



What's Up With the Astronomical League March 2025

Volume 18 Number 3

March 15, 2025

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Iorg, Immediate Past
President

A periodic publication emailed to all League Members

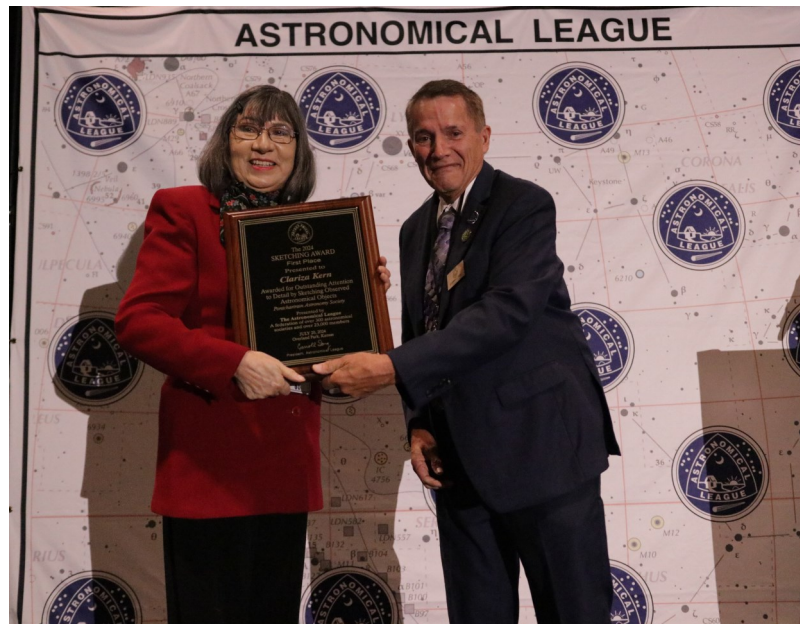
In this Issue...

- Digital only *Reflector* for March 2025, Questions and Answers
- Astronomy Days for 2025
- 2025 NCRAL Regional Convention
- Reminder that many annual awards submission deadlines are March 31, 2025

March 31, 2025 Deadline for Many of the Annual Award Programs

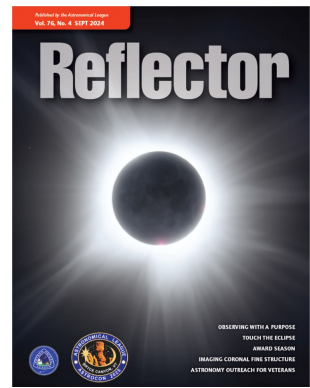
The deadline for many of the League's award programs such as the National Young Astronomer Award, Horkheimer Youth Awards, Mabel Sterns Newsletter Award, AL Webmaster Award, Sketching Award and the Williamina Fleming Imaging Award for female League members 19 years of age and older is March 31.

The link for the awards is <https://www.astroleague.org/astronomical-league-awards/>



Sketching Award presentation at ALCon 2024, photos compliments of the Astronomical League and photographer Neil Dunham

The Astronomical League's March issue of the Reflector was only available in digital format.



Below are some Q&A about options and information for members:

The Reflector has been available in both print and digital versions for several years.

As with most things about the Astronomical League, this has been communicated through our member societies (i.e. your local club).

It is important to know how this process works.

- Individual clubs each send us their membership rosters several times per year, to keep the League updated on their current list of members.
- Included in this data can be each member's preferred delivery preference for the Reflector, but this data needs to be communicated to the League, by the club, and on the club's rosters.
- As a member of the League through your local astronomy club, your best course of action to specify your Reflector delivery preferences is to contact the person in your club who handles your club's membership roster and communicate your preferences to them.

Questions and Answers:

Q: I didn't know the Reflector was available digitally. How do I get signed up for that?

A: Contact the roster or membership person in your club and communicate your preference to them.

Q: My club tells me they don't know about this, or they don't know how to report delivery preferences for the Reflector. What do I do then?

A: Encourage your club to contact the League National Office Manager at rosters@astroleague.org to learn how to report delivery preferences for the Reflector on the membership rosters that they are already sending to the League several times per year.

Q: I received the notice about the March issue being "digital only", but I don't think I've been getting paper copies in the mail. What should I do?

A: There can be a few reasons for this.

- First, be aware that the Reflector is a quarterly publication. Issues come out in September, December, March, and June. It is a full-color, 8.5 x 11, glossy magazine.
- Your club might be reporting your membership details to us with a delivery preference for the Digital version. (In general, the mailed copy is the "default option", but discrepancies do occur.) They might have an error in your address or membership details. Check with your club to be sure that they have your membership details correct and have your delivery preference for the Reflector correct as well. Errors do exist. (We do have over 25,000 members!)
- Your club might not have you listed on the roster that they send to the League. Perhaps you recently joined your club and that data hasn't made it to the League yet. Check with your club that you are listed on the roster that they send to the League, and that they have sent the League a roster in the past 3 months. (continued on page 3)

(Reflector Discussion continued from page 2)

Q: I want digital and paper copies, or I want no copy, or I want to change my delivery preference. How do I do that?

A: All of the above options are available, and are reported through your local club.

Q: I haven't been receiving the Reflector. What is it, and why should I want to receive it?

