Richard Bennett Retires

After 34 ½ years in the parts department with Sam Galloway Ford, Parts Director Richard Bennett is retiring.

His first day on the job was July 5, 1972. President Richard Nixon was in office, the Academy Award for Best Picture was awarded to The French Connection and other movies released that year included The Godfather, Sleuth and Deliverance. The University of Southern California won the NCAA football title. Album of the year was “It’s Too Late” by Carol King.

There have been many changes in the automotive industry since 1972, especially in the parts department, according to Richard. “We’ve gone from a local to a global export business,” he said. Technology has played a large role in the globalization, as well as the cataloguing using the internet. “We went from paper to microfilm to electronic cataloguing,” said Richard. “Computerization has changed the way we do business.”

There have been many proud moments for Richard over the years, but what stands out the most is the growth of the parts exportation business (up to $1 million a year) from the Fort Myers location. With customers around the globe, Richard has maintained good relationships with people from England, Norway and other countries abroad.

“We’ve been providing Ford parts to a dealer in Norway who is the only distributor of Ford vehicles in their country for 15 years,” he said. “Our delivery time is better than Ford’s delivery time, so we have established a great friendship over the years.”

Richard is also proud to say that Sam Galloway Ford was the first dealer to have vertical bins for inventory. But what Richard is most proud of is the Orlando District Parts and Service Club’s W.L. Brewer Scholarship Program for employees of the parts and services departments within Ford and Lincoln Mercury dealerships. Richard and W. L. Brewer, the fund’s namesake, started this scholarship award with a $25,000 fundraiser. Now, they’ve endowed the scholarship and it’s grown to $230,000 so that they can award $8,000 to $9,000 a year to deserving students. Richard said he plans to stay involved in the fund.

“I am proud to have helped establish this fund,” said Richard. “It’s nice to know my work will live on in the industry even after I’m gone.”

Richard and his wife plan to travel, spend some time in the mountains, and together volunteer for some very worthy causes. Employees of The Galloway Family of Dealerships wish Richard all the best in his future endeavors. You’ll be missed!

What Do These People Have in Common? See page 6

Michael Moore
Steve Miller
Danny Thomas
Patty Page
James Brown

Pets on Page 6!
NEW EMPLOYEES

Adilson Gibelato
New Vehicle Sales

Christina Townsend
Cashier

Doug Sage
Used Vehicle Sales

Joe Sorenson
Internet Used Veh. Sales

Jon Trowbridge
New Vehicle Sales

Julianna Ciluffo
Service Advisor

Kim Crews
Service Cashier

Luis Almeida
New Vehicle Sales

Paul DiSano
Svc. Adv. (from Gulf Coast Dodge)

Steve Miller
New Vehicle Sales

Ford Donates Car to High Tech Program

Ford Motor Company donated a 2006 Ford Escape to the Automotive Youth Educational Systems (AYES) program at Lee County High Tech Center Central for use as a training aid. “This type of donation demonstrates industry’s commitment to supporting quality training at our school,” said Robert Durham, director of High Tech Central.

Sammy Hayes and staff were instrumental in contacting Ford for the donation. “We try to support the students in the program so that they are prepared for employment upon completion of the program,” said Sammy. “It’s a win-win all the way around.”

Correction to new employees section last month:

We inadvertently reversed the photos of Tray Bournazian and Derek Landino, they are shown correctly to the right.

Sam Galloway Ford
Top Sales Stars!

SAL SCARCELLA
(Used Vehicles)
October

BOB BERGEN
(New Vehicles)
September

JOHN FOWLER
(Used Vehicles)
October

PATSY SCHEWMAKER
(Used Vehicles)
September

In the background are AYES students; front row (left to right): Robert Durham, High Tech Central director; Marc Michaud, AYES instructor; John Infosino, district manager, Ford customer service division; Sammy Hayes, service director, Sam Galloway Ford; Chet Raulerson, service department outside sales, Sam Galloway Ford.
Congratulations to Sam Galloway Ford Employees Celebrating Anniversaries

NOVEMBER
Alex Perez, Fleet Acct. Mgr. – 3 yrs.
Charles Pothier, Service Tech – 2 yrs.
Cleveland Thomas, Asst. Svc. Mgr. – 1 yr.
Gary Boles, General Sales Mgr. – 6 yrs.
James Brown, Service Tech – 2 yrs.
Joseph Verville, Used Veh. Sales – 2 yrs.
Kelley James, Lube Tech – 1 yr.
Linda Hepburn, Admin. Receptionist – 2 yrs.
Memith Augustin, Detailer – 6 yrs.
Paul Judson, Fleet Acct. Mgr. – 14 yrs.
Rafael Sosa, Maintenance – 1 yr.
Ryan Holley, Service Advisor – 1 yr.
Shawn Schiddel, Svc. Team Leader – 9 yrs.
Urbain Joseph, Lube Tech – 1 yr.
William Grzanka, Used Veh. Sales – 3 yrs.

