Galilean Nights Event ID: gn34

Number of telescopes: 10
Number of organisers: 15
Number of attendees: 300

Event Report:
Club AstroDnepr began to prepare the GN at August. We created a local Organizing Committee of the Planetarium, the Club and a Charity project manager and collected 14 organizations that participate in the project (http://dneoproplanet.dp.ua/astro.html) from Sept., 1.

The Club and the Planetarium renewed the astronomy classes for schoolchildren since Oct., 4 (about 10 pupils attend them now).

The Club invited James Wiggins and Karen Waterston - the organizers of expeditions to Total sun eclipses with a special program in Dnepropetrovsk, dedicated to GN. In general there were about 200 people at 5 events (see details http://www.astroclub.kiev.ua/forum/index.php?topic=9701.0).

The Club helped teachers in schools with their telescopes at special meetings in the Planetarium. Oleg Shylov from the Club carried out classes free of charge on how to make a telescope of Galilean type (about 50 people attended the classes during 2 months).

Two Club members lectured in schools in Dnepropetrovsk and Kharkov region about Galileo and his contribution to the science. About 300 pupils were at the lectures from September till Oct., 22 (http://www.astroclub.kiev.ua/forum/index.php?topic=9933.0). In the Central city library there was an exhibition of books on astronomy and a lecture about Galileo and his books for about 40 students (http://www.dneproplanet.dp.ua/libr.doc).

The sidewalk astronomy was carried out almost every evening (see the end of http://www.astroclub.kiev.ua/forum/index.php?topic=6405.0). Usually at the events there are about 100 people who made observations in telescopes.

But at the GN there were two clear evenings so about 300 people made observations (http://www.astroclub.kiev.ua/forum/index.php?topic=9933.0) with help of 9 telescopes of the Planetarium, a camera store and the Club members. It was cloudy on Saturday, so about 15 Club members gathered in the Planetarium at the special program about Galileo and the GN (about 100 people were there) then we made a parade of telescopes there and we took three of them to the sidewalk astronomy place, for a lot of people wished to see at least anything. We showed the opportunities of telescopes, told what could be observed with them and invited people at the next meeting of the Club.

The project is not finished yet, for the rewarding of pupils in two competitions among schools is delayed because of state quarantine. There are about 500 participants from 67 schools.

There were a lot of reports about the GN project on local TV channels, Internet and News Papers. There were some TV programs about astronomy in connection with GN (http://www.astroclub.kiev.ua/forum/index.php?topic=9500.0 reply 7 and others).

A club member had two publications in special editions on GN: announcement of GN in “The Universe, Space, Time” No10, 2009, p.2 without signature and an article “GN” in the journal “Physics in ukrainian Schools” No 17 (141) p.2-3, Sept., 2009.

Charity program. As part of GN event Alexander Kovaljov presented 5 meteorites from the Club to the museum of the National Mining University Sept., 21 (http://www.astroclub.kiev.ua/forum/index.php?topic=9932.0) and Sept., 28 it was shown to local mass media. Some money that was allocated to the GN project by sponsors will be directed to local anti AIDS children organizations.