

## Positive Energy at Work Here

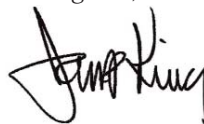
As some of you know, my childhood dream was to coach some "storied" major college football program here in the South. Instead, for nine years I've had the privilege and pleasure of coaching my son's "storied" Little League baseball and Pop Warner football teams. During the past two seasons, I have been exposed to something that is radically different from what typical recreation departments offer — namely, "Travel Baseball." For those of you not familiar with the phenomenon, it is like the Minor Leagues for 11- and 12- year-olds. Coaching these talented young people has given me a firsthand look at the role energy plays in the process of assembling a team of all-stars and getting them to put aside selfish interests and mesh together. I am not talking about natural 11- and 12-year-old energy; I am speaking of the energy that either brings a team together and lifts it to new heights or tears it apart and sends it into a downward spiral.

I have seen both happen — not only in Travel Baseball, but also in the world at large. We each give off positive or negative energy depending upon how satisfied we are with our current situation. If we exude positive energy, we enable those around us to achieve goals that independently would be unobtainable. When it is negative energy that manifests itself within us, the opposite happens. We become a stumbling block to those who strive for greatness.

In my years of being a NUCA member, I have seen both types of energy at work. I therefore feel very lucky to have assumed the presidency during a period of incredible positive energy. Gone is the negativity that plagued us for several years. Squelched is the "we-can't-do-it-because" attitude that left the association treading water. The negative energy has been replaced with a positive, can-do mentality that has been embraced by the entire "team" — national leadership, members, chapter leaders and NUCA staff alike. It is very much in evidence in our successes on Capitol Hill and in the professional educational and training programs initiated and brought to fruition by our safety and education departments. You can feel it at our meetings. Our growing membership reflects it.

So, if you're going it alone, or not happy with the team you're on, give a thought to joining ours. If you're already on the NUCA team, help us keep the momentum going by adding your positive energy to the mission and work of the oldest and largest national trade association working solely for the utility construction industry. To quote Vince Lombardi, one of the most successful coaches in the history of American football, "The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined efforts of each individual."

Regards,



James King



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