
5th EUROPEAN MEETING OF AMATEUR ASTRONOMY AND ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETIES

LES JOURNÉES DE NANTES

Saturday and Sunday April 5-6, 2003

The "Journées de Nantes", held every three years since 1991, gather around 200 participants from France and several other European countries. Following this success, the *Astronomical Society of Nantes* organises on **Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 April 2003** the fifth edition of the *RENCONTRES EUROPÉENNES DE L'ASTRONOMIE D'AMATEURS ET DES SOCIÉTÉS D'ASTRONOMIE* (European Meeting of Amateur Astronomy and Astronomical Societies).

Achieving a perfect union between prestige, friendship and scientific excellence, the astronomical meeting of Nantes lies in the tradition of other great European events, with a touch of French flavour. Making reference to the spirit of Camille Flammarion, the Congress is widely open to participants whatever their experience, in order to favour exchanges between amateurs, as well as between amateurs and scientists. Meals and accommodation are planned, as well as the possibility of camping. The outstanding layout of the **Château of Plinguetière** gives to the Congress of Nantes a unique style, and will make this week-end unforgettable !

THE PROGRAMME INCLUDES (see following detailed program)

- Communication sessions and exhibitions by amateurs
- Debates, and round tables
- Workshops (interferometry and high resolution) and exhibitions (amateur works, material vendors)
- Invited speakers (**Willy BENZ, Michel MARCELIN and Jean-François GAUTIER**)
- High technology material
- Sky observing
- Contests (astronomical photographs, drawings, paintings, telescope making and technical realisations, computing)
- Equipment fair
- Social events so as Music breaks and surprises

INFORMATIONS

Documents, application forms and requests, to be sent to :

Société d'Astronomie de Nantes 35, Boulevard Louis Millet 44300 NANTES (France)

Phone . +33 (0)2 40 68 91 20 (+ message recorder) ; Fax +33 (0)2 40 93 81 23

E-Mail : san@san-fr.com Internet : <http://www.san-fr.com>

PLACE OF THE SYMPOSIUM

Château de la Plinguetière - 44860 - ST AIGNAN DE GRANDLIEU (France)

DISTANCES

Nantes (15 km), Atlantic coast (70 km), Paris (400 km), Historic Castles of Loire (200 km).

ACCESS

By road : within Nantes, take the outskirts until Nantes-Atlantique airport exit (south of Nantes), then follow 'St Aignan de Grandlieu'. The castle will be on your left at average 3 km after the airport (map of location will be provided).

By train : Paris-Nantes in 2 hours by *TGV* (high-speed train). There are a great number of links with most of the regions of France. Reduction of 20 % allotted on French leg of the travel in some conditions for symposium participants. Please ask secretariat for coupons.

By plane : Nantes-Atlantique airport (south of Nantes) is very close to the meeting. Direct links with several towns of France and some other countries. Easy connections with main national or international flights. Details or tables provided on request.

Special fares are available on domestic flights (reductions up to 50 % or more by AIR FRANCE company). Coupons are available (to be mentioned on registration Form #1). **Note :** *determine travel regulations within country of origin. Certificates of attendance also available on request. Youth and student fares available in many countries. Reductions valid for round trips : corresponding coupons will be made available in good time on request.*



SYMPOSIUM FEES (CONTRIBUTION TO COSTS)

Total charges will be **60 €** per person, including registration fees, attendance, all documentation, lunches (including banquet of Sunday), dinner and breakfast, activities at the meeting, coffee breaks and social events.

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation will cost an additional **10 €**. There will be **rooms available** with 2 to 6 beds at the Château for the 80 first reservations. Requests will be satisfied on a first-come-first-served basis. **Free camping facilities** in the Château's grounds (equipment not provided, but power supplies and shower will be available). Note that breakfast will be free for campers. In addition, there are a lot of hotels in Nantes and the vicinity (information provided on request). *Free breakfast at the Château on Sunday for all participants so wishing (to be indicated on Form #1).*

REGISTRATION

Fill in the registration **Form #1**. Any reservation must be accompanied by an initial deposit of **30 €**. Information for funds shipping can be obtained at your bank. Add **10 €** for accommodation if requested. In case of cancellation, deposit will be refunded (less charges). However, notification of withdrawal must take place before January 30th 2003. Inscriptions are accepted within the limit of available places. Registration has to be made before **March 15th 2003**. Subsequently, a waiting list will be opened for later registrations.

CALL FOR COMMUNICATIONS

Participants who wish to make presentations are required to return **Form #2** (in addition to Form #1). **Authors will be allotted around 15 min** for presentation plus 5 min for discussion (duration can be extended if necessary). Abstracts should be submitted before **March 1st 2003**.

