The Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association conducted an Annual Contractor/Associate/Engineer luncheon April 23, 2008 at Panos Char House restaurant in Brookfield, Wisconsin. Approximately 65 people attended. Guest speaker was 2002 Olympic Gold Medalist Casey FitzRandolph, a true Wisconsin hero.

A member of the 1998, 2002, and 2006 U.S. Winter Olympic teams, Casey won the men’s 500-meter speed skating competition at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. Casey also demonstrating the same kind of commitment off the ice, using his status to make a positive difference in our local communities, and inspiring young and old alike to work toward their dreams.

Casey, a native of Verona, Wisconsin, was five years old when fellow Wisconsin native Eric Heiden won five gold medals in speed skating at the 1980 Winter Olympics. Heiden inspired Casey to lace up his skates and, as a member of the Madison Speed skating Club, begin his own quest for Olympic Gold. After winning his first competition, the Wisconsin State Speed skating championship, at age five, Casey skated on to a career that earned him an extensive collection of awards and medals at the local, state, national and international levels of competition.

Upon retiring from skating last year, Casey and his wife, Jennifer, moved back to Madison, where they currently reside on the west side. He has since become the proud father of his son Sawyer.

Casey was well received at the WUCA luncheon.
Members in the News

Rawson Contractors conducted an open house December 6, 2007 at their new Sussex, Wisconsin facility located at N48 W22953 Commerce Centre Drive. About 300 people attended the catered event.

Ruekert & Mielke, Inc. representative Chris Genellie, civil/municipal project manager, was named an associate with the firm.

RJ Underground, Inc. moved to 5330 50th Street, Suite 200, Kenosha, WI 53144, telephone 262/605-8933, Fax 262/605-8934.

R.A. Smith & Associates changed its name to R.A. Smith National, Inc.

Winter, Kloman, Moter & Repp, S.C. is celebrating 40-years of success in business. This professional accounting firm has three offices in Wisconsin.

Innovative Signs conducted an open house at their Waukesha, Wisconsin location for members of the Greater Brookfield Chamber of Commerce February 28, 2008.

New Members

Thomas More Group, 355 W. Fairy Chasm Road, Bayside, WI 53217, telephone 262/240-9698, Fax 262/478-9364. Tom Chiappetti represents the firm. (Financial Resources & Insurance).

RB Scott Company, Inc., 1011 Short Street, Eau Claire, WI 54701, telephone 715/832-9792, fax 715/832-7767. Represented by John Mickelson and Mike Clark (Aggregate Equipment Sales)
Members in the News  cont.

- **Security Insurance** is celebrating 25 years of service in 2008 and conducted an open house April 21, 2008 at their New Berlin facility. They conducted two seminars April 17, 2008 entitled *Getting the Right People in Business & Creating a Hiring Process That Works.*

- *The American Lawyer* (2007) recognized **Michael Best & Friedrich** as one of 25 law firms in the nation that provided numerous hours of pro bono legal services.

- **Miller-Bradford & Risberg**, the Case distributor, announced that Tom Capps has been promoted to service manager for the Sussex and Sturtevant branches. In his new position, Capps will be responsible for overseeing the field service operations for both the Sussex and Sturtevant locations. Capps will also manage daily operations in the service department at the Sussex facility.

Robert Olson Elected 2008 WUCA President

Robert Olson, Globe Contractors was elected president of the Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association for calendar year 2008. Bob started in the industry at age 16 delivering materials and by age 18 worked as a mason tender and landscape crew-member. By age 20 he was working on a sewer and water crew. After gaining some field experience, he worked his way into an estimator and project manager for his family-owned firm Globe Contractors located in Pewaukee, Wisconsin. He also earned a Business Degree in Finance from UW-Oshkosh (1984). Bob is married to Shari Olson and they have four daughters...Jamie, Jillian, Chelsea & Amelia.

Ramon and Len Olson, Sr. started Globe Contractors in 1971. Bob’s father Ramon is a past president of WUCA (1980-1981) is still active at the firm and serves as Globe CEO. Bob’s brother Dan is also a past president of WUCA (2002-2003) and is currently is vice president of Globe & president of Bore Master, Inc.

Bore Master is a trench less utility contractor specializing in auger boring, pipe ramming, pipe bursting & pipe jacking. The firm recently invested in a guided boring system allowing them to perform long bores of over 500 feet on line and grade.

Bob Olson is also a frequent traveler. He has participated in numerous WUCA Midwinter Educational Conferences. Over 20-years, he attended 13 WUCA conferences with his family.

