

Galilean Nights Event ID: gn628

Number of telescopes: 6

Number of organisers: 6

Number of attendees: 60

Event photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/33435490@N08/4071859001/in/pool-galileannights/>
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/33435490@N08/4072621300/in/pool-galileannights/>
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/33435490@N08/4071903467/in/pool-galileannights/>
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/33435490@N08/4072655106/in/pool-galileannights/>
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/33435490@N08/4071870619/in/pool-galileannights/>
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Event Report:

We started Friday 23 at 18:00 with a Conference about Galileo. After the conference at 20:00 some friends went to set up the telescopes for the observation. We had a Build your own star chart activity that lasted until 21:00, while the tech team debugged some audio problems in the streaming. The rest of the team and guests went to the observation site but found out that the clouds were covering most of the sky. That night we observed only Jupiter and the brightest stars. People started leaving and at 23:00 only the team remained on site hoping for the skies to clear, but with no luck we returned to the building at midnight. We then had supper with no coffee(Who forgot the coffee?) and prepared for the next day. We downloaded some videos from the around the world in 80 telescopes for watching in case the next night was cloudy. And went to sleep.

We started the next day at 10:00 with the conference Software for Science. but only 1 person showed up. So the schedule was postponed until 13:00 and after that a conference hourly with some time to rest in between:

14:00 Jovian planets

15:00 Solar System formation and residue

16:00 Stellar evolution

17:00 Stellar death

18:00 Milky Way

19:00 Earth as a planet

The conferences ended up finishing at 21:00 because some technical difficulties and a impromptu coffee break. So we quickly packed and went to the observation site. We streamed all the conferences on ustream.tv and there were between 2 to 15 viewers.

The sky was almost clear with some casual clouds that went quickly with the wind. We took out a 6" Newtonian the the 5"computerized Newtonian, a 4" refractor, a 3" Newtonian and a pair of 8x25 binoculars. We could observe Jupiter, the Great Orion Nebula, Andromeda Galaxy, The double cluster in Perseus. Identified and explained many constellations and stars. Most of the participants left by the time of the observation and only about 16 remained. We tried to see fainter objects but the sky was a bit foggy. A member of the team unmounted the refractor telescope and mounted his camera to it to take pictures of the sky. Most of the guests left at 23:30 We remained scanning the sky for things to see until about 01:30(10/25) when the sky covered with clouds and half of the team returned to the building. The rest remained and returned until 02:30. Some had a proper supper, others went directly to sleep. The rest decided to stay awake and play some video games on the PC and watch a movie someone brought and the 80telescopes videos. The next morning at 09:00 the guests and helpers left and the remaining started cleaning and bringing the conference room and lab back to normal. We sent a team back to the observation site to seek for lost or left items(they brought back a lens cap) and the rest finished cleaning up.