

The NUCA FL/Andrew  
Scott Johnson  
Memorial Scholarship  
Foundation presents

# *15<sup>th</sup> Annual* Bass Fishing Tournament

February 19-21, 2015

**Kissimmee, Florida  
Big Toho Marina**

**Registration:**

**\$85 per Angler**

- All anglers receive a hat, t-shirt, and raffle ticket.

**Guide boats  
available for two-  
and three-person  
teams OR bring your  
own boat for a self-  
guided team!**

**NEW LODGING  
ACCOMMODATIONS!**

**NEW DINNER  
LOCATION!**

**Prizes will be  
awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, &  
3<sup>rd</sup> place and biggest  
fish overall for both  
guided and self-  
guided categories.**

**Don't fish?  
Be a sponsor!**

**Visit [nucafl.org](http://nucafl.org) or contact Sydney Phillips at [sphillips@wilsonmgmt.com](mailto:sphillips@wilsonmgmt.com) to  
register today!**



# List of Members

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**Phone: (954) 575-0110**

**Fax: (954) 827-0215**

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# President's Message



## How to Keep Your New Year's Resolutions

The New Year has arrived, and you have already drawn up your resolutions. Now, how to stick to your plan?

### 👉 Steps

1. Put it all on paper. Pay my NUCA Dues, sign up for a NUCA of Florida Committee, register 4 of your star employees for the Andrew Scott Johnson Foundation Bass fishing tournament, February 19-21st... Write your resolutions down, write your PAC contribution check, that's \$500 Mr. Johnson, and keep them in an accessible place as reminders - tape them to the office toilet seat, write them in a journal or put them on your accountant's door.

2. Mark your calendar. Attend the NUCA National conference on March 24-26th in our own backyard of Fort Lauderdale. It's a 50th anniversary celebration! Walk the halls of the state capital with us April 8th, Set deadlines for yourself to tackle each step toward reaching your goal, one at a time.

3. Start as soon as possible. Go out and purchase the necessary equipment or literature; call now and set up an appointment with your dentist, your doctor, your trainers, and your ac-

countant, make your hotel reservations for the Hyatt Pier 66 or Aloft....

4. Find a role model. Is there anyone who has succeeded in fulfilling an ambition like yours Mike Woodall, Scott Johnson, David Nelson, Ryan Schmitt, Bruce Wendorf, or Linda Shutt? Look to this person as a reminder that it is possible to achieve your goal.

5. Check your progress regularly, and give yourself an occasional reward for your efforts. Make sure the reward isn't contrary to your resolution; celebrate a cigarette-free month with a the trip to the Renaissance Vinoy in beautiful St. Petersburg on July 30th or a round of golf at your next chapter tournament, not with another smoke!

6. Inform employees, friends and family of your goals, and recruit them to regularly remind and support you and the association in your endeavors.

### 👉 Fast Facts about New Year's Resolutions

- ▶ 63% of people say they are keeping their resolutions after two months
- ▶ 67% of people make three or more resolutions
- ▶ Top four resolutions:
  1. Increase my involvement with NUCA
  2. Be more conscientious about attending NUCA functions
  3. Recruit a new member for NUCA.
  4. Make a PAC contribution.
- ▶ People make more resolutions to start a new habit than to break an old one

### 👉 Tips

- ▶ Don't sweat the stuff; NUCA is a key.
- ▶ Experts say it takes about 21 days for a new activity to become a habit and six months for it to become part of your personality. It won't happen overnight, so be persistent and patient!

Happy new year!

A stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LA' followed by a flourish.

