



MID-STATES EMITTER MID-21ST CENTURY Emitter

Noun: something that emits light, a noise or a substance; to send out; to give utterance or a voice to.



75 YEARS AGO.....

A gallon of gas was .10 cents

A loaf of bread was .8 cents

A new home was \$3,800

A new car was \$700

An average yearly salary was \$1750

A lb. of hamburger was .14 cents

A stamp was .3 cents

A house rented for \$28 dollars a month

Jolly Rancher Candies were introduced



MSRAL OFFICERS:

Regional Chair: VACANT

Regional Vice-Chair: Cook Feldman

hfel8913@charter.net

Secretary Treasurer: Jim Twellman

jtwellman@asemonline.org

Regional Representative: Peggy Walker

BA sidewalkastro@yahoo.com

MSRAL MEMBERS:

Arkansas Oklahoma Astro Soc-AOAS

Astro Soc of E. Missouri-ASEM

Astro Assn of S.E. Missouri-AAEMO

Astro Soc of Kansas City-ASKC

Astro Soc of NW Arkansas-ASNWA

Astro Assoc of Lawrence-AAL

Astro Club of Tulsa-ACT

Bartlesville Astro Soc-BAS

BA Sidewalk Astronomer-BASWA

Central Arkansas Astro Soc-CAAS

Central Missouri Ama Astro-CMAA

Eastern MO Dark Sky Observers-EMDSO

Kansas Astro Observers -KAO

NE Kansas Ama Astro League-NEKAAL

Northeast Nebraska Astro Club-NENEAC

Omaha Astro Soc-OAS

Platte Valley Astro Observers-PVAO

Prairie Astronomy Club-PAC

Springfield Astro Society-SAS

St. Louis Astronomical Society-SLAS

Sugar Creek Astro Soc-SCAS

Written by Peggy Walker

A small group of amateurs within a 50-mile radius of Fayette, MO were meeting at the Morrison Observatory of Central College. The attendees formed a society by Dr. Floyd Helton, Gene Waters and Russell C. Maag and included Dr. Eli Haynes the director of the Laws Observatory at the University of MO at Columbia. The image provided by CMAA president, Val Germann show the combined efforts of members of Kansas City Astronomy Club and Central Missouri Amateur Astronomers to form the Mid-States Region. In 1950, the group grew to 65 registered members from Kansas, Missouri and Texas. The second meeting was back at Central Missouri and had 53 attendees and they all voted to officially establish the Mid-States Region of the Astronomical League. They voted in officers of the 5th region being Russell Maag, Chairman, Stuart O'Byrne Vice-Chair, W.P. Magruder, Secretary-Treasurer and Dr. E. Brooks as the Councilor, later called the Regional Representative. The notice in "The Bulletin" (aka Reflector) stated that the ticket for the convention was \$1.00 and the cost of the banquet \$2.00.. For more history please go to MSRAL.org front page.

Central Missouri Amateur Astronomers - Kansas City, Missouri



2024 AMATEUR OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Amateur of the Year Selection Committee had their annual lunch meeting held this year at the Eugene T. Mahoney Lodge on Saturday afternoon.

There, all the past AOY recipients in attendance which numbered about 12 to 15 discussed the candidate submissions.

Mike's accomplishments were like the other great previous recipients of being involved with outreach, education, and even now taking on the national project of Astronomy Day which has already had more activity than it had in many years. Mike also catered the whole event which shows even more to his dedication to MSRAL and the League.

**Congratulations Mike Modrcin from
Omaha Astronomical Society!**



MSRAL 2024

**Eugene Mahoney State Park,
Ashland, NE**

June 7th to June 9th

The event was held in the lodge on the second floor the rooms were being remodeled, so many took advantage of the camping sites available.

Fri. June 7 a taco bar was scheduled for the Burr Oak Picnic Shelter but weather did not cooperate and was held in doors. The star party was also cancelled so everyone visited with each other.

