

# Colorado Military Historians

Newsletter

XXXVII, No. 6

June 2011



West Wars 2011.

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# Torch Passed

*Message from incoming CMH President*

*Dan Gurule*



First of all, I would like to thank everyone for their vote with the election of our new 2011 CMH Board. I am very excited and honored to take the helm and guide us into 2011/2012. I have many ideas which I will be discussing with our board and then present those ideas to all of you. We do have some important issues to address and the topic of our current deficit is number one.

If you refer to our CMH February 2011 Newsletter Binhan discusses our deficit which will be high on our agenda to create some options/solutions to this issue. I will call an "offsite" Board meeting as soon as possible to discuss some of those options to take care of our budget issues. There will be much more on that topic coming soon.

I thought we started off with a great West Wars event.

I hope we can drum up even more participation in the upcoming events like, Tacticon, Ghengis Con and later in the year at Veterans Wars. We have many gaming stores and other clubs around the state that we really need to contact and I will ask for some assistance from our club members. As some of you know I have been reaching out to our Brothers at CSGA and I will be attending many of their events in Colorado Springs. I have asked General (ret.) John Brown to becoming our DBX Commander. He will coordinate not only our club DBX events but will coordinate our CMH vs CSGA BBDBA/DBA Campaign. I will be looking for more "Commanders" to coordinate other eras and tournaments for; Horse and Musket, World Wars and Modern. More on that later.

I would also like to say thanks to those who paid up their dues at West Wars. I know we are in tough times and this board will be looking for ways to "give back" to our members. You should see a CMH Club survey I will be sending out very soon. Your feedback of our club is important to me. I really want to know what is on your mind in ways of improving your gaming experience.

# West Wars 2011

*Message by CMH Secretary*

*Eric Elder*



This month we have a lot of newsletter content. A thanks goes out to John Brown and Ed Meyers for their articles. John has shared another Army Newsletter article on NATO. Ed brings us up-to-date on his ACW tournament campaign.

I think we had a great West Wars this year. Certainly well attended and was great to see some of the guys from Colorado Springs. I hope they had a good time. I must admit, for someone who is not really a fan of tournaments, tournaments seem to bring out the gamers. Dan was able to pull it all together and West Wars went off without a hitch and was very successful. I enjoyed David's Tarawa game and highly recommend it to anyone if it makes its appearance again in the future. I also enjoyed trying out the overall commander role at the last ACW tournament. The swap meet looked to be hopping. I wish I could have sold or given away more but I did okay. The Board elections took place on the Sunday with a new member joining the Board, Dan Gurule.

West Wars Board election results:

President:	Dan Gurule
Vice President:	Doug Wildfong
Treasurer:	Larry Irons
Secretary:	Eric Elder
Historian:	Binhan Lin

Last month we voted in a new member. His name is Steve Preston. We look forward to gaming with him and seeing some of his large miniature collection.



# May Monthly Meeting

## Unit of the Month

Sponsored by Attactix



Each month CMH members bring their latest painted figures and models to the meeting to display their latest efforts and compete for Unit of the Month. The owner of the winning unit receives a gift certificate from Attactix in Aurora, Colorado. We thank Attactix for its continued support.

CMH Member	Scale	Manufacturer	Era	Unit
Bill Daniel	25mm	Bill Daniel	Colonial	Tempe and Exp party
Scott McKenzie	28mm	Old Glory/Foundry	ACW	Confederate
Scott McKenzie	28mm	Old Glory/Foundry	AWI	British
Dave Newport	15mm	Old Glory	WWII	Amtracs
<b>DAVE NEWPORT</b>	15mm	Old Glory	WWII	US Rifle Platoon
Terry Shockey	25mm	Brigade Games	Colonial	Spanish Hacienda

Table: Unit of the Month (**WINNER**)

## Battle Cry Campaign of Tournaments



*May tournament participants*

The Confederacy is on the brink of history. Can any nation survive the 'whup-ass' beating they are absorbing? The Rebels almost pulled off a Victory in the May Championship. Major Gary Stribling withdrew from the field before the Championship Game. Commander, Brig. General Jeff Goss (CSA) replaced him with his daughter, Natasha. She was visiting her father at camp and watched with justifiable pride as he rose, for the second time, to be a Commander in the Championship. She was adamant about giving her a chance to get those "Damn-Yankees." Natasha proved to be nasty! Her feminine charms belied the calculating intensity of a stalking lioness. Brig. Gen. Goss fed her the right cards and "Nasty Natasha" knew what to do with them. Brig. Gen. Jeff Lambert (USA) could only curse that fence line as attack after attack was thrown back.



