



from your Associate Director

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TOI Associate Director / Education Coordinator

THE OCTOBER ISSUE of *Township Perspective* is an exciting issue. Why you ask? Because the entire conference program is published and available for everyone to review and make plans to attend the greatest township educational event of the year! Have you Registered yet?

You are invited to attend the Township Officials of Illinois Annual Educational Conference in Springfield. This three-day conference (November 12-14, 2017) is the premier event for Illinois' TOWNSHIP officials, offering unparalleled access to educational and networking opportunities. Education Programs such as Communications, Finance, Management and many more allow attendees to plan ahead and create a custom conference experience by choosing from more than 35 different sessions to meet individual needs and interests. Learn more and register online at www.toi.org to join 1,000+ elected township officials from throughout Illinois at the Crowne Plaza, Springfield. Don't forget to make your hotel reservation online before our room block expires.

Some Important Conference Planning Things to Remember!

The Conference APP returns for the third year thanks to our Sponsors providing the following: (Directions are on the TOI homepage at www.toi.org on how to download the app if needed)

- A preview of the schedule
- Access to event schedules any time to customize your conference experience
- Review of Speaker information and handouts

presented during education programs

- Review of the exhibitor listings and location of each on the exhibit floor
- Exhibitor Floor Plan
- Evaluation forms for Educational Programs
- Many other aspects to make your conference experience the best ever!

I challenge all of you to take an opportunity and introduce a fellow township official or even a neighboring official to the benefits of attending the 2017 Annual Educational Conference.

As you register and prepare to attend the November Annual Educational Conference I call your attention to a few checklist items:

- Plan early and make a list of the educational sessions you wish to attend
- Schedule the Tour of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum session you want to attend on Sunday night (when you arrive you will get a ticket for the session you plan to attend)
- Make all dinner plans/reservations while you are in Springfield
- Plan to dress accordingly and bring a jacket in the event it gets cold in session rooms. We struggle every year with finding a comfortable temperature for all attendees
- Plan to bid on a silent auction item
- Order a banquet ticket if you have not already. I call your attention to the fact that the banquet is on Monday night this year and not the final day of the conference.
- Dueling pianos following the banquet dinner, it

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Township Classifieds Work!

Township equipment sells from our website, www.toi.org/Township-Perspective/Township-Classifieds, and from *Township Perspective*. List your surplus equipment now for results! For \$75 (copy w/photo) or \$25 (copy only), your township ad will be on our website and in the next available issue of *Township Perspective*. Email olivia@toi.org to advertise or for more information.



is going to be a great time for everyone!

- Review the list of exhibitors and make plans to talk to those offering services you are interested in. The exhibitors are what make the funds available to host such a great conference. Remember to visit with as many as you can.
- Most of all plan to network and have fun. Most of all take new and informative information back to your township.

I challenge all of you to ask your township boards to attend the annual conference. The return on the investment of \$165 (registration fee excluding travel) is amazing. You can even register for a single day. The

educational programs, vendor opportunities and overall networking with others in your place on the local government landscape is worth the trip.

PROMOTE YOUR TOWNSHIP WITH THE 5th ANNUAL PARADE OF FLAGS PROGRAM

Does your township have a township flag? Are members of your township board attending the 2017 conference? If so, you need to have your township register to be part of the opening ceremony with the parade of flags. Contact TOI today with the name of your townships flag bearer. Olivia Jones can be reached at 217.744.2212 or olivia@toi.org.

A FEW REMINDERS TO SUPPORT THE FUND RAISING EFFORTS OF TOIPAC

Don't forget to participate in the 2017 SILENT AUCTION. Items that we have received are viewable on the conference APP and will be available near the registration area when you arrive at the 2017 Annual Conference. All proceeds from the SILENT AUCTION benefit TOIPAC.

If you have not purchased raffle tickets from a TOI board member, please do so. The 2017 raffle is a \$2500 travel voucher to a destination of your choice. Tickets are available now from TOI board members and will be sold at the TOI EXHIBIT BOOTH during the conference.



Professional Development



JOHN REDLINGSHAFER, of the Heyl Royster Law Firm, led a Professional Development on September 15 at the TOI Office in Springfield. The course discussed the potential pitfalls and protections in the law out there for your Township or Road District before, during, and after your project. It focused on the Prevailing Wage Act and Right-Of-Way-Issues. These sessions are a great way to stay informed on current issues your township may face. Be sure to keep a look out for future Professional Development sessions.