



Robert Alvey

Rob delighted attendees at the Society's 2015 Gala as a celebrity guest auctioneer in his persona as Mark Twain. His impersonation brought a unique "historical" feel to the evening and smiles to the gala guests as they placed their bids and raised funds for the Society's restoration project.

Rob Alvey was raised in the Village, graduated from Garden City High School, and married his high school sweetheart, Suzie. In 1992, Suzie told him to "get off the sofa" and volunteer for the Village. Rob then served on the Garden City Environmental Advisory Board for ten years and founded the Garden City Bird Sanctuary, where he devoted an additional ten years and over 20,000 hours to develop and use a Nassau County stormwater basin for community and environmental benefit. At the Bird Sanctuary, he sponsored over three dozen scouts for their Eagle and Gold Award projects. Rob also donated his time to the Garden City Community Theatre where he enjoyed acting for over 15 years in their original musical comedies — mostly as an inept or corrupt businessman or politician.

A professional scientist with degrees in geology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rob has worked as a research scientist for Brooklyn Union Gas, completed a year-long assignment during 1982-83 in Saudi Arabia as consultant to the US Army Corps of Engineers, and has spent the last two decades as senior geologist with the USEPA Superfund Division in NYC. Rob served on an EPA task force, created at the request of Senator Chuck Schumer, regarding the extensive Grumman-Navy groundwater contamination concerns in Bethpage. Rob served as co-chair for the EPA's Groundwater Forum of hydrogeologic experts, and is currently a board member with the New York State Consulting Professional Geologists, which was instrumental in the passage of a New York State Professional Geologist Licensing Act in 2016. Rob is also a tree enthusiast and a member of the New York State Urban Forestry Council. In January 2018 he was appointed to the Nassau County Tree Advisory Board.

Rob is known for his unique creativity, his offbeat humor as a Mark Twain impersonator, his love of frogs and his creative writing. He also has several neighborhood fans, who wait to see what new snow sculpture he creates with each snowstorm over the last 35 years. All this...so naturally, he thanks his wife for getting him off the couch!

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