
UTAH OPERATION LIFESAVER

Volume One, Number Two, Second Quarter 2005

This is the official newsletter of **Utah Operation Lifesaver**, a highway/railroad grade crossing safety program and a railroad trespass prevention program.

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**Look!
Listen!
And Live!**

Utah Operation Lifesavers Honors Four Presenters For 2004

When members of Utah Operation Lifesaver met at Ogden Union Station for the training and coordination meeting on February 23, 2005, three top presenters from Utah Operation Lifesaver were recognized for their commitment in 2004. Andrew Glad, Phil Lavorgna and Walt Webster were presented with certificates of appreciation for the amount of presentations given in 2004. Their dedication is greatly appreciated by Utah Operation Lifesaver.

Also, Beverly Thrall was recognized for her dedicated service as she continues to volunteer as material's coordinator. Congratulations to Andrew, Beverly, Phil and Walt! Utah Operation Lifesaver is sincerely grateful for your volunteerism.

Two New Regional Coordinators Named

Toby Bath and Garry Bringhurst have volunteered as regional coordinators for regions four and five. Toby is a retired police officer, a current Lindon City Council member, and a driver instructor for the Alpine School District. Garry is a school bus driver for the South Sanpete School District, a district level instructor, and a self-employed furniture maker. He once worked for Union Pacific Railroad as a road foreman and is the former mayor of Sterling. Thank you for your willingness to serve!

The regional coordinators and their phone numbers are listed below:

Region

1. Kathy Bessinger – (435) 279-8130 home
2. Walt Webster – (801) 295-5633 home
3. Terri Fontaine – (801) 596-1889 home
4. Toby Bath – (801) 785-1929 home
5. Garry Bringhurst – (435) 835-3431 home
6. Brian Mauldwin – (435) 867-5161 home

They include the following 29 counties:

Region

1. Box Elder, Cache and Rich Counties
2. Davis, Morgan and Weber Counties
3. Salt Lake and Tooele Counties
4. Daggett, Duchesne, Summit, Uintah, Utah, and Wasatch Counties
5. Carbon, Emery, Grand, Juab, Millard, Sanpete and Sevier Counties
6. Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, Piute, San Juan, Washington and Wayne Counties

Stay Off! Stay Away! Stay Alive!

Utah OL Attends Driver Education Conference

Walt Webster, Region Two Coordinator, represented Utah Operation Lifesaver at the Utah Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association's Annual Conference on February 28, 2005. More than 150 high schools and private driving schools attended. Walt has been representing Utah OL and attending this conference for several years. He has a great relationship with these teachers. He received several referrals and will be distributing those referrals to the various regional coordinators. Thanks Walt for attending this event!

Utah OL Attends Stingers Baseball Game

Andrew Glad, Presenter, represented Utah Operation Lifesaver at the Salt Lake Stringers Baseball game on April 26, 2005. Utah OL was part of Prevention Dimensions Awareness Kids Day, a safety event for children. More than 5,000 children enjoyed the game as the Stingers won 12-9 in the bottom of the ninth. They needed four runs to win it and they got it. Thanks Andrew for attending this event!

State Coordinator's Message

I returned from Omaha, Nebraska for State Coordinator's Summit which was held April 24-27. This was my first time attending a state coordinator's meeting. I learned a great deal of information and would like to take this opportunity to share some things that were discussed.

We had three hours of media training. This was very helpful and motivated me to work more with media relations. We also had a presentation from one of the best logo creators in the country. One of the first logos for Operation Lifesaver included the cross buck sign, lights and gates. Many people across the country loved this logo. However, the majority of crossings in this country do not have gates. Then, the 21st century logo was created and it provided some controversy. Many issues were discussed from logos to slogans. In short, Operation Lifesaver will be adopting a new logo toward the end of this year. Many states have also adopted a logo, which has brought some confusion about Operation Lifesaver and its message. National Operation Lifesaver is trying to promote unity when it comes to the use of logos and slogans. This will promote our cause much better through logo recognition on a consistent basis. Finally, they are also working on reducing the number of printed materials and making them all consistent and more visual. I will keep you updated on the happenings of the logo and the printed materials.

We had additional training as it relates to marketing the state program, recruiting and retaining volunteers, recruiting partners, and keeping our files updated. I also visited with representatives from Amtrak, Union Pacific and BNSF (just a side note about BNSF, they changed their name from Burlington Northern Sante Fe to just BNSF).

The video "You Can Make a Difference" is redone and is almost ready for release. Also, the Grade Crossing Collision Investigation (GCCCI) Course is being released to a four-hour CD that can be done without an instructor and at the convenience of the participant. I look forward to visiting with you at our next quarterly Operation Lifesaver meeting to be held on Thursday, May 26, 2005 at the Salt Lake Community College, Miller Campus. See below for more information.

Next Utah OL Meeting

Utah Operation Lifesaver will meet on Thursday, May 26, 2005 for the second quarterly meeting. This meeting will be held from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Salt Lake Community College, Miller Campus located at 9750 South 300 West in Sandy. We will meet in room 224 of the Professional Development Center. See you there!

Training In Boise, Idaho

Although Utah decided to hold a training and coordination meeting locally this year, Utah Operation Lifesaver members have been invited to the Region 8 Workshop in Boise, Idaho on June 20 through 23, 2005. Registration is \$85 before May 1st and \$100 after May 1st. The Red Lion Inn Downtowner in Boise is \$64 a night. For more information or to obtain a registration form, please contact Vern Keeslar at (435) 755-3169.