

Galilean Nights Event ID: gn315

Number of telescopes: 3

Number of organisers: 5

Number of attendees: 50

Event photos: <http://astrobotica.wordpress.com>

Event Report:

With a great enthusiasm my group of pupils and I started a new public campaign for astronomy education namely "Follow Galilei!" , as a replay of 100 hours during three nights. Of course I started with early preparing the sessions, announcing partners and participants, preparing backup plans for each day. But, to confirm Murphy's laws, our action's importance for pupils and community was diminished by another two human interferences, one being the freshmen student's ball on the 22nd and the other one, between 22 and 25 October was our City Days, with a lot of light and fireworks. The weather was bad only on the 22 after 21:00 and all evening on the 23rd, then good enough to see Jupiter, Albireo, M29, Alcor-Mizar.

OK, because the planning was good enough, a plan included presentations of various ESA films, Galilean Nights presentations and using the Sky Scout from Celestron. With a reduced audience we decided that presentations are to be presented in the next Fridays when pupils come at the club and it is more useful to teach how to use the Celestron Sky Scout, which I did, using the time to present also some small facts about the points of interest of the action, Galilei's work.

Best interest was shown by the pupils less than 10 yrs old, then the older ones and of course unnecessary to be told again, the group of high school pupils, the nucleus of the group, Cristina, Dragos and Cristi, remember them from 100 hours..!

At least the action was combined with a previous visit to a digital planetarium which led to an increased interest among lower secondary pupils toward astronomy and , as the future encounters shown me, the real deal was establishing follow-up sessions because all became curious about what happened during their absence...

So, hope dies last