Lauren C. Atwell





# IF YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS



## YOU NEED TO KNOW WHO WE ARE

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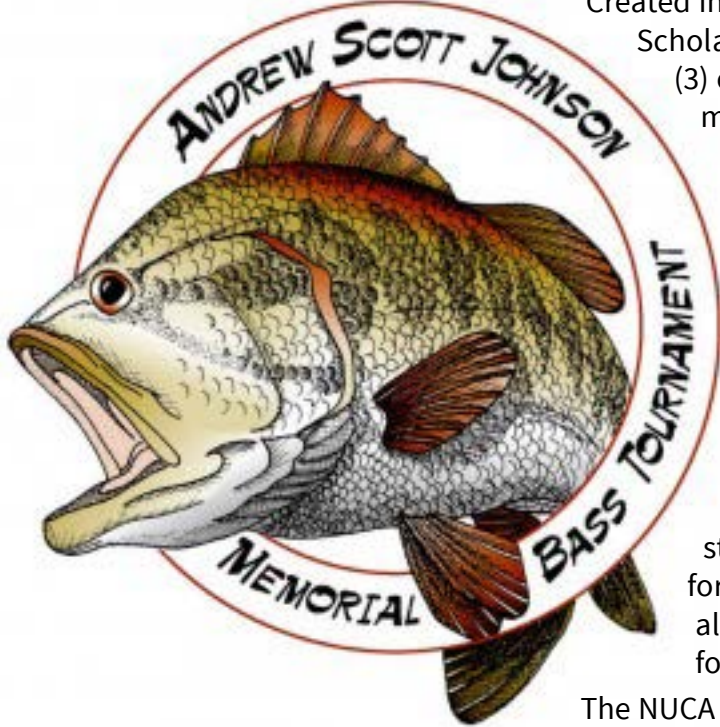
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# 2015 NUCA FL/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Bass Fishing Tournament



Created in 2000, the NUCA FL/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation was formed as a non-profit 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and was established in memory of the son of Scott Johnson (Johnson-Davis), a two-time past president of UUCF. Tragically, Scott and Robin Johnson's nineteen year-old son Andrew "Andy" Scott Johnson was killed in an automobile accident on December 28, 1999. At the time, Andy was a sophomore studying civil engineering at Vanderbilt University with the hope of entering the family business.

Since its inception, the NUCA FL/Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation has awarded \$270,500 in scholarships to college bound students of association members while simultaneously forever memorializing a bright young man. This annual bass tournament is the sole revenue source for the foundation.

The NUCA FL/ASJMSF Fishing Tournament Committee has been diligently working to make the 2015 tournament the best one yet.

The tournament will return to Big Toho Marina in Kissimmee, Florida, February 19-21, 2015, and the committee has made some exciting changes for this year's event. In 2015 there will be separate awards for guided and self-guided teams, new lodging accommodations, and off-site dinner arrangements, including Cheers Sports Bar on Friday evening.

**Registration forms for anglers and sponsors can be found on pages 7 and 10.**

Please contact Sydney Phillips at [sphillips@wilsonmgmt.com](mailto:sphillips@wilsonmgmt.com) or (850) 514-5183 if you have any questions.



NUCA of Florida/ Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation  
15<sup>th</sup> Annual Bass Fishing Tournament  
**February 19-21, 2015**  
**Big Toho Marina – Kissimmee, Florida**  
Registration Form

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration fee: \$85 per angler

- Anglers will receive a t-shirt, hat, and raffle ticket.

**Team Members (each team can have up to three members):**

**1. Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shirts (circle one):** Small, Medium, Large,  
X-Large, XX-Large

**Sleeve Length (circle one):** Short Sleeve or Long Sleeve

**Hat (circle one):** Standard or Camo

**3. Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shirt Size (circle one):** Small, Medium, Large,  
X-Large, XX-Large

**Sleeve Length (circle one):** Short Sleeve or Long Sleeve

**Hat (circle one):** Standard or Camo

**Total Angler Fee: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shirt Size (circle one):** Small, Medium, Large,  
X-Large, XX-Large

**Sleeve Length (circle one):** Short Sleeve or Long Sleeve

**Hat (circle one):** Standard or Camo

A Captain's Meeting will be held @ 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 19, 2015. One individual from each team must be present. The rules will be discussed at this meeting and there will be a Calcutta for self-guided and guided teams. The self-guided teams will have a minimum Calcutta of \$200 per team.

**Guide Boat:**

- ☐ 2-person guide boat: \$750  
☐ 3-person guide boat: \$825  
☐ We will use our own boat.

