

Maine Operation Lifesaver Quarterly Newsletter

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**OPERATION
LIFESAVER**®

The makeover of our caboose education center has been completed and it's on the road again. After a long winter, the caboose was repainted and repaired at the Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway's Derby Shops, received new tires and fitted with a safety feature for transport. The caboose has already made several appearances this year including at the Asa Adams School in Orono where some of the 263 youngsters received a presentation.

Caboose after makeover



Maine Operation Lifesaver's Fred Hirsch attended a three-day summit of state coordinators in Omaha in April. New and old ideas were exchanged and the Operation Lifesaver staff and a number of other speakers energized the group. State coordinators from Region 1 (New England, New York, and New Jersey) also met to discuss plans for the region's conference to be held in Hyannis, Mass on September 19-21.

The first of two Grade Crossing Crash Investigation (GCCl) courses in 2005 was held in Brunswick during April. Twenty-three law enforcement officers from Maine and one Boston-based Amtrak officer participated in the two-day course which also covered state law, trespassing issues, and familiarity with railroad equipment. Organized and led by Guilford Rail's Mike Grizkewitsch, other instructors included Jon Shute of the Maine Eastern Railroad, Jamie Robinson of the St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad and Norma Griffiths of the Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway – all of whom are Operation Lifesaver volunteers. A similar course will be held in Bangor in October.



More than 1,100 school bus drivers

learned more about the dangers inherent at railroad crossings during April and June. Invited by the Maine Association of Pupil Transportation as part of their annual conferences, presenters traveled to locations in Berwick, Caribou, Augusta, Hampden, Farmington, Jonesboro, and Freeport to meet with drivers.



Washington County school bus drivers listen

during an Operation Lifesaver presentation in Jonesboro.

Maine Operation Lifesaver volunteer Walter Zaccadelli

was recognized for his 13 years of extraordinary service to the organization upon his retirement as Manager of Safety for Guilford Rail, where he has been employed for 31 years. His wife Barbara and a recognition plaque surprised Zack during our April meeting. He promises to remain active with O/L after completing a nice, long vacation.

Walt Zaccadelli accepts a recognition plaque from State Coordinator Fred Hirsch.



Here's where we've been. Maine Operation Lifesaver is ready to respond to requests statewide and deliver our rail safety message. E-mail fhirsch@adelphia.net or call 207-827-7367.

Maine Transportation Safety Coalition, Portland
Huse Memorial School, Bath
New Gloucester Public Works
Grade Crossing Crash Investigation Course, Brunswick
Northeast Loggers Expo, Bangor
Fisher Elementary School, Bath
Fort Kent Elementary
West Paris Old Home Days
470 Day, Waterville.
Fruit St. School Fair, Bangor
Presque Isle Cub Scouts
The Driving School, Cumberland, Yarmouth
Bangor Noon Kiwanis

Sagadahoc Co. Sheriff's Office
Maine Assoc. of Pupil Transportation Conf.
Maine Drivers Education Assoc. Augusta
Cumberland Public Works
Bath Police Safety Day
Maine Public Works Association Congress
Richmond Fire Department
Waynelete School, Portland
Asa Adams School, Orono
Morse High School, Bath
Cub Scout Camp, Orono
Fort Kent Cub Scouts

Mullen Driving School, Auburn