



NCRAL Blotter

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Monthly Tidbits from NCRAL Officers, A.L. Representative and Appointees

[Alan Sheidler](#), PAC, Chairman

[Bill Davidson](#), RAC, Vice Chairman

[Roy Gustafson](#), PAC, Secretary-Treasurer

[John Attewell](#), RAC, Regional Rep. to the A.L.

[Carl Wenning](#), TCAA, *Northern Lights* Editor

[Jeffrey Setzer](#), NCSF, NCRAL Webmaster

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- Does your club's newsletter acknowledge that it is an affiliate of the North Central Region of the Astronomical League? If not, remember that it's a wonderful way to let your members know there are additional benefits of membership that they might otherwise be missing. Be sure your newsletter editor knows to provide a link to the [NCRAL website](#) so members can gain access to resources.
- It's never too early to start thinking about who your club might want to recommend for the prestigious NCRAL Region and Newsletter Editor Awards. Nominations are due at the end of March, and the awards will be presented at our 2024 Regional convention. While you are at it, consider applying for an NCRAL mini grant! Information can be found on our [Awards & Mini-Grants](#) web page.
- NCRAL 2024 is coming and will be here before you know it! It will be hosted by the [Neville Public Museum Astronomical Society](#) at St. Norbert's College in De Pere, Wisconsin, May 17-18. Stay tuned to our Winter 2024 *Northern Lights* newsletter and the Region's [Facebook page for details](#).
- NCRAL is looking for convention hosts for 2025 and beyond. If your astronomy club has never hosted a Regional convention, please realize that hosting can be fun and has many benefits, including indemnification for unanticipated losses and a 50-50 share of the profits. Assistance is also available from the Region through [Convention Planning Guidelines](#) on our [NCRAL Conventions](#) web page.
- The Winter 2024 issue of *Northern Lights* will be released in late December. The publication's editor is already working diligently on assembling this issue. If you have interesting information that might be shared in this publication, contact our newsletter editor.
- Do your membership a favor by promoting subscriptions to NCRAL's complimentary [Northern Lights](#) newsletter by having them visit <https://tinyurl.com/NCRAL> to subscribe. Only about 450 of the Region's 1,900 members receive notifications about this valuable benefit. If you are not signed up, do so today so you can see what you have been missing. Back issues are available through our [newsletter archive](#).
- NCRAL leaders meet quarterly to address matters of importance to the Region. Our most recent meeting was held on November 29th. Of note were efforts to begin revising the Region's bylaws to make them comply with the Astronomical League's recently revised bylaws. Amendments will be introduced for consideration at the 2024 convention's business meeting. A vote will take place after the NCRAL 2024 convention using electronic ballots. Details to follow in the NCRAL newsletter.
- NCRAL's [Convention Planning Guidelines](#) are now being updated to bring them into compliance with expected changes in the Region's bylaws. If interested, check out the [Guidelines](#) after January 1st.