Sat. June 8 MSRAL Business Meeting ran from 8:00 to 9:30AM.

9:30 Sonali Deshmukh OAS talked on Ancient Indian Cosmology & Astronomy

10:30 Donna Syed ASKC spoke on Cultivating Greatness: Inspiring the Next Generation in Astronomy and Leadership

11:30 lunch in the meeting room or outside while the AOY Selection Committee ate downstairs

1:00 Michael and Kendra Sibberman—Branched Oak Observatory—Prairie Astronomy Club shared the National Eclipse Ballooning Project

2:00 Allison Bair —Comet Researcher at Lowell Observatory—OAS

3:00 Dr. Diana Hannikainen—Observing Editor at Sky and Telescope Magazine talked on Radio Astronomy from the 1930's to today

4:00 Dr. Bharat Vishnu Ratra—spoke on The Accelerating Expanding Universe: Dark Matter, Dark Energy, and Einstein's Cosmological Constant

6:00 Social Hour with 6:50 group photo

7:00 dinner and Kevin Schindler—Historian at Lowell Observatory spoke on Clyde Tombaugh, Lowell Observatory and the Discovery of Pluto

The Amateur of the Year Award was presented by the 2023 recipient Jon Larsen of OAS to Mike Modrcin of OAS.

Sun. June 9 8:30 Chuck Allen from Astronomical League, spoke on Extreme Astronomy.

9:30 Austin Kuecher of OAS spoke on Dissecting Starlight: A journey into amateur spectroscopy

10:30 Mike Modrcin of OAS spoke on the Library Telescope Program

2025 MSRAL June 13—15, 2025

Central Arkansas Astronomical Society's Convention Planning Committee are in negotiations for the location for next year's MSRAL. It will be held at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

2801 S. University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204 (501) 916-3000. Details to follow.



MSRAL 2026 NEEDS A HOST!

We had potential host for 2026 but due to health issues, the potential Convention Chair will not be available to move forward. It would be great to have someone to carry on this valued tradition here in Mid-States. If your club is interested please let me know. THANKS!

WELCOME NEW MSRAL OFFICERS

Regional Secretary-Treasurer: Jim Twellman on left:



Jim is the Current ALCOR and Current Observing Chair for the Astronomical Society of Eastern Missouri (ASEM). He also is the former club President and Treasurer, ASEM (2015-2021), and former Board Member, Alliance for Astronomy (parent of ASEM, 2005-2014), as well as former Outreach Chair, ASEM (2005-2014).

Jim was a founding member of Alliance for Astronomy (2004+) and ASEM (2005+) and is a current member of Saint Louis Astronomical Society (since 2002). Jim is an A.L. Master Observer (Certificate #240) and received a St. Charles County Parks "Volunteer of the Year" Award (2018 - awarded for astronomy outreach at Broemmelsiek Park) that ASEM partners with for outreach events.

He also sports great printed shirts with his telescope on them like the one in the picture. Jim was voted in before the banquet as he came forward after the business meeting. I asked Carroll about voting so not to have to call a zoom meeting. And he advised me, that before the banquet would be the best time to not interfere with speakers time slots on the weekend schedule.

Regional Vice-Chair: Cook Feldman second from the right:

Cook has been a member St. Louis Astronomical Society since 1993 and served as Outreach Coordinator for SLAS/St. Louis Science Center 27 years. He also is the former SLAS Treasurer and Board Member at Large and the former Secretary/Treasurer for MSRAL in the 90's. Cook also was part of the 2017 Solar Eclipse Taskforce in Missouri. He also served as the Treasurer and board member for the Missouri Chapter IDA. He was pivotal as a key member for the MSRAL By Law committee and helped formulate the Convention Planning Guide for Mid-States. His career as financial analyst and CPA of 51 years cannot be overlooked. He is also will answer to the name, "Yoda." Cook was voted in via email so he would not have to keep waiting for a regional council meeting.

