November 2012

Volume 1 Issue 9

The UCLS Newsletter



The UCLS Newsletter is published monthly by the

Utah Council of Land Surveyors PO Box 1032 Salt Lake City, UT 84110

Phone / Fax: 801-964-6192

Website: UCLS@UCLS.org

IN THIS ISSUE:

Page 2......Board & Committee Page 3.....Bachelor of Science Page 4.....Documenting the History Page 8.....Education Committee Minutes Page 9.....Odor Easement Page 9......Odor Easement Page 10.....Membership Committee

Page 10.....Mayan Calendar

"Bad politicians are sent to Washington by good people who don't vote" -William E. Simon, 1986



Who is it

Unfortunately, we all experience the natural effects of aging. Some of us improve with time and others are not so fortunate.

Do you recognize this month's "who is it" UCLS member? The first member who responds and correctly identifies this ageless wonder may be rewarded with a free meal at your next chapter meeting. Answers and/or guesses may be emailed to mail@ucls.org or smerrill@ucls.org. The winner will be determined by the earliest received date and time response.

In This Issue: Read about the extraordinary steps the Utah Council of Land Surveyors Historical Committee are taking to perpetuate the history of surveying in Utah. Additionally, the committee is soliciting your help in gathering and recording activities for the benefit of those that follow. Review the latest conference information and make your plans to attend. Find out what qualifications have been modified for enrollment into the Bureau of Land Management's CFeds Program. The UCLS and the County Surveyors of Utah and Sanpete Counties need your immediate help for valuable and noble cause.

Additionally, you will find the latest chapter committee reports. If a committee or chapter report is not included in this Newsletter, please contact the respective chapter president or committee chair for more information.

Do you have a picture to share? We invite you to share charismatic photos of yourself and/or coworker, panoramic images of Utah's scenic wonders, or pictures of survey related tools and equipment. We need your contributions and suggestions. Remember, if you do not participate you have no right to complain. Please let us know your thoughts, recommendations, ideas, and/or complaints.

The UCLS Newsletter is published monthly by the Utah Council of Land Surveyors (UCLS), as a service to the Land Surveying profession of the state of Utah. The publication is provided to UCLS members and similar organizations on a complimentary basis. The Newsletter is not copyright protected, therefore articles, except where specifically copyright noted, may be reprinted with proper credit given. Articles appearing in the Newsletter publication do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint or endorsement of UCLS, its officers, Board of Directors, or the editor.

Contributions are encouraged. Articles, Advertisements, Pictures, and Comments may be submitted to UCLS at mail@UCLS.org

Volume 1 Issue 9

November 2012

The UCLS Newsletter

UCLS Executive Board 2012

State Chair

Brad Mortensen 3268 S. 930 W. Syracuse, UT 84075 (801) 363-5605 btmort@earthlink.net

State Chair Elect

Ernest D. Rowley 3648 W. 6050 S. Roy, UT 84067 (801) 399-8353 erowley@co.weber.ut.us

Past State Chair

Michael W. Nadeau 5226 W. Ashland Rose Dr. Herriman, UT 84065 (801) 569-1315 mnadeau@merid-eng.com

NSPS Governor

Steven Keisel 604 S. Blossom Circle Fruit Heights, UT 84037 (801) 512-4338 svkeisel@gmail.com

West Fed Representative

Ronald Whitehead 1801 N. Wittwer Lane Santa Clara, UT 84765 (435) 634-5780 ronw@washco.state.ut.us

Book Cliffs Chapter President

Jerry Allred PO Box 605 Duchesne, UT 84021 (435) 738-5352 jdallred@ubtanet.com

Book Cliffs Chapter Representative

David Kay 85 S. 200 E. Vernal, UT 84078 (435) 789-1017 dkay@uintahgroup.com

Color Country President

Scott P. Woolsey 43 S. 100 E. Suite 100 St. George, UT 84770 (435) 628-6500 scottwoolsey@alphaengineering.com Color Country Chapter Representative Kenneth Hamblin 59 N. 2120 E. Circle St. George, UT 84790 (435) 673-3075 khamblin@infowest.com

