

# The Historical Society for Twentieth Century China

December 2007

HSTCC Newsletter #25

The Historical Society for Twentieth Century China (HSTCC) is dedicated to scholarly interchange about modern China. Founded in 1983, the HSTCC has been the organizer or co-organizer of a number of international conferences, as well as the sponsor of numerous panels at national meetings of the Association for Asian Studies and the American Historical Association. The Society is affiliated with both the AAS and the AHA.

#### **2006-2008 HSTCC Officers**

*President:* Keith Schoppa, Loyola College of Maryland

*Vice-President:* James Carter, St. Joseph's University

#### **2006-2008 HSTCC Board**

Morris Linan Bian, Auburn University  
Thomas Dubois, National University of Singapore

John Fitzgerald, La Trobe University  
Elisabeth Koll, Case Western Reserve University

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Ke-wen Wang, St. Michael's College

Website: <http://www.lcsc.edu/hstcc>

*study and report back to the board by the spring 2008 AAS convention.*

*Due to production problems we are able to publish only one issue of HSTCC newsletter this year. We continue to look for volunteers who would take over the editorship of our newsletter.*

#### **The HSTCC Biennial Conference at the East -West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii, June 16-18, 2008**

The theme for our forthcoming conference is "Chinese Identities: Local, Regional, National, Global." Panel and individual paper proposal have been received. By the end of February 2008, we will notify participants of paper selection and assign individual papers to panels. Panelists will then send their completed papers to panel chairs and discussants by May 1, 2008. For possible late submission of proposals please contact Professor R. Keith Schoppa ([kschoppa@loyola.edu](mailto:kschoppa@loyola.edu)) at Department of History, Loyola College in Maryland, 4501 N. Charles St., Baltimore, MD 21210-2699.

The conference registration fee will be announced by e-mail soon. At the annual meeting in Boston in March 2007 it was decided that the registration fee for members will be lower than that for non-members (please see minutes below). To be on the program as either presenter or discussant, one must be a member of the HSTCC. Blocs of rooms have been reserved at conference rates at area hotels, with rates running from \$91 to \$129.

#### ***President's Notes***

*Season's Greetings. The most noteworthy HSTCC news in the past year is its likely merger with the journal Twentieth Century China. In the proposed merger, the journal would become a publication of the HSTCC and members of the Society will subscribe to the journal as part of their membership dues. It would also be a natural venue for members to consider when submitting essays for publication. We discussed the issue at the Boston AAS meeting in spring 2007 (please see minutes below). An exploratory committee was formed to*

## **New HSTCC Webpage Established**

After many years of being diligently managed by Professor Marilyn Levine, the HSTCC's Webpage is now in the able hands of Professor Steven Phillips of Towson University; please find it (with news about the HSTCC and membership lists) at [www.towson.edu/hstcc/](http://www.towson.edu/hstcc/)

## **A Note on Membership Dues**

The date of HSTCC membership dues collection has been moved from November to June of each year. Members who will attend our Hawaii conference in June 2008 may renew their membership at the HSTCC Desk on the conference site. For others whose membership expires this year an e-mail reminder of renewal will be sent to you next spring.

## **Minutes of HSTCC Business Meeting, March 24, 2007, Boston Marriott**

Present: R. Keith Schoppa (President), John Fitzgerald (Board Member), Elisabeth Koll (Board Member), Ke-wen Wang (Secretary-Treasurer), Christopher Reed (Chief Editor, Twentieth-Century China), and about 15 other members.

Presiding: President R. Keith Schoppa, who called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

1. *Approval of Minutes.* The minutes of the previous business meeting on April 8, 2006 were approved on a motion.

2. *Financial Report.* Secretary-Treasurer Ke-wen Wang reported that the HSTCC account has been transferred from Ontario, Canada, to Burlington, Vermont. Current balance in the account stands at

\$8,734.38. The Society has 71 paid-up members, of whom 14 are Lifetime Members. There was a brief discussion on the problem of currency exchange when overseas members pay their membership dues.

### *3. President's Report.*

A. President Schoppa reported on the proposal of merging the Society with Twentieth-Century China. In the proposal, the journal would become a publication of the Society and members of the Society would subscribe the journal. Chief Editor of the journal, Christopher Reed, was present at the meeting and indicated his support for the proposal. Ke-wen Wang inquired about possible financial commitment by the Society should the merge takes place; Christopher Reed replied that there would be none. The journal is currently funded by subscriptions and by Ohio State University. The meeting approved President Schoppa's motion of establishing an Exploring Committee to study the proposal and report back to the board. Members of the Committee include President Schoppa and Vice-president James Carter, Elisabeth Koll, Ke-wen Wang, Margherita Zanasi, and Christopher Reed.

B. President Schoppa reported on preparations for the Society's biennial conference next year. The conference will be held at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, in June 2008. Tentative title of the Conference: "Chinese Identities: Local, Regional, Global." Deposit for reservation of the Imin International Conference Center has been made. Accommodations for conference participants are being arranged. The Honolulu conference will be the first one the Society organizes that

does not have a local co-organizer or sponsor, but the Society will contact the University of Hawaii for possible assistance and cooperation from it. It was decided that participants should pay registration fees, which would provide the principal source of funding for the conference, and that the registration fee for Society members should be lower than that of non-members. The exact amount of registration fee would be determined once an estimate of the overall costs of the conference has been made. John Fitzgerald introduced a motion stipulating that the amount drawn from the HSTCC account to pay for the Honolulu conference should not exceed \$2000.00. The motion was carried.

