

LUNA!

“*Quinquaginta millibus miliarium Germanicorum in aetheris profundo sita est Levania insula*”

Communication

The fundamental concept of the Project, being one of joint action, demands means for participants to share ideas & coordinate work. We presently have four main avenues for such communication, and none is being used at levels consistent with reaching our goals. As coordinator, one of my principal functions is to put people in touch with each other, but this is not my strong suit, and I have other matters to attend to as well. The e-mail list is especially suited to time-sensitive information and queries, while the web forum is useful for longer-form discussions. Finally, there are **Luna!** and the other publications — if you have something to say in this format, do not hesitate to submit it to me. I would be interested in comments on other means which might prove useful, such as local meetings or on-line social networks.

To subscribe to the e-mail list, send a blank message to luna_discussion-subscribe@lunarcc.org. The Web forum can be found at <http://forum.lunarcc.org/>.

Donations

Since the beginning of the year, we have received cash donations to a total of \$41.50, which have

Moon Phases

New	26 March 16:08 GMT
First Quarter	2 April 14:34 GMT
Full	9 April 14:56 GMT
Last Quarter	17 April 13:38 GMT
New	25 April 03:24 GMT
First Quarter	1 May 20:44 GMT

Memorial

24 April
Soyuz 1 (1967)
Vladimir Komarov

With the expansion of human activity, and soon of human habitation, into the cosmos, the signification of the word ‘world’ is also expanding. Is it not in accordance with the genius of fandom that, at the earliest opportunity, the World Science Fiction Convention should be held in a part of the world which is not part of the Earth?

Accordingly, we propose that the seventy-fifth Worldcon be held at Luna City in the year 2017. Certainly this presents difficulties, over and above the problem of achieving lunar settlement. Attendance at Worldcons outside North America is always limited, and for one not even on Earth, the transportation problem will ensure that the capacity of the colony to accommodate visitors will not be strained. Flight availability now limits tourist traffic to orbit, despite prices in the tens of millions of dollars, and the general increase of space activity in the early years of lunar development will change matters only in degree.

Such considerations favour a hybrid model, in which most activities will take place as usual at a terrestrial site, if the danger of reducing the lunar element to a mere token can be avoided. The short lightspeed lag permits using two-way high-definition television links to hold joint functions across the sites. From as many trips as systems then in place will support, one can be allocated

to each Guest of Honour ; one each to the principal Fan Funds, to award through their usual procedures ; and the remainder by lottery among the pre-registered attending members of the convention. With this model, if for any reason the target date is missed, replanning to another year need not utterly disrupt the Worldcon schedule.

The value of this proposal is twofold. Firstly, it serves to strengthen the bond between the Luna Project and science-fiction fandom, of which we have written elsewhere, as both a means for engaging the most active element of that community with the lunar settlement effort, and a most explicit gesture of recognition and gratitude. Secondly, it provides a ‘grand opening’ for lunar tourism, an economic factor which, as recent years have shown, ought not be ignored. A few visits may be arranged in earlier stages of development, once a lunar-based return travel capability is established, perhaps for the benefit of major supporters, but not opportunities available to the general public. The Lunar Worldcon will serve to show the world that lunar space tourism has become a reality.

To strike this lofty mark will not be easy, but we believe it possible and desirable. Inquiries are invited from parties interested in assisting in organizational, planning, and other necessary capacities for bringing this proposal to fruition.

Stub website is located at <http://2017.lunarcc.org/>

Luna City or Bust!

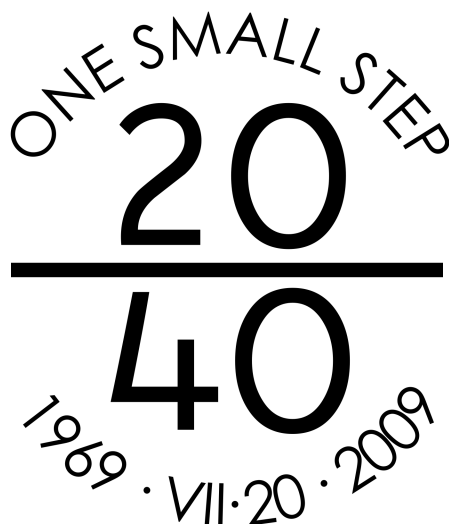
PART 4

We have called for immediate, permanent human settlement in Luna, and further called upon everyone interested in space development to support this goal as the best first step toward the realization of their ultimate aims. This message requires some justification, which we mean to present under this title.

In the foregoing, we have attempted to show that Luna is, if not ideal, certainly the best choice for a first human foothold in the heavens, and that direct settlement is the most favourable approach to lunar development. It remains to be shown that this objective can best be achieved through the cooperative direct action of individuals and groups interested in space issues. Only the event can truly prove such an assertion, but inductive arguments may provide a degree of confidence.

It appears unlikely that progress will come

(continued on other side)



A Web site has been set up, at URL <http://glorious.lunarcc.org>, to aggregate information on events related to the **Apollo 11** anniversary. Please submit information on such observances, by mail, email to glorious@lunarcc.org, or posting in the Web forum. An effort is being made to obtain a suitable venue and arrange a large-scale public celebration in North Texas.