Utah Council of Land Surveyors Executive Board and Committees

Golden Spike President

David K. Balling 198 E. Shadowbrook Lane Kaysville, UT 84037 (801) 295-7237 dkballing@msn.com

Golden Spike Chapter Representative Dallas Buttars 4646 S. 3500 W. Suite 300 West Haven, UT 84401

(801) 731-4075 isurveying@aol.com

Salt Lake Chapter President

David Mortensen 231 W. 800 S. Ste A Salt Lake City, UT 84101 (801) 363-5605 davidmortensen@clcassoc.com

Salt Lake Chapter Representative Jeff Searle 1975 W. 6440 S. West Jordan, UT 84084 (801) 569-1315 jsearle@merid-eng.com

Timpanogos President

Dennis P. Carlisle 867 S. Anna Ekins Lane Genola, UT 84655 (801) 362-8669 dpcarlisle1957@gmail.com

Timpanogos Chapter Representative Dan Knowlden Jr. 563 N. 1420 E. Spanish Fork, UT 84660 (801) 955-5606 surveydanpls@gmail.com

Administrative Secretary

Susan Merrill PO Box 1032 Salt Lake City, UT 84110 (801) 964-6192 srmerrill@ucls.org Chapter Vice Presidents:Book CliffsJohn R. Slaugh
jrs@timberlinels.comColor CountryJ. Curt Neilson
ncurt@cedarcity.orgGolden SpikeChris B. Balling
chris.balling@guestar.comSalt LakeJoe D. Richardson
rsinc2002@hotmail.comTimpanogosKevin Bishop
kevin.oakhills@gmail.com

Chapter Secretary/Treasurer

Book Cliffs Arneldon T. Davis ndavis@sbtnet.com Color Country Roger M. Bundy nrbsurv=ying@infowest.com Golden Spike Doug L. Graham landsurvdg@aol.com Salt Lake Steven J. Dale steve.dale@wvc-ut.gov Timpanogos Dan E. Knowlden Sr. dknowlden@civilscience.com

Committees & Committee Chairs

Legislation Dale Robinson drobinson@sunrise-eng.com Dan Perry Education perrydl@uvu.edu Publication Steve Keisel Keith Russell svkeisel@gmail.com keith@ensignutah.com Standards & Ethics Matt Clark mountainlands@xmission.com Membership David Bronson dabronson@sanjuancounty.org Public Relations James Couts james.couts@ecislc.com Testing Darryl Fenn dfenn@merid-eng.com Workshop & Convention James Olschewski Scott Bishop jolschewski@utah.gov sbishop@horrocks.com Historical K. Greg Hansen gregh@haies.net **Construction Survey** Lance Greer lgreer@wwclyde.net Russell Flint russ@flintutah.com

Bachelor of Science - Geomatics Fall 2012

The Geomatics BS degree prepares students for a profession in Geomatics on a state, regional, national and international level in public, private and academic settings. Geomatics is a subject of Geospatial Science which not only includes classical land surveying but this profession has now grown to encompass integration, acquisition, modeling, analysis, and management of geospatial reference data used in disciplines such as; land surveying, civil engineering, cartography, geographic information systems (GIS), geodesy, and remote sensing.

- Admission Criteria: UVU has an open enrollment policy which we also use in the Geomatics Program. We invite you to enroll if you are interested in understanding and measuring the Geospatial world around you.
- Course Articulation: The following courses may be taken at SLCC to fulfill requirements for the Geomatics degree at UVU.
- Please Note: Additional General Education courses are required for graduation beyond the SLCC AAS in Geomatics.