Tom Capps, 
Miller Bradford & Risberg

WUCA 2008 
president Bob Olson

Bob’s father Ray Olson

GLOBE CONTRACTORS INC.
WUCA 2008 Economic Forecast

Due to the lagging economy, the Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association is not expecting a great year in 2008 but that will not stop our effort to improve our industry marketplace. We will continue to help fund an effort in Washington, D.C. to bring more federal dollars to Wisconsin municipalities under the federal Clean Water Fund for collector and interceptor sewers. We will continue our effort to encourage the city of Milwaukee to do partial combined sewer separation in the central city as a way to create jobs for area residents. We will encourage private developers to pay for water and sewer improvements on their proposed projects as a way to expedite construction versus waiting for municipal government to act. And we will encourage the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District, municipalities, We Energies, AT & T and other utilities to expedite projects as they will save money due to expected inflation, material and labor wage increases.

Last year, WUCA contributed financially with 23 other contractor associations to establish the Clean Water Construction Coalition and collectively hired consultant Robert Roe and Sante Esposito to push for more federal money for the wastewater state revolving loan program. This program allows municipal utilities to borrow money for 20-years at approximately 2.37% to fund collector and interceptor sewers. They were successful to date with passage of H.R. 720 that after approval in the U.S. Senate may eventually provide $1.35 billion in fiscal year 2008 for the state revolving loan program or $14-billion through year 2011. According to ENR magazine dated November 2007, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates that more than $277 billion is needed for water infrastructure capital investment over the next 20-years. We are expecting good things from the coalition.

WUCA met with the Milwaukee mayor to encourage the city to fund partial combined sewer separation in the central city as a way to hire residents at family-supported wages. A similar project over 10-years in St. Paul, Minnesota provided hundreds of jobs for area residents and proved to be a great benefit to economic development in their community. Recognizing that manufacturing is down in Milwaukee, only the construction industry can provide good paying jobs, training opportunities, plus health and pension benefits for residents. And once trained, our jobs cannot be exported to China! We need people as the average age of our existing workforce is about 40-years of age. But we cannot hire additional new employees if we do not have a sustained jobs program to train them.

Regarding private developers paying for sewer and water improvements versus waiting for municipal government to act that recently happened in Honolulu near Waikiki Beach. The developer joined with other private landowners to pay for the sewer improvements to build a 2,000-foot relief sewer to divert 8 million gallons of sewage each day from the Kapiolani Boulevard sewer main. The city had plans to do the sewer but the developer could not wait years for the municipality to fund the project. Perhaps we need to do some private funding of water mains and sewers in Wisconsin to move proposed new development along. Similar projects could be funded in the cities of Franklin, Waukesha, and in more western Wisconsin communities that need additional improvements due to expected new growth.

The various WUCA 5-year labor agreements for Sewer, Water, Tunnel and Utility work with three area unions expire June 1, 2008. With our current down market in Wisconsin for underground construction that is expected to continue into 2008, the unions must be reasonable in their demands for a new labor agreement. Some signatory contractors recently indicated that they wanted in change in contract language to make them more competitive.

Area municipalities and public/private utilities must recognize that the cost of construction will not go down by waiting a year or two. Due to
Economic Forecast cont..

inflation, the cost of materials, fuel, and wages projects will just cost more in later years. Highways construction costs grew approximately three times faster from 2003 through 2006 than their fastest rate during any three-year period between 1990 and 2003, substantially reducing the purchasing power of highway dollars. Source: Better Roads magazine December 2007. With all the available bidders, this is a great time to bid water, sewer, and utility work. A smart municipal engineer will bid that project in 2008 versus waiting for more favorable state funding that may never come. Interest rates are still very low for borrowing and contractors have sharpened their pencils.

The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District is under court order to finish additional underground work prior to December 31, 2010. Therefore, the MMSD must move quickly to bid their projects or suffer state citations. Actually it was the MMSD that kept our man-hours of construction at 1.4 million man-hours in 2007 due to their two and three shift operations for Harbor Siphons and other major projects. We thank them for that as those workers contribute to the various health, pension, and skill improvement funds in Wisconsin that help maintain solvency of those self-funded programs. We also thank We Energies for their 2007 construction of a $2.5 billion coal-burning plant in Oak Creek, Wisconsin and their multi-million dollar water intake pipe into Lake Michigan to feed the new plant. That provided a lot of construction jobs for Wisconsin residents this year.

