“Together we can leverage the power of our strategic goals and continue to advance as an association. I believe whether you’re a small producer or a big producer, when markets grow, you sell more products – that’s the name of the game. That’s how you win. And we will win.”

Darryl Winegar
Midwest Block and Brick
2019 NCMA Chair of the Board
WHAT WENT ON

CONTROL JOINT RECOMMENDATIONS Be on the lookout for new recommendations on control joint spacing when using half-high CMU. This update was approved at the meeting and will be published later this year.

CONCRETE FACING UNITS Through ASTM, the association will help steer the update of ASTM C1634’s title to “Concrete Masonry Facing Units.” This change will broaden the scope of the standard to cover new and innovative veneer units.

DYNAMIC FORUMS Both the Family Business/Small Business Forum and the first ever Production Technology Forum were packed with attendees and great discussion. A wide range of topics was covered, including manufacturing workforce, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software, and so much more.

UNIT DESIGN COMPETITION The annual competition saw three lauded teams present their university’s design entry to be considered by the various industry judges and the competition audience. Iowa State took first place with their unique, river pollution-solving block, with Mississippi State and North Carolina State taking second and third place, respectively.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Representatives from the Department of Commerce actively participated in the NCMA Midyear Meeting. They shared their objective to support the development of an industry-led CMU Checkoff Program that would improve revenues and create jobs for our American manufacturing and construction industry. Additional information about the process of program development and an expected 2020 industry referendum is forthcoming.

CONCRETE WOMEN CONNECT This first-year group held its second all-female reception where over 20 industry members attended to network and exchange information. They were treated with an informative talk by Besser Company’s Terri Gulke on her experience and issues she’s encountered during her successful career. If you are not on the Concrete Women Connect email group, contact Carrington Blencowe: cblencowe@ncma.org.
BY THE NUMBERS

319 ATTENDEES

5 NEW YPG ATTENDEES

47+ HOURS OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

12+ HOURS OF NETWORKING

FOUNDATION:

$255K IN NEW GRANTS

6 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

CALL TO ACTION

SIGN UP

Register today for ICON-Xchange 2020 in Salt Lake City, February 20-25. New improvements have been made and will be in full-effect this winter in Utah, including more time between meetings and special super-low discounts for B2B producers. LINK

INTERACT

Coming to Instagram and Facebook soon, NCMA and ICPI are collaborating on a special social media campaign geared to encourage younger generations to become hardscape installers. Look for @hardscapingis soon.

SUBMIT YOUR DATA

Be a part of the solution and the industry's success story by participating in the upcoming 2019 Masonry and SRW sales survey.

REVIEW

NCMA’s 2018 Annual Report is available for download on the NCMA website. Designed around the strategic plan, the document provides insightful details on the state of the association. LINK

NEW COURSE

A third CMU-focused course will be hosted on AEC Daily. It’ll focus on resilience — look for it later this year. LINK
AWARDS & RECOGNITION

HALL OF FAME

CHARLES NEWSOME
Johnson Concrete/Carolina Stalite

In the concrete products industry since 1968, and one of the leading voices of Johnson Concrete since the 1970s, Newsome was recognized for his tireless and relentless efforts to advance the industry and improve the role of NCMA and related associations.

CHAMPIONS AWARDS

DAVID BIGGS, P.E., S.E.
Biggs Consulting Engineering

The first individual not employed by an industry member to be appointed to the NCMA Foundation Board of Trustees, Biggs was recognized for his vision, leadership and passion for advancing concrete masonry design and construction.

RICHARD BENNETT P.E., PHD
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

An esteemed professor and director of the university’s civil and environmental engineering department, Bennett was awarded for his passion for masonry and for helping the industry grow and advance through the refinement of software, chairing various committees and serving as a respected advocate.

SERVICE AWARD

DEBORAH W. MORRIS, CEM, CMP
NCMA

Morris was recognized for three decades of service to the industry, which saw her direct and orchestrate some of the most vital and transformative meetings and events for members in that time.
CERTIFICATIONS

NCMA's committees have developed a variety of certification programs that provide clear and convenient pathways to recognize knowledge and commitment. Take a look at what is currently available as well as new programs discussed at the Midyear Meeting.

SRW INSTALLER CERTIFICATION
It's never been easier to host a class. Sign up for this fall. [LINK]

SRW SALES PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION
Raise the bar and your sales team’s acumen. Have them all credentialed this year. [LINK]

MSV PRODUCER CERTIFICATION
Certify your products now. It’s quality assurance and marketing all in one. [LINK]

IN DEVELOPMENT

SRW SPECIAL INSPECTOR
Plans in place to launch February 2020.

MSV INSTALLER
Program likely being developed in 2020.
The tallest building in Seattle, the Columbia Center, and its renowned Columbia Tower Club was the venue for the first-ever NCMA Associate-hosted Block Party! on Tuesday evening, August 6. In addition to providing jaw-dropping views of the Emerald City, Mount Rainier and the vast adjacent Puget Sound, the event served up some of the region’s finest cuisine, friendly games and excellent networking.

**CONTRIBUTORS**

ACM Chemistries, Inc.
Advanced Concrete Technologies
ARCOSA Lightweight
Besser Company
Billy Wauhop & Associates
BlockUp
Canadian Concrete Masonry Producers Association (CCMPA)
CfFOAM, Inc
Columbia Machine, Inc.
Concrete Plant International
Davis Colors
GCP Applied Technologies
GMS Molds
Industrial Services International (ISI), LLC
iwi Concrete Equipment Group/
A Division of iwi group, LLC
Krete Industries, Inc.
KVM International A/S
LANXESS Corporation
MASA
Op-Smart
Pathfinder Systems
Poyatos
PROSOCO, Inc.
QUADRA USA, Inc.
Rampf Molds Industries, Inc.
Rekers (NA), Inc.
Solomon Colors, Inc.
Teka North America, Inc.
The Euclid Chemical Company
Topwerk America Ltd.
Westblock Systems, Inc.
UPCOMING EVENTS

ICON-XCHANGE 2020/NCMA ANNUAL CONVENTION
February 20-25, 2020
Salt Lake City, Utah

BASIC BLOCK & SALES COURSE
Oct 2-3, Denver, CO

YPG WORKSHOP
Sept 17-18, Atlanta, GA

HARDSCAPE NORTH AMERICA
Oct 16-18, Louisville, KY

COMMERCIAL SALES COURSE
Dec 4-6, Atlanta, GA

CONCRETE MASONRY LEVEL 2 SALES COURSE
Dec 5-6, Herndon, VA