



The Quarter-Century Society, Inc.

Founded 1923

The Bulletin

Chapter Locations

AL - Mobile, Moss Point,
Prattville, Riverdale

AR - Camden, Pine Bluff

FL - Pensacola

GA - Augusta, Savannah

IA - Clinton

LA-Bastrop, Bogalusa,
Mansfield, Springhill

ME - Otis

MS - Natchez, Vicksburg

NY - NYC, Ticonderoga

NC - Roanoke Rapids

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

After 8 dedicated years, Bill Wilson has stepped down from the Executive Director of the Quarter-Century Society. Over the last 3 months, Bill has been mentoring me as I transition into this role. Until you step into the shoes, you can't imagine all of the work that running the day-to-day operations of the QCS entail. My heartfelt thanks to Bill for his tireless efforts that have served this Society so well. Bill, we wish you all the best.

A little about me, Mike Gorski, your new Executive Director: I spent 37 years working initially with Champion and then in 2000 with International Paper. I retired in 2016 to run my one man consulting business. My early career was spent managing timberlands in South Carolina. Eventually, I found my way into Human Resources and Change Management for Forest Products, Printing and Communications Papers and eventually in the Center of Excellence for Supply Chain.

I've been a member of the QCS Board of Directors since 2018, specializing in managing our 39,000-person database and assisting our former Board President, Joyce Margulies, in updating our website. I was excited in 2021 to apply for and be accepted as the new director. We have some exciting challenges ahead. I'm keen to address the wide gap we have in our membership - mainly those members who currently don't have a chapter they can call home. Over 60% of the QCS reside more than 50 miles from an existing chapter. The ultimate goal is to raise awareness among all of our members so they can have equal access to the unique assistance the Society can provide. I look forward to serving the Society in the years to come.

Michael Gorski, Executive Director

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.

Do you, or a Quarter-Century Society member that you know need help? Your brief email could make a difference in someone's life.

Email qcentury1923@gmail.com

Membership At-a-Glance

39,000 Members, All 50 States, DC, PR and Canada

Average Age 70

85% Retired

15% Women

Top 5 States with QCS Members: Alabama, Texas, North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina.

Top 5 Cities with QCS Members : Hamilton, OH; Savannah, GA; Georgetown, SC; Bastrop, LA; Franklin, VA

Interested in Starting a Chapter in Your Area?

Email qcentury1923@gmail.com to find out more about the process.

1st Quarter 2022 Board of Directors Meeting

Your Board of Directors held the 1st Quarter Board Meeting on Thursday, March 17. The meeting included a 2021 Year End Financial Review, 2021 Grant Review, and a Strategic Plan Update.

Craig Woel and Carol Tusch from the International Paper Investment team provided a review of the Society's investment portfolio. The portfolio earned 13.6% in 2021, outperforming the portfolio benchmark return of 11.3%. The 3-year return equaled 15.3% with our 10-year annual returns coming in at 9.2%.

Sixty-two grants totaling over \$70,000 were given in 2021. Grants were 10% lower than 2020. The impact of the Covid pandemic continues to impact our ability to meet as Chapters. Chapter meetings play an important role in identifying grant opportunities. Fifteen of our thirty-one chapters provided grants to QCS members. Retirees received 73% of the grants. Dependents received 18% and active employees received 10% of the funds dispersed. Over the last 20 years, the Society has distributed about \$1.6 million to QCS members, spouses, and dependents.

This year the QCS Board of Directors is embarking on an ambitious strategic plan. The Board's goal is to ensure all members are aware of and have equal access to the unique assistance the QCS can provide in times of need. Currently 61% of our members are not affiliated with a chapter.

The 4 major efforts for our plan include: renewing existing chapters, creating new chapters, finding ways to include members not associated with chapters, and leveraging our social media initiative.

Social Media and the QCS

The Quarter-Century Society's Facebook private group now has over 1400 members. Old friends and new can be found on our site. Find a link to the site on the QCS website ipqcs.com. Click the link "Quarter-Century Society Private Facebook Page" in the menu on the left side of the page. Once you locate the group, click "join," answer the three required questions and submit.