



## THE BULLETIN

VOLUME 14 ISSUE 4

4TH QUARTER 2020

### A Message from the Director

Your Board of Directors held the 2020 Annual Meeting and 4th Quarter Board Meeting on Friday, December 4th. The Annual Meeting agenda and discussion addressed election of a new Board member. One Board member, Ottie Dixon, will leave the Board at year-end due to term limit criteria. The Board reviewed a list of replacement candidate nominees in October and extended a Board position offer to Ed Barr, mill manager – Mansfield Mill. Ed accepted and will join the Board effective January 1<sup>st</sup>. Tom Plath, SVP Human Resources and Global Citizenship, participated in the meeting and recognized Ottie for his dedicated service to the Society over the past six years. Tom also welcomed Ed to the Board. The agenda also included a Treasurer's report and update on grant activity. Bill Wilson, who also serves as the Society's Treasurer, provided the Board with a Treasurer's report based on financial results through September 30<sup>th</sup>. Key financial reports were distributed to Board members prior to the meeting. Chapter financial grant activity through June reflected 34 grants totaling \$39,745, slightly behind 2019 activity of 54 grants totaling \$43,949. Full year results will be available in March. Complications associated with COVID have limited Chapter annual meetings over the past nine months. These social gatherings typically trigger grant opportunities for members in need. We are optimistic Chapters will be able to resume these events in 2021. North American QCS membership totals 42,868. 13,783 members or 32% are aligned with the current Chapter network. 73% of our Chapter members are retired. These numbers will be updated in March to reflect 2020 YE membership data. Efforts remain underway to increase the number of Chapters based on targeted facilities and state/regional areas. The 2021 budget was reviewed and approved.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Meeting agenda focused on reviewing and updating the status of key initiatives underway. As noted, only 32% of North American members are aligned with an existing Chapter. Representatives from Bogalusa, Eastover and Cedar River have expressed interest in starting a Chapter and start up material has been provided to each. Because grant requests come more often from members associated with Chapters, the mission of the Society to reach and support members in need remains limited by the number of Chapters in the current network. Efforts to expand the network will remain a priority, but the Board also recognizes the need to expand the reach of the Society beyond the formal Chapter structure. The Social Media team was chartered in 2019 to address the need to utilize a social media platform to reach more members. The QCS Facebook website was launched to a small targeted audience in 4Q. This website launch will be expanded to approximately 10,000 QCS members in early 2021 based on email address availability.

### 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.

### A Message from the Director (Continued)

Later in the year a Chapter Facebook page will be available for use by local Chapters. This initiative will be a key to reaching QCS members across North America, especially members not aligned with a Chapter. Excellent work by Christa Allen, Jeanie Dowdle and Fred Ellrich

The effort to update the QCS website and organize key documents is expected to wrap up in late Q2 2021. This has been a significant work stream over the past eighteen months. Our thanks to Joyce Margulies, Brian Issing and Mike Gorski for their successful work on this initiative.

The Board has initiated preliminary discussions to address the strategy and tactical initiatives needed to ensure continuing success in delivering on the Mission of the Society.

The QCS Board of Director's priorities for 2021 include the following:

- New Chapter Formation Target: 3
- Complete the Facebook Rollout
- Chapter Leadership Succession Planning
- Review & Update QCS Marketing Material
- Initiate Executive Director Replacement Process

The Board extends special appreciation to all Chapter leadership teams for their continued commitment to the QCS Mission. Your hard work and dedication remain the key to realizing the QCS Mission: Identifying and confidentially supporting QCS members in dire financial need. We hope to see grant activity return to historical trends in 2021. Thank you and best wishes for 2021!

Bill Wilson

Executive Director

## QCS Board Membership

The QCS Board of Directors consists of twelve individuals who are QCS members, active and retired. Board members serve a three-year term and are limited to two consecutive terms. Your 2021 QCS Board of Directors consist of the following individuals:

Joyce Margulies	President
Fred Ellrich	Vice President
Brian Issing	Secretary
Mary Fortin	Assistant Treasurer
Jack Joseph	
Jeanie Dowdle	
Mike Gorski	
Greg Houdek	
Christa Allen	
Doug Camp	
John Purdy	
Ed Barr	
William Wilson	Executive Director/Treasurer

## COVID-19 Community Response By The Numbers

2020 has been a difficult one for communities around the world and International Paper teams stepped up to address the critical needs in their respective communities throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

From Mexico to Russia, IP facilities responded to their local communities with donations, including the essential products IP makes. The numbers reveals the magnitude of IP support: 15 countries reached: Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the U.S.

- 20,000+cartons of cut sheet paper
- 30,000 pounds of paper rolls
- 250,000 kraft paper bags
- 3,600 feminine hygiene care kits

IP is on track to met the commitment to donate two million corrugated boxes to food banks around the world through their collaborations with The Global Food Banking Network and Feeding America.

Because of the need for social distancing, IP's volunteer efforts looked a little different in 2020 with a variety of independent volunteer opportunities offered. However, the results remained very impressive. 1,619 IP volunteers participated resulting in more than 3,300 socially distant volunteer hours valued at more than \$91,000 in labor. More than 1,400 of these volunteers participated in virtual volunteer projects during the United Way Day of Caring.

### 1st Quarter 2021 Calendar

Q1 Board Meeting	March 18th
Chapter 1099 Form	January 15th
Six Month Activity Reports	February 15th
Annual Audit Report	February 28th

## IP Helps Honor Fallen Veterans

Saturday, Dec. 19, 2020, was designated as "Wreaths Across America Day." A convoy of volunteers traveled from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery to lay wreaths at the headstones of American veterans interred there. International Paper donated 7,500 boxes for the wreaths and \$10,000 to help purchase wreaths, as well as transportation of one load to Arlington National Cemetery.

Wreaths Across America had its unofficial start in 1992 and received national recognition in 2005. Their mission to "Remember, Honor, Teach" started with 10,000 wreaths and despite the many challenges the COVID-19 pandemic presented the organization still laid 1.75 million wreaths at 2,100 cemeteries this year.

Wreaths Across America has been a customer of IP's Auburn, Maine, Box Plant for more than 10 years. Each year, an Auburn Box Plant tractor trailer driver has an opportunity to deliver a load of wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery. This year driver John Robitaille has the honor and said, "As a Veteran, I am so thankful to have the opportunity, in some small capacity, to show respect to the fallen, honor their memory, and never forget the sacrifice they had to pay by teaching my children and grandchildren that freedom is not free."

## Chapter Reporting Requirements

The following represents the reporting required from each Chapter on an annual basis:

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

Compliance with these reporting requirements is a condition for Board approval of the annual Chapter allotment funding provided in April.

### Food For Thought

- Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant. Robert Louis Stevenson
- If you look at what you have in life, you'll always have more. If you look at what you don't have in life, you'll never have enough. Oprah Winfrey
- Remember no one can make you feel inferior without your consent. Eleanor Roosevelt

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