

OUR UPCOMING MEETING



Professor Tierney explores the extraordinary double mindedness with which Americans approach war, and reveals the opposing mindsets that have governed our responses throughout history: the "crusade" tradition-our grand quests to defend democratic values and overthrow tyrants; and the "quagmire" tradition-our resistance to the work of nation-building and its inevitable cost in dollars and American lives.

Americans love war. We've never run from a fight. Our triumphs from the American Revolution to World War II define who we are as a nation and a people.

Americans hate war. Our leaders rush us into conflicts without knowing the facts or understanding the consequences. Korea, Vietnam, and now Iraq and Afghanistan define who we are as a nation and a people.

How can one nation be so split? Studying conflicts from the Civil War to the present, Dominic Tierney has created a secret history of American foreign policy and a frank and insightful look at how Americans respond to the ultimate challenge. And he shows how success is possible. His innovative model for tackling the challenges of modern war can mean longstanding victory in Iraq and Afghanistan, by rediscovering a lost American warrior tradition.

Dominic Tierney is assistant professor of political science at Swarthmore College. He received his Ph.D. in international politics from Oxford University, and has held fellowships at the Mershon Center at Ohio State

HOW WE FIGHT: Crusades, Quagmires, and the American Way of War

PROF. DOMINIC TIERNEY

**Assistant Professor of Political
Science at Swarthmore College**

TIME/PLACE:

**Tuesday, February 15, 2011,
7:30 PM, Mount Vernon Country Club**

University, the Olin Institute at Harvard University, and the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He is the author of *Failing to Win: Perceptions of Victory and Defeat in International Politics* (Harvard University Press, 2006), with Dominic Johnson, which won the International Studies Association award for the best book published in 2006, and *FDR and the Spanish Civil War: Neutrality and Commitment in the Struggle that Divided America* (Duke University Press, 2007). ■

NOVEMBER MEETING REVIEW

By Debra Pearce, Secretary, Colorado Foothills
World Affairs Council



Global Scramble for Natural Resources: Its Potential Impact on America

by Dr. Vincent Matthews, State
Geologist and Director of the
Colorado Geological Survey

Dr. Vincent Matthews, State Geologist and Director of the Colorado Geological Survey, delivered a compelling argument for why America must invest in both conventional and renewable energy sources to maintain our position in the world economy. The Colorado Geological Survey (CGS) is a state government agency within the Department of Natural Resources and their
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NOVEMBER MEETING REVIEW

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work includes reducing the impact of geological hazards on the people of Colorado, provide avalanche forecasting and safety training, investigate the ground water resources, educate the public on the history of energy in Colorado, and promote responsible economic development of the state's mineral and energy resources. According to Dr. Matthews, there has historically been pressure from the eastern region of the country for the energy resource to be developed in the west and that pressure will increase. Revenue from natural resources skyrocketed from \$2 billion in the 1990s to \$15.5 billion in 2008, fifty percent more than tourism revenue and nearly twice the revenue from agriculture. The leading revenue producing natural resources in Colorado are natural gas, oil, minerals, coal, CO2 and uranium.

Dr. Matthews addressed conflicts arising with multi-national corporations operating in America and the growing production and consumption of energy resources by the emerging economies of China and India. Although the United States and China both occupy approximately 10 million square miles, the size of their populations varies greatly. While the United States population is just over 307 million, the population of China is more than 1.3 billion. India, whose energy needs are fast approaching those of China, has a population of over 1.1 billion and a total land area of less than 3 million square miles. Recent media attention has focused on the GDP growth comparisons between

China (10.4%) and India (8.1%) to the United States (3.5%). However, the total GDP for the United States in 2007 surpassed \$13.8 trillion, while the GDP of China was only \$3.2 trillion and India's GDP was a mere \$1.1 trillion. Even with China's impressive growth rate, their GDP is not expected to surpass that of the United States until after 2027, and that is dependent on China's ability to sustain their economic growth.

