



# Ditchmen

Online

Underground Utility Contractors of Florida, Inc.

FEBRUARY 2012

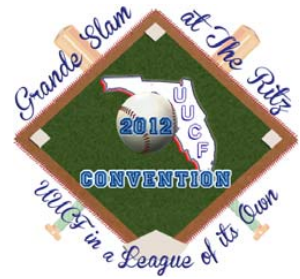
**2012 UUCF  
Convention  
The Ritz-  
Carlton,  
Orlando  
Grande Lakes**  
*(See page 4 for  
details)*



**2012  
Legislative  
Update**  
*(See page 8 for  
details)*



**UUCF**  
**2012 Convention**  
**The Ritz-Carlton,**  
**Orlando Grande Lakes**  
**July 19-22, 2012**  
**HEY BATTER, BATTER!!!**



The UUCF 2012 Convention theme is *Grande Slam at The Ritz* with a subtheme of *UUCF in a League of its Own*. The Convention Committee wants to keep you informed of all events, information and changes concerning this year's convention. Therefore, we will be holding a Baseball Trivia game prior to the convention. Somewhere hidden in various e-mails that you receive from the UUCF office, there will be a trivia question. You are encouraged to open each e-mail, read up on the convention and answer the trivia question. Keep your answers and bring them to the convention. We will draw two winners from the correct answers at the convention. The first name drawn will be awarded \$100.00, and the second name drawn will be awarded \$75.00. We will also be holding a separate drawing for those individuals who will not be able to attend the convention. The first name from the correct answers will be awarded \$50.00.

Please copy and paste this entry/answer form and bring it with you to the convention. **If you are not attending the convention**, please return by fax (407) 260-1582 or e-mail [julie@uucf.com](mailto:julie@uucf.com) **no later than 5:00 p.m. eastern time on Monday, July 16, 2012.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

CHAPTER: \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_
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# UUCF 2012 Convention

UUCF will be holding its 2012 Convention at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes in Orlando, Florida on July 19-22. This year's Convention Theme is *Grande Slam at The Ritz* with a subtheme of *UUCF in a League of its Own*.

UUCF has secured a room rate of \$159.00 per night. The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes does not have a resort fee; however, there is a charge of \$18.00 per day for self parking and \$24.00 per day for valet.

Marvel at the magic of Orlando, Florida, a vibrant city full of vision and variety. Take in the fun while retaining a sense of sophistication at The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes. This exceptional Orlando vacation resort's amenities provide families with a stylish way to indulge in the playful offerings of this all-American city. Inspired architecturally by the grand palazzos of Italy, this Orlando family resort's features include:

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This year's Convention Chairperson is Paula Lieser with Pensacola Concrete Construction Company, Inc. Other members of the Convention Committee consist of: Lauren Atwell, Reynolds, Inc.; Kim Bryan, Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.; Bill Davis, HD Supply Waterworks; Larry Falls, Associated Construction Products, Inc.; Chris Stewart, Xylem, Inc.; Kathy Blackman, NUCA of North Florida Executive Director; Sharon Fugatt, NUCA of Northwest Florida; and Misty McKendree, SUCA Executive Director.

This year, UUCF will be holding Roundtable discussion(s), a Wiffle ball Tournament and an optional event for spouses. The committee is working on holding "Contractor's Day" on Friday, and will have details available in the near future.

The Convention Committee will be holding a Baseball Trivia game prior to the convention. Somewhere hidden in various e-mails

that you receive from the UUCF office, there will be a trivia question. You are encouraged to open each e-mail, read up on the convention and answer the trivia question. Keep your answers and bring them to the convention. We will draw two winners from the correct answers at the convention. The first name drawn will be awarded \$100.00, and the second name drawn will be awarded \$75.00. We will also be holding a separate drawing for those individuals who will not be able to attend the convention. The first name from the correct answers will be awarded \$50.00. Be sure to read your e-mails for the hidden trivia questions.

The Hotel Registration Form can be found on **Page 9** this issue of the *Ditchmen* or in the Members Only Section on the UUCF website at [www.uucf.com](http://www.uucf.com). Watch your e-mails and future issues of the *Ditchmen* for additional information.

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# Governor Rick Scott Regarding Signing of the Numeric Nutrient Standards Ratification Bill

On Thursday, February 16, 2012, Governor Rick Scott signed **HB 7051**, the Numeric Nutrient Standard Ratification Bill which backed proposed water quality rules that are intended to replace federal rules opposed by utilities, industry and agriculture groups. HB 7051 waives a state law requirement that the proposed rules be ratified by the Legislature. The rules will go back to the Legislature for approval if major changes are made as a result of the legal challenge or the EPA review.

According to Governor Scott, "I signed legislation paving the way for Florida to present the state's rules for numeric nutrient standards in Florida's water bodies to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for final approval. The future of our state's environment and economy depend on the health of our water bodies, and the state's rules will ensure the protection of both."

"The state's rules are scientifically

sound, protect the environment and avoid unnecessary costs for Florida's households and businesses. Once approved by EPA, they will further enhance the State's nationally recognized nutrient control programs."

Agriculture Commissioner Adam Putnam released the following statement today in support of state and federal action on numeric nutrient criteria.

