

**Additional Information**  
**is available at**  
[www.MaineOL.org](http://www.MaineOL.org)  
[www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org)  
**Volume 4, Issue 2**

# Maine Operation Lifesaver

## Quarterly Newsletter

### July 2008



**Dozens of public and private schools** are located one-quarter mile or closer to railroad tracks in Maine. During the summer, Maine Operation Lifesaver is mailing letters to these schools' principals requesting our presenters be invited to make presentations to their students and staff or set up displays where youngsters can view one of our model train sets, view videos, and pick up education material.

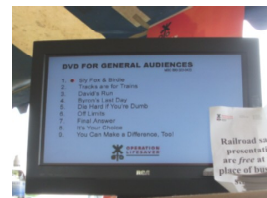


"Railroad tracks are just 500 feet beyond this Milford school"

**National Train Day on May 10<sup>th</sup>** was recognized in Maine at two locations. In Portland, Venus Nappi staffed the display (pictured) at the Maine Children's Museum. Meanwhile, Muriel Oakes greeted passersby and was interviewed by a local TV station in Bangor at a similar exhibit at the Airport Mall.



**Maine Operation Lifesaver's new DVD player** is producing a clearer picture, a bigger screen, creating an easier selection of videos, and is easier to transport than the defunct VHS video player it recently replaced. Since its purchase earlier this year, the DVD player, purchased with funds from a Verizon Foundation grant, has made appearances at several O/L events.



**An Amtrak patrol car** was one of the highlights at the recent Southern Maine EMS/Maine Medical Center health and safety fair held at the Portland Expo. The car, driven to the event by detective and recently certified presenter Mike Lee, joined other emergency response apparatus and their representatives at the annual exposition which drew busloads of students from area schools. Also handing out material and manning one of Maine O/L's model train sets were Jay Calnan, Venus Nappi, and Paul Lodge.



#### Briefly...

- The most unfortunate incidents bring out the best publicity for Operation Lifesaver's mission as was witnessed in May when two girls were hit by a train in Lebanon. It resulted in statewide media coverage including a reminder of the danger of trespassing on rail property which appeared in all of Maine's daily newspapers.
- Congratulations to Maine O/L presenter Venus Nappi, owner of Pace Driving School, who has been elected President of the Maine Driver Education Association.
- Accolades also go out to Lorrie Johnston, the very first recipient of the Roger Cyr Award, Canada Operation Lifesaver's highest rail safety honor. Lorrie is head of safety for the Eastern Maine Railway which is part of the New Brunswick Southern Railway system.

#### Here's where we've been recently.

We stand ready to deliver the railroad safety message statewide.

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

W. Maine Truck Drivers School, S. Paris

Scarborough Area Public Safety

Forest Hills High School, Jackman

Waldo County Healthcare Fair, Belfast

NewPage Safety Fair, Rumford

Readfield Area Bus Drivers

Sanford Train Show

United Bikers of Maine, Waterville

Orono Public Safety Day

Auburn Mall

Great Fall Model RR Show, Topsham

Brown School, S. Portland

Cottrell School, Monmouth

Airport Mall, Bangor

Monmouth Family Safety Day

Maine Children's Museum, Portland

Bert's Driving School, Belfast

Teen Driver Challenge, Augusta

Bangor Mall

Fairfield Adult Education

Old Orchard Beach Police

Scarborough Schools Fair

Bath Police Safety Day

Maine Discovery Museum, Bangor

So. Maine EMS/Maine Medical Center Fair, Portland

American Public Works Assn. Conference Skowhegan

Maine Driver Education Association Conference, Portland

Maine Emergency Management Agency Hazmat Conference, Augusta

Sappi Paper Employee Appreciation, Hinckley

ATV Safety Courses, Boothbay Harbor, Corinna, Enfield

Maine School Health Promotion Conference, Carrabassett Valley.