DECEMBER
Antonio Delgado, Porter – 2 yrs.
Bill Braatz, Fixed Operations Mgr. – 14 yrs.
Brian Winkelsas, Parts Sales – 19 yrs.
Gary Cato, Parts Sales – 2 yrs.
Heidi Vogelsong, Service Advisor – 3 yrs.
Jeff Brodnick, Gift/Apparel Shop Mgr. – 3 yrs.
John Coffman, Service Tech – 5 yrs.
Kati Mogil, Greeter – 1 yr.
Kenneth Peloke, Service Tech – 16 yrs.
Marcello Rezende, Fleet Acct Mgr. – 1 yr.
Mark Mitchell, Lube Tech – 1 yr.
Michael Noe, Service Tech – 5 yrs.
Russell Bennett, A/P – Dodge – 1 yr.
Tim Sheriff, Parts Warehouse – 1 yr.

Great Gift Ideas in Sam’s Apparel & Gift Shop
All kinds of goodies for young and old can be found for the discerning holiday shoppers at Sam’s Apparel & Gift Shop. The new Klutz crafts and kids activities section will bring back your own childhood memories of making potholders, macramé and more. Retro gifts are big this year. Check out the coasters and ornaments made out of old records, as well as games, soy candles, holiday CDs and, of course, a wide selection of greeting cards. The Columbia outdoor shoes and clothing, along with the Case knives, have been popular items. And remember, employees get a discount! So, shop for your family and friends at Sam’s Apparel & Gift shop this year!
WELCOME TO OUR NEW EMPLOYEES

Albert Benavides  
Bill Morrow  
Jackee Allen  
Jenny Pfalzgraf  
Lee Voisard  
Matt Lee  
Mike Stanek  
Sales  
Greeter  
Receptionist  
Sales  
Assist. Svc. Mgr.  
Mechanic

Mike Wheeler  
Nino Bonsignore  
Noel Roman  
Rrok Berishaj  
Service Advisor  
Service Advisor  
Mechanic  
Sales

Congratulations to Gulf Coast Dodge Employees Celebrating Anniversaries

NOVEMBER
John Legg, PDI Tech – 11 yrs.
Irene Gonzalez, Counter Sales – 3 yrs.
Matthew Adkins, Lube Tech – 7 yrs.
Randy Blakesley, Service Mgr. – 2 yrs.
Richard Mannas, Shop Foreman – 11 yrs.
Wanda Ennis, Counter Sales – 9 yrs.

DECEMBER
Angela Anderson, Cashier – 2 yrs.
Bobbie Howard, New Veh. Sales – 5 yrs.
Louis Garuti, Service Tech – 1 yr.
Patrick Coghlan, New Veh. Sales – 4 yrs.
Thomas Hodges, Parts Driver – 8 yrs.
Tracy Ludington, Counter Sales – 3 yrs.

Commercial Sales Climb

The Commercial division is going very well, as planned, said General Sales Manager Ted Alence. Sprinter vans are the big seller as well as flat bed pickups. Landscapers, and builders/contractors are the primary buyers of these vehicles.

Gulf Coast Dodge Top Sales Stars!

LEO BOGHARD  
(Pat Coughlin)  
(Used Vehicles)  
September

FRED TURNER  
(Pat Coughlin)  
(New Vehicles)  
October

FELIX MARTINEZ  
(Pat Coughlin)  
(Used Vehicles)  
September

BOBBIE HOWARD  
(Pat Coughlin)  
(Used Vehicles)  
October
WELCOME TO OUR NEW EMPLOYEE

Colonial Suzuki Top Sales Stars!

Congratulations to Colonial Suzuki Service Tech Theodore Gartland on his 1-Year Anniversary in December

Congratulations!

Colonial Suzuki was the 2006 3Q Combined CSI and SSI winner for American Suzuki! “This is a great honor and testament to the hard work of our team,” said Todd Torchia, general sales manager.

Our apologies to Garrett Atherton, Parts & Service Manager at Colonial Suzuki, for stating his title incorrectly in the last issue of the Chronicles. Garrett celebrated his 6-years anniversary in Oct.

We also extend our apologies to Richard Benfield for stating his title incorrectly in the last issue of the Chronicles. Richard is a Service Tech and celebrated his 1-year anniversary in Sept.

The brand new Suzuki SX4 is here!

Currently on display in the showroom, the new custom SX4 (shown here), complete with striping and a special paint job, is a work of art, created by the Galloway Collision Center team. The iPod-compatible Suzuki SX4 is the most inexpensive all-wheel drive vehicle on the market today.

Galloway Collision Center News

The body and paint experts at the Galloway Collision Center have enjoyed the increased orders for custom paint work. According to Dave Walters, sales manager, this is a growing part of the body shop’s business. Possibly due to the retro designs of the Mustangs and Chargers, they are being commissioned to spruce up new cars for their owners. Shown here is a two-tone 2006 Mustang GT with the Cervinis body kit and ground effects. The customer wanted the hood, spoiler and special pin striping. “The guys enjoy being able to do some creative work to these cars,” Dave said.

Congratulations to Galloway Collision Center Employees Celebrating Anniversaries

NOVEMBER
Bill Reynolds, Director – 8 yrs.
Bobby Vititoe, Estimator – 35 yrs.
Charles Repine, Service Tech – 2 yrs.
Sean Nile, Painter – 2 yrs.