A: The Reflector magazine is the Astronomical League's full color, glossy, 28 page (usually) newsletter. It is your connection to the League and what the League does for you as a member. It contains articles and reports about the activities and achievements of our members, annual award and election announcements, member-submitted astrophotography, announcements of upcoming conventions and star parties, and substantive scientific articles. If you've earned an AL Observing Award, you probably know your name and award will appear in the next issue of Reflector. Over 19,000 Observing Awards have been earned by League members!

Q: The link in the email for the digital issue is not working. What do I do?

A: Try very carefully copying the link and pasting it your browser address bar.

Q: I would like to know more about the League. Where can I get information?

A:

- Your club, club president, or club contact person for the League (often referred to as the ALCor, or Astro League Correspondent).

The League website: www.astroleague.org

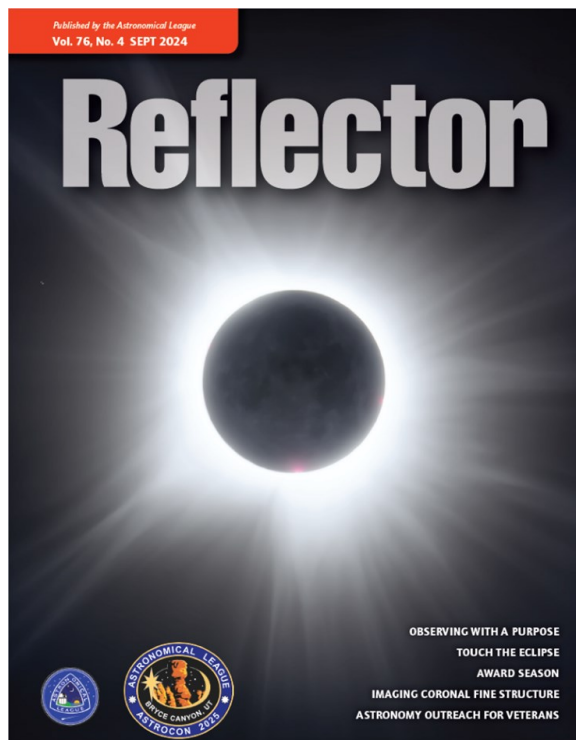
- From the Reflector!

Q: I still need more info or help with something about the Astronomical League. What can I do?

A:

Check our website "Contact Us" at <https://www.astroleague.org/contact-information/>. There are many "departments" so be sure to choose one that fits your topic as closely as possible.

Contact the League Office at leagueoffice@astroleague.org





Share the Magic of Astronomy Day May 3 (corrected date) & September 27

Inspire, Engage, and Share the Wonders of the Cosmos

Astronomy Day is your chance to captivate and educate your community by bringing the universe to them. On May 3rd and September 27th, 2025, astronomy clubs, observatories, and science centers across the country will host events that ignite curiosity, foster discovery, and create unforgettable stargazing experiences.

Why Astronomy Day?

Since its inception in 1973, Astronomy Day has been a powerful movement dedicated to making astronomy accessible to all. In an era where technology often distances us from the natural world, this event serves as a bridge, reconnecting people with the night sky and the limitless possibilities it holds.

How Your Club Can Shine

Astronomy clubs are the heart of this celebration, bringing expertise, passion, and hands-on experiences to the public. Here's how you can make an impact:

- **Host a star party**—Guide visitors through breathtaking views of planets, nebulae, and galaxies.
- **Showcase the Sun**—Conduct safe solar viewing events to explore our closest star.
- **Lead interactive workshops**—Teach telescope basics, astrophotography, and stargazing techniques.
- **Engage through storytelling**—Share insights on celestial wonders through Q&A sessions and expert talks.
- **Partner with schools, libraries, and community groups**—Expand your reach and introduce new audiences to the wonders of space.
- **Make astronomy inclusive**—Offer programs tailored for underserved communities, including rural areas, senior centers, and youth organizations, ensuring everyone has a chance to explore the stars.

Bringing Communities Together Under the Stars

Astronomy has the extraordinary ability to unite people from all walks of life. Whether it's a child seeing Saturn's rings for the first time, a family gazing at the Milky Way together, or seasoned astronomers sharing their knowledge, Astronomy Day strengthens connections and builds a greater appreciation for the universe.

Make This Year's Astronomy Day Unforgettable!

The countdown is on! Mark your calendars for May 3rd and September 27th, 2025, and start planning now. Secure locations, promote your event on social media, and collaborate with local organizations to maximize your reach.



ASTRONOMY DAY

Bringing Astronomy to the People

For more information, visit:

astronomyday.astroleague.org

This is your moment to inspire. Let's make Astronomy Day 2025 a stellar success!



NCRAL 2025 Conference

April 25 & 26, 2025
Minneapolis Marriot Southwest,
Minnetonka, MN



Registration: <https://ncral2025.org/register/>

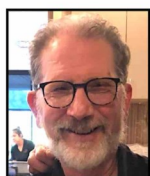
Speakers!



John Rummel:
*Can the Milky Way
Cast a Shadow?*



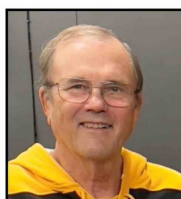
Clem Pryke:
*Studying the Universe from
the Bottom of the World*



Lawrence Rudnick:
*Game Changers in the
Radio Sky*



Evan Skillman:
*Using the Large Binocular
Telescope to Measure the
Primordial Helium Abundance*



Mike Benson:
*Astrophotography,
My Journey*



Greg Bragg:
*State of the
Astronomy Industry*



Bob King:
NASA's Planned NEO Surveyor Hunts Killer Asteroids

A Galaxy of Sponsors!



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