WUCA is always optimistic, as consumers need basic services of water, sewers, gas and electric. But as indicated above, we will increase our odds for a better year by convincing buyers of our services to bid now versus waiting for a better economy. This time of year may be the best time of year to bid underground utility work versus waiting another year or two.
In Memoriam

John C. Soeth
passed away March 20, 2008 at age 78. He was employed part-time at the Wanasek Corporation and served on the WUCA Safety & Insurance Committee for many years. In 2005 he was elected committee chairman. Residing in Burlington, Wisconsin for 46-years, he previously served as school administrator for the Burlington Area School District from 1963 to 1988.

Identity Fraud Scheme

It was reported that an identity fraud scheme is targeting landscape firms. A firm receives a fax that says it is from the United States Department of Transportation and that the Department requires certain information in order to qualify the firm as a prospective contractor. A "financial information release form" is provided and the company is told they must fax the form in to qualify for contracts. This letter is not from the U.S. Department of Transportation. If you have received such a letter you should immediately contact your bank. If you have already suffered a loss due to this scheme, please contact Secret Service Special Agent Donnelly at 210-846-4708 and report the loss to assist the Secret Service in pursuing this case.

The Secret Service recommends extreme caution in all financial disclose areas and recommends the following business practices:

- Keep a close eye on all reported activities in your bank account(s).
- Notify your bank that any additional lines of credit or wire transactions should be viewed with suspicion and must be directly cleared with your company's official agent.
- Never provide information that would give access to your bank accounts without fully confirming who is receiving that information.

A member of the Texas Nursery & Landscape Association would have lost $18,000 if their local bank had not called them to confirm the suspicious activity in their account. This scam is also going on in Illinois and Ohio.

(Source: Wisconsin Landscape Contractors Association March 2007)
The Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association is prepared to conduct 20-hour trench rescue training classes anywhere in the state. To date, four seminars were held in such places as Madison, Milwaukee, and Sussex, Wisconsin. After recent incidents in SE Wisconsin where a worker was injured and another killed, this WUCA seminar would be of great value to regular and volunteer fire departments together with trades people. WUCA purchased a trailer to haul shoring, lumber, and tools to conduct the seminar. Retired Milwaukee Fire Department Battalion Chief Wayne Simmons serves as the primary instructor.

In preparation for additional safety seminars, WUCA is soliciting from its members and friends additional training aides to include gas monitors, lumber, ropes, shoring equipment and small tools. If you would like to contribute to the effort, call Wayne at the number listed or the WUCA office 414/778-1050.
Career Day Held

Operating Engineers Local 139 and Wisconsin Laborers District Council Apprenticeship training coordinators participated in an Annual Career Day held March 18, 2008 at Waukesha County Expo. Over 700 high school students and 20 construction trades participated in the all-day program conducted by various construction trade unions and Allied Construction Employers Association.

Pat Ostrenga, Milwaukee OSHA maintained a booth at Career Day

www.osha.gov
WUCA/OSHA Safety Alliance

In March 2008, the Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association signed an Alliance with OSHA for the entire state of Wisconsin. Under this alliance, OSHA staff will attend quarterly WUCA safety meetings. The purpose of the alliance is to reduce injuries and work-site hazards, and enhancing safety and health for construction employees in Wisconsin. OSHA health & safety alliances are part of U.S. Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao’s ongoing efforts to improve safety awareness. To date more than 470 alliances throughout the nation have been created with organizations committed to provide information, guidance and access to training resources. Signing on behalf of the association was 2007 WUCA president Pete Schraufnagel.

George Yoksas, Milwaukee OSHA Area Director (left) and Pete Schraufnagel signing the WUCA/OSHA Alliance March 14, 2008. Mr. Yoksas can be called at 414/297-3315.

Wisconsin Unemployment Tax Increase

Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle signed into law an unemployment tax increase. Contractors were paying 9.8% on the first $10,500 of payroll. The new law requires a tax of 9.8% on the first $12,000 of payroll in years 2009 and 2010; $13,000 for years 2011 and 2012; and $14,000 for the year 2013. It was the first increase in 28-years. This action was due to a loss of cash reserves in the state. The fund had a cash balance of $1.8 billion in year 2000 but fell to $600 million in 2008 due to loss of jobs.
WUCA Safety & Insurance Committee Updates

Monthly meetings of the Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association Safety & Insurance Committee have proven to be a great value to member firms. Since our last WUCA newsletter, the following presentations were made at the association office.

