The New Hampshire Astronomical Society invites the public to a presentation on

**The Year in Astronomy**

The presentation starts at 7:30pm, Friday, October 11 at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, 2 Institute Dr, Concord, NH. Admission is free.

**Summary**

On New Year’s Day 2019 we received our first images of Kuiper Belt object “Ultima Thule” from NASA’s New Horizons probe. The year’s midpoint was marked by a total solar eclipse across the South Pacific, Chile, and Argentina. By the end of 2019 Japan’s Hayabusa2 spacecraft will begin its voyage home carrying precious samples of asteroid Ryugu’s surface and interior. Those are just three highlights of a very eventful year in astronomy. What other discoveries and events of note occurred (or will occur) in 2019? Astronomer and NHAS member Rick Fienberg will present his list — covering professional astronomy, amateur astronomy, astronomy-related anniversaries, and more — and will then slap his forehead repeatedly as audience members call out other important items that he forgot to mention.

**About the speaker**

Dr. Rick Fienberg is Press Officer of the American Astronomical Society (AAS) and President of International Astronomical Union (IAU) Commission C2, Communicating Astronomy with the Public. Earlier he spent 22 years at *Sky & Telescope* magazine, the last eight as Editor in Chief. He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the IAU has named asteroid 9983 Rickfienberg in his honor. He is co-creator of the Galileoscope educational telescope kit, a Cornerstone Project of the International Year of Astronomy 2009. Rick earned degrees in physics and astronomy at Rice and Harvard universities, respectively. Though trained as a professional astronomer, Rick remains an amateur at heart, observing the sky and taking astrophotos from his hilltop observatory in central New Hampshire. An inveterate traveler and eclipse-chaser, he has visited all seven continents and reached both the North and South Poles.

**About the Society**

The New Hampshire Astronomical Society is a wholly volunteer New Hampshire chartered non-profit educational organization dedicated to furthering public awareness of astronomy.
Membership is open to anyone with an interest in astronomy. The club can be a great source of learning for general astronomy, astrophotography, telescope making, and many other topics. Many of our members are very knowledgeable in optics, telescope building, CCD imaging, astrophotography, observing techniques, observatory construction, and cosmology. One need not own a telescope to join; "scoping out" equipment owned by the club and its members is an excellent way to determine what might be the best equipment for you. For more information on the society, visit www.nhastro.com