

# Seminole County "SEMINOLE DEALER NEWS"

Issue 3

DECEMBER, 2005



## A MESSAGE FROM RAY VALDES:

As we enjoy the holiday season and the beginning of a new year, we recognize old traditions and blend them with new and perhaps improved ones.

Since you heard from us last, we have had a change in our office leadership team. A long time personal friend of mine, the Assistant Tax Collector for the past 17 years, Paul Warsicki, retired on October 14, 2005. Paul was frequently very instrumental in working as a facilitator between the DHSMV, this and other Tax Collectors offices, and your dealerships in getting issues resolved. We will certainly miss Paul, but wish him the very best in his new life adventure as a "retiree".

Over time, Paul's expertise became fine-tuned and intertwined through many areas of our office. He handled many special projects as I directed our consistent path of new innovations and leading edge technological advances.

We have restructured a bit and I have selected Dick Harkey to join our staff as Administrative Manager reporting to me. He will begin learning about the Tax and Accounting Departments, then will work with our four Branch Managers to understand our State Agency responsibilities. Dick has worked for Congressman John Mica as a District Director for the past 13 years. Please join me in welcoming him to the Tax Collector's Office.

You will continue to see other changes as we constantly review our policies, procedures, and services, including the relocation of our Oviedo Branch Office.

I wish you and your families a very safe, festive, and meaningful time of year.



## **ERRORS AND/OR OMISSIONS ON WORK MAY CAUSE REJECTION**

The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles has quality control reports they send to each Tax Collectors office to advise of areas that need improvement. We chose to highlight many of these during the September 12, 2005 Dealer Meeting presented by and in our main office.

We prefer to never reject your work, but must do so if:

- ◆ The address, date of sale, odometer date, or date of dealer reassignment is not completed for the purchaser and selling dealers on a title.
- ◆ The Power of Attorney is not completed with all information for the notary, affiant, and person appointed, or if the notary seal and stamp is missing.
- ◆ There are any mark-overs without an affidavit on company letterhead explaining the correction.

We cannot process your work without the:

- ◆ 5-digit insurance company code.
- ◆ Vehicle color.
- ◆ Purchaser declaring the GVW on the HSMV 82040.
- ◆ FEID number for the company and/or the lienholder.
- ◆ Appropriate lien satisfactions.
- ◆ Proper signatures. Signatures throughout the work must be the actual signatures of the buyer/seller. NO ONE can sign anyone else's signature – it is forgery to do so.
- ◆ Date of lien.
- ◆ VIN verification. If you forget to complete the VIN verification on the HSMV 82040, present an HSMV 82042 form signed by the dealer and buyer.
- ◆ Customer's physical address (PO Box can be used for mailing address only).



## DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ If you have a customer purchasing a trailer with a net weight of less than 2000 lbs, they may purchase a motorcycle size plate for the trailer.
- ◆ All dealer records must be kept for 5 years.
- ◆ If you still have an old HSMV 82040 (form date prior to 06/05), it cannot be used.
- ◆ A spooked turkey can run up to 20 miles per hour. Wow!
- ◆ All reassignments must have the dates and addresses.
- ◆ The name “Jeep” came from the abbreviation used in the army for the “general purpose” (GP) vehicle.
- ◆ The country with the most Rolls Royces per capita is Hong Kong. Instructions only in English?
- ◆ Benjamin Franklin wanted the United States national bird to be a turkey.
- ◆ It is impossible to sneeze with your eyes open.
- ◆ The first Ford cars had Dodge engines.
- ◆ It takes 3,000 cows to supply the NFL with enough leather for a year’s supply of footballs.
- ◆ The 5-digit insurance code is required on insurance affidavits.
- ◆ If an off highway vehicle weighs 901 lbs or more, they are not titled or registered.
- ◆ If you issue your customer a temporary tag, you cannot process their work as title only.

## NEW DEALER LICENSE SYSTEM

Over the next year as dealers renew their state dealership licenses, they will be issued a new number with a 4-digit PIN. This PIN will replace your check digit (security code). The dealer may change the PIN whenever they desire.

Each time dealer work is submitted, you will need to furnish our Branch Office with the current 4-digit PIN number along with your new dealer license number. Without these two items, we will not be able to process your work. This is a built-in security feature for all dealers.

This procedure will begin in December for all franchise dealers, and in April, 2006 for all independent dealers.



