

THE BULLETIN



VOLUME 9 ISSUE 2

2ND QUARTER 2015

A Message from the Director

Your Board of Directors held the 2015 2nd Quarter meeting on Thursday, June 18th. The meeting covered a full agenda and Board member participation was excellent. The Board remains very focused on delivering on the QCS Mission. As referenced in the December and March Bulletins, 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 five 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. Their work is now focused on seven Chapters with the best historical record 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 will be accomplished by conducting phone interviews with leaders from the seven Chapters with pre-defined questions, to be shared ahead of time. Our objective is to complete the phone interviews in the next 4 - 6 weeks and review draft recommendations at the September Board meeting.

The Board has also been working to develop a QCS Directory in an effort to ensure visibility to every member based on 25 years of service. As reported in March, a Directory is now available. The Directory reflects 41,565 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 is moving forward with 3 work streams in an effort to reach all eligible QCS members:

1. Provide existing Chapters with a complete, expanded roster of members in their area.
2. Identify cities with a high density of QCS members with no Chapter in place. Example: Erie with 485 eligible QCS members.
3. Based on geographic data analysis, develop a concept for an alternative network model to support members where density may not support a stand alone Chapter.

This represents a key strategic initiative for the Board in 2015/2016. Progress will be reported at the next Board meeting in September.

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.

A Message from the Director (Continued)

Work is progressing on changes to the QCS website to include development on a SharePoint site for document management. Board members will begin using the site in late June. QCS member access will remain unchanged. The Board approved an update the QCS 25 Year Certificate. The 2016 printing will reflect a design and color change.

The Board was updated on a joint initiative underway with the Memphis IP Retiree Group and the Mid-South United Way. The objective of this initiative is to ensure IP retirees have visibility and access to Memphis area volunteer opportunities sponsored by the United Way. The QCS will support this effort as requested.

Our special thanks to all Chapter leadership teams for their continued commitment to the QCS Mission. The Board appreciates your hard work and dedication to finding and supporting QCS members in need. Personally, I appreciate the opportunity to serve as a member of the QCS Board.

Bill Wilson

Executive Director

QCS Board Key Initiatives

The QCS Board remains focused on the following key initiatives and priorities for 2015 /2016:

- Chapter Grant Activity and Best Practice Template
- Quarter Century Society Directory
- Chapter Expansion and New Chapter Formation
- Increased Board Representation at Chapter Meetings
- QCS Website Update & SharePoint Development
- QCS New Member Introduction and Orientation

IP Releases 2014 Sustainability Report

IP released the 2014 Sustainability Report on June 16th. This report outlines progress against voluntary sustainability goals, a new sustainability strategy and collaborations that advance sustainability throughout the life cycle of IP products. As a global manufacturer operating in more than 24 countries, natural resources are critical to IP's supply chain. The company is continuously working to improve all aspects of their value chain, especially sourcing of wood fiber, water use and energy efficiency. A high level summary of 2014 accomplishments include the following:

- **Safety:** The company's Life-Changing Injury and Fatality Elimination (LIFE) safety program has reduced life-impacting injuries by 68% since inception.
- **Water Use:** IP has mapped all mills based on water related risk to initiate water conservation opportunities.
- **Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions:** Since 2010, IP has reduced GHG's by 8.3% and improved energy efficiency by 6.1% by improving processes, equipment and procedures.
- **Forest Stewardship:** IP has surpassed the original goal of 15% third-party-certified fiber volume with a 27.8% increase in certified fiber since 2010.
- **Ethics & Compliance:** In 2014, IP expanded the number of suppliers trained in their Supplier Code of Conduct and obtained commitments of compliance from most suppliers globally.

IP's Coins 4 Kids Fund Raising Results

The Coins 4 Kids annual fund raising initiative raised a record \$436,158 to support the Coins 4 Kids World Food Program. That's the equivalent of feeding 8,723 children for an entire school year. Coins 4 Kids is a IP sponsored global effort to fight childhood hunger, providing hope to thousands of families throughout Nairobi, Kenya.

Third Quarter 2015 Calendar

6 Month Chapter Activity Reports - July 31st
3rd Quarter Board Meeting - September 17th

Chapter Reporting Requirements

As a reminder, 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

All Chapters will be receiving the request for their 6 Month (January - June) Activity Report shortly. Compliance with these reporting requirements is a condition for Board approval of the annual Chapter allotment funding provided in April. I remain available to support any Chapter as they complete the required reporting.

QCS Membership Data

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

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Retired</u>
Chapter Members	13,501	10,364 (77%)
Directory Members*	41,565 **	

*Data provided by the new QCS member directory

** 28,064 QCS members not aligned with a Chapter

QCS Communication Tools

The Society has 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.

**Things are temporary, relationships last forever.
Nothing can replace the time we spend investing in
the life of another. - Roy Lessin**

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