**Total Guide Boat Fee: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Big Fish Pot:**

- ☐ Big Fish Pot Registrations at \$10.00 each

**Total Big Fish Pot Fee: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Shiners:**

Friday, February 20, 2015

- ☐ dozen **medium** at \$17.00/dozen  
☐ dozen **large** at \$24.00/dozen

Saturday, February 21, 2015

- ☐ dozen **medium** at \$17.00/dozen  
☐ dozen **large** at \$24.00/dozen

**Total Shiners Fee: \$** \_\_\_\_\_



NUCA of Florida/ Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation  
15<sup>th</sup> Annual Bass Fishing Tournament  
**February 19-21, 2015**  
**Big Toho Marina – Kissimmee, Florida**  
Registration Form

Boxed lunches will be arranged through Big Toho Marina at the cost of \$12.00 per lunch. Please complete the form below to pre-order your boxed lunch.

**Lunch Order**

Name	Friday Sandwich (Roast Beef, Turkey, Ham)	Toppings (Lettuce, Tomato, Onion)	Cheese (American, Swiss)	Chips (Regular, Fritos, Cheetos)	Saturday Sandwich (Roast Beef, Turkey, Ham)	Toppings (Lettuce, Tomato, Onion)	Cheese (American, Swiss)	Chips (Regular, Fritos, Cheetos)

Total Lunch Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Method:**

☐ Check, mail to:

NUCA of Florida/ASJMSF  
113 East College Avenue, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

☐ Credit Card

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name on Card

\_\_\_\_\_  
Card Number/ Type

\_\_\_\_\_  
Expiration Date/ Security Code





NUCA of Florida/ Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation  
15<sup>th</sup> Annual Bass Fishing Tournament  
**February 19-21, 2015**  
**Big Toho Marina – Kissimmee, Florida**  
Registration Form

### Hotel Reservations

Each room at the Satisfaction Orlando Resort is \$65 per night. All rooms are studios with large windows, ceramic floors and a refrigerator. Please complete this form with the required information for a hotel reservation to be made for you.

<hr/>		<hr/>	
Name		Company	
<hr/>			
Address			
<hr/>		<hr/>	
City/State/Zip		Credit Card Number/ Expiration/ Type	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Arrival Date		Single-Occupancy or Double-Occupancy (Circle One)	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Departure Date			
<hr/>			

<hr/>		<hr/>	
Name		Company	
<hr/>			
Address			
<hr/>		<hr/>	
City/State/Zip		Credit Card Number/ Expiration/ Type	
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Arrival Date		Single-Occupancy or Double-Occupancy (Circle One)	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Departure Date			
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<hr/>		<hr/>	
Name		Company	
<hr/>			
Address			
<hr/>		<hr/>	
City/State/Zip		Credit Card Number/ Expiration/ Type	
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Arrival Date		Single-Occupancy or Double-Occupancy (Circle One)	
<hr/>		<hr/>	
Departure Date			
<hr/>			



**NUCA of Florida/ Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Scholarship Foundation**  
**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Bass Fishing Tournament**  
February 19-21, 2015  
Big Toho Marina- Kissimmee, Florida  
Sponsor Registration Form

The NUCA of Florida/ Andrew Scott Johnson Memorial Foundation's Bass Fishing Tournament was organized to help raise funds for the scholarship foundation. Sponsorships are very important to the tournament's success. Please consider one of the following sponsorships.

☐ **Platinum: \$2,500**

Your company logo will be on the trophies and tournament t-shirts. You will also receive an embroidered jacket, a t-shirt and hat, and three complimentary angler registrations.

☐ **Trophy Sponsor: \$1,500**

Your company logo will be on the trophies and tournament t-shirts. You will also receive an embroidered jacket, a t-shirt and hat, and two complimentary angler registrations.

☐ **Weigh-in Sponsor: \$1,000**

Your company logo will be on the tournament t-shirts. You will also receive an embroidered jacket, a t-shirt and hat, and two complimentary angler registrations.

☐ **Captain's Meeting Sponsor: \$1,000**

Your company logo will be on the tournament t-shirts and a sign at the Captain's Meeting. You will receive a t-shirt and hat.

☐ **Angler Dinner Sponsor: \$1,000**

Your company logo will be on the tournament t-shirts and a sign at the Angler Dinner. You will receive a t-shirt and hat.

