out. Invited guests will include contractors, engineers and representatives of cities and counties throughout SUCA's membership area. Members will have a chance to showcase their products and services to their target audience at this spectacular event. Food, drinks and door prizes are incentive to fill the house and keep attendees there until the last ticket is drawn. Showcase Chairman, James Adams of Ferguson Waterworks is expecting a great turnout with great results.

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