



From Your Associate Director

WHAT A CONFERENCE! We had great attendance turnout and it was nice to see old and new faces attending the educational sessions. I heard positive comments on all of them. For those of you who attended the Tuesday evening banquet and witnessed my forced portrayal of "Goober," I appreciate your humor. I think Otis, Andy and I need to give ole Barney a return on the humor! Seriously, I think that everyone enjoyed the banquet program. It did provide some material to talk about for a while—I am just going to leave "Goober" at the Springfield Hilton until next year!

Congratulations to the Honorable Olen Kibler for two great years serving as President of the Township Officials of Illinois. Olen provided outstanding leadership to TOI and is a true friend. The contributions he made throughout his term help new officials realize the benefits of belonging to such a great organization.

By now you have returned home from Springfield and settled back in to your daily routine at the township office. Although you may have missed some time from work while attending the Township Officials of Illinois (TOI) 2008 Annual Educational Conference, by now you have (or are working toward) returning



phone calls, answering e-mail and addressing any issues that unraveled in your absence. What is next? What can you do with the information and knowledge you experienced / acquired at the TOI conference? Not to mention all of the new/old contacts, business cards and materials (handouts) you collected in the conference exhibit bag.

Here are some recommended ideas to maximize your conference experience and investment of time spent at the 2008 TOI Conference.

1. If you have not completed the 2008 Conference survey, visit www.toi.org and complete the survey on-line. Your feedback is vital to the success of future conferences.
2. Deliver on what you promised. Review any promises you made during the meeting. If you told someone you would e-mail them or provide contact information, follow through on what you promised. You may find yourself utilizing these contacts on a regular basis regarding questions on common challenges and issues.
3. If several of your fellow board members or staff from the township attended the conference, meet with them to discuss as a group your experiences. Consider providing your local newspaper with a briefing of the event. Talk to a reporter about your experience. This can benefit the overall

On our cover ...

Bonnie Gavin, City of Peoria Twp. (Peoria Co.) Assessor, with TOI Director/S. Rock Island Twp. Assessor Susie Carpentier and TOI Secretary/Newell Twp. (Vermilion Co.) Assessor Karen Reese;

Supervisor Jim Anderson (Pecatonica Twp./Winnebago Co.) won a Lincoln bust given at Illinois' reception;

TOI 1st Vice President Mickey Goral and Executive Director Bryan Smith bring home the attendance prize for Illinois having the most delegates at the NATaT Conference

- image of township government in your area.
4. Prepare a summary of your experiences at the conference sessions you attended, outstanding speakers you heard, interesting township officials you met, vendors you talked to, and the ideas you picked up. Use your notes and handouts you received to prepare a summary. This will help you jog your memory of important details when discussing the aspects with fellow township officials and others who were unable to attend the conference. Use the report to discuss the event at your next township meeting.
 5. Take care of those business cards—file them. Scan them, file them, or transfer the information to your office contact listing. Do something with them right away. Those that you don't need, discard them to avoid confusion in the future.
 6. Continue the learning experiences you liked. Search the web for additional sites on speakers you liked, or a product you are interested in from the exhibit hall. Remember this is a fast way to find a contact when you have misplaced their contact information.
 7. Make a folder of the most important informa-

- tion you collected at the conference and file it for future reference.
8. Make recommendations to the association regarding what areas you would like to see for additional educational opportunities provided at future conferences.
9. Promote the value of attending the conference to fellow board members and township staff. Convey the importance of knowing how to make your township prepared and updated on new local government trends.
10. Remember to utilize the skills you experienced to move your township into the future. Look toward new programs, services, enhancements to existing programs all for the betterment of the township.

The Annual Educational Conference provided by TOI is necessary for all township officials in Illinois. This is a place where township officials can get the background and understanding needed to deal with current problems townships face. What you learn could easily save the township money, promote its existence and ultimately provide better services to the residents.



It's not too late – You can still order a TOIPAC Market Basket!

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Twp/Co _____

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City/Zip _____

Basket: _____	\$40.00	_____
TOI LOGO Tie On _____	\$5.00	_____
Shipping / Handling _____	\$7.00 per basket	_____
	TOTAL	_____

**Return this form by mail to
TOIPAC, 408 South Fifth Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701**