



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

- ★ NCRAL just completed its annual convention, hosted by the Neville Public Museum Astronomical Society, on May 17-18. We had a wonderful time. Read about the convention in the Summer 2024 issue of ***Northern Lights*** that will be disseminated on the summer solstice. If you are not signed up with our NCRAL email list, be sure to do so by going to this link today: <https://tinyurl.com/NCRAL>
- ★ Please be sure to remind your membership of the approaching national convention. See the ad on the next page for details or visit this website:
 - **ALCon 2024:** <https://www.astroleague.org/alcon-2024-kansas-city/>
- ★ Has your affiliate voted its ballot for the AL national officers? Elections are currently underway for the positions of League president, vice president, and treasurer. Ballots are due July 1. If your affiliate did not receive its ballot, contact leagueoffice@astroleague.org
- ★ League dues are now payable for 2024-2025. Dues payment notices were sent out from the national office on May 10th. Payment is due by June 30, 2024. If your affiliate did not receive its billing invoice, contact leagueoffice@astroleague.org Unsure if you want to renew your membership in the League – which includes membership in NCRAL? Then be sure to read this: <https://ncral.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/benefits-of-ncral-membership7.pdf>
- ★ ALCors, please send your updated roster once every quarter (by the 1st of January, April, July, and October) to Mitch Glaze at rosters@astroleague.org. This will ensure receipt of the Reflector magazine. Be sure to include any changes to your club ALCor, President and Treasurer as well. When submitting club rosters, we encourage ALCors to report who your club's newsletter editor is along with their email address. Send rosters and club newsletter editor contact info to Mitch Glaze at rosters@astroleague.org.
- ★ Newsletters from both NCRAL and the Astronomical League are available online. They may be accessed at the following URLs. In addition, this monthly update is likewise archived.
 - **Reflector:** <https://www.astroleague.org/reflector/>
 - **Northern Lights:** <https://ncral.wordpress.com/newsletter-archive/>
 - **NCRAL blotter:** <https://ncral.wordpress.com/monthly-blotter/>
- ★ Don't forget about MSRAL 2024, June 7-9, near Ashland, Nebraska. Details at <https://msral2024.org/>

- ★ NCRAL Chair Alan Sheidler is asking for feedback about NCRAL 2024. (See the Summer 2024 issue of ***Northern Lights*** for details about his request.) If you attended and have thoughts to share, please contact him via email at adsheidler@gmail.com
- ★ Early in the year, many clubs have elections for officers. If new officers are in your affiliate, please inform NCRAL Chair Al Sheidler. Also, please check that contact information and your Facebook and website hyperlinks so we can keep our NCRAL [affiliates web page](#) current. Please be sure to inform the AL's national office of changes as well.
- ★ Does your affiliate's newsletter and website link to the [NCRAL website](#) and [Facebook page](#)? Many Regional benefits get overlooked because affiliate members don't know about them. Spread the "good news" of NCRAL by sharing this information with your affiliate membership today.
- ★ The application deadline for the AL's Library Telescope program is June 30th. Shortly thereafter, decisions will be made about which affiliate receives a library telescope. One is given to each of the regions. For details, see the image below and visit <https://www.astroleague.org/content/library-telescope-program>
- ★ The Twin City Amateur Astronomers have just issued ***TCAA Guide #11: Recruiting & Retaining Astronomy Club Members***. This publication, edited by former NCRAL Chair Carl Wenning, is a compendium of twelve articles written by Wenning, Alan Sheidler, and Devanand Chatrathi that appeared in earlier issues of the ***Northern Lights*** newsletters. The articles have been assembled in one place to serve as a reference work. TCAA Guide #11 may be viewed and downloaded at <https://www.tcaa.club/guides>
- ★ Is there anything you want included in the ***NCRAL blotter***? Be sure to get it to the editor of this publication 2 to 3 days before the end of the month.
- ★ Do you know of any leader in your astronomy club who would be interested in directly receiving the ***NCRAL blotter***? If so, please email the editor with their electronic contact information at al.north.central.region@gmail.com

