



From Your Associate Director

By Jerry B. Crabtree

TOI Associate Director / Education Coordinator

MARCH has arrived! Many of you are celebrating Local Government Week designated annually as the first week of March. There are many ways that you can celebrate this in your township. If you have a story to share, please submit pictures and additional information for the April magazine. Send any information you have to me at jerry@toi.org.

Educational District Program Gets Underway

March 11th begins the first of six educational district events planned across Illinois for 2015. We have a great program scheduled for all six events. The official agenda or schedule is included below. As you can see, there is something for everyone. Take a moment today and register for the Educational District event in your area. Challenge your township board members to attend an event and encourage innovative ways to learn how to promote your township events throughout 2015 and beyond. As we begin to hear rumblings of conversations regarding government consolidation, we are forced to once again prove our existence and value as THE GOVERNMENT CLOSEST TO THE PEOPLE, providing necessary community services across the great state of Illinois.

There are a few changes this year to the program

- We have changed the program registration time to 8 am and will begin the program at 8:30 am.
- The lunch will be provided in Division breakout rooms to accommodate their programs. The Divisions of the Township Officials of Illinois who sponsor the Educational District Program have asked for additional time at each of the district events for programs specific to their individual elected positions that make up the township boards in all your townships. The programs they have secured are great! A description of what they are providing is below.

ASSESSORS ADD NEW CIAO CE credit course to their division component

The IPAI and TOI are excited to offer assessors a

more robust education opportunity at 2015 TOI District Program events. Our organizations have combined forces to offer CIAO Maintenance credit at each TOI regional event. This co-sponsored program, titled "Legal Update for Assessors," is a 3.5-hour learning seminar, developed specifically for these regional meetings. The programs will take place during the afternoon session, after the morning program.

"Legal Update for Assessors" is intended to educate township officials on the sources of law controlling real estate assessment and taxation. The seminar will provide an introduction to the principles of due process and uniformity that guide the assessment process in Illinois. An overview of appeal procedures and remedies sets the stage for a discussion of essential legal decisions and legislative provisions that influence and control the property tax assessment and appeal processes. Finally, the seminar will conclude with an overview and understanding of the unauthorized practice of law as it pertains to assessment appeals.

In addition, each session will begin with a 15-minute introduction to the new IPAI online registration system. The IPAI will accept these District Program events for 3.75 hours of CIAO Maintenance credit. Thanks to the partnership with TOI, we are able to offer this session at a cost of only \$25 per person. Participants must register via the IPAI website (www.ipai.education). No refunds or credits will be provided to no-shows or late cancellations.

If you are a Township Assessor interested in attending, please follow this checklist.

1. Register for the TOI District event separately from the CIAO training.
2. Log onto the link and complete the separate registration process for the CIAO credit approved course. A separate fee of \$25 applies for this training. The Illinois Property Assessment Institute is managing the enrollment to ensure proper CIAO credits are applied.

2015 Annual Educational Conference Planning Underway

The 2015 Conference Committee is asking for your input on proposed changes to the Annual Conference program schedule. The Committee is asking for you

to complete a simple, four-question survey. You may access the survey from the TOI website at www.toi.org or by entering the following URL address in your search engine.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TOI2015>

We thank you in advance for participating in the planning efforts of the Conference Committee.

2015 Education District Program Outline

- 8:00 AM Registration Opens
- 8:30 AM Welcome Remarks Opening Comments, Bryan Smith
Introduction of Vendors
TOI President Opening Remarks – Karen Reese
Overview of Program: Jerry Crabtree, Associate Director
TOIRMA Welcome Remarks
- 9:00 AM-10:00 AM Rich Morthland (Blackhawk Community College)
(All locations except Springfield and Naperville)
Solid, Surprising, Sublime: An Insider’s Tour of the Illinois State Capitol
Go beyond the 50¢ tour – Get an insider’s perspective on the history and architecture of the Illinois State Capitol. The building’s sesquicentennial and the state’s bicentennial will be in 2018.
- 10:00 AM-10:15 AM Break (Sponsored by Vendors)
- 10:15 AM-11:15 AM **FEATURED SPEAKER**
(Outline provided below)
- 11:15 AM-12:15 PM Ms. Kaleigh Moore: **Engaging Townships with Relevant Social Media**
Township government is incrementally looking at social media and other media outlets to convey our important message that we are the Government Closest to the People. This program promotes how to accomplish just that.

DIVISION COMPONENT OF PROGRAM

- 12:30 PM Boxed Lunch served in assigned division rooms
- 1:00 PM Division Program Begins *(See descriptions below)*
- Supervisors** 12:45 PM-2:00 PM
Keri-Lyn Krafthefer, Ancel Glink
“It’s Not Your Grandpa’s Township”
Ancel Glink is discussing common topics from a supervisor’s point of view. The program explores legal updates to the FOIA/OMA, privacy issues related to the township, new laws, and a few township basics.
- 2:00 PM-3:00 PM
GATI Program Overview
GATI committee representatives will provide an overview of the GATI program and what to expect in 2015. A general question and answer session will follow.
- Clerks** 12:45 PM-2:00 PM
Greg Moredock, Esq of Sorling Northrup
RECORD RETENTION IN TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT “How do we do it?”
An in-depth discussion of the responsibilities of clerks relating to record retention. The program will discuss new electronic storage requirements and state requirements for local government.

