

TITLE WAVE



DLTA ANNUAL CONVENTION A GREAT SUCCESS!

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We're on the Web!
WWW.DLTA.net

Participants at the 42nd Annual DLTA Convention were entertained, enjoyed delightful food, and were informed of current issues affecting the industry. The consensus of those who attended was . . . the 2008 Convention was a great success! Chris Bobo was a great host, as he welcomed DLTA members to his home town of Florence, Alabama.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

DLTA Members:

What an honor it is to serve as President of this great association for the term 2008-2009. I start my term in a great position largely in part to the hard work and dedication of our past president, Chris Bobo. Thank you, Chris, for a wonderful job done in the leadership of this organization.

As I stated at the convention, Education is of key importance to me. As an underwriter with LandAmerica, I experience the absence of education on a daily basis. I review titles & claims and am shocked at what I see; missing interests; bad legal descriptions; estate issues; bad executions are just a few.

Many of these problems which now plague our industry could be avoided with proper instruction and access to resources which reflect this scholarship.

My plan to further a resolution to these industry wide issues is

two pronged. It starts with what our field has been doing right. Continued access to DLTA seminars and other available educational meetings have been available to all levels of professionals in this field for some time now. However, the frequency and intensity of these meetings need to be magnified in order for all of us to get what we really need from them – **KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERTISE.**

To help further this, I proposed a Dixie Land Title Educational Website; one that includes previous seminar materials, a forum for title questions and issues and resources to our trade.

I hope to form allegiances with other title organizations in order to have materials which provide a wide scope of beneficial material to title and real estate professionals in our states.

Michael Watkins, owner of Traditional Title in Georgia has obtained the domain names of GeorgiaLandTitle.com and MississippiLandTitle.com to help accomplish this



task. We are still working on a name for Alabama, as Alabama Land Title was taken. Our goal is to have educational materials on these websites by the first of next year.

To accomplish this, we must all help to contribute written educational materials of value to our industry.

Thank you for your support.

**Kathy M. Stewart,
DLTA President**

"Education is of key importance to me."

"The Georgia Lunch Bunch"

The Georgia Dixie Land Title Association held its quarterly luncheon Wednesday, September 24 at Ray's Killer Creek Restaurant in Roswell, GA. Stewart Title Guaranty sponsored the luncheon, with Tracey Webb, as the host for Stewart.



Welcome and opening comments were made by Annette McBrayer of Fidelity Title who gave a warm welcome to all members as well as our guest speaker, Ms. Kelly Vespucci who is a Senior Underwriter for Fannie Mae.

Our first speaker was newly inducted President of the Dixie Land Title Association, Kathy Stewart from

LandAmerica. Kathy gave a complete report of the recent annual convention held in Florence Alabama this past month.



The success of the education seminars was discussed as well as RESPA issues, mortgage crisis and current legislation in Washington.

Our guest Speaker . . . went on to explain to the group how Fannie Mae has been adapting to the market. . .

Exciting and fun bags of goodies were passed out at the luncheon as Kathy gave an overview and information regarding our Annual Conference for next year, 2009, to be held at the "Hard Rock Hotel at Universal Studios", in Orlando, FL.

The theme of the conference is to be, "*The future's so bright you gotta wear shades!*" Without giving away all of the great surprises to be had by all in Orlando, she passed out brochures and information from the hotel and surrounding attractions.

Our guest Speaker from Fannie Mae spoke of the terrible crisis within our capital crunch and mortgage failures. She went on to explain to the group how Fannie Mae has been adapting to the market and working with lenders and investor to help stabilize the numbers of national foreclosures.

The food and speakers were enjoyed by all, as well as the enjoyable social time we spend together as friends and members of our common industry.

Contributed by Glen Stewart, Stewart Title

2008 CONVENTION (CONTINUED)



First Annual Past President's Breakfast

The Past Presidents of Dixie Land Title Association enjoyed meeting for breakfast on Saturday morning to discuss . . . whatever they wanted to discuss. There was no planned agenda, but those who attended enjoyed reminiscing about the conferences during their term and how the association has grown and changed. Pictured from left to right: Larry Giardina, Rebecca Turner, Henry Rogers, Anna Batten, Diane Calloway, Ed Covington, Bobby Burgess and Scotty Bobo

DLTA Treasurer Roy Perilloux and his wife Bonnie enjoyed an elegance brunch at the 360 Grille on top of the Renaissance Tower, which is the tallest attraction in Alabama. Guests were entertained by the Thompson Trio Jazz Ensemble during their meal.



What Happens in Florence, Stays in Florence!

Participants enjoyed black jack, craps, slot machines, poker and roulette at a casino set up for their evening's entertainment. After winning lots of "money", guests were served a delicious dinner, and then danced the night away to The Midnigheters.

WALTER DAVIS NAMED TITLE PERSON OF THE YEAR

Each year, the Dixie Land Title Association recognizes one individual for his or her outstanding contribution to the title insurance industry. The recipient of the Title Person of the Year Award is a person who is identified as a credit to his or her profession and to the industry. This year's recipient was **Walter Davis of United General Title Insurance Company** in Roswell, Georgia.

