

ISSUE NO. 99 July-September 2005

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

歡迎光臨! (JOIN US!)

Every year around this time Northwest China Council board members and the executive director are charged with the task of recruiting people to serve on the China Council board of directors and on committees (composed of board members and volunteers) that are essential to realizing our mission.

We have traditionally conducted searches by eliciting recommendations from current and former directors and members who are actively involved with Council business. A recruitment, nomination, election and installation process follows.

This year, in an effort to broaden the search process, we are actively encouraging recommendations from the China Council membership. The enclosed flyer provides information about the work of the board and the kind of people we need. We would love to hear from you and, on **Saturday, July 16**, invite you to join us if you are interested in learning more about board and committee membership.

Yangzi Farewell

On April 20th the final program in the Yangzi series, "From Quiet Spring to Roaring City: Exploring China's Yangzi River," was held at Portland State University. In all, seven presenters took part in eleven events that explored the river and its environs in diverse and interesting ways.

The response to the series was very good. Events were well attended, the Q & A sessions were lively and we were once again able to become acquainted with China experts who came from near and far to share their knowledge and ideas.

As with many adventures it is sad to see this one end, but it's time for a breather before setting out again. I look forward to the next trip.

Happy summer!

Rosario Agliano



(Left) Linda Butler (fourth row, fourth from left) and friends at the Portland Art Museum

CHINA COUNCIL NEWS

Portland mayor Tom Potter made his first official visit to Old Town Chinatown on Saturday, April 23rd. Prior to attending an open meeting at the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, Mayor Potter met with representatives from the Old Town Chinatown Arts Culture & History Group (ACHG) at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center. Group members briefed the mayor on the arts, culture and history non-profits based in the area and shared their plan for growing and thriving in the Old Town Chinatown historic district. Following the meeting, Old Town History Project director Dr. Jackie Peterson gave the mayor a tour of the neighborhood, explaining its rich ethnic and architectural history.



Mayor Potter with Jackie Peterson and Zimmerman Community Center director Pat Ruhmer (right)

ACHG, a newly formed committee of the Old Town Chinatown Neighborhood Association, is dedicated to promoting the vital role that arts and cultural organizations play in this important historic district. Its "energy source" is arts and culture advocates from the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, Friends of Chamber Music, Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, Northwest China Council, Northwest Documentary, Old Town History Project, Oregon Jewish Museum, Portland Classical Chinese Garden and Zimmerman Community Center.

A great way to stay abreast on Old Town Chinatown developments is through the website

oldtownchinatown.com which contains a weekly events calendar, an electronic copy of the *Old Town Chinatown Crier*, a comprehensive list of community organizations and more. A print edition of the *Crier* is also available at Old Town Chinatown restaurants, shops and community organization offices.



Front page, Summer 2005 edition

**SUPPORT CHANGE !
RESPECT TRADITION !**

PROGRAM NOTES

Yangzi Programs

April was awash with lectures from the series, "From Quiet Spring to Roaring City: Exploring China's Yangzi River." On April 5th, photographer **Linda Butler** showed pictures from her exhibit, "*Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake*," to a full house at Linfield College's Jonasson Hall.



Butler gave a second presentation the following evening at the Whitsell Auditorium of the Portland Art Museum with more than 200 people attending. Her photographs chronicle the dramatic changes that took place along the river's middle reach between 2000-2003, when she traveled extensively in the region.

Two presentations on April 13th considered Shanghai's historical and social transformation. **Joe Borich**, former U.S. Consul General in Shanghai and the current executive director of the Washington State China Relations Council, spoke at the Council China Business Network luncheon at the House of Louie. Borich described Shanghai's economic and political resurgence, which began in the early 1990s and is now moving full tilt toward the 2010 Shanghai World Expo.

In the evening, at Portland State University, author **Stella Dong** talked about Shanghai's transformation from an insignificant fishing village near the terminus of the Yangzi to China's most dynamic city, beginning in the mid-19th century. On April 20th, Lewis and Clark College historian **Susan Glosser** continued the Shanghai story by focusing on the lives of women during the Japanese occupation of Shanghai.

Professor Glosser's talk was the final talk in the series, sponsored by a grant from the Oregon Council of the Humanities with support from the PSU Institute for Asian Studies, Linfield College, the Asian Art Council of the Portland Art Museum, and the Portland Classical Chinese Garden.

Many thanks to the following people for their support and encouragement: Dave Bleyle and Shaik Ismail (NWCC board members); David Diede and Pat Wetzel (Institute for Asian Studies); executive director Gloria Lee (Portland Classical Chinese Garden); Jan Quivey (Portland Art Museum); Denise Vetterlein (Asian Art Council of the Portland Art Museum); and Wanda Dishman, who introduced us to Linda Butler.

Yangzi Lecturers --Selected Bibliography

- *Yangtze: nature, history and the river*, by Lyman P. Van Slyke. (This excellent book is currently out of print, but is available from a number of on-line booksellers and at the library.)
- *Tibetan Rescue: The Extraordinary Quest to Save the Sacred Art Treasures of Tibet*, and *Among Warriors: A Martial Artist in Tibet*, by Pamela Logan.
- *China's Water Crisis*, by Ma Jun, translated by Nancy Yang Liu and Lawrence R. Sullivan, International Rivers Network.
- *Yangtze Remembered: The River Beneath the Lake*, Linda Butler, Stanford University Press.
- *Shanghai: The Rise and Fall of a Decadent City and Shanghai: Gateway to the Celestial Empire, 1860-1949*, by Stella Dong, FormAsia Books
- *Chinese Visions of Family and State, 1915-1953*, by Susan Glosser, University of California Press.