"Today, Governor Scott made an important decision for the future of our state, signing Florida's alternative to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) numeric nutrient criteria into law. I would like to thank the Governor for his swift action to ensure the EPA's costly rules were not implemented, as they could have been detrimental to our state's agriculture industry and business community.

I also support Senator Rubio's efforts to block the overreaching

arm of the EPA. Florida has already demonstrated a commitment to protecting its water supply by applying sound science and establishing attainable goals. I look forward to working with landowners and business owners to continue Florida's already proven record in assessing the health and enhancing the quality of our state's bodies of water."

In response to Governor Scott's signing of the Numeric Nutrient Standards Ratification bill, Attorney General Pam Bondi issued the following statement.

"My office has stood strongly against the federal government's imposition of costly and unnecessary regulations, and I am pleased that Governor Scott has today signed into law an alternative to the Environmental Protection Agency's numeric nutrient criteria. Florida has always had the best expertise and resources to determine how to

*(Continued on Page 6)*

## State Certified Underground Utility & Excavation Exam

April 17-18, 2012  
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August 21-22, 2012  
October 16-17, 2012  
December 18-19, 2012  
February 19-20, 2013  
April 16-17, 2013  
June 18-19, 2013

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**UUCF**

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2012 Annual Convention**

**The Ritz-Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes  
Orlando, Florida  
July 19-22, 2012**

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

**(Governor Rick Scott Regarding Signing of the  
Numeric Nutrient Standards Ratification Bill  
Continued from Page 5)**

protect our waters.”

DEP Secretary Herschel T. Vinyard Jr. said, “Governor Rick Scott signed legislation today that supports Florida moving forward with setting numeric nutrient standards for our water bodies, by presenting our rules for to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for final approval. A healthy environment depends on getting Florida’s water right, in terms of both water supply and water quality. No one knows Florida’s water better than Floridians, and these rules will allow us to effectively protect water quality in our state.

“Our rules provide a clear process for identifying waters impaired by nutrients, preventing harmful discharges and establishing necessary reductions. They provide a reasonable and predictable implementation strategy, and avoid unnecessary costs for Florida’s households and businesses.

“We are pleased that we will now be able to submit our widely supported rules for final EPA approval. It’s important to start addressing our nutrient challenges, and we look forward to getting these rules on the books and implemented as soon as possible.”



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# National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

Water pollution degrades surface waters making them unsafe for drinking, fishing, swimming, and other activities. As authorized by the Clean Water Act, the Florida NPDES program controls water pollution by regulating point sources that discharge pollutants into waters of Florida. Point sources are discrete conveyances such as pipes or man-made ditches. Individual homes that are connected to a municipal system, use a septic system, or do not have a surface discharge do not need an NPDES permit; however, industrial, municipal, and other facilities must obtain permits if their discharges go directly to surface waters. Since its introduction in 1972, the NPDES permit program is responsible for



significant improvements to our Nation's water quality.

## Important Notice for iNOI Users!

iNOI will be integrated into DEP's Business Portal by **February 1, 2012**.

To continue obtaining your NPDES

stormwater permit coverage electronically, please read our **Letter to iNOI Users**, and follow the instructions of how to register for the Business Portal.

**Interactive Notice of Intent (iNOI)** iNOI is a web-based application that allows you to complete, edit and submit NOTs, MSGP, CGP and NEX NOIs online.

- Pay certain NPDES Stormwater permit fees online.
- Terminate permit coverage using iNOI even if you submitted a paper Notice of Intent.

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# 2012 Legislative Session Update

As we head into the seventh week of our nine week Legislative Session, issues continue to line up in each of the two chambers. Redistricting is currently in the hands of the courts, prison privatization and mega-casino proposals are dead and the focus has turned to other priority issues including PIP insurance, tax cuts, long awaited claims bills and of course the budget for FY 2012–2013 – the only piece of legislation the Florida Legislature is required to pass.

## Redistricting

Oral arguments on the Legislature's proposed redistricting maps for the House and Senate will be held on a day that only comes around every fourth year, the Supreme Court announced Monday. The court issued an order setting the arguments for February 29. Governor Rick Scott signed the Legislature's plan to redraw the state's congressional districts on Thursday likely paving the way for more lawsuits surrounding the once-a-decade redistricting process.

## The Budget

The Florida Senate unveiled its budget late in week five after the House had already passed their budget. During week six, the Senate Budget Committee met in a lengthy meeting and unanimously signed off on their nearly \$70.8 billion budget proposal at an eight-hour meeting held on Wednesday, February 15. Budget Committee Chairman JD Alexander (R – Lakes Wales) has scheduled the first floor discussion of the budget for February 23.

The Senate budget spends more money and spares more state jobs than the House plan. The Senate budget would eliminate about 4,000 state jobs, some of which are vacant, which is a reduction of nearly 3.3

percent. It would also shift nearly half a billion dollars from state trust funds into general revenue, including \$265 million from the \$739 million Lawton Chiles Endowment. After the Senate debates their budget and passes it out, the budget typically goes to joint conference committees to hammer out the differences. Both chambers' budgets follow the pattern outlined by Governor Rick Scott which centers on freeing up money for education. The biggest differences between the chambers' proposals occur in health care and transportation. The Senate panel quelled early tensions over planned cuts to universities and unanimously signed off on the budget proposal at an eight-hour meeting on Wednesday.