2:00 PM–3:00 PM

Overview of Clerks Duties and Responsibilities

The Division Board will present a program outlining the duties and responsibilities of Township Clerks with a question and answer period.

Trustees **Kaleigh Moore** Lumen

Engaging Townships with Relevant Social Media

A program that discusses how to effectively promote township news, activities, and success stories within your region. Learn how to showcase the value of your township through various mass media outlets as well as best practices for expanded reach.

Highway Commissioners

Round Robin Discussion on Highway Commissioner Issues Today

Assessors **IPAI**

Legal Update for Township Assessors: The Assessors division has partnered with the Illinois Property Assessment Institute to provide a program where CE credits are available. This requires a separate registration fee in addition to the TOI program fee. See the information and link to register below.

PLEASE NOTE: this training requires an additional fee of \$25 and you are required to register through the Illinois Property Assessment Institute. 3.5 CIAO credits will be provided for completion of the complete training.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

Bill Morris ***Township Government In Illinois –*** ***Staying Relevant*** **(SPRINGFIELD ONLY)**



BILL MORRIS

Modern technology has dramatically changed the way we communicate today. Most people under 40 do not even subscribe to a newspaper, nor a daily newspaper. They get their news from Facebook or The Daily Show. Yet many townships are still operating as if it is the 1960s.

There is ongoing pressure in Springfield to save money and whenever these talks start, there are suggestions to change or eliminate township government. Mr. Morris will discuss these issues and offer suggestions on how to keep township government relevant in Illinois no matter the size or location of your township.

Glenn Poshard **(REND LAKE – Whittington ONLY)**



DR. GLENN POSHARD

Dr. Poshard is a three-degree graduate of Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Entering on the G.I. Bill, he earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education in 1970, a master's degree in health education in 1974, and a Ph.D. in higher education administration in 1984.

In August 1984, Dr. Poshard was appointed to the Illinois State Senate. He was successfully elected later that year and was re-elected in 1986. Based on his success in the State Senate, the citizens of southern Illinois sent him to the United States Congress in 1989. He set a limit of ten years on his service in Congress and in 1998 won the Democratic nomination for Governor of the State of Illinois but lost in the general election.

In 1999, Dr. Poshard was appointed Vice Chancellor for Administration for the Carbondale campus of Southern Illinois University, a post he held until July 2003. Governor Rod Blagojevich appointed him to the Board of Trustees of Southern Illinois University in January 2004. Later that year, he was elected Chair of the Board of Trustees, a position he held until declaring his candidacy for President of the University system. He has now retired from the post of SIU President.

Jim Edgar ***“Solving Government in a Turbulent Time”*** **(BLOOMINGTON and O’Fallon ONLY)**



FMR GOV. JIM EDGAR

As the 38th Governor of Illinois, Jim Edgar inherited what was then the largest deficit in the state's history. He made hundreds of millions of dollars in budget cuts. He found ways to deliver services more efficiently and effectively, reducing the state work force by 2,500 employees.

Edgar was elected governor in 1990 and re-elected by the widest plurality any incumbent Illinois governor has received.

He has continued his commitment to responsible and responsive government as a distinguished fellow at the University of Illinois' Institute of Government and Public Affairs. He spearheads the Edgar Fellow program, which brings together emerging leaders from all parts of Illinois to foster the statesmanship that will address major challenges across regional, partisan and ethnic lines.

Dr. Paul Green (NAPERVILLE and ROCKFORD ONLY)



DR. PAUL GREEN

If you've ever heard Paul Green, you know there will be surprises!

Green's presentation will be a township pep talk—a combination of Knute Rockne and Mike Ditka, he said. Paul Green has provided educational sessions to township officials since 1981. The former Monee Township supervisor and

professor at Governors State University was the impetus for TOI's spring training seminars co-sponsored by TOI, the Illinois Department of Commerce & Community Affairs and Governors State University's Institute for Public Policy and Administration.

Green now serves as Director for the Institute of Politics at Roosevelt University in Chicago, where he teaches, and he does commentary on WGN-TV and Radio, CLTV and public radio.

Jim Donelan



JIM DONELAN

Jim Donelan is Associate Director of the Township Officials of Illinois Risk Management Association (TOIRMA). Prior to joining TOIRMA, Donelan served as Executive Assistant to Springfield Mayor Tim Davlin.

Donelan graduated from Illinois State University with majors in Finance and Business Administration, and has completed graduate work at the University of Illinois-Springfield.

