



A Message from the Director

Your Board of Directors held the 2015 1st Quarter meeting on Thursday, March 19th. We worked a full agenda and Board member participation was excellent. The March Board meeting agenda traditionally includes a detailed review of 2014 financial performance and Chapter grant activity. The QCS is self financed based on equity and bond fund investments managed by State Street. 2014 fund performance was strong and continues to provide the funding required to support QCS Chapter growth and increased grant activity. The Board remains very focused on delivering on the QCS Mission. As referenced in the December Bulletin, the Board dedicated a significant amount of time to discussion on the grant activity we are seeing across the Chapter network. Annual grant awards have averaged 77 grants and \$44,411 over the prior 5 years. Chapters made 68 grants totaling \$68,225 in 2014. While the increase in grant activity is encouraging, seventeen (17) or 49% of our Chapters reported no grant activity in 2014. The Board chartered a small task team in December to develop a better understanding of the grant processes in place with our most active Chapters. This team provided a preliminary assessment highlighting seven Chapters with a consistent high level of grant activity. Our objective is to define a "best practice" template that all Chapters can use to ensure we are reaching members in need while maintaining our financial need criteria. This analysis will be updated at the June Board meeting. The Board has been working to develop a QCS Directory in an effort to ensure visibility to every member based on 25 years of service. I'm pleased to announce a Directory is now available. The Directory reflects 40,037 North American members compared to our Chapter report membership total of 13,502. Addressing this membership gap is a key leadership initiative for 2015. The Board reviewed the new process developed to ensure each new QCS member is provided a documented overview of the Society. Many new members are not aware of the rich history, mission and vision of the Society. New members represent our future Chapter leaders so establishing a solid foundation on the QCS vision and mission is critical.

Our thanks to Chapter leadership for their continued commitment to the QCS Mission. The Board has and will remain focused on efforts to ensure financial aid is made available quickly and confidentially to QCS members or deceased members' surviving eligible dependents in need of assistance.

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

Bill Wilson
Executive Director

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 Board Key Initiatives

The March Board meeting dedicated significant time to addressing the following key initiatives and priorities for 2015:

- Chapter Grant Activity and Best Practice Template
- Quarter Century Society Directory
- New Chapter Formation
 - 5 Target Mills
 - Converting Network
- Increased Board Representation at Chapter Meetings
- QCS Website Update & SharePoint Development
- New Member Orientation

QCS Directory & Membership Initiative

As referenced in the "Message" section, we now have a complete Directory for North American members. The historical backbone of the Quarter Century Society is the Chapter network. Our 35 Chapters are typically organized around IP's larger facilities. Accordingly, these are historically mill based organizations. The current Chapter network represents 13,502 members or 33.7% of our total eligible membership. The Directory will provide the ability to identify where QCS members reside across North America. The Board has chartered a small task team to begin analyzing membership data in an effort to understand and propose options for an expanded Chapter network. The Directory will also provide the opportunity to expand our member e:mail distribution list. This is a major initiative for the balance of 2015 and may

Second Quarter 2015 Calendar

Chapter Allotment Check Distribution (April)

2nd Quarter Board Meeting - June 18th

Mansfield Chapter Annual Meeting

Retirees and employees of the Mansfield Chapter of the Quarter Century Society in Louisiana attended the Chapter's Annual 2015 Quarter Century Society Banquet. The festive banquet theme was St. Patrick's Day and held at the Eldorado Casino Hotel Resort in Shreveport, La. This event included fifteen (15) new members.

During the banquet the QCS Chapter President Frank Laurent informed the group that the chapter has funds for members in need. "There are many people in our community who spent the better part of their working lives helping to make International Paper a great company," said Laurent. "The Quarter Century Society exists to make sure that these folks have a place to turn for financial assistance when other resources are not available."

IP's Mansfield Mill Manager Kevin Driscoll provided the attendees with state of the mill update on the progress being made at the Mansfield mill, across the Industrial Packaging business and throughout the company.

QCS Membership Data

The following represents membership data based on the 12/31/2014 Chapter Activity Report:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Retired</u>
US Chapter Members	12,338	9,202
Canada	<u>1,163</u>	<u>1,162</u>
2014 Total	13,501	10,364 (77%)
2013 Year End	13,397	10,578 (79%)

Based on QCS Directory information reflecting total membership of 40,047, we will add 741 new QCS members in 2015. On a sad note, 789 members died in 2014. The 2015 Directory was adjusted to reflect this change.

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Chapter Reporting Requirements

Our QCS Chapter network begins with a Chapter charter process. This charter process outlines the requirements and expectations to maintain good standing and ensure access to the QCS funds required to support the member grant process. As with any business, Chapters experience leadership turnover as tenured leaders step aside and new leaders step in. The hand off can sometimes lead to confusion on reporting requirements. The following represents the reporting expected from each Chapter on an annual basis:

- 6 Month Chapter Activity Report
 - January - June Due July 31st
 - July - December Due February 28th
- 1099 Form (Grants over \$599) Due January 15th
- Annual Audit Report Due February 28th

Compliance with these reporting requirements is a condition for Board approval of annual Chapter allotment funding. These funds are the basis for supplementing Chapter bank accounts for grant activity. I remain available to support any Chapter as they complete the required reporting.

QCS Communication Tools

The Society has prepared new communication tools to help spread the word about our mission and specific messaging about how we can help a QCS member in need. These materials are available through the International Paper Consumer Response Center via an order form or by calling 800-678-5190. The QCS 25 Year Certificate and New Member Letter are also available through the Response Center.

QCS e:mail Address Change

We have transitioned to a new Society e:mail address. The new address is ipqcs1923@gmail.com. The address on the cox.net network has been discontinued. I will continue to respond to e:mail sent to my personal address as we move through this address transition. My e:mail address remains wawilson51@gmail.com.

It is literally true that you can succeed best and quickest by helping others to succeed - Napoleon Hill