



# Ditchmen

Online

Underground Utility Contractors of Florida, Inc.

AUGUST 2013

## UUCF Conference Wrap Up

*(See page 4 for details)*



*UUCF installs 2013/2014 Board of Directors at the 2013 Conference. Front Row L to R: Kim Bryan, Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.; Chris Stewart, Xylem, Inc.; Bill Lee, Utility Service Company, Inc.; and Bruce Wendorf, Forsberg Construction, Inc.. Back Row L to R: Tim Carmichael, Associated Construction Products, Inc.; Larry Falls, Associated Construction Products, Inc.; Jon Woodall, John Woody, Inc.; Lauren Atwell, Layne Heavy Civil, Inc.; Mike Woodall, John Woody, Inc.; and Mark Sweet, Sunshine 811.*



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**In This Issue**

Sunshine 811 Update .....	2
UUCF 2013 Conference.....	4
UUCF Presents 2013 Construction Performance Awards .....	8
UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation 2013 Scholarship Recipients .....	11
Not a Member of UUCF? .....	15
President's Message .....	16
Division of Workers' Compensation Offers Free Classes.....	20
Calendar of Events .....	21
Sunshine 811 Calendar.....	22
FDOT Letting Dates .....	22
Chapter News .....	23
Welcome New Members.....	26

**Index of Advertisers**

Beard Equipment Co.....	28
Efficiency Shoring & Supply....	12
GrayRobinson, P.A. ....	27
HD Supply Waterworks.....	24
Mabey Bridge & Shore, Inc. ....	7
MWI Corporation.....	20
National Trench Safety.....	10
Nortrax, Inc. ....	25
Oldcastle Precast, Inc. ....	6
Reduced Business Card Ads.....	13, 16 & 17
R. H. Moore & Associates.....	14
Sunshine 811 .....	29
The Blue Book.....	15
Thompson Pump & Mfg. Co., Inc.....	4
Trench Shoring Services.....	18
United Concrete Products, LLC.....	19





# UUCF 2013 Conference

July 25–28, 2013 at the Boca Raton Resort & Club in Boca Raton was the site of this year's Underground Utility Contractors of Florida (UUCF) Conference. The weather was great, and the hotel was beautiful. This year's UUCF Conference had everything you could ask for and more. There was Contractor's Day which featured guest speakers and a vendor table top. There was also social networking and a murder mystery to solve during the Saturday Night dinner. Kudos to Kim Bryan and her Conference Committee for putting together a very memorable conference at the beautiful Boca Raton Resort & Club.

We are grateful for the overwhelming support of our sponsors and the enthusiastic participation of our members and guests in this year's conference.

There are many people to recognize and thank for this year's conference. First and foremost – the contractor's "partners" who are needed not just at the conference, but year round – our associate members. Contractors need their equipment, materials and services so they can do the job of building Florida's infrastructure. This time of year, the same companies the contractors rely on every day in their business step forward to support the association's goal of improving our industry . . . and for that, we are greatly appreciative.

Throughout this article, we will recognize all of our great sponsors. A special thanks to our **Platinum Sponsors, Efficiency Shoring & Supply; GrayRobinson, P.A.; National Trench Safety; and Sunshine 811**, whose early commitment helped make this year's conference a success.

UUCF would also like to take this opportunity to thank the **Gold**

**Sponsors.** They are: **Beard Equipment Co.; HD Supply Waterworks; Linder Industrial Machinery Co.; Nortrax, Inc.; Utility Service Company, Inc.;** and **Honorary Gold Sponsor: Ring Power Corporation.**

UUCF also thanks the **Bronze Sponsors.** They are: **NUCA of North Florida and The Blue Book Network.**

Finally, this grand conference would not have been possible without the hard work of this year's Conference Committee: Kim Bryan, Chairperson; Lauren Atwell; Bill Davis; Larry Falls; Paula Lieser; and Chris Stewart. We also would like to thank the Chapter Executive Directors and UUCF staff for their hard work: Kathy Blackman; Rhonda Cason; Paula Lieser; and Misty McKendree; and UUCF staff Bruce Kershner and Julie Kershner. Each one is to be commended for

the many hours worked, creativity and team work. We couldn't have done it without them.

Special thanks to **Valenti, Trobec & Woody, Inc.** for Co-sponsoring the Hospitality Room on Saturday, July 27, 2013. The Hospitality Room gave the attendees a place to relax, socialize, bid on the Silent Auction items, purchase tickets for the Chinese Raffle and Roaring Raffle.

Thursday, July 25, marked the start of the conference with the UUCF Executive Committee and Board of Director's Meetings. Many issues were discussed.

Thursday evening, the Welcome Cocktail Reception, Co-sponsored by **Forsberg Construction, Inc.**, was held. During the Welcome Reception, Bruce Kershner, Bruce

*(Continued on Page 5)*

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**(UUCF 2013 Conference  
Continued from Page 4)**

Wendorf and Kim Bryan welcomed everybody to the 2013 Conference.

First thing Friday morning, attendees had their choice of going to Contractor's Day or attending the Optional Event.

At the Optional Event, attendees had a Contemporary Art Museum Experience. In partnership with the Baker Sponder Gallery, the Boca Raton Resort & Club established a collection of museum-quality sculptures by internationally renowned artists. Our group enjoyed a private tour of the impressive sculpture collection. Attendees then headed to the Baker Sponder Gallery's exhibition space located at Gallery Center, one of the regions premier art destinations. The gallery featured important paintings, sculpture and photography.

Others attended Contractor's Day which was co-sponsored by **Suncoast Utility Contractors Association**. The day was full of presentations and guest speakers geared specifically for contractors. Vendors also set up displays and were on hand to discuss their latest products and promotions, as well as reinforce relationships with our members.

