

## International Welcome

For many years I have been helpful at the nearby Colorado School of Mines, particularly with international students and visiting scholars. I was a student there in the early 1990s, but I taught graduate courses at the University of Denver for the past 17 years, retiring last March. This month my volunteer activity started by being the final transportation link for four incoming students. They arrived at our Denver airport and took a shuttle bus to the suburb of Arvada. I met them there and took them to their apartments in the Golden area. One was from Saudi Arabia and three were from Austria and Germany. During the driving I gave them a quick orientation tour of the village of Golden, including the campus and driving by one of the grocery stores.

The next event was Friday afternoon, August 19. For the past thirty years a team at First Baptist Church provides an opportunity for new international students to get many items of furniture and household goods to furnish their apartments. Everything has been donated to that cause and is free to the students. My role, besides some photography, was to help drive the students and their small (not furniture) goods to their apartments. I get to make new friends that way. There were fewer students this year because the graduate students were busy.



On Saturday, 27 August, the university hosted a picnic and games for the international students. Dinner was free. I had baked my traditional fruit cobbler on Wednesday and brought it for the event in three large trays. I think that I heard that there were about 700 international students, of which many were at this annual event.



Lining up for food. Eating it. Four students from Malaysia.





Playing volleyball and soccer (football).

Sunday evening the Chinese students had their own welcoming dinner, this time in a different nearby building rather than the area used the previous night and in the past. I only took one photo with less than half of the Chinese students in view. I have known several of the Chinese students in the past and meet with some on Friday evenings.



Coming up, I expect to be one of the drivers for the annual mountain hike and free picnic (usually in a home) on Saturday, September 10. I will be a driver for the annual aspen tree viewing trip to higher in the mountains on Saturday, October 1, where we will see a contrast between the dark green pine and spruce trees and the bright yellow aspen trees. These are for any international students (and some Americans) who would like to go into the mountains with us.

This coming weekend, September 2,3,4, I have been invited to show my exhibit of ancient coins at a collector's event in Denver. The coins will be displayed on tables. They can be seen at [www.EdHolroyd.info/biblicalcoins](http://www.EdHolroyd.info/biblicalcoins). I will also give an hour long PowerPoint talk about such coins twice on Saturday and one on Sunday.

September 16 and 17, maybe 18, I again will be a helper at an annual mineral show in Denver. I help another professor show visitors some interesting properties of different rocks and minerals.



This bird is a MacGillivray's Warbler, quite rare in my neighborhood. It was passing through Sunday morning.

Dr. Ed Holroyd, 31 August 2016