☐ **Major Sponsor: \$500**

The company banner will be on display at the marina on Friday and Saturday. Your company logo will be on the tournament t-shirts. You will receive a t-shirt and hat.

☐ **General Sponsor: \$200**

The company name will be on a banner with other General Sponsors at the marina on Friday and Saturday. Your company logo will be on the tournament t-shirts. You will receive a t-shirt and hat.

**Shirt Size:** Small, Medium, Large, X-Large, XX-Large; **Sleeve Length:** Short or Long; **Hat:** Standard or Camo

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Payment Method:**

☐ **Check, mail to:**

NUCA of Florida/ASJMSF  
113 East College Avenue, Suite 200  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

☐ **Credit Card**

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number/Type \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date/CVC Code \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Sydney Phillips at [sphillips@wilsonmgmt.com](mailto:sphillips@wilsonmgmt.com) or (850)514-5183 with any questions.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING

# GROUP TICKET OFFER



## THE TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING INVITE YOU TO Contractor Night



### Chase Club Includes:

beer \* wine \* liquor \* soft drinks  
Cigar bar \* appetizers \* deli sandwiches \* meatballs  
nachos station \* spring rolls \* wings



Florida Gulf Coast  
Chapter



Thursday  
February 12<sup>th</sup> | Chase Club - \$135  
7:30 PM

Please RSVP by February 2<sup>nd</sup>. This event will sell out!  
Contact Theresa Mannix at 727.600.7158  
or [tmannix@suca.org](mailto:tmannix@suca.org) with any questions.  
ALL RESERVATIONS ARE NONREFUNDABLE



BE THE **THUNDER**





**NUCA of Florida  
has a new  
phone number!**

**(850) 514-5183**

The old number will be disconnected on  
**January 16, 2015**

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Ocala ..... 352-351-8144  
Oakland Park..... 954-772-7343  
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Pensacola..... 850-478-6372  
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## NUCA of Florida Calendar of Events

January 23	<b>Board Meeting</b> Ring Power Corp. Orlando, FL
February 19-21	<b>NUCA of Florida/ASJMSF Fishing Tournament</b> Kissimmee, FL
March 23	<b>Board Meeting</b> Hyatt Regency Pier 66, Fort Lauderdale, FL
March 24-26	<b>NUCA National Annual Convention</b> Hyatt Regency Pier 66, Fort Lauderdale, FL
April 7	<b>Legislative Days Welome Reception</b> Tallahassee, FL
April 8	<b>Legislative Days</b> Tallahassee, FL
July 30 - August 1	<b>NUCA of Florida Annual Conference</b> Vinoy Renaissance - St Petersburg, FL

## NUCA of North Florida Calendar of Events

January 13	<b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>
January 22	<b>Board of Directors</b> 4:30 pm
	<b>Installation of Officers</b> 6 pm, River City Brewing
February 10	<b>Executive Committee Meeting</b>
April 6	<b>NUCANF Golf Tournament</b> St. Johns Golf & Country Club

## SUCA Calendar of Events

January 16	<b>Roundtable</b> The Columbia
February 12	Tampa Bay Lightning Contractor Night

## UCA of South Florida Calendar of Events

January 15	<b>Construction Night at the Panthers</b> 7:30 pm
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## Kelly Tractor Co. for the highest quality parts and service



Kelly Tractor Co. has been serving the construction and agriculture equipment needs of Southwest Florida since 1967 when its first service operation was opened in Fort Myers. Thanks to its loyal customers, the Fort Myers location has grown to become one of the region's leading suppliers of equipment sales, service and parts.

The Fort Myers Kelly Tractor team has the experience to meet the most exacting customer requirements.

As the exclusive Caterpillar dealer for south Florida, Kelly offers the complete line of Cat equipment. Keith Krinsky and Darryl Walters are ready to help you select the best Cat machine for your next job and discuss with you the best options offered whether you are buying, leasing or renting a Cat machine.

The Cat Rental store, headed by Jim Keegan, Sales Manager and Todd Wasson, sales representative, has a complete line of compact construction equipment from Caterpillar as well as a complete line of allied products to fit the job requirements. Call on their experience for help finding the best new and pre-owned compact construction equipment to fit the job requirements.



