



PARALLAX

Newsletter of the Central Coast Chapter of the California Land Surveyors Association

Volume 4, Issue 3

March 2000

U.S. Land History, Part II

Translated from Spanish by Luis G. Zorilla, Archivist. Provided by Joe Carey, LS, PE, Ret

The new United States of America was comprised of the original 13 British colonies and Eastern Louisiana, without having the coastal area of western Florida. The U.S. began its independent life with a great desire for territorial expansion, agitated from the very first by internal rivalry between north and south, among other influences. Free states and slave states each sought new adjacent territory, which would outflank the other geographically and would give them predominance in the Federal legislature. Thus impetus was given to acquisition of Spanish colonies by the U.S., acquisitions which would favor the South. Such impetus was strengthened by the precarious position of Spain in Europe, a situation that lasted for 30 years. Thus in 1795 the new nation acquired all parts of both Floridas lying North of 31° latitude, which included the military forts that protected New Orleans, Mobile and Pensacola.

By the treaty of San Ildefonso, signed between France and Spain in 1800, western Louisiana was ceded to the French, but in fact Spain retained its authority until 1803, at which time France sold its rights to Louisiana to the U.S. Never before the agreement, or even at the time of signing it were the borders between French Louisiana and Spanish territory very clearly defined. Now the U.S. suddenly showed up on the Gulf of Mexico, driving a wedge between Spanish possessions in Florida and Texas; Texas was a province of "New Spain." In 1810 the U.S. took over the easternmost part of Western Florida, or that part between the Perla and Mississippi Rivers, resulting in protests by Spanish representatives at conferences. (Spain was in a struggle against invasion by French Napoleonic forces). In 1812 the U.S. occupied the rest of Western Florida as far as the Rio Perdido. Spain was powerless to do anything about it, other than to send weak protests.

When the French were finally expelled from the Iberian peninsula and Ferdinand VII had regained the throne, negotiations were begun to mark the border between Western Louisiana and Nueva Espana, and to resolve what territory in western Florida had been occupied arbitrarily by the Americans. Years of negotiations culminated in 1819 with the Adams-Onis Treaty, which described the border as follows:

Beginning at a point where the Sabinas River discharges into the Gulf of Mexico, follow the bed of the River to its intersection with Latitude 32°, and from there on the same meridian due North to the Red River, thence along the bed of that stream westerly to the 100th meridian; thence due North along the meridian to the Arkansas River; thence following the river northwesterly to its source; thence due North along the corresponding meridian to the 42nd parallel; thence along the parallel to the Pacific Ocean.

Look for Part III Next Month...

<p>Table of Contents U.S. Land History Part II.....1 Meeting Minutes3 Leap Day5 LS Review Class5</p>	<h2>MARCH MEETING NOTICE</h2>
<p><i>Computer Generated Maps for Engineers, Surveyors and Designers</i></p> <p>AERIAL MAPPING SERVICE</p> <p>4211 Broad St. Suite B / San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 (805) 543-4307 / Fax (805) 543-7257</p> <p>BEATRIZ FOSSE Central Coast Manager</p> <p>So. Calif. Location (909) 599-0931</p>	<p>Date: Thursday, March 9, 2000 Location: F. McClintocks Paso Robles 1234 Park Street Dinner: Beef / Chicken / Seafood Cost : \$14.74 includes tax & tip</p> <p>Time: 6:30pm.....no-host cocktails 7:00pm.....business meeting 7:15pm.....dinner 8:00pm.....speaker</p> <p>Program: Dave Exine from B Little Pigs Construction? will talk about straw bale residential (house) construction regarding energy efficiency & structural information.</p> <p>RSVP ASAP with choice of meal to:</p>

CLSA Central Coast Chapter

February 2000 Meeting Minutes

Agenda for CLSA

February 10, 2000

Place: McLintocks in Shell Beach

- 1) Call to Order by Bob Fredricks @ 6:56 PM.
- 2) Introductions
- 3) Approval of Minutes
 - a) Motion to approve minutes by: Tom Mastin. Seconded by: Linda Richardson. Minutes approved
- 4) Officer's Reports
 - a) Presidents Report (Bob Fredricks)

Announced Member of the Year - Congratulations to Dave Carey
 - b) Vice Presidents Report (Mark Lewis)

No Report. Announced a free dinner for new John McKellar who passed the LS exam.
 - c) Secretary/Treasurers Report (Rochelle Vierra)
 - i) General Fund - \$2217.10 Education Fund - Legal Fund -
- 5) Committee Reports
 - a) Standing Committees
 - i) Education Committee (Tom Mastin)

The LS/LSIT review class will start Feb. 22, 2000.

