October 2026

NUCA NORTH FLORIDA, INC



HAPPY THANKSGIVING

We wish all our members and their families a very Happy and Healthy Thanksgiving

THE FLOW

Upcoming Events

Nov 3 - Clay Shoot

Nov 19 - Top Golf Benefit for Seamark Ranch

Nov 12-14 - NUCA FL Bass Tournament

Jan 21 - Installation of Officers

February 27 - Jacksonville Icemen

March 9-12 - NUCA National Convention

March 15-17 Tallahassee Legislative Days

April 12 - NUCA NF Golf Tournament

Presidents Message
Pg 3

The Law and Your Business
Pg 7

NUCA News
Pg 8-9

Safety News
Pg 10

Commercial Insurance Insights
Pg 11

New Members
Pg 12

NUCA NF Annual Clay Shoot
Pg 13

NUCA FL Bass Tournament
Pg 14

NUCA NF Top Golf Benefit for Seamrk Ranch
Pg 15

Dear NUCA Members and Friends,

NUCA recently issued a Legislative Alert encouraging members to contact Congress in support of reauthorizing federal water and transportation infrastructure programs affected by the expiration of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) supplemental funding. We encourage you to take a few minutes to make your voice heard. Follow the link below to access a prefilled message addressed to Senators Rick Scott and Ashley Moody and Representative Aaron Bean.

We are excited to welcome Brook Brooks as our new Executive Director! Although Jennifer Puff's time with us was short-lived, she made an excellent impact and will certainly be missed. Jennifer, thank you for doing such a great job keeping all of us knuckleheads on task! We appreciate everything you did and wish you the very best.

The Clay Shoot is on election day, make each one count.
The Top Golf event benefiting the Seamark Ranch is scheduled for November 19th. We still have a few spots available, so if you would like to join us for a fun event while supporting this wonderful organization, please reach out.

VOTE! Loyalty to the Nation all the time, loyalty to the Government when it deserves it. ~ Mark Twain.

Let go of pride and believe. Identify the promise made and find joy in it.

Take Action

Thank you for your continued support of NUCA, and I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Sincerely,



Alvaro A Rios
Vice President
T.G. Utility Company, Inc.
nucanf@gmail.com

2026 Officers & Board of Directors

Executive Committee

President
Al Rios, TG Utility Company Inc.

President Elect
Mike Kivlin, John Woody, Inc

Vice President I
Blake Nugent, Vallencourt Construction

Vice President II
Caleb Hurlbert, AJ Johns

Secretary/Treasurer
Marty Adams, TB Landmark

General Counsel
Tony Zebouni, Lindell & Zebouni

Past President
Paul Gilsdorf

Board of Directors

Tyler Clark, Horizon Pipe

Wesley Cook, Florida Roads Contracting

Tim Gaddis, Vallencourt Construction

Joseph Geiger, Cemex

Tommy Hyatt III, Florida Roads Contracting

Valinda Krynicki, United Rentals

Drew Lane, Adavanced Drainage Systems

Chance Leonard, ECS Florida

Rick Parker, Rinker Materials

Hunter Pruitt, Vallencourt Construction

Ryan Pugh, Ferguson Waterworks

Barry Watson, Fortiline Waterworks

Chris Wilson, Martin Marietta Materials

Jon Woodall, John Woody, Inc

2026 NUCA of North Florda Monthly Meeting Sponsors

Diamond Sponsors

Lowcountry Dewatering LLC
National Trench Safety
Sunbelt Rentals
United Rentals Trench Safety

Platinum Sponsors

Beard Equipment Company

Gold Sponsors

AJ Johns, Inc
Alta Equipment Company
Company Wrench
ECS Floroda, LLC
Ferguson Waterworks
Florida Pumping Solutions
Florida Roads Contracting
Fortiline Waterworks
John Woody, Inc
Linder Industrial Machinery
Nimnicht Chevrolet
Pipeline Constructors, Inc
Ring Power Corp
Synergy Equipment

Silver Sponsors

County Materials
Gate Fuel Service, Inc
Petticoat-Schmitt Civil Contractors

The Law and Your Business- The 2027 Florida Legislative Session
Tony Zebouni, Lindell & Zebouni, P.A.

It's a new legislative year. While elections monopolize our attention and television viewing time, it is useful to know the 2027 legislative schedule. I realize that diesel fuel may be a topic on your mind, but I have nothing to add on that subject based on the various Federal and State regulations, at this time.

The 2027 Florida Regular Legislative Session convenes on March 2, 2027, and is scheduled to adjourn on April 30, 2027.

