



**News Release:** *Gregory A. Philligin, II* was the first place winner at the N.C. Department of Labor 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Electrical Apprentice Contest at the N.C. State Fair held Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Gregory, who works for Watson Electrical Construction Co. LLC, Wilmington Division, won a \$650 premium from the State Fair and Electrical Contest Committee, a plaque and an assortment of sponsor prizes for his efforts. Gregory placed second in last year's contest. Greg's Dad is Division Manager for Watson's Greenville Division; his Grandfather was a Division Manager many years ago for Watson Electrical—the heritage continues.

"The apprenticeship contests give these workers an opportunity to showcase their skills while having fun at the fair," as Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry has graciously stated. "I congratulate all of them for taking part in this contest and for learning skills that will benefit them and our state."

Apprenticeships have been the backbone of North Carolina's work preparation programs for more than 70 years. Apprenticeship combines on-the-job training with related classroom instruction to prepare exceptional workers for North Carolina and America's industry.

**Timothy Herms**, who works for Watson Electrical Construction Co. LLC, Charlotte Division, placed second out of the thirty-four electrical contestants competing in this year's contest.

To be eligible to compete, apprentices must be registered in their respective occupation and training with an employer that has a program registered with the N.C. Department of Labor.

Watson Electrical's other apprentices competing this year were Jerry Wyrick, Burlington Division 5<sup>th</sup> place, Mark Wolschleger, Raleigh Division 8<sup>th</sup> place, Jonathan Beasley, Raleigh Division 9<sup>th</sup> place, and James Hiester, Special Division also competed in the contest.

Both Gregory and Timothy will represent the Carolinas at the annual Associated Builders and Contractors of America (ABC) *National Electrical Craft Championship* being held April 2011 in San Antonio, Texas.

Congratulations to all Watson participants, trainers, support staff, managers, and supervisors who made this year's event a success!!



**Greg Philligin II & Commissioner Berry**



**Dad, Greg Philligin II & Mom**

**Very Proud Gregory Philligin II**

**Greg, Tim, Jerry, CEO Craig Myers,  
Jonathan & Mark**