

# IRWA

BLUEGRASS  
CHAPTER 25



## **A Presidential Perspective For 2012: Mayan Meanderings**

**William R. Cox, SR/WA  
2012 President**

Greetings to all members of IRWA Kentucky Chapter 25 and Happy New Year! Before we begin the New Year, we should take a moment to reflect on how it will end, so we can better chart a course for our annual journey through time.

Perhaps you have heard that the world will end on December 21, 2012 because the Mayan calendar will end. If we could be assured of the certainty of our collective global demise, we should begin the party now.



Why build new infrastructure just to have it blown away by cosmic forces? However, before you pop the cork on that first bottle and tell your boss where to go, I'll give you some background and a quick study in Mayan calendrics.

The 2012 doomsday scenarios popularized by various media can be traced to a 1975 book

## **Newsletter January 2012**

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by Frank Taylor entitled *Mexico Mystique* wherein the author devoted a brief section to his miscalculation of the Mayan calendar and introduced his theory with no basis in Mayan tradition. Others have advanced the notion, including twelve movies released in 2009. Can you say Y2K?

The Mayans had a complex system of inter-related calendars for different purposes, the most notable being tzolkin, a 13 day, 20 group, or 260 day cycle later combined with Haab, to form a 365 day cycle with 18 20-day months with 5 unnamed days tacked on the end to flesh it out. A Calendar Round was completed after 73 tzolkin years or 52 Haab years (without the unnamed 5), each being 18,980 days. These formed 52 year solar calendars that needed some fine tuning for longer historical record keeping.

For longer time measurements, they invented the 20-base Long Count system wherein 1 day is a K'in; 20 K'in is a Winal; 360 K'in is a Tun, 7,200 K'in is a K'atun; and 144,000 K'in is a B'ak'tun, approximately 394.3 solar years. December 21, 2012 is the day in Gregorian calendar calculation that the 13<sup>th</sup> B'ak'tun ends and the 14<sup>th</sup> begins. There are also four rarely used higher-order cycles

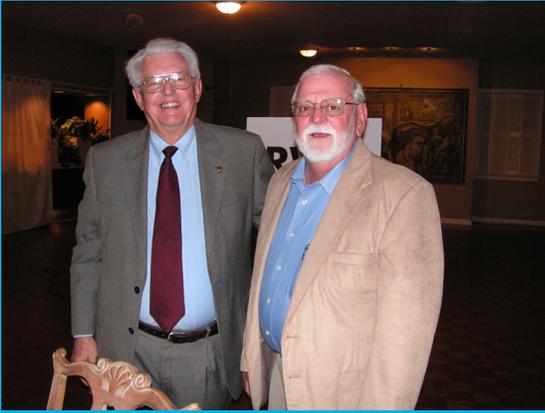
beyond the B'ak'tun: piktun, kalabtun, k'inchiltun, and alautun. In ancient Maya, the end of a B'ak'tun was cause for a major celebration. Mayan King Pacal of Palenque predicted that a remembrance celebration of his time as king will be held on October 15, 4772.

Now, pop that cork and pour your boss a glass! I guess we'll all still be here in December, so enjoy your year.

*William "Bix" Cox, SR/WA*



## 2011 Annual Installation Banquet—Lexington, Kentucky



Don Brent awarded Morris Smith with the 2011 Kentucky Bluegrass Chapter 25 "Lifetime Achievement Award"



Out with the old, in with the new...  
2011 President Jeff Nakken, SR/WA  
posed with 2012 President  
William Cox, SR/WA



Region 5 Secretary/Treasurer,  
Brad Krabel, SR/WA, attended from  
the Illinois Chapter to swear in the  
new officers.



Henry Ford presented the 2011  
"Professional of the Year" award  
to Brett Thiess, SR/WA



EDUCATION CONFERENCE  
**SEATTLE**  
JUNE 10-13, 2012

Don't forget to register for this year's Annual Educational Conference in June!

This year it will be held in Seattle, Washington. If you haven't been to Seattle in the summer, DO NOT miss your chance this year! The rains actually stop for a couple of months and the temperatures are perfect. Mt. Ranier looms in the sky with its year-round snow cap, the waterfront and Pike's Public Market are bustling, and the seafood is unbelievable.

Register now to get the early bird discount at [irwaonline.org](http://irwaonline.org)!

General Membership Meeting

The next General Membership Meeting will be held on

**Friday, February 3, 2012, at 12:00 PM**

**Frankfort Country Club  
101 Duntreath Street  
Frankfort, KY 40601**

**Speaker: David Whitworth, FHWA**

***"Compliance on Federally Funded Projects"***

The Board of Directors will meet immediately before the meeting. All officers, chairs, or general members are invited to attend.

Please complete and send in the enclosed registration form, or register online at [irwa25.org](http://irwa25.org).





International Right of Way Association

## Hot Topics Series: Meeting/Luncheon

### **“Compliance on Federally Funded Projects”**

**Guest Speaker:**  
**David Whitworth, Realty Officer**  
**Federal Highway Administration**

[Frankfort Country Club](#) [Directions](#)  
101 Duntreath Street · Frankfort, Kentucky 40601  
**Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 @ 12:00 p.m.**

**\*Use one form if more than one attends from same company please.**

1) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
2) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
3) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost: \$25.00 pre-registration, or \$30.00 at the door**

**Fill in**

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline:** As soon as possible @thanks

**Make check payable & mail to:**  
**IRWA KY Chapter 25**  
c/o David Orr  
KYTC, 200 Mero Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor East, Frankfort, KY 40622  
502-564-3210

Email: [david.orr@ky.gov](mailto:david.orr@ky.gov)

**On Line Registration & Payment Available**

<http://irwa25.org/Meetings.html>

**Learn, Lead, Advance**

## Annual Installation Banquet Photos



Enjoying dinner at The Red Mile



The 2012 Officers being sworn in



Another table of satisfied buffet eaters!

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*"Over 50 years of  
serving the Right of  
Way Professional"*