## Taxes

Tax cuts and exemptions for Florida businesses totaling \$121 million annually passed the House on Wednesday over controversy by a 93–22 vote. Governor Rick Scott pushed for the main tax cut included in the bill, **HB 7087**, which increases the corporate income tax exemption from \$25,000 to \$50,000, reducing the number of businesses paying the tax. Lawmakers increased the exemption from \$5,000 to \$25,000 last year. The other provisions in the bill provide incentives for investment in machinery and equipment for manufacturers and increase or expand sales tax exemption for electricity in packinghouses and equipment bought for the production of airplanes and gas turbines.

The House also passed **CS/HB 737** enacting a sales tax holiday on back-to-school items on August 3–5. The sales tax holiday proved less controversial passing by a 115–0 vote. It will cost the state \$26 million and local governments \$6 million.

The following is a breakdown of the issues as of the end of week six:

## Local Bids and Contracts for Public Works

**HB 825** by McBurney; **SB 1186** by Hays

The number one legislative priority for UUCF this session remains bottled up in the original committees of reference. The bills, **HB 825** by Representative Charles McBurney (R – Jacksonville) and **SB 1186** by Senator Alan Hays (R – Umatilla) have never had a hearing this session. This has not deterred our House sponsor who continues to work on the issue. He is currently working with another House member to see if his proposal can be amended onto another bill. The bill he seeks to amend is currently in the House State Affairs Committee which has two meetings scheduled for week seven. The bills would amend Florida Statute 255.20 and remove one of the exceptions allowing local governments to self-perform if they hold a public hearing and determine it is in the public's best interest to perform the project using its own employees.

## Residential Construction Warranties

**CS/HB 1013** by Artilles; **CS/CS/SB 1196** by Bennett

This legislation provides legislative intent and would apply retroactively. It prohibits a cause of action in law or equity based upon the doctrine of implied warranty of fitness and merchantability or habitability for off-site improvements with exceptions.

**STATUS:** The House Bill is on the House Calendar. The Senate Bill has one more committee reference.

## Background Screening for Contractors on School Grounds

(Continued on Page 10)





## UNDERGROUND UTILITY CONTRACTORS OF FLORIDA

### ANNUAL CONVENTION July 19 - 22, 2012



#### The Ritz-Carlton, Orlando Grande Lakes

4012 Central Florida Parkway  
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*The above room and room rate is based on availability and does not include applicable taxes (subject to change) at 12.5%.*

#### **There is no resort fee at The Ritz-Carlton, Orlando Grande Lakes.**

There is a parking fee which is not included in the room rate. The rates are Self Parking at \$24.00 per day plus 6.5% tax and Valet Parking at \$18.00 per day plus 6.5% tax.

All rooms have:

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#### **The UUCF room block is valid for reservations received on or before Friday, June 22, 2012.**

All rooms are subject to applicable taxes. Group rate and availability for arrivals two days prior and departures two 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 Ritz-Carlton Orlando Grande Lakes 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 five days prior to the scheduled arrival to avoid two nights room and tax penalty.** Rooms will be held under the UUCF room block until Friday, June 22, 2012. After this time, reservations will be accepted on a space available basis at prevailing hotel rates.

Reservations can be made by either the following:

- Call reservations at (888) 763-2960 (be sure to ask for the UUCF room block), or
- Go on-line to [https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\\_gi\\_new&groupID=5753281](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_gi_new&groupID=5753281).

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the UUCF office at (407) 830-1880.





**(2012 Legislative Session Update**

**Continued from Page 8)**

**CS/HB 1059** by Perry; **SB 1610** by Dean

These bills were an attempt to create a statewide identification system for contractors and their employees working on school projects, an issue that continues to be a problem for contractors who cannot seem to get county school board to recognize background checks from another county despite requirements of Florida law.

**STATUS:** The House and Senate Bills each have one more committee reference.

**Hiring, Leasing or Obtaining Personal Property or Equipment with Intent to Defraud**

**CS/CS/HB 729** by Pilon; **CS/SB 1276** by Latvala

These bills amend, expand and strengthen the criminal fraud provisions for failure to return rental property when due.

**STATUS:** The House Bill is on second reading in the House, and the Senate Bill has two more committee references.

**Miami-Dade Lake Belt Mitigation**

**CS/HB 377** by Nunez; **CS/CS/SB 182** by Garcia

This legislation makes technical changes and upgrades to the Lake Belt Mitigation Plan establishing mitigation fees at \$.45 per ton for lime rock and sand mined in the area specifically to fund seepage mitigation projects as approved by the Miami-Dade Lake Belt Mitigation Committee.

**STATUS:** The House Bill was received by the Senate in messages, and the Senate Bill has one more committee reference.

**Department of Business & Professional Regulation**

**CS/HB 517** by Grant; **CS/SB 762** by Hays (Streamlining)  
**HB 693** by Ingram; **SB 1120** by Jones (Inactive Licenses)  
**CS/CS/HB 887** by Ingram;  
**CS/SB 1252** by Jones (Local Contractor Grandfathering)

The bills referenced above are all related to DBPR and contain various provisions affecting industries regulated by that Department. With respect to construction, the bills would propose the following:

**Streamlining legislation** – These bills would reduce the number of continuing education (CE) hours for reactivation of an inactive license. Current statute requires all CE for the inactive period to be completed. The change would require only one renewal cycle of CE for reactivation.

