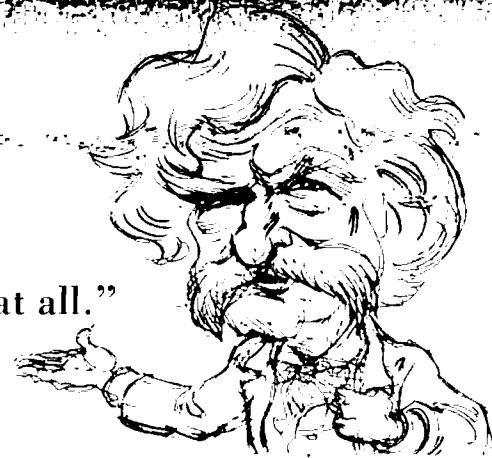


# Mark Twain Award for Excellence in Masonic Awareness



“What is a man  
without energy?  
Nothing. Nothing at all.”  
—Mark Twain



## Frequently asked Questions

### 1. Why select Mark Twain as the Award's namesake?

The Award borrows Brother Mark Twain's identity as a lively, innovative communicator whose work consistently challenged his listeners and readers to think and act responsibly, to ask questions, and to seek enlightenment. Decades later, we remain aware of Twain's intellect and productivity.

### 2. Does the Twain Award recognize work *within* the Lodge (INTERNAL) or *throughout* the greater community (EXTERNAL)?

Excellence in both *internal* and *external* Masonic Awareness is essential to winning a Twain Award. The Twain Award emphasizes that it is equally important to Masonic Awareness to stimulate the quality of the Lodge experience and to raise awareness among the community about Freemasonry's history and value to the community.

### 3. What do Lodges gain by participating?

Lodges gain additional knowledge of the Fraternity, and they learn more about their own strengths, assets, needs, and community.

### 4. When was the Twain Award formed and what was the goal?

Initiated in response to the 2004 Grand Masters' call for the MIC to improve Masonic awareness, the Mark Twain Masonic Awareness Award recognizes the urgent need for Masons to:

1. Clarify and heighten Masonic identity throughout the greater community.
2. Energize their experience of Freemasonry within the Lodge.

### 5. How do Lodges participate in the competition?

The Masonic Information Center (MIC) asks Lodges to submit an entry/registration form enabling us to work with entrants throughout the year of their submission development. Entry/registration forms are available to download from [www.msansa.com](http://www.msansa.com); just click on **Twain Award** to get to the link. Lodges should submit the form to MIC via email ([msana@ix.netcom.com](mailto:msana@ix.netcom.com)) or fax (301) 608-3457.

### 6. How will Twain Award entries be evaluated?

The MIC Task Force reviews each submission based upon the Lodge's individual merits. Lodges are not compared to one another. Merit is based upon the quality of the submission, which should follow the guidelines posted on the [www.msansa.com](http://www.msansa.com) website under the link to **Mark Twain Award**.

### 7. How does a Lodge win a Mark Twain Masonic Awareness Award?

Entries are judged by the MIC Task Force based upon the Lodge's

submission of a binder, detailing the activities that the Lodge planned, implemented, and evaluated in response to the MIC's call to action in the MIC Report, *It's About Time!*.

### 8. When will the Mark Twain Masonic Awareness Award winners be announced?

The Mark Twain Masonic Awareness Award winners are announced each February at the Grand Masters' Conference. In some cases, Richard Fletcher has been available to present the Twain Award at Grand Lodge sessions.

### 10. How do we organize our submission?

Your Lodge's submission should include the following:

1. Registration/Contact Information Form
2. 100-word typed summary
3. A 3- to 4-page typed narrative that describes your Lodge's quest toward the Twain Award, including references to both *internal* and *external* work throughout the three stages: Planning, Implementation, and Reflection
4. Appendices of supporting documentation

### 11. What is the schedule for the award?

To participate in the Twain Award competition, submit Entry/Registration forms no later June than of the award year. The deadline for entry submissions is December 1 of the award year.