Speakers included Randy Stutzman with FMI; Jim Rogan with M.E. Wilson & Company; and David Sadler and Rudy Powell with FDOT.

The first presentation, given by Randy Stutzman, was *Past, Present and Future: How contractors succeeded during the downturn and which trends are emerging for the future*. His second presentation was *Utilizing Construction Industry Trends to Succeed in Your Future*.

Our last speaker of the day was Jim Rogan who gave a presentation on Health Care Reform (Obamacare).

We were also fortunate to have David Sadler, P.E. and Rudy Powell, Jr., P.E. from FDOT who held an open discussion on many areas of interest for the group. Many found this incredibly informative and was also nice to meet the people behind the names we hear and see so often.

Everyone felt that these sessions alone were worth the whole conference. UUCF is enjoying its relationship with FDOT!

UUCF thanks the following companies for being a Vendor at Contractor's Day during the UUCF 2013 Conference: **Efficiency Shoring & Supply; Florida Concrete Pipe Institute; Flowtite Pipe; GrayRobinson, P.A.; HD**

**Supply Waterworks; Mabey, Inc.; National Trench Safety; Ring Power Corporation; Sunshine 811; Thompson Pump & Manufacturing Co., Inc.; and Xylem, Inc.**

Friday evening began with the Dinner Party Reception.

The Friday Dinner Party, co-sponsored by **LGM Contracting Inc/Merucci Equipment Co.; Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.** and **Utility Service Company, Inc.**, was a business affair.

Bruce Wendorf presented the 2013 UUCF Construction Performance Awards for the *Mitch Ellington, Gary D. Sawyer and Andrew J. Mayts Awards*. The winners were: **Mitch Ellington Award** – Rick Erickson of Beard Equipment Company. **Gary D. Sawyer Award** – Kim Bryan of Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.. **Andrew J. Mayts Award** – Tom Woodward of David Nelson Construction Co. Please see details of the Performance Awards recipients on **Page 8** in this issue of the *Ditchmen*.

After the awards presentation, Bruce Kershner installed the UUCF 2013/2014 Officers and Directors. UUCF is proud to have the

*(Continued on Page 6)*

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### (UUCF 2013 Conference Update Continued from Page 5)

following Officers for 2013/2014: **President** – Lauren Atwell, Layne Heavy Civil, Inc.; **President Elect** – Kim Bryan, Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.; **Vice President Conference** – Chris Stewart, Xylem, Inc.; **Treasurer** – Tom Woodward, David Nelson Construction Co.; **Secretary** – Paula Lieser, Pensacola Concrete Construction Co., Inc.; and **Immediate Past President** – Bruce Wendorf, Forsberg Construction, Inc.

The following is a list of the 2013/2014 Directors:

**NUCA of North Florida:** Jon Woodall, John Woody, Inc.; and Alternate Mike Woodall, John Woody, Inc.

**NUCA of Northwest Florida:** Lee Brown, Brown Construction of Northwest Florida; and Bill Lee, Utility Service Company.

**NUCA of Southwest Florida:** Jeff Boyd, Boyd Irrigation, Inc. **SUCA:** Tom Butler, Ripa & Associates; Larry Falls, Associated Construction Products, Inc.; and Alternate Tim Carmichael, Associated Construction Products, Inc. **District 3:** Scott Johnson, Johnson-Davis, Inc. (Ex Officio). **Sunshine 811**

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Ryan Schmitt, NUCA Immediate Past President,

*(Continued on Page 7)*



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**(UUCF 2013 Conference  
Update  
Continued from Page 6)**

addressed the members with issues that NUCA is working on.

Bruce Kershner, UUCF Executive Vice President, announced the recipient of the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship. The \$6,000 scholarship to an individual currently enrolled in high school was presented to **Emily Elizabeth Johns**. Emily is the daughter of Kim Bryan who is employed by Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. and Mark Johns who is employed by A. J. Johns, Inc. Please see details of Emily and other recipients of Meritorious Scholarships from the UUCF/ASJMSF on **Page 11** in this issue of the *Ditchmen*.

Saturday evening began with the Theme Party Reception. Individuals came dressed in flapper outfits and zoot suits to get into character.

There was opportunities for pictures to be taken as well as mug shots. Attendees also signed up for parts in the Murder at the Juice Joint. The play proved to be quite entertaining. During the reception, the characters mingled with the crowd and released "clues" to the other characters. Once the attendees entered the room, the murder took place. Attendees now had to solve the mystery of who murdered Notoious Nick Nemetz. Characters then had the chore of mingling some more to obtain clues and preview the evidence. At the end, the murderer was revealed. And the murderer was . . . Chief Cameron played by Lauren Atwell.

The Saturday Theme Party Dinner, co-sponsored by **Acme Barricades.; Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc.; Utility Service Company, Inc.; and Xylem, Inc.**, was a fun-filled affair. UUCF wrapped up with the Silent Auction, Chinese Raffle and Roaring Raffle.

Congratulations to Casey Pieczonka who was the winner of the Roaring Raffle.

Again, UUCF would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Platinum, Gold and Silver Sponsors. We would also like to thank the following sponsors and contributors:

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*(Continued on Page 14)*



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# UUCF Presents 2013 Construction Performance Awards

Each year, UUCF presents its Construction Performance Awards at the Annual Conference. Each chapter submits the name of a contractor and associate member. The *Mitch Ellington* and *Gary D. Sawyer 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 *Andrew J. Mayts Award* is presented annually to a UUCF board member who has made a significant contribution, on the state level, to the industry and/or association. The recipient is selected by the current UUCF president.

