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WATTS UP

October 2008

2008-2009 School Year Begins

We've completed our first full month of school and the instructors and apprentices seems to be settling in just fine. Although the market has been extremely slow in the construction industry, thanks to our loyal contractors, old and new, we have been able to enroll 208 students for the Fall Semester. Due to our new website we have been able to recruit students from out of state. They are very excited about the program and all of these students are working in the trade with the exception of one who is seeking employment. We welcome all of the new contractors that have joined forces with FEAA.

Apprenticeship WORKS!!!

Wage Survey

We have submitted our wage to the State of Florida. Thank you to those contractors that participated. As soon as the survey is returned from Tallahassee we will publish and send a copy to all active contractors. At that time please review your apprentice's wages to see that they meet the current schedule.

All of us involved in the electrical trade, especially contractors, have a responsibility to keep current on market conditions so that they don't risk losing valuable employees. As you know, FEAA discourages "job jumping" for apprentices. It causes difficulties and is disruptive for all involved, and we do all we can to discourage this activity.

Apprentice Performance Evaluations

FEAA sends out Apprentice Performance Evaluations in the months of October and April for the current school year. Please complete the enclosed evaluation(s) and send back to the FEAA office. These job evaluations are a very important tool in apprenticeship education as it is an assessment of each aspect of your apprentice's job performance. Please have the Supervisor, or Foreman that works most closely with the apprentice complete the form. We also suggest that you review this evaluation with the apprentice, so they can see what areas they need to improve upon. This evaluation will be a permanent part of his/her official records. We truly appreciate our contractors cooperation.

Orientation

Orientation was held in August for first year apprentices to explain the requirements of the FEAA program. The following topics were discussed:

Attendance ? Grading scale ? Work Records

We will also be holding a refresher assembly for 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year students on Thursday, October 9, 2008 to ensure that all students are on track for the 2008-2009 school year.

Attendance

School has started Thursday, September 4, 2008 and will end Tuesday, May 5, 2009. Classes are held Tuesday and Thursday nights. The following nights there will be **no** classes:

November 11, 2008	January 1, 2009
November 27, 2008	January 6, 2009
December 23, 2008	March 10, 2009
December 25, 2008	March 12, 2009
December 20, 2008	March 24, 2009

We also went over the importance of attending classes. Apprentices are to call the apprenticeship office the night they will be absent. We will contact your office if any apprentice has **not** been showing for classes and has not contacted the office. We ask that the employer call in for the student if their absence is work related.

Grading Scale

Please be advised that the new grading scale has been adopted and is as follows:

90-100	A
80-89	B
70-79	C
There are no D's	
0-69	F

Work Records

Work records are **mandatory** for ALL APPRENTICES. They will be due the first week of the following month. Failure to turn these records in will result in your apprentice's certificate being withheld. Work records must be signed by the supervisor or the foreman.

**Don't forget to call our office if you need additional apprentices.
Occasionally good students come available due to job delays or periodic slowdowns.**