Organization Session: November 17, 2026
Regular Session Start: March 2, 2027
Regular Session Adjournment**:** April 30, 2027

Interim Committee Weeks

Nov 30 – Dec 3
Jan 4–7 and Jan 11–14
Feb 1–4, Feb 8–11, and Feb 15–18

I am unaware of any NUCA Fl initiatives at this time. With election season upon us it is reasonable to acknowledge those elected officials that have dialogued with NUCA (State, Federal and Local).
In Congress: John Rutherford and Aaron Bean, locally Rep. Dean Black. For Governor, Mr. Donalds has been open to meeting with NUCA representatives and has shown an appreciation for Clean Water and the need for infrastructure investment.

It is important that you familiarize yourself with the issues and support the candidates that you feel have shown that they share your concerns and values. You will be provided with the dates for the visit to Tallahassee and Washington, D.C. in 2027 where you, as a NUCA member, will have the opportunity to see law making up close.

NUCA News Summary – October 2026

Industry News and Advocacy

Federal Water Funding Lapses - NUCA Urges Immediate Reauthorization
On September 30, 2026, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act's (IIJA) five-year authorization and supplemental funding expired, putting utility construction projects at risk. NUCA is urging Congress to immediately reauthorize the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds and the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act, along with highway programs including the Bridge Formula Program, Safe Streets and Roads for All, and MEGA. IIJA delivered more than $43 billion in supplemental water funding, including billions in fiscal 2026 alone for capitalization, lead service line replacement, and emerging contaminants.

Without new support, federal water funding could fall about 60 percent from fiscal 2026 to fiscal 2027. Previously awarded IIJA dollars can still move through pipelines, but states will have far less capacity for the next generation of work. EPA estimates more than $1.25 trillion in water and wastewater needs over 20 years.

Lawmakers return to Washington on Nov. 9, after the Nov. 3 midterm elections. NUCA is calling on Congress for multi-year reauthorization and appropriations that keep projects and jobs on track.

Sonderling Confirmed as New Sec. of Labor
The U.S. Senate on Sept. 30 confirmed Keith Sonderling 47-41 to serve as the U.S. Secretary of Labor. NUCA applauds Sec. Sonderling's confirmation as the department's leader. He has been serving as acting secretary since Sec. Lori Chavez-DeRemer resigned in April. He previously served as a senior USDOL adviser, EEOC commissioner, and USDOL deputy secretary. NUCA looks forward to partnering with Sec. Sonderling on jobsite safety initiatives and workforce development programs that help contractors recruit, train, and retain the people needed to deliver critical infrastructure.

Lisa Chowansky Leading NUCA Government Affairs Committee
NUCA's Government Affairs Committee welcomes NUCA of New Jersey's Lisa Chowansky as the new committee chair. Long-time chairman Tom Butler passed the baton to Lisa in mid-September, marking the end of his many years as committee leader. Lisa is president and owner of H.C. Constructors, Inc., a Whitehouse Station, N.J., heavy civil contractor specializing in sitework, underground utilities, and concrete. Her government affairs leadership includes serving as President of NUCA of New Jersey, First Vice Chair of the New Jersey State Chamber of Commerce, and as an active member of the NJ Utility and Transportation Contractors Association, ACCNJ, and the NJ Alliance for Action.

Association News

Your NUCA membership delivers business benefits that will help your bottom line. Are you or your employees taking advantage of them?

Toolbox Talks:
It's never been easier to promote safety to your employees

Toolbox Talks are for NUCA and industry members to use and distribute to their employees to assist them in promoting safety in the workplace. Toolbox Talks reinforce company safety rules, warn of dangerous conditions and describe safe workplace procedures. While these toolbox talks are not a substitute for training, they are designed to reinforce training and remind employees of the many hazards and safe working procedures on the jobsite. Each of these Toolbox Talks can be downloaded as a PDF, and many are available in both English and Spanish languages. Go to NUCA.com/toolbox-talks and browse the wealth of safety knowledge available to NUCA members.

Aaron Witt Confirmed As Convention Keynote Speaker! Summer Rate Registration Open

NUCA has big news to share with members about the upcoming NUCA 2027 National Convention! Keynote speaker Aaron Witt, founder of BuildWitt, takes our Convention stage with his powerful talk: “Field First: YOU Are the Solution.” Our industry faces a critical crossroads: massive infrastructure needs, an outgoing generation, and an incoming one still finding its footing. Leadership is nervous. Who steps up? Aaron has the answer. And after traveling across six continents, he’ll show you why it’s YOU. You'll walk away with five simple, actionable ways to develop and retain the next generation and drive real results.

You won’t want to miss Aaron's captivating presentation. Register now for NUCA's 2027 National Convention at the Hilton Sandestin Beach Gold Resort & Spa, Miramar Beach, Florida, March 9-12, 2027. And stay tuned to NUCA for more details about our purpose-built sessions, networking with NUCA National Partners, new Convention events, and more! Register today at nucadigs.com.

By Khalifa Barr, Chair, NUCA Safety Directors Forum.

