

***RETIREED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
invites you to attend its meeting, on Wednesday, July 18, 2012.
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Pl., Greenwich.***

IAN MACMILLAN

SHALLOW WATER, DEEP THOUGHTS, A PLAN FOR GREENWICH'S WATERWAYS



Life in Greenwich is inextricably tied to water and its waterways. Greenwich has 7 major harbors and 28 miles of coastline. It is far more than boating and recreation; it extends deeply into the fabric of our life, and becomes our legacy to future generations.

We can summarize it as an environmental concern, but only if we expand our understanding of the term as “relating to the natural world and the impact of human activity on its condition.” Such must extend generally to the ecological, the aesthetic, and the recreational.

Mr. MacMillan, Greenwich's Harbormaster, appointed by Governor Daniel Malloy in December, 2011, will outline his vision for the future, and a comprehensive plan to maintain and improve Greenwich's waterways. The importance of water is evident as the Greenwich Health Department is the only agency of Town government that has discretionary funding as 9 of the 11 charges to Greenwich's Department of Health are water related.

In 1997 Mr. Macmillan, working as a strategic water resource specialist developed a state of the art GIS map of the contiguous hydrology of the waters of Greenwich, and established the first stratified drift aquifer study to include the ground waters of New York that feed the reservoirs of Greenwich's drinking water supply.

Mr. Macmillan, whose ties to Greenwich boating have extended for 35 years, will present a specific plan of what could be done, what needs to be done, indeed what must be done. Of critical importance is an understanding of Greenwich's harbors and coves. This fall the Department of Homeland Security will award a vessel to Greenwich that offers firefighting, EMS and police capabilities. Much of our coastline will be inaccessible at low tide, however, without comprehensive dredging programs.

Mr. Macmillan proposes to fund some of these major improvements through the federal government's Boating Infrastructure Grant (BIG) Program.

Mr. Macmillan has a deep and abiding love for Greenwich and its waterfront. He has 45 years of ocean racing experience, twice on board a Greenwich yacht that won the IOR Northern Ocean Racing Trophy. He worked as a consultant to Derektor Shipyards, which repairs, refits and constructs all manner of seagoing vessels. He has decades or experience as a Racing and Delivery Captain.

RMA members and their guests should arrive by 9:45 AM for our full meeting. The general public should plan to arrive at 10:45 AM. Meetings are held at the First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich. No Charge and No Reservations are required. Questions about any of the above, call Bernard Schneider, 203-698-2558; bgsesq@gmail.com.