



## *Merry Christmas*

What a year! Maybe the lyrics "Fast away the old year passes" from "Deck the Halls" are encouraging this year.

Alan remains in Las Vegas for now, but he has been furloughed many weeks this year. In his expanded free time, he traveled to visit many friends all over, and he made trips back to Kansas for graduations, weddings, and family reunions. His forecast for the New Year is wide open with lots of room

for change.

Daniel remains in Lawrence, working at Jason's Deli. We frequently meet at Jason's on Sunday afternoons for family time with Daniel, sister Jeanne, niece Lara, and others to catch up with the week. His forecast for the New Year also holds new possibilities and change.

Eric greeted the spring, summer and fall with renewed cycling vigor. Most of the usual rides were there, plus new venues. Daniel sagged and Eric rode BAK (Bike Across Kansas) in June. (Alan hopes to join them for BAK 2010.) He joined a health club to work out this winter so he can hit the road pedaling again this spring. He continues to practice in Louisburg. His forecast for the New Year involves many hours on the bicycle and in the woodworking shop.

Margie graduated in May with a Masters in Healthcare Administration!!! This being the third time she graduated from KU, she "walked the hill" for KU's commencement, wishing she had "walked" the first two times also. She continues to work at KU Hospital as a respiratory therapist, not quite finding an enticing enough position to lure her away from patient care. Her forecast for the New Year is also wide open with possibilities of change.

At the beginning of the year, we took exclusive possession of the Shaft farm house. A neighbor rented the house almost since Margie's parents moved out 15 years ago. This year we made almost weekly trips down to mow and clear brush. The house needs a lot of work before it is again inhabitable. Our plans for the historic farm are evolving, as we apply for National Historic Site designation. The possibilities are exciting, and it has been nice to re-claim a piece of our heritage.

We value our family and friend connections. Please help us keep in touch with your lives.

Eric and Margie Dyck, Christmas 2009