



FLTA Tallahassee

Report (cont)

*Serving Over 4,500 Title Professionals
Throughout Florida*

• 249 East Virginia Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301 •
(850) 681-6422(800) 552-1065 • FAX (850) 681-6271 •
www.flta.org • Alan K. McCall, President
Lee Huszagh, Executive Secretary-Treasurer

I AM THE BEGINNING OF PART 2!!

You can read me first if you want. I AM important, too!

2009 Dues will be PAST DUE on April 1st – “No Fooling”!

The new dues format was completed and invoices were mailed to all current members in December. Every effort was made to make sure a notice was prepared and mailed to all companies that were members in 2008. If we missed you, or you are NOT a current member and would like to become one, PLEASE contact Linda Martin at the FLTA office or by email at Linda@flta.org.

Currently, all the active members listed on our website have been “deactivated” until the 09 dues are paid. Once we receive your payment, your company will once again appear on the website. You will also receive confirmation by mail that your membership is active as we do have a “goodie” packet that is sent to all renewing members. If you haven’t paid your dues YET.... PLEASE do so soon!

2009 Upcoming Events

Friday – April 3

Deadline to apply for the CLS or CLC test being given June 13, 2009 (Application, Instructions and Study Outlines available on FLTA website)

Thursday, April 23

Continuing Education Seminar at the Rosen Centre (see details included in this newsletter)

Tuesday, September 1

Deadline to apply for 2009 FLTA Scholarships (see below for more info)

Wednesday – Friday, November 4-7

FLTA’s 2009 Annual Convention at Renaissance Vinoy Resort, St Petersburg, FL.
Stay tuned for more details LATER!

Agent's Section Report

By Shelley Stewart - FLTA Agent's Section Chair

Happy Spring! It's hard to believe it has been less than two months since our busy Winter Session meetings. Thanks to those of you who attended – your involvement and support of the Association really does make a difference. With the help of many dedicated Agents, we have accomplished quite a few of our goals since then.

As we discussed at the Agent's Section meeting, having a thorough understanding of new legislation is vital to our ability to take a position. To that end, we created separate subcommittees of agents and charge them with meeting via conference call to review and comment on specific bills that relate to their area of expertise. Our groups are stepping up to the plate, reviewing the legislation and providing valuable insight.

The Agent's legislative subcommittees are:

Closing & Escrow Related:

Mary Julian, Chair

Paula Atkerson

K. C. Ducatte, CLC/CLS

Jeanie Germain

Beth Hernandez, CLC

Debra Leavitt

Beverly McReynolds

Title & Exam Related:

**Michael P. Dulin, Esq.,
Chair**

Bob Booth, CLS

Leslie Smith, CLS

Skip Straus

Business Sector:

Rosa Peck, Chair

Kevin Hussey, CLS/CLC

F. Larry Joseph

Becky Winters

If you would like a summary of their comments, please email me at sstewart@stitle.com.

The Title Insurance Advisory Council held its second meeting on February 23. In order to keep the Agents up to date on the topics discussed, I held an All-Agents conference call on March 4. We reviewed the agenda, touched on the items discussed and I shared my thoughts on the direction of the Council. Following the completion of this Council, I truly believe our title insurance delivery system is going to see some changes. Our charge is to take an active role in what these changes might be and look at how our industry can operate in the best interest of the consumer. If you would like to be included on future Agent's conference calls, please email me at sstewart@stitle.com and I'll add you to the invite list.

At the Winter Meetings, we discussed the need for a forum for communicating the latest industry-related news with agents throughout the state. Since then, a title agent's blog has been developed to serve that purpose. You can find it at www.floridatitleagent.wordpress.com. The blog doesn't take positions on issues; its intent is to provide factual information regarding issues that are impacting the industry statewide and around the country. Comments are welcome, so please feel free to post opinions, ideas, or questions anytime.

Along with two of my associates, I had the opportunity to visit with several legislators as well as Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink in Tallahassee mid-March. Paula Atkerson

and Lisa Blythe of Southern Title also met with Insurance Consumer Advocate Sean Shaw (who sits on the Title Insurance Advisory Council) and gave him some background into the role of the title agent in Florida. While in Tallahassee, we met with Senators Al Lawson and Mike Bennett as well as Representatives Scott Plakon, Alan Hayes, and Ritch Workman. We discussed SB444/HB1267, detailed the Agent's position, and emphatically requested that they help keep it off the Insurance Committee agenda or withdraw their support.

I was very impressed with the openness with which our comments were received and the graciousness of all the legislators. This entire experience supported my belief in the real value of all Agents making the commitment to keep in touch with their legislators both during and after the legislative session.

