



**OPERATION  
LIFESAVER®**

**Utah**

**Newsletter  
Volume Four  
Number Three  
Third Quarter 2008**

This is the official newsletter of **Operation Lifesaver 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](mailto:olut@digis.net) or call 801-310-1035.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**David Beach, Chair**

Utah Highway Safety Office

**Steve Aberton**

Utah Railway

**Doyt Bolling**

Utah LTAP Center

**Eric Cheng**

Utah Department of Transportation

**Gail Johnson**

Utah State Office of Education

**Michael Manwiller**

Heber Valley Railroad

**Patrick McGrath**

Union Pacific Railroad

**Matt Riffkin**

Citizen

**Kathy Slagowski**

Utah Highway Patrol

**Terry Smith**

Utah Trucking Association

**Roland Stanger**

Federal Highway Administration

**STATE COORDINATORS**

**Vern and Jennifer Keeslar**

**Operation Lifesaver Utah**

2867 North 675 East

Lehi, UT 84043

(801) 310-1035 Vern

(801) 473-1444 Jennifer

[olut@digis.net](mailto:olut@digis.net)

**MATERIALS COORDINATOR**

**Beverly Thrall**

(801) 359-4569

**OPERATION LIFESAVER**

**UTAH WEBSITE**

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

## State Coordinator's Message – Annual Safety Train Event



Union Pacific Railroad and Operation Lifesaver Utah held the annual safety train event on June 17 and 18, 2008. On June 17, the safety train performed operations in Nephi, Springville, and Provo. On June 18, the safety train conducted operations in Orem, Vineyard, Lindon, Pleasant Grove, American Fork, and Lehi. For highway-rail grade crossing violations, 12 citations and eight warnings were written during the two day event. For trespassing, three were cited and seven were warned. On June 18, we had 20 or so crossing violators who got away! As Forrest Gump says, "Sometimes there just aren't enough rocks." In our case, sometimes there just aren't enough police officers.

On June 18, we conducted a special educational safety train trip from Provo to Helper. We had a full train with elected officials (a state legislator, a county commissioner, and a mayor), safety partners, and presenters aboard. Once we arrived in Helper, we toured the



Western Mining and Railroad Museum. We then had a box lunch picnic at the park. We returned back to Provo on a motor coach bus and showed two Operation Lifesaver films to our captive audience. Special thanks to Union Pacific Railroad and the Western Mining and Railroad Museum for their support. Traveling over Soldier Summit during the daylight was a very scenic trip!

## OL Utah Booth Update

Operation Lifesaver Utah is busy as ever attending conferences and displaying our booth. Operation Lifesaver Utah has attended the following:

- Days of 47 Children's Parade in Salt Lake City in July.
- Safety Night at the Salt Lake Bees in August.
- The Utah Sheriff's Association Conference in St. George in September.

Thanks to all those who volunteer working at the booth and representing Operation Lifesaver Utah.

## Department of Transportation (DOT) Crossing Numbers

When giving OL presentations, it is appropriate to discuss the DOT crossing numbers. Many people will not know the address or what road they are on if their vehicle stalls on the railroad tracks. Every public crossing should have a DOT crossing number posted as shown below. Some may even have emergency phone numbers too.



## Preschool Students Receive OL Presentations

Larry Jacobs, OL presenter, gave several presentations to preschool children proving that you are never too young to learn about safety at railroad crossings and on railroad property.



## Union Pacific Employees Club #12 (Salt Lake City) Honored

The Union Pacific Employees Club #12 was honored at its Annual Employee Clubs Convention held in San Antonio, Texas in August. Club #12 from Salt Lake City received three awards. The first award was the Operation Lifesaver 100 Club for Club #12 members giving more than 100 Operation Lifesaver presentations. The second award was for 3<sup>rd</sup> place Operation Lifesaver Volunteer of the Year for Bev Thrall, the President of Club #12. Finally, the third award was for 2<sup>nd</sup> place for Outstanding Activities in Safety. Congratulations to Bev Thrall and Club #12. Thank you for supporting the Operation Lifesaver program.

## Area Coordinators Contact Information

The Area Coordinators and their phone numbers are listed below. The Area Coordinators can schedule presentations and support presenters with materials or other Operation Lifesaver needs.

### Area

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, Summit, and Tooele Counties
4. Blaine Hadfield – (801) 376-7680 mobile
  - Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah, Utah, and Wasatch Counties
5. Garry Bringhurst – (435) 835-3431 home
  - Carbon, Emery, Grand, Juab, Millard, Sanpete, and Sevier Counties
6. Ken Carr – 702-271-9070 mobile
  - Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, Piute, San Juan, Washington, and Wayne Counties

For Operation Lifesaver materials for presentations and booths, contact Bev Thrall at 801-359-4569.