Dave Biersach, Kelbe Brothers presented the topic of Quick Coupler Bucket Disconnects and provided various background materials to ensure safety when using this type equipment.

John Miller, Fleetmatics presented GPS (Global Positioning Systems)

Steve Bako, Laborers Local 113 and Willie D. Ellis, Operating Engineers Local 139 training facility.

Milwaukee OSHA representatives Nick Antonio and Luis A. Romas-Morales were present to discuss an Alliance with WUCA.

Jeff Servi, Operators Local 139 discussed the 2007-2008 training course schedule and various safety training classes offered in Coloma, Wisconsin. The school has numerous safety seminars that they conduct throughout the state. It can be found on the Local 139 Internet website www.woetrainingcenter.org
WUCA Safety & Insurance Committee Updates

Jeff Ferchen, The Crosby Group, Inc. presented the topic of *Proper Lifting & Rigging of Heavy Equipment and Material.*

Dave Decker, Henshue Construction; WUCA trench rescue training instructor Wayne Simmons; and Jim Kurth, Arby Construction.

WUCA contract lobbyist Brian Mitchell reported on passage of 2007 Senate Bill 273 that relating to the regulation of liquefied petroleum gas, application to Wisconsin Diggers Hotline, and providing for a penalty for noncompliance. Propane suppliers will now be required to inform their customers about their obligation to be members of Wisconsin Diggers Hotline if their service is in the street right-of-way. The legislation also clarifies the law relative to utility services embedded in a sidewalk.

WUCA Safety & Insurance Committee

Dr. Maja Jurisic, MD. Concentra Medical Center-Wisconsin presented the topic Return to Work Programs after an Injury. She also distributed a handout that included a copy of her slide presentation.

Jon Hering, WI. Shoring & Supply presented the topic Micro Gas Detectors. He spoke about the existing OSHA standards on this topic 1910.146 and 1926.21; calibration of the units; bump testing; ANSI Rules & Regulations; the need for tripods when working in a confined space if it was permitted space; and the importance of paperwork as OSHA will check for compliance.
WUCA Safety & Insurance Committee Updates

Greg Gates, Gudleske Tools, Inc. presented the topic of safe pipe sawing.

Steve Olson, McHugh Excavating & Plumbing safety director also participating in the monthly Safety & Insurance Committee meetings.

Phil Harris, Marsh Insurance presented the topic Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District Owner-Controlled Insurance Program (OCIP). This program combines all parties to include the construction owner, general and subcontractors, with one insurer chosen by the owner. Coverage is limited to a specific contract or jobsite. Historically this coverage is for major construction like MMSD tunnels, Marquette Interchange, university building construction, Miller Park Baseball stadium, Lambeau Field, and other large projects. Benefits include continuity of coverage; better insurance coverage with increased limits; control of all incidents; quick investigations, and improved jobsite safety. It also is cost effective.

Ralph Miller, Michels Tunneling; Dan Stefanich, AMS Hydro Excavating; and Tom Chiappetti, Thomas More Group attend the WUCA safety meeting.

Do you have a New or Interesting product or service? Consider writing an article for this newsletter! please submit an article to wuca@wuca.org
Wisconsin Common Ground
Alliance Partnership

Wisconsin CGA held meetings this spring at Wisconsin Diggers Hotline and elsewhere throughout SE Wisconsin. Topics of discussion included outreach to additional damage prevention stakeholders (excavators, plumbers, electricians); fall 2008 CGA Summit; Propane Safety Act; a possible WUCA member tour of Diggers Hotline; and more. Their April 23, 2008 meeting was held at the WUCA office.

WUCA safety directors are encouraged to attend these damage prevention meetings as We Energy, AT & T, SM& P Locating, Alliant Energy and others are normally present. The purpose of Wisconsin CGA meetings is to reduce damage to underground and overhead utility lines through better safety awareness programs. Darren P. Mulljo, Musson Brothers @ 414/303-2702 serves as Wisconsin CGA chairman and John Poole, AT & T serves as co-chairmen. Poole is located at 414/339-2554. The CGA national office together with a copy of damage prevention best practices can be found on the Internet at www.commongroundalliance.com.

Please Welcome Christine Fisher.