**STATUS:** The House Bill has been received by the Senate in messages, and the Senate Bill has one more committee reference.

**Inactive Licenses** – **HB 693** is a simple bill which eliminates an existing requirement that an inactive licensee who activates a license cannot go back to inactive status until the licensee has completed one full cycle of active status. For contractors, this would be a two-year period. The Jones' bill is a large department package relating to various professions which also contains this one provision which would affect contractors.

**STATUS:** The House Bill has been received by the Senate in messages, and the Senate Bill has two more committee references.

**Local Contractor Grandfathering**

– This Department bill includes provisions which 1) waive initial licensure fees for veterans who apply for licensure within 24 months of an honorable discharge; 2) will allow the Department to approve continuing education courses and

only send problem applications to the board for review; 3) will allow the Department to reinstate a license that is void if the licensee can demonstrate illness or economic hardship as the cause for non-renewal; 4) will allow the Department to use e-mail to notify a licensee of renewal or expiration of a license and requires the licensee to be responsible for notifying the Department of e-mail address changes; 5) reinstates grandfathering provisions which expired in 2005 for a two-year period ending November 1, 2014 which would allow registered contractors who meet all requirements for licensure to convert to a certified state contractor's license. The Construction Coalition voted to unanimously support this legislation that will allow DBPR staff to routinely approve continuing education courses with appeal to the CILB.

**STATUS:** The House Bill is on second reading on the House Calendar, and the Senate Bill has two more committee references.

**Electronic Filing of Construction Plans**

**CS/HB 387** by Ahern; **CS/CS/SB 600** by Bennett

These bills provide for construction plans, drawings and documents to be electronically signed and sealed by licensee and electronically transmitted to the building code administrator or building official for approval.

**STATUS:** The House Bill is in messages to the Senate, and the Senate Bill is in messages to the House.

**Florida Building Code**

**CS/HB 651** by Davis; **CS/CS/SB 704** by Bennett

This year's code bills include a variety of provisions for the industry as well as provisions for electronic filing of construction plans contained

(Continued on Page 14)





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# New Short Videos from OSHA Provide Training to Help Inform Workers on the Proper Use of Respirators

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has posted a series of 17 videos to help workers learn about the proper use of respirators on the job.

These short videos, nine in English and eight in Spanish, provide valuable information to workers in general industry and construction. Topics include OSHA's Respiratory Standard, respirator use, training, fit-testing and detecting counterfeit respirators.

The videos are available with closed captioning for streaming or download from **OSHA's Web site**.

OSHA's Safety and Health topics page on **Respiratory Protection** also includes additional training materials, information about occupational respiratory hazards in different industries, and details of OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard (**29 CFR 1910.134** and **29 CFR 1926.103**).

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

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industrial water systems, sewer and storm water systems, industrial piping, and structures such as catch basins, manholes, lift stations, containment areas and more.

Don Arch and Gary Pender, each with more than 30 years experience in the plumbing, mechanical, utility and construction industries, established Engineered Lining Systems in 2004. Their concept was to provide clients with long-term solutions for any piping system problem via these new pipe lining technologies. Their background allows them to fully understand each client's problem and then apply the right solution for each situation.

Today, ELS is a nationally recognized company that works with

clients in the US and internationally successfully rehabilitating and restoring piping and structures for commercial, governmental, industrial, educational and military facilities along with airports, factories, hospitals, single- and multi-family housing, resorts and other buildings.

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*(Continued on Page 24)*

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## (2012 Legislative Session Update Continued from Page 10)

in the stand-alone bills referenced above. However, Senator Bennett has loaded the Senate Bill up with controversial amendments including the owner-solar installation amendment mentioned in the above bills, scope of work language for plumbing contractors which opens old wounds between the plumbing and underground utility contracting industry and another which completely repeals the Glass and Glazing Contractor license enacted last year. The House Bill does not contain any of these controversial provisions.

**STATUS:** The House and Senate bills each have one more committee reference.

### Public-Private Partnerships

**HB 337** by T. Williams; **CS/SB 576** by Bennett The bills create the Florida Public-Private Partnership Act and provide a guideline in establishing public private partnerships. Public-private partnerships are contractual arrangements between public and private sector entities in which the private sector is involved in multiple elements of public infrastructure projects. The bills provide a framework to encourage flexible public-private partnerships in which local government retains

## Certified Contractor License Renewal Reminder

Just a reminder that the Certified Contractor licenses from the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR) are up for renewal on August 31, 2012. 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 16)

