

**NEBRASKA OPERATION LIFESAVER
STATE COMMITTEE MEETING
March 14, 2013
www.nebraskaol.org
www.oli.org**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Carol Daley called the meeting to order and Gary Sydzyik gave the Safety Briefing.

INTRODUCTIONS

Deb Ashworth, Union Pacific Railroad
Carol Daley, Executive Director – NE OL
Larry Erickson, Union Pacific Railroad
William Forsee, Omaha Public Schools
Chip Frazier, HDR, Inc.
Bob Grant, Nebraska Department of Roads
Hilda Gurwell, Union Pacific Railroad, NEOL – Secretary
Tom Hillyard, Union Pacific Railroad
Harold Jones, BN Mini Train
Linda Kearns, Nebraska Office of Highway Safety
Richard Kotan, Omaha Public Power District
Cindy Littrell, Union Pacific Railroad
Darla Morris, Nebraska Safety Center
Chris Noblett, Federal Railroad Association
Sean Owings, Nebraska Department of Roads
Todd Palmer, Nebraska Department of Roads
Ron Scholz, Husker Sports Network
Gary Sydzyik, Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
Jeri Willms, OL Presenter

Statistics:

Bob Grant provided the following handouts. (See attachments)

- Nebraska Traffic Fatality Toll Comparison as of March 14, 2013
- 2013 Nebraska Railroad Fatalities
- 2013 Non-Motor Vehicle Traffic Fatalities

Carol Daley provided the following handouts. (See attachments)

- Operation Lifesaver, Inc. Statistics Worksheets – 2012
- Federal Railroad Administration 1.05 – Accident/Incident Overview by State/Region – January to December, 2012

Board and Officer Report:

Board:

The NE OL Board of Directors met and discussed the following items: NE OL Website, Request for Funding Letters, OL Trailer, State Coordinator Summit, Operation Lifesaver Authorized Volunteer Program, Financial – Budget Overview, United Way, Year End Report to OLI, Omaha/Bellevue Public Schools Blitz Partnership, Nebraska Operation Lifesaver Raffle, Game and Parks Hunting Educational Program and Bylaws. Those in attendance were: Carol Daley, Gary Sydzyik, Deb Ashworth, Chris Noblett, Ron Scholz, Richard Kotan and Linda Kearns.

General Secretary/Supplies:

If you are in need of supplies, contact Hilda Gurwell at 402-544-3465 or by email at hildagurwell@UP.com.

Treasurer:

Balance on hand as of February 28, 2012 was \$11,414.92. Contributions were received from State Farm Fire & Casualty Company, Nebraska Trucking Association, Buffalo County – Kearney, NE, Omaha Public Power District,

Jefferson County – Fairbury, NE, Pioneer Trail Energy-LLC-Denver, Nebraska Kansas Colorado Railway, and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad.

East Co-Coordinator:

Hilda Gurwell continues to book presentations.

West Co-Coordinator:

Pat Leahy is the Western Nebraska Area Coordinator. He continues to be active in numerous events and handling requested OL presentations.

Old Business:

Hunter Project – Tom Hillyard

Tom Hillyard, Ron Scholz and Carol Daley met with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission to see if OL presentations can be a permanent part of the Game and Parks Hunting Program. This hunter project has become a national project with OLI getting involved. Carol Steckbeck, OLI, helped to put together a hunter safety visor card. The attached flyer and brochure were printed by the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety and provided to the Nebraska Game and Parks for placement in their March newsletter. Carol Daley will be providing another 1,200 hunter/fisherman visors for their October mailing. Tom Hillyard suggested going to the Nebraska Game and Parks website, <http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/hunting/programs/education/hunted.asp> for a list of the Nebraska Firearm Hunter Education Classroom Courses. This list can be used as contact information for the courses where OL presentations can be provided to the hunter/fisherman students.

Partnership with Bellevue Public Schools – Deb Ashworth

NE OL is working to partner with the Bellevue Public Schools to get the OL message out. Deb Ashworth and Carol Daley will be approaching the school administration to get permission to conduct a safety program and poster contest with all 4th grade classes. NE OL will be piloting this project at three of the Gretna Elementary schools and the Florence Public Library in Omaha. In April, NE OL will be working with the Bellevue School District on this project. The project involves reading the book, "LaVerne and Shirley," which teaches 4th grade students about Nebraska history, map concepts, along with train safety. A poster contest will be held and prizes will be provided. Ken Hunt, Vice President of Union Pacific, Dispatching, has provided money for the prizes. The winners of the poster contest will have their art work displayed at the Bellevue Lied Center.

OL State Coordinator Summit/Chicago/February Update – Carol Daley

Carol Daley attended the OL State Coordinator Summit/Chicago on February 25-26, 2013. OLI is looking into revamping the certified presenter program. Certified presenters would become facilitators in the new "Operation Lifesaver Authorized Volunteer Program." As a facilitator, OLI would not be responsible to carry insurance on presenters, who might give out wrong information. At this time OLI is still in the process of reviewing and working out the procedures on setting up this process. Carol will provide more information when the new program has been finalized. Carol emailed her concerns and opinions to Rick Mooney, Missouri State Coordinator, who is the designee for our OL Region 6. He will provide the information to national OLI headquarters.

