

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

How fast a year goes by! 2009 has been a good year for NEKAAL. The Club took part in the Year of Astronomy event at the Library. We had several good speakers at the regular club meetings. We even managed to beat the weather and had several well attended open houses. KU used FPO for some class work. We added several new members. I hope 2010 brings continued success for the new Officers and Board.

The Holiday party will be December 13th at the Peppertree Club House (same place as last year). The function will be from 3:00 until 6:00. This is a covered dish event. Come for a good time, food and discussions of all things astronomical. The elections of the 2010 board and officers will be held at this meeting.

Make sure to visit the Yahoo users group to cast your vote for the new Board and Officers. You can vote by sending your ballot to Russell Valentine or bring it to the Holiday Party. The new Board and Officers will be installed at the party.

Remember that 2010 dues are due by January 1, 2010. Please send your dues to the club treasurer, or bring them to the party.

Mark your calendars for the January meeting. The speaker will be Brian Thomas of Washburn University. He will speak on the NASA grant he just received, "Death From Above! Astrophysics and Life on Earth".

The club could use some more eyepieces and accessories for the 14" and 18" telescopes. If you have any unused equipment or money that you would like to donate to the club, please contact a board member or bring it to a club meeting. Donations may be tax deductible.

It was a pleasure serving as the club President this past year, and I hope to see you all at the Holiday Party. May Santa leave a telescope under your Christmas tree! I have asked for clear skies in 2010.

PS-I have been told from a good source that if you look through your telescope on December 24th at 9:00 P.M. RA 03h 02m 50.06s dec +04d 07m 50.04s you might be able to see a magnitude 2 chubby little man wearing red with a white beard.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Clear Skies
Brad Hutton, President NEKAAL