Stella Dong (front, fourth from left) with a happy audience at PSU

Ambassador James Lilley

On April 28, **James Lilley**, U.S. ambassador to the People's Republic of China from 1989-1991 and to the Republic of Korea, 1986-1989, talked about his many years of involvement in Asia, drawing on his memoir, *China Hands Nine Decades of Adventure, Espionage, and Diplomacy in Asia*. The talk, held in the Smith Memorial Center at PSU, was followed by a lively discussion session and a book signing.

A special thanks to China Council members John and Daisy Hart, friends of Ambassador Lilley, for helping with the arrangements for this very excellent event, and to Professor Patricia Wetzel and the PSU Institute for Asian Studies, who co-sponsored the event with the China Council.



(l to r) Pat Wetzel, Ambassador Lilley, With Daisy and John Hart.

Sheridan Prasso

On May 13, **Sheridan Prasso**, talked about her recently published book *The Asian Mystique: Dragon Ladies, Geisha Girls, & Our Fantasies of the Exotic Orient* (Public Affairs), which challenges the cultural and political stereotypes of Asia that have dominated Western thinking for more than a century. The event, held at Smith Memorial Center at PSU, was sponsored by the PSU Institute for Asian Studies and the Northwest China Council

CHINA BUSINESS NETWORK

The April CBN speaker was **Joe Borich** (see Yangzi programs above). In May, CBN deferred to the Business Journal's **China: Risk & Reward Conference**, an excellent one-day event at the Oregon Convention Center that featured talks and panel discussions with business leaders involved in various sectors of the China trade. Considering the strong turnout for the event, it seems likely that there will be more conferences to come. On June 3, Lawyer **Steve Dickinson** spoke about the development of the economic and civil law in China and its implications for Western business people.

LANGUAGE TRAINING for the BUSINESS TRAVELER

Check our web site for language classes.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Gone Fishing



Detail, "Fishing on Yanshan Mountain" by Zhao Wei (1998)

After a very busy spring program season, we plan to spend most of July and early August developing the fall 2005 and early 2006 programs. At the moment we're working with the Oregon Historical Society (OHS) and the Portland State University Summer Capstone program on a project that looks at Portland Chinese Community in 1905, in conjunction with the OHS exhibit, **A Fair to Remember: The 1905 Lewis & Clark Exposition**, a world's fair that incorporated local as well as international exhibitions and participation.

On Saturday & Sunday **August 20-21** there will be a cultural fair at OHS that celebrates Portland's cultural communities. We plan to be there and hope you will too!

Members and friends of the Council will be updated on this and other coming events via the NWCC e-mail list and NWCC website postings.

2005 Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Cultural Exposition

Modeled after the 1905 world's fair in Portland, this two-day event will host many of Oregon's Native American tribes, foreign consulates and diverse cultural communities in presenting who Oregonians are today: many cultures with vast international connections.

The event will feature some of the state's many traditional artists performing world music on an outdoor stage and demonstrating crafts throughout the facility. There will be music and art workshops for adults, and special activities that allow parents to participate with their children in learning about cultures. Traditional cooks will demonstrate how to prepare and cook family recipes. For more information, please call 503-306-5290.

When: August 20 and 21

Saturday 11am to 5pm, Sunday, noon to 5pm

Where: Oregon Historical Society, 1200 SW Park Avenue

Cost: Museum admission

For more information contact (503) 222-1741 or visit www.ohs.org.

NORTHWEST CHINA COUNCIL
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Shanghai on his mind--An evening with Professor Charles Wu

Join us for an informal gathering with Professor Charles Wu on Wednesday, July 13 at the China Council. Charles, a great friend of the China Council and the Portland Classical Chinese Garden, has just returned from his longest stay in Shanghai since he left the city more than half a century ago.

Charles will talk about life in Shanghai, China's higher education, the Chinese media, and current events from his personal experiences and insights.



A Antialoro

Please note that this is a **members only*** event and that an **RSVP is required**. Space is limited; please call early.

*China Council and Portland Classical Chinese Garden members.

When: Wednesday July 13, 7PM

Where: Kida Co. Building, 127 NW 3rd Avenue, Portland

Cost: Donations accepted

RSVP to 503 973-5451 by July 11.

Don't delay! Space is limited.

Tibetan Film Festival

The Northwest Tibetan Cultural Association, Portland Community College, KBOO community radio are sponsoring a film festival and other activities, including Q & A sessions with visiting filmmakers, a Tibetan art and cultural gallery and a bazaar featuring Tibetan music, food and beverages.

When: Saturday & Sunday, July 23 & 24

Where: PCC Sylvania campus
12000 SW 49th Avenue, Portland

Cost: \$7 general, \$5.50 students and seniors

For detailed information visit www.tibetanfilmfestival.org or contact 503 977-4943 or tibetanfilmfestival@yahoo.com.



The China Council and Portland Classical Chinese Garden are planning a trip (approx. two weeks) to the **April 2006 Peony Festival in Luoyang, China**. Luoyang is famous for more than 1,000 varieties of peonies. It is also home to Longmen Grottoes, one of China's important Buddhist cave sites. A complete itinerary including tour cost will be available soon.

Silk Road Arts Tour

July 2006 (approx. three weeks)

Join a unique insider's tour of important Silk Road sites from Xian to Kashgar with Willamette University Religious Studies professor Zhou Xijuan and China Council executive director Rosario Agliarolo. A complete itinerary including tour cost will be available in September.



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(March 26 to June 30, 2005)

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Linda Butler (center, striped vest) with friends in Jonasson Hall Linfield College April 5 2005