



RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION OF GREENWICH, Inc. (RMA)
Invites you to its meeting, February 28, 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>

Phil Vitiello

“The Story of the Hunley.”



Few people know that there were submarines during the American Civil War. They were built by the North and the South. For the South they were desperate attempts to break the strangle hold of the Union blockade. This presentation is about one very special submarine, the H.L Hunley.

On the night of February 17, 1864 at about 9:00 pm the Confederate H.L Hunley made history by becoming the very first submarine to sink a ship in combat, when sinking the war ship USS Housatonic. This feat was so advanced for its time that it would not occur again for another 50 years! However, after completing this historic mission the Hunley would go missing, never to return back to her home base. This would begin a 140 year search to find this historic submarine.

From the Hunley’s conception, to its Connecticut connection, that historic night, the sub’s under water discovery, conservation, and the historic burial of her last crew—this is her story.

Phillip Vitiello Sr. is a lifelong resident of New Haven, CT, and attended the University of New Haven, majoring in law enforcement administration. He has been employed for the last 25 years as director of marketing for the food broker Northeast Food Marketing, in Stamford, CT. He is a charter member of “Friends of the Hunley,” a Civil War historian and re-enactor, and has studied and visited Civil War eastern theater battlefields. Phil is the current vice president of the Civil War Round Table of South Central Connecticut, a member of the original Titanic Historical Society, and a charter member of “TIGHAR” The International Group for Historical Aircraft Recovery. He has taught a history course at Norwalk Community College Lifetime Learners Institute.

Our next speakers, on March 6, will be Sam Romeo and Tony Johnson, Chairman and CEO of Greenwich Communities, on “How Greenwich Communities Can Save Greenwich from Over-Development.”

*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.*