However, Col. Nate Forte (USA) provided enough Victory Flags to seal the deal for the Union Forces. On that flank, he faced Major John Wharrier (CSA) who was hopelessly bogged down in bushes and brambles and woods. "I was recruited to play my bagpipes," he said. "The music only irritated, rather than inspired my troops. I know the rules now." Commander, Brig. Gen. Eric Elder (USA) showed his Canadian calculations in managing the victory in the Championship. "I had to win," he said. "Otherwise, I would never hear the end of the song: 'Blame Canada!' whenever I went to an Officers' Mess.



President Jefferson Davis has issued a plea to absent CSA General Officers. Where is Lt. Col. Larry, Major Binhan Lin, Col. Tony Fryer.....? The War is quickly becoming a "Lost Cause !" Myth is more powerful than History. Should the South lose, the world will never hear the end of it. They have got to win so that they will acquire all the barnacles and flotsam of the past and become as boring as any other part of history. However, a 0-4 score may be insurmountable. It does not matter which end of a dead fish you grab when you throw it out!

Team Score:            CSA   0            USA   4

Officer Ranking:

<b>General</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Points</b>
Brig. Gen. Eric Elder	USA	60
Brig. Gen. Jeff Goss	CSA	54
Brig. Gen. Jeff Lambert	USA	41
Col. Greg Rold	USA	34
Col. Gary Stribling	CSA	34
Col. Nate Forte	USA	33
Col. Tony Fryer	CSA	29
Lt. Col. Roger Wohlez	USA	27
Lt. Col. Joel Caruso	USA	24
Lt. Col. Larry Irons	CSA	23
Lt. Col. Matt Vigil	CSA	23
Lt. Col. Doug Wildfong	USA	23
Major John Mumby	CSA	19
Major Binhan Lin	CSA	18
Major Bill Daniel	CSA	16
Major Nathan Wohletz	USA	15
Major Lincoln Graves	CSA	12
Major Scott McKenzie	CSA	11
Major John Wharrier	CSA	9

Respectfully submitted this 21st of May 1861

## Tournament Schedule

Monthly Meeting	Scenarios	Date
June	McDowell, VA	May 8, 1862
	Winchester, VA	May 25, 1862
	Oak Grove, VA	June 25, 1862
July	Gaines Mill, VA	June 27, 1862
	Cedar Mountain, VA	Aug 9, 1862
	Second Bull Run, VA	Aug 28, 1862
August	Richmond, KY	Aug 30, 1862
	Ox Hill, VA	Sept 1, 1862
	Antietam, MD	Sept 17, 1862
September	Perryville, KY	Oct 8, 1862
	Prairie Grove, AR	Dec 7, 1862
	Fredericksburg, VA	Dec 13, 1862
October	Murfreesboro, TN	Jan 2, 1863
	Gettysburg, PA	July 1-3, 1863
	Gettysburg, PA	July 1-3, 1863
November	Chickamauga, GA	Sept 19/20, 1863
	New Market, VA	May 15, 1864
	New Hope Church, GA	May 25, 1864

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## Interesting Web Link of the Month

From John Mumby:

Flags for War of the Roses, AWI, Pirates, Sudan, Renaissance, ACW  
<http://grimsbywargamessociety.webs.com/flagdownloads.htm>



# May Monthly Meeting

## Game of the Month

Sponsored by Valhalla's Gaming Center



Each month CMH members host games at the monthly meeting. This award is for the effort put out by the host. The winning host receives a gift certificate from Valhalla's Gaming Center in Wheat Ridge, Colorado. We thank Valhalla's Gaming Center for its support.

