



THE BULLETIN

A Message From The Director

The following letter was received from the daughter of a surviving spouse of a QCS member. As a surviving spouse, she was eligible for a grant. A chapter representative responded to the request, investigated and approved the grant.

“My heart is overflowing with thanks and appreciation to you and The Quarter Century Society. I am also speaking on behalf of my mother who turned 94 on March 3, 2012. I received the Society grant check today, and I am sure this will be a very great help in having the work done on my mother’s house. You have eased a whole lot of anxieties, especially where the sinking floor was concerned.

Like I said, my father worked for International Paper Company for 25 years. At that time we lived 15 miles away, and he worked shift work. Before he got a personal automobile, he would walk over 2 miles to the “highway” to “catch” a ride with a fellow employee. Sometimes it was night, and the country was truly dark with no road lights, and feral hogs and other animals lurked in the bushes, but my father was never harmed, and was so proud to be working for International. He talked about it day and night. Now I know he would be even prouder to know the care and concern that you have shown. So, I thank you on behalf of my father who passed away in 1984.

Again, thank you and may God continue to bless all of you.”

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Society’s purpose is to provide financial aid quickly and confidentially to and for the benefit of a member or a deceased member’s surviving eligible dependent who is in need of financial assistance in the face of misfortune or emergency.

New QCS Chapter Established

The Springfield, OR mill held an initial interest meeting, led by Terry Bushnell, Human Resources Manager, on March 1, 2012. Approximately 20 active twenty-five plus year employees attended this meeting, and reached consensus to proceed with the establishment of a chapter. Membership cards and certificates have been received by the mill and they have begun the process of signing up their active employees with at least 25 years of service as of August 4, 2009. They will then reach out to employees who retired after August 4, 2009, with at least 25 years of service. A governing Board will be established, and By-Laws completed in the very near future. Once chapter By-Laws are established, the chapter will receive its initial allotment to make grants. Good work and thanks Terry Bushnell! Board member Robin Johnson was instrumental in making this happen.

New Email Address Established

IPOCS@cox.net is the new email address for the Society. The call letters have been used by our web site for the past five years. The current email address, plangenus@cox.net will also be used for Society business for at least one more year before transitioning to the new address.

Calendar of Events - Second Quarter 2012

April - Distribution of Chapter Allocations
May 15 - Federal Form 990 Due
May 21 - Audit of QCS books

June 21 - Quarterly Board Meeting
June 30 - NY State Filing Due

Moss Point Chapter Reopens

We are delighted to report that Moss Point, MS has restarted a chapter. Under the leadership of Harold Frost and Thurman Mc Neese, the chapter became official in March when it established a Governing Committee, approved its By-laws and opened a bank account. There are over 450 people living in the area eligible for membership. Our thanks to the Mobile Chapter for helping Harold with start up, and for responding to requests for grants. The Governing Committee will include Harold Frost- Chairman, Jim Foster- Vice Chairman, Ralph Davis-Secretary and Duncan May-Treasurer. The mill closed in 2001. It produced bleached board and coated label stock.

Grants Up in 2011

The Society granted \$ 52,283 in 2011, a significant increase over 2010. The increase was attributed to more chapters, larger grants and the economy. Twenty three grants of more than \$599 were made. There were a total of 71 grants, with 59% made to retirees, 13% to surviving dependents and 4% to active employees. We currently project that grants will reach \$65,000 in 2012. The increased cost of health care, rising energy prices and a tender economy have all contributed to the surge in demand. With four new chapters currently in work for 2012, we expect more and greater demands to be made on Society funds. The Society is up to the challenge!

Red River and Valliant Mills Visited

The Containerboard Mills at Red River, LA and Valliant, OK were visited by Paul Langenus in February. Presentations were made to prospective members at both facilities. Over 100 potential members are employed at each facility. Enrollment cards have been distributed and initial interest was high at both mills. Decisions on establishing Governing committees are well underway. We expect commitments on starting chapters in the second quarter. These containerboard mills were part of the Weyco acquisition. Our thanks to mill management for their support.

2012 Chapter Allocations

Checks for the 2012 allocation of 2011 net earnings will be mailed to eligible chapters shortly, following approval by the Board of Directors. Chapters must have submitted all paperwork and granted funds in 2011 to receive funds. Due to our investment experience in 2011, the allocation will be significantly less than in 2010. However, the Board wants to assure the chapters and members that the Society has ample funds on hand to respond to their requests. We are confident that with our corpus conservatively invested and controls in place, the Society will be able to provide help to our members for many years to come. The 2012 plan calls for a 25% increase in grants based on member needs. The Board is dedicated to making this goal.

“How To” Manual Developed

A manual of standard operating procedures and reports has been developed for the chapters. The Board approved the manual at its meeting on March 16. It contains guidance on starting a chapter, grant guidelines and provides copies of the actual reports required by the Society. The manual will be available in hard copy as well as electronically. The intent of the manual is for Chapter Governing Committees have a tool to help them apply the guidelines consistently and accurately, as well as provide actual examples of documents for report writing. Chapters needing a copy should contact Paul Langenus. Suggestions for improvements are always welcome.

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