

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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www.oli.org

State Coordinator's Message – 2013 Operation Lifesaver Utah Safety Trains and Union Pacific CARES Events

Operation Lifesaver Utah and Union Pacific Railroad teamed up again to bring the safety train to Utah for three days. The first day was April 12, 2013 in which the safety train made a run from Salt Lake City to Faust. On September 5 and 6, 2013, the safety train made three trips in Utah. The first was from Salt Lake City to Spanish Fork Canyon, the second from Provo to Spanish Fork Canyon, and the third from Brigham City to Honeyville. The third trip departed the historic Brigham City Depot. Special thanks to Norm Nelson and his volunteers helping with parking and participants. The trips were very successful with the Operation Lifesaver message presented to each person that participated on the train rides.



Pictured above is Senator Deidra Henderson (R), District 7 Utah County pictured with Vern Keeslar, State Coordinator Operation Lifesaver Utah, after a ride on the Union Pacific/Operation Lifesaver Safety Train on September 6, 2013. Below is a photo of Walt Webster giving the OL safety message in the very full historic Challenger dome car of the "UP Heritage Fleet."



New OL Utah Board Member

The OL Utah Board of Directors has appointed Chris Weesner, General Manager with the Salt Lake, Garfield & Western Railway, to the Board of Directors. Vern Keeslar said, "Chris will be a fine addition to the OL Utah Board and brings a short-line railroad perspective." Welcome aboard Chris!

Chris replaces Roland Stanger of the Federal Highway Administration. Roland was appointed to the Board in November 2003. He has served as Secretary and Treasurer since December 2006. After nearly 10 years, Roland felt it was time to step aside. He faithfully served our program and OL Utah sincerely appreciates his contributions to our program. Thank you Roland!

OL Utah Booth Update

Operation Lifesaver Utah was busy as ever attending public events all over Utah and displaying our booth. Operation Lifesaver Utah has attended the following for the first and second quarters of 2013:

- West Bountiful City Safety Fair in West Bountiful on July 3, 2013
- Days of 47 Youth Festival in Salt Lake City on July 20, 2013
- National Night Out in West Valley City on August 6, 2013

- Golden Spike National Historic Site in Promontory on August 10, 2013
- Pleasant Grove S.A.F.E. Fair in Pleasant Grove on August 24, 2013
- South Salt Lake City Emergency Preparedness Fair in South Salt Lake City on September 14, 2013
- Woods Cross Elementary Safety Fair in Woods Cross on September 26, 2013
- Sunset City Safety Fair in Sunset on September 28, 2013

OL National Office Gets Two New Needed Additions

DeQuendre Bertrand has been named director of internal and external communications for Operation Lifesaver, Inc., the nonprofit rail safety organization, OLI President and CEO Joyce Rose announced.



"DeQuendre is an award-winning, multifaceted marketing and communications professional with a wealth of experience managing communications, publications, media relations, and website content for nonprofit organizations," said Rose. "Her expertise will help Operation Lifesaver, Inc. make greater use of digital technology, social media, and e-Learning to differentiate the OLI brand, increase public awareness and deliver lifesaving education campaigns."

Bertrand holds a bachelor's degree from New York University in Journalism and Africana Studies, and a master's degree from The George Washington University.



OLI also announced that Vida Carroll has joined the team. She is the new special assistant for operations. Vida's responsibilities include managing Operation Lifesaver's databases. That means if you have questions about correcting contact information, inputting activities, completing reports, changing passwords and getting technical help for the Operation Lifesaver Authorized Volunteer dashboard, Vida is your new point person.

We are also pleased to let you know that she now answers the national 800 line, and all callers to our main line will hear a live voice during normal business hours.

Vida comes to us from the Biophysical Society, where she planned conferences and an annual 11-week university-based research program, including marketing and outreach, grant management and web-based applications. She holds a bachelor's degree in biology from The College of William & Mary.