CMH Member	Scale	Rules	Description
<b>TERRY SHOCKEY</b>	1:600	Pieces of Eight	British navy vs African Coastal Pirates
Dave Newport	28mm	Legion vs Horde	Caesar vs Vercingetorix ~55BC

Table 1 Game of the Month (**WINNER**)

# NATO at Sixty

*Originally published in April 2009 issue of Army Magazine*

*Article by CMH Member*

*General (ret.) John Brown*



April 4th marks the sixtieth anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), regarded by many as the most successful long-lived alliance in history. Building from the core principle that “an armed attack against one ... in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all”, the United States, Canada and the then embattled democracies of Western Europe constructed an alliance that preserved their imperiled freedoms, dramatically expanded the geographical scope wherein their values held sway, and transformed the

World’s most war prone continent into its most peaceable and prosperous. While doing so they demonstrated a remarkable capacity for adaptation and integration, while preserving the autonomy and independence of each member nation.

In 1949 the survival of Democracy in Europe was no sure thing. Economies were devastated, populations demoralized, and extremists on both the right and the left powerful threats in virtually every nation attempting self governance. The Soviets had snuffed out civil liberties in the countries they occupied, forcibly removed the government of Czechoslovakia, and initiated a blockade of West Berlin intended to starve out a population under the protection of American, British and French soldiers. Within the United States powerful lobbies eschewed further involvement overseas, particularly in the context of “entangling alliances”. In this dangerous hour a remarkable bi-partisan coalition shepherded by Democratic President Harry S. Truman and Republican Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg set politics aside to redesign the international responsibilities of the United States. Within a brief span the Truman Doctrine promised support to “free peoples ...resisting attempted subjugation...”, the Marshall Plan committed billions of dollars to resuscitate European economies, and American diplomats followed up on the European initiated Treaty of Brussels to negotiate the North Atlantic Treaty, signed in Washington D.C. on 4 April 1949. The Republican dominated Senate ratified the latter Truman Administration initiative 82 votes to 13.



Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Iceland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States were the original members of NATO. In 1952 these were joined by Greece and Turkey. In 1955 the Federal Republic of Germany (West Germany) joined as well. This was a seminal event in several respects. The accession of German manpower, maneuver room and industrial wherewithal made it feasible to match the Soviets in a conventional contest, raising the threshold at which nuclear weapons were the only option left. Recognizing this shift in the balance of power, the Soviets hastily announced the establishment of the Warsaw Pact. Perhaps more significant to the alliance's long term purposes, NATO membership marked the redemption of the German people from an authoritarian past -- and their acceptance into a family of democratic nations. Although individual NATO members slipped from time to time, the NATO ideal was democratic governance, civilian control of the military, civil rights, the rule of law, and soldiers as benefactors of the publics they served. NATO membership implied adherence to shared values as much as mindfulness of national defense. American soldiers and their brethren were ambassadors of Democracy, communicating values even as they manned defenses. In 1982 the German pattern repeated itself when Spain shed the Fascism of Francisco Franco, embraced democracy, and was welcomed into NATO.

NATO is about team building amidst diversity. The teamwork of nations is reflected in the teamwork of multi-national executive committees, international staffs, and combined forces in the field. Crucial features of this teamwork include transparency in force planning, interoperability, and standard operating procedures. NATO force planners negotiate openly amongst member nations in accordance with agreed procedures to determine the organization, equipment and capabilities of national contributions. Over time this transparency has fostered mutual confidence. The pursuit of interoperable equipment, albeit never perfect, greatly enhances the ability of NATO contingents to operate alongside or sustain each other. Standard operating procedures and training in accordance with them have furthered this capacity for cooperation. During the Cold War shared plans, training and procedures gave the General Deployment Plan (GDP) "layer cake" along the inter-German border credibility as a deterrent. After the Cold War they made NATO Operations such as those in Bosnia or Kosovo feasible. Perhaps as important, they enabled the efficient assembly of coalitions of the willing for operations some, but not all, of the member states chose to undertake -- like DESERT STORM.