SLCC	Course Title	SEM	UVU
Course		CR	Equivalent
SVT 1010	Introduction to Surveying	1	SURV 1020
SVT 1030	Surveying Field Techniques I	3	EGDT 1400
SVT 2030	Surveying Field Techniques II	3	EGDT 2400
SVT 2050	Legal Descriptions	3	SURV 2320
SVT 2200	Public Records	2	SURV 2360
SVT 2110 and GEOG 1780	Photogrammetry Remote Sensing of the Earth	3 3	SURV 2210
SVT 2160 and SVT 2170	Land Boundary Law I Land Boundary Law II	22	SURV 1903* (SURV 3340)
SVT 2290 SVT 2100	Applied Surveying Drafting Land Development	33	SURV 1902 ** (SURV 3030)
SVT 2040 and SVT 1120	Control Surveys Surveying Math II	3	SURV 3010
EDDT 1040	Introduction to Auto CAD	3	EGDT 1040
EDDT 2190	Civil Drafting	2	EGDT 2730
GEOG 1800	Geospatial Technology		GEOG 1901 ***
		3	(GEOG) 3630)
MATH 1060	Trigonometry	3	MATH 1060
MATH 2040	Statistics for Applied Science	4	MATH 2040
ENGEL 2100	Technical Writing	3	ENGL 2310
CIS 2010	Business Computer Proficiency (B-) grade required	3	DGM 2010

* Will fill the SURV 3340 course requirements, but not Upper Division Hours

- ** Will fill the SURV 3030 course requirements, but not Upper Division Hours
- *** Will fill the GEOG 3630 course requirements, but not Upper Division Hours

UVU Graduation Requirements:

- 1. Completion of a minimum of 125 semester credits required for a BS degree; at least 40 credit hours must be upper division courses.
- 2. Overall grade point average 2.5 or above with a minimum of 3.0 GPA in all Geomatics courses. No grade lower than a "C" in core discipline courses including: Geomatics, Measurement, Legal, and Surveying Practice core.
- 3. Residency hours: minimum of 30 credit hours of Geomatics courses through course attendance at UVU, with at least 10 hours earned in the last 45 hours.
- 4. Completion of General Education and specified departmental requirements. Students are responsible for completing all prerequisite courses.

Academic Advising:

If you have further questions regarding this major, you may contact the following academic advisors: <u>Utah Valley University:</u> Jessie Stewart, CS 635, 801-863-6597

Salt Lake Community College: Katrina Green, Taylorsville, Redwood Campus SI 209 (801) 957-4858

Documenting the History of the UCLS and Surveying in Utah

The UCLS Historical Committee has two assignments to prepare articles; "The History of Surveying in Utah" and "The History of the Utah Council of Land Surveyors". Last month we submitted our first article, "The History of Surveying in Utah". This publication is about the early explorers and surveyors that had an impact on our state from the mid nineteenth century to the beginning of the twentieth century. It is an interesting read that just touches the surface of the states early history and will soon be placed on the UCLS's website. Our predecessors did an excellent job of documenting the works of these early explorers and surveyors.

Are we doing our part to document the history of surveying today? Probably not as well as we should, certainly not as well as our predecessors. That is the purpose behind this article. We are asking all surveyors to submit their biographies and photos, and become part of the unique legacy of surveying in Utah. More importantly however, we need to track down biographies, obituaries, photos, documents and other information pertaining to our mentors, employers, and past surveyors throughout the state. Those surveyors that introduced us to surveying and help ignite the passion we have for our profession.

The only way the Historical Committee can accomplish this task is with the help of the UCLS members. Do you have some personal memories or unique survey experiences to share? Did you work for or with some of the great surveyors and/or survey firms of the past? We will accept any stories you want to share. Help us with any leads on families, widows and friends of past surveyors and survey firms. We need to "Follow the Footsteps" of our forefathers in capturing and document this important history before it is too late and becomes obliterated or lost.

There is a UCLS questionnaire form that can be downloaded off the UCLS website or send any information to anyone of the following:

Greg Hansen (Hansen and Assoc. - Brigham City 435-723-3491 gregh@haies.net)

Dan Perry (UVU Associate Professor- Provo 801-863-8525 perrydl@uvu.edu)

Jerry Fletcher (Salt Lake City jf_caddman@yahoo.com)

What Is It?

