

# THE LUNA PROJECT

*Circular №2, 15 December 2011*

## **Books for Mitt**

During a recent nationally–televised debate among candidates for the Republican nomination in the upcoming Presidential election, Willard M. Romney (commonly described as the leader in that race) chose to poke fun at one of his opponents for advocating unconventional policies. At the phrase “his idea to have a lunar colony that would mine minerals from the Moon,” the crowd laughed. No matter our opinions with regard to terrestrial politics, one thing all of us must agree on is that it is past time that space development ceased to be a joke.

Mr. Romney must be made aware that lunar settlement and extraterrestrial industrialization are very serious issues, and the most direct way of doing that is by a physical demonstration. Short of sending him to Luna, which would probably require about as much money as has been raised in the race so far, the best approach may be to deluge him with paper. If his campaign staff cannot open the mail without finding a box full of old **Ad Astra** magazines, or a stack of technical papers on lunar resource utilization, or a hardcover copy of **The High Frontier**, maybe they will get the message that here is no laugh line, but a vitally important prospect which has engaged some of the best minds of our time, and in which there is no little public interest. Who knows — someone might even read them!

Good non–fictional treatments of space development, with an emphasis on the near term, are called for. Many of the books used in the Luna Project Book Program will qualify, but others such as **Toward Distant Suns** by Heppenheimer will be equally suitable. If in doubt, send it! Relevant issues of the **Moon Miners Manifesto**, **Omni**, and other periodicals should not be neglected. Academic and NASA publications such as **Resources of Near–Earth Space** and **Lunar Bases and Space Activities of the Twenty–First Century** have special value in proving just how serious this supposed fringe issue is ; while they may be difficult and expensive to obtain in print, many of them can be downloaded freely from sources including the NASA Technical Reports Server ([ntrs.nasa.gov](http://ntrs.nasa.gov)), NSS Space Library ([www.nss.org/resources/library](http://www.nss.org/resources/library)), and Lunar and Planetary Institute ([www.lpri.usra.edu/library](http://www.lpri.usra.edu/library)), and printed out or written to portable storage. Whatever you have spare copies of, or won't miss, or are willing to purchase replacements for, should be mailed to the address below.

Mitt Romney for President  
P.O. Box 149756  
Boston, MA 02114–9756

Box 1035 ❖ Fort Worth ❖ Texas 76101  
[www.lunarcc.org](http://www.lunarcc.org)