

# THE BULL PEN



The Rotary Club of Smithtown  
P.O. Box 501 Smithtown, NY 11787  
[www.smithtownrotary.org](http://www.smithtownrotary.org)

**December 21-28, 2015**

## Season's Greetings



## Happy Holidays

## Ready for 2016

### ***Moving Forward...***

Our Rotary Club will wind up the year by moving quietly, and calmly, ahead with regular meetings Wednesdays, December 23 and 30 at 12:15 p.m. at The Watermill. Highlights will be on the order of last week's tributes to Howie's Mom who is celebrating her 105th birthday and Laura's stepson returning from Korea for Christmas at home with his family.

There were expressions of thanks to Jeanne and Henry for organizing our Thanksgiving baskets and tree lighting activities. And, of appreciation to Frank for his heading the Holiday Film Party for the past 18 years (and some sorrow that he is stepping aside as chairman of the activity).

Bill Smith gently reminded us of the club-sponsored Comedy Show on Thursday, January 14 and Bill Eckelkamp challenged us with questions and a fining system which no one quite understood but assured the club of maximum collections.

A calm and peaceful ending to another year of Rotary. And to all, a happy holiday and a peaceful new year.

### ***No Mark Twain...***

I'm certainly no Mark Twain.

But, I had hoped to find a little bit of Tom Sawyer in me.

Tom, you remember is the lad faced with the job of painting a fence... and quickly made the task so appealing that his friends couldn't wait to do Tom's work.

Tom fiddled...friends worked.

That's sort of what I had in mind when I agreed to be the Bullpen editor.

I fiddled and Tom (Gillen not Sawyer) took over the recording of notes, dates, happy dollars, etc. at our weekly meetings.

I fiddled and Rob volunteered to take photos at regular and special meetings.

No problem with Tom and Rob.

I fiddled and called on the chairpersons of special events to write reports on their activities. No problem with Alan who never misses any opportunity to spread the word about the Foundation; no problem with Henry or Jeanne both of whom missed no opportunity to discuss, in detail, the tree lighting and Thanksgiving food baskets.

No problem there.

I will continue to fiddle. The question is whether I can find a bit more of Tom Sawyer in my soul.

And, more importantly, that chairpersons of other programs might feel it rewarding to share their Rotary activities with the rest of us.

**HAPPY  
NEW  
YEAR!**



*In this our final issue of the year  
(a combined December 21 and December 28  
publication) we wish all our Rotarians, friends,  
and families the happiest of holidays and best  
for the year, and years, ahead*

# 2015 BULLpen awards

## Members cited for outstanding performance in weekly quiz

The first annual awards to “members demonstrating exceptional memory and knowledge” in responding to the weekly fund-raising quiz, are being presented this holiday season by the BULLpen staff.

The search for pointless information serves as the basis for fines which raise about \$75 each week for the club’s service projects.

The 2015 BULLpen Awards will be presented in four categories...Sports, History, Science, and Outstanding Overall Performance. In addition, a special Editor’s Award (the Rotary Reticence Award) will go to a Rotarian who quietly demonstrates knowledge but does not yell out answers.

### The 1915 BULLpen Award Winners

**HISTORY:** **Richard Smith** cited for his demonstrated awareness of US and International events and his exhaustive, and exhausting, concern for local history which led to the town’s celebration of its 350th anniversary.

**SPORTS:** **Alan Cohn** for his compulsive dedication to knowledge about New York Yankee players and performance. Recognition also goes to Howard Essinfeld for his broader concern and awareness of the record of other New York teams and players.

**SCIENCE:** **Stan Haymes** for his knowledge of medicine and other scientific disciplines (although the Committee acknowledges that it can not recall a single medical question ever being asked in the half-century-plus year history of the club).

**OUTSTANDING OVERALL PERFORMANCE:** The Grand Prize for knowledge in all areas goes to **Mike Walsh** who honed his skills while serving as Superintendent of Schools in Smithtown. Michael wisely spent that time closeted in his office, escaping interaction with his administrative staff, teachers, and students, while memorizing a load of generally useless information.

**ROTARY RETICENCE:** The Special Award for combining knowledge with self-control, the ability of not yelling answers out of turn, goes to **Bob Jacatout**. Bob can be found murmuring the correct answers while louder voices get greater recognition. The Committee in making the decision, acknowledges that no other nominees could be found for the award.