



**RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)**

**Invites you to its meeting **June 8, 2016** at  
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT.**

## **Al Knight**

### **“From Political Disagreement to Civil War: Spain’s 1930’s Tragedy”**



Al Knight, an RMA member who knows Spanish culture and history, will discuss what once happened when political discourse skidded off course from disagreement, even rough heated disagreement, into fanaticism toward and demonization of the other parties in a political debate.

**HOW NOT TO EFFECT POLITICAL CHANGE:** The backward, traditional Spanish society was upended in 1931. The new Republic over a few years underwent a radical and sudden revamping of society. A military coup by the Army led to General Franco taking control. Hitler and Stalin then jostled in Spain through proxies, in a prelude to World War II. Afterward came retribution by the victorious Franco forces against the defeated adherents of the Spanish Republic. Memories of this tragedy still shape Spain’s politics.

**ISSUE FOR DISCUSSION:** What to make of a political foe.... is reconciliation ever possible?

RMA member and Massachusetts native Al Knight has degrees from Harvard, Columbia and New York University. He practiced corporate law and did international transactions for a law firm and corporations in New York and Connecticut. He has travelled in Spanish-speaking countries, and lived for part of a year in Spain. He has sung on the stage of New York City’s Blue Hill Troupe, and in choruses performing at Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, and also at Constitution Hall in Washington, DC.

*The Greenwich Retired Men’s Association offers a free program every Wednesday that is open to the public, both men and women; no reservations are required. Our social break starts at 10:40AM followed promptly by our speaker at 11:00AM. Programs are at the First Presbyterian Church, 1 West Putnam in Greenwich. For additional information see [www.greenwichrma.org](http://www.greenwichrma.org) or contact [info@greenwichrma.org](mailto:info@greenwichrma.org)*