Bruce Wendorf presented the 2013 UUCF Construction Performance Awards for the *Mitch Ellington*, *Gary D. Sawyer* and *Andrew J. Mayts Awards* on Friday, July 26 at the UUCF 2013 Conference.



The recipient of the **Mitch Ellington Award** was Kim Bryan. Kim is currently a Project Manager at Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors,

Inc., a position she has held since the company was founded in October 2007. Kim began in the underground utility industry in 1995 as administrative assistant with A. J. Johns, Inc. She was promoted to estimator in 1996. Kim obtained her Florida Underground Utility

and Excavation Contractor's license in 2000. She was promoted to Project Manager in 2001 and she stayed in that position until August 2007. Kim also holds a Georgia Utility Managers' license which she obtained in 2008.

Kim Bryan has been an active member of the NUCA of North Florida, Inc. since 1998. She has attended and actively participated in NUCA of North Florida, UUCF and NUCA meetings, conventions and other events.

Kim's committee involvement and accomplishments include:

- Served on NUCA of North Florida Board of Directors 2003 – Present
- President of NUCA of North Florida in 2007 and 2012
- Served on NUCA of North Florida Executive Committee from 2004 – Present
- Chaired NUCA of North Florida Education Committee in 2003
- Chaired NUCA of North Florida Membership Committee from 2011 – Present
- NUCA of North Florida Legislative Committee from 2004 – Present
- NUCA of North Florida Scholarship Committee from 2001 – Present
- NUCA of North Florida Holiday Committee from 1998 – Present
- NUCA of North Florida Seamark Ranch Committee from 2003 – Present
- NUCA of North Florida Programs/Meetings Committee in 2006 and 2007
- Served on UUCF Board of Directors as an alternate from 2005 – 2010 and 2012
- UUCF Convention Committee

in 2006, 2007 and 2012

- UUCF Convention attendee, 1998, 2004 – 2007, 2010, 2012

Kim's industry awards and recognition include:

- NUCA of North Florida *President's Award* in 2003
- NUCA *Outstanding Leadership by a Chapter President* in 2007 and 2012
- UUCF *Mitch Ellington Award* in 2009
- NUCA of North Florida *Outstanding Board Member Award* in 2010 and 2011

Kim has been an active member of the chapter for many years. She has served on almost every committee. She has served on the Board of Directors since 2003. Kim served as President in 2012. She had previously served as President in 2007. When Kim took the position in 2012, it was not with an attitude of "here we go again." It was with a steadfast conviction to improve the chapter. Kim was dead set on improving the value to the membership, getting members engaged and stabilizing the financial situation. Kim started her effort by doing a SWAT analysis of the chapter to determine its strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threat. She restructured their sponsorships to provide more value for the sponsors and improve the revenue stream for the association.

Kim also wanted to reinvigorate the charitable giving. Kim championed our Red, White and Blue gift giving campaign for Seamark Ranch, a home for neglected and abused children. The association gathered goods that were red, white or blue,







took them to the ranch to present to the ranch and had lunch with the kids. It was a great event.

Also during Kim's term, the chapter held a DirectDrive. This was the most successful membership drive in the history of the chapter as well as any NUCA chapter to that point. Because of Kim's leadership and vision, the chapter grew its membership over 20% during that two day drive and started 2013 with more members than it did in 2012.

Kim was also instrumental in bringing back the Holiday Party. This event used to be the signature event prior to the recession. It was a big success. They added a new event, a Sporting Clay Challenge which also made budget and was successful in getting some different members involved who had not previously been involved. Kim is very committed to the chapter and the utility contracting industry. Kim was recognized with the *President's Award* in 2003 for her work on the education programs.

She was recently recognized by NUCA as the 2012 *Chapter Award of Excellence for Outstanding Leadership by a Chapter President*. Kim previously received this award in 2007. She continues to be involved on a number of committees. Kim has a vast knowledge of the industry, is politically active in issues affecting the industry and is a proven leader in the utility contracting industry.

UUCF is proud to present this year's **Mitch Ellington Award** to **Kim Bryan**.



The recipient of the **Gary D. Sawyer**

**Award** was Rick Erickson. Rick Erickson is currently in heavy sales with Beard Equipment Company, a position he has held for the past five years. Rick began working his way up at Sun Tire, and then worked for Ring Power Corporation.

Rick has been an active member of NUCA of North Florida since 2005. He has attended and actively participated in NUCA of North Florida board meetings, general meetings and other events. During his involvement, Rick served on the board of directors in 2010 and 2013; Chaired the Golf Committee in 2010 and served on the committee from 2010-present; and Membership Committee from 2012-present.

Rick was a big contributor to the success of the chapter's DirectDrive Membership Drive Campaign. He attended the all day training session and actively participated in the drive. The morning of the drive, Rick walked in with four new members paid in full. He continued to recruit during the two-day drive and was responsible in whole or part for a total of twelve new members. Because of these efforts, he received the 2012 *Outstanding Individual Contributor Award* from the chapter.

Rick was the chapter's golf chair in

2010. He did an outstanding job recruiting new sponsors, keeping committee members motivated and on task. He spend the day of the tournament driving around greeting golfers and thanking sponsors. We had a very successful tournament due to Rick's leadership and commitment to the chapter.

UUCF is proud to present this year's **Gary D. Sward Award** to **Rick Erickson**.

The recipient of the **Andrew J. Mayts Award** was Tom Woodward. Tom Woodard is employed with David Nelson Construction Co. He has been active on the UUCF Board of Directors since 2011. He has become very active by serving on the UUCF Executive, Legislative and PAC Committees from 2011 to present and is currently the UUCF Treasurer.