The highly qualified Kelly Tractor service team is one of the reasons for growth. Chris Duarte oversees more than 20 field and shop technicians. Whether in the field or working in the 16 service bays, every technician responsible for diagnosing and repairing machines has specialized factory training and a dedication to keeping customers' equipment running smoothly and in ready-to-work condition.

Don Ollie Jr, Kelly's product support representative, is ready to provide full equipment support including equipment management solutions to better manage your equipment and lower your operating costs.

Have you visited Kelly Tractor's parts department lately?

Sandy Zeeman heads the parts operation managing an inventory of more than 12,000 parts ready for pickup or quick delivery. Parts in stock include Caterpillar, AGCO, Link-Belt, MCFA, Land Pride, Nissan, Wacker, Genie Lift, Astec/KPI, Sullair, Toro Dingo, plus many more. The Fort Myers store has access to the best parts supply system for those hard to find parts so essential to keeping machines running.

Whatever the project, Kelly Tractor has the right rental equipment. And because the company rents newer equipment that is fully serviced by its own expert technicians, it is always ready to work. Monthly rentals or long term leases at competitive rates together with on-site delivery make Kelly Tractor rentals the first choice for its customers.

Kelly Tractor has an 85-year reputation for providing the highest quality customer services. The company has been a proud member of NUCA since 1990.

**Kelly Tractor Co.**

9651 Kelly Tractor Drive

Fort Myers, FL 33905

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ORLANDO, FL | FEB 16-20, 2015



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- Sponsor signage at conference and included in conference brochure as a "Nickel" Sponsor

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# Lots of cooks in Amendment 1 conservation kitchen

Tallahassee – Florida environmentalists want lawmakers to steer \$80 million a year into protecting Florida's springs and \$150 million into buying new environmentally threatened landscapes.

But dividing \$757.7 million next year between competing priorities -- such as protecting ecosystems and retiring leaky septic tanks polluting springs in Central Florida – could be a months-long political fight.

The green groups including Audubon of Florida, Florida Wildlife Federation and others made their pitch to a Senate panel Wednesday that got updated – and higher – tallies for how much the amendment will require to be spent on conservation under the Amendment 1 mandate voters overwhelmingly passed last November.

The Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee took up those questions without signaling how policymakers may prefer to divide the massive amount of dollars in play. Thanks to a recovering economy and more real estate transaction tax revenues, Senate staff said Wednesday the amendment would now devote \$22.6 billion to water and conservation spending over the next two decades.

“We’re going to have a lot of room at the table,” said Chairman **Charlie Dean**, R-Inverness.

At the same time, legislature leaders from Metro Orlando have already signaled they plan to pursue a comprehensive water-policy overhaul as part of implementing Amendment 1. That could require substantial new regulations over wastewater-treatment plants, farmers, septic tanks and development projects.

“We’re not here just to acquire land,” said Senate Rules Chairman **David Simmons**, R-Altamonte Springs. “The goal of course is at the end of the day to preserve our pristine environment here.”

Simmons was one of a cadre of Republicans last year that pushed a plan to do just that.

The Senate plan which died in the House would have required local governments, the Department of Environmental Protection, and water management districts identify the worst leaking septic tanks and require their replacement – with the state footing the entire cost. Wastewater treatment plants would have to dramatically cut the amount of nitrogen in treated waters by 2019.

Agricultural operations would have been required to use “best management practices” instead of just being urged to use them. And water management districts would not be allowed to approve new permits from drawing water from springs, rivers and the aquifer if they have any negative impact on flows.

This year, Speaker **Steve Crisafulli**, R-Merritt Island, has pledged his chamber will give a water policy overhaul more attention.

But lawmakers also have to decide what kinds of projects would

quality under the broad language of the amendment – including the hometown water projects legislators try to load into the budget every year. Crisafulli has also said he wants the money to pay for wastewater and sewer projects.

“We have to be careful that it’s directly related to conservation efforts and just not have every project on the list make in,” said Sen. **Darren Soto**, D-Orlando.