### 12. What kind of support documentation is appropriate?

Support documentation is important to evaluating the overall quality of an entry. Both project narrative and support materials provide evidence of the work the Lodge accomplished to raise Masonic Awareness. The documentation may be submitted in print and non-print media including the following: photographs, DVDs, CDs, brochures, websites, press releases, magazine feature stories, news articles, and much more.

### 13. Will submissions be returned?

Because this is a continent-wide competition, it will not be possible to return your submissions. Please send copies. Retain your originals.

### 14. What can we learn from other winners?

If you would like a former winner to contact you, please let MIC know. Call or email [msana@ix.netcom.com](mailto:msana@ix.netcom.com) with any questions.



Masonic Information Center, att: Twain Award  
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# Mark Twain Award for Masonic Awareness...

## At A Glance

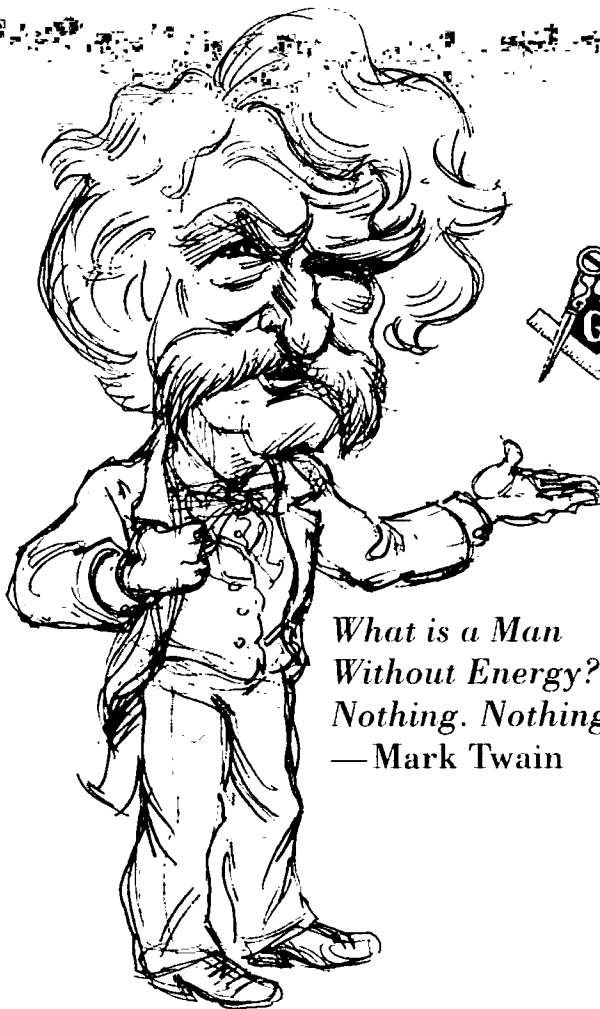
The Masonic Information Center invites Lodges to enter the next Mark Twain Award for Excellence in Masonic Awareness competition!

### Winning Lodges Evidence Understanding of Freemasonry with...

- Energy
- Creativity
- Action
- Fraternity

### Building Masonic Awareness

- Brother by Brother
- Lodge by Lodge



*What is a Man  
Without Energy?  
Nothing. Nothing at all.  
— Mark Twain*

### Background

Following the publication of *It's about Time! Moving Masonry into the 21st Century* (available to download at [www.msana.com](http://www.msana.com)), the Masonic Information Center (MIC) initiated the Twain Award to challenge Lodges to take the concept of Masonry off the shelf and put the identity of Masonry into action!

