

2025 Holiday Greetings.

Happy Holidays,

Pretty much another year like the previous ones. Trying to get into [döstädning](#) but it's not easy. Keep on hauling boxes of stuff but it doesn't seem to make much of a difference. I decided that I had gotten what I wanted out of quad copters so donated a couple of boxes of drones and parts to a professor at Cal Poly Pomona after meeting him through AIAA. I decided to get rid of my cross country skiing gear since I was only going once a year and even a small fall can be serious for me these days. Already gave up telemark skiing.

Trying to get rid of my audio gear but that is not easy. DIY power amplifiers can be scary. I blew a lot of them up while learning how to build them.

The motorcycle's days are numbered but I am still pouring money into it. I really don't ride much, just kind of go out to the garage to look at it once in a while. Funny since I don't even like Triumph that much. A big deal is getting to Costco.

Donated a lot of my scale model kits to the Western Museum of Flight (giving them a plug) but somehow they seem to be replacing themselves.

Deciding to be free of PFAS and polyester really helped thin out my closet and kitchen. Learned how to season cast iron and steel frying pans. Cast iron can be dangerous, just because it is so heavy.

Books are the worst. I try sorting them into bags, but then I pick them up and decide that I really can't let them go, or shouldn't let them go. I try to donate them to Little Libraries but sometimes they just have to go into the recycling bin. My technical books are going to be a real pain. Should have gotten rid of them before everything became digital.

I am still gardening but I am trying to reduce the number of plants by attrition. Going on a 6 week vacation sure thinned them out.

It was a car trip, going as far north as Grand Portage, east as the outskirts of Philadelphia, and south near New Orleans. No major disasters, although I did get sick half-way through as I relate in my trip report at:

<http://ikemi.info/myblogs/2025%20CONUS%20trip.pdf>

Which references the photo galleries at

<http://ikemi.info/mytravel2025.html>

If you want to skip to the chase. For that matter, from the photo galleries for the year you can get an idea of what I have been up to if you're interested.

As you can see, I am still into photography, both film and digital.

I am still watching a lot of webinars on science (mainly Caltech Astro outreach) and the arts (Getty and the Huntington, etc). I still have memberships in a couple of botanical gardens and sometimes I even visit them.

Arthritis is progressing so mobility is decreasing. Yes, I have a standard regimen of orthopedic exercises and I have daily step or bicycling goals (again, getting to Costco, or maybe Trader Joe). I live in fear of my smart watch castigating me if I don't make my numbers.