

Builders Connection

Citrus County Builders Association

Parade of Homes winners

Category A

- Best Exterior
Rutland Construction, The Magnolia
- Best Floor Plan
Mercedes Homes, The Samantha Palm IV
- Best Master Bedroom
Bedroom Holiday Builders, The Largo

- Best Master Bath
Mercedes Homes, The Samantha Palm IV
- Best Kitchen
Mercedes Homes, The Samantha Palm IV
- Best Construction
Rutland Construction, The Magnolia

Category B

- Best Exterior
Rusaw Homes, The Oakdale Anniversary
- Best Floor Plan
Dream Custom Homes of Citrus, The Don Mercado
- Best Master Bedroom
Dream Custom Homes of Citrus, The Don Mercado

- Best Master Bath
Dream Custom Homes of Citrus, The Don Mercado
- Best Kitchen
Mercedes Homes, The Jacqueline with Study
- Best Construction
Rusaw Homes, The Oakdale Anniversary

- BEST OVERALL**
Dream Custom Homes of Citrus, The Don Mercado

Category C

- Best Exterior
Paulsen General Contracting, The Sumerville
- Best Floor Plan
SanderSon Bay Fine Homes, The Biscayne
- Best Master Bedroom
Lexington Homes, The Barcelona
- Best Master Bath
Sweetwater Homes of Citrus, The Oakwood
- Best Kitchen
Paulsen General Contracting, The Sumerville
- Best Construction
Sweetwater Homes of Citrus, The Grand West wind

- BEST OVERALL**
Paulsen General Contracting, The Sumerville

Category D

- Best Exterior
Royal Coachman Homes, The Royal Cambridge
- Best Floor Plan
Rusaw Homes, The Sandalwood Anniversary
- Best Master Bedroom
Bedroom Rusaw Homes, The Sandalwood Anniversary
- Best Master Bath
Bath Rusaw Homes, The Sandalwood Anniversary
- Best Kitchen
Armstrong Homes, The Nottingham A'
- Best Construction
Rusaw Homes, The Sandalwood Anniversary

- BEST OVERALL**
Rusaw Homes, The Sandalwood Anniversary

Category E

- Best Exterior
Sterling Construction, The Eagle
- Best Floor Plan
Sterling Construction, The Eagle
- Best Master Bedroom
Sterling Construction, The Eagle

- Best Master Bath
Sterling Construction, The Eagle
- Best Kitchen
Sterling Construction, The Eagle
- Best Construction
Sterling Construction, The Eagle

- BEST OVERALL**
Sterling Construction, The Eagle

- Exceptional Feature
Dream Custom Homes of Citrus, Best Master Bath
- Exceptional Feature
Flynn Brothers, Best Patio and Pond
- Community Exceptional Feature Award
- Exceptional Feature
Terra Vista of Citrus Hills, Best Amenities
- Exceptional Feature
Villages of Wyld Palms, Best Waterfront Community
- Exceptional Feature
Heritage, Best Preservation of Natural Resources.



Edward Russell Johnston poses with his family for a portrait. Special to the Chronicle

CCBA honors member

Edward Russell Johnston is an award-winning, state certified Class "A" General Contractor and has been a premier master builder on the Nature Coast since 1976. He has built hundreds of beautiful custom homes throughout Citrus and all the neighboring counties. Johnston has constructed numerous commercial buildings including banks, professional offices, medical offices for doctors and dentists, shopping centers, gas stations and convenience stores, movie theaters, industrial buildings and steel buildings. He also specializes in luxury home and commercial remodeling.

Johnston is a past president of the CCBA and a current director of the CCBA, and member of the governmental affairs committee, a past president and current director of the Rotary Club of Crystal River — Kings Bay, a past president (two times) of the Citrus County Chapter of the Florida Conservation Association (now CCA), and has served the community in many other ways over the past thirty-one years.

Johnston also holds a Florida Real Estate Brokers license, Federal Aviation Private Pilot's license and a United States Coast Guard Master Captain's license.

He and his wife Janet have three children. Oldest daughter Anne is a chemical engineer at the Kennedy Space Center, younger daughter Ellen is still studying, and son Aaron attends grade school in Citrus County.

You can call Edward Johnston at (352) 795-2200 or find him online at www.erj.net

FBA students build the skills



Laura Bell, Jeff Sterns, Taylor Michel, Joe Bell, Andrew Maynard, Walt Stachowicz, Kyle Workman and Pete Kelley (kneeling) pose while their shed is under construction. Special to the Chronicle

Future Builders of America construct shed as fundraiser for program

The Citrus County chapters of the Future Builders of America were the stars of the show last weekend at CCBA's annual Home and Outdoor Show. FBA students, their Teacher Advisors and several CCBA member volunteers constructed the 10-foot by 16-foot fully insulated, shingled, wood shed on site at the event which was held at the Crystal River Armory. At the conclusion of the two-day event, the highest bidder was awarded the shed which includes delivery to his prepared site. The highest bidder won the shed for \$2,500. All materials and labor were donated. All proceeds will go to the FBA program to be used for field trips, leadership camp and scholarships.

The Future Builders of America is a nonprofit workforce development and student leadership program which links students in area schools with the local building community. Guest speakers and field trips to building sites along with opportunities for summer and post-graduation employment help introduce students to rewarding opportunities in the residential construction industry. Club meetings also provide for camaraderie and an opportunity for students to improve their leadership and teamwork skills. For more information, call Linda Thompson at the Citrus County Builders Association, 746-9028.

FBA Shed Project sponsors

- AAA Roofing
- Gold Crest Homes
- Al & Sons Millwork
- Joseph McMillian Ent. Inc.
- All Exterior Aluminum
- Nichols Lumber
- Bruce Component Systems Inc.
- Sandpiper Sign
- Citrus CAD
- SBT Construction
- Engineered Structure Services
- Sherwin Williams
- Fastenal
- Southeast Foam Insulators
- Tropical Windows

Members further industry

It's important to be involved with the CCBA

Are you a member of the CCBA? When asked this question, often the answer is "Why should I be?" when in fact, the better 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, 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) and 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 more than 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, 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.

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 "Join CCBA" link for a printable membership application.

If you're still not convinced that you need to make this investment, then call the CCBA Director of Member Services at (352) 746-9028.



Ron Lieberman recently participated in training.

Ron Lieberman Graduates from FHBA BUILD class

Lieberman was honored by his BUILD classmates with the Golden Key Award ...

Citrus County Builders Association Past President Ron Lieberman of Nu-Era Homes in Inverness recently graduated from the Florida Home Builders Association's Building Industry for Individual Leadership Development (BUILD). He was among the charter class of 14 graduates who spent over 80 hours in training to become more effective

leaders in his association, industry, and community. The BUILD program was the brainchild of 2007 FHBA President John Wiseman of Sarasota, who saluted Lieberman for his achievement.

"By graduating from the BUILD program, Ron Lieberman has reaffirmed his commitment to be a leader of our industry," said Wiseman. "He'll immediately put this experience to work in chairing FHBA's Codes

and Standards Committee in 2008." Lieberman was honored by his BUILD classmates with the Golden Key Award, symbolic of the person who most effectively opens doors of opportunities in leadership. "I enjoyed the BUILD experience and would recommend it to anyone who wants to be a better leader," says Lieberman. "The

education itself is great but the best part of all is learning from and building life-long relationships with your classmates." Applications are now being taken for the BUILD Class of 2008 and can be obtained at www.fhba.com or by e-mailing FHBA's Public Affairs Director Edie Ousley at ousley@fhba.com, or calling 800-261-9447, ext. 18.