### Goals

The Twain Award celebrates Masonic Lodges that show exemplary work in planning, implementing/documenting, and reflecting upon how its members collectively enrich the fraternal experience that is uniquely Masonic. Lodges' work must demonstrate high energy, fresh enthusiasm, new creativity, and visible productivity in communicating a positive identity of Freemasonry within the Lodge and throughout the greater community. The Twain Award year runs annually from December 1 to November 30. Get the most from your Lodge's participation by consistently involving, exciting, and challenging all Lodge brethren in activities related to the Twain Award process throughout the year.

### Step 1

Lodges entrants need to send Twain Award Entry (Registration) Forms of contact information to MIC. Lodges intending to participate in the Twain Award should download an entry/registration form from the Mark Twain Award link available at [www.msana.com](http://www.msana.com). After completing the form with the Lodge's contact details, the Lodge should Fax or email the form by June of the award year.

### Step 2

Go to [www.msana.com](http://www.msana.com) and click on the left-hand link to Mark Twain Award. At this link, the Twain Award posts essential and detailed information about the criteria for winning a Twain Award. Please read the information carefully and review MIC's publication, *It's about Time! Moving Masonry into the 21st Century*.

### Step 3

Lodge submissions to the Twain Award contest must clearly describe and document the Lodge's work on three stages of its involvement in Masonic Awareness from both an Internal and External perspective, including the following:

PLANNING • IMPLEMENTING/DOCUMENTING • REFLECTING/EVALUATING.

### Step 4

Find and follow the guidelines for building content and formatting your submission. Remember, the quality of your presentation reflects your Lodge's identity.

### Submission Evaluation

Being a large or small Lodge offers no advantage because the Award recognizes the Lodge that builds on its own Masonic identity within context of the Craft's proud history, traditions, and standards of excellence. The Twain Award offers Lodges the opportunity to *compete with themselves* not against other Lodges; it supports and recognizes participation in Grand Lodge programs; and it challenges Lodges to produce ideas that are unique to their Lodges' strengths and Masonic identity both within the Lodge and throughout the larger community.

### Winning

MIC's Executive Secretary Richard Fletcher, PGM (VT), announces Twain Award winners at the Grand Masters Conference held in February each year. Winning Lodges receive a custom designed acrylic award naming the Lodge and award year. Additionally, MIC sends winning Lodges original press releases for the Lodge to place in local publications. The MSANA Website hosts the annual list of winners and links to feature stories.

### Enter today and Build Excellence into Masonic Awareness!

#### Congratulations! Twain Award Winners for 2008

Helion Lodge #1 .....	Huntsville, Alabama
Epes Randolph Lodge #32 .....	Tucson, Arizona
Springville Lodge #153 .....	Powder Springs, Georgia
Burnside Lodge #634 .....	Burnside, Kentucky
Bewleyville Lodge #228 .....	Bewleyville, Kentucky
Maine Lodge of Research .....	Portland, Maine
St. Aspinquid Lodge #198 .....	York, Maine
Vienna Lodge #205 .....	Clio, Michigan
George W. Lininger Lodge #268 .....	Omaha, Nebraska
Omadi Lodge #45 .....	South Sioux City, Nebraska
Nellis Lodge #46 .....	Las Vegas, Nevada
Trenton-Cyrus Lodge #5 .....	Pennington, New Jersey
Nutley Lodge #25 .....	Nutley, New Jersey
La Fraternidad Lodge #387 .....	New York, New York
Clifford Duell Lodge #756 .....	Fayetteville, North Carolina
Frontier Lodge #48 .....	Stillwater, Oklahoma
Albert Pike Lodge #162 .....	Guthrie, Oklahoma
Jeptha Lodge #121 .....	Hudson, South Dakota
Bethel Lodge #194 .....	Prospect, Tennessee
Frontier Lodge #28 .....	West Columbia, Texas
Hay Market Lodge #313 .....	Haymarket, Virginia
Sequim Lodge #213 .....	Sequim, Washington
Eureka Lodge #20 .....	Seattle, Washington
Lynden Lodge #56 .....	Ferndale, Washington



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