Dr. Matthews noted that no nation can build their economy without energy resources. Over the past 19 years, the world has seen a sharp in-



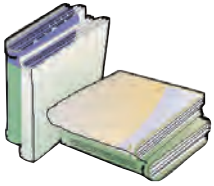
crease in the use of electricity, especially in China. China recognizes the need to increase mineral production which is currently well below the nation's consumption. However, even though manufacturing is dependent on readily available natural resources, mining and mineral production is not always profitable. Over the last decade, precious and base mineral prices have increased more on average than a barrel of oil and yet the public has been unaware of the impact on the market, because of the way minerals are sold. Oil and natural gas are sold on the spot market providing an immediate reading, while minerals like

coal, uranium, and molybdenum are sold on a long-term fixed market. The set price contracts of mineral resources create a slow inflation that drives the overall rate of inflation.

While renewable energy sources promise to offer an alternative to oil and natural gas, their operation is closely tied to mineral resources. Both wind and solar panels are manufactured with mostly imported metal/mineral commodities. China is the world's largest producer of Rare Earth Elements used to manufacture motors and batteries for hybrid electric cars. Nuclear power also offers a low carbon footprint alternative to the world's energy needs. India will have 17 new reactors by 2012 and China will have 32 new nuclear plants by 2020. The United States remains the largest generator of nuclear power despite the fact that our last nuclear power plant came on line in 1996. The United States generates as much nuclear energy as France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, and the United Kingdom combined. There are 436 operating nuclear power plants in the world requiring over 180 million pounds of uranium each year.

As world oil production declines, alternative fuel sources will need to be developed. Currently, 85% of the world's oil supply comes from just 20 of the 65 producing countries and 54 of the 65 producing countries are in decline. The future of energy resources will not be determined by the size of reserves, but the speed of production.

More information on
<http://geosurvey.state.co.us/> ■



SUGGESTED READINGS

By Fred Nyland, News Editor

Peter Hessler, *Country Driving: A Journey Through China from Farm to Factory*, Harper Collins Publishers, 2010. The author, a reporter for the New Yorker, investigates China's lurch into modernity through three engrossing narratives. In an epic road trip following the Great Wall across northern China, he surveys dilapidated frontier outposts from the imperial past, while barely surviving the nation's uniquely terrifying car culture. He examines the transformation of village life through the saga of a family of peasants trying to remake themselves as middle class entrepreneurs. Finally, he explores China's frantic industrialization, embodied by the managers and workers at a fly-by-night bra-parts factory. The author points out many contradictions, from the absurdities of Chinese drivers' education courses. Low speed obstacle courses are mandatory, while seat belts and turn signals are optional. According to Publishers Weekly, this book is a fascinating portrait of a society tearing off into the future with only the sketchiest of maps. Jonathan Yardley in his review of this book for *The Washington Post* states that the author is, "at once highly entertaining (his accounts of the driver's test and how the Chinese act on the road are often hilarious) and deeply instructive, as he paints a portrait of a country in the midst of change so widespread and profound that it can scarcely be grasped. ... He has a highly developed taste for oddness, incongruity and just plain weirdness, all of which he describes with not a scintilla of condescension. *Country Driving* is a wonderful book about China that also happens to be a terrific book about the human race." (Sources: *Publishers Weekly*, Barnes and Noble, *The Washington Post*)

Pauline Maier, *Ratification: The People Debate the Constitution, 1787-1788*, Simon & Schuster, 2010. When delegates left the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia in September 1787, the new Constitution they had written was no more than a proposal. Elected conventions in at least nine of the thirteen states would have to ratify it before it could take effect. The document we revere today as the foundation of our country's laws, the cornerstone of our legal system, was hotly disputed at the time. Some Americans denounced the Constitution for threatening the lib-

