

Joe Jackson

Lodge Outreach Award

History of the Joe Jackson Award

Joe Jackson, a Mason for 60 years and Hiram Award recipient, served Joseph L. Shell Lodge No. 837 and Heartland Lodge No. 576 for 17 years as secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer and chaplain. There were several years in which Joe filled these leadership roles at both lodges consecutively.

Joe exemplified Masonic relief and brotherly love. He reached out to members and widows on a weekly basis, assisted with numerous applications to MOS and the Masonic Homes, frequently called Masonic Assistance to check the status of his member's applications, and helped expedite the paperwork process. He connected members and their families not only to Masonic services but also to community resources and programs for veterans. If Joe Jackson was involved in providing relief, the outcome was guaranteed to be a positive one!

Through his tireless efforts and determination to improve and grow outreach, Joe was a catalyst for launching the successful Lodge Outreach strategic initiative in Division IX. Joe passed in 2012, leaving a legacy that set the foundation for extending Masonic relief.

The Joe Jackson Lodge Outreach Award is given in recognition of his tremendous contributions to extending and improving the outreach process. He inspired Masons as well as staff and took his obligation to provide relief very seriously.

Joe Jackson Award Criteria

1. Communication

- Proactive communication with members and widows
- Communication is supportive, positive, and welcoming
- Communication engages members and widows in order to sustain relationships and create new relationships

2. Lodge leadership support and involvement

- Actively supports outreach efforts at all levels
- Consistent and supportive messaging to members
- Engages members other than lodge leaders in outreach efforts
- Engages families in outreach efforts and activities

3. Initiative

- Proactively reaches out to members and widows before needs or a crisis situation arise
- Committees are formed and activities are planned to sustain lodge's outgoing outreach efforts

4. Consistent

- Demonstrates ongoing and repeated efforts to assist members and widows
- Demonstrates relief and brotherly love in all that they do and as part of the lodge's responsibility

5. Partners with other lodges

- Engages and partners with other lodges to provide support to members and widows
- Offers assistance and problem solving to other lodges regarding how to best meet the needs of members and widows
- Shares ideas and skills, and hosts outreach events to benefit several lodges or their Masonic District

6. Partners with Masonic Homes and MOS

- While partnering with Masonic Homes and MOS, remains connected with members and widows, offering support and assistance throughout discussions and resolution

7. Positive impact in difficult situations

- Demonstrates exceptional ability to have a positive impact regarding matters considered difficult
- Capably handles stressful situations and works effectively with MOS, clients, and other lodges to find a positive solution or outcome