In 1989 the Warsaw Pact collapsed, and in 1991 the Soviet Union followed. Their peoples tired of subjugation, and seized an opportunity to throw it off. NATO's resolute forty year defense, securing and nurturing open societies that provided alternate examples to communist tyranny, was central to these developments. NATO's promulgation of shared values and teamwork proved crucial to consolidating post-Cold War success. NATO membership was not loosely given, it was earned. Partnership for Peace (PfP) established apprenticeships wherein militaries born in authoritarian regimes were exposed to the values of soldiers serving democracies. PfP members participated in NATO force planning, training and active operations. They shed bloated militaries of Soviet design, and became increasingly integrated into NATO ways of doing business. Meanwhile as nations they were gaining experience in democratic governance, observing the rule of law, and swearing off border disputes that had confounded them for centuries. In 1999 the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland were deemed ready, and were welcomed into the alliance on its fiftieth birthday. Since that time Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia have joined, and by the time you read this article Albania and Croatia may be members as well. Others will follow, when the circumstances are right and they are ready.

Geographical restraint to Europe and North America in the alliance's core principle was no accident. In 1949 many European members had colonial holdings Canada and the United States had no interest in defending. Conversely, the United States had had interventions in Latin America the Europeans would not have wanted to be involved with. NATO policy making has by design been fervent in preserving the autonomy and independence of member states. Collective interests outside of Europe rarely align as well as they do within Europe, and the military threat within Europe is now much diminished. Stability within Europe enormously enhances the security of the United States, and for that NATO is much to thank. NATO operations beyond Europe, such as in Afghanistan, are more likely to remain problematic. Nations understandably vary in their perception of their stakes in that distant theater. To its credit NATO has undertaken to operate collectively in Central Asia, and to refine its capacity to operate outside of Europe. It may be that the NATO standardization that enables efficient coalitions of the willing proves more consequential out of sector than NATO operations per se, but this in itself is a huge advantage. In sixty years an alliance of free peoples has advanced democratic governance from the threatened fringe of Europe to the continent as a whole. Their numbers have multiplied as others, noting their security and embracing their values, have joined them. Should this pattern continue for another sixty years, the World will indeed be a better place.

### **Recommended Reading**

Lindley-French, Julian, *The North Atlantic Treaty Organization: The Enduring Alliance* (London: Routledge, 2007)

NATO Handbook (Brussels: NATO Office of Information and Press, 1995)