Entries not retained for oral presentation may be diffused to participants in written form at the Congress or changed into a poster. A collection of abstracts will be circulated to the participants on arrival. Contributions (presentations and papers) may use either **English or French**. Authors must send a typewritten copy (ready to be duplicated) of their contribution (even if not retained for oral presentation) before **March 15th**, which will be included in the final proceedings. Predominantly audio-visual presentations or those retained as posters should however be the subject of a short paper. *Think that illustrations will be reproduced in black and white.* If necessary, detailed graphs and tables may be circulated in order to reduce time of oral presentation. Bring along a sufficient number of copies.

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Congress will include all papers accepted for oral presentation and others, as well as poster abstracts. Special price of **7 €** will be offered to participants. Subscription bulletins will be circulated.

EXHIBITED MATERIAL

Each participant can display instruments, equipment, technical projects, photographs, videos, computer software, observations results, various works, etc. (to be indicated on Form #1, **Form #3** to be completed), without being forced to take part in any of the competitions. Participants may exhibit both material to compete and others. On an other hand, participants exhibiting material only in order to compete must fill in Form #3 anyway. *It is essential that participants and societies who exhibit together on a same location should group their demand for exhibition space and technical assistance on a single Form #3. Note : exhibition space will be granted on a first-come-first-served basis on reception of the registration forms.*

EQUIPMENT FAIR

A free equipment market will offer to **private individuals** the opportunity to find, exchange or sell astronomy-equipment, so as books, magazine collections, photographs, etc. No special space will be allowed to this activity, since each participant may offer part of his exhibited material to be sold or exchanged on his stand.

COMPETITION

They will be organised around 4 themes :

- **Astronomical Photography** ;
- **Illustration** (painting, engraving, drawing, etc. on astronomical subject) ;
- **Self-made equipment** (telescope making, technical projects, electronic equipment, CCD, etc.). Equipment including commercial pieces will be appreciated on the degree of personal contribution to his realisation.
- **Computing** (astronomical calculation, programs, software, etc.).

In addition, other themes may be defined for projects which cannot be included in the previous categories, so as software, planetariums or educational realisations. Prices will be offered in each category. Each candidate is allowed to compete in more than one category. Only the candidates who declare their interest on **Form #1** can be allowed to compete.

Deadline for inscriptions to contests is **March 15th**. Participants wishing to compete will receive the competition Rules notice.



PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

(Definitive programme will be established after closing date for registration of presentations)

Saturday April 5th

Morning

- From 09:00** Coffee, check-in, placement of equipment and stands (club activities, amateur works, posters, photographs, instruments, competition entries, etc.) Solar observation, equipment fair.
- 11:00** Welcome speech
- 11:15** **Opening ceremony**
- 11:45** Press conference and visit of stands of participants, partners and societies.
- 12:15** Aperitif in honour
- 12:45** LUNCH

Afternoon

- 14:30** **Introductory lecture** by **Jean-François GAUTIER**, Philosopher, author of *L'Univers existe-t-il ?*
- 15:00** **First Communications Session.** Concurrent Session : **Workshops**
- 16:30** Coffee and tea-Break, questions, visit of stands, poster session
- 17:00** **Second Communications Session.** Concurrent Session : **Workshops**
- 18:00** **Lecture** by **Michel MARCELIN**, Scientist at CNRS, Astrophysical Laboratory of the Observatory of Marseille (France) : *'Étude de la cinématique des galaxies : le projet GHASP (Gassendi H Alpha survey of SPirals) de l'OHP'*
- 19:30** DINNER
- 21:00** **Lecture** by **Willy BENZ**, Astrophysicist, Professor at the Berne University (Switzerland) : *'Du nouveau sur la formation des planètes ?'*
- 22:30** Music-Break
- From 23:30** **Sky observing** on the lawn in front of the Château with high-technology material

Sunday April 6th

Morning

- From 07:00** BREAKFAST at the Château
- 9:30** Visit of stands, poster session, workshops
- 10:30** **Third Communications Session**
- debates with Willy Benz, Michel Marcelin and Jean-François Gautier
 - workshop with Michel Marcelin
 - round-table
- 13:00** **Dinner 'DE GALA'**

Afternoon

- 15:00** **Workshops**
- 16:00** First synthesis of the Symposium
- 16:30** Prize giving for the competitions
- 17:30** Closure of the Congress
- 18:00** Good Bye drink and kisses.



