

# UTAH OPERATION LIFESAVER

Volume One, Number Three, Third 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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## MATERIALS COORDINATOR

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**UTAH OPERATION  
LIFESAVER WEBSITE**

[www.utaholi.org](http://www.utaholi.org)

**NATIONAL OPERATION  
LIFESAVER WEBSITE**

[www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org)

**Look...  
Listen...  
And Live!**

## State Coordinator's Message

I attended Region Eight's Regional Conference in Boise, Idaho, which was held June 21-23. This was a great regional conference. I learned a great deal of information. Jerry Hardesty, Manager of Public Safety for Union Pacific Railroad and Chair of the Board of Directors Utah Operation Lifesaver, and Phil Lavorgna, Assistant Regional Coordinator for Region three, were also in attendance.

I have had some requests for updated statistics for highway-rail grade crossing incidents/fatalities/injuries and for trespassing fatalities/injuries. The statistics contained below are from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). The FRA started keeping these statistics in 1975.

### National Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Statistics

Year	Incidents	Fatalities	Injuries
1975	12,126	917	3,860
2000	3,502	425	1,219
2001	3,237	421	1,157
2002	3,077	357	999
2003	2,962	332	1,028
2004	3,038	368	1,071

### Utah Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Statistics

Year	Incidents	Fatalities	Injuries
1975	87	9	15
2000	18	2	7
2001	20	2	8
2002	21	3	6
2003	19	0	6
2004	10	3	7

### National Trespassing Fatalities and Injuries

Year	Fatalities	Injuries
1975	442	558
2000	463	414
2001	511	404
2002	540	395
2003	501	396
2004	483	398

### Utah Trespassing Fatalities and Injuries

Year	Fatalities	Injuries
1975	2	1
2000	3	3
2001	2	1
2002	2	2
2003	2	4
2004	5	1

## **Union Pacific's 3985 Challenger to Visit Utah**

Union Pacific, Utah Operation Lifesaver, and Union Pacific Employee Clubs are proud to announce that Union Pacific's 3985 Challenger will be on display at Ogden Union Station Friday, August 26 and Saturday, August 27, 2005. The train will also have a souvenir car. Volunteers are needed to give ten minute presentations and to work the display booth. Please call Bev Thrall for sign up times at 801-359-4569. This is a very big public involvement event for us as we will be doing a press release to television, newspapers, and radio. For more information, you may contact Vern Keeslar at 435-755-3169.

## **Next Utah OL Meeting**

Utah Operation Lifesaver will meet on Thursday, August 18, 2005 for the third quarterly meeting. This meeting will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Vivian Park located approximately six miles up Provo Canyon. This is the same park where the Heber Valley Historic Railroad ends. We are planning a dinner and motor car rides for all associated with Utah OL. Bring your families! Please RSVP with Jennifer Keeslar at 435-755-3169 by August 12th so we can get an accurate count.

## **Two Utah OL Members Judge School Bus Rodeo**

Beverly Thrall and Terri Fontaine were judges at a school bus rodeo for the South Jordan School bus drivers on April 23, 2005. There were 37 bus drivers who had to perform several different driving maneuvers, one of which included crossing the highway/railroad grade crossing correctly and safely. Beverly and Terri judged this segment. Contestants were given demerits for failing to check mirrors, stopping closer than 15 feet from the tracks, stopping further than 50 feet from the tracks, failure to open the door and window at the crossing, failure to look down the tracks in each direction, failure to use bus flashers, failure to cancel signals after crossing tracks, failure to wear seat belt, and safely clearing the tracks and stopping no closer than 15 feet after the tracks. Most of the drivers did well, which means we are doing our jobs. Thanks Beverly and Terri for attending this event and representing Utah Operation Lifesaver!

## **Regional Coordinators Contact Information**

The regional coordinators and their phone numbers are listed below. The regional coordinators can schedule presentations and support presenters with materials or other needs.

### **Region**

1. Kathy Bessinger – (435) 279-8130 home  
Box Elder, Cache and Rich Counties
2. Walt Webster – (801) 295-5633 home  
Davis, Morgan and Weber Counties
3. Terri Fontaine – (801) 596-1889 home  
Salt Lake and Tooele Counties
4. Toby Bath – (801) 785-1929 home  
Daggett, Duchesne, Summit, Uintah, Utah, and Wasatch Counties
5. Garry Bringhurst – (435) 835-3431 home  
Carbon, Emery, Grand, Juab, Millard, Sanpete and Sevier Counties
6. Brian Mauldwin – (435) 867-5161 home  
Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, Piute, San Juan, Washington and Wayne Counties

## **Utah OL Conducting Inventory**

We are conducting an inventory of all presentation materials, videos, and other things that Utah OL owns. Some of you may have your own materials, but many are the property of Utah OL. Please conduct an inventory of what you have as a presenter and contact your regional coordinator with the information. This will assist us greatly as we purchase new visual charts for our presenters.

**Stay Off! Stay Away! Stay Alive!**

