



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Hollie Miller

Telephone: 800-965-3763 x257

E-mail: hollie@space-explorers.com

Experience the Excitement of a Mission to the Moon

Dr. Alan Binder to make a presentation about Lunar Prospector

De Pere, Wis., 7/25/05 – As NASA prepares to launch another mission to space, revisit another spacecraft's mission to the moon. Dr. Alan Binder will be making a presentation about the Lunar Prospector mission in the Nimitz Room at the offices of Space Explorers, Inc. on Tuesday, July 26 at 2:00 p.m. CDT.

This presentation is open to the public and free of charge. Teachers, space enthusiasts, and interested members of the public are encouraged to attend. Space Explorers is located in the ORDE Advertising building in De Pere at 1825 Nimitz Drive.

The Lunar Prospector mission was designed to answer questions about the Moon and its resources, structure, and origins. The small, simple spacecraft launched Jan. 6, 1998 and arrived at the moon Jan. 11, 1998. It mapped lunar resources, gravity, and magnetic fields, as well as other events. After a year and a half of ground-breaking science, Lunar Prospector furthered its science legacy by intentionally impacting a targeted south polar crater of the Moon on July 31, 1999, in hopes that ejecta from the impact could be seen from Earth and analyzed for the existence of water ice.

Dr. Alan Binder is a Lunar and Planetary Scientist with more than 40 years of experience working with NASA and European space programs. Dr. Binder currently serves as president of the Lunar Research Institute (LRI) in Arizona to carry on with the flight and scientific phases of Lunar Prospector and expand the research program. He was the Principal Investigator of the NASA-sponsored Lunar Prospector Mission and is the Principal Investigator of the Lunar Prospector Data Analysis program. He was also Principal Investigator for the 1976 Viking Mars Lander Missions, which made the first successful unmanned landings on Mars.

For 10 years Dr. Binder taught and conducted lunar research in Germany at the University of Kiel, the University of Muenster, and the Max Planck Institute for Nuclear Physics in Heidelberg. He earned a BS in Physics and Mathematics from Northern Illinois University, a Ph.D. in Geology and Planetary Science from the University of Arizona and habilitated (became qualified to be a professor in the German university system) at the University of Kiel.

Active in many other space-related endeavors, Dr. Binder is a member of the Board of Directors of Space Education Initiatives, Inc. and the Board of Governors of the National Space Society. In addition, he has published more than 80 scientific papers. He recently published a book entitled *Lunar Prospector: Against All Odds*.

Space Explorers, Inc., the space education company sponsoring the presentation, based its Moonlink[®] mission simulation on the Lunar Prospector mission. The company strives to inspire a new generation of explorers to pursue careers in science, math, and technology through its Internet-based programs and activities. Space Explorers offers standards-based curricula, mission simulations, and experiments that incorporate actual NASA data. More than 4,400 teachers across the United States are currently registered to use Space Explorers programming in their classrooms.

To learn more about this event, please contact Hollie Miller at 800-965-3763. For more information about Space Explorers, please visit www.space-explorers.com.

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