We received numerous responses to the "what is it" query in the October 2012 Newsletter. Evidently, there were many of our members who had the opportunity and pleasure of using chaining grip tool. The following members (listed in the order received) correctly identified the tool and its purpose:

fuel leceived) collectly lucilitied the				
Kyle Cook	Oct 10, 9:33			
Kevin Bishop	Oct 10, 9:45			
Lynn Curt	Oct 10, 10:01			
Scott Bishop	Oct 10, 10:12			
Corbin Van Nest	Oct 10, 10:16			
Dale Harris	Oct 10, 10:22			
Marie Woodin	Oct 10, 10:27			
Boyd Stewart	Oct 10, 2:17			



The tape-pulling-plier (chaining grip) was patented by Arthur J. Higgins on February 20, 1951 as United States patent #2,542,249. The invention is described as a double action hand grips, and its purposes are to provide a hand operated grip for the use of engineers, surveyors, electricians, or mechanics which can readily by applied to a chain, tape, wire, or like object with even pressure thereon, and which can easily be released and slid to a new position thereon without being required to be released there from; to provide a double action spring grip with non-converging parallel gripping faces evenly applied to one of said objects with such leverage as to support the pull thereon under the usual condition encountered in the art. However, Lynn Curt provided an axillary purpose for the tool:

This is an old set of mini chrome knuckles. They were used when corners were staked and previously friendly neighbors became unfriendly. I always liked the smaller size because they were easier to carry and you could always slip them on to any two fingers (either hand) very quickly when needed. It's nice to see some of these old tools still around!

The Historical Society would like to place a members profile section in the UCLS monthly newsletter to share our experiences and get to know our fellow professionals. Please fill out and return the questionnaire along with a photo of yourself if you would like to participate.

It is important that we also profile some of our mentors. If there was a surveyor that made an impact on your career and you would like to share that experience or something that they may have impressed upon you. Please send a photo and a paragraph or so of what you would like to share.

Personal Profile:

Name: **UCLS Chapter:** Year began surveying: What made you decide to be a surveyor? **Major Accomplishments:** What was your most challenging survey and why? Everyone has a crazy survey story what's your most unique survey experience? Best piece of advice:

Send to Greg Hansen: gregh@haies.net or Jerry Fletcher: jf_caddman@yahoo.com

Page 6



The UCLS Convention Committee is pleased to announce the location and date for the UCLS Annual Convention for 2013 which will be held at the South Towne Expo Center, 9575 South State Street, Sandy, Utah on February 26 – 28, 2013.

We have moved the convention up north to involve our sister agencies and as many of our out-of-state organizations as would like to come. You will notice that we have expanded this year's convention by an extra day and will be starting on Tuesday and concluding Thursday afternoon. We are very happy to announce the NSPS Student Competition will also be joining us at our convention.

Our keynote speaker for the conference will be Charlie Tucker. Charlie provided a brief presentation last year on Rail Road Surveying and he has agreed to come back and provide an encore presentation to us.



In addition to Charlie some of the featured speakers will be centered on property and water rights and surveying right in Utah. We are pleased to have Assistant Attorney General Charles Stormont, The Office of the Property Rights Ombudsman – Brent Bateman, Water Rights, Surveying/Machine Grading, Field to Finish as well as several other wonderful breakout sessions.



We will be having the scholarship auction once again to help our students and upcoming Professionals. There are Totally Awesome door prizes. We have arranged a Hospitality Suite for Tuesday night right after our first sessions. So come be wowed, learn a lot and look for more information as the convention gets closer.



Don't Forget To Vote November 6, 2012



Timpanogos Chapter

By: Dennis Carlisle & Kevin Bishop

We had a good meeting on Thursday with many surveyors in attendance, some for the first time or at least the first in a few years. The room was filled to capacity. We had a couple of Geomatics students from UVU there for the fist time. We talked about nominations for Chapter and State offices of UCLS and promoted participation in committees and chapter. We gave updates regarding the 2013 Convention to be held in Salt Lake, reported on the Fall Forum and talked about general news of the UCLS.

