

From the Editors



At long last we have caught up with our publication schedule. In this first issue of 2006 you will find two more articles based on papers delivered at the CSTM Conference in New Westminster last November. In printing these pieces we are reaffirming our support for wide-ranging exploratory work by young Canadian ethnomusicologists focusing on our country's newer musical traditions, and also our continuing interest in the European sources of Canadian traditional song. We trust that you will find both of these quite different articles entertaining and informative.

We continue to bring you the words and melodies of Canadian vernacular songs that our members are performing in folk clubs and singing circles across the country, and this time we have two songs about the War of 1812. You will also find another instalment of our regular column on "Singing the Child Ballads". The issue is rounded out by John Leeder's perspective on our past, and by a goodly number of CD reviews.

There is currently a debate taking place in CSTM circles about the future of the organization and the best way to expand its membership. We offer space in our pages to anyone who would like to state their viewpoint on these questions. The magazine can be a forum for thoughtful discussion of these burning issues, but only if our readers want to make use of it for this purpose. We also welcome feedback on its contents. And we invite contributions.

Our books and CD review section is dependent on volunteer reviewers. We ourselves contribute a few reviews now and again, but we depend on the dedication of John Leeder's stable of reviewers to come through with the majority of them. We hereby thank his regulars, and we appeal for more volunteers (please contact John directly) to make sure that we can cover as many as possible of the discs sent to us by performers and record labels.

Photo credits in this issue go to Jon Elder (courtesy of Powell Street Festival), Eileen Kage, Kim Noriko Kobayashi, and Steven Lemay, and our thanks go to Raging Asian Women for permitting us to copy images from their website.

David & Rosaleen Gregory

The editorial address of *Canadian Folk Music/Musique folklorique canadienne* is 4907 - 54 St., Athabasca, AB, Canada T9S 1L2

Canadian Folk Music is published four times a year: spring, summer, fall and winter.

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