

# from the Executive Director's Desk



By Jerry B. Crabtree

TOI Executive Director

**I**N MAY 2021 (a year ago) you were all in the process of starting your new term in township government or returning to serve as an elected official in the oldest form of government in the United States—TOWNSHIP GOVERNMENT. I hope that this past year has provided you with insight into the significance of township government. We have all managed to make it through and continue to fight an unprecedented health crisis in our country.

The office has been busy. We successfully closed our 40th ANNUAL LOBBY DAY on April 6th. The response and feedback from attendees have been great. I think we made a significant impact sending the TOWNSHIP message to the members of the Illinois General Assembly. Illinois Speaker of the House Chris Welch provided an outstanding keynote address at the lunch ensuring that unnecessary consolidation of township government was not currently open for discussion. We had about 50 members from the Illinois General Assembly attend the reception. Thank you to everyone who made the trip to Springfield. If you were unable to attend, please know that the 41st next year in 2023 will be even better.

Handbook as a paid member you are able to access an online edition of the book. Therefore, your Laws and Duties Handbook is accessible anywhere. The log in link is at the top of the TOI website. Check out the new section today.

Please be advised of a change—In order to streamline availability and reduce printing costs TOI is changing the process to order publications provided in the *Perspective* magazine. In the past, in the back of the magazine all of our available publications were listed for you to complete and return the order form to the office via mail. Starting with this edition of *Perspective*, we are directing all orders to our website to be completed. If you are interested in ordering one of the publications provided in the listing, you can visit our online store at [www.toi.org](http://www.toi.org) and complete the online purchase there. You also have the option to download and print an order form (as in the past) to mail in your orders. We are also doing this now for all education and program events. Please check the many programs available and register today.

**REMEMBER TO SAVE THE DATE**—Our annual fall conference is returning in person on November 13-15, 2022. Watch for registration information in June 2022!

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TOI has a new MEMBERS ONLY section of the website to announce. In our efforts to continue improving our member outreach and services, I am excited to announce that our MEMBERS ONLY SECTION of the WEBSITE at [www.toi.org](http://www.toi.org) is available. This is a new member benefit. If you are a paid dues member, have an active email address in our database you can access the information provided in this section that is exclusive to TOI members only. Additionally, if you have purchased the 2022 Laws and Duties

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