Golden Spike Chapter By: David Balling

We did not meet in October. Our next meeting is on <u>November 15</u> (third Thursday). The meeting will be held at <u>12:00</u>, at the Layton Golden Corral. ECI will be addressing us on the surveying affairs in the company, and an announcement will be coming. We will have nomination forms for the upcoming UCLS elections and hope you will take the opportunity to get involved. Please come and learn with us, socialize with great people, and leave with a good feeling in your stomach.

New Qualification for CFeds Program

The Certified Federal Surveyor (CFedS) Program has recently modified the qualification for enrollment in the program. Pre-registered/pre-licensed applicants who have passed the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Fundamentals of Surveying examination are now eligible to enroll in the program. Pre-registered/pre-licensed applicants who pass the CFedS examination will not become certified until they become registered/licensed in at least one state, territory or the District of Columbia. In the interim between passing the CFedS examination and becoming registered, they will have the same continuing education and renewal requirements as a CFedS.

The CFedS Program was developed to ensure that land boundary surveys for federally recognized tribes, individual Indians or Alaska Natives are executed in accordance with accepted professional standards and are in compliance with the current policies and legal interpretations of the Department of the Interior and Bureau of Land Management. The Program consists of seven courses, a certification examination and required continuing education courses. There are currently more than 550 CFedS registered in 44 states. For information about how to register, the CFedS Program, or to find a CFedS in your area, go to: www.cfeds.org. Attention UCLS members:

The UCLS has become aware that the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (DWR) is currently "seeding and chaining" the area of the Wood Hollow Fire in Sanpete and Utah Counties. According to the DWR, "bulldozers will drag huge chains across the area" breaking and ripping up the soil and anything on it, including section corners.

The UCLS is planning a "Section Corner Preservation Blitz" on November 10th, 2012 (weather permitting) to help locate, visually mark, and record as many existing Section Corners in the chaining area as possible. We would like to invite as many UCLS members and their family, friends, co-workers, and associates who are willing and able to support this activity. Plans are not yet finalized, but it is safe to say that there will probably be at least two meeting places that morning: the cities of Fountain Green and Fairview.

If you have the ability to spend a day searching for section corners with some old and new friends, please RSVP ASAP to Susan Merrill at: srmerrill@ucls.org

We certainly appreciate your support in this endeavor. Sincerely,

James J. Couts, PLS UCLS PR Committee Chair



A Thanksgiving Poem

May your stuffing be tasty, May your turkey plump, May your potatoes and gravy have nary a lump. May your yams be delicious and your pies take the prize, and may your Thanksgiving dinner stay off your thighs!

UCLS Education Committee Meeting Minutes Meeting Held October 30, 2012

Present: Dan Perry, Chris Moore, Dave Balling

Meeting was held via Google-Talk and Google Circles (Video Conference Meeting) which everyone seemed to enjoy once we got the bugs worked out and everyone's software and equipment working. Way better than traveling (time, hassle, risk, and money) for a meet.

Assignment Follow-ups:

Chris Moore contacted several chapter presidents and asked them to remind their members in the next few chapter meetings that UCLS needs donation items for the scholarship auction. We are still unsure as to how effectiveness of this assignment. Perhaps another approach would work better.

Discussion Items:

1. Scholarship Funding

This is considered to be our highest priority agenda item because we need to keep the tradition of soliciting our members and local businesses to continue contributing to the UCLS Scholarship Fund Auction with the intent that one day it could be self-sustaining. We decided the silent auction was the most effective and easiest to manage with similar returns as other styles.

2. UCLS Scholarship Donations Needed

We still are in great need of financial support for certain or HELP with contributions of items for auction. Please look around your office for old equipment, instruments, promotional items (t-shirts, etc.) that we can auction off in the 2013 convention.