Tom was instrumental in having FDOT representatives attend both the 2012 and 2013 Conference on Contractor's Day.

UUCF is proud to present this year's **Andrew J. Mayts Award** to **Tom Woodward**.

Congratulations to all the recipients, and we truly appreciate your hard work and dedication.

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# UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation 2013 Scholarship Recipients

During the Underground Utility Contractors of Florida (UUCF) 2013 Annual Conference at the Boca Raton Resort & Club in Boca Raton, Florida, the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. announced the 2013 recipient of a \$6,000 scholarship to an individual who graduated from high school in 2013, recipient of a \$6,000 scholarship to an individual who is currently enrolled in college and its Meritorious Award winners of various scholarships.

Prior to 2013, the UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation, Inc. has awarded \$221,500 in scholarships. In addition to the \$12,000 scholarships, the trustees elected to distribute an additional \$12,000 in Meritorious Scholarships for a total distribution of \$24,000. As of this year, we have awarded a total of \$245,500 in scholarships since the inception in 2000.

The recipient must be an employee of and/or an immediate family member employed by a company that is a member in good standing with UUCF. The committee based its decision on the applicant's scholastic standing, ACT and/or SAT scores, extracurricular activities, community service, work experience, letters of reference and a 500-word essay.

## **The following was the recipient of the \$6,000 one time High School Scholarship:**

The UUCF/ASJMSF is proud to announce the 2013 recipient of the \$6,000 scholarship to an individual

who graduated from high school in 2013, **Emily Elizabeth Johns**. Emily is the daughter of Kim Bryan who is employed by Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. and Mark Johns who is employed by A. J. Johns, Inc. Emily graduated from The Bolles School in 2013 with a 3.83 grade point average. Emily has been accepted into the University of Florida where her intended course of study is in Animal Science and her intended career plan is to be a veterinarian specializing in aquatic/marine animals.

Emily received the *President's List Award* (Community Service) in 2012; *Phoenix Society* (Fine Arts Honor Society) in 2011; *First/Second Honors* each grading quarter in 2009, 2010 and 2011; *Student of the Day* in 2011; *Receipient VFW "Voice of Democracy"* local scholarship in 2012; *The American Choral Directors' National Student Award* in 2012; *Liesegang Award in the Arts* in 2012; *Daughters of the American Revolution Citizenship Award* in 2012; and *McKenzie Noelle Wilson Award for Distinguished Service* in 2012.

Emily participated in *Varisty Softball* in 2009–2011, *Varisty Crew* in 2012, *Young Republicans Club* in 2009–2012, *Animal Lover's Club* in 2009 and school musicals/productions included cast of *Oklahoma* in 2009, cast of *Still Life with Iris* in 2010, second female lead in *Hello Dolly* in 2011, female lead in *The Man Who Came to Dinner* in 2012 and female lead in *And Then There were None* in 2012.

As part of community service, Emily was involved with the Jacksonville Humane Society in 2011; foster parent for infant animals (age 1 day to 8 weeks) in 2010–2012 and event volunteer with in excess of 1,500 community service hours earned. She was also a Science summary camp counselor in 2009, JCA flag football assistant coach in 2011 and assisted NUCA of North Florida with the fishing tournament in 2010.

The UUCF/ASJMSF would like to congratulate Emily for her hard work and wish her luck in her future endeavors.

## **The following was the recipient of the \$6,000 one time College Scholarship:**

**Daniel Charles Stewart** who is the son of Chris Stewart who is employed by Xylem, Inc. and Susan Stewart. Daniel graduated from Fort Myers High School in 2009. He is currently enrolled at the Univesrity of Florida where his intended course of study is mechanical and biomedical engineering. His intended career plan is to research the mechanical behavior of the human body and understand the chemistry in the body to help aid those who are ill. His declared major is mechanical engeering with a minor in biomechanics and chemistry.

Daniel was a recipient of a \$2,000.00 meritorious scholarship award in 2012.

The UUCF/ASJMSF would like to

*(Continued on Page 13)*



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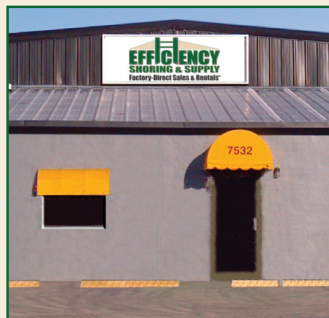


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**(UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation 2013 Scholarship Winners Continued from Page 11)**

congratulate Daniel for his hard work and wish him luck in his future endeavors.

**The following were recipients of a \$2,000 one time Meritorious Scholarship:**

**Priya P. Desai** graduated from the College Academy at Brevard College in 2013. Priya is the daughter of Phiroze and Mona Desai of Bergeron Land Development, Inc. She will be attending the University of Florida where her intended course of study is pre-med biology. Her intended career plans are in medicine in either neurology or pshcyiatry.

**Jori Marie Mansfield** graduated from East Lake High School in 2013. Jori is the daughter of Richard Mansfield and Jo Dee Colonius of Rowland, Inc. She is attending the University of Florida where her intended course of study is neurobiological sciences. Her intended career plans are to be in medical research.

**Maxx Joseph Moore** graduated from Bishop Verot High School in 2011. Maxx is the son of Kathryn Moore who is employed by Rinker Materials, Concrete Pipe Division and John Moore. Maxx has been attending Florida State University where his intended course of study and declared major are criminal justice. His intended career plan is law school.

Maxx was the UUCF/ASJMSF High

School Scholarship recipient in 2011 and College Scholarship recipient in 2012.

