

Builders Connection

Citrus County Builders Association

FUTURE BUILDERS OF AMERICA

Learn, Lead and Succeed in a Home Building Career

Did you know there are more than 150 different types of jobs in Florida's construction industry? Many are high wage earning jobs that don't require a college degree.

Sharpen your skills today by joining a Future Builders of America chapter at your school. FBA will introduce you to the rewards of Florida's construction industry, teach you important building techniques and offer outstanding leadership training and networking opportunities with some of Florida's most successful construction pros.

Get in on the action by logging onto FutureBuildersofAmerica.org.

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"Get the skills to pay the bills" with Future Builders of America

FBA (Future Builders of America) helps bridge the gap from school to work.

The FBA is a coed club that features friendly competition against other high schools in the county and the state, an opportunity to attend summer camp, regular meetings each month, a chance to earn a scholarship, and consideration for summertime or after graduation employment in the high paying construction industry.

Students can now join an FBA chapter at Citrus, Crystal River or Lecanto High Schools.

The FBA was made possible with the help of the CCBA Education & Training Committee.

The CCBA Education & Training Committee has also helped to fund scholarships for the Academy of Building Careers through the Building Careers Partnership with WTI.

The Builders Association would like

to thank CCBA members, including **Nicholson Engineering Associates** for their apprentice sponsorship of the Education Committee.

Their sponsorship dollars are earmarked for scholarship money in the Academy of Building Careers.

For sponsorship or contact information on any of the mentioned programs, please contact the Citrus County Builders Association at 746-9028.

Home parade slated

The Annual Citrus County Spring Parade of Homes will be held from Feb. 23 through March 11. Check out our 18 builders and the 25 beautiful models they have to offer.

We thank the following fine businesses for sponsoring our 2007 Spring Parade:

- **Platinum Sponsor**
SunTrust Mortgage
- **Gold Sponsor**
Florida Home Builders Insurance
- Silver Sponsor
- **Progress Energy**
Regions Mortgage
White Aluminum
- **Bronze Sponsor**
Countrywide Home Loans
Nicholson Engineering

Sponsorships for this event are still available. For more information on the Spring Parade of Homes, call Fran Grady at (352) 746-9028 ext. 6301.

CCBA membership furthers your industry

"Every man owes a part of his time and money to business or industry in which he is engaged. No man has the moral right to withhold support from an organization that is striving to improve conditions within his sphere"

-Theodore Roosevelt

Are you a member of the CCBA? When asked this question, often the answer is "Why should I be?" when in fact, the question is... Why shouldn't you be? Membership with your local Home Builders Association is support of your industry through and through.

Standing alone, a small business is "a voice in the dark," but by joining other members of the team, what can be accomplished is nothing short of amazing.

When you join your local association, you automatically become a full member at the state and national level. That's three memberships for the price of one.

Your National (NAHB), State (FHBA) & Local (CCBA) Home Builders Associations offer plenty of resources to help each member make the most of their investment and connect with the benefits they value most.

For over 60 years NAHB has been the nation's leading source for housing industry information. HBA members use a variety of ways to stay connected to industry information, including publications, e-newsletters, exclusive Web site content, bulletins, special reports, e-mail alerts,

and financial data, and many other means. Up-to-date information, when you want it, how you want it!

Membership in your local Home Builders Association is more than just networking or having a special seal on your business door or stationary, it's about contacts.

You may not feel that you need more business, but every contact a businessperson makes is a potential asset to them and their business.

Memberships in your local Home Builders Association is more than just networking ...

That doesn't just mean more business;

it means better information flow, more exposure to more innovative and/or more cost effective materials and services, as well as more opportunities to put your advertising dollars to their most effective use through local HBA sponsorships and publications.

Put quite simply, it means that your business is better because you made an investment in your industry!

So what are you waiting for? If you already know that you've waited too long to support your industry, then go to www.citrusbuilders.com, and click on the "how to join" link for a printable membership application.

If you're still not convinced that you need to make this investment, then call the CCBA Membership Coordinator, Donna Bidlack at 746-9028, ext. 6303, and she will be happy to answer any questions you may have.

The Citrus County Builders Association: *Shouldn't you be a member?*

Trade associations serve the public

Not just industry can reap benefits

The next time you hear of a trade association operating for the interest of the industry, remember there's another side to the story: They also serve the interests of a public who holds them accountable.

Behind every trade is a good association. Serving as the voice of the industry, trade associations are the umbrellas under which firms large and small unite for a common cause: Providing outstanding service to the general public.

While trade associations are derided for supporting solely the interests of their respective

industries, they generally aren't acknowledged for the changes they implement that impact our well-being. Our everyday lives are positively affected by your association's work in setting standards, offering certification programs, providing educational support, informing members of recent rules and regulations that must be abided by, advising government officials on public policy issues, and more.

Setting standards is a common practice for trade associations. Through research and quality assurance tests, they ensure that the industry follows best-practice approaches, raising the bar for everyone to conduct business in good faith.

Without certification programs, the general public

wouldn't have nearly as much confidence in corporate expertise or professionalism. While no one is perfect, trade associations work diligently to keep member companies updated on areas where managers and employees need pertinent, life-saving information.

In addition to certification, your association provides companies with timely, continual educational programs so that members are aware of new modes of operation.

As policymakers implement new rules and regulations, trade associations are the conduits for disseminating this information so their industries are in accordance with the law.

With their fingers on the industry pulse, your association can immediately

alert companies to these regulations.

Trade associations, providing testimony, expert advice, thorough research, and educated answers to tough questions from government agencies, save the public a tremendous amount in tax dollars.

As associations constantly scan the general mood of the industry, keep a close eye on best practices, and have a strong idea of policies that serve the business and public interests, government leaders consistently turn to them for assistance.

The work of trade associations goes unnoticed everyday as we take for granted who's partially responsible for the public's health, safety and well-being.

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Todd Workman of Suncoast Plumbing & Electric
Larry Triana of Triana Coast to Coast Pools
Mike Moberley of Tropical Window, Inc.

2007 CCBA EVENTS

- 9 a.m. Jan. 25 — BOCC Impact Fee Final Hearing at the Inverness Courthouse.
- Feb. 7 through 10 — International Builders Show in Orlando.
- Feb. 23 through March 11 — Spring Parade of Homes.
- April 21 and 22 — Family Fishing Tournament at Plantation Inn and Golf Resort.
- October — Annual Jim Blackshear Memorial Golf Outing at Black Diamond Country Club.
- November — Annual Home & Outdoor Show at the National Guard Armory in Crystal River.

Event dates, times, and locations subject to change. Please call the CCBA at 746-9028 to confirm or obtain further details.

