



# Staying On Track

Special Holiday Issue  
 January 2010  
 Volume 2, Issue 1

State Coordinator:  
 Chip Pew  
 (312) 636-3034

Illinois Operation  
 Lifesaver Board of  
 Directors:

- President,  
 Ken Gilsdorf  
 (419) 661-3049
- Vice President,  
 Tom McNamara  
 (312) 287-3468
- Secretary,  
 Kym Zylke  
 (847) 842-9100
- Treasurer,  
 Jim Kveton  
 (630) 530-6406
- Board Member,  
 Gordon Bowe  
 (847) 254-8640
- Board Member,  
 Jean Maroney  
 (312) 745-4534

### Individual Highlights:

- Keokuk Junct. Page 2
- CN "CARE" Page 2
- 2010 Meetings Page 3



**December Holiday Meeting 2009**  
 Illinois OL Board of Directors and  
 State Coordinator

## Illinois Operation Lifesaver Holiday Meeting

On December 15, 2009 OLI held the year end meeting in the north part of the state at the Elmhurst City Hall. This year we had the biggest turn out that anyone could remember with over 60 participants. State Coordinator Chip Pew discussed the 2010 action plan and the Board of Directors prepared the budget for 2010. All attendees were given an OL coffee mug, DVD of OLI videos, a highlighter pen, a baseball cap and a CD disk organizer. Promotional

items were provided by ILOL, Elmhurst Police Dept., Board Member Gordon Bowe, and Metra. This year's lunch was a traditional Czech Holiday meal of roast pork, bread dumplings, sauerkraut, rye bread, dumpling soup, and a Czech cookie (kolacky). During the meeting Steve Laffey and Chip Pew shared statistic for 2009 that promise to be at record low levels at the end of the year. We all look forward to a wonderful and safe 2010.

### From Illinois OL's Holiday Photo Album



ILOL members enjoy Holiday Lunch



ILOL south members at Holiday Meeting



Healthworld's RR Safety Kiosk



Gordon Bowe shows his festive side

## Keokuk Junction Railroad Runs Santa Train



Santa chats with Kierston McCoy, 5, right and her brother Cole McCoy, 3, during the Santa Train stop in Mapleton.

On Saturday, December 5, Keokuk Junction Railway Company operated their annual Santa Train in an effort to provide fun and interactive RR Safety education outside of the classroom for children and adults. For the second year there was an overwhelming response to the event with over 1,000 in attendance. KJRC Director Orvel Cox and Betty Cox made special arrangements for Santa Claus himself to join KJRC railroad employees and those of other Pioneer Rail Lines to meet with families to discuss their holiday wish lists and railroad safety. The KJRC Santa Train consisted of a classic FP-9A #1752 and PREX #3 caboose, which made stops at five communities, including Mapleton,

Glasford, Breeds, Canton and Cuba. "We appreciate all the people that came out. Everyone was really excited and we received many compliments for our efforts to provide railroad safety awareness and give back to the communities that we serve," said Meghan Peterson event coordinator. While she waited for her son to finish visiting with Santa, one mother explained how her four year old son, talked about last year's visit with Santa on the caboose all year long. One boy even gave Santa a key to his house so he could deliver gifts. The boy's house doesn't have a chimney. Even a small dog named Carter got to sit on Santa's lap, a small girl let Santa know Carter just wanted a bone.

## CN Police Run A "Crash Accident Reduction Enforcement"

On November 24<sup>th</sup> the CN Railroad Police ran a "Crash Accident Reduction Enforcement" (CARE) along their railroad tracks between Western Ave and 159<sup>th</sup> Ave. The project worked like a sting, with a mock train running back and forth at 10 miles per hour, with police officers shadowing the train and enforcing violations that they observed. Officers watched for crossing violations and trespass violations. CN Special Agent Eric Graf stated that the Officers that assisted with this operation were from the CN Railroad, UP Railroad, Harvey Police, South Holland Police and the Posen Police Departments.

### The project netted the follow results;

#### **Traffic Citations Issued;**

- 5 Disobeying Railroad Signals
- 3 Improper Lane Usage
- 2 No Insurance
- 1 No Valid License
- 1 Violation of Mandatory Stop at Crossing

#### **Traffic Warning Citations Issued;**

- 13 Disobeying Railroad Signal
- 5 Improper Lane Usage
- 1 No Valid License

#### **Trespass Warning Citations Issued;**

- 2 Adults
- 5 Juveniles

There was also a Misdemeanor Arrest for Possession of Cannabis during this event.



CN Special Agent Eric Graf addresses OLI members at the year end meeting explaining details of the CARE Program held in the south suburbs.

## Contacting Your Illinois Operation Lifesaver Board By Email

Pres. Ken Gilsdorf,  
V. Pres. Tom McNamara,  
Secretary Kym Zylke,  
Treasurer Jim Kveton,  
Brd Member Gordon Bowe,  
Brd Member Jean Maroney,

[Ken\\_Gilsdorf@CSX.com](mailto:Ken_Gilsdorf@CSX.com)  
[macolsmetrarr5362@sbcglobal.net](mailto:macolsmetrarr5362@sbcglobal.net)  
[kzylke@healthworldoutreach.org](mailto:kzylke@healthworldoutreach.org)  
[james.kveton@elmhurst.org](mailto:james.kveton@elmhurst.org)  
[Gordo400ol@yahoo.com](mailto:Gordo400ol@yahoo.com)  
[jean.maroney@chicagopolice.org](mailto:jean.maroney@chicagopolice.org)

# Illinois Operation Lifesaver

Billing Address  
P.O. Box 183  
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Coordinator  
580 Vine Ave.  
Highland Park, IL 60035

CHIP PEW PHONE:  
(312) 636-3034  
E-MAIL:  
cpew@icc.illinois.gov

ELMHURST PD FAX:  
(630) 941-1229

Operation Lifesaver Inc.  
*See us at:*  
**www.oli.org**

## Illinois Operation Lifesaver 2010 Meeting Schedule

### Illinois Operation Lifesaver North:

March 9<sup>th</sup>, (8AM Board, 10:30AM general) Elmhurst Police Dept.  
June 15<sup>th</sup>, (8AM Board, 10:30AM general) Elmhurst Police Dept.  
Sept. 28<sup>st</sup>, (8AM Board, 10:30AM general) Elmhurst Police Dept.  
Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, (8AM Board, 10:30AM general) Elmhurst City Hall

### Illinois Operation Lifesaver South:

March 8<sup>th</sup>, (10AM general meeting) Municipal West Training Building  
June 1<sup>st</sup>, (10AM general meeting) Municipal West Training Building  
Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, (10AM general meeting) Municipal West Training Building  
Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, (10AM general meeting) Municipal West Training Building

**Elmhurst Police Dept.,**  
125 E. First Street,  
Elmhurst, IL 60126 (630)  
530-3050

**Elmhurst City Hall,** 209  
N. York Street, Elmhurst,  
IL 60126 (630) 530-3000

**Municipal West Training Building,** 200 Potomac  
Blvd., Mount Vernon, IL  
62864

## More from Koekuk Junction Santa Train Photo Album



Kathy Guy and Gordon Bowe at their "Best" conducting OL presentations.



State Coordinator Chip Pew



Safety Specialist S. Laffey