Christine Fisher will start May 5, 2008 as WUCA Administrative Assistant. She has approximately eight years experience and will work for WUCA 24-hours a week.
Mickey Mouse Appears for Breakfast

Disney character Mickey Mouse appeared at a 
WUCA breakfast held February 21, 2008 in 
conjunction with our Annual Midwinter 
Conference in Orlando at the Disney Yacht Club 
Resort. WUCA traveled down to Orlando, Florida 
with 120 Wisconsin delegates to escape the cold 
weather for five days. The conference held 
February 21-24 was under blue skies and warm 
temperatures. The conference included a group 
breakfast each day, quality educational events, 
three group receptions, and a dine-around at one 
of five EPCOT restaurants plus a dessert party. It 
also included a group viewing of the Indiana 
Jones Stunt Spectacular Show, group dinner at 
Disney’s Hollywood Studios and viewing of their 
Fantasia Show. There were about 40 kids in 
attendance. WUCA would like to thank our 
wonderful conference sponsors to include Miller-
Bradford & Risberg, Inc.; R & R Insurance; 
Ingersoll-Rand Equipment Services; FABCO 
Equipment Co.; Michael, Best & Friedrich; 
Davies Water/Ferguson Waterworks, HD Supply 
Waterworks; Brehmer Agency, Inc.; and Ritchie 
Brothers Auctioneers. Without their strong 
financial help, we could not have conducted this 
quality conference.
The Annual CONEX Equipment Show was held January 30-31, 2008 at Wisconsin State Fair Park in West Allis, Wisconsin. The show included a showcase of various materials and equipment offered by Wisconsin dealers that included many WUCA associate members. New products included the latest in skid steer loaders, excavators, and heavy trucks. Also WUCA member Platt Safety Services conducted seminars during both days of the show. WUCA maintained a promotional booth to greet members and helped sponsor the CONEX Show.
Federal Clean Water Legislation

Senate Bill 836, The Water Quality Investment Act of 2007 in the Senate would increase federal grant funding for municipal sewage infrastructure by providing funding for upgrades of sewage treatment plants. As mentioned earlier in this newsletter, H.R. 720, would amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and authorize $14-billion for low interest state revolving loans for wastewater improvements like collector and interceptor sewers. That act passed the House as is now in the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. Working with 23 other contractor associations, WUCA contributed to the hiring of a consultant, former Congressman Robert Roe to expedite this federal legislation to ensure more bidding opportunities for Wisconsin underground contractors.

WUCA Executive Director Richard W. Wanta, former congressman Robert Roe, and coalition members discuss strategy to acquire more federal money for collector and interceptor sewer work in various states. The coalition includes contractor groups from New York, Illinois, Michigan, California, New Jersey, Maryland, Connecticut, North Carolina, New England, Ohio, West Virginia, and more. The next meeting of the coalition is May 21, 2008 in Washington, D.C. to lobby legislators. The coalition will also visit Milwaukee October 2-3, 2008, Phister Hotel.
Milwaukee’s Infrastructure is in Poor Condition

According to the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* dated April 1, 2008, the city of Milwaukee is years behind in meeting their infrastructure needs. It reported that in 1988 the capital budget had $19 million for street repair and $13 million for sewer, water, and lighting and landscaping. Due to inflation those same dollars would be $38 million just for street repair. The article indicated that Milwaukee is 20-years behind in their budget for roads and other infrastructure repair. Anyone can see that by all the deep potholes around the city.

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**WUCA/Public Works Industry Improvement Program Scholarships Available**

The Wisconsin Underground Contractors Association and its Public Works Industry Improvement Program will once again offer scholarship awards in increments of $500, $1,000 or more to deserving students during June 2008. Awards will be presented at the annual WUCA golf outing August 4, 2008 at North Hills Country Club, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin.

For a scholarship application, call WUCA at 414/778-1050 or send an e-mail to wuca@wuca.org

Scholarships are available to WUCA/IIP members and their employees.
Clean Water Needs Survey

The federal Environmental Protection Agency finally released the final results of the 2004 Clean Water Survey. It indicated that $202 Billion is needed over 20-years for the wastewater state revolving loan program. The survey indicated that Wisconsin municipalities needed $3.893 Billion to make necessary improvements to collector and interceptor sewers and treatment plants. On a related topic, WUCA representatives will be in Washington, D.C. May 21-22, 2008 to lobby our Wisconsin congressional delegation to reauthorize the Federal Clean Water Fund.

IRS Sets Mileage Reimbursement for 2008

The federal Internal Revenue Service increased the reimbursement to 50.5 cents per mile for people driving for business purposes. This is the highest rate ever! The increase is due to higher fuel costs and other auto expenses. Last year the rate was 48.5 cents.

