

Maine Operation Lifesaver Quarterly Newsletter

April 2006

Additional Information
is available at
www.maineol.org
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Eight presenters graduated from the most recent all-day presenter training course in February. Held at the St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railway offices in Auburn, among those taking the course were two Federal Railroad Administration officials and four representing law enforcement. Also included is Maine Operation Lifesaver's first Aroostook County presenter.



Pictured from left to right: Larry Warren, FRA; Don McKay, FRA; Sonia Moeller, Brunswick Police, Dan Soucy, Houlton Police; Len Mulligan, Northern New England Passenger Rail Authority; Darin Estes, Lisbon Police; Bill Soule, retired UMaine professor; Tim Zimont, Westbrook Police.

New directors were recently elected to represent Maine Operation Lifesaver. Leading the organization are Norma Griffiths of the Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway; Mike Grizkewitsch of the Federal Railroad Administration; and Treasurer Ken Strout of the Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway. Norma Griffiths was elected Chair for the next two years succeeding Jon Shute of the Maine Eastern Railroad.

An opportunity to better acquaint our elected and appointed state officials with Operation Lifesaver took place February 27th in the Hall of Flags at the State Capital Building. In conjunction with the Maine Transportation Safety Coalition, legislators, staff, and others stopped by to watch safety videos, pick up literature, view our model railroad layout, and otherwise learn more about efforts to educate the public about the dangers inherent at railroad crossings and along railroad right of way.



Transportation Commissioner David Cole and O/L State Coordinator Fred Hirsch at State Capital Building

A sampling of the brand new railroad trading cards.



The railroad trading cards have been printed and are now being circulated. There are 12 different cards featuring a full color photo of Maine railroad scenes representing the state's railroads and Amtrak's Downeaster. On the flip side are trespass prevention tips, descriptions of the photos, and information on



Another sampling of the brand new railroad trading cards.

how to contact us for further information. The 24,000 cards will be distributed to youngsters on board the Downeaster, during presentations, and at numerous appearances made by Maine Operation Lifesaver statewide.

Jim Phinney, Operation Lifesaver presenter and treasurer for nearly a decade, was recognized at a recent monthly meeting after turning over financial duties to Ken Strout. As a token of our appreciation, Jim was presented with



O/L Chair Norma Griffiths with retiring Treasurer Jim Phinney

a plaque to commemorate the occasion. Jim remains active with Maine Operation Lifesaver as a certified presenter.

Here's where we've been over the past several months. Maine Operation Lifesaver is ready to respond to requests statewide and deliver our rail safety message. E-mail info@maineol.org or call 207-827-7367

Oxford Hills Vocational School, S. Paris
Lisbon Public Works
Madison and Anson Public Works
Greater Portland Driving Academy
School Bus Driver Education, Fairfield
Madison and Anson emergency responders
Anson area school bus drivers

Madison Elementary School
Woodside Elementary School, Topsham
Madison area school bus drivers
Hall of Flags/State Capital Augusta
Mt. Ararat Middle School, Topsham
Labor Department defensive driving course, Bangor