

Galilean Nights Event ID: gn319

Number of telescopes: 10

Number of organisers: 9

Number of attendees: 125

Event Report:

On October 24th, over 125 people met at the Northwest New Mexico Visitor Center in Grants to enjoy the dark night sky of New Mexico and explore the galaxy. Eight telescopes were set up, including the center's 8" Dobsonian and the 12" Dobsonian from the NMSU Grants Campus. Kids attending the event received a ticket for a raffle that featured astronomy prizes like a 60mm telescope, binoculars, astronomy software, and books. Visitors took in views of Jupiter and the Galilean moons, the great Andromeda galaxy, and other star clusters and Messier objects. NMSU Professor Billy O'Keefe and ranger Rick Best used green lasers to sketch out the visible constellations, and lucky viewers saw occasional meteors.