In addition to meeting with DFS Administrator Ray Wenger during our trip, we were able to sit down over coffee with CFO Alex Sink, thanks to our outstanding lobbyist team of Matt Bryan and Julie Myers. She was appreciative of our positive comments about the improved communication between the Agents and DFS and listened intently as we shared our concerns about the pending legislation. We have a great ally in CFO Sink and I encourage all of you to support her in the future.

Throughout the entire Tallahassee visit, we received constant guidance, suggestions and support from our incredible lobbyist team of Matt and Julie. Thanks to them *and* your support, we *are* making a difference. Your contributions are vital to keeping the concerns of the title agent heard in Florida. Please consider how important your livelihood is to you and send in your financial contributions to our Agent Lobby Fund today!

In closing (ha!) please remember to mark your calendars for November 6-8. The FLTA Convention, during which I will be installed as President, will be held at the St. Petersburg Vinoy Resort. We are currently in the process of creating an exciting theme and developing a variety of compelling programs that are sure to engage Insurer and Agent alike.

TIL we meet again

DON'T FORGET TO SUPPORT OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

If you are not a title insurance underwriter or title insurance agent, then you are an associate member. Many of us on the agency side have been classified as associate members when we join our local Realtor or builder trade associations. AGENTS - Remember how upset you were as a member of that local trade association when you find out other agents who are NOT members and not supporting the local programs seem to get a LOT of the title orders? Well, OUR associate members do more than "just pay associate dues", too. They show up at our meetings and conventions, PAY for the privilege of having a spot to display their products, often contribute additional funds to our luncheons, receptions, banquets, etc AND pay to advertise in our programs, brochures, and YES!! the Newsletters!! **DON'T FORGET OUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERS!** When you need a new product or service be sure to check the member list and give our Associates the FIRST opportunity to earn your business.

Keeping Up to DATE

Keeping our members informed of matters that impact the title insurance industry, is a primary focus of our Association. The quarterly newsletter will continue to keep you abreast of developments, but the term quarterly alerts you to the fact that the news stories that have a short shelf life may be stale when you read them. To stay on top of things on a daily basis consult the FLTA web site, www.flta.org.

Firewalls and Spam Filters Block FLTA E-mails

It has come to our attention that many of our electronic mailings are being blocked by spam filters and firewalls installed on members computers. If you are not having this problem and are getting our newsletter via e mail and wish to continue to receive it electronically you don't need to do anything! If you would prefer to receive the newsletter by mail, please contact our office, so you can begin receiving it via mail. Our most important goal is providing our members with timely information and we strive to accomplish that. You can also check the FLTA's web site (www.flta.org) at your convenience to obtain news and information on upcoming programs.

FLTA Continuing Education Seminar – 4/23/09

If you need CE hours, this is IT! This will be the only seminar sponsored by FLTA this year until the convention in November. It will be three hours (two are ethics), morning only – 9 a.m. to Noon. You'll have time to grab lunch before you head back to the office. (YIPEE!) For the Registration form – SEE NEXT PAGE



Florida Land Title Association
2009 Seminar
Presented at the Rosen Centre Hotel, Orlando, FL

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Agenda & Registration Form

Location: Rosen Centre
9840 International Drive
Orlando, FL 32819-8122
407-996-9840

Use one form per registrant – Copy as necessary

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City/State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email Address (to send confirmation) _____

License # _____ Necessary only for CE credits

_____ \$ 75 for Members _____ \$150 Non-members

Thursday, April 23, 2009

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Ethics & Real Estate Fraud
Alan B Fields
First American Title Ins Co

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

Second Revised Mutual Indemnification Treaty
Barry Scholnik
Stewart Title Guaranty Co

11:00 – noon

Legal & Ethical Considerations in Handling
Unusual Liens and Other Odd Situations

Alan B Fields
First American Title Ins Co

Bar Credit Approval # (pending)

DFS Approval # 68267 - 2 hours of Ethics and 1 of Title (3 hr total) – you MUST STAY for entire class to obtain any credits

Payment information (choose one)

_____ **Check Enclosed:** Check # _____ Please make checks payable to the **Florida Land Title Association**, and MAIL to address below

Credit Card Payment: (Please indicate card type) ___ Master Card ___ VISA ___ Discover ___ AMEX Exp Date _____
Fax to: 850-681-6271 or email to: Linda@fta.org

