



Pipeline

VOLUME 68, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2025

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Convention
- New Member Spotlights
- Legislative Reception
- Spring Showcase

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Convention	1
President's Letter	2
Member Spotlight	3
Member Spotlight	4
Member Spotlight	5
Directory Ad	6
Convention	7
Legislative Photos	8
Calendar	9

2025 UCA Convention – Puerto Vallarta, Mexico



UCA's Annual Convention was held at the Marriott Resort & Spa in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico over the dates of January 19th-24th.

The members who attended raved about the hotel— great food, great service & an overall great time!

Thank you to those who participated in the convention as attendees, sponsors, speakers, etc. This event would not be possible without you and your support.

For a list of attendees and sponsors, please turn to page 5.

UCA's Spring Showcase

Join UCA on Tuesday, April 15th, for the Annual Underground Spring Showcase at Venuti's Ristorante & Banquets in Addison.

This year's Showcase has something for everyone:

Meet with professionals from all walks of the industry including aggregates, insurance, bonding, investments, law, construction supplies, subcontractors, etc.

See the latest in technology with project and equipment displays and demonstrations.

Convention Committee:

Jeff Delia, Oldcastle Infrastructure

Brian Klimes, FOCIS Promotions

Matt Lind, Vermeer Midwest

Chris Bassler, Bassler & Co. Insurance Agency

Bob Hopkins, Chicago Cut Concrete Cutting

Gulzar Singh, Pan-Oceanic Engineering Co.

Lori Jermyn, Vulcan Materials Company

Brett Nepper, Wipfli

Todd Larsen, Lee Jensen Sales Co.

Larry Sims, Welch Brothers

Alexis Twardzik, INTREN

Jacob Czerwinski, Commercial Credit Group

Aaron Vargas, West Side Tractor Sales



Invite your superintendents, estimators, and project managers!

There is no dress code so stop by after work or from a jobsite. Food and beverage service will be offered throughout the event.

All registered attendees qualify to win a prize!

Last day to register!

Visit www.uca.org!

Shane Higgins
John Burns Construction Co.

President

Kyle Berger
Berger Contractors

Vice President

Mearl Kise-Halsall
INTREN

Treasurer

Bob Hopkins
Chicago Cut Concrete Cutting

Secretary

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UCA Pipeline is a publication of the Underground Contractors Association of Illinois. UCA is a non-profit trade association of contractors and suppliers in the sewer, water, utility, and underground industry. UCA is active in market development, information, education, labor, and promotion of safety.

Editorial comments, articles and photographs are welcomed and encouraged. Please contact Lauren Barnett, Associate Director, for more information, (630) 467-1919 or lauren@uca.org.

President's Editorial

Dear UCA Members,

It has been a busy start to 2025 for UCA! Our Annual Convention took place during the last week of January at the Marriott Puerto Vallarta Resort & Spa in Mexico. The resort, food, and weather were perfect, providing attendees a fantastic week to connect—perfect timing to escape a chilly Chicago winter. A big thank you to all convention sponsors, committee members, and staff for organizing another successful event.

It's never too early to mark your calendar for next year's convention in Costa Rica! Reach out to our staff for dates and tips on booking airfare in advance.

On April 3rd, Mike Piraino hosted UCA's 11th Annual Legislative PAC Reception at Medinah Country Club. This critical event helps fund efforts to engage and support legislators with a pro-business agenda favorable to our industry. Members had the opportunity to discuss their concerns openly with legislators.

So far, over **6,000 bills** have been filed in the current session. On March 4th, UCA members, including the current ELP class, attended ICIC's lobby day in Springfield. UCA continues to collaborate with lobbyists and other associations to advocate for beneficial legislation while opposing burdensome proposals. Additionally, the association has voiced opposition to Chicago's mayor regarding a proposal requesting contractors return **3% of their contracts**.

The Annual Utility Roundtable discussion was held in conjunction with the bi-monthly Safety & Risk Management Meeting on **February 14th in Goodfield, IL** and **February 28th at UCA in Schaumburg**. Special thanks to **JULIE** for sponsoring, and to **RFC and John Newquist (CSC)** for their informative presentations. The next meetings are scheduled for **April 17th in Goodfield, IL**, and **April 30th at the UCA office**.

