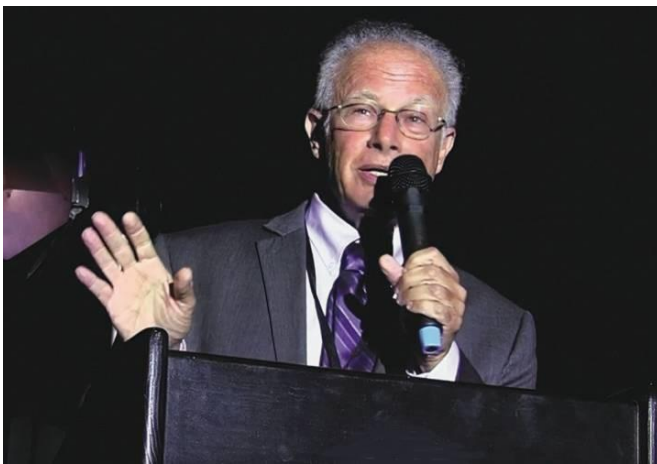




RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
Invites you to its meeting, July 10, 2024, at 11 am at
First Presbyterian Church, 1 West Putnam Ave., Greenwich, CT. The
program will also be shown on Zoom: <https://bit.ly/30IBj21>

Foster Hirsch

“Hollywood and Movies of the Fifties: The Collapse of the Studio System, the Thrill of Cinerama, and the Invasion of the Ultimate Body Snatcher—Television”



A fascinating look at Hollywood’s most turbulent decade, set against the boom of the post–World War II years, the Cold War, and the atomic age—and the movies that reflected seismic shifts. Hollywood in the 1950s was a period when the film industry both set conventions and broke norms and traditions, from Cinerama, CinemaScope, and VistaVision to the epic film and lavish musical. It was a decade that saw the rise of the anti-hero; the smoldering, the hidden, and the unspoken; teenagers gone wild in the streets; the sacred and the profane; the revolution of the Method; the socially conscious; the implosion of the studios; the end of the production code; and the invasion of the ultimate body snatcher: “small screen” television.

Here is Eisenhower’s America—seemingly complacent and conformity-ridden as revealed in Vincente Minnelli’s *Father of the Bride*, Walt Disney’s *Cinderella*, and *Brigadoon*, among others. And here is its darkening, resonant landscape, beset by conflict, discontent, and anxiety (*The Man Who Knew Too Much*, *The Asphalt Jungle*, *A Place in the Sun*, *Touch of Evil*, *It Came From Outer Space*) . . . an America on the verge of cultural, political and sexual revolt, busting up and breaking out (*East of Eden*, *From Here to Eternity*, *On the Waterfront*, *Sweet Smell of Success*, *The Wild One*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and *Jailhouse Rock*).

Foster Hirsch is the author of 16 books on theatre and film. A native of California, Hirsch received his B.A. from Stanford University and holds M.F.A., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University. Hirsch joined the English department of Brooklyn College in 1967, and in 1973 became one of the first professors to join the school's newly established film department. He has also been associated with the Pine Bluff Film Festival since its inception in 1994.

In our next presentation, on July 17, a panel of four medical professionals, moderated by Steven Katz, Chair of the Commission on Aging for the Town of Greenwich, will discuss “Successful Aging at Home and in Our Community.”

*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, 1 West Putnam Ave. in Greenwich. For additional information see www.greenwichrma.org.*