Galilean Nights Event ID: gn191

Number of telescopes: about 50 Number of organisers: about 30 Number of attendees: 900

Event Report:

The event was composed of two "star parties", one on October 24th and another on October 31st. The first one included a National Activity, the "Reto Mexico 2009", that intended to attract the public bringing with them their telescopes (beyond the telescopes made available by the organizers). Unfortunately the sky was completely cloudy during all the event (7pm to 11pm). However, about 500 people attended the event, and we could join about 40 telescopes. As a "plan B" we had a theatrical presentation (Biznaga Teatro) with about 20 actors, which was played in the middle of the public (intervention), with a play about Astronomy, and a public talk by an astronomer (Dr. Cesar A. Caretta), with the title "A journey through our Galaxy and the Universe", for about 200 people. On the second event we had only the organizers telescopes available (8) but a very clear sky (with much light from the Moon). About 400 people attended the event (from 7pm to 1am), in which we observed specially Jupiter and its moons, but also the Moon, some star clusters and some nebulae. A public talk by Dr. Cesar Caretta was also offered to the public, using the real sky as screen ("Observing the sky along human history and the contributions by Galileo").