*Our Dealers are amazing!!!*

*Thank you for your continued support over the past four years in our Toys for Tots program. Without you, our success would be less.*



*Just a reminder - all of the Seminole County Tax Collector's Offices offer a one-on-one Dealer Training Session with a customer service representative for any of our Dealers.*

*If you would like to schedule a time, please speak with a Commercial Dealer Section representative.*

## CVR MEETING

**At 2:00 pm on December 19, 2005, in the Sanford Office, there will be a meeting for our CVR dealers. The location is in the County Services Building, Tax Collector's Conference Room (Room 1224).**

**The purpose is primarily to cover inventory, but numerous other topics will be discussed as well.**

**Adam Smith of CVR will be joining us. Please come and bring all of your questions and concerns.**

## TRAINING REQUIRED FOR ALL INDEPENDENT MOTOR VEHICLE DEALERS

Florida Statutes 320.27 was amended in 2005 which affects all independent motor vehicle licensees. It now reads:

**“Each independent dealer shall certify** that the dealer principal (owner, partner, officer of the corporation, or director) **has completed 8 hours of continuing education prior to filing the renewal forms with the department.** Such certification shall be filed once every 2 years commencing with the 2006 renewal period. The continuing education shall include at least 2 hours of legal or legislative issues, 1 hour of department issues, and 5 hours of relevant motor vehicle industry topics. Continuing education shall be provided by dealer schools licensed under paragraph (b) either in a classroom setting or by correspondence. Such schools shall provide certificates of completion to the department and the customer which shall be filed with the license renewal form, and such schools may charge a fee for providing continuing education.”

This means that if at least one principal in your dealership has not attended a training seminar since May 1, 2004, you will be required to attend a continuing education class prior to renewing your dealer license in 2006. Your State Dealer License renewal application will not be processed without your certificate of completion of the continuing education.

The Dealer Seminars presented by the Seminole County Tax Collector are not part of this certification training. The training may be obtained through the following authorized schools:

### FLORIDA INDEPENDENT AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION

800-237-0448 (toll free)  
407-291-8447  
407-292-0384

### ADVANCED DEALER TRAINING INSTITUTE

888-791-9511 (toll free)  
561-791-9511

### FLORIDA AUTO DEALER SCHOOL

866-884-0549 (toll free)  
727-538-5047

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

### For All Seminole County Tax Collectors Offices

The four Seminole County Tax Collector's Offices will be closed the following workweek days over the next two months:

- |                     |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| ☺ December 23, 2005 | ☺ January 2, 2006  |
| ☺ December 26, 2005 | ☺ January 16, 2006 |

We wish all of you and your families a safe and happy holiday season.

## FIND THE TURKEY

The first person that reads this newsletter, finds our turkey picture, and calls Amy at 407-665-7853 will receive a prize.

Don't be "left-over". Read our newsletter from front to back, locate our little gobbler, and give Amy a call!

## WINNING DESSERT ENTRY

In September, the Seminole County Tax Collector's Office held our annual employee picnic. Traditionally, we have a dessert contest. This year Sheryl Bell, Supervisor of our Customer Service Call Center, was our first place winner! Sheryl has been with this office for 27 years. The dance she did when it was announced she was the winner was as classic as we believe her recipe to be. She was gracious enough to share the formula with us.

### SHERYL'S CREAMY BANANA PUDDING

Prep Time: 15 minutes  
Serves: 8 to 10

#### Ingredients:

1-14 oz can Eagle Brand Sweetened Condensed Milk (not evaporated milk)  
1 ½ cups cold water  
1 (4 serving size) package instant vanilla flavor pudding mix  
2 cups (1 pint) Borden Whipping Cream – whipped  
36 vanilla wafers  
3 medium bananas – sliced and dipped in ReaLemon Lemon juice from concentrate

#### Instructions:

In large bowl, combine sweetened condensed milk and water. Add pudding mix; beat well. Chill 5 minutes. Fold in whipped cream. Spoon 1 cup pudding mixture into 2 ½ qt glass serving bowl. Top with one-third each of the wafers, bananas, and pudding. Repeat layering twice ending with pudding. Cover; chill. Garnish as desired. Refrigerate leftovers.

TIP: Mixture can be layered in individual serving dishes.



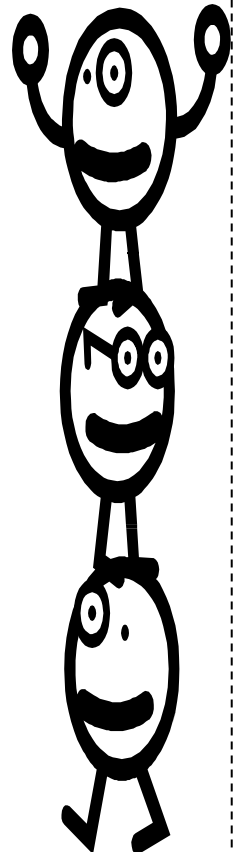
## LESSEE REGISTRANTS

As we all now know, "long term" leases are required to be registered in the name and address of the lessee and the dealership has been required to submit a copy of the lease. At our September 12<sup>th</sup> Dealer Meeting, a two-part question was asked of Gail Andrews, representing the DHSMV, "why couldn't we accept the lease power of attorney that most of the lease companies were already using that granted the lessee permission to be registrant, and what other paperwork could be submitted for 'courtesy delivery' leases since there isn't any formal contract sent with these to the local dealership?"