APPLICATION FORM #1 : INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION

To be returned before **March 15th 2003**. Important : *one form to be completed per participant.*

Mr Mrs Miss¹ (1) NAME _____ First name _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP (POSTAL) CODE _____ CITY _____ COUNTRY _____ Phone _____ FAX _____

Personal E-Mail : _____ Internet site _____

Affiliation Society _____

Society's address _____

Club E-Mail _____ Internet site _____

ACCOMMODATION

Request for accommodation at the Château YES - NO
Request possibility of camping YES - NO
Will arrange accommodation by own means YES - NO
Request for information about hotels in the vicinity YES - NO
Will take Sunday breakfast (free for each participant) YES - NO

COMMUNICATION

Wish to make an oral presentation (if YES, complete Form #2) YES - NO

TRAVEL REDUCTIONS

Trains : Would be interested for Congress fare on French leg of the travel YES - NO

Wish to receive certificate of attendance with stamp of the symposium
in order to ask for reduction in country of origin YES - NO

Planes : Wish to receive a coupon for reduction on French part of the flight YES - NO

Wish to receive certificate of attendance with stamp of the symposium
in order to ask for reduction in country of origin YES - NO

Note : *any other document or certificate available on request.*

CONTESTS Wish to participate in competitions (if YES, fill in also Form #3) YES - NO

Astronomical Photography *Deep Sky* YES - NO

Astronomical Photography *Solar, Lunar and planetary* YES - NO

Illustration (drawing, painting, etc. on astronomical subject) YES - NO

Self-made equipment, technical realisations YES - NO

Computing YES - NO

Other categories (will be created if opportunity) YES - NO

In the later case, please precise what kind of realisations)

.....
Competition Rules will be sent to candidates

EQUIPMENT FAIR Will have some items to sell or exchange YES - NO

(To be exhibited on same allotted space than other items exhibited on stand ; see below)

EXHIBITION Will exhibit material (confirm YES if candidate for contests) YES - NO

Individually, on my own exhibition space (in this case, complete **Form #3**) YES - NO

Or on the stand of my society YES - NO

Note : *all members doing so must group their requests on a single Form #3*

CONFIRM DEPOSIT OF _____ € FOR RESERVATION

Precise kind of payment accompanying :

Date : _____ Signature : _____

¹ Cross out invalid item



APPLICATION FORM #2 : REGISTRATION FOR COMMUNICATION

(To be returned before **March 1st 2003**)

| |
|---|
| NAME : _____ FIRST NAME : _____ |
| TITLE OF THE COMMUNICATION : (preferably typewritten so as the abstract) : |
| |

Duration wished : _____ min (recommended duration : 15 min plus 5 min for questions)

ABSTRACT If needed, take another sheet. Text must be typewritten and not exceed av. 10 lines.

| |
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| |
|--|

*Typewritten copy of your communication (ready for duplication) must be sent before **March 15th***

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND MATERIAL NEEDED

(Tick corresponding squares)

| | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| board..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | overhead-projector for transparencies..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| paper-board..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | video-player..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| slide-projector..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | tape-player..... | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| specify approximate number of slides..... | | | |

Other needs (to be specified precisely, especially if special material²)

.....

IF COMMUNICATION COULD NOT BE RETAINED FOR ORAL PRESENTATION :

- Agreement for distribution in written form to participants, after acceptance by the steering committee (participants are invited to bring along enough copies) YES - NO
- Acceptation to turn communication to a poster YES - NO
(in this case, participants wishing their communication to be circulated to participants in written form at the Congress, are invited to bring along enough copies).

All contributions, whatever they are or not retained for oral presentation, may be included in the Proceedings which will be printed after the Congress. Please, produce a good quality paper which can be easily reproduced with its illustrations by means of black and white copy.

2. Request satisfied if possible ; answer will reach you in good time.



APPLICATION FORM #3 : REGISTRATION FOR EXHIBITION SPACE

(Any material, items for contests or equipment fair)

(to be returned before **March 15th 2003**)

Notice : *members of societies complete this form only if they wish an exhibition space independently of their Society. Members of the same society wishing to exhibit together on the same stand, are invited to group their demand on a single Form #3. Items for contests : mention the name of candidate.*

Note : *Please, make evident items which compete by circling them on this Form #3.*

| |
|---|
| NAME OF EXHIBITOR : _____ (In case of individual demand ; if other case, complete the line below) |
| or NAME OF THE SOCIETY : _____ |

MATERIAL TO BE EXHIBITED

TELESCOPES : (number, diameter, focal distance)

OTHER ITEMS

(Planetariums, measure instruments, telescope making or educational material, computers and software, various demonstrations, etc.).
For videos, it is advised to bring own video-player and display. If impossible, please mention it ; we shall try to find requested material.

VARIOUS MATERIEL (posters, books, magazines, photographs, etc.)

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDED

ASSISTANCE REQUESTED

(Describe as precisely as possible requested material : tables, chairs, panels, boards, paper-boards, ground or/and wall fixation, power supplies, special equipment, etc. ; we shall try to do the best. **Note** : no expensive material or needing renting. If special request, please ask. Don't leave out anything !)

SELF-PROVIDED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

(Please, feel free to bring along any required specialised item !)

