

2026 NCRAL Region Award



- 20+ year member of RAA
- Very active supporter of Library Telescope program
- Very good at taking videos of the night sky
- Currently club treasurer, previously NL editor

Keith Short

Rockford Amateur Astronomers

Keith Short is one of two recipients of this year's NCRAL Region Award. The Region Award is NCRAL's most prestigious award given to a member who demonstrates extraordinary skill, generosity and devotion to promoting amateur astronomy and supporting NCRAL goals and events. Keith, a member of Rockford Amateur Astronomers, exemplifies these goals. The above slide detailing Keith's accomplishments was shown at the NCRAL 2026 conference in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Keith has been involved in imaging for over 60 years as can be seen here with his photograph of Comet Ikeya-Seki. He is also very involved in his club and provides talks, does public outreach and supports the Library Telescope Program. He has ably demonstrated the characteristics for receiving the Region Award. The North Central Region of the Astronomical League takes great pride in giving this award to a very deserving recipient. Congratulations to Keith for receiving the 2026 NCRAL Region Award.

Alan Sheidler

Alan Sheidler, NCRAL Chair