

***RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)  
invites you to attend its meeting on Wednesday, Mar. 4, 2015  
First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT.***

***DR. MAUREEN RAYMO***

***RISING SEAS, THE PAST AS PROLOGUE***



Dr. Maureen Raymo, Columbia University and Lamont Doherty Earth Observatory geologist and climate scientist, has been acknowledged to be one of the 50 most important women in science. In 2014 she was the first woman in 183 years to be awarded the Wollaston Medal – the highest award of the Geological Society of London.

Her talk will describe how the studies of past climate change inform us of the possible consequences of climate change today. She says she hears a “symphony” going on in the climate system, but she isn’t confident of just how lyrical the final verse will be. She has spent three decades studying natural climate variability, “and what we’re seeing right now is not natural. Historically, I can say that the climate community has always understated the rate of change in the climate system.”

Neither Earth’s distance from the Sun as a result of our planet’s elliptical orbit nor changes in solar output “can explain the climate changes that are happening now,” she explains. She points out that the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere matches that which occurred about three million years ago. Where might it all lead? Dr. Raymo points to atmospheric warming, rising seas, and ecosystem collapses. “When everything comes to equilibrium, how much of the Antarctic ice sheet will be there? Will the sea level have risen 10 meters, 20 meters, or 30 meters?”

Dr. Raymo has been described “An outstandingly creative scientist who has been setting our agenda for the history of the ocean, and the Earth, as a whole. It’s impossible to work in this field without being influenced by her ideas and writings. One of the foremost and influential figures in the last 30 years, she’s been an important role model to women scientists.” She was also awarded in 2014 the Milankovic Medal at the European Geosciences Union’s annual meeting for her use of geochemistry, geology and geophysics to solve paleoclimatology’s big problems. Dr. Raymo has surveyed ancient shorelines in South Africa, desolate Australian coastlines and rocky slopes of the Himalayas.

Dr. Raymo earned her Ph.D. from Columbia University. She has two grown children, Victoria and Daniel; and when she is not working, can usually be found renovating her very old house.

**Our business meetings begin at 10, and our speakers are scheduled for 10:45. No Charge, and No Reservations are required. For additional information, call Bernard Schneider, 203-698-2558; bgsesq@gmail.com. See our website [greenwichrma.org](http://greenwichrma.org).**