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# President's Message



You know that Easy Button Staples has? You push down on the button and you hear a voice say "That was easy." Well, I could have used a truck load of those easy buttons in Tallahassee on January 31 while trying to push important legislative issues in the House and Senate. Every year UUCF has a legislative summit in Tallahassee during session and members from all over the state meet with their legislators to tell them why our issues are important and how passing that legislation will have a positive impact on the underground utility industry. Before I go any further, I want to thank all of those who attended this year's summit. I hope you all attend again next year and bring a first



timer with you. The legislative issue we focused most intently on was the Competitive Bid bill. Cities and counties around the state are installing underground utilities with their own forces. In essence, we are competing with the public sector during a time in which our industry is suffering terribly from this poor economy resulting in the denial of job opportunities in the private sector. While many cities and counties are protecting their own employees by performing work that the private sector depends on for survival,

the tax payers are being hurt by inefficient government. They are refusing to trim government by eliminating unneeded public sector jobs and stealing our work to justify it. That is not in the "public's best interest." The Competitive Bid bill – HB 825 by Representative McBurney and SB 1186 by Senator Hays – simply strikes paragraph nine in Florida Statute 255.20 that provides a caveat which allows cities and counties to perform work at any value if it is, according to the opinion of the municipality, in the "public's best interest." Passing this bill still allows municipalities to perform work that is considered maintenance and repair along with projects that are valued at \$300,000 or less. While we were

*(Continued on Page 16)*

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

in Tallahassee, Representative McBurney spoke to the UUCF Board of Directors and shared his appreciation for supporting his bill. We too thanked Representative McBurney for pushing this bill on behalf of UUCF.

What is hard to appreciate is how difficult it is to actually pass a bill. Despite super majorities in both the House and Senate, there are power struggles between each chamber and within each chamber. Leadership sets the agenda and if you can't get on that agenda it's pretty much lights out for you. Where do you think the construction industry as a whole stands in comparison to budget shortfalls, funding education, funding Medicaid, and redistricting and casino gambling? Now throw in all the other special interests from

around the state that oppose your bill and it becomes exceptionally difficult to have your bill heard and passed by all the requisite committees and then go to the House and Senate floors to be voted on and passed. Oh yeah, the Governor has to sign the bill too. It is extremely difficult to pass a bill but very easy to kill it. But guess what? I'm not giving up, Bruce Kershner is not giving up, and the members of UUCF are not giving up. We will keep working hard, continue to build relationships and keep going to Tallahassee until we push our agenda past the finish line. Please go to the "Members Only" page at [www.UUCF.com](http://www.UUCF.com) to see the status of all the UUCF's legislative priorities for the 2012 session.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Wendorf  
UUCF President

## (2012 Legislative Session Update Continued from Page 14)

control and oversight while accessing private capital for project financing. Florida is in need of billions of dollars for public infrastructure: repairs to aging sewer systems, roads, bridges, storm water systems as well as the construction of schools and hospitals. The bills will promote these partnerships that will provide the necessary capital for these projects as well as creating jobs throughout the state.

**STATUS:** The House Bill has two more committee references, and the Senate Bill has one more committee reference.

*(Continued on Page 21)*

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|--|--|--|
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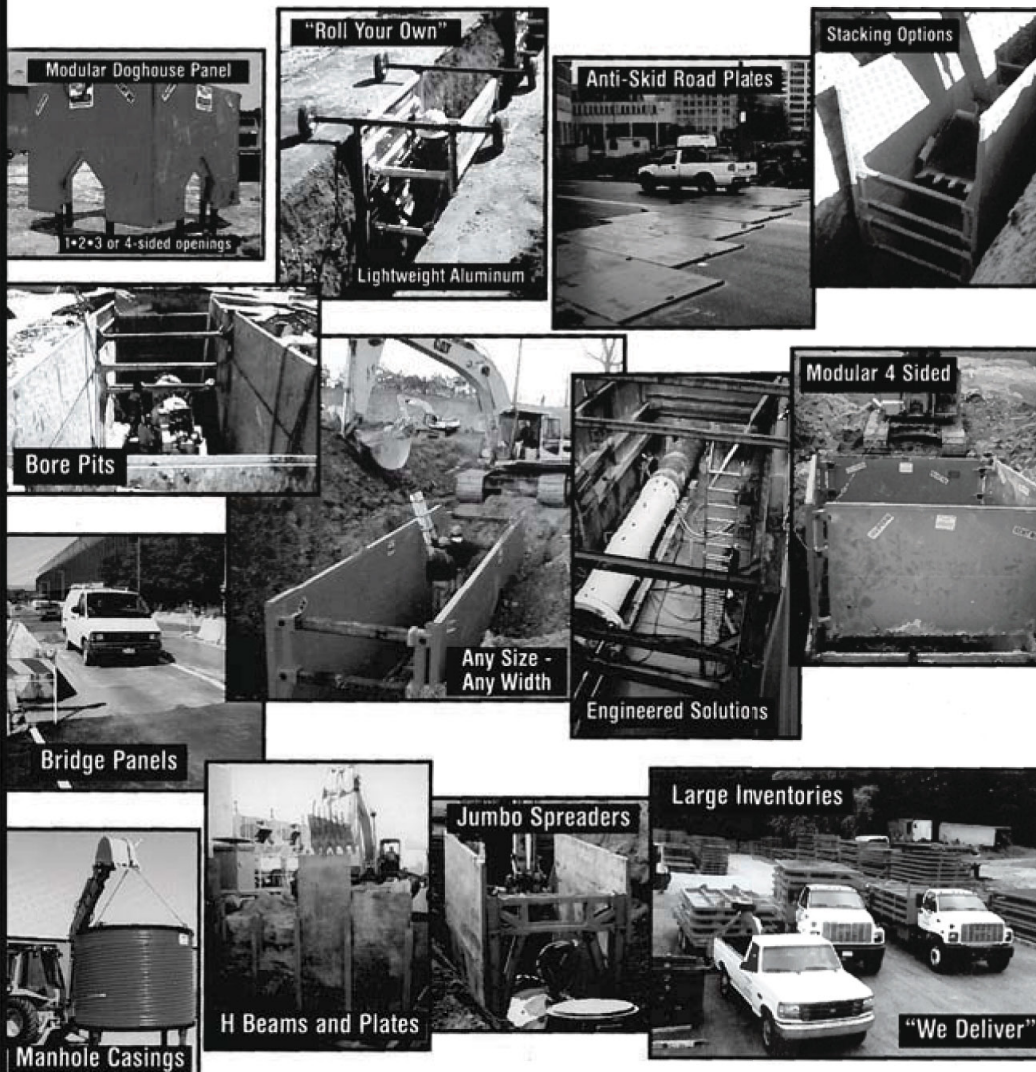






