

Successful Businessman

# Electrical Contractor Sam Jones Has Worn Many Hats

By Loretta Manago  
Post Staff Writer

An apprentice. An inspector. A teacher. Those are just a few of the hats Sam Jones has worn throughout his professional career.

For him they have always been the stepping stones to his one goal of going into business for himself. Today, Jones is the owner of Sam Jones Electrical Contracting, Inc.

"I saw the potentials of going into business for myself, a long way down the road when I was an apprentice for Howard Brothers Electrical Co.," reaffirmed Jones.

It took four years of school, a four-year apprenticeship, two years on the road as a journeyman in places like Ohio, Tennessee and West Africa and three more years as the city's first black electrical inspector and an instructor at CPCC before Jones was able to achieve his lifelong goal. Of such a feat Jones is proud. But of serving as a role model to black youth is what spirals Jones to greater heights.

"The hard work and the honors don't mean much to me. I get more satisfaction from the fact that I'm able to help young people, especially blacks, and give them a sense of direction. I like to help them achieve things I have achieved. I don't want them to have to go through what I had to go through to make it," Jones said. His highest achievement, according to Jones, comes when a young person comes in his establishment and wants to follow in his footsteps.

Jones' commitment to young people and his obvious success as an electrical contractor, often couple together and give him the chance to expound about the opportunities in



Sam Jones  
Electrical contractor

his field.

"Young people have got a better chance to succeed in construction rather than in liberal arts. Construction is the backbone of our country. When construction stops, the country stops," commented Jones. He added, "Once you have a trade of this nature, then you've got something to

offer and bargain with when you go looking for a job."

"An individual who wants to pursue the electrical contracting field would have to be capable of learning, be technically inclined and have a strong math background." Like any other field, Jones also added that determination

and motivation are necessary to succeed.


The rewards in Jones' field are lucrative. Jones, who received his Unlimited License in April, is unrestricted in the dollar amount of work he can perform per job. For Jones, the monetary rewards have paved the way for the personal reward of being his own boss. Located in the black community, 2135 Beatties Ford Rd., Jones' business serves as a symbol of hope for young blacks who may have felt defeated and hopeless. "I had always planned to go back to the neighborhood. I never thought I was too good for that. I'm black; my business is black and I've always wanted to be a part of the growth in the black community," assured Jones.

Like his business, his opinions on Black History Month also abound in hope. "One day, I feel that the contributions by members of our race will be accepted by all and that we won't have to celebrate the way we do now." Until that

day comes, Jones stressed that black people need to continue to set this time aside because there is a tendency to forget the people who have achieved things for the black race.

For Your  
Subscription To...  
**THE CHARLOTTE POST**  
Call Today...  
**370-0496**

**Black History**  
"Preserve It"  
**My Style**  
**BARBER & BEAUTY SALON**  
(In the Tryon Mall)  
Hours:  
Tues. thru Thurs. 9-4  
Fri.-Sat. 9-3  
**595-8347**

**Marchand Medical Center**  Licensed OB-GYN Specialist  
**Worried About Being Pregnant? We Care.**  
• Free Pregnancy Testing Daily (no appointment necessary)  
• Abortion  
• Birth Control  
• Sexuality Counseling  
334-9132  
All Calls Strictly Confidential  
1351 Parkwood Drive  
Mon.-Fri. 9-4; Sat. 9-2

**SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!**

**Rondle's BEAUTY & BARBER CENTER**  
Specializing in Perms and Wedge Cuts For Women & Men  
Mon. - Tue. - Wed.  
**Specials**  
All Curls.....\$35.00  
All Perms.....\$25.00  
Among The Many Other Specials Not mentioned...  
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9-5, Sat. 9-4  
.....1715 Tuckaseege Rd. **379-3470**

**WEEKENDS & SUMMER WORK**  
Are you looking for a job on weekends (Saturday and Sunday) during the spring and fall and working daily including weekends during the summer?  
**CAROWINDS**  
is now accepting applications Monday - Saturday from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Employment Services Office, located behind the park.  
You must be 18 years of age prior to working, provide your own transportation and have a Social Security card.  
EOE, M-F

**Shirley's Furniture**  
**40% OFF**  
Sugg. Mfg. Price  
**GOING OUT FOR BUSINESS**  
**50% OFF EVERYTHING!**  
2939 Wilkinson Blvd.  
**392-9331**

**We Send Our Best To You.**