

Galilean Nights Event ID: gn774

Number of telescopes: 2

Number of organisers: 5

Number of attendees: 71

Event photos: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/44568946@N05/sets/>

Please, read the photograp description.

Event Report:

The most exciting activity we have developed for celebrating the International Year of Astronomy was the "Galileu Rural" for sure. We took telescopes for a peaceful region inward Mato Grosso state, a region of sites and

farms, and we were received with a lot of joy and thankfulness for the local people. Every family took a different cake that was shared with all community. There were people from one month to 80 years of age, and happiness was showed in each inhabitant face.

The craters of the Moon have always been compared to an Italian cheese. However, this kind of cheese is notcommon in Bocaiuvai region. A community lady told us that the Moon looks like a local typical food, "angu", when it is boiling: at this time "angu" also shows a lot of holes. "Angu" is made of flour of manioc boiled in water and salt. A teenager girl compared the Moon surface with the inner region of a bone: full of "small" wholes as well!

An old legend inward Brazil tells that Saint George on his horse is on the Moon surface. This is associated with the shape of the dark Maria. A senior lady was looking for Saint George on his horse when she looked in the

telescope. She was a little disappointed because she could not see them. I had to explain her in the better way I could that this was only a legend and the Moon does not have inhabitants, telling something about the craters and Maria formation. That was hard! And, a mister took his dog for observing with the telescope because "it is also family"!

The Moon had the great preference of Bocaiuvai people. Jupiter and its Galilean moons were observed as well.

A small boy told that the Moon was much prettier than the "star". I told him that was not a star but a planet, he listened to my explanation, but after this he called his father to see "the star".

The region has around 110 inhabitants: 85 were told about the event by the communitary agent, inviting them in personal from place to place; 5 were traveling on the event occasion; and nearly 20 were not told about the event, those that live farther because the communitary agent told she was busy and they probably should not attend an event at night. From 85 people that were invited 71 attended the invitation. There are many pics of the event. Not from all people because the team complained too much about the camera flash light. Thus I had to stop.

Galileu Rural was a big and unforgettable adventure for our team. A hurrah for Galileo!