



**OPERATION
LIFESAVER®**

Utah

**Newsletter
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Fourth Quarter 2011**

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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OPERATION LIFESAVER

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State Coordinator's Message – Moratorium on New Presenters for 2012

Operation Lifesaver's Board of Directors and OL's National Advisory Council (NAC) have been reviewing how Operation Lifesaver conducts and manages its training programs. Anticipating change, the OL Board of Directors has voted to place a moratorium on training new presenters in 2012, effective January 1, 2012. OL will continue to process new presenters for any classes that were held in 2011.

Their goal is to reduce the administrative burdens placed on state coordinators and OL staff associated with training and address the increasing requirements to maintain and manage a certification program while at the very minimum, retaining all of the valuable work presenters do throughout the country.

OL Presenters will continue to make presentations, report their presentations, schedule presentations, etc. with no changes anticipated throughout 2012. OL wants to conserve time and state resources as OL transitions to a new training program. Their vision is to have our new training program in place by the end of 2012, so we can continue to grow our volunteer base in 2013.

Volunteers have always been an essential part of Operation Lifesaver's history. Now going into OL's 40th Anniversary year, it is imperative that we not only search for ways to retain those valuable volunteers, but develop a program that is more efficient for them and us, all the while giving them more options to interact with the public to continue our very important mission of saving lives.

Thanks to every one of you for all of your hard work in making an award-winning certification program like ours successful. I firmly believe that on the other end of this transition year of 2012, we will have a stronger, more effective training program that allows more options for state programs, less intensive training, and more effective safety messaging.

Two New Board Members Appointed

The Operation Lifesaver Utah Board of Directors has appointed Linda Mayne and Clinton Ashmead to the board. Linda works for the Utah Office of Education and replaces long-time board member Gail Johnson, who recently retired. Clinton Ashmead works for the Utah Railway and he replaces highly valued board member Joe Via. The OL Utah program welcomes both Linda and Clinton!

OL Utah Booth Update

Special thanks to all of you working at the OL booths. Operation Lifesaver Utah has attended the following for the fourth quarter of 2011:

- Sunset Health and Safety Fair on October 8, 2011 in Sunset
- Monticello Safety Fair on October 13, 2011 in West Valley City
- Wasatch Rails Model Train Show on November 11, 12, and 13, 2011 in Salt Lake City

Utah Transit Authority Releases New Safety Video

In addition to a new safety awareness campaign, Utah Transit Authority (UTA) has just released a new safety video. The film follows six young adults as they travel to meet one another in Salt Lake City. Three groups of two travel by various modes of transportation to get to their destinations all while presenting safety messages for motorists, transit riders, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

UTA's new rail safety campaign includes safety messages on TV, radio, billboards, new signs at TRAX and FrontRunner stations, and TRAX light rail vehicle wraps. All include the Operation Lifesaver logo! The following new signs get your attention.



Area Coordinators Contact Information

The Area Coordinators and the Materials Coordinator and their phone numbers are listed below. These Coordinators can support presenters with Operation Lifesaver materials, 90-day evaluations, or other Operation Lifesaver needs.

Area

1. Kathy Bessinger – (435) 279-8130 home
 - Box Elder, Cache, and Rich Counties
2. Kent Jorgenson – (801) 510-1484 mobile
 - Davis, Morgan, and Weber Counties
3. Terri Fontaine – (801) 596-1889 home
 - Salt Lake, Summit, and Tooele Counties
4. Mason Haycock – (801) 995-0060 mobile
 - Daggett, Duchesne, Uintah, Utah, and Wasatch Counties
5. Garry Bringham – (435) 835-3431 home
 - Carbon, Emery, Grand, Juab, Millard, Sanpete, and Sevier Counties
6. Jackie Hardman – (435) 652-4721 work
 - Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, Piute, San Juan, Washington, and Wayne Counties

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