Other usual suspects from Missouri are second to the left, next to Jim is Larry Campbell a member of St. Louis Astronomical Society and Astronomical Society of Eastern Missouri and Jim Small President of St. Louis Astronomical Society on the right.

2024 Mid States Convention, Ashland, NE. June 8, 2024 Photo Courtesy Mark Urwiller



IMAGING & ART AWARDS



Vice President, Chuck Allen set up an art and imaging contest at the MSRAL. It had art, and imaging for Solar System, Wide Field, Rich Field, and Deep Sky.

From left to right: Peggy Walker received First Place for an 11 x 14 acrylic on canvas called Asteroid In Sit Tu. (see below)

Michael Sibbersen co-founder of Branched Oak Observatory won first place for: Deep Sky and Third Place, for Solar System.

Brett Boller, V.P. of Prairie Astronomical Society, (the Michael Phelps of the awards), received First Place, for Solar System, Third Place, for Deep Sky, Second Place, Rich Field, and Third



Place, for Wide Field. Mark Urwiller, President, Platte Valley Astronomical Observers, won three Second Places, for Wide Field, Deep Sky and Solar System, Cassi Wang, Omaha Astronomical Society, won First Place for Rich Field and Sonali Deshmukh, Omaha Astronomical Society won First Place for Wide Field and Third Place for Rich Field.

The most unexpected part was that the awards were engraved with the categories and the new 75th Anniversary logo was on the front. Fred Gassert and I redesigned that!

The 11 x 14 acrylic painting had a star field and the very rock and carbonic silicate rocky surface on an asteroid surface. It had mixed media elements, black beads, black painted rocks, black sand, lava pieces, modeling paste surface features, with chrome paint marker highlights.



SO EASY—ANYONE CAN DO IT!

The Amateur of the Year Award was first given in 1959 at the MSRAL Convention held at the University of Tulsa, OK, and given to S. Whitehead of Wichita Astronomical Society. This was to celebrate the hard work put forth to help the region directly or indirectly. This tradition is not to focus only on the overt leaders from clubs, but also include the many volunteers and members that keep all these balls in the air behind the scenes.

The AOY submission letter is sent to club presidents and ALCORs, then to vice presidents and some board members for additional input. But that is NOT the only avenue for submission—any person in any society or club is free to submit a candidate submission letter. This is the main feature of the yearly banquet dinner held at the MSRAL Convention so MSRAL attendance would be necessary. SO, please keep that in mind when you start to gather potential recipients.

In the Convention Planning Guide there is a sample letter that gives the criteria, and Standing Resolution #1, gives more history and information on this award. (both are on the website under documents)

The past recipients are the selection committee and look forward to reviewing submissions and seeing what all the candidates are doing in the region. Please start now, and send in your submission to Mike Modcrin at: mmodrcin@gmail.com.

If you have any questions feel free to contact me at BA sidewalkastro@yahoo.com.

MSRAL 2025 QUESTIONNAIRE

MSRAL held a Regional Zoom meeting on September 9th and Mike Borrelli from Central AR and the Convention Chair for MSRAL 2025 had mentioned that the University of AR has a wide selection of menu items to choose from. He asked about getting the word out to everyone to offer any meal suggestions before CAAS makes their final decision. So please send your ideas, comments, selection and dietary concerns to mjborrelli72211@comcast.net.

BEVERAGES: coffee & decaf, tea, water, sodas

SNACKS A.M., AFTERNOON: fruit veggie trays, breakfast pastries, yogurt, cheese tray, etc.

FRIDAY EVENING: (dinner) _____

SATURDAY LUNCH: boxed sandwiches, wraps, salads, other: _____

BANQUET DINNER: plated meal, buffet, type of meats, sides, etc. _____

PLEASE MAKE SURE ANY VEGETARIAN OR GLUTEN OR OTHER FOOD ALLERGY CONCERNS YOU MAY HAVE. _____

MSRAL BUSINESS MEETING (notes not minutes)

With Regional Chair Val not able to make it to MSRAL, and the empty Vice Chair due to Fred Gassert's back surgery the Regional Rep filled in. Membership numbers at 2022 year end was 22 clubs and 1632 members, 2023 year end 21 clubs and 1695 members and projected 2024 year end was 21 clubs and 1769 members up by 74 members.