4. A few members suggested that the biennial conferences may not be frequent enough for the Society to attract or retain members. Parks Coble indicated that the Society is currently affiliated with the AHA and the AAS and could therefore sponsor panels at their annual conferences. This may allow the Society to be more active as well as more visible among fellow scholars. The panel on Mao: The Unknown Story sponsored by the Society at the 2006 AAS annual meeting in San Francisco was seen as a successful example.

5. Margherita Zanasi raised a question regarding the Society's name – should it be changed to include the 21<sup>st</sup> Century? A brief discussion followed but no motion was introduced.

6. A few members present indicated that they have not been regularly informed on the Society's activity. Ke-wen Wang promised that the Society will try to update its membership e-mail addresses.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

### **HSTCC Sponsors Panel and Session at the AHA annual meeting in Washington, D.C., January 3-6, 2008**

Roundtable discussion: "Making Sense of a Changing China: A Dialogue between Historians and Journalists," scheduled for Thursday January 3, 5:30-7:00 pm. The discussion will be led by Professor Jeffrey Wasserstrom.

"Refugees, Violence, and Urban Culture in Wartime China, 1937-45," scheduled for January 6, 8:30-10:30 am. Panelists will include Professors Poshek Fu, R. Keith Schoppa and Ke-wen Wang. Professor Parks M. Coble will serve as Chair and Discussant.

### **Recent Publications by HSTCC Members**

R. Keith Schoppa, East Asia: Identities and Change in the Modern World, 1700 to the present. Prentice Hall, 2007.

Peter Zarrow, ed., Creating Chinese Modernity: Knowledge and Everyday Life, 1900-1940. Peter Lang, 2006.

Peter Zarrow, "The New Schools and National Identity: Chinese History Textbooks in the Late Qing," in Tze-ki Hon and Robert J. Culp, eds., The Politics of Historical Production in Late Qing and Republican China, Brill, 2007.

Dong Wang, Managing God's Higher Learning: US-China Cultural Encounter and Canton Christian College (Lingnan University), 1888-1952. Rowman & Littlefield, 2007.

Vincent K. Pollard, Globalization, Democratization and Asian Leadership: Power Sharing, Foreign Policy and Society in the Philippines and Japan. (First published, 2004) England: Ashgate, 2007.

Donald Sutton (co-edited with Pamela K. Crossley & Helen F. Siu), Empire at the Margins: Culture, Ethnicity and Frontier in Early Modern China. University of California Press, 2006.

Leander Seah, "Hybridity, Globalization, and the Creation of a Nanyang Identity: The South Seas Society in Singapore, 1940-1958," Journal of the South Seas Society (September/October 2007).

Di Wang (editor), Shijian, Kongjian, Shuxie: Xin shehui shi (Time, space, and historical writing: a new social history). Zhejiang renmin chubanshe, 2006.

Di Wang, "Struggling for Livelihood: Social Conflict through the Teahouse in Republican Chengdu," European Journal of East Asian Studies, Vol. 5, No. 2 (Fall 2006).

Matthew David Johnson, "'A Scene beyond Our Line of Sight': Wu Wenguang and New Documentary Cinema's Politics of Independence," in Paul G. Pickowicz & Yingjin Zhang eds., From Underground to Independent: Alternative Film Culture in Contemporary China. Rowman & Littlefield, 2006.

John R. Stanley, "Professionalizing the Rural Medical Mission in Weixian, 1890-1925" in David Hardiman ed., Healing Bodies, Saving Souls: Medical Missions in Asia and Africa, Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2006.

Kan Liang, "Rethinking May Fourth: The Vernacular Literary Movement in Wartime Chongqing," The Chinese Historical Review, Vol. 3, No. 1 (Spring 2006).

Chia Meng Tak, "Sound of the Tide across the Sea: Taixu's Mission to Singapore," Nanyang Buddhist, No 448 (September 2006).

Joshua Howard, "Nie Er: chuangzao 'xinxing yinyue' yu 1930 niandai de Zhongguo geming" (Nie Er: the creation of 'new music' and the Chinese revolution of the 1930s) in Chinese Academy of Social Sciences ed., Yijiu sanling niandai de Zhongguo (China in the 1930s), Shehui kexue chubanshe, 2006.

Qin Yan, "Ershi shiji ba jiushi niandai xibu nongcun de miaohui wenhua" (The temple festival culture in West China's rural villages during the 1980s and 1990s), Dangdai Zhongguo shi yanjiu, 2006, No. 3.

He Fang, "Dianshi guanggao zhong de ertong shenghuo" (Children's life in TV commercials), Dangdai jiaoyu kexue, 2007, No. 8.

**Send News of Recent Publications to Keith Schoppa ([kschoppa@loyola.edu](mailto:kschoppa@loyola.edu)) or Ke-wen Wang ([kwang@smcvt.edu](mailto:kwang@smcvt.edu)).**