3. Education Initiative

Several Scholarships are available to Geomatics/Surveying students on a national and local basis including our own UCLS scholarship. Each of these are encourage by both SLCC and UVU via the internet and classroom reminders. These two schools will continue to encourage students to fill-out the applications completely because in all likelihood they will get some award from some of these scholarships.

In an effort to encourage continuing education we previously discussed the idea of having some time of surveying fundamentals knowledge assessment at the annual convention. We discussed using the typical sample questions from the common NCEES FS exam test samples or from a few different authors like Cold and others. 15-20 question on various topics could be presented to each member attending the conference (in their packet) then a solution sheet could be presented between speakers or while the next speaker gets ready then we could provide some sort of door prize to those who could show they answered the question correctly. Obviously, we need to work out the details. But the idea is to make a knowledge assessment fun and interesting yet revealing to members about what they should know and perhaps provide then some impetus to improve their fundamental knowledge.

We will be checking with the UCLS board regarding the idea of UVU and/or SLCC providing workshops, seminars, short classes on various pertinent and related topics to the fundamentals practices of surveying. These would count as PDH's but would be much more rigorous than the typical PDH hours that are accumulated during the convention. Teachers for these courses would be provided by various local experts.

New Assignments:

1. Each member of the committee will contact one or more businesses soliciting them for donations to be used in the silent auction or as door prizes. Each will report back by the end of this week and each will continue this approach at least until the end of the year.

2. Dave Balling with contact the Board regarding the implementation of seminars/workshops, etc. on Nov. 17th and will report back to the committee

3. Dan Perry will meet with UVU Continuing/Community Education program people to find opportunities to develop and provide surveying seminars/workshops and will report back to the committee about details including costs, etc.

Odor Easement S.L.C School District Annexation to Salt Lake City Book 2004P Page 135

Grantee's interest shall be subject to a perpetual and assignable easement and rights over grantee's property in favor of Salt Lake City corporation, it's successors, and assigns, for discomfort, and annoyance, or the like, as may inherent in, or may arise or occur from or during the operation of waste water treatment and other facilities, including but not limited to wetlands, settling ponds, canals, estuaries, lagoons and the like, and including any additions, expansion, or replacement of said facilities, at 1365 West 2300 North, Salt Lake City, Utah. Such discomfort, annoyance, or the like may include but are not limited to odors, offensive smells, insects, and birds.

In perpetuity, said easement and rights and the burden thereof, together with all things which may be alleged to be incidental to or to result from the use and enjoyment of said easement and rights, shall constitute permanent burdens and servient tenements on grantee's property, and the same shall run with the land and binding upon and enforceable against all successors in rights, title or interest to said property and shall be unlimited as to frequency.

Grantee acknowledges and consents to the discomfort, annoyance, and the like, associated with the easement and rights in favor of Salt Lake City corporation, its successors and assigns. Grantee shall have no right for any claim, damages, demands, actions, costs and charges for injury, illness, nuisance, mental anguish, depreciation of value of property or it's use, property damage, and other liabilities, including attorney's fees against Salt Lake City corporation, it's successors or assigns, arising out of associated with the operation of waste water treatment or similar facilities including but not limited to wetlands, settling ponds, canals, estuaries, lagoons, and the like, and including any additions, expansion, or replacement of said facilities, at 1365 West 2300 North, Salt Lake City, Utah.

UCLS/WFPS In Conjunction with Prosoft, is pleased to announce the ... Autodesk Field TOF Kick off your UCLS/WFPS 2013 conference experience with ProSoft's Nationally Recognized Technical Expert, Shawn Herring for an informative workshop that takes you from "Field to Finish" and demonstrates the new survey functionality in AutoCAD® Civil 3D® Whether it's a simple plat survey or a 1,000-lot subdivision, AutoCAD® Civil 3D® offers a single solution for importing, analyzing, and managing survey data. From the field to the office and back to the field again, you can import fieldbooks, perform traverse analysis, edit survey observations, create contours, and lay out parcels and alignments - all from one application. Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at the South Towne Expo Center from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm Relax afterwards in the ProSoft/Monsen Engineering Hospitality Suite. Stop in for food, prizes and the opportunity to mix and mingle with your industry peers. ProSoft A Proud Sponsor of UCLS For Over 13 Years!! Monsen Engineering Survey Equipment Provided by

