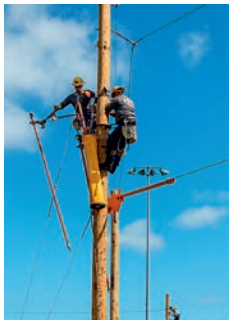
FPUA Customer Connections

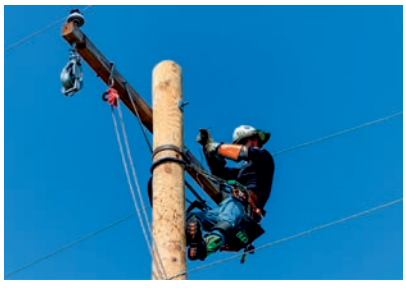
April 2022

IT'S A WRAP!

THE FMEA 2022 FLORIDA LINEMAN COMPETITION

It was a beautiful day and you could feel the adrenaline and excitement in the air. The 21st Annual Florida Lineman Competition was a huge success! Held in Fort Pierce for the first time ever, 20 journeyman linemen teams (65 total journeyman competitors), 72 apprentices, and 43 judges from 11 utilities participated. Although FPUA wasn't in the winner's circle, we applaud the Talquin Electric Cooperative Journeyman Team for winning the overall Journeyman Team Winners' Cup and Matt Coakley from Orlando Utilities Commission for winning the Overall Apprentice Award. FPUA would like to thank you for coming out to show your support! We had more than 750 attend the competition and cheer on the competitors! Enjoy some of the photos from the event.





Thinking About Investing In Solar?

While most people know what solar panels are, many are not aware of the complexity of setting up a complete solar power system or understand the actual return on their investment. In reality, there is no one-size-fits-all approach when determining the value of installing solar. Varying laws, regulations, and different property conditions require a unique approach to each project. The following tips can help you make a good decision when evaluating your solar options.

- **Partner with FPUA** to discuss your energy history and how rates are structured, available rebates, and how installing rooftop solar may impact your utility bill. FPUA staff will go over the details you need to know to make an informed decision.
- **Evaluate your energy usage and efficiency.** Since solar is typically sized to generate all or a portion of your home's energy use, it is important to ensure your home is well sealed and insulated.
- **Determine if your home is in an ideal position** for optimum solar performance. According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 22% to 27% of residential rooftop space is suitable for installing PV solar—with an unobstructed southern view. In addition, your home may require repairs or modifications before it can support solar panels.
- **Do your due diligence.** Solar panels are a long-term investment, making it vitally important to gather multiple bids and thoroughly vet vendors to find the right one that fits your needs. Spending time NOW can save you a lot of stress and money LATER. Check credentials, local offerings and gather multiple bids. Don't fall prey to slick sales pitches. Always question misleading claims about cost savings and benefits. Know your facts!

FPUA Receives FMEA Safety Award

For more than 30 years, the Florida Municipal Electric Association (FMEA) has recognized public power utilities' efforts to ensure worker and crew safety is the highest priority. FMEA member utilities are placed into categories based on their total annual worker hours and rewarded for the most incident-free records. The incidence rate used to judge utilities was based on the number of work-related reportable injuries or illnesses compared to the total number of worker hours during 2021 as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. We are proud to announce that FPUA won FIRST PLACE in Category B (60,000-199,999 worker hours). Awards were presented on February 26th at the Lineman Competition Awards Banquet. **Congratulations and keep up the good work!**

Visit the FPUA tent at the Main Street Fort Pierce May Friday Fest to Spin & Win!

Friday, May 6, 5:30 pm
Downtown Fort Pierce

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Customer Service: 772-466-1600
Email: cs@fpua.com
www.fpua.com
Like us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/teamFPUA
206 South 6th Street
Fort Pierce, FL 34950