He has over 20 years of experience working with local governments and has enjoyed assisting elected officials and staffs from cities, counties, townships, school districts, and other local governments throughout the State of Illinois. Jim also served as Associate Director of the Township Officials of Illinois.

He is co-author of *Illinois Statehouse*, an Images of America book and is co-founder of a website dedicated to our present capitol building, www.ilstatehouse.com.

Gregory Moredock



GREGORY MOREDOCK

Gregory E. Moredock, a Springfield native, graduated *cum laude* as a John W. Berry Sr. Scholar from the University of Dayton in 2010. He earned his Juris Doctor *magna cum laude* from the University of Cincinnati College of Law in 2013.

Mr. Moredock joined Sorling Northrup upon his graduation and has worked extensively in municipal government. Mr. Moredock advises municipalities and townships on matters including statutory compliance, Open Meeting Act, FOIA requests, and litigation issues.

Rich Morthland



RICH MORTHLAND

Rich Morthland has been speaking professionally for more than 20 years. He earned a bachelor's degree in mass communication with a minor in business from St. Ambrose University in 1986. Rich grew up on a family farm in upper Rock Island County that was homesteaded in 1842. He left the farm in 1987, moving to Denver, Colo., where he had an eight-year career in radio, both as on-air talent and management.

While in Denver, Rich earned a master's degree in a communication-related field. He began teaching courses in public speaking and broadcasting techniques in 1992. In 1994, Rich and his family returned to Illinois to operate the farm. He began teaching speech communications part-time at Black Hawk College in 2002 and became a full-time speech instructor in fall 2013. Rich served on the Rock Island County Board from 2008-10 and served as state representative for Illinois' 71st District from January 2011 to January 2013.

Keri-Lyn Krafthefer



KERI-LYN KRAFTHEFER

Keri-Lyn Krafthefer is a shareholder and partner with the law firm of Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer, P.C., which has offices in Chicago, Naperville, Vernon Hills, Crystal Lake and Bloomington. She received her undergraduate degree in Political Science from the University of

Illinois and her juris doctor degree from the John Marshall Law School. Throughout her legal career, Keri-Lyn has concentrated her practice in the representation of units of local government and public officials. Keri-Lyn has counseled numerous townships regarding the issues that arise daily, including matters related to board prac-

tices and procedures, personnel, finance, employment, intergovernmental cooperation, open space, election law and governmental finance, as well as in litigation.

Keri-Lyn is the primary author of the Township Officials of Illinois Laws & Duties Handbook. She has authored several chapters of the Township Clerk's Handbook, helped edit The Illinois Township Supervisor's Guide and has spoken at various zone meetings for the Township Officials of Illinois clerks division, providing an overview of township clerks' responsibilities. Keri-Lyn also formerly served as a Township Trustee in York Township. She serves as the township attorney or special counsel for many townships.

Keri-Lyn speaks regularly at training seminars and the annual conferences sponsored by the Township Officials of Illinois, as well as to regional township and township clerks' associations.

TOIPAC FUNDRAISER OFF TO A GREAT START

481

TOIPAC 481
CASH RAFFLE
\$25 per ticket

\$500 November 13, 2015
\$500 November 20, 2015
\$500 November 27, 2015
\$500 December 4, 2015
\$500 December 11, 2015

Need not be present to win.
3217 Northfield Drive ~ Springfield, IL 62702 ~ 217.744.2212

5 Cash Drawings!!

Name _____
Address _____
Phone # _____
Township _____

Contact TOI Board members for tickets! Five cash drawings will be held and you do not need to be present. Tickets are \$25 each.

Check out TOI's Directory of Programs and Special Services, downloadable at www.toi.org.

Horse. Livestock. Utility. Cargo. Flatbed. Dump.

RAWLINGS

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Results from the Technology Survey are complete

The survey initiated during the 2014 Conference asking for your input on evaluating the types of technology used in your township produced the following results.

The survey produced 812 responses. Not every respondee answered all of the questions but at a minimum one response was tabulated from each response. And produced the following results.

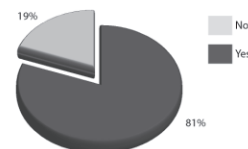
Does your township have a computer?

100 percent of those who answered this question indicated YES.

Do you utilize e-mail for township business?

100 percent of the 283 responses to this question indicated YES.

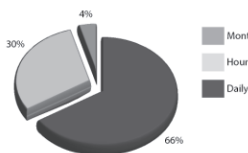
Do you own a Smart Phone?



Do you own a tablet or iPad device?



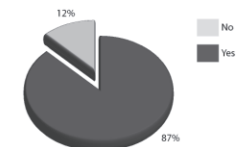
Do you check e-mail?



Would you participate in online member services provided by TOI?

100 percent indicated YES.

Would you participate in TOI Education Program Webinars?



Would you read Township Perspective magazine online if made available?