Join us at **Venuti's on Tuesday, April 15th**, for the Annual Spring Showcase! The event begins at **4 p.m.** with an educational session featuring presentations from county DOTs and the Grand Prairie Water Commission about upcoming projects and how to do business with their organizations. The trade show follows at **5 p.m.**, with a networking dinner starting at **6:30 p.m.** Registration is open, and display tables are limited. Make sure to **sign up and sponsor before it's sold out!**

If you are interested in participating in any of the committees—such as **Events, Convention, Membership, Legislative, Labor, Education, and more**—please contact the staff to discuss opportunities.

UCA has welcomed many new members already in 2025! Check out the **New Member Spotlight** in this edition. Remember, for every referral that joins, you'll receive a **\$100 gift card**.

We hope the year is off to a great start for you as we kick off the construction season.

Sincerely,

Shane Higgins
UCA President
John Burns Construction Co.



Shane Higgins,
UCA President
John Burns Construction Co.



Apply for the 2024 UCA Safety Award

Applications are due by April 14th, 2025.

Please return completed applications to
michael@uca.org

Visit www.uca.org for the application!

SPOTLIGHT: NEW UCA MEMBERS

AJ Oleson Construction Co.

AJ Oleson Construction Co. owned and operated out of Mundelein focuses on site utility installation for both public and private projects. AJ Oleson installs storm sewers, storm water detention, sanitary sewer, water mains / services, excavation, grading, and emergency utility repairs. Our primary market is K-12 Education and parks and recreation, commercial and industrial development projects. We possess highly skilled staff that are continually kept up to date on industry trends and safety standards. We own and operate our own fleet of machinery.

Contact Information:

Erick Oleson
630-546-0235
erick.oleson@gmail.com



A&A Equipment and Supply Co.



A&A EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY CO.

With over 40 years in the industry, A&A Equipment and Supply Co. has become a trusted provider of equipment, supply and repair solutions, proudly servicing Illinois. Our extensive experience allows us to understand the unique challenges our clients face and deliver tailored solutions that promote efficiency, safety, and long-term success. From small-scale operations to large-scale projects, we consistently provide reliable products and services that exceed expectations.

A&A services a wide array of customers ranging from municipalities, state authorities to commercial contractors.

Amundsen Davis

At Amundsen Davis, you'll find a team dedicated to supporting contractors and suppliers with the legal guidance they need to navigate complex business challenges. We provide comprehensive legal services tailored to the construction and contracting industry, including labor and employment, OSHA, contract drafting and negotiation, regulatory compliance, risk management, intellectual property, cybersecurity, M&A, tax, real estate, and more.



Whether you're in sewer and water, paving, demolition, excavation, heavy highway, to roofing or pool work, A&A serves to be your one stop shop for product and service.

Contact Information

Joseph Cruz – Partner
jcruz@aa.equipment

Dave Grosso – Partner
Office:

196 Devon Avenue
Bensenville, IL 60106
630-595-1510

Website

www.aa.equipment

We combine the strength and resources of a nationwide firm with the personalized attention and project-focused approach contractors require. Our goal is to be your most trusted legal partner, offering strategic counsel, industry-specific insights, and unwavering support to help you build and protect your business.

Contact Information:

Jack Sanker, Partner, jsanker@amundsendavislaw.com
Direct: 312.455.3972
150 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 3300, Chicago, Illinois 60601

<http://www.amundsendavislaw.com>

SPOTLIGHT: NEW UCA MEMBERS

Builtech Services, LLC

As a full-service general contractor, Builtech understands the critical role subcontractors play in the success of every project. With expertise in commercial, multifamily, hospitality, and retail construction, we specialize in ground-up development, adaptive reuse, site development, and tenant improvements—ensuring seamless coordination between all trades to keep projects moving efficiently. Our team values strong partnerships with sitework and utility contractors, recognizing that a solid foundation is key to delivering high-quality, on-time, and on-budget projects. As one of America’s fastest-growing construction firms, Builtech constructs more than 100 projects, ranging in size from 1,000 to 500,000 square feet each year. Our firm’s success is built on integrity, collaboration, and operational excellence. We take pride in fostering long-term relationships with industry partners who share our commitment to quality and efficiency.



