



## We Need Skilled Craftsmen

**C**ritical to the building industry are the individuals who perform their trade on the job. Recognizing those that exceed what is required through their extra attention to detail and love of their craft is key to perpetuating that pride and setting an example for others.

The CASF has been conducting the *Craftsmanship Awards* program for the past 49 years as a way to allow employers, owners, designers, general contractors and others to nominate craftsman for their exceptional work and to let the community and industry know of their accomplishments. Now entering its 50th year we are encouraging every member to participate.

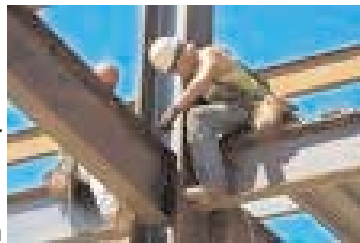
*"Let's face it, without craftsmen the job just wouldn't get done",* said Tim Anderson, Balfour Beatty Construction and this year's CASF President, *"and when the job is done and done well we like to take the time to nominate the people*

*responsible for a Craftsmanship Award. It's good for our company, for the subcontractor employer and especially for the individual who made it happen."*

Now is the time to make your nominations. All it takes is a little time to fill out the nomination form, take at least three (3) pictures of the work performed and include a brief description of the work and why it should be considered for an Award.

*"If people would take pictures of work that they feel is exceptional, while it is in progress, then we wouldn't have the reoccurring problem of the Judges going out to look at an installation only to find that it is covered up."* exclaimed Mike Fee, Co-Chair of the Craftsmanship Awards Committee.

Simply go to [www.casf.org](http://www.casf.org) and under the **About Us** tab you will find **2007 Craftsmanship Award Winners** and a downloadable **2008 Nomination Form**. Printed forms will go out to the members later this month.



## Member News

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Florida

A group of women who usually focus on constructing South Florida buildings took a "working break" recently, serving as painters for Habitat for Humanity of Broward County's "Women Building a Legacy" program.

Volunteers from construction management firm **Moss & Associates** pitched in to paint one of 10 Habitat for Humanity homes nearing completion in Pompano Beach's Collier City neighborhood.

The Florida business unit of **The Weitz Company** received a *2007 Builder of the Year* award from the Palm Beach chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). Weitz has won the award five out of the last six years in the category for large builders with gross income over \$25 million.

The Builder of the Year award recognizes builders in Palm Beach County who *"exemplified a sincere and genuine interest in encouraging and affecting outstanding craftsmanship and workmanship in the performance of work on a specific project."*



# Local Offices Serving Your Workforce Needs

Each month Construction FOCUS features a CASF member company, selected by drawing a business card from among those attending the monthly networking breakfast. The next breakfast, sponsored by Whiting-Turner Contracting Co., will be held on Thursday, February 21, 7:30 a.m. at the Embassy Suites - Boca Raton off Yomato Road.

Labor Finders delivers a flexible, productive, dependable workforce to meet changing workforce demands while eliminating payroll and administrative burdens for companies. Labor Finders' strength comes from the commitment of locally operated offices to consistently satisfy their cus-

omers your needs with eight offices located in Miami, Hialeah, Cutler Ridge, Homestead, Sweetwater, Fort Lauderdale, Hallandale and Pompano Beach.

Dena Bates, Regional Sales Manager for Broward, Dade and Monroe Counties, explains, "Labor Finders provides many kinds of

manual labor for construction, industry, manufacturing, landscaping, retail and warehousing. General and sub-contractors use our employees for site clean-up, loading

and unloading, carpentry and other daily tasks. Temporary staffing offers many advantages to both the project manager and the office staff. Labor Finders covers all workers' comp and liability coverage and helps businesses save on recruiting and advertising costs. Our satisfaction guar-

antee ensures that busy project managers get the quality help they are looking for."

Bates started at Labor Finders as a temp in one of the corporate offices and was hired at the beginning of 2000. She worked at corporate for five years processing employment and credit applications, handling customer inquiries and collections, completing certified payroll reports and other administrative work. In 2005, Bates opened the new office in Hallandale and in 2007 she was promoted to Regional Sales Manager. Having worked her way up, she is knowledgeable of all aspects of the business and is dedicated to fulfilling her customers' needs for qualified temporary employees.

Safety is a major focus for Labor Finders. Bates comments, "All our managers have undergone 10 hours of OSHA training. I have recently completed the OSHA 30 hour training and a "Train the Trainer" flagging course. We are happy to announce that we now offer fully trained Certified Flaggers for job sites and road work. Flaggers arrive with OSHA-compliant attire and the necessary equipment for flagging."

A CASF member since 1993, Labor Finders has generously sponsored many CASF events. They will once again be hosting a Membership Mixer at Florida Atlantic University's Oxley Athletic Center on May 14th and if it is anything like last year's event, you do not want to miss it!

For more information, contact Dena Bates at 954-214-7064 or email at [lfdena@bellsouth.net](mailto:lfdena@bellsouth.net).



tomers, while demonstrating core values everyday:

Respect, Appreciation and Safety. The mission is simple: treat temporary employees and customers fairly.

Doug and Joann Doxey own franchises in Dade and Broward counties, as well as, Virginia and Maryland. Locally, Labor Finders cov-

## CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION of South Florida

2929 North West 62nd Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL., 33309

Phone: 954-974-6333; FAX: 954-974-6633

[info@casf.org](mailto:info@casf.org)

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Construction Focus is the official publication of the Construction Association of South Florida. Article suggestions and submissions for publication consideration should be forwarded to the Executive Vice President.

