

**Galilean Nights Event ID:** gn1,079

**Number of telescopes:** 14

**Number of organisers:** 5

**Number of attendees:** 500

**Event Report:**

We opened the Foothill College observatory and the members of the Peninsula Astronomical Society brought 13 telescopes of their own, which they set up in a dark part of the nearby parking lot. We had gotten the word out to the public through many lists and web sites, and at the last minute, the San Francisco newspaper ran a short article about Galilean Nights, mentioning our event.

People were starting to line up an hour before the official opening time (luckily the amateur astronomers also came early). Throughout the night we had a steady stream of families and individuals, many getting their first ever looks through a telescope. Especially gratifying was the number of young people who participated, and the oohs and aahs as they saw Jupiter and picked out the Galilean moons.

We explained about the International Year of Astronomy and encouraged people to take information sheets about the evening astronomy classes for the public and the Peninsula Astronomical Society's public programs. Lots of people thanked us for making this free family opportunity available.