Our Services:

- ✓ Preconstruction & Estimating
- ✓ General Contracting
- ✓ Construction Management
- ✓ Design-Build
- ✓ Adaptive Reuse & Renovation
- ✓ Tenant Improvements

For all general inquiries, please email: info@builtechllc.com

Midwest - Corporate Headquarters
 425 N Martingale Road, Suite 1050, Schaumburg, Illinois 60173, P: 847.895.3700

Southeast Regional Office
 605 Lexington Avenue, Suite 101, Charlotte, NC 28203, P: 704.900.0521

Visit us at builtechllc.com

Ryan Incorporated Central

Founded in 1884 in southern Wisconsin, Ryan Incorporated Central is a premier mass excavation and sitework contractor (including utilities) with expertise in residential, commercial, power, industrial sitework, municipal landfill construction and capping, solar developments, and full-service golf course construction. Over its nearly 140-year history, the company has completed projects in 25 states, building a reputation for safety, high-quality work, and professional integrity.

With regional offices in Elgin, Illinois; Naperville, IL; Hagerstown, Maryland; Grand Rapids, Michigan; Indianapolis, Indiana; Johnston, Iowa; and Omaha, Nebraska, Ryan Incorporated Central maintains a strong presence throughout the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic. We have one of the largest earthmoving equipment fleets in the country allowing us to handle any project size from small to the very large. With our commitment to teamwork and communication, we ensure your project is delivered on time, every time.



For more information visit: www.ryancentral.com

Home Office:

2700 East Racine Street
 Janesville, WI 53545

Elgin Office:

1919 Big Timber Rd.
 Elgin, IL 60123

Naperville Office:

1701 Quincy Ave., Suite 15
 Naperville, IL 60540

Contact:

Ladd Worple
 Mobile: 847.878.9419
 Email: ladd.worple@ryancentral.com

SPOTLIGHT: NEW UCA MEMBERS

Ardmore Roderick



Ardmore Roderick

For more information, visit www.ardmoreroederick.com

CORPORATE OFFICE

1500 W. Carroll Avenue, Suite 300
Chicago, Illinois 60607-1913

Contact information:

Bob Vaughn

Director - Public Utilities

Rvaughn@ardmoreroederick.com

1307 Butterfield Road, Suite 424
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515
P: [312.795.1400](tel:312.795.1400)

Ardmore Roderick is a full-service infrastructure solutions firm providing design, construction management, and program management services to government and private transportation, utility, facility, rail, and aviation industries. Our team is comprised of local managers, engineers, technicians, inspectors, and controllers who live in the communities served by our clients. We understand the responsibility of ensuring people have access to clean drinking water and dedicate ourselves to the continued success of water infrastructure systems.

925 Partners Insurance Agency

925 Partners is a highly rated Independent Insurance Agency and one of the fastest growing agencies in the United States. 925 Partners specializes in business insurance for the Construction and Transportation Industries, as well as group health insurance for employers with 50+ employees. Tom Starnicky oversees the Midwest operations for the company and is based in Chicago, Illinois.

Contact Information:

111 N Wabash Ave #1061

Chicago, IL. 60602

O [855-925-1200](tel:855-925-1200) | D [312-267-1175](tel:312-267-1175)

Thomas Starnicky

tstarnicky@925partners.com

925partners.com





Extend your brand to those who matter most!

Advertising in the 2025 UnderGround Contractors Association of Illinois Digital Membership Directory & Buyer's Guide is now underway!

The UCA Digital Membership Directory & Buyer's Guide is an indispensable tool for all members.

Don't miss out on an entire year's advertising to members and the opportunity to stand out from your competitors by advertising or enhancing your company's listing!