## Welcome New CASF Members

**ABLE SANITATION-** *Pete Turner*, Refuse Collection & Removal

**ACE WASTE SERVICES-** *James Feeley, Jr.*, Refuse Collection & Removal

**AUSTEN ELECTRIC, INC.-** *Troy Steggerda*, Electrical Contractor

**COMPLETE BUILDING MAINTENANCE-** *Dave McCaffrey*, Roofing Contractor

**D. STEPHENSON CONSTRUCTION-** *Eric Cyrus*, General Contractor

**DIGILOT-** *Hamid Shariff*, Reprographics

**DIXIE LANDSCAPE CO.-** *Bob Hennis*, Landscaping; Irrigation Contractor

**FIFTH THIRD BANK-** *Siba Noble*, Bank

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**SOFTWARE-** *Chad Ode*, Construction Software

**GILBERT & KAUFMAN, P.A.-** *Randall Gilbert*, Attorney

**GRACE & NAEEM UDDIN-** *Naeem Uddin*, Construction Management; General Contractor

**H&E EQUIPMENT SERVICES-** *Darin Odey*, Equipment Rental

**MONARCH INDUSTRIES-** *Jean-Guy Ayotte*, Architectural Specialties; Millwork

**OHMS ELECTRICAL CORP.-** *Jose Espallat*, Electrical Contractor

**PALMDALE OIL CO.-** *Mallory Cheatham*, Petroleum Marketer

**PATENT CONSTRUCTION SYSTEMS-** *Barry Budnick*, Scaffolding & Platforms

**PORT CONSOLIDATED-** *Larry Lawrence*, Petroleum

Marketer

**PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATING SOLUTIONS-** *Henry Whidden*, Estimating Service

**PROTEK SYSTEMS OF FL-** *Dennis Chalas*, Building Specialties; Architectural Specialties

**QUALITY POOLS AND SPAS-** *Ralph Vanderbeek*, Pool & Spa Contractor; Fountains

**SFC ASSOCIATES-** *Dennis Wilcox*, General Contractor

**SOURCE ASSET SERVICES-** *Leanna Anderson*, Construction Notice Services

**STARSOUTH STUCCO SYSTEMS-** *Marco Saverino*, Plaster & Stucco Contractor

**STATE CONTRACTING & ENGINEERING CORP.-** *Barry Transleau*, General Contractor

**SUNBUILT, INC.-** *Bobby Wooten*, Interior Contractor; Acoustical Contractor

**T & S ROOFING SYSTEMS-** *Louis Toledo*, Roofing Contractor

**TECTONIC METAL AND GLASS-** *Sergio Hernandez*, Glass & Glazing Contractor

**THE SOTO LAW GROUP-** *Alex Soto*, Attorney

**THERMA SEAL SYSTEMS-** *James Finck*, Roofing Contractor; Insulation Contractor

**VELA SYSTEMS-** *Josh Kanner*, Construction Software

**VERNIS & BOWLING OF MIAMI, P.A.-** *Henry Roman*, Attorney

*The above companies have joined CASF in the past months. You can access their contact information in the member directory at [www.casf.org](http://www.casf.org).*

## A Toast to the Twenty's

The Association's premier fund raising event to raise monies for the scholarships that are awarded to post-secondary students each year is scheduled for the evening of **Thursday, March 13, at the Fort Lauderdale Antique Car Museum**. This is one event you don't want to miss.

Come dressed in your best "Pinstripes and Pearls" for a night of food, drink and gambling. "This year we are giving a prize to the best-dressed couple who come in their gangster and flapper girl outfits", explained Judy Wong, Event Chair, "Everyone should dress for the "Twenty's", so we all will look the part."

Each year the CASF provides monies for scholarships that are awarded to students attending the University of Florida's Building & Construction school and Florida International University's Construction Management program. "The "Toast to the Twenty's" event is a fun way to get behind the scholarships and endowments that the Association has committed to," says John Bennett, Baker Concrete Construction, "My wife and I have attended this event the last two years and they just keep getting better each year."





# Fed to Change National Apprenticeship System

**T**he U.S. Department of Labor recently proposed rules to align the national apprenticeship system with the tools and flexibility needed for the 21st century global economy.



"Apprenticeship is a proven model of training that has been expanded beyond its traditional origins in industries such as construction to high growth industries and sectors," said

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training Emily Stover DeRocco. "We have proposed new regulations to reflect the 21st century global economy and the changes that have occurred in apprenticeship programs over the past 30 years."

The proposed rules would set up a more flexible and user-friendly approach for

apprentices and employers, and make updates and changes affecting state apprenticeship agencies and the U.S. Department of Labor. The revisions would expand the ways that individuals can advance through apprenticeships. The types of training would expand from one to the following three approaches:

- ◆ **Competency-based approach**, which requires the apprentice to demonstrate competency in the defined subject areas and does not require any specific hours of On-the-Job Training (OJT) or Related Technical Instruction (RTI).

- ◆ **Traditional, time-based approach**, which requires the apprentice to complete a specific number of OJT and RTI hours.

- ◆ **Hybrid approach**, which requires the apprentice to complete a minimum number of OJT and RTI

hours and demonstrate competency in the defined subject areas.

Electronic media would be added to the definition of Related Technical Instruction and, as a result, establish technology-based and distance learning as part of an apprentice's instruction.

The proposed changes provide for interim credential certificates, so that active apprentices can demonstrate their proficiency in particular required skills and competencies to employers. Provisions also feature reciprocity, which would allow programs to cross state lines, so long as the host state's applicable laws are followed. Program performance and accountability standards would be enhanced, while guidance and technical assistance would continue to give apprenticeship programs the best prospects for success.

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ROUTE 10:

3500 NW 9TH AVENUE  
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33309

CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH FLORIDA

