

Galilean Nights Event ID: gn215

Number of telescopes: 5

Number of organisers: 1

Number of attendees: 150

Event photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/44263625@N03/>

Event Report:

Stargazing at the Trantina Farm Update

Another successful stargazing event presented by the Homer Glen Environment Committee and Homer Township at the Trantina Farm on Saturday, October 10th! The weather did not cooperate on Friday, October 9th, but there were plenty of stars to see on Saturday.

Approximately 150 people turned out in the very cold night air to see Jupiter and its four larger moons, the Ring Nebula, binary stars, other galaxies, and many more deep sky objects. The Kankakee Area Stargazers provided four large telescopes and one pair of high powered binoculars for the resident viewing. The lines at one point were 25+ deep at each of the telescopes. Participants were given information on how to take part in the Great World Wide Star Count using the constellation Cygnus, the Swan, for reference. As part of the Galilean Nights IYA Cornerstone project, everyone had the opportunity to view Jupiter and its moon and then map the moons on paper, just as Galileo did 400 years ago.

Everyone had a great time. In fact one man, who had already seen the stars, went home and brought back his entire family, including teenagers, so that they could see the wonders of the universe, too.

Special thanks to Homer Township for the use of the Trantina Farm.