NE OL 2013 Raffle – Carol Daley

NE OL fundraising raffle is well underway and tickets are being sold through committee members and through PayPal on the NE OL website. The top raffle prizes will be "two sets" of four tickets to the NU vs. Wyoming Football game with a tour of the facilities on August 31st. Ron Scholz, with Husker Sports Network, and Larry Johnson, with Nebraska Trucking Association, each provided one set of tickets each for the raffle. Some of the other raffle items are: Nebraska Husker Pay Phone, two BNSF train prints by Greg Garrett, Union Pacific Railroad North Platte Canteen print by John Bromley, a Nebraska ETV Network – The Canteen Spirit DVD, Nebraska Quilt, etc. The drawing date for the football tickets will be August 13 with the rest of the items being drawn and announced at the September 12 State NE OL meeting. The information will be placed on the NE OL website at www.nebraskaol.org when it becomes available. (See attachment)

NE OL Trailer:

NE OL has \$18,044.77 for the OL Trailer Project. The NE OL Trailer Committee consists of: Dan Chapp, Larry Erickson, Gary Sydzyik, Ron Scholz, Pat Leahy, Larry Johnson and Stu Sutherland. Larry Erickson attended the

NE OL meeting and gave an update on the trailer. A 17 foot trailer with an interior height of 6'5" has been purchased. The air conditioner is being installed above the control stand and the wiring for the floor board heaters is almost completed. They are waiting on a quote for the awning and Deb Ashworth is in the process of locating a locomotive console. Anyone who is interested in helping with this project needs to contact Carol Daley at 402-885-8572 or by email at neolcadaley@cox.net. (See attachment)

Werner Trucking Update:

NE OL provided another 2,000 "Highway-Rail Grade Crossings: 7 Steps for Safety/What To Do If Your Vehicle Stalls Or Hangs Up On The Tracks" visors, 8 1/2" x 11", to Werner Trucking at their request. Nebraska Office of Highway Safety provided the funding for printing of the visors.

New Business:

Channel 10 & 11 – Lincoln (with Lance Schwartz) – Tom Hillyard, Carol Daley

On January 17th, Tom Hillyard met with Lance Schwartz of "Lance's Journal" TV program. Lance will be doing a four minute video on Nebraska Operation Lifesaver to be shown on Channel 10/11 on Monday and Thursday news at 6:00 am and 6:00 pm. Carol will be sending out a notice on the show date and time. Carol will be trying to get a download of the program to place on the website.

Omaha Equestrian Event – Century Link/Omaha – April 12 & 13 – Hilda Gurwell:

The Omaha Equestrian Event will have approximately 850 Omaha Public School kids attending on April 12. If you are able to help work at the OL booth at this event contact Hilda Gurwell at 402-544-3465 or email Hilda.Gurwell@Up.com.

Children's Museum – Omaha – Carol Daley:

NE OL will again be partnering with the Children's Museum to provide OL presentations. Contact Hilda Gurwell at 402-544-3465 or email Hilda.Gurwell@up.com if you are able give presentations.

Bylaws:

The NE OL Bylaws are attached and will be reviewed by the Committee members at the May 2nd committee meeting. Suggestions or revisions can be sent to Richard Kotan at his email address: rkotan@oppd.com. (See attachment)

NE OL Website – Carol Daley

NE OL raffle information has been added to the website. Carol has been receiving requests for tickets and being paid through the website PayPal account.

Projects:

Professional Drivers – Larry Johnson

No additional information available at this time.

Trucking/Insurance Company Contacts – Larry Johnson, Ron Scholz

No additional information available at this time.

Projects 2013/Calendar of Events – Carol Daley

Contact Carol at 402-885-8572 or by email at neolcadaley@cox.net if you know of any major events which are going on where NE OL can attend. This information will be listed on the Events Section on the NE OL website. The type of events to list would be the Nebraska State Fair, Husker Harvest Days, Werner Driver Appreciation Day etc., not presentations.

Open Discussion:

Deb Ashworth is working on a fundraiser for a one day summer event with the Girl Scouts. The event, Girl Scouts Union Pacific Career Day, will be sponsored by Union Pacific LEAD and/or Operation Lifesaver targeting junior and senior high school Girl Scouts. The mission of this project is to inform young woman who are interested in history, safety and careers in the railroad industry. The date for this activity has yet to be announced. If you are interested in helping with Career Day, contact Deb at deb2613@cox.net. (See attachment)

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned. **Next NE OL meeting will be held on May 2, 2013.**

Minutes were taken by Linda Kearns, Recording Secretary. Any corrections or additions will be noted at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Kearns - Recording Secretary

Future Meeting Dates:

May 2, 2013 - NE OL State Committee Meeting, Havelock Shops, 6600 Burlington Avenue, Lincoln, NE

July 11, 2013 - NE OL State Committee Meeting, Havelock Shops, 6600 Burlington Avenue, Lincoln, NE