Strong Habits Build Safe Crews

As we move into September, it is a good time to refocus on the basics. Busy schedules and repetitive tasks can lead to complacency. Staying focused, recognizing hazards, communicating with your crew, and following safe work practices can prevent incidents.

Start Every Task the Right Way

- Complete your pre-operation equipment inspection.
- Inspect your work area for changing hazards.
- Wear all required PPE.
- Make sure everyone understands the task.
- Verify proper traffic control, trench protection, and other safety measures are in place.

A few extra minutes spent preparing can prevent an accident.

Stay Aware Around Heavy Equipment

Construction sites are constantly changing. Never assume an operator sees you. Stay out of blind spots, maintain communication, use spotters when required, and never place yourself between moving equipment and a fixed object.

Complacency Has No Place on the Jobsite

Experience should never cause us to become too comfortable. If conditions change or something does not look right, stop, reassess the task, and speak up.

Safety Reminder A strong safety culture is built through the decisions we make every day. Look out for your coworkers, communicate, follow the plan, and never put production ahead of safety.

Safety Quote of the Month

"The basics only work when we choose to follow them every single time."

NUCA
REPRESENTING UTILITY & EXCAVATION CONTRACTORS
NORTH FLORIDA

Gallagher

Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting

Commercial Insurance Insights

Tanner Brewer, Commercial Insurance Advisor

Gallager

(904) 881-9317

The Cost of an Auto Claim Beyond the Deductible

The true cost of an accident can extend far beyond the repair bill.

When a company vehicle is involved in an accident, the deductible is often the first cost that comes to mind. But for contractors, the financial impact of an auto claim can continue long after the vehicle is repaired.

Downtime can take a vehicle or employee out of service when the business needs them most. Lost productivity can follow when employees spend time dealing with an accident, repairs, paperwork, or transportation issues instead of working. If a vehicle is unavailable, rental vehicles may be necessary to keep jobs moving, adding another expense to the claim.

Insurance costs can also be affected over time. Claims history may influence future premiums, underwriting decisions, or available coverage options. And if an employee is injured or unavailable after an accident, the business may face additional costs and disruption of finding replacement labor.

The takeaway: managing auto risk is about more than protecting the vehicle. Strong driver selection, training, vehicle maintenance, documented safety policies, and prompt accident reporting can help reduce both the frequency and the overall cost of claims.

Costs to consider after an accident

- Downtime — vehicles and employees may be unavailable.
- Lost productivity — time spent handling the accident takes employees away from the job.
- Rental vehicles — keeping operations moving can create additional expenses.
- Increased insurance costs — claims history can affect future premiums and underwriting.
- Employee replacement — an unavailable driver or employee can create staffing and scheduling challenges.

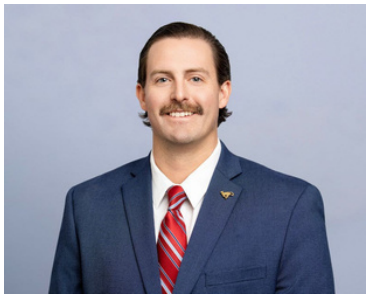
Welcome New NUCA NF Members

BROWN & BROWN
INSURANCE SERVICES



Kyle North
ARM
VP
Contact: 941-356-2618
Email:kyle.north@bbrown.com

Kyle North, ARM, is Vice President of the Tallahassee office of Brown & Brown Insurance. With over 13 years of experience, Kyle partners with middle-market and large market clients to develop proactive risk management strategies that protect their people, safeguard their businesses, and help control the total loss of risk. Specializing in Property & Causualty Insurance and Surety Bonds.



Austin Burton
CRIS, TRIP
VP- Property & Casualty
Conatct: 407-920-4227
Email:
austin.burton@bbrown.com

Austin hails from Apopka, FL, but has called Jacksonville his home for the last ten years. During his time in Jacksonville, Austin has served on community boards, is a proud supporter of local charities, and is an active contributor to the growth of Jacksonville and its surrounding businesses.

