



From Your Executive Director

Help us celebrate
Abe's 200th birthday!

NOT VERY OFTEN do you get to help celebrate someone's 200th birthday, but that's exactly what we are going to do!

Our Annual Educational Conference theme this year is *Government For the People – The Lincoln Legacy*. What better way to honor our 16th President than with a 200th birthday party to kick off our annual Conference on Sunday evening, Nov. 8.

Conference delegates will be treated to a birthday party (complete with birthday cake) and the evening to tour the fabulous Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum in downtown Springfield. Rumor has it that the birthday boy himself and Mrs. Lincoln will even be in attendance. It's one party you won't want to miss!

The Opening General Session of the Conference will be kicked off Monday morning, Nov. 9 with motivational speaker Greg Risberg, who has addressed audiences all over the world. Greg will discuss how to handle stress better, communicate more effectively, and how to find balance in your life. Greg will be a great "kick off" to the Conference and one speaker you will not want to miss.

Jerry Crabtree, TOI's Education Coordinator, along with the Education Committee, has put together an outstanding lineup of educational sessions for delegates to choose from on both Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 9-10. Whether you are a brand new official or a returning "veteran", there will be something for everyone to attend. Please see the education session lineup elsewhere in this magazine and see what sparks your interest. There is a lot to choose from so take some time and review what's being offered.

The various divisions will hold their meetings Tuesday afternoon and have planned interesting and informative programs for their members. Make sure

you plan to attend your division meeting. The Closing Business Session of the Conference will follow the division meetings at the Prairie Capital Convention Center to round out Tuesday afternoon.

Spouses of Conference delegates will also be treated to a very special spouse program Monday, Nov. 9 at the Hilton Hotel. Dr. Eva Muller of Professional Counseling Services in Springfield will educate attendees on the health benefits of meditation, deep breathing and relaxation techniques. This is a great program and opportunity for spouses so please see ticket information elsewhere in this magazine and get your spouse signed up now!

The Conference will conclude Tuesday evening with our annual banquet at the Hilton Hotel. Our after-dinner entertainment will be comedian Dan St. Paul. Dan's material comes from being a suburban husband and father, dealing with the frustrations of everyday life. You won't want to miss the banquet and Dan St. Paul. Tickets are required and information can be found in this magazine.

The TOI staff and Board of Directors are looking forward to a successful, educational and fun-filled Annual Conference Nov. 8-10 in Springfield.

If you haven't registered yet, it's not too late to do so. In this issue is complete registration information. Deadlines are quickly approaching, so send in your registration today.

TOI looks forward to seeing as many of you as possible in Springfield Nov. 8-10. Lots of good things have been planned, so we hope you will join us!



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