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# Maine Operation Lifesaver Quarterly Newsletter April 2009



**Legislators in Augusta** were introduced to Maine Operation Lifesaver in April as our display joined others in the transportation field during "Transportation Day at the Legislature." Volunteers Walt Zaccadelli, Arthur Hussey, and Darry Nile assisted during the event. A number of legislators, even Governor John Baldacci, browsed by the displays. A number of state officials stopped by the Maine O/L display to learn more about the organization's mission.



Arthur Hussey helped greet passerby at the state capital's Hall of Flags on Transportation Day

**Oh, Canada! Thanks** for your contributions towards educating snowmobilers and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) riders. Canada Operation Lifesaver has produced safety videos for recreation riders and has printed brochures in both English and French. Material was shipped to us and is given away when making presentations at ATV and snowmobile safety classes, and as part of Maine Operation Lifesaver displays at community events.



**Volunteers took time** after a recent monthly meeting to familiarize themselves with operation of some newly-purchased equipment used during presentations and at exhibits. Laptop computers are loaded with visuals to be shown to various audiences. Presenters can arrange those visuals to customize their programs. The laptops also come with the proper cords to connect to Maine O/L's two DVD players which in turn project those presentations or play safety videos from the computer.

Laptop school recently held at Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway offices.

## Where we've been lately....

We stand ready to deliver the railroad safety message statewide.

E-mail: [info@maineol.org](mailto:info@maineol.org) or call 207-827-7367

Mill Pond School, Hodgdon

Whitefield Lions Train Show, Augusta

Northeast Technical Institute, Hermon

Noble Middle School, Berwick

ATV Safety Course, Kennebunkport

Howland Cub Scouts

Three-Railers Train Show, Augusta

Auburn Mall Spring Fair

Oxford Hills Truck Driving School, S. Paris

Hawthorne School, Brunswick

Lebanon School

Max Finkelstein, Lewiston

Berwick School Bus Drivers

Lewiston Library

McLaughlin's Gardens

Kennebec Valley Community College, Fairfield

**The smallest school** in recent memory receiving rail safety presentations was Kingman Elementary in Kingman (population 213 according to the 2000 census). The school is only one-quarter mile from Eastern Maine Railway's main line where trains whisk through town daily. Two groups of seven students each learned of the dangers of trespassing on railroad property this Spring.



Half of Kingman Elementary student body watches a rail safety video

## Briefly...

-Walt Zaccadelli has been elected as a director and chairman of Maine Operation Lifesaver for a two-year term. Mike White has also won a term as director, and Fred Hirsch renews his position as a director, secretary, and state coordinator.

-It's been agreed to use a \$1500 grant from Operation Lifesaver's national office and the Federal Railroad Administration to defray volunteers' expenses at this year's regional conference in North Conway, New Hampshire. Two years ago, ten of our volunteers attended the forum. Mark your calendars for Thursday and Friday, September 10-11.

-Thanks to volunteer Mike White, who heads Dirigo Spatial Solutions, for updating our website map depicting the dozens of towns and cities Maine Operation Lifesaver visited last year.