**Shelbi Tate Smolak** graduated from The Benjamin School in 2013. She is the daughter of Cindi Frick of D.S. Eakins Construction Corporation. She plans on attending The George Washington University where her intended course of study is business. Her intended career plan is to be in business/finance.

**Eric Alexander Turner** graduated from DeLand High School in 2013. He is the son of Wayne and Leassia Turner of Turner Lining Co., LLC. He plans on attending the University of Florida where his intended course of study is in engineering and

*(Continued on Page 17)*

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**(UUCF 2013 Conference  
Update  
Continued from Page 7)**

- Forsberg Construction, Inc.
- LGM Contracting Inc/Merucci Equipment Co.
- Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. (2 slots)
- Suncoast Utility Contractors Assn.
- Utility Service Company, Inc. (2 slots)
- Valenti, Trobec & Woody, Inc.
- Xylem, Inc.

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- Thompson Pump & Mfg. Co., Inc.
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Lauren Atwell, Kim Bryan, Rhonda Cason, Larry Falls, Bill Lee, Paula Lieser, Misty McKendree, NUCA of Northwest Florida, Ryan Schmitt, George Spofford, Chris Stewart, SUCA, Bruce Wendorf, Mike Woodall and Tom Woodward

Pictures of the conference can be found at [www.uucf.com](http://www.uucf.com).

Mark your calendar now for next year's conference which will be held on July 17-20 at the Renaissance Orlando SeaWorld in Orlando. The 2014 Conference Chairperson is Chris Stewart with Xylem, Inc. Hope to see you all next year.

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The AlertTile® is a reinforced, thermoset plastic engineered for superior impact-resistance, slip-resistance, wear-resistance and long term durability. AlertTile® has a thin surface profile and a perimeter beveled edge to provide pedestrians a safe transition from all surrounding surfaces. The solid, one-piece construction was engineered to ensure easy installation and eliminate seams.

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## Not a Member of UUCF?

Is your company located in one of the following counties?

### **UUCF District 1**

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### **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 now only \$100 for the remainder of this year, per district?

For a list of What We Have Done For You, ***please click here***. If you are interested in joining UUCF, ***please click here*** for a Membership Application.

## 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, 2013. 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



**Perspective**  
For some reason known only to Him, God made the world unfair. You don't

have to be very bright to observe that fairness is not natural in our world. Ugly, ill-tempered animals eat cute, nice ones; smog will kill us, but it produces breathtaking, lovely sunsets; some people are born in Greenland, while perverts get to produce TV shows.

What makes it so confusing is, in order to make life fair for one person; God must make it unfair for someone else. At the same moment a farmer is praying for rain to water his oranges, his contractor



brother-in law is praying it will be sunny and dry while he sinks a wet well; a sea bass is fleeing for his life from a barracuda who will starve to

death if he doesn't get something to eat; my office sometimes hides a cell phone in my golf bag so they can reach me when I should be suffering through another meeting.

Yet, even though life clearly isn't supposed to be fair, we normal people are determined to make it so. We clump into different groups, which promise to make everything fairer

for us than it is for rich people. We elect politicians who promise to suspend the laws of nature. We buy diet products so we will look like the people on the advertisements who have symmetrical eyes, long legs and clear skin.

Like a herd of whitetail deer in heat with over programmed imprinting tendencies on our frontal lobes, most of us will follow anybody who promises to make our life fairer just as long as someone else is paying, and it doesn't require any effort on our part. A wise construction attorney once observed that if the politicians in Washington were to succeed in making life fair, they would be out of a job. So, in

*(Continued on Page 17)*

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**(President's Message  
Continued from Page 16)**

addition to the laws of nature, we also have this fact to insure that the clowns will never be the ones to make life fair either.

So, if your feely picked on, let's be honest, judging by the decibel level of our whining out there, there must be millions of us, I have an old fashion remedy: PERSPECTIVE. For times when you are made extra aware that life isn't fair, here are some poor creatures that are probably even more wretched than you . . . at least I hope so.

Wolves' only friends are environmentalists and taxidermists.

A fruit fly's entire life cycle is over in

48 hours. What great things could YOU accomplish on that schedule?

Work, effort and nasty food are all required if a person is to stay in shape.

People often show their love for a beloved pet by having them neutered.

Generally, the worse the job, the lower the pay, and vice-versa.

And according to my kids...if life were fair, they would get the worst zits they ever grew while on vacation with us in Boca Raton instead of on picture day in school.

*Yours truly,*

*Lauren Atwell  
UUCF President*

**(UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson  
Memorial Scholarship  
Foundation 2013 Scholarship  
Winners  
Continued from Page 13)**

business construction. His intended career plans are to obtain a P.E. certification and own his own company.

**Ethan Andrew Turner** graduated from DesLand High School in 2013. He is the son of Wayne and Leassia Turner of Turner Lining Co., LLC. He plans on attending the University of Florida where his intended course of study is in engineering and business construction. His intended career plans are to obtain a P.E. certification and take over his

