On 28 October 2015, the SunCoast Branch conducted its monthly breakfast meeting at Dutch Heritage in Sarasota. Our speaker that morning was John Barber with Windemuller Technical Services. He gave a presentation on lightning protection for structures and electronics. We had a total of 28 in attendance at the meeting. The Branch voted to move the November Branch meeting to earlier in the month to avoid conflict with the Thanksgiving Holiday. The Branch then had an Executive Committee Meeting immediately following the general membership meeting. Specifically, the EC discussed soliciting our membership about quarterly events held throughout the year – beyond the normal golf tournament fundraiser. Ideas for other family events included paintball, bowling, mini-golf, and a sporting clay shooting event. The idea surrounding this was to involve more of the membership than those that play golf (as not all of us do – particularly the younger members).

On 10 October 2015 the Branch held its annual Golf Tournament. We had 75 golfers participate, including contractors, private engineers, as well as City and County employees. A total of $10,055.00 was collected with expenses of $4,931.78, leaving an income of $5,123.22.

On 11 November 2015 we held our monthly breakfast meeting at Dutch Heritage in Sarasota. Our speaker was Juan Florensa, Director of Public Works for the Town of Longboat Key. He presented an update to their planning for a 20-inch wastewater force main subaqueous crossing of Sarasota Bay. We had a total of 29 people in attendance.

On 17 December 2015, the branch joined with the local branches of the Florida Engineering Society (FES), American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), and the Florida Water Environment Association (FWEA) for a joint winter social event. This is the second year we have participated for such an event due to last year’s success. Basically the groups all chipped in and provided free appetizers and two drink tickets to each person who attended. As many are members of more than one society, this really brought out the membership and there were more than 50 people in attendance.