

A New Year

A new calendar year has started. For me personally the transition from December to January is not special. As usual I went to bed about 9:30 PM on December 31 and arose at 4:00 AM on January 1. I spent much of the day working with my financial records, closing out the financial year with record keeping that will help with income tax preparation over the next couple of months. I also did my quarterly summary and added to my graphics of my spending patterns in various categories. Every two weeks I add to my records, and this discipline has kept my family financially healthy. My records go back about forty-five years. Three times in our lives we have paid off our home mortgage and been debt-free, as we are now.

In my bird watching I keep a list of the species that I identify each year. That starts over again each January 1. I then update my list showing which years I saw each species. My trips to other parts of America, to Costa Rica, and to China made my species total for 2012 larger than most other years. Over the past few days I have also added to my web site numerous bird photos from around the world. I now have 428 species illustrated at <http://www.edholroyd.info/BirdPhotos/BirdPhotos.htm>, though some old photos are of poor quality.

My university teaching has resumed for ten weeks. I have 7 graduate students in the classroom on Thursday evenings and had 14 graduate students “online” whom I will never or seldom meet. One online student dropped the class because she became too busy.

Chinese New Year - Spring Festival

Saturday evening my wife and I joined the celebration of the Chinese New Year being held at a church in the southern part of Denver. Many of the Friday evening student fellowship from Golden (Colorado School of Mines) also were there. We met some Chinese graduate students from the University of Denver, including a Ph.D. candidate studying social work in the same department where my younger daughter got her master’s degree. I explained to them that I have been a professor there for the past 14 years. After a good dinner (the room was very crowded) we went upstairs for some entertainment. There were music and comedy routines of various types and some dancing. Almost all language was in Chinese, so my wife and I could not laugh at the jokes, but the audience responded very well with lots of laughter. Here are some photos of the dinner and presentations.



At dinner. Left: my wife, Gail. Center: Nissan and Cliff. She is from near Changsha, to which they plan to move.

The choir sang several songs. I have partly translated the pinyin words shown on the next page, but not yet the rest.

每个人爱他家就有光彩
 Mei ge ren ai ta jia jiu yon guan cai
 每个人付出家就不孤独
 Mei ge ren fu chu jia jiu bu gu du
 每个人珍惜家就有甜蜜
 Mei ge ren zhen xi jia jiu you tian mi
 每个人宽恕家就有幸福
 Mei ge ren kuan shu jia jiu you xing fu

无论是住在美丽的高山，
 或是躺卧在阴暗的幽谷；
 当你抬起头，你将会发现，
 主已为你我而预备。
 云上太阳，它总不改变，
 虽然小雨洒在脸上，
 云上太阳，它总不改变，哈！它不改变。

A young man played a classical piano piece.



First comedy team



Comedy pair



Playing traditional Chinese instruments



Music from a married couple



demonstration

赵元任《施氏食狮史》
 石室诗士施氏，嗜狮，誓食十狮。施氏时时适市视狮。十时，适十狮适市。是时，适施氏适市。氏视是十狮，恃矢势，使是十狮逝世。氏拾是十狮尸，适石室。石室湿，氏使侍拭石室。石室拭，氏始试食是十狮。食时，始识是十狮，实十石狮尸。试释是事

Tones: a man was asked to read this.



pretending to dance



Traditional and modern dance

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They lead the audience in singing popular Chinese songs from each decade, 1950s to modern times.