*(Continued on Page 25)*

<p>Linkhorst &amp; Hockin, P.A. Attorneys at Law</p> <p><b>ADAM C. LINKHORST</b> Board Certified Construction Law Attorney</p> <p>4495 Military Trail, Suite 106 Jupiter, FL 33458 Tel. 561-626-8880 Fax. 561-626-8885</p> <p>Tel. 954-776-5990 Cell. 954-562-9199 acl@FloridaHardhatLaw.com www.FloridaHardhatLaw.com</p>	<p><b>EFFICIENCY SHORING &amp; SUPPLY</b> Factory-Direct Sales &amp; Rentals</p> <p><b>Robert Hudson</b> Shoring &amp; Shielding Specialist</p> <p>11128 Boggy Creek Rd., Orlando, FL 32824 (O)407-854-9949 • (M)407-488-3721 rhudson@efficiencyshoring.com • www.efficiencyshoring.com</p>	<p>Don't adjust your manholes with bricks anymore! Use precast concrete grade rings! Do the job faster- easier! Call for pricing! Delivery Available!</p> <p><b>SCP</b></p> <p>3702 OLSON DRIVE DAYTONA BEACH, FL 32124</p> <p>OFFICE 386-238-6020 FAX 386-258-3788</p> <p>SOUTHEAST CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS</p>
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# 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:

## **September 17, 2013**

Tallahassee  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Hartman Building  
2012 Capital Circle S.E., Room 102  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

## **September 23, 2013**

Orlando  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
State Office Building  
Hurston Complex, 400 West  
Robinson Street, South  
Tower, Conference Room N-101  
Orlando, FL 32801

## **October 3, 2013**

Miami  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
State of Florida Office Building  
Hurston Complex  
401 N.W. 2nd Avenue, North  
Tower, Suite N-423  
Miami, FL 33128

## **October 9, 2013**


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

## **October 10, 2013**

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

## **October 24, 2013**

Jacksonville  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
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## **October 29, 2013**

Fort Myers  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
State of Florida Office Building  
295 Victoria Avenue, Room 165A  
Fort Myers, FL 33901

## **November 6, 2013**

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

## **November 7, 2013**

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

## **November 7, 2013**

Tampa  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
State Office Building  
1313 North Tampa Street,  
Suite 605  
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*(Continued on Page 21)*







# Calendar of Events

## UUCF 2013

Sept. 27–29 ..... President's Cup Golf Tournament,  
PGA National Resort & Spa, Palm Beach Gardens  
Nov. 1 ..... Board of Director's Meeting, Orlando

## 2014

July 17 ..... Board of Director's Meeting,  
Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld, Orlando  
July 17–20 ..... Annual Conference,  
Renaissance Orlando at SeaWorld, Orlando

## NUCA of North Florida

Sept. 10 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
Sept. 19 ..... General Membership Meeting  
Sept. (TBA) ..... Clay Shoot, WW Sporting Clay  
Oct. 8 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
Oct. (TBA) ..... Fishing Tournament  
Nov. 5 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
Nov. 21 ..... Election of Officers  
Dec. 10 ..... Executive Committee Meeting  
Dec. (TBA) ..... Holiday Party

## NUCA of Northwest Florida 2013

Oct. 12 ..... Equipment Rodeo, Equestrian Center

## 2014

Feb. (TBA) ..... Annual Meeting, Museum of Commerce

## NUCA of Southwest Florida

Sept. 20–21 ..... Fishing Tournament  
Sept. 26 ..... Board of Director's Meeting  
Oct. 17 ..... Board of Directors/General Membership  
Meetings  
Nov. 21 ..... Board of Director's Meeting  
Dec. 7 ..... Holiday Party & Installation of Officers

## National Utility Contractors Association (NUCA)

Oct. 2–4 ..... Fall Board of Directors and Leadership  
Meeting, El Conquistador in Las Croabas, Puerto Rico

## Sunshine 811 Meetings

Oct. 18 ..... Executive Committee Meeting,  
DeBary/Conference Call  
Nov. 14–15 ..... Committee & Board of Director's  
Meetings, Call Center, DeBary

## Construction Industry Licensing Board (CILB) Meetings

Sept. 11–13 ..... The Bohemian Celebration Hotel,  
Celebration  
Oct. 9–11 ..... The Florida Hotel & Conference Center,  
Orlando  
Nov. 13–15 ..... Embassy Suites – Fort Lauderdale,  
Fort Lauderdale

## (Division of Workers' Compensation Offers Free Classes

Continued from Page 20)

### November 14, 2013

Ocala  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
1644 New 22nd Avenue, Building E  
Ocala, FL 34470

### November 15, 2013

Lantana  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Gold Coast Schools  
6216 South Congress Avenue, Classroom A  
Lantana, FL 33462

### November 21, 2013

Pensacola  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Division of Workers' Compensation  
610 East Burgess Road  
Pensacola, FL 32504

### December 4, 2013

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

### December 5, 2013

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

### December 17, 2013

Orlando  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
State Office Building  
Hurston Complex, 400 West Robinson Street,  
South Tower, Conference Room N-101  
Orlando, FL 32801

### December 19, 2013

Tallahassee  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Hartman Building  
2012 Capital Circle S.E., Room 102  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

### December 4, 2013

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

(Continued on Page 22)





**(Division of Workers' Compensation Offers Free Classes**

**Continued from Page 21)**

**December 5, 2013**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST

Workplace Safety

WEB Based class

**January 15, 2014**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST

Workers' Compensation

WEB Based class

**January 16, 2014**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST

Workplace Safety

WEB Based class

**February 5, 2014**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST

Workers' Compensation

WEB Based class

**February 6, 2014**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST

Workplace Safety

WEB Based class

**March 5, 2014**

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. EST

Workers' Compensation

WEB Based class

**March 6, 2014**

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.