Welcomed people from Springfield Astronomical Society as yhos was their first MSRAL.

Mike Gallagher took a roll call and we had a quorum and moved on to the minutes that did not have any corrections. Then the financial report.

I asked for any deceased members and we had ,John Haines 2023—ASKC, Bob Keishner 2024—SLAS, Gary Pittman 2024 - ASKC.. I went to talk about the Hosting and AOY recipient list but the packets had papers from two years ago for some reason. I had found more archived information and I added the name of the officers and the convention chairs for a few years as the archives were a limited time frame. That will be put on the website for those who are interested.

The next topic was the \$250.00 contribution to IDA and it was stated by Cook that the IDA does not exist anymore and that the new organization still is iffy. So no donation was given.

The offices to slot were the vice chair and no one was open to come forward for that. Mike opted to not continue as secretary so the secretary-treasurer position was open. I asked for nominations or volunteers and there was none.

I brought up the Executive Council Meeting to talk about the 75th Anniversary logo and pins and said that they were in their packets.

I shared how the MSRAL Convention Planning Guide is available and is a fluid document that can be corrected as needed.

I bragged on MSRAL as my talk at WSP was the DIY Observing Programs and the importance of the culture of astronomy related to those topics. I covered, Analemma—pin hole cameras, Library Telescope-ATM/ Dobson & Porter, Astronomy Before the Telescope—ancient astronomy, Radio Astronomy—and ties to Oklahoma, and Spectroscopy—Bunson and Kirchoff and chemical emission lines. I also added the Solar Eclipse program . Analemma and Library Telescope were not from MSRAL but the rest were from Steve Borener and eclipses from Brad Young. I also mentioned how I talked to several Canadians about these programs. (I was told by the Chair of WSP that my talk was one of the top 2 for the week)

Future Conventions were covered starting with 2025 hosted by Central Arkansas Astronomical Society in Little Rock, AR. They had not had a definite place secured nor the date but now on previous pages there are more current details. MSRAL 2026 is potentially going to Central Missouri Amateur Astronomers who is looking for a partnering club since they are a small club. Even now 2027 possibly has a host.

An announcement for the new event in MSRAL called Dobson Fest that was started by SLAS and would rotate around and was open to any and everyone. It is held in September as that is John Dobsons birthday month. All things Dobsonian scopes care, maintenance, etc. Contact Mark Jones for more info.

I mentioned that John Dobson's favorite telescope would be headed back to CA and proceeded to list and thank the clubs for hosting Tumbleweed these past few years. She went to BASWA's Ancient Forest Star Party, WSP, NSP, Okie Tex Star Party, and clubs were SLAS, ASKC, OAS, and visited ACT and did get put on display at the Tulsa Air and Space Museum. Her Facebook Page has posts from all these places.

Carroll was invited up to talk about ALCon 2024 on July 17 to 20 at Overland Park, Kansas. The theme was Stars and all that Jazz and mentioned that a jazz band was going to be at the banquet and that the Linda Hall Library would have a special event speaker there. Jim Small commented that it cost him \$560.00 for a single person and is there a way to bring the costs down. There was no solution. He also mentioned that it was a hybrid meeting again this year.

The AOY Selection Committee Lunch Meeting location was announced to be down stairs in the bar area.

Question/Comment time Jon Larsen asked for the word Omaha be removed from S.R. #3. This will need to be handled by the bylaws committee.

NUGGETS FROM NATIONAL



SPEAKERS AND TOURS

I did not attend the ALCon so I don't have the specifics except for a hand out I got with the schedule that had seven T.B.D. after speakers names. I emailed national officers for more information and I did not get a response. I am posting what I got handed to me.

