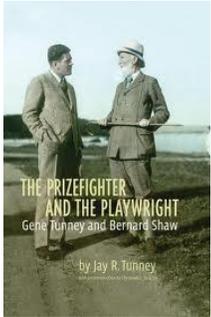


***RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
invites you to attend its meeting, on Wednesday, Jan. 23, 2013.
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Pl., Greenwich.***

JAY TUNNEY

THE PRIZEFIGHTER AND THE PLAYWRIGHT



Gene Tunney was a sports legend. In the golden age of sports, he was heavyweight champion of the world, knocking out Jack Dempsey twice. Tunney, a man of brain and brawn, sought the company of educators and writers, such as Thornton Wilder and Ernest Hemingway.

George Bernard Shaw was a literary legend, the greatest playwright of his generation. He formed an enduring friendship with Tunney, some 40 years younger. The two men regularly corresponded, visited each other, and went on holiday together with their wives when Tunney was newly married to Polly Lauder, a Greenwich heiress. “It was as if Tunney had stepped from the pages and was a Shavian character come to life; it was a magical relationship,” wrote an eminent Shaw biographer, in explaining their bond. Shaw was so enamored of boxing that he wrote a novel about it, “Cashel Byron’s Profession.”

Their story is told by Gene Tunney’s son Jay in the recently published “The Prizefighter and the Playwright.” The book chronicles the legendary but rarely documented rapport that existed between this celebrated couple from seemingly different worlds, and reveals two famous men, comfortable on the world stage, who sought friendship when they were out of the celebrity spotlight. “Friendship,” wrote the boxer “is the most satisfying connection in life. No man can go very far with strength and courage if he goes alone.”

The book grew out of the author’s popular BBC radio program “The Master and the Boy.” Jay Tunney has written dozens of magazine articles and essays for publications worldwide including The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal Asian Edition, and the Hartford Courant. He is Vice President of the International Shaw Society and serves on the advisory board of the New York Bernard Shaw Society.

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