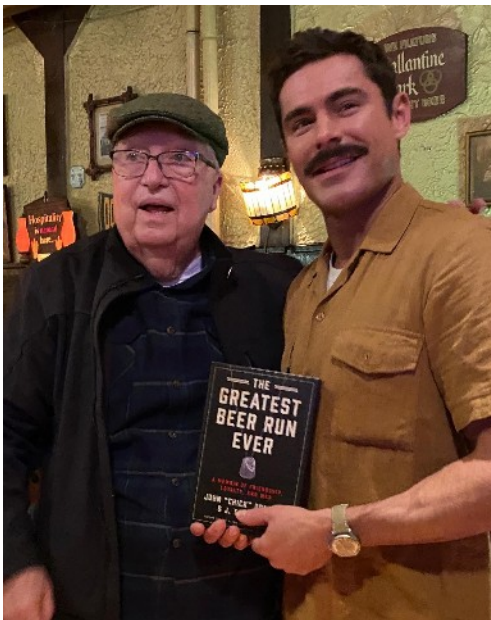




RETIRE MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
Invites you to its meeting **July 5, 2023** at 11:00 am.
First Presbyterian Church, 37 Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT
The program will also be shown on Webinar: <https://bit.ly/30IBj21>

John (Chick) Donohue

“The Greatest Beer Run Ever: A Memoir of Friendship, Loyalty and War”



Chick Donohue, Zac Efron

One night in 1967 a group of young men in a bar in New York, seeing anti-Vietnam War protesters attack not only the war but also the American soldiers fighting in it, concocted a hairbrained scheme. Why not smuggle some liquid refreshment into the war zone and surprise and share a beer with some of their buddies fighting overseas, just to show their support? One of their number, 26 year-old “Chick” Donohue, a civilian merchant seaman, took up the challenge and the next day set sail on a cargo ship headed for Vietnam with a hidden stash of good old American brew. What followed was “the greatest beer run ever,” as he navigated past military authorities and wound up on American bases, sometimes under fire, just as the violent Tet Offensive began.

Chick’s rollicking, patriotic story was eventually told in the *New York Times* best-seller *The Greatest Beer Run Ever* (William Morrow, 2020), which in 2022 was made into a major motion picture starring Zac Efron, Russell Crowe and Bill Murray.

Prior to this remarkable escapade Donohue had served in the U.S. Marine Corps, then become a merchant seaman, traveling the world. He eventually settled down in New York where he became “sandhog” – or tunnel builder. He rose to Legislative and Political Director of Sandhogs, Local 147, Laborers International Union of North America, a post in which he served for over three decades. After years of regaling friends with tales of his Vietnam adventure (which they often did not believe) he privately published his reminiscences in 2017, which was picked up by a major publisher. A brief video of his story can be found here: <https://youtu.be/D4WAUmyKDq0>. He will be interviewed by RMA member Tim Brooks, himself a Vietnam veteran.

Our speaker on July 12 is Celeste Mancinelli, presenting the one-woman show, “Crying on the Camino.” Note: special start time of 10:45 am this week only.

*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 **10:40 AM** followed promptly by our presentation at **11:00 AM**. Programs are at the First Presbyterian Church, 37 Lafayette Place in Greenwich. For additional information see www.greenwichrma.org or contact info@greenwichrma.org.*