Message From the Membership Committee By: David Bronson

Some concerns have been reported to the UCLS board by its members. They are receiving advertisements from various vendors soliciting enrollment in courses or seminars in surveying related fields. The concerns of the board are "if I am audited will these courses be accepted by DOPL"

The answer to that question is not black and white. There is a cost associated with these courses or seminars and there is no guarantee they will be accepted. State code is vague in the exact requirements. It gives only a general outline. This gives all involved some latitude. After talking with DOPL it is my impression that they are fairly lenient with their interpretation of the state code. They do not want to get into the business of pre-approval of these types of courses. They refer back to State Code and expect the vendors and the professional surveyors to make sure what they present or register for meets state code. It is the membership committee opinion that vendors who offer courses in Utah need to tailor their curriculum to reflect requirements set out in State Code. As well the professional surveyor who is putting out money to take courses or seminars needs to do his or her own research, and become familiar with state code, and ensure the course meets the requirements.

The system is not perfect, but the membership committee feels that it is workable. If you really have a situation that needs clarification you can contact DOPL. We have also included the section of the state code that pertains to continuing education for you to review if you are not already familiar with it.

http://www.dopl.utah.gov/laws/R156-22

Black Friday:

- More than 212 million shoppers purchased items in stores or online last year during the Black Friday holiday weekend.
- The average shopper spend \$365.34 last year, up from \$343.31 in 2009.
- The number of shoppers who started shopping at midnight on Black Friday increased from 3.3 percent in 2009 to 9.5 percent last year.
- The number of shoppers who make purchases on Thanksgiving Day, either online or in stores, went from 10.3 million in 2005 to 22.3 million last year.
- More than half of all shoppers purchased clothing or accessories last year on Black Friday, while 42 percent of shoppers purchased books, CDs, DVDs and video games.

The Mayan Calendar



The Mayan civilization existed from 250-900 A.D. in the current geographical location of southern Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, and some of Honduras. Archaeologists studying this fascinating culture have been

able to decipher their many calendars, but their longest period calendar --the "Long Count"-- is what set alarm bells off in the fertile minds of a few conspiracy theorists and doom sayers.

The Long Count was used by the Maya to document past and future events. Their other calendars were simply too short to document any date beyond 52 years. The 52-year calendar --known as the "Calendar Round"-- was used as it spans a generation, or the approximate lifetime of an individual.

Using the Calendar Round meant that events in a person's life could be chronicled over 52 years --or 52 "Haab's," spanning 18,980 unique days. But what if the Maya wanted to keep note of a historical event that occurred more than 52 years ago? Or perhaps mark a date more than 52 years into the future?

Using remarkable ingenuity, the Maya created the "Long Count" calendar, a departure from the shorter calendars. The Long Count is a numerically predictable calendar, not based on archaic measures of time.

Now, purely as a consequence of the Long Count's numerical value, many Mayan scholars agree that the calendar will "run out" after 5,126 years (or, at least, its first cycle does). the Mayans set this calendar to begin in the year 3114 B.C. and it's calculated to continue for 5126 years, the "end date" will be --you guessed it-- 2012 A.D. Further refinement sets the date to Dec. 21, the day of the winter solstice for the Northern Hemisphere.

2013 NSPS Scholarship Program

Each year, through the National Society of Professional Surveyors Foundation, Twenty Five Thousand dollars in scholarsihps funded by a variety of individuals, companies, and organizations are made available to encourage and support college education in geospatial sciences. These scholarships are a great opportunity for college students enrolled in surveying, mapping, geographic information systems, and geodetic science programs. The scholarships are awarded in four eligiblity categories. The deadline for this year's awards in March 15, 2013.