Cal Poly anticipates having a terra model training session possibly late march. Give Tom a call if you think you would like to attend. Limited space. There is also talk of having a boundary class at CaPoly as part of the GIS minor
 - ii) Membership Committee (Rochelle Vierra)

Have received approx. 50 membership forms back
 - iii) Professional Practices Committee (Bob Fredricks)
 - (1) Mike Baumberger, Tom Vaughan, Joe Morris, Linda Richardson, Dan Manion and Leonard Lenger

No Report
 - b) Special Committees
 - i) Publications Committee (Mark Lewis)

No Report
 - ii) Trig Star Committee (Randy Woodjack)
 - (1) Keith Crowe, John Sanders, Skip Touchon, JoAnn Benner-Head, Alan Volbrecht, Mark Lewis, Randy Ellison, Tom Mastin, George Marchenko, Geoff Villegas, Dave Carey, Burke Blake, Leonard Lenger.

Letters have gone out to the schools waiting for comformation, should know late in the month how many will want to participate.
 - iii) Workshops/Seminar Committee (Randy Ellison)

No Report
 - iv) Bar-b-que Committee (Mark Lewis)

July 8 @ Cuesta Park kick off at around 10:00 Am
 - v) Nominating Committee (Bob Fredricks)

No Report
 - vi) Christmas Committee (Linda Richardson)

On hold



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February 2000 Meeting Minutes Continued.....

- a) Ad Hoc Committees
- i) Scholarship Committee - (Bob Fredricks)
- (1) Tim Lackey & Tim Odem
 Handed out two \$500.00 scholarships at conference. Rec'd a thank you letter from one of the recipients (Tom Lackey) and will pass it around for everyone to read.
 Will try to get a head start on the scholarships next year.
- ii) GIS Development Committee (Victor Rasgado) No Report
- iii) Historical Records Committee (Randy Ellison)
- Mike Stanton developed a letter and passed around some handouts re: Microfilming of Railroad right of way maps held by First American Title. His idea is to have the Railroad right of way maps microfilmed and sell sets of the microfische to CLSA members to recoup costs of filming. Also coming up with an indexing system which he included a sample of in the handouts.
- Motion by Mike Stanton, to allocate 150 from the general fund to have maps filmed and then sell them to members to recoup costs. Second by Tom Mastin. Discussion ensued and a vote was taken the motion passed unanimously.
 - Motion by Mike Stanton, to sell sets of filmed maps to members for \$20.00 and non-members for \$30.00. Second by Tom Mastin. Discussion occurred and the motion was modified to read \$50.00 (instead of \$20.00) to members and \$100.00 (instead of \$30.00) to non members also that a free set be provided to First American and anyone else that contributes mapping to be filmed also receive a free set. Linda Richardson asked, where the money raised will go?
 - Motion by Linda Richardson, that any profits from the sale of these maps go into an account for the Historical Records committee to use as they see fit. Robert Reese seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. It was brought up that this should be keep track on paper but not create another account. Linda Richardson modified her motion to the money going into the general fund account.
 - Mike McGee called a Point of Order in regards to the fact that we had not voted on the modified motion by Mike Stanton, to sell sets of filmed maps to members yet. There was a call for vote and the motion passed.
 - There was a call for vote on the modified motion by Linda Richardson and the motion passed.
- iv) County Liaison Committee (Mike Stanton)
- There has been a recent case regarding pre 1892 maps in SLO county. Mike Stanton brought copies to pass out to those who want a copy. Probably will be appealed by the county.
- v) Legislative Liaison - (Robert Reese)
- Qualifications on what constitutes a RS & CR was approved.
- 2) State Board Report (Robert Reese, Randy Ellison, Randy Woodjack)
- a) There were 2 items: to report back to board from the last meeting
- i) Limiting the checking fee to \$100.00 and attaching the monumentation fund is proceeding.
- ii) Changing the bylaws to allow pre 82's CE's is also proceeding
- 3) Old Business
- Sent out questionnaire on land use ordinance sent to every chapter have only gotten 6 responses so far. Robert Reese had rec'd 3 more responses. It was suggested that the chapter should keep an eye on this.
- 4) New Business
- No new business
- 5) Announcements – Robert Reese
- Robert Reese is going to Las Vegas for conference. If anyone has any donations for the education fund they should get their donation to him by Sunday.
- 6) Program
- Jay Satlich - Regional GPS manager for David Evans & Associates Inc., gave a slide presentation on generating elevations using GPS. The newest geoid is Geoid 99. The geoid model is calculated using gravity measurements.
- 7) Adjournment
- Congratulations to John and Dave. Dinner is \$21.30.