Friday evening there was a tour of the Gottlieb Planetarium at Union Station

Speakers were:

Allison Kirkpatrick, *The James Webb Space Telescope Revealing the Secrets of an Invisible Universe*

Jen Winter, *When's the Next One—Keeping the Dream Alive Between Eclipses*

Keivan Stassun, *New Methods for Measuring the Fundamental Properties of Stars and Exoplanets*

Ryan Maderak TBD

Robert Reeves TBD

David Levy, Presentation and Rare Books Room at the Linda Hall Library

Mitch Cloud and Jena Dunham, *Exploring Space with Ham Radio*

Presidents Panel—no clue as to topic

Ryan Goodson TBD

Scott Harrington TBD

Star-B-Q held at Overland Park Arboretum and Botanic Gardens

Rachel Cionitti, *Dark Matter and Dark Energy and Stargazing* at the Powell Observatory

Garrett Parkins, *Artemis Mission*

Bill Wren TBD

Tim Russ TBD

Davi McCallie, *Live Stacking at Powell Observatory*

Stuart Riley, *Solar Observation-Solar Photography*

Dave Walden, *Collimation Workshop*

Banquet speaker Stephon Alexander TBD with the Waldo Jazz Collective music and entertainment

NATIONAL BUSIINESS MEETING

The business meeting was scheduled for 8:30AM in a small board room down from the main convention room. It was a hybrid meeting and had about a dozen present in the room and another half a dozen participating via zoom. The notes taken are throughout this newsletter.

NUGGETS FROM NATIONAL

AWARDS

G.R. Wright Service Award went to Bill Dillion Treasurer
Special Award for Outreach went to Pramvera for her dedication of the new Kosovo Observatory
Alan Lehman Convention Chair for 2024 ALCon
Past President, John Goss the League's Media Officer

HELP I NEED SOMEBODY

Mitch had asked for funds to hire a part time person to work 20 hours a week since the workload has increased, and they cannot keep up especially now with the cases of solar filters. Motion passed.

LEAGUE MEDIA

A.L. has back-to-back colored cards that have points about A.L. that are available for handout at club functions. They are getting updated by John Goss and if interested, contact Mitch at the store not sure on the cost for those.

EXPLORE SCIENTIFIC

Scott Roberts is hosting his yearly Arizona Dark Sky Star Party and he is combining a deep sky imaging contest this year along with the usual happenings. It is held on a personal property of someone who partners with the Tucson Community College. The location has Bortel II skies and has great viewing opportunities. Contact Scott for more details. s@explorescientific.com The link below is not current star party but you can see the speakers and schedule from previous events.

<https://explorescientific.com/pages/arizona-dark-sky-star-party-schedules>

AND

It was also mentioned that Explore Scientific would be covering ALCon on various media platforms. They have over the last few years done the broadcasting for free, including attendee interviews and covering the awards ceremony.



ALCON 2025

Will be held at Bryce Canyon at Ruby's Inn. There will be an Astronomy Festival and scopes will be set up in an area. Night scopes will need to be broken down nightly due to visitors coming in to the park during the day. Plans for workshops for imaging and visual are planned. Registration opened August 1st. Photo Wikimedia Commons ALCON 2026 will be held in the Great Lakes Region—details to follow

ALCON 2027

The Colorado Springs Astronomical Society will host and their theme is "Space" due to their Space Force Facilities located there and the Chair, Bruce Bookout's contacts. A space symposium, space Force tours, astronauts, along with a star party at the Garden of the Gods are planned.

Tuscon Amateur Astronomy Association asked to host there in the future. 2028 maybe??

NUGGETS FROM NATIONAL

CHANGE OF BATTER FOR REFLECTOR PUBLISHING

Past President Ron Kramer has produced the Reflector for several years and currently, Ron has had to step down from his company due to health reasons. A bid from Walsworth Publishing to take over the publication is under consideration as reported by Chuck Allen. He added that, it is \$1,000.00 higher than the current cost and therefore no decision has been made. Unfortunately nothing was mentioned to inform the National Council on the disposition of this issues. So I guess we will just have to have a "wait and see" moment.

