www.Lunarpedia.org - an open source online Lunar Encyclopedia

In January 2007, a team of Moon Society members, launched an ambitious new project, to replace the "Artemis Data Book™" project of the Artemis Society International. In July 2001, the newly formed Moon Society took over the membership of ASI, and since then it has been increasingly difficult to advance the ADB Project because of its proprietary character.

What we needed was an open source project to which anyone interested in the Moon and its place in our future, could contribute. Like the now fossilized ADB, it would cover the study of the Moon as a celestial body, the history of human Moon-focused efforts and mission, the possibilities of developing lunar resources, and their role in tackling stubborn problems on Earth, how the lunar frontier and settlements might involve, the economics and logistics of Earth-Moon and Inner Solar System trade, etc.

www.Lunarpedia.org has its own server, and Wikimedia software. This is a project, though launched by Moon Society members, will belong to all of those who choose to contribute, whether they are Society members or not. "To exercise power, it is essential to give power away, to empower anyone and everyone interested to help make a difference.

There is a draft, non-exclusive outline of relevant topics and subtopics, over 600 and growing, of subject areas that fit the Lunarpedia mission, at:

http://www.lunarpedia.org/
index.php?title=Lunarpedia:Outline_draft

Differences versus Wikipedia

There are several differences between Lunarpedia and Wikipedia in both policy and Wiki software capability.

Lunarpedia Policies

• **Original Work is Allowed -**

We are more open to material types than Wikipedia, and less interested in deleting material. Specifically, Wikipedia enforces a rule that all entries must *not* be "original work". That rule does not apply for Lunarpedia, we are very happy for you to post original work, provided it is not copyright. Therefore there is not so much duplication between Lunarpedia and Wikipedia as you might expect. For example, the Lunarpedia page on Solar Power Satellites contains interesting material which under Wikipedia rules would be deleted because it is "original work".

• **Software Capabilities**

√ Lunarpedia uses the latest stable version of Mediawiki, so in many respects it is very similar to Wikipedia. At the time of writing this, we were running version 1.9.3 while 1.10 was the unreleased development version. Note: Once "original work" has been published on Lunarpedia, then anybody could put on Wikipedia a link to the Lunarpedia article, and that might be OK for Wikipedia as it would no longer be original work, and references are usually accepted over there. For those cases where you want to reference it elsewhere, we could arrange for it to become read-only protected.

• **No Need to be Notable -**

Wikipedia enforces a requirement that all articles about people or organizations must demonstrate why the subject is "notable". There is no such requirement on Lunarpedia, although there is a general expectation that it should somehow be related to Lunar Development.

• **No Need to be Neutral**

√ You can advocate positions, but expect to be challenged. Conversely, do not just delete material you do not agree with, but feel free to add a rebuttal. √ If you do advocate positions, please do so in a manner that makes it obvious that it is your personal position and not that of Lunarpedia as a whole.

• **Commercial Links are OK -**

It is perfectly fine to highlight products or services, including both your own and those of other persons or companies. Just make sure it is relevant

• **Software Capabilities** -

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Getting Started - Joining the effort - Tutorials

The front page tells you how to establish a loggin, and if you want to become a Sysop, how to apply for that status

The front page also has links to tutorials that will guide you in making your contributions and properly locating them according to topic.

We have made the process as simple as possible to encourage more potential contributors to get involved.

No Strings, No dues: *Consider yourself invited!*

We welcome anyone interested in the Moon to contribute. Whether you are a Moon Society member, a member of the National Space Society or of an NSS chapter, a NASA employee, a teacher or student, or are without any relevant affiliation, you can help us create this online encyclopedia of information that will serve the entire Moon-focused and Moon-inter rested community around the world.

You need no longer confine your efforts to keeping informed. At your own pace and timing, you can get involved with this project as a one-time contributor, one who contributes now and then, or as a regular contributor. You are your own boss. Yet your work will help us all.

This is your chance to help create a first class tool that will help advance our dreams.

Log in and take the plunge!

www.Lunarpedia.org