## Sunshine 811 2013 Holiday Calendar

Labor Day .....	09/02/13
Thanksgiving Day .....	11/28/13
Day after Thanksgiving Day .....	11/29/13
Christmas Eve .....	12/24/13
Christmas Day .....	12/25/13

## 2014 Holiday Calendar

New Year's Day .....	01/01/14
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Sunshine 811'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.**



### 2013 FDOT Letting Date

September 25  
October 30  
December 4

### 2014 FDOT Letting Date

January 29	February 26
March 26	April 30
May 21	June 18







# Chapter News

## NUCA of North Florida

It was great to get caught up with all of our friends across Florida at the UUCF Conference last month. A big thank you to Kim Bryan, Conference Chairperson, for an outstanding event. The murder mystery dinner was lots of fun. All of the great costumes really helped to make the evening very memorable.

Congratulations to Rick Erickson of Beard Equipment Company on receiving the *UUCF Gary D. Sawyer Award*. This award is presented annually to an associate member who has made a significant contribution on the local or state level to the industry or association. Rick has been an active member of our chapter since 2005. He has served on the golf committee for a number of years and served as

committee chair in 2010. Rick also has served on the board of directors and membership committee. During our 2012 DirectDrive campaign, he was, in whole or part, responsible for twelve new members. Rick also received the 2012 *NUCA of North Florida Outstanding Individual Contributor Award*. We appreciate all that Rick has contributed to our chapter.

Congratulations to Kim Bryan of Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors, Inc. on receiving the *UUCF Mitch Ellington Award*. This award is presented annually to a contractor member who has made a significant contribution on the local or state level to the industry or association. It would be easier to tell you what Kim has not done in our chapter than to tell you what she has done.

She has served twice as President, served on our Board of Directors since 2003, Executive Committee since 2004, Holiday Committee since 1998, Membership Committee Chair since 2011 as well as serving on just about every other committee in the chapter. Kim not only served as Chapter President last year, she also was membership chair and took on the DirectDrive campaign. This campaign was the most successful membership drive in the history of our chapter with a 20% growth in membership. She restructured the monthly sponsorship program, headed up a SWAT Analysis of the chapter and organized a charitable campaign for Seamark Ranch. Kim previously won the *UUCF Mitch Ellington Award* in 2007. She

*(Continued on Page 24)*



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Quarter page (3 3/8" w x 4 9/16" h).....	\$75.00 net/month
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Business Card (reduced 75%) – 12 month.....	\$125.00 net/year
Business Card (reduced 75%) – 6 months.....	\$85.00 net/six months

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To place an advertisement in the Ditchmen, please contact the UUCF office at the following:

UUCF  
231 West Bay Avenue  
Longwood, FL 32750-4125  
Phone: (407) 830-1880 – FAX: (407) 260-1582





**(Chapter News  
Continued from Page 23)**

has also received NUCA's 2012 *Chapter Award of Excellence for Outstanding Leadership by a Chapter President*. Kim previously received this award in 2007. Our chapter would be lost without Kim's leadership, dedication and inspiration.

Calling all shooting enthusiasts. It's time for the Second Annual Sporting Clay Challenge. Our event will be held on Thursday, September 12 at WW Sporting Clays. The cost is \$500 for a team of four or single shooters are \$150 each. Sponsorship Opportunities start at just \$100. Your registration fee includes lunch, shooting fee, awards and door prizes. Send an e-mail to [nucanf@gmail.com](mailto:nucanf@gmail.com) if you would like to receive a registration and sponsorship form.

Our September General Membership Meeting will be held on Thursday,

September 19 at 6:00 p.m. at Seven Bridges Grille and Brewery. The evening will include networking and a Pool Tournament. RSVP to [nucanf@gmail.com](mailto:nucanf@gmail.com) to participate in the tournament.

Our Annual Fishing Tournament will be held on October 12 at the Dames Point Marina. Also, new this year is an Offshore category. Anglers are \$75 each and includes meal, beverages, T-shirt, hat and door prizes. Sponsorship levels begin at \$125 and continue to \$1,500. This is a great event to bring your customers, business associates, employees, family and friends. Contact the NUCA of North Florida office for registration and sponsorship information.

**NUCA of Northwest Florida**

Our chapter held an Afterhours event on July 11 at the Fish House. The weather was a bit unsure, so we had to hold it inside. The turnout was good, and we received one new member.

On September 20, we will hold a Competent Person training class which will be provided by United Rentals. The class will be held at the Quality Inn on Pensacola Boulevard. The price is \$150.00 for members and \$180.00 for non-members. The price includes continental breakfast and lunch. If you are interested in joining us, please contact our office.

We would like to take the time to welcome two new members to our chapter: Rubber & Specialties (Mr. Lance Cook) and Furmanite America (Mr. Ralph Hawkins). Thank you for becoming a part of our association.

**NUCA of Southwest Florida**

Come take a break with us! Join NUCA of Southwest Florida on September 20-21 for our Annual Fishing Tournament. Bring the family, enjoy beautiful Captiva and Sanibel Islands, relax with friends in the sun or shade, at the pool or the

*(Continued on Page 25)*



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**(Chapter News**  
**Continued from Page 24)**

beach and participate in the Fishing Tournament Saturday morning.

Tournament prizes will be awarded for Snook, Trout, Redfish both in shore and off shore. There will be door prizes, and children receive free tickets for the children's Chinese auction. Adults may purchase tickets for great items at the Adult Chinese auction.

Registration and sponsorship forms are available on line at [www.nucaswfl.com](http://www.nucaswfl.com). For boat slip and room reservations, please contact Tween Waters Inn at (239) 472-5161 or (800) 223-5865. Events begin Friday at 5:30 p.m. and fishing tournament begins for all ages on Saturday at 7:00 a.m. Please contact Bob Russell of Guymann Construction at (239) 574-4174 or the NUCA Southwest Florida office (239) 939-1952 if you have any questions.