DECEMBER
Phillip Bassett, Painter – 2 yrs.
...Continued from Page 1
What’s in a name? A name tells a lot about a person, after all, it’s your identity. But what happens when you have the name of a famous person? Whether they have a popular or controversial name, some of our employees are able to weigh in on the topic. We’re pleased to introduce our Galloway employee pseudo celebrities below. (We apologize in advance if we have missed other employees who would qualify for this distinction.)

Betty Davis handles payroll for Coconut Point Ford, Gulf Coast Dodge and Colonial Suzuki, and she most definitely has Betty Davis eyes, but dislikes having photos taken of them. She said that having a famous name does make it easier for people to remember meeting her.

James Brown, service tech at Sam Galloway Ford, takes the ribbing from his fellow employees with a sense of goodwill, “Ow! I feel good!” Having a famous name like this one gets people jumping and jiving!

Steve Miller, “Steve Miller? As in the band?” finds his famous name makes it easier for people to spell it correctly. Our Steve is in new vehicle sales at Sam Galloway Ford.

Danny Thomas, new vehicle sales at Sam Galloway Ford, said that having this famous name has been a big help in sales. “People remember me,” said Danny. And as a result, he’s learned a lot about the actor/comedian who is the famous father of Marlo, and known for his involvement at the St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.

Mr. Patty Page, commercial account manager at Sam Galloway Ford, is a far cry from Miss Patti Page, but he does admit to knowing the words to one of her most famous songs, “How Much is that Doggie in the Window.”

Michael Moore, Galloway Collision Center, said he doesn’t think much of the controversial filmmaker and activist Michael Moore. So he took some of his own artistic license and posed near the men’s room for his photo.
Coconut Point Ford Service Truck

The new service truck for Coconut Point Ford can't be missed around town. Sporting an impressive paint job, this fancy truck is a traffic stopper and can be spotted in numerous locations around Bonita Springs.

Customer Development Center News

WELCOME TO OUR NEW EMPLOYEES

Bernard Brice
Sales

Bill Falkner
Sales

Bob Burkett
Sales

John Schwigh
Parts (from Sam Galloway Ford Parts)

Top Sales Stars!

RICH TILTON
(New Vehicles)
September

WAYNE CLARK
(Used Vehicles)
September

RICH TILTON
(New Vehicles)
October

RICH TILTON
(Used Vehicles)
October

Coconut Point Ford News

Congratulations to Coconut Point Ford Employees Celebrating Anniversaries

November
John Campagnola, Service Tech – 4 yrs.
Justin Arwood, New Veh. Sales – 1 yr.
Melvin Mabe, Parts Sales – 2 yrs.
Richard Carpenter, New Veh. Sales – 1 yr.

December
Bobby Smith, Deli Mgr. – 2 yrs.
Dennis Kazich, Service Tech – 2 yrs.
Jeffrey Ketcham, F&I Mgr. – 2 yrs.
Michael Long, Lube Tech – 1 yr.
Roger Tourillott, Service Tech – 2 yrs.
Wayne Clarke, New Veh. Sales – 2 yrs.

WELCOME NEW PHONE REPS

Sara Brown
(from Sam Galloway Ford, Internet Sales)

Katie St. Arnold

Best wishes to Phone Rep Carol Vandervliet who retired December 6th after 61/2-years in the CDC. Carol was one of the first CDC employees in a department that has doubled since then. Carol said she plans to relax a little, but also to focus on real estate sales for aviation communities. She’s an aviation enthusiast who lives in an aviation community complete with hangar and airstrip.

Congratulations to the CDC employees for raising $203 for the Lee National Denim Day last month!
We Thank Our Heros

We continue to wish the very best to the members of our military and their families. We gratefully acknowledge their dedication to the safety of our country.

Daisy Canga’s (Sam Galloway Ford, Internet Sales) nephew is following in his father’s (Sgt. Mario Canga) footsteps. Private Mario Canga, Jr. (18 yrs. old), graduated from Ft. Benning, GA in August. He is in the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry out of the 25th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army. Mario, Jr. was deployed to Iraq on Nov. 15th.

Elvis Rodriguez (Coconut Point Ford Sales) and his wife, Anna, welcomed the birth of his fourth child, Matthew Ralphael Rodriguez, born October 25th. Matthew was 8 lbs., 8 oz. and 22 inches long.

Tim Van Dyke, (Colonial Suzuki Service) along with his wife, Jennifer, welcomed their second son, Trevor Van Dyke, into the world on November 10th. Trevor weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz. and was 19” long. Trevor joins older brother Austin.

Steve Lovejoy, owner of Advanced Forms & Printing, and his wife, Heather, have not one, but three bundles of joy to celebrate with this holiday season. Karalynn, Nicole and Alexander (from left to right) were born on June 28th.

Get Well Soon!

Best wishes to Shelly Kaufman’s (Service Advisor at Gulf Coast Dodge) wife, Linda, as she continues to recover from her illness.