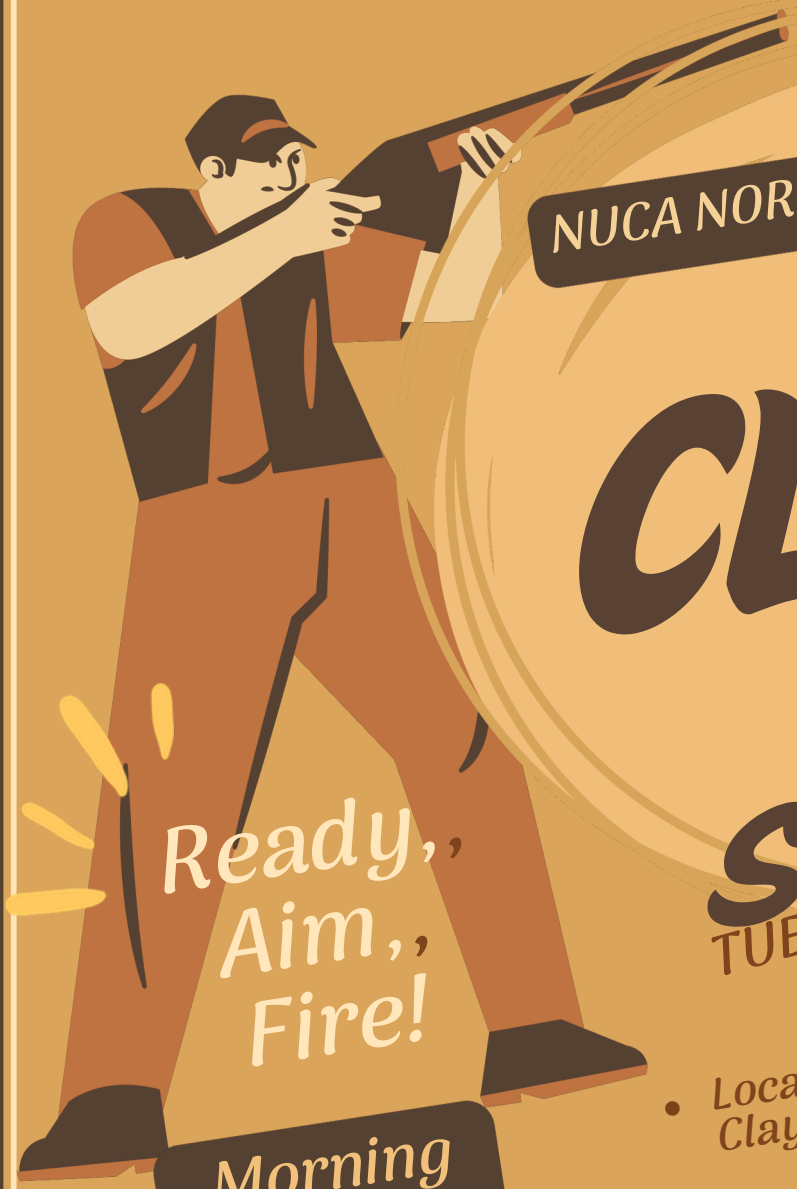
Austin has dedicated his professional career to become a specialist in the contracting and logistics insurance space.

2026 15 TH ANNUAL

NUCA NORTH FLORIDA

CLAY SHOOT

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD



Ready,, Aim,, Fire!

- Location: Jacksonville Clay Target Sports
- **12125NewBerlin Road, Jacksonville, FL**

Don't miss out on the action. Register now and lock in your spot!

Morning Shoot - Shotgun Start 9AM

Afternoon Shoot- Shotgun Start 1PM

LUNCH SERVED AT 11:30AM

AWARDS CEREMONY IMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE AFTERNOON SHOOT



26TH ANNUAL ANDREW SCOTT JOHNSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION BASS TOURNAMENT

SAVE THE DATE

HEADWATERSLAKE
16955 Fellsmere Grade Rd.,
Fellsmere, FL 32948

NOVEMBER 12 - 14, 2026

HOTEL RESERVATIONS
CaptainHiram's Resort
Call 772-388-8588 to make reservation with group code ASJMST

ANDREW SCOTT JOHNSON MEMORIAL BASS TOURNAMENT

CONTACT US

727-600-7158

theresa@nucaflorida.org

NUCA North Florida

Top Golf

BENEFIT FO SEAMARK RANCH



Thursday, November 19th

More Information to Come

Top Golf
10531 Brightman Blvd
Jacksonville, FL



Dig out of rising benefit costs.

11%* average first-year healthcare spend savings with NUCA Advantage powered by Memberfy.

One partner for benefits, HR, payroll and wellness. Our One-Point-of-CARE™ model lets you select the services that fit your needs, reducing administrative burden, saving money and boosting employee satisfaction.

While employers frequently see 10%+ annual rate increases, many of our clients' healthcare costs have remained flat on average over a 10-year period.

- **Customized healthcare & benefits:** group plans with large-employer pricing, dental, vision, life and disability
- **Full-service HR + integrated payroll:** one source of truth across HR, payroll and benefits
- **White-glove CAREAdvocates™:** expert employee support at no incremental cost through our CARE Center
- **Corporate wellness & retirement plans:** 401(k) and 403(b) plans plus wellbeing programs for your crews

Get a FREE assessment today
www.memberfy.com/nuca-advantage

"They went above and beyond to help us find a plan that worked best for us."
– Luke M., Manufacturing CEO

NUCA ADVANTAGE
Powered by MEMBERFY

844-636-2739 memberfy.com/nuca-advantage

© 2026 Memberfy. All rights reserved. *Per-employee all-in medical spend for shared savings model clients.