



# from your Associate Director

By Jerry B. Crabtree

TOI Associate Director / Education Coordinator



**T**HE SCHEDULE IS COMPLETE, the speakers are confirmed and the activities are planned— YES, IT'S TOI CONFERENCE TIME! The TOI staff is excited to host the 108th Annual Educational Conference of the Township Officials of Illinois. We look forward to connecting with all of you, networking and promoting ways to make township government even better in ILLINOIS!

Please take advantage of the Conference App that is now downloadable for your mobile device. This is the second year we are utilizing the APP and look forward to offering its benefits to all conference attendees.

### The APP provides the following:

- A preview of the schedule
- Access to event schedules any time to customize your conference experience
- Review speaker bios and information prior to their scheduled educational sessions
- Download/review handouts prior to attending educational sessions
- Review the exhibitor listings and view their location on the exhibit floor
- Get updates and offers only available for APP users
- Get access to comments, pictures, and engagement opportunities



The conference app works on any phone, tablet or device (including laptop/desktop computers). Follow these easy instructions for using the app:

- Log into the download center/app store on your device
- Find the app under the name "TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS"
- Download the app to your device
- Sign in and register with an email/password of your choice. This will connect you to the active conference app.
- Registering will automatically enter you in a drawing to win FREE registration at the 2016 Annual Education Conference.
- To experience the full benefits of the conference app, you MUST register (login). TOI will never share your personal information.
- We will also have an app kiosk set up at the conference for those who need assistance.

The use of the APP technology will not replace the conference program. It is intended to be used in conjunction with the paper program. We hope that you utilize the advance conference opportunities provided by the use of the APP to assist in making your conference experience even better.

### PROMOTE YOUR TOWNSHIP IN THE 3rd ANNUAL PARADE OF FLAGS PROGRAM

Does your township have a flag? To promote unity and a sense of community, we are requesting every township participate in the 3rd annual Township Flag program during the Opening Session. If you are interested in participating please email me at [jerry@toi.org](mailto:jerry@toi.org) or contact Amy Rourke at the TOI office 217.744.2212.

### TOI WEBSITE PROGRAM


As many of you know, TOI provides a low cost, effective website opportunity for our members. Annually, in October, we promote the membership subscriptions and discuss the benefits provided by the program. This year, we are announcing a complete update to the program, provided to current and new subscriptions. We now offer three creative color pallet options, ensuring customizable delivery of your township information. TOI's website will also be launching a new design.

Check your mail for an exciting offer to become part of the program. We recognize that the development and maintenance of such a program is available independently. The purpose of this program is to assist all townships, regardless of their financial capacity, with developing an electronic presence through a township website.

**Benefits of our program include:**

- Low monthly cost, a fraction of the cost of a newsletter
- Free program software (Only an internet connection is required)
- TOI handles all of the security software required
- Ability to quickly and effectively communicate your message to all of your township residents

- Ability to promote your monthly township meeting agendas
- Ability to promote community events
- Educate your community on the value provided by your township
- Provide a listing of road district opportunities
- Increase communication with your township residents
- New this year, we are offering a professional services directory where advertisers can promote their services to township residents.

Visit our association website today at [www.toi.org](http://www.toi.org) to view program registration information. If you have any questions, please contact me at [jerry@toi.org](mailto:jerry@toi.org). 

***The TOI Board of Directors met on September 11 at the TOI Office in Springfield to conduct business.***



**BRYAN SMITH** addresses TOI Board Members at the meeting. Also pictured, seated (left to right): Immediate past President Jeffrey Wallace (Joliet Township, Will County), Secretary Susie Carpentier (South Rock Island Township, Rock Island County), and President Karen Reese (Newell Township, Vermilion County).



**TOI BOARD MEMBERS** in the TOI office.