



The Crossing

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SPRING 2011

Region 4 Conference

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Presentation Ideas:

INOL would like to challenge all of the Indiana OL presenters to increase their presentations for Bus Drivers, Professional Truck Drivers and High School Drivers Ed for 2011. If you are only comfortable presenting to certain groups, that is perfectly acceptable. INOL would like to see those who are comfortable with these groups to add additional presentations in the 2011 year. You can make a difference!

The 2011 Region 4 workshop will take place September 13-15th at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells, WI. All Operation Lifesaver presenters, associates, trainers and partners from Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin are encouraged to attend.

The workshop will include the latest updates on technology, most effective learning tools and presentation techniques, and success-

ful ways to approach communities with the Operation Lifesaver message. There will also be information regarding



Chula Vista Resort & Waterpark

Grade Crossing Collision Investigation as well as motivational speakers.

“We encourage peo-

ple to register for these affordable workshops,” said Helen Sramek, OLI President. “Together, we’re making a difference in highway-rail grade crossing safety and pedestrian rail trespass prevention,” Sramek concluded.

More information on the conference, including registration fees and a preliminary agenda, will be sent to you over the next few months.

Mark your calendars!

2010 FRA Incident Statistics

The 2010 statistics for grade crossing collisions and trespassing incidents have been compiled by the Federal Railroad Administration.

Last year, Indiana experienced 112 grade crossing collisions; 9 deaths from

crossing collisions; and 38 injuries from crossing collisions. Indiana’s 9 deaths were an all time low for our state!

The national stats for grade crossing collisions rose by 4% from 2009. Tractor

trailer crashes also rose on a national level last year.

The traffic on America’s roads increased last year because the economy picked up. Rail traffic increased as well.

These numbers do not give an accurate picture of near misses or near hits reported.



Mark your calendars for Sept. 13-15, 2011!

INOL Now Training Provider For Law Enforcement



Crossing Blitz in Northern Indiana

INOL is now a certified training provider for the Indiana Law Enforcement Training Board. Indiana OL will provide training to law enforcement throughout the state in the subject of Grade Crossing Safety and Collision Investigation. Police officers and law enforcement will be able to receive continuing education credits for attending training provided by INOL.

The Grade Crossing Colli-

sion Investigation Training that INOL provides was developed for the North American Law Enforcement Community with the cooperation of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Sheriffs Association and Operation Lifesaver, Inc.

If railroad tracks run through your community, the potential exists for you or your local police offi-

cers to become involved in a specialized highway-rail grade crossing collision investigation. The Grade Crossing Collision Investigation course is available to help officers more effectively investigate such incidents. Classes are offered free of charge or at a nominal fee.

Contact Jessica Feder for more details!

"Make Safety Your First Thought, Not Your Last!"

Database Reporting for Presenters

The Operation Lifesaver national office has compiled presenter data for 2010. The numbers are as follows: 2,900 certified presenters in the database; 1,105 presenters reported no activity; 252 presenters reported 1-3 presentations; 795 reported 4-10 presentations; 744 reported 11 or

more presentations.

Please be sure when you are entering your presentation information and data into the database that you double check your numbers. There have been several instances where numbers were entered incorrectly and the mistake was not caught. Example:

entering 6,000 instead of 600 people at an event.

As your state coordinator, I double check your numbers after you submit your reports, but please be sure you double check before you hit submit for the database. The database information is very important for receiving federal funding.



Advisory Council Meeting



The Indiana Operation Lifesaver Advisory Council will have our next quarterly meeting on Friday, May 13th from 11 AM to 2 PM in Indianapolis. The Council meets quarterly to discuss and brainstorm ideas regarding Education, Training,

Enforcement, Fundraising, Special Events, Marketing and Community Outreach.

INOL has added two new council participants for the 2011 year. Those new council members are Charlie Mathewson and Tim Croston. Charlie is an OL

presenter, GCCI instructor, and police officer for the Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District. Tim is an OL presenter as well as an engineer for Union Pacific Railroad. Indiana OL welcomes our new council members!

Korey Henderson and Eric Graf have each conducted a GCCI class in the month of March. Good Work!

New Presenter Class on April 5th at the Safety Village in Schererville, IN