

This is the official newsletter of **Operation Lifesaver Utah (OL Utah)**, a highway-rail grade crossing safety program and a railroad trespass prevention program. To unsubscribe to this newsletter, please contact Vern Keeslar at olut@digis.net or call 801-310-1035.

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State Coordinator's Message – 2009 OL Utah Appreciation and Awards Dinner

Last quarter I discussed some statistics as it related to our OL program in Utah. This quarterly message is about the people and safety partners that made 2009 a successful year for us. OL Utah held an Appreciation and Award Dinner at Gardner Village's Gathering Place in West Jordan on April 5, 2010. First, I would like to recognize and thank our wonderful safety partners. Without their financial support, we would not have a program. The following safety partners were recognized at the Appreciation and Awards Dinner:

2009 Operation Lifesaver Utah Safety Partners

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

- Utah Highway Safety Office
- Union Pacific Railroad

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

- Utah Department of Transportation

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

- Heber Valley Historic Railroad
- InterPlan
- Operation Lifesaver (National Office)
- Utah Transit Authority

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

- Outdoor Promotions, Inc.
- Utah Local Technical Assistance Program at Utah State University
- Utah Trucking Association

There were several awards presented to volunteers and others associated with the OL Utah program. The following is a list of the awards presented that night.

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

Outstanding Media Award to Jed Boal, Reporter – KSL TV-5. The outstanding story about OL was aired on KSL TV-5 and the KSL Website on August 5, 2009.

Right: Photo of Jed Boal, Reporter KSL-TV, receiving the Outstanding Media Award from Vern Keeslar, OL Utah State Coordinator.



The **Safety Partner Presenter of the Year Awards** are given to presenters whose employers provide time for the presenters to participate in the OLUT 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 OL Utah.

Safety Partner Presenter of the Year Award – Erika Burback, Utah Transit Authority. Erika gave 248 presentations to 19,023 people.



Above: Photo of David Beach, Chair of the OL Utah Board of Directors, Erika Burback, and Paul O'Brien, Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Board of Directors and Utah Transit Authority.

Safety Partner Presenter of the Year Award 1st Runner-up – Ken VanMoorhem, Union Pacific Railroad. Ken gave 140 presentations to 4,871 people.



Above: Photo of David Beach, Chair of the OL Utah Board of Directors, Ken VanMoorhem, and Paul O'Brien, Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Board of Directors and Utah Transit Authority.

Safety Partner Presenter of the Year Award 2nd Runner-

up – Kent Jorgenson, Utah Transit Authority. Kent gave 41 presentations to 1,213 people.

Right: Photo of David Beach, Chair of the OL Utah Board of Directors, Kent Jorgenson, and Paul O'Brien, Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Board of Directors and Utah Transit Authority.



The **Volunteer Presenter 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 OLUT program. This high activity is demonstrated through one's activity in the number of presentations given, booths worked, or other involvement with the OLUT.



Volunteer Presenter of the Year Award – Walt Webster. Walt gave 95 presentations to 3,447 people.

Left: Photo of David Beach, Chair of the OL Utah Board of Directors, Walt Webster, and Paul O'Brien, Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Board of Directors and Utah Transit Authority.

First Runner-up was Philip Lavorgna. Phil gave 75 presentations to 2,385 people.

Right: Photo of David Beach, Chair of the OL Utah Board of Directors, Philip Lavorgna, and Paul O'Brien, Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Board of Directors and Utah Transit Authority.



Second Runner-up was Andrew Glad. Andrew gave 72 presentations to 2,909 people.

Left: Photo of David Beach, Chair of the OL Utah Board of Directors, Andrew Glad, and Paul O'Brien, Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Board of Directors and Utah Transit Authority.

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

State Coordinator's Award of Excellence – Utah Highway Safety Office. The Utah Highway Safety Office has contributed more than \$300,000 since 1992 to OL Utah, provided a member of the OL Utah Board of Directors since 2000, and provided invitations to statewide safety events.

Right: Photo of Vern Keeslar, OL Utah State Coordinator, David Beach, Utah Highway Safety Office, Paul O'Brien, Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Board of Directors and Utah Transit Authority.