MINI CONVENTION PLANNED

Chuck Allen announced the possibility of hosting an A.L. convention in Hawaii in February at the Kona Coast on the big island. I guess this is to connect with the state that would have a high expense to fly into the mainland to join any of the ones hosted here. No further plans were confirmed at the business meeting.

NOT SURE HOW TO TITLE THIS

So, Terry Mann, now V.P., talked about Scott Roberts and how he does the League's videos. She said that she wanted to get \$240.00 to help cover the costs because the data shows it is benefiting the League. A regional rep had asked her where the improvements and by how much. Her reply was I don't have the data and I don't know. A vote was called for and it passed.

TRUSTEE UPDATE

The Trustees are:

Aaron Clevenson 7/19 to 8/31/24 was elected to continue in his position for another term.

Tim Hunter 7/21 to 8/31/2025

Terry Mann 7/22 to 8/31/2026

Jim Fox 7/23 to 8/31/2027

The 5th member of the Trust Fund is now the League Treasurer, per the Council on line meetings approved prior to the AlCon 2020 Council meeting. So, only 4 trustees will be in the 4-year annual rotating cycle.

NOTE: I believe "Council" refers to the National Executive Council and not the National Council as I do not remember receiving any type of notice to attend this meeting.

NATIONAL WEBSITE



OH BOY..... HERE WE GO. THE WEBSITE IS NOT FINISHED YET AND HAS A FEW AREAS THAT SOME COUNCIL MEMBERS AND OTHERS HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO HELP FINISH. A SUGGESTION TO GET THE SITE FINISHED SO THAT REGIONS CAN UP DATE THEIR INFORMATION ON THE PAGE DIRECTLY CAN HAPPEN. I BELIEVE THAT IT HAS BEEN 3 YEARS IN THE WORKS????

THE RESPONSE WAS THAT THE STRUCTURE HAS NOT BEEN IN PLACE FOR TWO YEARS NOW WHEN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AGREED TO GIVE A LARGE AMOUNT OF FUNDS TO PAY A FIRM TO DO THE UPDATE AND TRANSFER OF FILES AND DATA.

MOST REGIONS ARE WAITING FOR THEIR SITE TO BE ACTIVE ON THEIR SITE SO IT IS JUST NOT A MSRAL ISSUE. THIS DIALOGUE WAS ALSO BROUGHT UP LAST YEAR TO THE SAME END. PEOPLE TRULY ARE FRUSTRATED AND NOT SURE WHEN THERE WILL BE ANY RESOLUTION.

NUGGETS FROM NATIONAL

NEW MASTER OBSERVERS—4 OUT OF 6 AIN'T BAD GO MSRAL!

New Master Observer Awards went to Jerelyn Rameriz of KAO, Jim Twellman of ASEM, Walter “Rob” Robertson of ASKC, Steve Riegel of Colorado Springs AS, John Strebeck of SLAS, and Jack Fitzmier a Member At Large. Congratulations everyone.



PEG'S PROJECT

At the discussion time about Regions, one voiced concern regarding no communications with the appointed chair, and asked in earnest how to get some sort of help. The Reg Rep continued to say he got no returned emails from national so he was on his own and extremely frustrated. Then another region came forward with similar issues and there was no one giving them any sort of help.

I related how I tried a few times over three years to get help being the only officer and got no responses either. I added that I was told the job descriptions for the Executive Officers would be reviewed and one of them will be the liaison for the regions. Crickets.... (2020 National Business Meeting)

So, glad to know I am not the only one. I (putting size 8 1/2 sandal in my upper orifice) said that between NCRAL and MSRAL we could help since we have been around for 75 years and know a little something about how regions should operate. Carroll asked if I would get information from the regions and get it to him by August 10th. I was grabbed by a few folks talking to me at the break time, because many want this done but no one ever bothered to go there. I was told later NCRAL was too busy. Little Red Hen time I guess. I immediately emailed Carroll, Chuck and Terry, that it won't be done by the 10th. At the time of this, it is a slow roll.