Frequent Safety Seminars on Trenching & Excavation

WUCA safety instructor Harry Butler conducting one of many competent person safety seminars at the WUCA office, spring 2008. For class information, call 414/778-1050.

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Status Report Health & Apprenticeship Funds

Wisconsin Laborers Health Fund
For 4 months ending December 31, 2007 the fund had assets of $34.6 million compared to $33.9 million one-year prior. Expenses over that same period were $20 million versus $19 million one-year prior. For 12 months ending August 31, 2007 the fund had revenue of $92.4 million compared to $80 million one-year prior. Expenses during that time were $73 million compared to $64 million one-year prior.

Wisconsin Laborers Apprenticeship for SE Wisconsin
Call laborer apprenticeship coordinator Cindy Anderson at 1-800-275-6939 or 608-577-3636.

Operating Engineers Local 139 Health Fund
For 7-months ending December 31, 2007 the fund had revenues of $79.7 million compared to $84 million one-year prior. Expenses during that period were $39 million compared to $39 million one-year prior. The fund has 33 months of cash reserve.

Operating Engineers Local 139 Skill & Apprenticeship Fund
There are 469 total apprentices in the fund. Of that amount 40 are minority apprentices, 25 are female. For 7-months ending December 31, 2007 the fund had revenue of $3.9 million compared to $3 million one-year prior. Expenses during that same period were $2.3 million compared to $1.6 million one-year prior.

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Federal Stimulus Package
Construction firms may benefit from the federal Economic Stimulus Package Act of 2008. The act increases Section 179 deductions to $250,000 from $128,000 for newly acquired capital assets that otherwise would have been depreciated differently. You are encourage to see your accountant about the tax benefits of buying heavy construction equipment in 2008 and 2009.
WUCA Members Donate over $17,000 to Make-A-Wish Foundation of Wisconsin

On November 14, 2007 WUCA members and industry friends donated over $17,000 to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Wisconsin during a WUCA Octoberfest theme party, Weissgerber’s Golden Mast Inn on Okauchee Lake, Oconomowoc, WI. Over 170 people attended the WUCA fundraiser that included a German dance band, dancers and great German foods and desserts.

Over 100 items were auctioned off at the WUCA fundraiser.

Presenting the check to Wisconsin Make-A-Wish were Larry Ratayczak; Mainline Sewer & Water; Ray Olson, Globe Contractors; Pete Schraufnagel, Super Excavators; Robert Olson, Globe Contractors; Tom Schaitel, KS Energy Services; Chuck Palmer, Michael Best & Friedrich; and Dennis Biondich, American Sewer Services. Accepting the check was Patti Gorsky, president, Make-A-Wish Foundation of Wisconsin. Over the years, members and industry friends donated over $360,000 to area charities at WUCA scheduled events.
The WUCA Safety & Insurance Committee approved 2007 Safety Awards for Safety Excellence to the following firms: AMS Hydro Excavation; Hawk Construction; ZDB Utility Construction; E & N Hughes Company, Inc., Interstate Sawing Company, Inc., Willkomm Excavating & Grading; McHugh Excavating & Plumbing; Wondra Excavating; Rawson Contractors; Reesman’s Excavating & Grading; and, Arby Construction.

Left to right: Steven Klomsten, Willkomm Excavating; Steve Olson, McHugh Excavating & Plumbing; Duke Long, Interstate Sawing; Don Stefanich, AMS Hydro Excavating; George Yoksas, Milwaukee OSHA; Bob Mayer, Wondra Excavating; Greg Reesman (JR), Reesman Excavating; and, Don Zubrod, ZDB Utilities.
Operating Engineers Local 139 Skill & Apprenticeship School Adds Welding Class

In cooperation with Fox Valley Technical College, the operators’ school located in Coloma, Wisconsin recently constructed work booths to train people in welding. The training site consists of nearly 400 acres and provides hands-on training and classroom instruction. Held during the off-season, the skill improvement courses are typically three weeks long. Certifications that are required in the operator craft are also available through our training programs. To learn more about operator training opportunities, see Internet website www.iuoe139.org

Various welding booths and a bus to take students around school grounds for equipment training.
Sewer Work

In February 2008 it was reported that 29 area communities in the Milwaukee area spent a total of $14.5 million on sewer improvements in year 2007. Milwaukee County further agreed to spend $4.5 million on sewer work in area parkways.
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