



JT&S



WISHING YOU A SAFE AND HAPPY 2017 FROM TENNESSEE JT&S:

The JT&S program has been around for over four decades. We have strived to provide quality and effective training in job skills and safety categories for 80 separate utilities across the state. One of the greatest pleasures that I received as Coordinator of the program is hearing from employees who attended one of our safety meetings, workshops, or schools and have been able to avoid or prevent an accident or injury for themselves or one of the coworkers. Knowing that we are affecting the men and women who work in these utilities and their families in a positive way is what we all strive for. The entire staff, our five instructors, our administrative assistant, myself, and all of our guest speakers and lectures are dedicated to ensuring that each of the employees of the utilities that we serve go home to their families and loved ones at the end of the day and in at least as good a shape as they came in that morning.

When I took over as Coordinator in August of 2014 for Danny Hayes, one of the most sobering revelations that I had was that, while Danny had always been the go-to-guy for me (the person I would call if I had a question or needed an answer to a problem), I was now the person people would be looking to for answers and the one they would be calling when they had questions or problems. My instructors are the core and greatest asset of the JT&S program. Their support and expertise is what made it possible for us to continue this program in the tradition of its strong and effective role in our industry here in Tennessee.

We have made some changes to the program. We have added an online training aspect. We have said goodbye to some old friends and added some new ones to the staff. We have worked in concert with TOSHA to bring you some partnership training that has benefited many workers in the state. We have also brought back some schools and workshops they were set aside for a while, and we've added some new ones. We plan to continue to improve the content, quality, and availability of training in multiple skill and safety categories as we move forward.

I want to encourage all of our participating utilities as well as other utilities and employers around the state to take a look at our website (www.TNJTS.com), to become familiar with our program and our personnel, and to let me know how we can better serve you and your employees and to keep them safe and whole.

Michael M. Simmons, CSP, CHST, CSC
Program Coordinator, Tennessee Job Training & Safety
www.TNJTS.com



Figure 1 - The 2017 JT&S Foreman & Supervisor's Conference, held this year from January 4-6 at the Embassy Suites Murfreesboro, is one of the best examples of the workshops and schools the program puts on every year. Over 120 utility professionals from around Tennessee attended this annual kick off to a SAFE New Year.



Figure 2 - The 2017 JT&S Annual Foreman & Supervisors Conference had a lineup of great speakers including Agent Thomas Farmer, TBI



Figure 3 - At the 2017 JT&S Annual Foreman & Supervisor's Conference, the attendees got to swap information and to catch up while looking through the wares and services of over a dozen vendors and suppliers.