I sent out questionnaires, responded to personal emails, had Cook set up an IO Group for all of us regional officers and no real interaction has happened. But there is emailing with individual regions several with only one or two officers and no idea who or where their bylaws are. So, I have been sending out MSRAL's for a template for jumping off point. Many officers are tired and worn out. God knows how long this whole process will take but, I was voted to be the Interim Regional Liaison until one is vetted from national. A WORK IN PROGRESS.

LEAGUE STORE NEWS

Forty boxes containing 507 various solar filters was donated to the League don't recall if the vendor was mentioned but they were delivered at the sales office. They will accommodate camera, scopes and binos. It was discussed what would be the best disposition for them. I suggested that they put a blurb on the observing page and tie them into the solar observing programs with the words, "While supplies last." Aaron Clevenson was excited about that suggestion. Mitch also added that they would be available upon request with the receiver paying for the shipping of the filters. Contact Mitch at League Sales for more information.

ATTENTION IMAGERS AND OBSERVERS!

The 80 year novae in Tau Cor Bor is due to flare up again and the AAVSO has sheets and the main requirement for an image before the eruption and after the eruption. According to Astronomy Magazine after a pre-eruption dip in magnitude, a big explosion usually happens 11 months later. [See the latest data from the AAVSO](#) and Elizabeth Gamillo article from June 12, 2024 "How to see T Coronae Borealis, the brightest novae of the generation."

BYLAW REVISIONS revision 4

A 17-paged proposed national bylaws amendments handout was distributed for review. On the front page there was a key for the coding of the narrative: green was additions, red for deletions and blue were comments or questions to consider. I do not know if these have been officially added as of yet and I am giving a short cut version and encourage you to go directly to the national bylaws and review for yourself. I have specifics and I hope to God you won't need 17 pages of faxed info. LOL. All these items passed with little discussion.

Page 2. ART II OFFICERS, Section 7 Duties: Secretary #c. Deleted providing bylaws and standing resolutions at meetings. Added *only 5 copies of current bylaws and standing resolutions for use and reference during Council meeting.*

Page 3 ART III COUNCIL, Section 2 Membership: Deleted *representatives of the Western Amateur Astronomers.*

Page 4 ART IV ELECTIONS, Section 3 Ballots: #a. added *cover letter signed by National Office Manager* #e. is new *Candidates' names shall appear on the ballots as reasonably directed by the candidates but without prefixes Mr., Dr., Fr., etc.) and without professional suffixes (PhD, MDm etc.) . Prefxes and professional suffixes or descriptions may be included in candidate bios. Candidates' names shall be liste on the ballots in the following order: 1. incumbent, 2. officers listed in the order set out in Art II, Sect 8a, 3, officers listed before non-officers, and 4, non-officers listed in alphabetical order by last name.*

Page 6 ARTICLE V DUES & S.R. #9 Section 2 Termination: added *in Standing Resolution #9. #3. S.R. #9 DUES full paragraph added. TERMINATION—Any member society that is six months overdue or more in dues payments shall be notified tha the League will be unable to extend benefits to the society's members if dues remain overdue 3 months after the notice given. The notice shall emphasize the benefits of membership and our desire to retain the society as a member and shall avoid the use of negative terms such as "termination."*

Page 7 ART VI NATIONAL CONVENTIONS Section 2 Convention Hosts: added sentence about *adopting the Convention Agreement in Standing Resolution 2.*

Page 8 ARTICLE VII COMMITTEES Section 1 Standing Committee: added *standing committees shall include the League's regions but shall not include League award programs for which no award committee is expressly created by operation of League Bylaws or Standing Resolutions.* **Section 2 Ad Hoc Committees:** deleted and activity /service sections. **Section 4 Appointment and Removal: #a** new *This provision does not apply to League regions that are subject to the appoint and removal provisions of Art IX, Sect. 12 and 13.*