The amendment requires policymakers to dedicate 33 percent of the net revenues from the state's documentary stamp tax on real estate to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. The money could be spent on buying, restoring, improving and managing conservation lands. That is expected to amount to more than \$700 million the first year it is in effect, climbing higher than \$1.5 billion annually within two decades.

This year, about \$470 million is going into the fund. Next year, \$757.7 million will be required to go into it.

Currently, those tax dollars are split under a formula that steers more than \$2 billion into a grab-bag of programs for land conservation, parks, hunting grounds, water-management, transportation, invasive plant control, and affordable housing projects. Amendment 1 forces lawmakers in future years to steer more of those dollars toward a wide gamut of conservation purposes instead of plugging other budget holes.

But state economists required to review the amendment’s impact have noted the amendment “may result in reductions to existing programs,” depending on how lawmakers decide to shift funds.

Once spending is tallied up, the amendment might not make a major difference immediately in how Florida prioritizes its environmental spending.

Last year, lawmakers steered at least \$637 million into water projects, springs restoration and other environmental cleanup that could have fallen under that amendment directives, including money for Everglades and Indian River Lagoon cleanup, land management, springs protection, beach and inlet protection, lake restoration and petroleum tank clean-ups.

The environmental groups that backed the amendment proposed Wednesday that lawmakers devote \$150 million annually to Everglades and estuary restoration, another \$150 million to Florida Forever – half of what Florida used to spend on the land-buying program in its heyday in the mid-2000s. Under their plan, some \$30 million of which would go to buy lands needed to protect springs like Wekiva, and another \$50 million would go for other springs clean-up efforts.

“We’re not asking for the moon,” said Audubon of Florida Executive Director **Eric Draper**, whose group was part of the coalition that drafted the amendment and poured nearly \$4 million into getting it on the ballot and selling it to voters.

They have argued lawmakers in the past have shortchanged environmental programs when the economy worsened. The amendment would tie conservation spending to real estate growth, so when the markets are most active – and then need to preserve green space is greater – conservation spending would also go up.

Central Florida Republicans quietly backed the amendment with the expectation that it will lead to more spending to protect endangered springs.





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# The Debate over Amendment 1

By R. Bruce Kershner

NUCA of Florida Director of Government Affairs

With the holidays behind us, most of us will be struggling to get back to a regular work schedule. This will also be the case for Florida's lawmakers as they head back to Tallahassee to begin the interim committee meeting schedule that will lead up to the beginning of the 2015 Regular Session on Tuesday, March 3, 2015. Although legislative sessions only last for 60 days, the five weeks of Interim Committee Meetings leading up to the Regular Session will set the tone for the 2015 session.

State policy makers will review, amend and pass on to Governor Rick Scott some portion of an estimated 2,000 plus bills that will impact the lives of the nineteen and a half (19.5) million Floridians.

One issue that I will be following closely this session is the Florida Water and Land Conservation Initiative. If you voted this past November, you more than likely voted yes on Amendment 1. I say that because nearly 75% of the voters approved the measure. Amendment 1 directs more than \$600 million to that purpose next year, growing to more than twice as much annually by the time the measure expires in 2034. Funding for the initiative will come from one third of the "document stamp" taxes collected on real estate sales. That money will be put into a special account to buy and improve land and waterways for conservation, water protection and improved public access to conservation areas.

Why is this issue important to NUCA of Florida? It has been suggested by House Speaker Steve Crisafulli that some of the money from this initiative should go towards our crumbling infrastructure. The Speaker is eyeing to make a broader menu of projects eligible for the amendment's more than \$600 million in first-year cash. As you can imagine, the environmentalists are not keen on dedicating money to repair leaky pipes. Environmentalists are wary of the early reaction by legislative leaders to the water and land conservation amendment. They see the money going towards such conservation programs as Everglade's restoration, Florida Forever land purchases and freshwater springs protection.

House Speaker Steve Crisafulli said that city water and sewer projects - basic repair, maintenance and expansion work that lawmakers spent \$88.5 million on this year - could be among those aided by the Water and Land Legacy campaign dollars. He believes it fits the purview of the intent of the amendment.