Card Number _____

Cardholder Name _____

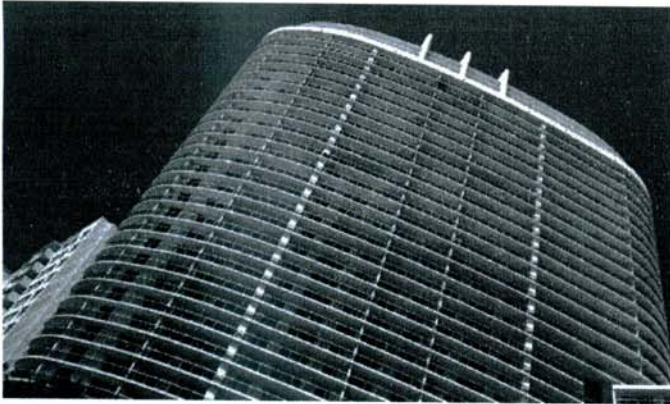
Security Code _____ This is the 3 digit number on the back of your card, OR 4 digit number on front for Amex

Signature _____

Cardholder billing address and phone number **if different from registration**



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- ❖ Code Enforcement & Other
Municipal/County Debts
- ❖ Homeowners/Condominium
Association Estoppels
- ❖ Open and Expired Permits

UPDATES AT NO CHARGE

REO SPECIALISTS

The latest on the FLTA Scholarships:

The Guidelines and Application form for the FLTA sponsored scholarships are now available. We've **attached a set to this newsletter**, posted them on our website and sent them in a broadcast to all members. If you know a deserving student, now is the time to step up, be a sponsor and help someone deserving put a few extra dollars in their pocket to help with the ever increasing cost of a good education.

SEE----- HERE'S THE INFO YOU NEED: ↓

Florida Land Title Association, Inc.

2009 Sam D. Mansfield, Marjorie S. Schwartz and John Starr Thornton, Jr.
Memorial Scholarships

GUIDELINES

An applicant must:

- **Be a member or the child, grandchild, brother, sister, niece or nephew of a principal or employee of a Florida Title Association member. (Regular Member or Associate Member).**
- **Be a resident of the State of Florida.**
- **Be accepted to any accredited institution of higher learning in the United States.**
- **If you meet this criteria please complete the application (next page) include the bio described below and return prior to September 1, 2009 to:**

Florida Land Title Association, Inc.

Attn. Scholarship Committee
249 East Virginia Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

*If you have any questions, please call FLTA at (850) 681-6422; or
Toll Free in Florida at 1-800-552-1065.*

About the Scholarship Awards:

The **Sam D. Mansfield** Memorial Scholarship Award was created in 1985 by the Board of Directors of the Florida Land Title Association, Inc., in memory of its namesake. Mr. Mansfield was a Past-President of this Association and was involved in many civic endeavors, always stressing the importance of education. The **Marjorie S. Schwartz** Memorial Scholarship was added in 2001 to commemorate our good friend Marge who, like Sam Mansfield, was an FLTA President and ardent supporter of our Association. The **John Starr Thornton, Jr.** Scholarship was added in 2003 to commemorate an outstanding FLTA member and title industry giant. Many thanks to the generous donation by Old Republic National Title Insurance Company who will underwrite the Thornton scholarship for a period of years.

The amount of the scholarship award is \$1,000.00 and will be awarded at the FLTA Annual Convention in November. The scholarship committee, which consists of members of the Past President's Council, will review the submissions and make their selection based on major field of study, grade point average, and other information provided by the applicant.

**APPLICANT MUST SUBMIT WITH THE APPLICATION:
A ONE-PAGE DOUBLE SPACED ESSAY DESCRIBING YOUR FUTURE GOALS
UPON COMPLETION OF YOUR HIGHER EDUCATION**

Mail Completed application, postmarked by September 1, 2009, to
Florida Land Title Association, Inc.
Attn: Scholarship Committee
249 East Virginia Street
Tallahassee, FL 32301

Florida Land Title Association, Inc.

2009 Sam D. Mansfield, Marjorie S. Schwartz and John Starr Thornton, Jr.
Memorial Scholarships

APPLICATION

(Application Deadline: September 1, 2009)

FLTA Member Sponsor: _____ Relationship: _____

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Company Address: _____

Student's Name: _____

Social Security Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Permanent Address: (if different) _____

Phone: _____ Scheduled Date of Graduation: _____

List Honors, Awards, Scholarships, etc.: _____

List Clubs, Competitions, Research, etc.: _____

Areas of Interest for College Study : _____

Name of accredited college or university in the United States in which you have been accepted or are currently enrolled: _____

High School GPA: _____ College GPA: _____ Dual Enrollment? Y / N

Contact information of the person in the school's Admissions office for verification of enrollment:.

Name _____ Phone: (____) _____

DATED and submitted this ____ day of _____ 2009.

Applicant's Signature

(DON'T FORGET THE BIO!)