The ASA President’s Award was established in 2005 to recognize a person or organization that has made exceptional contributions to the shotcrete industry. It is the sole responsibility of the immediate outgoing President of ASA to select the recipient of this award. Since 2006, 14 well-deserving individuals and one organization have been awarded the ASA President’s Award, all of whom dedicated their time and energy to advancing the shotcrete industry. For 2020, at the virtual Sixteenth Annual ASA Awards Celebration, the immediate outgoing President of ASA, Ryan Poole, presented this award to Lars Balck, for his exemplary leadership in the shotcrete industry, advancing and facilitating the mission of ASA.

“This year’s President’s Award is given to one of the founding members of ASA. His long service with ASA has built the foundation of our Association that has given people like me and many others the opportunity to serve as officers, Board members and active participants in our programs and activities. He was involved in the original establishment as an Association of members with a common goal of advancing the quality and breadth of application of shotcrete.

My choice for the President’s Award is a retired business owner in a company that depended on quality and productivity of shotcrete placement for their product. He was always at the forefront in the firm for shotcrete quality, through training of nozzlemen, establishment of standards, and evaluating new and innovative methods and equipment, while keeping safety and quality at the top of all the field crew members’ minds.

Finally, my selected recipient has had a long history of giving back to our industry not only with ASA through the years, but also in ACI. In ACI he has provided leadership to the ACI 506 Shotcrete Technical Committee, as chair of both the main committee and subcommittees, as well as being an active voting member for decades. In his roles with ACI, he has exhibited the proven ability to get the volunteer members to work together and reach a consensus as new documents are created, or older documents revised.

My choice for recipient of the President’s Award is Lars Balck. Lars is incoming president of ASA for 2021, and our first president back in 1998. I’m sure we will see him very active in leading ASA…again. Please join me in congratulating and thanking Lars for the time, effort, and commitment he’s given us, both as an Association and as an industry advancing in quality and breadth of applications over the last two decades.”

—Ryan Poole