



This is What We Do

By Charles S. Hanskat, Executive Director and Alice McComas, Assistant Executive Director



Much of the work that ASA accomplishes is through the volunteer efforts of our active membership. ASA's five active committees normally meet in person twice a year – Spring meetings at ASA's annual Convention (this March we met in Savannah, GA), and again in the Fall, normally the Saturday before ACI's Fall Concrete Convention. Seeing a decline in attendance at our Fall meetings, the Board of Directors voted this Spring to move to a single in-person meeting each year (at ASA's Annual Convention). ASA's Committee Chairs were then charged to meet virtually every 2 to 3 months for the remainder of the year to ensure advancement of the committee work. The Board will monitor this new initiative and adjust accordingly.

ASA Committees are open to all, but voting members must be ASA members in good standing, at least at the individual level. Meetings will be posted on ASA's website calendar (shotcrete.org/calendar) and announced via ASA's monthly eNewsletter, "What's in the Mix". If you wish to join a committee, active participation and attendance at most of each year's meetings are required.

At this year's Spring meetings, a number of initiatives and action items were discussed. Here's a snapshot of the work in progress on these committees.

CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATION COMMITTEE

The Qualified Shotcrete Contractor – Pool (QSC – Pool) qualification program was launched at ASA's 2025 Convention in Savannah, GA. The policies, website, and applications have been updated, the renewal process vetted, and the committee is looking forward to another chapter in its work. The CQ Committee plans to spend more energy to better support qualified contractors. A task group was assigned to review ASA's current FAQs to update, tag by market segment, and re-present in a more user-friendly format for contractors. The committee also aims to develop best practice ideas, to be a resource for value

creation for our contractors, and perhaps spark some future articles in *Shotcrete* magazine.

EDUCATION & SAFETY COMMITTEE

The *Safety Guidelines for Shotcrete* (SGS) has gone through a review and update process. Final comments were submitted just prior to the meeting and were mostly editorial. A request for additional information on underground safety concerns was made and the ASA Underground Chair, Christoph Goss, offered to submit additional information for a future revision. It was agreed that staff would incorporate all updates and edits, sending out a clean version for a no protest consent ballot. Barring any objections, we hope to get full consent and move forward to publish the updates to ASA's updated SGS. This document is included as a reference document in ACI's CP-61 Shotcrete Inspector Reference Package. We trust that ACI will use the revised SGS in the upcoming revisions to the CP-61 package along with newer versions of the pertinent ACI documents.

The committee also discussed ASA Shotcrete education in depth. Previously, ASA's Education Committee championed all efforts to update and maintain the ASA Shotcrete education provided at ASA-sponsored ACI-Shotcrete Certification sessions. ASA takes our role seriously in providing up-to-date education for shotcreters. ASA education has always been a requirement for those pursuing ACI Shotcrete certification under ASA, but not for those recertifying. The committee voted and was affirmed by the ASA Board of Directors to require attendance at the ASA education for recertification candidates at sessions as well. The ASA-Sponsored ACI Shotcrete Certification policy has been updated to reflect this decision.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Contractor Qualification | Marcus von der Hofen

Education & Safety | Derek Pay

Membership & Marketing | Jason Myers

Pool & Recreational Shotcrete | Ryan Oakes

Underground | Christoph Goss

MEMBERSHIP & MARKETING COMMITTEE

The Membership & Marketing Committee has been working to develop a Membership Journey survey. This survey, distributed for comment at the meeting, was designed to help ASA better understand the needs and interests of our membership. The full survey will be issued to the membership via email: Please look for it and complete it so your voice can be heard!

ASA continues to expand our outreach efforts to offer complementary seminars to universities, specifiers, local ACI/ICRI/PHTA chapter meetings and conventions, DOTs, and other interested groups. These have been both in-person or online webinars. Members of the committee were encouraged to look for new opportunities to have ASA present about the state-of-the-art of shotcrete. Questions about our outreach opportunities can be directed to info@shotcrete.org for details.

Members are ASA's best marketers. A few members asked for small postcard or business card-sized marketing items for them to distribute to clients or other contractors who are not yet members: This is in progress. ASA currently has business cards with QR codes pointing to both our resources and technical inquiry pages, available for marketing purposes. If you would like a supply to keep on hand, please email info@shotcrete.org. Additionally, ASA staff are working on other small promotional items for member use in your marketing efforts. Thank you to all who share in this desire to grow ASA membership, get out the word about quality shotcrete, and pass on ASA's resources!



Our Convention Task Group was tasked to meet shortly after the Savannah convention to review search parameters for upcoming ASA Convention venues, including ASA's 30th Anniversary convention venue for 2028! Several requests were made to explore a more unique location for this milestone event.

POOL & RECREATIONAL SHOTCRETE COMMITTEE

Pool Position Statement #8: *Steel Reinforcement for Shotcrete in the Pool Industry*, a paper long in the making, had final comments reviewed and addressed at this meeting. The Committee voted to approve the paper pending modifications submitted, and it appears in this issue of *Shotcrete* magazine on page 38! A very big thank you to all involved!

A new subcommittee task group was formed to look at skateparks, another shotcrete market with limited coverage by codes and standards. This task group is charged with identifying areas of concern for the skatepark market and looking at how to adapt some of the topics of our existing pool position statements for the skatepark market as well.

UNDERGROUND COMMITTEE

Recommendations of tests for evaluation of early strength of concrete were a topic for a proposed Position Statement from the Underground Committee. An article on the topic was published in the 4th Quarter, 2024 issue of *Shotcrete* magazine. After much discussion, the Committee thanked the authors for their work on the article and decided not to complete a Position Statement on the topic, as the feeling was the article could serve as a great reference as well. Final comments on this issue will appear in the next Underground Committee Chair memo and in an upcoming article from Andy Thompson, due out in the 3rd Quarter 2025 issue of *Shotcrete*.

As you can see, our ASA committees are in many ways the lifeblood of our Association. They help set directions, identify new areas to help our members and the industry, and then produce the deliverables that move our industry forward. There is always a lot to do. That's how we progress! All our engaged committee members who routinely share their time and experience to better the shotcrete community are our unsung heroes. Would you like to play a part? We would love to hear your thoughts and hope to see you as a future contributor to one (or more) of our ASA Committees!

ASA MEMBERS! READY TO JOIN A COMMITTEE?

Here's the easiest way to do that! Visit shotcrete.org, click My ASA in the top-right navigation bar, and log in with your username and password. Once you have logged in, you will see a list of committees; click the 'Request' button to notify the committee chair that you're interested in becoming a member of their committee. You will be contacted by the chair once they have reviewed your request.

My ASA