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# Division of Workers' Compensation Offers Free Classes

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 dates and times for future sessions:

## **March 7, 2012**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST  
Workers' Compensation  
WEB Based class

## **March 8, 2012**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST  
Workplace Safety  
WEB Based class

## **March 14, 2012**

Tallahassee  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon EST  
Southwood Complex, Betty Easley  
Conference Center  
4075 Esplanade Way, Room 178  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

## **March 20, 2012**

West Palm Beach  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon EST  
Central Career Center  
1951 North Military Trail  
West Palm Beach, FL 33409

## **March 27, 2012**

Orlando  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon EST  
State Office Building, Hurston Complex  
400 West Robinson Street, South  
Tower, Conference Room A & B  
Orlando, FL 32801

## **April 11, 2012**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST  
Workers' Compensation  
WEB Based class

## **April 12, 2012**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST  
Workplace Safety  
WEB Based class

## **May 9, 2012**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST  
Workers' Compensation  
WEB Based class

## **May 10, 2012**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST  
Workplace Safety  
WEB Based class

## **June 13, 2012**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST  
Workers' Compensation  
WEB Based class

## **June 14, 2012**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST  
Workplace Safety  
WEB Based class

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.

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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# Calendar of Events

## UUCF

Feb. 24–25.....UUCF/ASJMSF Annual Bass Fishing  
Tournament, Lake Toho, Kissimmee  
Mar. 23.....Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando  
June 1.....Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando  
July 19–22.....Annual Convention,  
The Ritz–Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes, Orlando  
July 19.....Board of Director's Meeting,  
The Ritz–Carlton Orlando, Grande Lakes, Orlando  
Sept./Oct. (TBA).....President's Cup Golf Tournament  
Nov. 2.....Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando

## NUCA of North Florida

Mar. 6.....Executive Committee Meeting  
Mar. 21.....General Membership Meeting  
Mar. 26.....Golf Tournament, Deerwood  
Apr. 10.....Executive Committee Meeting  
Apr. 19.....Bettering Your Business  
May 8.....Executive Committee Meeting  
May 17.....Jacksonville Suns Baseball  
June 12.....Executive Committee Meeting  
June 21.....Safety Director' Forum  
July 26.....General Membership Meeting  
Aug. 14.....Executive Committee Meeting  
Aug. 16.....Bettering Your Business  
Sept. 11.....Executive Committee Meeting  
Sept. 26.....General Membership Meeting  
Oct. 9.....Executive Committee Meeting  
Oct. (TBA).....Fishing Tournament  
Nov. 6.....Executive Committee Meeting  
Nov. 15.....Election of Officers  
Dec. 10.....Executive Committee Meeting  
Dec. (TBA).....Holiday Party

## NUCA of Northwest Florida

Mar. 8.....Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
Mar. (TBA).....Sporting Clay Shoot, Perdido, AL  
Apr. 12.....Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
Apr. (TBA).....General Membership Meeting,  
Pensacola Beach  
May 10.....Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
May (TBA).....After Hours Social, Pensacola  
June 14.....Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
June (TBA).....Fishing Tournament, Pensacola Beach  
July 12.....Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
Aug. 9.....Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
Aug. (TBA).....Golf Tournament, Pensacola  
Sept. 13.....Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
Sept. (TBA).....General Membership Meeting, Pensacola  
Oct. 11.....Board of Director's Meeting, Pensacola  
Oct. (TBA).....Annual Equipment Rodeo, Pensacola  
Nov. 8.....Membership Meeting, Pensacola  
Dec. (TBA).....Annual Dinner Meeting

## NUCA of Southwest Florida

Mar. 15.....General Membership Meeting  
Apr. 19.....General Membership Meeting  
May (TBA).....Scholarship Golf Tournament  
June 21.....Scholarship Awards Night  
July 19.....General Membership Meeting  
Aug. 16.....General Membership Meeting  
Sept. (TBA).....Fishing Tournament  
Oct. 25.....Trade Show  
Dec. (TBA).....Christmas Party

