



This is the official newsletter of **Utah Operation Lifesaver (Utah OL)**, a nonprofit public safety education and awareness organization dedicated to reducing collisions, fatalities and injuries at highway-rail crossings and trespassing on railroad tracks.

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Vern and Jennifer Keeslar

Operation Lifesaver Utah

2867 North 675 East

Lehi, UT 84043

(801) 310-1035 Vern

(801) 473-1444 Jennifer

[olutah@gmail.com](mailto:olutah@gmail.com)

**UTAH OPERATION  
LIFESAVER WEBSITE**

[www.olut.usu.edu](http://www.olut.usu.edu)

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## State Coordinator's Message – 2018 OL Utah Appreciation and Awards Banquet

This quarterly message is about the people and safety partners that made 2018 a successful year. Utah OL held its 2018 Appreciation and Awards Dinner at the Gathering Place at Gardner Village in West Jordan on Monday, March 25, 2019. First, I would like to recognize and thank our wonderful safety partners. Without their financial and in-kind support, we would not have a program. The following safety partners were recognized at the Appreciation and Awards Banquet.

### 2018 Utah Operation Lifesaver Safety Partners

*Gold Spike Safety Partners (\$20,000 and above)*

- Union Pacific Railroad

*Silver Spike Safety Partners (\$10,000 to \$19,999)*

- Utah Department of Transportation
- Utah Highway Safety Office
- Utah Transit Authority

*Iron Spike Safety Partners (\$1,000 to \$9,999)*

- BNSF Railway
- Genesee & Wyoming (Utah Railway and Salt Lake City Southern Railroad)
- Operation Lifesaver, Inc.
- Salt Lake, Garfield & Western Railway

*Laurelwood Tie Safety Partners (\$100 to \$999)*

- Hostlers Model Railroad Club
- Safety Awareness for Everyone (S.A.F.E.)
- Utah Local Technical Assistance Program
- Utah Trucking Association

There were several awards presented to volunteers and others associated with the Utah OL program. The following awards were presented.

The **Outstanding Media Award** is given to an individual or organization that has reported a story, in either print, radio, or television about safety at highway-rail grade crossings, or trespass prevention on railroad property, or about Operation Lifesaver's mission.

The Outstanding Media Award went to **Scott McKane**, Fox 13 News for a story during Rail Safety Week. The story aired on Tuesday, September 25, 2018 during two news broadcasts and on the Fox13Now website. Congratulations to Scott McKane! The story can be found at the following link: <https://fox13now.com/2018/09/25/operation-clear-track-teaches-safety-around-rail-crossings-whether-youre-walking-riding-or-driving/>

The **Safety Partner Presenter of the Year Awards** are given to presenters whose employers provide time for the presenters to participate in the Operation Lifesaver program while on company time. Safety partner presenters demonstrate high activity in the program by the number of presentations given, booths worked, or other involvement with Operation Lifesaver.

The Safety Partner Presenter of the Year Award was **Vic Saunders**, Utah Department of Transportation. Vic has earned this award for five years straight. He gave 83 presentations to 2,455 people.

The Safety Partner Presenter of the Year Award 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up was **Jim Golden**, Utah Department of Transportation. He gave 33 presentations to 1,695 people.

The Safety Partner Presenter of the Year Award 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up was **Sheldon Shaw**, Utah Transit Authority. He gave 31 presentations to 1,090 people.

The **Volunteer Presenters of the Year Awards** are given to presenters who are true volunteers, not being compensated for their time, and have demonstrated high activity in the Operation Lifesaver program. This high activity is demonstrated through one's activity in the number of presentations given, booths worked, or other involvement with the Operation Lifesaver.

The Volunteer Presenter of the Year Award was **Norm Nelson**. He gave 112 presentations to 1,056 people. Norm gives many of his presentations at the historic Brigham City Depot.

The Volunteer Presenter of the Year Award 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up was **Terri Fontaine**. She gave 38 presentations to 757 people. Terri gives many of her presentations at West High School, which is located near a very busy highway-rail grade crossing.

The Volunteer Presenter of the Year Award 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-up was **Katherine Bessinger**. She gave 24 presentations to 888 people.

The **State Coordinator's Award of Excellence** is given to an individual or an organization that has demonstrated excellence in participating in or supporting the Operation Lifesaver program through activity, in-kind support, and/or financial contributions.

The State Coordinator's Award of Excellence was awarded to **BNSF Railway**. BNSF Railway has been a contributor of rail safety educational materials and supplies to Utah Operation Lifesaver since 2005. They have been a dedicated supporter of the national Operation Lifesaver (OLI) program, member of the OLI National Advisory Council, member of the OLI Board of Directors, and a sponsor of the State Coordinator Summit held in Salt Lake City in January 2019. Present to receive the award was **Denise Gauthier**, Manager, Field Safety Support, BNSF Railway. Thanks BNSF Railway and Denise Gauthier for your lengthy participation in Operation Lifesaver and your dedication to rail safety education in Utah and across the nation!



Pictured from left to right: Jim Golden, Sheldon Shaw, Denise Gauthier, Terri Fontaine, Norm Nelson, Vic Saunders, and Dave Goeres.

