



RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
Invites you to its meeting **March 6, 2019** at 11:00 a.m.
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT.

Clarinda Higgins and William Armstrong Against the Current: How Albert Schweitzer Inspired a Young Man's Journey

Clarinda Higgins in leprosy village in Gabon



For five decades, Clarinda Higgins yearned to discover the details of what had happened to her beloved first cousin Mark Higgins. In 1959 at the age of 18, Mark left home on a quest for self-actualization by becoming the first student staff member at a jungle hospital in Gabon under the auspices of the famous medical missionary Albert Schweitzer. After completing a year of service, Mark trekked

2,000 miles solo into the rebellious, anarchistic and newly independent Congo and then disappeared. To solve the mystery of Mark's experiences and disappearance, Higgins and her husband William Armstrong conducted extensive research for two years, traveled deep into the jungles of Gabon, and then wrote a book *Against the Current: How Albert Schweitzer Inspired a Young Man's Journey*. Their serendipitous and surprising findings make a fascinating presentation about quests for authenticity and adventure, resulting in inspiring legacies that endure today.

Clarinda Higgins is a graduate of Smith College, a national award-winning teacher and active in several local civic organizations. William Armstrong, a former reporter and public relations executive, serves on the board of The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship. The couple lives in Westport.

Next Week, March 13: Sylvia Reiss, collector and recorder of 18th & 19th-century New England stone walls, "The Stone Walls of Connecticut." *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 or contact info@greenwichrma.org*