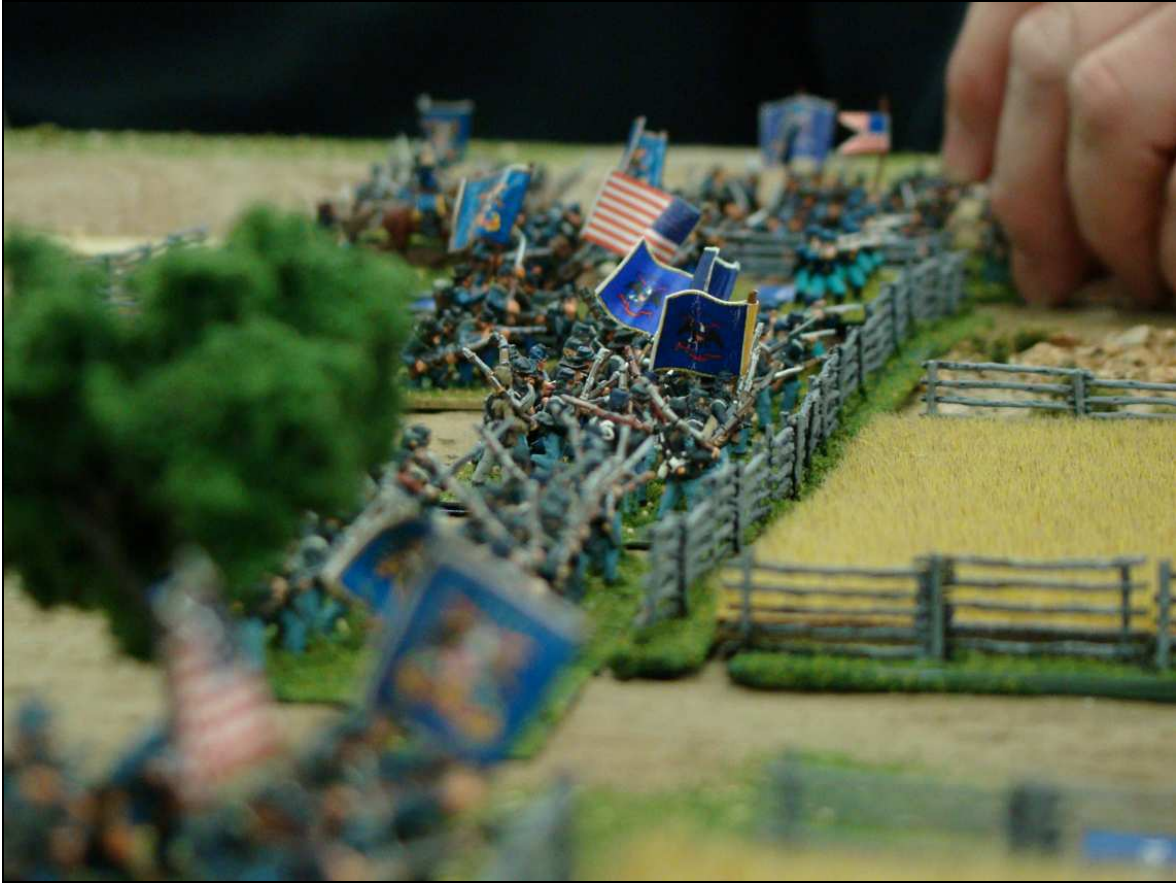


## Tactical Training Poster of the Month

*1943 U.S. Posters from Canadian War Museum Collection*



## CMH June Scheduled Events



This table shows what scheduled CMH events are coming up. Next months Friday Night Fights (FNF) and the monthly meeting (MM) are listed. It is recommended to schedule your game for future meetings and will appear on this page.

Date	Meeting	Location	Start Time	End Time
June 3	FNF	Baker	7:00 pm	midnight
June 10	FNF	Valhallas	7:00 pm	midnight
June 12	MM	Baker	12:00 pm	5:00 pm
June 17	FNF	Baker	7:00 pm	midnight
June 24	FNF	Valhallas	7:00 pm	midnight

June 12:

- Hail Caesar rules game put on by Matt Vigil and Dan Gurule.
- Battle Cry Tournament continues.
- David and Jordan Newport will be putting on a Firefight WWII skirmish game. Possibly set in Stalingrad.

# Shockey Sweeps West Wars BBDBA!

*Tournament Report by CMH Member*

*General (ret.) John Brown*



Terry Shockey on the left in action.

The Armies deployed in glittering array. In historical order there were Dan Gurule's Hittites, Greg Rold's Achaemenid Persians, Doug Raines' Ptolemaics, James Pirc's Palmyrans, Jeff Lambert's Late Imperial Romans, Bernie Santucci's Late Imperial Romans with an Alan ally, Jeff Caruso's Patrician Romans, John Brown's Northern Wei Chinese, Art Hayes' Anglo-Normans, Brent Sustaita's Crusaders with a Fatimid ally, Roy Hayes' Medieval Germans with a Leidang ally, and Terry Shockey's Medieval Germans. The stakes were high! This was the West Wars Big Battle De Bellis Antiquitas Tournament (May 14, 2011), and reputations could be made or broken in a single move.

Terry Shockey's Medieval Germans went to the top of the heap with a convincing first round decisive victory, and then cemented that lead with an equally decisive victory in the second round. This left him with a spectacular 184 points out of 200 possible, fully 80 points ahead of the next in line. Asked to explain his success, he flagged up the superb performance of his double-threat dismountable knights. Mounted they could quick-kill charge with the best of them, dismounted against archers they delivered a "sterling Popeil demonstration of the latest medieval slicing and dicing equipment". Shockey's brilliant performance evoked understandable pangs of jealousy. Like Jesse James, he has become the man to beat to make a reputation. To scattered talk of a come-uppance he responded "Holen Sie es an!" which we believe is Medieval German for "Bring it on!"

A tight pack each with one decisive victory and some small change trailed Shockey. Brent Sustaita's Crusaders and Fatimids scored 104, and Roy Hayes' Germans and Leidang 102. Right behind them came an astonishing three-way tie, 100 points each, involving Art Hayes' Anglo-Normans, Bernie Santucci's

Late Imperial Romans and John Brown's Northern Wei Chinese. Asked what inspired him to edge to the top of so close a pack, Sustaita declared it was the prospect of winning as a prize the DVD Clash of the Titans, which in fact he did. No one had the heart to tell him that it was not a true story – or that it was the 1980s version in claymation! It seems Roy Hayes was similarly inspired, as he left the Baker Recreation Center waving his hard-won Troy DVD over his head and announcing, Terminator – like, "I'll be baaack!"