Congratulations Walter!



2008-2009 DLTA OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

The following officers and directors of Dixie Land Title Association were sworn into office at the 2008 Convention:

*President—Kathy M. Stewart
1st Vice President—Linda Reeves
2nd Vice President—Jeff Lees
Treasurer—Roy Perilloux
Secretary—Tammy Robbins
Alabama Director—Amy Niesen
Georgia Director—Arthur Poynton
Mississippi Director—Don Lacy
Director at Large—Charlie Gray
Immediate Past President—Chris S. Bobo*



(Left to Right) Chris Bobo, Charlie Gray, Arthur Poynton, Amy Niesen, Roy Perilloux, Tammy Robbins, Linda Reeves and Kathy Stewart



Incoming President Kathy Stewart presents a plaque to Outgoing President Chris Bobo, thanking him for his outstanding leadership of DLTA during his term.

BACK THE PAC

BY WARREN LAIRD, ALABAMA GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS CO-CHAIR

On behalf of ALTAPAC's steering committee, please accept our deepest appreciation to all of those who participated in the silent auction at this year's convention in Florence. Whether you were bidding or made a contribution toward making the auction possible, this year's success would not have been possible without you!

I want to acknowledge the generosity of the following members and extend out thanks for their contributions toward the purchase of auction items: Surety Land Title, Inc. (Mobile), Birmingham Title Services Corp., Land Title Company of Alabama (Birmingham), Tuscaloosa Title Company, Inc., Title South (Birmingham), and Chicago Title Insurance Company (Birmingham).

Many thanks to the members who contributed items: Pro Forma Title (Birmingham), Alabama Land Services (Florence), Reeves Title, Inc. (Albertville), Reli, Inc. (Birmingham), Gulf Shores Title Company, STS (Atlanta), LandAmerica (Birmingham), First American (Birmingham), Mississippi Valley (Birmingham) and Stewart Title (Mobile).

Donors to the silent auction came from outside our organization as well. Thank you Results Total Fitness Training (Birmingham) and Coach Pat Dye for your interest in the achievement of our goals.

Football fans let their allegiances shine during this year's convention. The Auburn University fans far outscored the University of Alabama and the University of Georgia fans. The combined successful bid for the two Auburn University footballs autographed by Coach Tuberville and Coach Dye was \$501. The University of Alabama placed second with \$225 for the Saban autographed football. The University of Georgia finished in third place with \$115 being the combined highest bids for the Richt autographed football and Dooley autographed photograph.

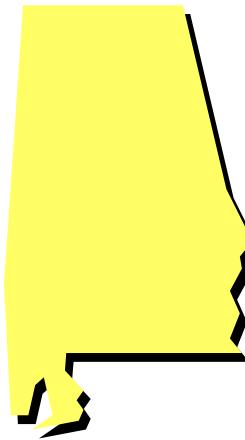
The hunters were also out in full force. The ½ day quail hunt and the 2 day deer hunt were both popular items, although the quail hunt did not achieve the minimum bid.

The PAC will realize a little over \$3000 from the silent auction this year. Thank you all for making that happen!

The ALTAPAC Steering Committee welcomes its newest members. When Kathy Stewart was elevated to the office of association president and Amy Niesen elected as the Alabama representative to DLTA's Board of Directors, both became members of the PAC steering committee. They join Jim Owen, Robert Lane, Chris Bobo, Jeff Lees, Kim Adams and myself.

Work has already begun for next year's auction. It will hopefully be bigger, better, and designed to benefit all DLTA affiliate PACS as well as TIPAC.

**Contributed by Warren Laird,
Alabama Governmental Affairs
Co-Chair**





Dixie Land Title
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2009 DLTA CONVENTION IN ORLANDO

Get ready to *Rock 'N' Roll* and live like a Rock Star at our **2009 DLTA Convention** at the Hard Rock Hotel at Universal Orlando Resort. The 650-room California mission-style hotel has authentic rock 'n' roll memorabilia throughout.

At the palm lined pool, you can choose sand or cement to sunbathe and even listen to the music underwater.

Mark Your Calendars now for September 10-12, 2009

The theme for this year's convention is:

"The future's so bright, you gotta wear shades"!

Don't miss it.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

As your Executive Director, I have thoroughly enjoyed working with such creative, energetic people. DLTA has a great corporate knowledge of their industry, and you come together throughout each year to learn from each other. But you also know how to have fun!

Thank you, Tammy Robbins, for all your hard work as convention chair this year, coordinating such a fun and informative event. Thanks, Chris and Jill Bobo, for hosting such a wonderful event in your home town. We all fell in love with Florence because of you.



I'm looking forward to "rocking n rolling" with Kathy Stewart and Rita Paris as they plan our 2009 Convention in Orlando. We'd better all get ready, and pull out our shades for this sparkling event.

Linda Alwood