

Hello from the Wu family!

2013 has been a calm year for us. Dachywan, fortunately, continues at his stable position at Oracle, and golfs almost weekly with his usual buddies. Elizabeth has stayed lucky and busy in her OB/GYN office and with Conrad. After being away for 4 years at college, it has been nice having Stephen at home as he pursues his dreams. Meanwhile Alyssa continues studying Economics and Environmental Studies at UC Irvine but has also made a few trips back home, frequently with friends who have been a lot of fun! And Conrad is enjoying 4th grade, persisting in piano, and continues to love and compete in fencing all over the country. As the youngest club member to compete nationally, he still isn't winning a lot of bouts, but he loves the competition and the traveling.

Elizabeth has traveled with Conrad to Houston, Phoenix, Cleveland, and Richmond, VA. The last trip was the most memorable because they spent a week in Washington DC after the tournament seeing the cherry blossoms and had a wonderful time visiting the different monuments, Library of Congress, Capitol building, the Bureau of Printing and Engraving (where money is printed). It was a wonderful experience, and they both learned so much history!

And Dachywan was able to join the two of them on a recent trip to Denver. After 2 days of competition during which Conrad competed even with some 13 year olds and almost beat one of them, we visited the surrounding area, including Red Rocks Amphitheater which is a natural formation of rocks that looks like a theater with stage and has very good acoustics, enough so that it is frequently used for big concerts! And we also visited the Zoo that had just put up all their Christmas lights, and we saw a gorgeous display.

Dachywan, Elizabeth & Conrad also visited Dachywan's parents in Taiwan in February. It was shortly after Chinese New Year, so the atmosphere was still festive. We visited some of the historical areas and released some good fortune lanterns. And we stayed at Hotel One in Taichung, which Conrad declared was the best hotel he had ever stayed in because it had a filled wooden fruit bowl, curtains that were controlled electronically, and a TV in the bathroom as well as the bedroom.

Dachywan also visited his parents again in October. And the timing was perfect because Grandpa Wu was diagnosed with an aggressive precancerous tumor on his eyelid just prior to Dachywan's visit. It was surgically removed, and Dachywan was able to be there to help during the initial recovery. And fortunately, the tumor was completely removed.

For our family vacation this year, all FIVE of us will travel to New York City over Christmas to enjoy all the iconic holiday decorations and festivities. We plan to see the Christmas show @ Radio City Music Hall, the giant Christmas tree at Rockefeller Center, all the holiday window decorations along 5th Avenue. And we hope to see some museums and, perhaps FAO Schwartz, the iconic toy store.

Hope you have had a peaceful 2013, also, and Best Wishes for a Happy 2014!

Merry Christmas!

The Wu Family