As those familiar with the BBDBA tournament scoring system well know, the points overwhelmingly reward decisive victories won in the allotted time, and do less justice to minor victories or slow but steady plans coming to fruition. That was the case here, with strong performances extending all the way up and down the ladder. Nevertheless, CMH's newly elected President (also known as Pharaoh) Dan Gurule surveyed the results and launched two immediate initiatives. First, the overwhelming preponderance of medieval armies at the top of the heap had to be addressed. He himself had muttered "Hittites and Knights don't mix", having led scantily clad Biblical-era troops against mailed and plated medieval men at arms not once, but twice. None doubted his courage. With a little help from other ancients-buffs, he resolved to personally lead New Kingdom Egyptians to knock the highest performing medievalist, Terry Shockey, off his pedestal. Second, the Colorado Springs crowd has dominated numerically in the top slots two tournaments running, and they too need "some humble pie." Gurule personally will lead the CMH DBA Travelling Team on a chevauchee into Colorado Springs. Like the Medieval French in the Hundred Years War, they can come out and fight or cower and be disgraced. Balance will be restored: between ancients and medievals, and between Denver and Colorado Springs.

As the tournament wrapped up, players turned in a "Tacticon DBx Interest Survey." In this they rated preferences for another BBDBA Tournament, a DBA Tournament, a DBA Multi-Player Campaign



Scenario, a DBM Tournament, a DBM Multi-Player Battle Scenario, a DBN Tournament, and a HOTT Tournament against each other. The DBA Tournament won handily, and will be offered by CMH at Tacticon in September. The DBA Multi-Player Campaign Scenario came in second, and will be hosted by CMH at Veterans Wars in November. The BBDBA Tournament was close behind, and will ride again at Genghis Con in February.

We are accepting applications for the CMH DBA Travelling Team, and are evaluating nominations for an appropriate name. One strong possibility is the "Six-One Splits". For further information, please contact John Brown at [jsandmbbrown@msn.com](mailto:jsandmbbrown@msn.com).



## Photo of the Month



This is a postcard from WWII showing student air observers at Trinidad's Royal Naval Air Station. The students sitting on the battered plane is a little odd. It does look like a Fletcher Pratt's Naval War Game.

# Colorado Military Historians, Inc.

Colorado Military Historians (CMH) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote historical wargaming and the study of military history. Founded in 1965, CMH meets monthly on the second Sunday of the month, except in May when the meeting is deferred to the third Sunday. The meeting starts at noon at the Baker Recreation Center, 6751 Irving Street (just a few blocks west of Federal Blvd), Denver, Colorado. The club also hosts gaming every Friday night, called "Friday Night Fights" (FNF) at 7:00 p.m. The first and third Friday of the month, these meetings will be held at the Baker Community Center. The second and fourth Friday of the month, the meetings will be at Valhalla's Gaming Center, 6161 W. 44<sup>th</sup> Ave., Wheatridge, Colorado.



CMH maintains ties with numerous local, regional and national groups to help promote the hobby. CMH is governed by member-elected officers serving on the Board of Directors (executive board). Terms of office are one year, with elections held at the May meeting. New members are accepted after attending three CMH functions and a vote of the membership. Dues are \$50.00 per year, payable in January. Members wishing to receive a snail-mailed newsletter subscription must pay an additional fee of \$15.00 per year. Authors retain ownership of articles and graphics published. CMH reserves the right to edit or reject submissions to the newsletter.

One year Adult Membership: \$50.00

Half year Adult Membership: \$25.00

(for NEW members who join after June 30)

Family Membership: \$50.00 (one Adult and any number of offspring)

Student Membership: \$20.00 (16 to 22 years old)

Children: free (younger than 16 accompanied by member)

## CMH Newsletter

The CMH Newsletter is a monthly newsletter published by the Colorado Military Historians. Views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of all CMH members.

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