Anyone can Play! FootballMania is a fun and exciting sweepstakes based on professional football. Participation is \$20 per ticket giving you the chance to win \$1,000s in prize money. Ticket holders get \$20 in premium music downloads plus a complimentary FootballMania sweepstakes ticket. Each ticket gives you the chance to win \$1000s in prize money during the 17 week pro football season!

I'm sure that you will find participating as exciting as I do! To obtain your FootballMania ticket(s) please contact Mike McDonnell at (239) 872-0503 or the NUCA Southwest Florida office at (239) 939-1952.

**(UUCF/Andrew Scott Johnson**  
**Memorial Scholarship**  
**Foundation 2013 Scholarship**  
**Winners**  
**Continued from Page 17)**

father's company.

The UUCF/ASJMSF would like to congratulate Priya, Jori, Maxx, Shelbi, Eric and Ethan and the best of luck to all of you at college and on your future career plans!

**How the UUCF/ASJMSF Was**  
**Formed**

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

The foundation has established a scholarship fund that will hopefully serve the association's membership, provide help to individuals attending college and memorialize a bright young man.



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## August 30, 2013

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Stephen Iafrate  
St. Petersburg, FL  
Phone: 727/581-1544  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**Carl Hankins, Inc.**

Terri Hankins Casteel  
Tampa, FL  
Phone: 813/977-7270  
Contractor  
Chapter: SUCA

**CIF Distributing, Inc.**

Alan Kicklighter  
Plant City, FL  
Phone: 813/763-2347  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**CypressGulfDevelopmentCompany**

Jim Glover  
Tampa, FL  
Phone: 813/241-6200  
Contractor  
Chapter: SUCA

**Dirt on Demand**

Daniel Bergin, P.E.  
Tampa, FL  
Phone: 813/434-5744  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**DitchWitchofCentral&SouthFlorida**

Dusty Cinnamon  
Plant City, FL  
Phone: 813/704-6828  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**EnvironmentalEquipmentSales, Inc.**

Brian Spicher  
Riverview, FL  
Phone: 813/677-6877  
Contractor  
Chapter: SUCA

**Equibore of America, Inc.**

Burke Hedges  
Clearwater, FL  
Phone: 727/573-7755  
Contractor  
Chapter: SUCA

**Evergreen Development & Construction Co.**

Jay Carbery  
Tampa, FL  
Phone: 813/202-8008  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**Furmanite America, Inc.**

Ralph Hawkins  
Houston, TX  
Phone: 713/634-7777  
Contractor  
Chapter: NUCA of Northwest Florida

**Harris-McBurney Company**

Gerry Gilbert  
Tampa, FL  
Phone: 813/626-7171  
Contractor  
Chapter: SUCA

**Heavyweight Industries, LLC**

Nicholas Buchanan  
Lakewood Ranch, FL  
Phone: 813/459-2257  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**JTV, Inc.**

Joyce Velitschkowski  
Pinellas Park, FL  
Phone: 727/528-9313  
Contractor  
Chapter: SUCA

**Linex Markings, Inc.**

Dale Bussey  
Zephyrhills, FL  
Phone: 813/377-1155  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.**

Steve Goudie  
Tampa, FL  
Phone: 813/248-1070  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**MBA Engineering, Inc.**

Michael Budin  
Land O'Lakes, FL  
Phone: 941/268-1669  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**MOTPlans.com**

Mark Meyers  
Tampa, FL  
Phone: 813/560-0450  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**Pure Polymer Solutions**

Bob Davis  
Tampa, FL  
Phone: 813/374-2457  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**Rubber & Specialties, Inc.**

Lance Cook  
Pensacola, FL  
Phone: 850/478-9778  
Associate  
Chapter: NUCA of Northwest Florida

**Seminole Septic, Inc.**

Todd Watson  
Seminole, FL  
Phone: 727/392-1352  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**Southeastern Surveying**

Darryl DeMarsh  
Orlando, FL  
Phone: 407/292-8580  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**Suncoast Development of Pinellas County, Inc.**

Luis Aguayo  
Odessa, FL  
Phone: 727/372-9033  
Contractor  
Chapter: SUCA

**The Prosure Group, Inc.**

David Shick  
Tampa, FL  
Phone: 813/243-1110  
Associate  
Chapter: SUCA

**Trans-Phos, Inc.**

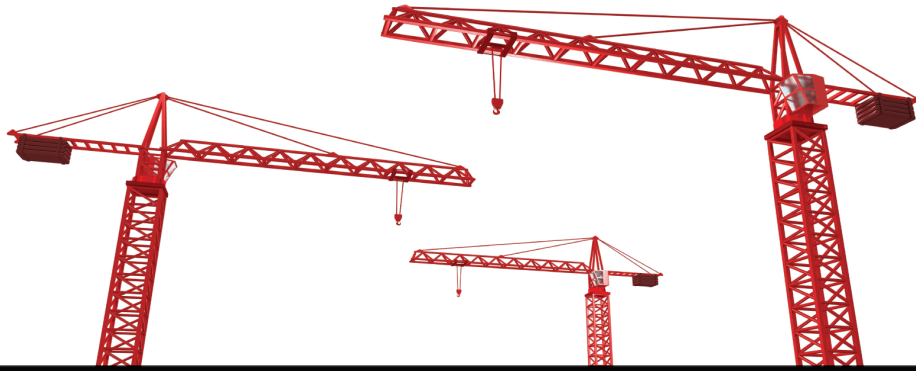
Chris Whitney  
Bartow, FL  
Phone: 800/940-1575  
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Chapter: SUCA

**Universal Payment Marking, Inc.**

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Panama City, FL 32404  
(850) 769-4844

### **FREEPORT, FL**

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Freeport, FL 32439  
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