Help Wanted

- Licensed Land Surveyors •
- Field / Office Positions •

Send Resume to
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(We really, really mean it this time !!)

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Leap Day Still needs adjusting

By Jim Wolf/Reuters

The day added to February Tuesday is a special once-in-400-year adjustment to keep the seasons in line but the calendar is still slowly falling out of sync with the sun, physicists and astronomers say.

Though the latest leap day comes close to putting things back into whack, it misses by a hair and may need fine-tuning, at least in 3,000 years or so, according to the College Park, MD. based American Institute of Physics.

The idea behind leap day is to average out over centuries the time it takes for the earth to orbit the sun - which is actually 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes and 46 seconds.

By adding a 29th day to February at regular intervals under a three-step rule decreed by Pope Gregory 13 in 1582, the so-called Gregorian Calendar sets an average year at 365.2425 days.

February gets an additional 29th day in years evenly divisible by four except in centennial years, when the extra day is added only if the year is evenly divisible by 400. Thus, 2000 is the first leap year of its kind since 1600.

This improved on the calendar Julius Caesar implemented in 46 B.C.. By Gregory's day, spring was arriving 10 days before March 21. The new calendar keeps the vernal equinox - when the sun rises over the Earth's equator so nights and days around the world are of equal length - back around March 21.

Gregory tweaked Caesar's once-every-four-year leap day rule because Easter was gradually creeping toward winter and Christmas, toward fall, said Richard Berendzen, a physics and astronomy professor at American University in Washington, D.C.

But the residual discrepancy between the calendar and the sun - .00003 days - accumulates. It would cause the calendar to be a full 24 hours ahead of schedule in 2,915 years, according to Geoff Chester of the U.S. Naval Observatory, the U.S. timekeeper.

David Book, a physicist at the University of Maryland, calls this the "Y5K problem" because the full-day lag would be complete around the year 5000.

According to Naval Observatory calculations, those using the calendar introduced by Gregory, one of many used worldwide, are already three hours ahead of "what the seasons tell us" Chester said.

One proposal that has been floated would add a new exception to the leap day rule, exempting years evenly divisible by 4000, such as 4000 and 8000 A.D.

"Thus, you'd have 969 leap days every 4000 years", said Chester, "resulting in an average calendar year of 365.24225 days". With this method, "we won't get a full day out of kilter for some 15,000 years, and only time will tell how the problem gets handled".

CLSA Central Coast Chapter LS & LSIT Review Classes

DATES: Tuesday Evenings. Starting at 5:30 PM From February 24, 2000 to April 4, 2000

LOCATION:

JLWA Conference Room 4115 Broad Street, Suite B5 • San Luis Obispo

COST: \$20.00

CONTACT: Tom Mastin @ 544-4011 or Email at Tomm@jlwa.com

Please RSVP so we know how many manuals to make.

Subjects Tentatively Scheduled:

- Error Analysis
- Photogrammetry
- Public Lands
- Boundary Analysis
- Writing Legal Descriptions
- State Law
- State Plane Coordinates
- Survey Math

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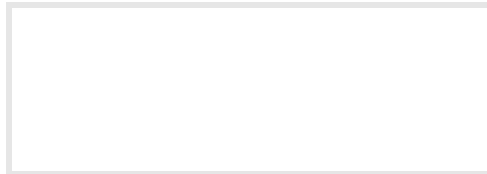
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