## SUCA

Mar. 3.....Barbecue, Lupton's Boggy Bottom Ranch  
Apr. 5.....General Membership Meeting  
May 3.....General Membership Meeting  
June 7.....General Membership Meeting  
Apr. 5.....General Membership Meeting  
July 12.....General Membership Meeting  
Aug. 2.....General Membership Meeting  
Sept. 6.....General Membership Meeting  
Sept. 20.....Fish Fry  
Oct. 4.....General Membership Meeting  
Nov. 1.....General Membership Meeting  
Dec. 29.....General Membership Meeting  
Dec. 1.....Banquet

## National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA) 2012

Mar. 12–16.....Annual Convention 2012,  
Renaissance Worthington Hotel, Fort Worth, TX

## 2013

Oct. 2–6.....Fall Board of Directors and Leadership  
Meeting, El Conquistador in Las Croabas, Puerto Rico

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

Mar. 6–8.....CGA Conference & Expo, Las Vegas, NV  
Apr. (TBA).....Spring Meeting  
Apr. 20.....Executive Committee Meeting,  
DeBary/Conference Call  
May 16.....Committee Meetings, DeBary Call Center  
May 17.....Board of Director's Meeting,  
DeBary Call Center  
May 18.....Golf Tournament  
June 22.....Executive Committee Meeting,  
DeBary/Conference Call  
July 11.....Strategic Planning Meeting  
July 12.....Committee Meetings  
July 13.....Board of Director's Meeting  
Oct. 16.....Executive Committee Meeting,  
DeBary/Conference Call





Nov. 15.....Committee Meetings, DeBary Call Center  
Nov. 16.....Board of Director's Meeting,  
DeBary Call Center

**Construction Industry Licensing Board (CILB)  
Meetings**

Mar. 14-16 .....Embassy Suites Orlando-North,  
Altamonte Springs  
Apr. 11-13.....Embassy Suites Tampa/USF,  
Tampa  
May 9-11..... Hilton Daytona Beach Oceanfront,  
Daytona Beach  
June 13-15 .....Four Seasons Palm Beach  
Palm Beach  
July 11-13 .....The Bohemian Celebration Hotel,  
Celebration  
Aug. 8-10 ..... Casa Monica Hotel,  
St. Augustine  
Sept. 12-14 .....The Biltmore Hotel,  
Coral Gables  
Oct. 10-12.....Embassy Suites Orlando-North,  
Altamonte Springs  
Nov. 14-16 .....Embassy Suites Tampa/USF,  
Tampa

**(2012 Legislative Session Update  
Continued from Page 16)**

**Regulation of Secondhand Dealers and Metal  
Recyclers**

**CS/HB 885** by Ford; **CS/CS/CS/SB 540** by Smith

These bills, which once again strengthen state law regarding theft of metals, are a priority for a number of the Construction Coalition members and others in the business community.

**STATUS:** The House and Senate bills each have two more committee references.

**Construction Liens and Bonds**

**CS/CS/HB 897** by Moraitis; **CS/SB 1202** by Bogdanoff

This past week, all the stakeholders sat down and resolved all outstanding issues. The result was a 44 page "strike all" amendment which was approved by the House Judiciary Committee. Bruce Kershner, UUCF Executive Vice President, was successful in getting a provision included which addresses public bid opening. Many local governments are misinterpreting the intent of a bill passed last year dealing with design build projects. The provision requires local governments to open sealed bids for public construction at a designated date and time and announce at the meeting the names of each bidder and the price submitted. It also requires that the information be made available upon request. A quick

*(Continued on Page 22)*

**Sunshine State One  
Call of Florida, Inc.  
2012 Holiday Calendar**

Memorial Day.....05/28/12  
Independence Day .....07/04/12  
Labor Day.....09/03/12  
Thanksgiving Day .....11/22/12  
Day after Thanksgiving Day .....11/23/12  
Christmas Eve .....12/24/12  
Christmas Day.....02/25/12

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.**



**2012 FDOT Letting Date**

February 29

March 28

April 25

May 23

June 20





# Chapter News

## NUCA of North Florida

NUCA of North Florida 2012 Officers and Directors were installed at our meeting on January 12th at River City Brewing Company. NUCA Chairman, Ryan Schmitt, was on hand to perform the installation. Kim Bryan, Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors was installed as President. 2011 President, Lauren Atwell recognized the 2011 monthly sponsorship for their support during the year. The following companies were presented with a certificate of appreciation as well as a plate for their sponsorship plaques: A. J. Johns, Inc.; Beard Equipment Company; Ellis & Associates; Professional Shoring & Supply; Reynolds, Inc. and Standard Precast. Also recognized at this event were the 2011 Committee chairs. Each individual received a certificate of appreciation. Committee Chairs: **Membership** – Kim Bryan; **Education** – Mike Gruber; **Fishing** – Ed Porter; **Golf** – Josh Hunt; **Scholarship** – Ted Turnbeaugh; **Meetings/Programs** – Ed Porter and **Legislative** – Tony Zebouni. Lauren Atwell presented Kim Bryan with the Outstanding Board Member Award in recognition of her exceptional participation and overall contribution to the Board of Directors. Kim served the association as Secretary/Treasurer as well as Membership Committee chair. She volunteered at a number of events held during the year. John Kirkland, A. J. Johns, Inc., was presented with The President's Award in recognition of his exceptional participation, fund raising, membership recruitment and overall contributions to the association. John successfully recruited a number of new members this year as well as selling the most raffle tickets in the Reload raffle. He served on the Fishing Committee. Kim presented her plans for 2012 starting with a new website, diving

into social networking and many other great ideas for changes. Please read her President's Message to keep updated on what is happening. If you are interested in getting more involved or serving on a committee, please contact Kim Bryan or Kathy Blackman.

