



New York State Land Title Association, Inc.
 Tradition, Excellence, Knowledge and Vision

Monthly Newsletter

November 2010

www.nyslta.org *Title Insurance: Protecting Your Piece of the Planet* Since 1921

YOUR ASSOCIATION WORKING FOR YOU!



Updates and Industry News:

- ❖ **Increase in Nassau County Recording Fees:** The Nassau County Legislature has passed a local law increasing the block fee from \$10.00 to \$75.00 per block recited in any instrument submitted for recording and indexing, in the land records of Nassau County Clerk's Office, including satisfactions of mortgages and cancellations of liens, effective December 1, 2010.
- ❖ **Richmond County First Deputy County Clerk** announced that as of November 8th 2010 documents on record with their office will be available over the internet. Consistent with the other counties within the City of New York (ACRIS), access would be on a no fee basis. The site address will be: <http://richmondcountyclerk.com>
- ❖ **Sales and Use Tax information** can be found in a Tax bulletin issued by The Department of Taxation and Finance (TB-ST-5) dated September 23, 2010 entitled "Abstracts of Title and Other Public Records Searches", http://www.tax.state.ny.us/pubs_and_bulls/tg_bulletins/st/abstracts_of_title.htm



Save the Date!

- ❖ **November 16, 2010, 10:30 am**
 Executive Committee Meeting
 Fidelity National Title
 One Park Avenue Suite 1402
 New York, NY
All are welcome and encouraged to attend!
 RSVP to Regina at nyslta3@aol.com
- ❖ **December tbd, 2010**
 Confused by the recent changes regarding foreclosures? You are not alone; NYSLTA will be hosting CLE's on this topic in the very near future.
- ❖ **January tbd, 2011**
 Retirement party for Sharon Sabol, the Association's Executive Director for 21 years.
- ❖ **January tbd, 2011**
 Title training classes and seminars – The Basics



The New York State Land Title Association wants you!
 Please get involved!

Just e-mail nyslta3@aol.com and let us know if you would like to serve on any of the following committees:

- ✓ Education
- ✓ Land Records
- ✓ Fund Raising
- ✓ Law
- ✓ Legislative
- ✓ Membership

You may also find the list of committees on our website at:

http://nyslta.org/standing_committees.htm

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We are very pleased to advise you that the Association has 60 new members since July of 2010! Please go to our website and click on <http://www.nyslta.org/directory.htm> to see your member colleagues.

Please be advised that the dues for the fiscal year November 1, 2010 through October 31, 2011 are due no later than December 15, 2010. For further information see: <http://nyslta.org/renew.htm>

Highlights from the 10/26/10 Executive Committee Meeting:

- ❖ Law Committee Chair Berey stated that the NYSLTA Executive Committee had agreed to support Broker' Bill to prohibit transfer fee covenants. It is expected that this Bill will be reintroduced in the next legislative session.
- ❖ Four sales tax seminars had to be canceled due to below minimum registrants. Members felt that if a seminar is canceled, the handout should be sent.
- ❖ The proposed amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws are being finalized by the Title Insurance Section.
- ❖ It was suggested that the underwriters provide guidance as to what searches should be ordered for an abstract.
- ❖ Education committee chair Kelly would like to see title workshops, small groups of members where bread and butter topics would be presented. One syllabus (factual very basic topics, i.e. When To Call For Help) would be created and the program could be given around the State.
- ❖ It was requested that President Maiocchi appoint a Committee to liaison with the NYS Department of Insurance.
- ❖ Members expressed their appreciation to Sharon Sabol who is retiring after 21 years with NYSLTA and she thanked the members for their support and friendship.



Title Trivia

Q: How many NYS title insurance rate zones were there in 1983?
a) One, b) Two, c) None, d) Eight, e) Four

A: The answer will be printed in the next monthly newsletter. Please submit your answer to jpartridge@benchmarkta.com. The person who sends in the most correct answers throughout the year will be eligible to win a great prize. Prize TBD

Message from the editors:

Amy Kelly and Jean Partridge

Welcome to the first edition of the NYSLTA monthly newsletter. The economic hardships of the last few years seem to have turned the members of the title industry inward, each one of us attempting to solve on our own what are really common problems. Title people are a close-knit collection of specialists and professionals; mutual respect, friendship and support among competitors have always been the norm in our business. The truth is we are always stronger when we act collectively through the Association. It is the editors' hope, and our intention, that this publication will serve to re-connect the members of this industry to each other in an interesting, meaningful, and occasionally entertaining way and to also demonstrate NYSLTA's commitment to the well being of its members. Please take a few minutes to look it over. **Your suggestions or information for inclusion in the next addition are most welcome – please send to: NYSLTA3@aol.com (by December 1st for inclusion in the next issue)**

Industry Personal Notes:

New Positions:

ANDREA LEVINE is working at Stewart Title in the claims department.

DENNIS CHORNY is enjoying his new position as underwriting counsel at Ridge Abstract.

JOANNE FLEMING is happy to be back with her title "family" at Westcor Title.

Members Honored: **BARRY BALONECK AND MARVIN SIMMS** were honored at the 2010 NYSLTA annual convention with the Lifetime Achievement Award. Congratulations to both longtime association members.

Retirements: **SHARON SABOL**, NYSLTA executive director for 21 years.

Passings: **MELVIN MITZNER** passed on October 16, 2011. Mel has been recognized as the Dean or Godfather of the title industry for many years. He will be sorely missed by all in the industry. The Association plans a column honoring Mel in its next Journal.

Send items for this feature to nyslta3@aol.com