

## Thoughts from the Chair

Samuel Clemens better known as Mark Twain was a long time resident of Asylum Hill. He resided in Asylum Hill (Nook Farm) for 17 years, from 1874 to 1891. At that time Asylum Hill (Nook Farm) was a very affluent neighborhood. Samuel Clemens experienced prosperity and wealth as well as poverty, death of loved ones, depression and loneliness during his life time. For Samuel Clemens, writing was his gift to the world and his sanctuary of peace. He said while at his daughter's death bed "I am writing to keep my heart from breaking."

Samuel Clemens has left us, with great books and a plethora of quotes to help us understand life a bit clearer, to initiate a chuckle and to reveal the truth about community, politics and humanity from his perspective. His most famous writings are: The Adventures of Tom Sawyer, Life on The Mississippi, The Prince and the Pauper, A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court and The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. Most of these literary masterpieces were written while Samuel Clemens lived in Asylum Hill.

We all have something that we have created or can create that can be shared with our community/our neighbors. Creativity is a gift given to all of us from God. The use of creativity can manifest kind acts, which are always sweetness to the soul. Samuel Clemens once said "Kindness is a language that the deaf can hear and the blind can see." Let's use our creativity this month to be a blessing to our neighbor or someone in our community.

Have a beautiful month!

Blessings. ..

Yvonne Matthews, Chair