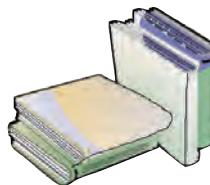
erty that Americans had won at great cost in the Revolutionary War. One group of fiercely patriotic opponents even burned the document in a raucous public demonstration on the Fourth of July. In this new history, the author tells the story of the yearlong battle over ratification that brought such founders as Washington, Hamilton, Madison, Jay, and Henry together with less well known Americans who sometimes eloquently and always passionately expressed their hopes and fears for the new country. Men argued in taverns and coffeehouses; women joined the debate in their parlors; broadsides and newspaper stories advocated various points of view and excoriated others. In small towns and counties across the country people read the document carefully and knew it well. Then the ratifying conventions chosen by the states scrutinized and debated the Constitution clause by clause. Woody Holton, author of *Unruly Americans and the Origins of the Constitution*, tellingly put it, "I can't imagine a better subject for Pauline Maier's storytelling skills than the statewide debates over whether to ratify the U.S. Constitution. Maier follows the debate beyond the legislative chambers into the taverns and homes of ordinary Americans as they made their momentous decision." (Sources: Publisher's notes, Amazon.com)

Daniel Okrent, *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition*, Scribner, 2010. This book is a history of America's most puzzling era, the years 1920 to 1933, when the U.S. Constitution was amended to restrict one of America's favorite pastimes: drinking alcoholic beverages. The sailing vessel that brought John Winthrop to the shores of the New World in 1630 carried more beer than water. By the 1820s, liquor flowed so plentifully it was cheaper than tea. That Americans would ever agree to relinquish their booze was improbable and astonishing. The author shows how Prohibition involved a confluence of diverse forces. There was the growing political power of the women's suffrage movement, which allied itself with the antiliquor campaign. Other influences included the fear of small town, native stock Protestants that they were losing control of their country to the immigrants of the large cities; the anti-German sentiment stoked by World

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SUGGESTED READINGS *(Continued)*

War I; and finally the rise of the automobile and the advent of the income tax. Through it all, Americans kept drinking, going to remarkably creative lengths to smuggle, sell, conceal, and convivially imbibe their favorite intoxicants. Last Call introduces the reader to characters of an astonishing variety: Susan B. Anthony and Billy Sunday, William Jennings Bryan and bootlegger Sam Bronfman, Pierre S. duPont and H.L. Menken, Meyer Lansky and the federal official Mabel Walker Willebrandt. Throughout the twenties, she was the most powerful woman in the country. The narratives in this book are geographically diverse. The stories run through smoky Manhattan speakeasies, where relations between the sexes were changed forever; California vineyards busily producing "sacramental" wine; New England fishing communities that gave up fishing for the more lucrative rum-running business; and in Washington, the halls of Congress itself, where politicians who had voted for Prohibition drank openly and without apology. Walter Isaacson noted, "Daniel Okrent's *Last Call* is filled with delightful details, colorful characters, and fascinating social insights. And what a great tale! Prohibition may not have been a lot of fun, but this book sure is." (Sources: Amazon.com, Publisher's notes) ■



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The Colorado Foothills World Affairs Council is a non-profit organization which meets to provide a forum for those in our community wishing to keep abreast of developments in international relations and to discuss them on a regular basis with those having similar interests.

For more information, call Walter "Joe" Shaw 303-979-5927. ALL COLORADO FOOTHILLS WAC MEETINGS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. RESERVATIONS ARE NOT REQUIRED.

DIRECTIONS to Mount Vernon Country Club: Exit I-70 at Genesee Park (Exit #254). Go North on Mount Vernon Country Club Road, staying on the paved road and curving to the right. The Club entrance will be on your left, 1.1 miles from the I-70 exit.

DINNER AT 6:00 PM in the main dining room at Mount Vernon Country Club is optional. Reservations have to be made no later than the Sunday before the event. Call Mt. Vernon Country Club at 303-526-0616 and ask for seating with the Colorado Foothills WAC. Cost of dinner will be collected by the Club. 


TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS, AND MEMBERSHIP DUES: Information can be sent to: Ned Biggs, P.O. Box 1602, Evergreen, CO 80437-1602.



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SEND YOUR IDEAS and articles for the newsletter to the Editorial Committee: Beatrice Szadokierski, Editor in Chief, 1923 Parfet Estates Drive, Golden, CO 80401, email: szadokierski@comcast.net or call 303-279-2638.