



1196 S Lecanto Hwy
Lecanto, Florida 34461

352.746.9028
352.746.9029 Fax

www.citrusbuilders.com

Citrus County Builders Association

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CONTACT:

Donna Bidlack

352/746-9028

donnab@citrusbuilders.com

CITRUS COUNTY – Future Builders of America Club

Citrus County high schools' Future Builders of America (FBA) chapters received the royal treatment on March 2nd as they were given a very "up front and personal" tour of the Cross Florida Barge Canal Bridge project. The trip was graciously hosted by the project's contractor, Cone & Graham; the project's engineers, PBS&J and Genesis; and the Department of Transportation (D.O.T.). Students were given educational presentations at various checkpoints along the span of the first bridge, viewed a power point presentation on the history of the old bridge as well as interesting facts and pictures of the project as it progressed. They took notes throughout the program and participated in a Q&A session where prizes were awarded to students with correct answers to key questions. They were then treated to a great pizza luncheon. The students were allowed to sign an American flag that had been placed at the first "high point" of construction. The flag and photos of the outing were placed inside a "time capsule" with other important mementos from the bridges construction. The time capsule will be placed inside the new bridge whose lifespan is expected to be 75 to 100 years. The program culminated in student friendly favors distributed to students as they began the return trip back to school - the bus ride that was the first non-construction vehicle to cross this new bridge. What a day!

Students from Lecanto, Citrus and Crystal River high school FBA Chapters were involved and a great time was had by all. The program was especially impressive given the fact that it's not often a bridge of that magnitude is built within Citrus County borders. This is the second year our students have been treated to a great presentation by this group of community friendly organizations who really "rolled out the red carpet". They were wonderful hosts and should be commended for their efforts to enrich our students!

For more information on the Future Builders of America Club and how to participate, sponsor, or host a field trip, please contact the Citrus County Builders Association at (352) 746-9028

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About CCBA: The Citrus County Builders Association is a Lecanto, Florida-based trade association representing members involved in Citrus County's home building, remodeling and commercial construction industry. CCBA was founded in 1977 as the Citrus County affiliate of the Florida Home Builders Association and the National Association of Home Builders. Visit us on the web at www.citrusbuilders.com