The NUCA of North Florida Annual Golf Tournament has been set for Monday, March 26 at Deerwood Country Club. Mike and Jon Woodall, John Woody, Inc., are this year's golf Chairmen. Sponsorships are available beginning at \$260.00 for tee/green sponsors to \$600.00 Vendor Showcases. The cost for players is \$125.00. Contact the NUCA of North Florida office at (904) 296-1230 to register or for additional information.

Thank you to our 2012 monthly sponsors: **Silver Sponsors** – Beard Equipment Company, Professional Shoring & Supply and Standard Precast, Inc. **Bronze Sponsors** – A. J. Johns, Inc., Ellis & Associates, Highway Technologies and Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors.

We just returned from Tallahassee for our legislative visits and UUCF Board meeting. Although we had a difficult time making appointments, we ended up getting in to see a lot of the legislators from the Duval delegation. We are pushing hard to make sure HB 825 gets heard in the first committee so the bill can continue to move.

We recently welcomed back former members Flagler Construction Equipment and Sunbelt Rentals. We are pleased to have them back as members and look forward to their active participation.

Have you registered yet for the NUCA Convention in Fort Worth? There are some great programs

scheduled, both educational and recreational, that will be provided at the convention. The location and travel costs are economical and the value packed program will make it all worthwhile. You can register online at the NUCA website [www.nuca.com](http://www.nuca.com). Start 2012 off with a "kick" by investing in your business by attending the value packed NUCA convention. Hope to see you in Texas!

## NUCA of Northwest Florida

NUCA of Northwest Florida will hold a General Membership meeting on February 23. A representative from Emerald Coast Utilities Authority will be speaking on "Future Plans Focus." What better way to start our year off than to hear good news about upcoming work in our area.

We have a committee working hard on planning a Sporting Clay Shoot for March. Sponsorships will be available and registration information will be sent out within the next two weeks.

Our April General Membership Meeting Speaker will be a local attorney who will be discussing OSHA related issues and items of concern. More information on the location and date should be available within the next month.

NUCA of Northwest Florida would like to thank our current 2012 Sponsors: Kelson Electric Company and Southeastern Pipe.

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## (2012 Legislative Session Update Continued from Page 21)

summary of what is now in the bill is as follows:

### Changes to s. 255.05

- Insures that hard bids on public projects will be opened in a public setting. At a minimum,







the governmental entity must read out the names of the bidders and total bid amount. The information must be available to anyone making an inquiry.

#### **Changes to Chapter 489**

- Reinstates grandfathering provisions for local registered contractors who would like to be state certified – providing until November 1, 2015 for those contractors to apply to the CILB.

**STATUS:** The House Bill is on the House Calendar. The Senate Bill has one last committee reference.

#### **Effective Public Notice**

**CS/CS/HB 937** by Workman;  
**CS/SB 292** by Bennett

These bills, which deal with electronic notice and publication of legal notices, invitations to bid, etc., are moving. Although the bills are not identical, they have now been

linked as similar in the bill tracking system.

**STATUS:** The House and Senate bills each have one last committee reference.

#### **Regulation of Septic Tanks**

**CS/CS/HB 999** by Dorworth;  
**CS/CS/SB 820** by Dean

These bills repeal statewide septic tank regulation by the Department of Health and replace it with local regulation and specific requirements for areas with first magnitude springs.

**STATUS:** The House Bill is on the House Calendar, and the Senate Bill has one more committee reference.

#### **UUCF District 1**

Brevard, Indian River, St. Lucie, Volusia County (East of I-95)

#### **UUCF District 2**

Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk, (East of Lakeland), Seminole, Volusia (West of I-95)

#### **UUCF District 3**

Broward, Dade, Martin, Monroe, Palm Beach

#### **UUCF At Large**

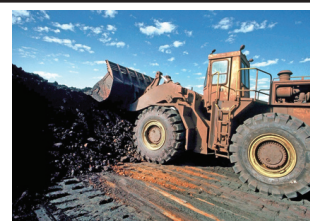
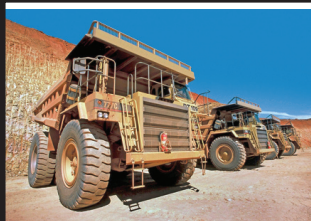
Alachua, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Levy, Madison, Marion, Suwannee, Taylor

Did you know that UUCF does not have an affiliated chapter in these counties? Did you know that membership with UUCF is only \$100 per year, per district?

## **Not a Member of UUCF?**

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Continued from Page 13)**

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## Corporation and LLC's: Time to File Your 2012 Report

Just a reminder that the deadline for corporations (INC) or limited liability companies (LLC) to file their Annual Report with the Division of Corporations is May 1, 2012. Annual Reports filed after May 1, 2012 will be charged a \$400.00 late fee. Annual reports can be filed on the state website at [www.sunbiz.org](http://www.sunbiz.org).

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