Page 10 ARTICLE XI THE TRUST FUND Section 2 #a. added and Earnings to title and deleted the last sentence. #b is new *Trust Fund earnings may be used or ear marked for use by Council of the Executive Committee if Council is not in session for any purpose consistent with the League's Section 501©(3) obligations. Earnings not used or earmarked for use by Council or the Executive Committee within one year after the end of the fiscal year in which the earnings are realized may be reinvested in Trust Fund principal at the discretion of the Trustees.*

Page 10 Standing Resolution #1 TRUST FUND PROCEDURES little verbiage changed in #4 added *New to #a., Reasonable expenses to #c., #d, Support of League ward programs, #e, Support of critical League publications and media functions, #f The costs of audits of the League Treasury, the ALTF and League Sales.* Deleted the last paragraph. [note: stated in the packet that [Note for reasoning: with \$50,000 annual interest bylaws do not specify who determines the use of Trust Fund earnings, 25 nationally elected council members or Board of Directors]



BYLAW REVISIONS CONTINUED—QUESTIONS OF STANDING RESOLUTIONS

Page 17 of amendment packet

Page 12 S.R. #5 THE ASTRONOMICAL LEAGUE AWARD: #2: deleted immediate living, and second living past president. Added *two most recent clause and able to participate in committee deliberations.*

Page 13 S.R. #6 LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE Added *no committee member may cast more than one vote.*

Page 14. S.R. #9 DUES M.A.L. dues \$60.00 and Y.M.A.L. dues \$24.00.

Page 15 S.R. #14 JACK HORKHEIMER AWARDS #7 is new *First place winners are ineligible.*

Page 15 S.R. #1 MABLE STERNS AWARD #6 is new *First place winners are ineligible.*

Page 15 S.R. #116 NATIONAL YOUNG ASTRONOMER #6 is new *First place winners are ineligible.*

Page 15 S.R. #18 THE WEBMASTER AWARD #5 is new *First place winners are ineligible.*

Page 16 S.R. #19 SKETCHING AWARD #5 is new *First place winners are ineligible for 3 years.*

Page 16 S.R. #20 WILLIAMINA FLEMING AWARD #6 is new. *First place winners are ineligible for 3 years.*

A. **S.R. 4** No audit having been performed in well over 3 year s should we conduct an audit of the League Treasury, Trust Fund and League Sales? With the trust fund of more than 1 million dollars and a new treasurer coming on board do we need a professional audit.

- Its not required through state mandates in place from MO Statutes.
- Is there misuse concerns or as a matter of course?
- SWRAL chair suggested Dallas club do the review as no officers or trustees are in their club.

2. Should the Treasurer be bonded going forward? I do not recall if it was partial or full but the **vote was yes.** I believe it was full.

B. **S.R. 13** should the boundaries be redefined for Oklahoma and New Jersey.

OKAC does work with ACT, BAS, and BASWA not jut TX clubs and star party. John Goss said that in 2005, (zero clarity on when or where), but they would not be able to be put back so the vote was to keep them as they were.

C. **S.R. 14** Should the League continue the Horkheimer name they were giving \$100,000 yearly from the foundation since 1998, but they no longer can support this endeavor. They have given some sporadic amounts but nothing consistent. Might consider a visit to Dwight Horkheimer in FL to discuss. If not, the name of the awards will be changed once they secure funding for them in the future.

NOTE: Did have a new amendment brought up in a discussion on the status of the regions and setting up regional accounts. I assume it will be in ARTICLE IX REGIONS AND REGIONAL ACTIVITIES on page 15 of the national bylaws. This is not the official verbal but covers national treasurer on all regional accounts and submission of monthly and yearly bank statements and signatures in person/email of AL Treasurer on bank statements.

ALMOST FORGOT!!!!

A professional investment counselor was secured to grow the principle to generate a reliable income for the League. No firm or individual was mentioned and no statement of further details or information will be forth coming.