

# The Gridiron Club

January 2016

## New Canaan Connecticut



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P.O. BOX 1686  
NEW CANAAN, CT

Dear Gridiron Club Member,

Thank you for your continued support of the Gridiron Club of New Canaan! In a few short months, we'll be holding the 56<sup>th</sup> annual Gridiron Show and Fall Guy celebration – the date is **April 22, 2016**, so mark your calendars and get the word out. Come join us for the best roast ever, as we celebrate one of New Canaan's own in a story of his life and times.

The past Fall Guys have met and cast their ballots, and come April 22<sup>nd</sup> we will honor **Keith Simpson** as our 57<sup>th</sup> Fall Guy and star of the 2016 Gridiron Show! An announcement will be coming in the local press, and the research team will start its work writing the story of his life. Then we will fine-tune our singing and dancing (really?) in rehearsals through the winter, warming up for a great show. The Men's Night Dinner and Show will be held on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Country Club of New Canaan; Ladies Night will be on Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Gridiron Club is an annual New Canaan tradition that makes this such a great community to live in. The renowned Robert Bliss founded the event over fifty-four years ago! His thought was: "... *all year long, year after year, we are segmented, organized, re-organized, divided, split, grouped and re-grouped. We pull and haul ourselves and each other along civic, partisan, emotional, business, social and political lines. We operate as ridge-runners and natives, town and gown, old timers and new comers, you name it. Why not once a year have a Gridiron Dinner, where we could stage some skits, have some laughs with and at ourselves, get to understand and know each other better, all in the interest of an ongoing New Canaan? We might honor a citizen each year as our 'Fall Guy' and have a little good-natured gridiron 'roast' as we honor him.*"

We look forward to having you join us for another great Gridiron Show, and honoring Keith Simpson at the annual dinner in April. Please fill out the enclosed form and return it with your check. We are a not-for-profit organization, and your show ticket includes Gridiron Club dues which are fully tax deductible. Much more in money and sweat equity is donated by members of the Gridiron production team, so any generosity above and beyond is greatly appreciated!

Together let's ensure the future vitality of this great tradition! Bring a group of friends, and have a few laughs as we celebrate the spirit of community service through the life of our Fall Guy.

Sincerely,

*Eric*

Eric L. Thunem

*John*

John R. Murphy

# The Gridiron Club

## Reservation Form

Mail this form with your check to:

**The Gridiron Club**  
**P.O. Box 1686**  
**New Canaan, CT 06840**



\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail

<b>Men's Night Gridiron Club Dues, Dinner and Show</b>	<b>\$150</b>	_____
<i>(\$75 tax deductible)</i>		
<b>Ladies Night Dinner and Show</b>	<b>\$95</b>	_____
<i>(\$30 tax deductible)</i>		
<b>Donations</b>		_____
<i>(tax deductible)</i>		
<b>Vineyard Vines "Limited Edition" Gridiron Club Tie</b>	<b>\$75</b>	_____
	<b>Total</b>	_____

If you would like to participate in next year's show, in any of these specific areas:

Writing \_\_\_\_\_

Acting \_\_\_\_\_

Production \_\_\_\_\_

Past Fall Guys: 1961-Carlton Hill; 1962-Leslie B. Young; 1963-Izzy Cohen; 1964-Robert I. Bliss; 1965-Earl M. Smith; 1966-Stanley P. Mead; 1967-Charles F. Kelley; 1968-Julius Groher; 1969-Dr. Thomas P. Cody; 1970-Carlton S. Raymond; 1971-W. Riley Hogan; 1972-Jack Sterling; 1973-Stanley R. Resor; 1974-Chester Billings, Jr.; 1975-Roger B. Kelley; 1976-Paul Killiam; 1977-Charles P. Morton; 1978-Philip L.R. duVal; 1979-Marshal Montgomery; 1980-Al Youmans; 1981-Dr. Jerome Selinger; 1982-Nick Lombardo; 1983-The Rev. Guthrie Speers; 1984-Hoyt Catlin; 1985-Dr. David Brown; 1986-Edward L. Winpenny; 1987-Harry S. Noble; 1988-Yorke Allen; 1989-John G. Matthews; 1990-John W. Pickering; 1991-James G. Rogers, Jr.; 1992-Curry E. Ford; 1993-Ralph Pereida; 1994-Ed Chrostowski; 1995-Harry Coleman; 1996-Joe Sweet; 1997-Dana Ackerly; 1998-Jim Schlumpf; 1999-Leo E. Karl, Jr; 2000-Dick Brinckerhoff; 2001-Tom Moorhead; 2002-Dick White; 2003-Lewis Annunziato; 2004-Dick Bond; 2005-Sperry DeCew; 2006-Bailey and Richard Stewart; 2007-Joe Rucci, Jr; 2008-Don Hersam; 2009-Mike Hobbs; 2010-Laszlo Papp; 2011-George Baker; 2012-Leo Karl, III; 2013-James Cole; 2014-John Hetherington; 2015-William Walbert.

I recommend the following as new member(s) of the Gridiron Club:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_