

# THE BULLETIN



VOLUME 8 ISSUE 3

3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER 2014

## A Message from the Director

Your QCS Board of Directors held their 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter meeting on Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup>. These are typically one hour meetings with a very full agenda. Board member participation is a mix of meeting room attendance and conference call. 2014 is my first year as a QCS Board member. I have participated in four (4) meetings and I continue to be very impressed and excited about the level of engagement and genuine interest demonstrated by every member. The Board remains very focused on delivering on the QCS Mission. Key initiatives have been developed to increase QCS Chapter and member understanding of the QCS Charter, Vision and Mission to support members in financial need. This includes the Communication Plan developed and distributed in Q4 2013. The Board will remain focused on supporting and increasing chapter efforts to reach members in financial need. Our special thanks to Chapter leadership for their tireless commitment to the QCS Mission.

As noted in past Bulletins, the Board has and will remain focused on the following objectives in an effort to ensure financial aid is made available quickly and confidentially to QCS members or deceased members' surviving eligible dependents in need of assistance.

- Build awareness of the Quarter Century Society and its core mission
- Effectively communicate the resources available and eligibility requirements for grants
- Ensure all IP employees receive information on QCS upon reaching their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary
- Generate more requests and distribute more QCS funds to eligible members in need

I appreciate this special opportunity to serve as a member of the Quarter Century Society leadership team.

Bill Wilson  
Executive Director

### Fourth Quarter 2014 Calendar

Year End Financial Record Preparation

Year End Board Meeting - December 5th

## 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 that is in need of financial assistance in the face of misfortune or emergency.

## QCS Chapter Grant Activity

We continue to receive January – June Chapter activity reports. These documents provide the QCS Board with important Chapter membership and financial information. In conjunction with our Mission Statement, we are very interested in information on grant activity during the first 6 months of 2014. Based on the information received from 22 Chapters, 6 month grant activity is slightly ahead of the 2013 pace.

<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Full Year	Jan - June
\$44,301	\$23,263
16 Grants	9 Grants

Chapter leadership continues to do an excellent job reviewing and evaluating grant requests. Increasing awareness and understanding of grant procedures will remain a top priority for the QCS Board in 2015. Guidelines on investigating grants along with suggested limits can be found at [IPQCS.com](http://IPQCS.com).

## Chapter Annual Meetings

While Chapter meetings take place throughout the year, most Chapters tend to take advantage of the summer and fall season to bring everyone together. I have received a number of invitations to attend annual meetings and I appreciate the thoughtfulness. In several cases I have received a follow up note from the Chapter leadership highlighting member participation, menu items and family activities. While the formal business of the QCS is always important, it is great to see the community of active and retired IP employees come together in a relaxing social setting. My thanks to Springfield, Springhill, Mobile and Pine Bluff for your follow up on annual meeting activity.

## **IP, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Announce \$2.3 Million in 2014 Forestland Stewards Funding**

International Paper and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) announced more than \$2.3 million of investments in the 2014 Forestland Stewards projects to restore forestlands and support working forests in the Piney Woods of Texas & Louisiana, the Cumberland Plateau and the Carolina Low Country. The 12 grants support projects designed to conserve and restore forestland while protecting critical wildlife and fish habitat and engaging private landowners in improving commercial and environmental management practices for working forests. The 2014 grants will leverage nearly \$3.8 million in additional funds and in-kind support from agency and project partners, ultimately establishing nearly 5,300 new acres and enhancing approximately 58,000 existing acres of longleaf and shortleaf pine and riparian forest habitat. "As we enter our second year of this partnership, the great progress we've made underscores International Paper's commitment to protect and restore forest landscapes for generations to come," said John Faraci, chairman and CEO of International Paper. "It is a winning scenario that conserves and restores some of nature's most amazing treasures, provides economic value for landowners and communities, and ensures a sustainable supply of wood to make products that people rely on every day."

Since 2013, NFWF and IP have invested more than \$3.3 million in projects through the Forestland Stewards Initiative. These initial investments have been used to leverage more than \$6.7 million in additional funds from grant partners, for a total investment of more than \$10 million. These projects will restore more than 8,000 acres and improve over 98,000 additional acres of native forest and wildlife habitat. Through this initiative, NFWF and IP anticipate that more than 200,000 acres of forestlands will be restored and improved and over 3,000 private landowners engaged through outreach and technical assistance to implement forest stewardship practices, benefitting numerous species and supporting working forests in eight states in the Southeast. This unique public-private effort enables International Paper to continue important work with NFWF, federal partners and grantees working on the ground to restore and improve this iconic landscape and promote sustainable working forests across the Southeast.

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## **Working Forest Facts**

Did you know 68 % of all forests in the United States are classified as working forests. [Some additional facts on working forests:](#)

When properly managed, working forests provide multiple benefits for people beyond paper products. Working forests:

- Support 2.5 MM jobs
- \$87 billion in payroll
- \$4.4 billion in state income taxes, and
- Contribute \$102 billion to the GDP.

Sustainably managed working forests have three important benefits:

- They're managed to protect forest ecosystems, including critical fish and wildlife habitat, and water quality;
- The demand for sustainably sourced packaging and paper products provides a strong financial incentive for landowners to manage land responsibly and keep it forested; and
- They assure International Paper ... and other forest products companies ... a sustainable supply of wood to make our products.

## **IP Partners on Returning Veteran Mentor Program**

International Paper has agreed to partner with American Corporate Partners (ACP) in an effort to assist returning veterans in career development through mentoring, networking, and career guidance. ACP is a national non-profit organization dedicated to helping post 9/11 veterans transition to the private sector through one-on-one mentoring relationships with the employees of partnering corporations. IP has been asked to provide approximately 50 to 70 mentors, initially targeting the active employee population. This initiative may eventually be expanded to the retiree population. More to come.

## **Retiree Volunteer Opportunity**

The American Cancer Society offers a volunteer opportunity known as Road to Recovery. The program is designed to support cancer patients with transportation fighting cancer in your area. For more information on the Road to Recovery program, call the American Cancer Society at 1-800-277-2345 or visit [cancer.org](http://cancer.org).

A warm smile is the universal language of kindness  
- William Arthur Ward