By enhancing your listing or purchasing an ad in the UCA Digital Membership Directory & Buyer's Guide, you make sure your company is seen by the right people! A copy will be mailed to every member, the American Public Works Association (APWA) & municipal engineers containing a PDF of the UCA Digital Membership Directory & Buyer's Guide. This can be passed around the office for your employees to download as opposed to receiving one printed copy.

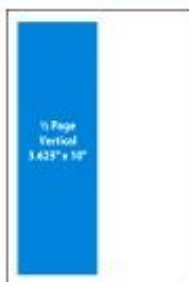
By purchasing an ad you receive a free banner & URL Link, making your company stand out!

Enhanced Listing Rates:

URL Link	\$25.00
URL Link & Banner	\$100.00

Advertising Rates:

1/4 Page Ad: 3.625' x 4.875' URL Link & Banner	\$250.00
1/2 Page Horizontal Ad: 7.5' x 4.875' URL Link & Banner	\$375.00
1/2 Page Vertical Ad: 3.625' x 10' URL Link & Banner	\$375.00
Full Page Ad: 7.5' x 10' URL Link & Banner	\$750.00
Full Page Ad, Inside Cover: 7.5' x 10' (Limited to two) URL Link & Banner	\$1,000.00



Space Reservation Form

Fax to 630-773-4873 or email to lauren@uca.org

Please fill/type out information below and include ad size from table on the left. UCA will send you the required ad contract, along with ad creation information.

Company: _____

Contact: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Ad Size: _____

If you have any questions please contact UCA Staff at lauren@uca.org or 630-467-1919.

Need help designing an advertisement?

Ad creation is not included in the listed advertising rates. Our team at Fox Valley Webworks can help for an additional price!

Please contact: ucaads@foxvalleywebworks.com or 847-742-5977.

Accepted File Formats:

High resolution PDF, JPG, PNG, GIF

Ad Material Upload:

Go to www.foxvalleywebworks.com/ucaads

Attendees:

Aldridge Electric
 Alta Equipment
 Bassler & Co. Insurance Agency
 Berger Contractors
 Bluff City Materials
 CISCO
 Cabo Construction Corp.
 Chicago Cut Concrete Cutting
 CIBC
 Commercial Credit
 DB Sterlin
 DiMeo Brothers
 FOCIS Promotions
 Heels and Hardhats
 Holiday Sewer & Water
 IHC Construction Companies
 INTREN
 John Burns Construction Co.
 Lambert Technology Solutions
 Laner Muchin
 Lee Jensen Sales Co.
 Mackie Consultants
 Mid-American Water
 Miller Pipeline
 Oldcastle Infrastructure
 OSCO Oil
 Pan-Oceanic Engineering
 Rock Fusco & Connelly, LLC
 USI Insurance Services
 Vermeer Midwest
 Vulcan Materials Company
 Welch Brothers
 Wipfli
 West Side Tractor Sales

2025 UCA Convention

DIAMOND SPONSORS:

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GOLD SPONSORS:

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 Welch Brothers

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 Hoerr Construction
 Mid American Water
 Oldcastle Infrastructure
 West Side Tractor Sales

BRONZE SPONSORS:

Alta Equipment Company
 D2K Traffic Safety
 IHC Construction
 L.J. Keefe Co.
 Lee Jensen Sales Co.
 Miller Pipeline
 OSCO Oil
 Rock Fusco & Connelly, LLC
 Sawyer Falduto Asset Management
 United Rentals
 USI Insurance Services

BASIC SPONSORS:

Ziebell Water Service Products



2025 UCA Legislative Reception



April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2 7:30 Membership Mtg.	3 8 a.m. Scholarship	4	5
6	7	8 Water Week Washington D.C.	9 Water Week Washington D.C.	10 Water Week Washington D.C.	11	12
13	14 Safety Awards Submission Deadline	15 3 p.m. BOD Mtg. 4 pm Spring Showcase	16	17 10 a.m. Statewide Safety/RM/Utility Mtg.	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 TFIC Lobby Day Springfield			

May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 8 a.m. Events Mtg.	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 8:30 a.m. Cont. Ed.	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Safety Awards Luncheon	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day UCA Office Closed	27	28	29	30	31