Gail Andrews said she would inquire on these points and see what the DHSMV could do to improve this area. Thanks to your participation, the procedure for Registration for Lessee Registrant (RS-53) was recently revised based on the input Gail received at our meeting.

RS-53 now states "The customer must submit a copy of a document which verifies the name of the lessee/registrant and includes a description of the applicable vehicle. Examples: lease agreement, a power of attorney, etc., which displays the lessee and description of the vehicle."

We call that positive teamwork at its finest!



## FRIENDLY REMINDERS ON ODOMETER READINGS

Did you know that vehicles 10 years old or older, vehicles with a GVW of 16,000 lbs or more, vehicles that are not self-propelled, and any new vehicle with an MCO that has been transferred between dealers are EXEMPT from requiring an odometer reading?

The requirements on completing the odometer reading on reassignments, federal odometer statements, and titles are as follows:

- ◆ The current odometer reading and date it was read.
- ◆ The box marked (if applicable) that the odometer reading is in excess of its mechanical limits or not actual mileage.
- ◆ The signature and printed name of both the buyer and seller.
- ◆ The addresses of both the buyer and seller.
- ◆ A complete description of the vehicle, including year, make, body, and vehicle identification number.

Please note the abbreviations TMU (True Mileage Unknown) and ETM (Exceeds True Mileage) will NOT be accepted.

The form HSMV 82994 will be used when a Florida or out-of-state conforming title has all the reassignments completed, when a conforming MCO is not available at the time of sale, and with all non-conforming Florida or out-of-state titles.

When you have an alteration or discrepancy on the odometer reading, you need a federal odometer statement and dealer letterhead affidavit to correct the error.

If you have an omission, then you must submit a federal odometer statement with the correct mileage.



*Little fact about odometers – most people believe that Ben Franklin was the first to invent the odometer, when in fact it was invented much earlier. The first odometer mentioned in recorded history was about 15 BC, by a Roman architect and engineer, Vitruvius. He mounted a large wheel of a specified circumference on a small frame, much like a wheelbarrow. When it was pushed by hand, it dropped a pebble into a container on each revolution, giving a calculable measure of the distance traveled.*

## MOVING SOON TO ANOTHER LOCATION NEAR YOU

At the request of the Oviedo City Council, the Office of the Seminole County Tax Collector is vacating the space we have leased for 13 years in the Oviedo City Administration building.

We have now leased a commercial location for our Oviedo Branch Office, and will relocate there by mid-February, 2006. The new address is in a brand new professional office center at 1490 Swanson Drive, Suite 1, Oviedo, Florida 32765 (just off E. Mitchell Hammock Road, near Lockwood Blvd).

Our Oviedo Branch Manager Tim Sobitz, our IT Administrator Bill Allen, and our new Administrative Manager Dick Harkey will be working out the details to give us a smooth transition.

If you regularly visit our Oviedo Office, you will want to watch for status announcements.

## WHAT'S NEW WITH THE DMV?

The Division of Motor Vehicles has implemented many changes this month that are affecting all of us. We wanted to review some of the major ones with you.

### TITLE / REGISTRATION FEES SEPARATED

You have probably noticed that the title and registration fees are printing separately. This means that each title and registration fee must be added separately to obtain the dollar total of your work.

### OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE CHANGES

A title validation decal will be issued during any title transaction for an Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) when the title issue date changes. This includes duplicate titles. An additional \$4.50 state fee will be charged for each title validation decal.

The total fee for an Off-Highway Vehicle will be \$38.25 with or without a lien.

Fast titles may now be issued on Off-Highway Vehicles from either an MSO or clean title transfer. The Seminole County Tax Collector's Office will not issue a fast title from any alternate proof on these vehicles. The fast title fee is \$7.00, and will be charged in addition to the regular existing title fees for an OHV.

### VEHICLE TRADE-INS

It has been mandatory since September, 2005 to use the new revised application for title (HSMV82040) with the date of "(Rev. 6/05)". This revision added a place on the bottom of the HSMV82040 form for the trade-in vehicle information to be recorded.

This data is important as it is entered into the FRVIS computer system as a sold vehicle. This is protection for your customer. Many of you wholesale these trade-in vehicles, and it could otherwise be quite some time before a trade-in vehicle is transferred out of the original seller's name. If for any reason a vehicle is towed, which was not marked as sold in the FRVIS system, the wrecker operator may file a lien against your original customer who had actually traded in the vehicle. At that point your customer will not be able to renew their new vehicle license plate until the wrecker operator lien is satisfied. When we transfer a license plate, the FRVIS computer system asks if the vehicle that the plate is coming off was a trade-in. If the dealer has properly reflected the information on the HSMV82040, then the customers name will be released from their prior owned trade-in vehicle.