On the other side of the rotunda, Senate President Andy Gardiner supports creating a 5-year plan for the long-term water and land conservation projects, similar to one that the state uses to fund transportation projects. Both leaders agree that water conservation and protection will be a priority during the next two legislative sessions.

Expect to see legislation this session which will rewrite many of the state's existing environmental laws to respond to the amendment and the painful tradeoffs which lie ahead. The likely message is that the Legislature will attempt to pass laws to reclaim as much fiscal discretion possible and divert other funding sources from use for the protection of water, land and wildlife in Florida.

Keep in mind, the environmentalists and their attor-

neys drafted the ballot measure. However, it is up to the Florida Legislature to interpret the intent. That reality worries some in Florida's conservation community.

The debate on this much anticipated measure will kick off early as the Senate Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee is scheduled to hear a staff presentation on the Florida Water and Land Conservation and discuss the implementation of the recently passed Amendment #1 during the first week of Interim Committee Meetings.

In other news around the Capitol, Governor Rick Scott appointed Jim Boxold as the new Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) secretary, replacing Ananth Prasad, who announced December 2 he was stepping down. Mr. Boxold has served as FDOT chief of staff since July 2013. In addition to Mr. Boxold's appointment, Governor Rick Scott also announced the reappointment of Ken Lawson as Secretary of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR). In doing so, the Governor praised Mr. Lawson in his efforts to streamline the permitting process and reduce burdensome regulations at DBPR. Governor Scott also announced the appointment of Jonathan P. Steverson as Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Mr. Steverson recently served as Executive Director of the Northwest Florida Water Management District. He replaced Herschel T. Vinyard.

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Citizen's Personal Lines and Commercial Lines Accounts are mostly non-coastal properties and the Coastal Account are coastal properties. The take-out periods are March 24, 2015 for personal residential impacting both the PLA/CA policies and March 17, 2015 for commercial residential impacting both the CLA/CA policies. This is part of the state's ongoing effort to reduce the number of policies in the state-created Citizens and transfer them to the private insurance market.

Today's announcement brings the total number of policies approved for take-outs in 2015 to 409,008. In 2014, the total number of policies approved for take-outs was 1,109,644 and the number of policies removed from Citizens as of December 19 is 416,623. By statute, policyholders may choose to remain covered by Citizens during take-out offers; however, they may be at risk of higher assessments.

For more information, please visit the Office's "Take-Out Companies" webpage at: <http://www.flor.com/Sections/PandC/Takeout-Companies.aspx>.

## About the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation

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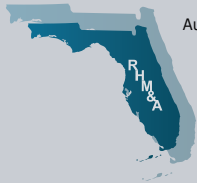
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# Capitol Chatter

by Kari Hebrank, Wilson & Associates

To ring in the New Year, legislators traipsed to Tallahassee the week of January 5th to begin legislative committee meetings. Many of the meetings were basically opportunities for committee chairs and members to introduce themselves to each other with the newly-elected legislators trying to learn their way around the Capitol. Legislators were presented with the latest positive economic forecast in the various Appropriations committees.

Of interest to NUCA FL members, the Senate Environmental Preservation Committee heard presentations on the recently-approved Amendment 1 that allocates 33% of documentary stamp dollars to water and land conservation initiatives. Senators expressed their ideas for the funding to cover everything from land management to wastewater treatment to water and sewer hook-ups to beach management and Springs cleanup. Take a look at Bruce Kershner's Legislative Update for more information.

**Get out the Vote!** On January 27, three key elections take place in the Duval, St. Johns and Flagler counties areas. These Special Elections are the result of Senator John Thrasher resigning his senate seat on November 10th to become the President of Florida State University. Two candidates come with a construction background. Mike Davis-R, HD 17 is a residential builder/developer running in "Doc" Renaut's House seat while Renaut is running for Thrasher's open senate seat. NUCA FL PAC supported Mike Davis' campaign. Likewise, Travis Hutson-R, a builder/developer is also running for Thrasher's senate spot. Hutson resigned his House seat, HD 24 to run for Senate District 6. Lastly, business-friendly candidate Paul Renner-R, HD 24, hopes to fill Hutson's vacant seat, although he faces four challengers. Renner lost by two votes to Jay Fant back in an August Primary Election for HD 15.



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