

# Recognizing Women's Contributions to Shotcrete

By Bill Geers



Welcome to the Quarter 4, 2025 issue of Shotcrete Magazine, an edition devoted to highlighting “Women in Shotcrete”. Over the years of my involvement with the American Shotcrete Association (ASA) and the shotcrete industry, I have seen the considerable impact women have made on the growth of the ASA and the

broader shotcrete sector. Many accomplished women have undertaken essential responsibilities both within ASA and across the shotcrete industry.

## KEY LEADERS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This edition presents profiles of prominent women whose leadership and achievements have a substantial influence on the field. Throughout ASA's history, numerous women have provided significant contributions to both the Association and the wider shotcrete industry.

Examples of such leaders I personally have seen include:

- Randle Emmrich, President of Coastal Gunite, whose leadership continues to inspire
- Ezgi Wilson, current Director of Engineering for Transport in New South Wales, Australia, whose expertise and vision drive progress on a global basis
- Cathy Burkert, former ASA President, who made history in March 2009 by becoming the first female ACI-certified shotcreter

## KEY CONTRIBUTOR TO ASA

In addition to the contributions of esteemed professionals in the field, the ASA has greatly benefited from the commitment of individuals such as Alice McComas, ASA's Assistant

Director. Her significant contributions have played a vital role in advancing ASA's ongoing success.

In recognition of her exemplary service, Alice was presented with the 2022 ASA President's Award, acknowledging her, at that time, of 11 years of outstanding dedication to ASA. In her now over 14 years of service, she has effectively managed and grown complex programs, including the ACI Shotcrete Certification for both shotcreters and inspectors, as well as the new ASA qualified contractor programs for structural and pool shotcrete contractors. Alice's professionalism and steadfast dedication have been central to ASA's growth and to the advancement of quality standards throughout the shotcrete industry. I also want to recognize and personally thank her for all the help and support that she has provided to me as the current President of ASA. I am thankful for having such a qualified and dedicated individual on our staff — makes my job much easier!

## CONCLUSION

In addition to these leaders, many other women have made important contributions as project managers, engineers, shotcreters, educators, and innovators within the shotcrete community. Their dedication and ability have advanced industry best practices and fostered greater inclusivity in a field that has traditionally been male-dominated. By highlighting their experiences and acknowledging their achievements, we look to encourage and empower more women to pursue careers and leadership positions in shotcrete placement in a wealth of applications, and to become members of our Association. The industry continues to grow, offering significant opportunities for women now and even more in the future.

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