Galilean Nights Event ID: gn231

Number of telescopes: 15 Number of organisers: 10 Number of attendees: 650

Event photos: http://www.flickr.com/photos/farid-astro/4109905746/in/pool-galileannights

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Event Report:

This event was a very big Star Party in the Baquedano town, planned for achieve the largest number of attendance and get a record in Chile and South America, considering that the Región de Antofagasta is the home of the most impressive and largest astronomical projects (VLT and ALMA observatories).

The event was mainly focused to elementary and high-school students of Antofagasta and Baquedano (final attendance of 400) and general public (final attendance of 250). The main activity was the simultaneous observation with 15 telescopes (all of them with a minimal aperture of 114 mm), pointing to the Moon and Jupiter, guided by students of Physics and Astronomy of the Universidad Católica del Norte (UCN). By the other hand, two simultaneous activities were realized with the other half of participants: A talk about life and work of Galileo and his discoveries, by the astronomer Dr. Christian Nitschelm, and a tour by the most known constellations and astronomical objects with a Green Laser Pointer, by the experienced amateur astronomer Farid Char.

At the end of this event our impressions were excellent, with the people very interested in the observations and enjoying this adventure with a good enthusiasm, despite the cold and time. Fortunately, the climate was good and this led us to have a nice starry night for introduce to the people the wonderful jewels of the space.

We're very satisfied with the final result of this experience, the main goal was accomplished and the final attendance was simply spectacular. In a single word: complete success!