

2026 MSRAL Convention Overview & Registration



Feb 14, 2026



The Astronomical Society of Eastern Missouri invites you to the Mid-States Region 76th Annual Convention

**St. Charles County, MO
June 26-28, 2026**

Program includes:

- Observing
- Food
- Lectures
- Workshops
- Prizes

And great times with good friends
All regions welcomed!

Website: <https://www.asemonline.org/2026-msral>

Email questions to MSRAL2026@asemonline.org



Jeremy P. ...

This a flyer you will see in the Astronomical League's Reflector Magazine.

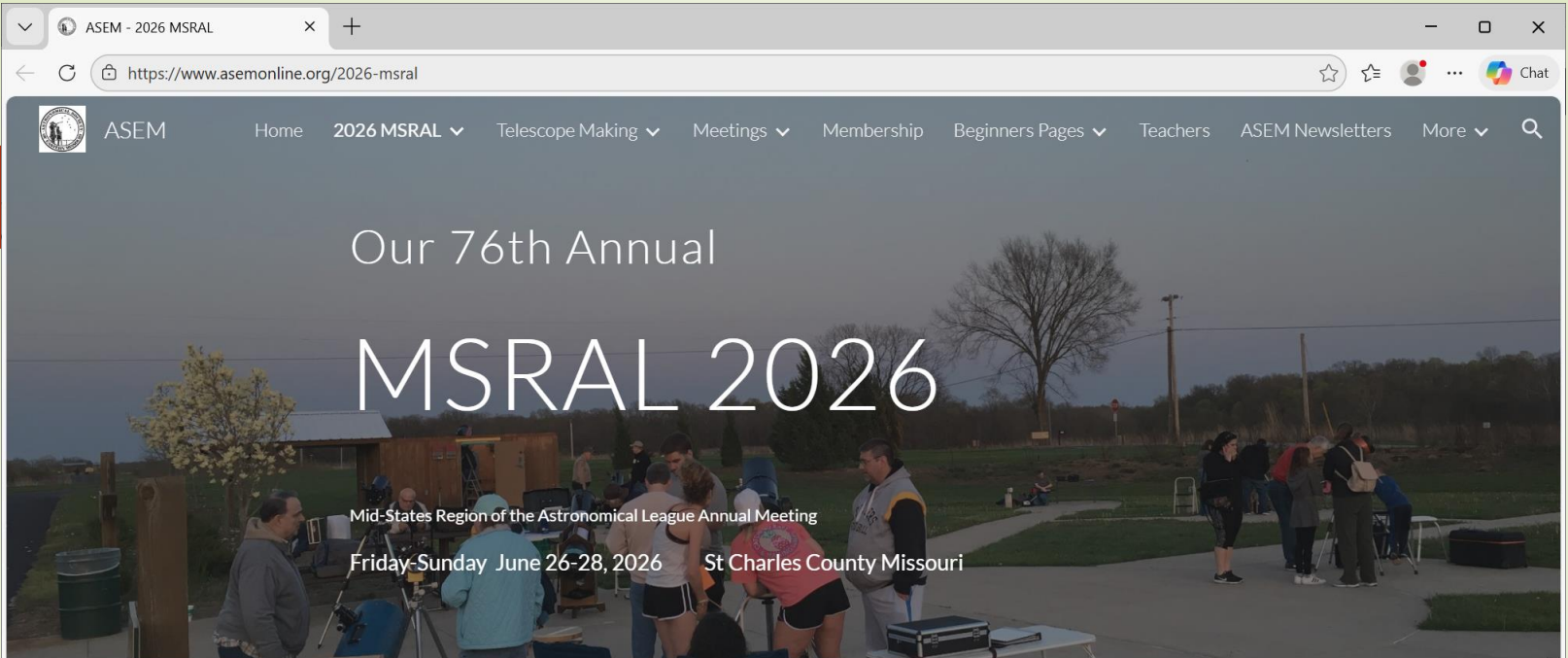
2026 MSRAL Convention

Registration is now open.

- **June 26 - 28, 2026**
- **Friday: StarBQ** on Friday evening at the Broemmelsiek Park Visitor Center, followed by telescope viewing at Broemmelsiek Park Astronomy Site.
- **Saturday: Convention** at St. Charles Community College.
- **Sunday: Convention** at the Weldon Spring Interpretive Center.
- **Prices.** We have worked hard to keep these as low as possible.
 - **Convention admission:** \$65, early-bird \$55 (til April 30, 2026)
 - **Youth Convention admission :** \$30, early-bird \$25 (til April 30, 2026)
 - **StarBQ:** \$15
 - **Saturday lunch:** \$15
 - **Saturday Banquet:** \$35
- <https://www.asemonline.org/2026-msral>

Questions, etc should be emailed to msral2026@asemonline.org

Registration is now open.



- [Registration](#) (please read the notes on Zeffy and their "tipping")
- [Schedule](#)
- [Venue / Travel](#)
- [Speakers](#)
- [Workshops](#)
- [Sponsors](#)

Please refer back to this website as content will be added. For example: Youth Admission and Sponsorship, Contest, Attendee Information, etc.

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Speakers

- **Invited speakers include:**
 - **Mr. Lowell Grissom:** “The Gus Grissom Story”
 - **Dr. Erika Gibb:** “Comets as Fossils: Why Comets are Important for Understanding our Origins”
 - **Mr. Steven Bellavia:** “The Vera Rubin Observatory”
 - **Dr. Michael Krawczynski:** “More Than Meets the Eye: The Hidden Geology of our Lunar Neighbor”
- **Soliciting attendees now for presentations**
 - **If you would like to make a presentation:**
 - **Please send an email by May 1, 2026** to msral2026@asemonline.org with: a) your name, b) your club affiliation (if any) c) title, and d) short abstract.
 - **Downselect for the final presentations will be done by May 15, 2026** and we will notify all presenters via email.

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Youth

- **We are encouraging youth participation**
 - High School age up to 25.
 - We hope to have a Youth Panel on Sunday
- **You or your organization can sponsor a young person via Zeffy**
 - Either by name, or
 - To a general fund that will be used on a “first come, first served” basis to pay for the Convention Fees for a Youth.

If you can help in advertising to our young people (e.g. in schools), please let me know.

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Contest - Astrophotography & Astro-art

- **Chuck Allen and Terry Mann of the Astronomical League will host the competition.**
- **Medals will be awarded in seven categories as follows:**
 - Deep Sky (>500 mm focal length; no solar system)
 - Solar System (>500 mm focal length)
 - Rich Field (201-500 mm focal length)
 - Wide Field (up to 200 mm focal length)
 - Smart Telescopes
 - Art and Sketching
 - Youth
- **Medals awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category**
- **Entries will be voted on by convention attendees**
- **Eligibility.** To win, you must (1) be registered at the convention, (2) earn less than \$2,000 annually from the sale of your images and/or your art, and (3) register your image/art with contest officials and receive a Post-It number for display with each item entered.
- **During Registration we ask that you give us an idea (i.e. not a commitment) as to how many items you intend to enter, so we can identify the facility needs to have an efficient contest.**
- **All entries must be present at the Convention.**