

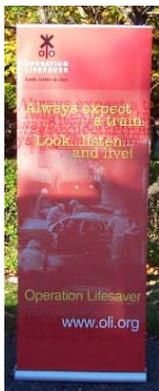
# Maine Operation Lifesaver Quarterly Newsletter October 2006

Additional Information is  
available at  
[www.maineol.org](http://www.maineol.org)  
[www.oli.org](http://www.oli.org)

Volume 2, Issue 4



**Two new exhibit backdrops** will draw more attention to Maine Operation Lifesaver displays. The colorful backdrops with a message, which measure seven feet high and four feet across, will stand out at train shows, safety fairs and other events. For volunteers staffing tables, the backdrops take but two minutes to set up and fold back into a light-weight carrying case.



**Maine's railroads** support Maine Operation Lifesaver financially year after year, but also in other ways. Most recently, workers at Pan Am Railways' Waterville shops stenciled our web-site address on the back of the caboose for passing drivers to remember as the unit is pulled up and down I-95. At the St. Lawrence & Atlantic Railroad, a miniature crossing signal was constructed at the Auburn shops in time to display it as part of a teen driver challenge event held in South Portland.



**There's been a lot of noise** (literally) on board Maine Operation Lifesaver's caboose education unit with the recent addition of a digital bell and a digital locomotive horn. At the numerous locations the caboose has visited (with the exception of the folk festival in Bangor where the sounds would interfere with musical acts), children enjoy flipping the switches activating the bell and horn in addition to watching safety videos, turning the brake wheel, and picking up coloring books and railroad trading cards.



## Briefly...

- Thanks to the Maine Motor Transportation Association for partnering with Maine Operation Lifesaver in the interest of safety. We received a generous contribution from MMTA and will be reciprocating by making their members better aware of rail crossing dangers through our free presentations and educational material.

- Our caboose rolled its way through the Orono Bicentennial parade in September and won one of the three best float awards.

- Recently purchased are two new television sets. The one mounted in our caboose has VCR and DVD capabilities. The second TV/VCR is portable and will be used to play videos at southern Maine events.

- The website "www.WillYouGetNailed.com" promotes rail safety in a kind of funky way. Your teenager might relate to it.

- Dates to remember: Saturday, December 9th in Hermon for a presenter training class; and Sunday thru Wednesday, July 8-11, 2007 for the Operation Lifesaver Regional Conference in Burlington, Vermont.

**A 60-second video segment** produced by Operation Lifesaver's national office which briefly, but dramatically outlines the dangers at railroad crossings is being integrated into the state Bureau of Motor Vehicle's Maine Dynamic Driving course. The program is taken by about 5,000 Mainers each year. Many take the course voluntarily while others who have been convicted of motor vehicle-related offenses are required to take the course. By next January, about half of the instructors will show the video as part of their PowerPoint presentations.

**A delegation of three represented Maine** at Operation Lifesaver's national symposium in Anaheim, California in July. Meeting and networking with national figures on rail safety and attending numerous workshops were among the highlights. Many ideas and techniques were brought home by attendees Norma Griffiths of the Montreal, Maine, & Atlantic Railways; the Federal Railroad Administration's Mike Grizkewitsch; and Maine Operation Lifesaver State Coordinator Fred Hirsch.



## 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

Lincoln Fire Department  
American Folk Festival, Bangor  
Orono Bicentennial Parade  
Old Orchard Beach Outreach  
Hampden Library  
Belfast & Moosehead Lake Railroad  
Oxford Valley Comprehensive High School Drivers Education, S. Paris  
Lawrence High School Drivers Education, Fairfield  
Kennebunkport Catholic School Kids Field Day

Great Falls Balloon Festival, Lewiston  
Millinocket Rotary  
E. Millinocket Police  
E. Millinocket Fire Dept.  
Oakfield Railfan Day  
Central Maine Power Employee Safety Day, Lewiston  
Old Town Canoe Hullabaloo  
470 Day, Waterville  
Jackman Fire Dept.