



# Quarter-Century Society, Inc.

Founded 1923

## The Bulletin

### Chapter Locations

AL - Mobile, Moss Point,  
Prattville, Riverdale

AR - Camden (inactive), Pine  
Bluff

FL - Pensacola

GA - Augusta, Savannah

IA - Clinton

**IL - Chicagoland (NEW)**

LA-Bastrop, Bogalusa, Mansfield,  
Springhill

ME - Otis

MS - Natchez, Vicksburg

NY - NYC, Ticonderoga

NC - Roanoke Rapids (inactive)

OH - Cincinnati

OK - Valliant

OR - Calapooya, Vaughn

SC - Georgetown

TX - Orange, Texarkana

VA - Franklin

WI - Fond du Lac, Statewide

Canada - Dalhousie

### A Message from the Director



I've been on the job now for six months and here are a few things I've learned about running the daily operations of The Quarter-Century Society, Inc.: 1) Most of our members have a limited understanding of the mission of the Quarter-Century Society. 2) It is not so easy to communicate with 39,000 people. 3) If you provide information about the QCS to enough members, those in need will come forward. 4)

There are many dedicated members who assist local members in need but we need more members to volunteer.

I would say the majority of our members do not fully understand the true mission of The Quarter-Century Society. It's not their fault. They may have received a QCS certificate when they reached 25 years of service. Many haven't received one. If there is not a local chapter in the area, there is no one local to educate new members. How would anyone remember the QCS after retiring? If they are lucky, a local chapter has an annual gathering. This brings me to the issue of communicating with 39,000 members.

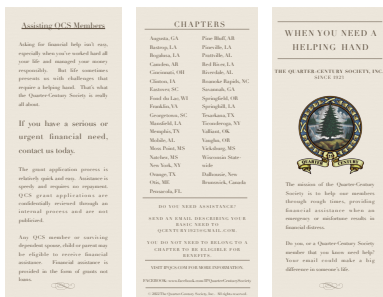
I thought sending an email to 39,000 people would be easy. Rookie mistake! It seems there are a lot of restrictions for sending emails. You can't just blast something out to 39,000 people (duh). I found out that members must subscribe to our emails to be compliant with the various regulations. So, if you haven't done so, please subscribe to our newsletter and other emails (I promise not to bombard you with emails). Go to our website at [ipqcs.com](http://ipqcs.com). At the bottom of the page is a subscribe button. If you already have subscribed, thank you.

Along with attempting to build our email subscriber base, I am now sending each new member of the QCS a personal welcome letter and brochure. Each year we have around 500 new members. In the future, I'll be working on communicating with the many QCS members who do not have a local chapter. We may experiment with Zoom meetings to re-

# Of Interest

## New Brochure

Our 2022 QCS brochure has been printed. Chapters can request a set for their location. The brochure is a great way to keep members informed about the mission of the Society. The brochure can also be viewed on our website [ipqcs.com](http://ipqcs.com).



## Homepage

Find us at [ipqcs.com](http://ipqcs.com)



Here you can find more information about the Society. Links are provided to subscribe to our Newsletter and our Facebook site.

introduce the Society. Maybe we can start some new chapters. Do you have an interest in starting a local chapter? Drop me a line.

One positive thing that came out of my last email is that a broader audience received The Bulletin. Several of our members received assistance. I'm very happy the Society was able to assist a few more members who otherwise would not be aware of our existence.

I end this with a sincere thanks to the many dedicated chapter leaders who volunteer their time to meet the needs of QCS members. Anytime I ask a chapter for help they are more than willing to respond. Great people make great organizations.

*Mike Gorski*

## Chapter Renewal Effort

A key strategic effort is underway to assist in the renewal of our chapters. Ed Barr, our Board President, is working with members of the Board to survey chapter leaders. The purpose of the survey is to understand the key issues facing each chapter and creating strategies to address these issues.

Four key findings to date: 1) Members are not fully aware of the purpose of the Society. 2) Some committees are over-extended; it is imperative each committee has a succession plan allowing for smooth leadership transition. 3) Covid has had a big impact on our chapters. It will take some time to recover. 4) Concern was expressed over the requirements for grants. Specifically mentioned were the detailed questions in our current grant investigation form.

Some actions are already underway to improve our members' awareness and understanding of the mission including the new brochure, enhanced outreach via email, and direct mailings. The Grant investigation forms are being reviewed to see what can be done to simplify them.

## QCS Mission

The mission of the Quarter-Century Society is to help our members through rough times, providing financial assistance when an emergency or misfortune results in financial distress.



## Bogalusa Chapter Holds Inaugural Meeting

On April 4th, about 40 members of the Bogalusa Chapter gathered for a meeting (pictured above). The meeting was the Chapter's first. They celebrated with a meal of Cajun pasta at the local American Legion Hall. The Bogalusa Chapter leadership committee is comprised of Dick Green, Chairperson; Stanley Nathaniel, Vice Chair; Ray Thomas, Secretary; Rick Adams, Treasurer; and Lisa Milton, Events Coordinator. Having an annual meeting like this can be key to a chapter's success.

## New Chapter Formed



A new chapter called Chicagoland was formed in June. The chapter will have around 500 members and will use IP's Northlake Corrugated Box Plant as their home base. Chapter officers include Vito Gozdiewicz, Chairperson; Karn Olmetti, Vice Chair; Swapna Rao, Secretary; and Treasurer Ed Mokry. Plans are in the works for an introductory mailing and a video conference followed by an in-person meeting in the fall.

This is one of the first chapters formed around a group of box plants in a regional area. Special thanks to Peter Heist, Shawn Lawson, and Gary Gavin at IP for their assistance in facilitating the formation of this Chapter Leadership group. We hope to repeat this model for forming chapters in other locations around the country.

## Riverdale Chapter Annual Meeting

The Riverdale Chapter held their annual meeting on May 6th (pictured here). QCS Board President Ed Barr joined over 150 members of the Chapter for the dinner. Ed gave a presentation on the QCS and was able to meet with many old colleagues from his time (20 years ago!) at Riverdale. Riverdale Mill Manager Bretton De Jong also spoke. Dinner included roast beef, chicken cordon bleu, wild rice, green beans, salad, peach cobbler (yum), and cake. I guess no one went home hungry.



## Chapter Closings

Unfortunately, the Roanoke Rapids, NC and Camden, AR chapters have been placed on inactive status. The leadership team members at both locations were unable to continue working. We were not able to secure replacements. Please let me know if you are in the area and would like to volunteer to reactivate one of these chapters. Any members in need of assistance in these areas can direct their requests to the Executive Director at [qcentury1923@gmail.com](mailto:qcentury1923@gmail.com).