

From the Editors



With this issue we catch up with our publication schedule at long last, which calls for at least a small celebration. For 2008 we also welcome three new members of our editorial board: Mary Piercey, Janice Esther Tulk, and Norman Stanfield, which calls for another.

For the two principal articles in this issue we are indebted to Tim Rogers, a past president of our Society and former editor of this publication when it was called the *Bulletin*, and to Josie Chan, whose work on the history of Chinese communities in Canada deserves to be more widely known. They explore from different angles the role of Chinese immigrant workers in the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway line across the Rockies and, of course, some of the songs that have been written, from different perspectives, about this important, but all too often neglected, aspect of the creation of a country stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean. Incidentally, one of the songs (“Ribbon of Broken Dreams”) that Rosaleen has transcribed for Tim’s article can be heard performed by its author, John Spearn, at <http://www.myspace.com/johnspearn>.

We have our usual quota of songs and reviews. Two interesting immigrant songs from the Irish community in Calgary have been located by John Leeder and transcribed by Michael Pollock. There are four more items from Rosaleen’s musical journey through her singing versions of traditional ballads in the Child collection, and she has also contributed an account of Moira Cameron’s important new ballad CD. Dave, too, has finally got round to writing a number of reviews of various CDs that have been waiting patiently for months in a pile near our stereo, while several members of John Leeder’s stable of reviewers have contributed others. We heartily thank all our contributors for their efforts.

CSTM’s annual conference and AGM is at St. Mary’s University in Halifax this year, and we now have some definite dates for it: November 14-16th. We expect to be there—why would we spurn an excuse for a trip to beautiful Nova Scotia?—and we hope to see you there too. In the meantime, we hope you enjoy this and subsequent issues of *Canadian Folk Music*. And don’t forget to tell your friends about the Society and its two periodicals.

David & Rosaleen Gregory

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