



RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
Invites you to its speaker presentation July 7 at 11:00 a.m.
at First Presbyterian Church, Lafayette Place, Greenwich, CT

The program is also available on webinar: <https://bit.ly/30lBj21>

Mark Nunan, Ph.D.

Fiorello La Guardia: Scourge of the Old Order, Inventor of the New



Fiorello La Guardia took office as New York City's mayor in 1934 during its worst crisis, the Great Depression. He succeeded beyond all expectations. How he got there is an improbable story full of dramatic adventures, taking him from his birth city of New York to the Wild West, to his ancestral home of Italy, and once again round trip back to New York. The experiences he gathered along the way, the risks he took, his early career in public service, helped form his character and propel him to become the "Great Mayor": innovative, effective, incorruptible.

He started his public career as an attorney who despaired of many in his profession for using the law against the poor and recent immigrants, earning himself the moniker "ghetto lawyer" by defending them. La Guardia was the scourge of the corrupt Tammany Hall political machine, epitomized by dapper, venal Mayor Jimmy Walker. A *Progressive Republican* he worked equally well with blue bloods and insurgents to invent a new model of city governance while aligning himself with FDR New Deal Democrats to the consternation of his Party, but to the great benefit of New York City, which received an inordinate share of New Deal public works funding. He was a gifted linguist and polyglot, a huge advantage in *the* "melting pot" city of New York.

As mayor, La Guardia

- Installed a talented group of commissioners and got results
- Succeeded in reform projects and massive infrastructure expansion
- Pursued the criminal mob with vigor; starting with the "artichoke war" – first step in a multi-year effort to curtail the Mob's power, funding and pernicious political influence.

Learn more about this very talented and interesting man in today's session.

As an international executive, Mark joined COS Inc. in Palo Alto CA, and retired from their New York office as a Senior Vice President in 2018. COS is a private firm which provides Business and Economic Development Services to corporations and governments. Mark has participated in engagements with some of the largest U.S., European and Asian companies and governmental agencies, such as The French Ministry of Commerce, The City of New York Economic Development Corporation and the Mayors of Metz and Marseille.

Mark was born in Ireland and moved to the United States with his family as a child. He graduated from the University of Alabama followed by an MA and PhD in romance languages and literature from Stanford University, which included graduate work at the University of Paris – Sorbonne. Today he lives in Darien with his partner Isabelle.

Please Note: All attendees must show proof of complete vaccination at the door for admittance.

Next week, July 14: Dana Gunders, Executive Director, ReFED, "Rethinking Our Food System: How Wasting Less is Critical to Sustainability."

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 speaker at 11:00 AM. Programs are at the First Presbyterian Church, 1 West Putnam Ave in Greenwich. For additional information see www.greenwichrma.org or contact info@greenwichrma.org.