Book Program

In order to help diffuse the facts and attitudes vital to the success of the Project, we have been giving away, with an invitation to pass them along, mass-market paperback copies (mostly paid for out of the Publications Fund) of suitable books, marked with Project indicia. Since we have more to communicate than just information, both fiction and non-fiction are included; certainly we have not exhausted the possible titles, and suggestions are invited. Donations of books, and conversely inquiries from those wishing to receive books, are also welcome. Further information on the Book Program is available on the web site, and may be had upon inquiry.

Book List

Ben Bova

The High Road

Arthur C. Clarke

The Exploration of Space

Interplanetary Flight

Prelude to Space

The Promise of Space

Robert A. Heinlein

The Green Hills of Earth

The Man Who Sold The Moon

T.A. Heppenheimer

Colonies in Space

Gerard K. O'Neill

The High Frontier

G. Harry Stine

The Space Enterprise

Space Power

The Third Industrial Revolution

Merchandise

With the dual aim of publicizing the Project and defraying some of its expenses, we have created a line of distinctive merchandise. To increase its availability beyond in-person sales, I have taken the step of listing items on eBay (look for username *contundator*). Total sales revenue is \$152 so far this year.

Writing tablet^a (50 sheets, 8½×7 in) — \$6

Notepad (50 sheets, 8½×5½ in) — \$4

Lunar landing site map^b — \$2⁵⁰

Medalet — \$2

set with Anthony dollar — \$4

set with Eisenhower dollar — \$5

Bumper sticker (choice of motto) — \$1⁵⁰

Button — \$1

^a not yet available (covers unfinished)

^b large & difficult to mail, not on eBay

Editor's Note

The reader may well wonder at an April number which appears at the end of June. I had begun to compose it before finishing the March number, but other matters arose to occupy my attention. While it has, for lack of assistance with composition and writing, been delayed until now, its contents have remained largely unchanged.

(continued)

from quarters with no special interest in space issues. Despite many years of discussion of the returns to be expected from asteroid mining, for example, and satellite solar power, and a fairly widespread public awareness of the potentially devastating effects of cosmic impact, neither the minerals and energy nor the insurance sector has moved to invest in space, or to support any existing space program.

The same may be said of government, to which many in the space community still look for leadership. The indifference of the United States Congress is appalling, and has inevitably transformed NASA into an agency of inaction. The military, far from trying to bolster national security by supporting a robust civilian space industry, or even to seize the 'high ground' of space for itself, has been content to retard progress by refusing to recognize the distinction between spacecraft and missile weapons.

Certainly the existing pro-space organizations are not ideal instrumentalities. The National Space Society, for example, has difficulty forming a plan of action, not to speak of following it. The Planetary Society, with its emphasis on the search for extraterrestrial life, finds Luna uninteresting, and has been known to deride the whole notion of space industrialization. The Mars Society tends to consider lunar development an unproductive distraction from its objective, forgetting that there are more worthwhile things to do in space than simply travel from one planetary surface to another, and that for some time to come most of that activity will occur in the vicinity of the Earth. All of these bodies, moreover, have shown a distinct inability to connect with even the more space-minded sections of the populace. They share, however, one vital characteristic: they exist.

Simply by existing, these and like organizations serve to bring together the kind of people who can make the conquest of space a reality, and can become nuclei of Project activity even when 'officially' indifferent. Considerable time and effort can thus be saved in bringing together the core of collaborators needed to begin the serious work — *provided* they can be persuaded to join together on a common platform. Still more interesting is the possibility of extending the same principle to other groups, such as model rocket and aircraft societies, and science-fiction fan clubs, and communications networks such as space-oriented newsgroups and mailing lists. Even AIAA, the aeronautical industry professional association, traces its roots to the old American Interplanetary Society, and more assistance than one might first expect may be available from that quarter.

been paid into the Publications Fund. In addition, there have been two donations in kind, namely, a collection of electronic parts useful for making a power-beam demonstrator, worth approximately \$50, and a book of 20 "Forever" postage stamps, worth \$8.40 at time of receipt.

—Christopher Carson
(publius)

Events

ConDFW¹², Dallas, 20-22 February

Lunacon¹, New York, 20-22 March

Space Access Conference, Phoenix, 2-4 April

Conestoga¹, Tulsa, 24-26 April

A-Kon³, Dallas, 29-31 May

SoonerCon¹, Oklahoma City, 5-7 June

FiestaCon (Westercon)³, Tempe, 2-5 July

Glorious 20th Bash, Fort Worth, 20 July

Anticipation¹ (Worldcon), Montreal, 6-10 August

Completed

Definite

Under Consideration

¹Table

²Advertisement

³Small Display or Flyers

This list would be much improved by the addition of events at which someone other than myself will represent the Project.

—publius

Address all inquiries to
Editor

P.O. Box 1035, Fort Worth
Texas 76101 USA

or

ed_luna@lunarcc.org

Luna! may be redistributed
freely under the terms of the
Creative Commons Attribution

Non-Commercial No

Derivatives license — inquire
for additional permissions.

Paper copies are available by
mail within the USA at 75¢ per
half-dozen. A printable

electronic version of the current
Luna! is always available from

[http://www.lunarcc.org/
materials/files/luna_latest.pdf](http://www.lunarcc.org/materials/files/luna_latest.pdf)

To be notified when a new
Luna! becomes available, send

a blank e-mail message to

[pub_announce-
subscribe@lunarcc.org](mailto:pub_announce-subscribe@lunarcc.org)

This issue written, compiled,
and edited by C.D. Carson

publius@lunarcc.org

©2009 Luna Publishing Co.