



NEWSLETTER

2515 White Bear Ave
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Happy New Year to all!

There have been many transitions over the past year, both within Minnesota Operation Lifesaver and at the national level. First of all, thanks to all of you for sticking with us as the dedicated volunteers you are! Several of the changes are detailed below as well as other program highlights.

The official transfer of duties, name change, address change, and reporting format have all taken place over the past year, culminating with the national database at www.OLI.org becoming operational and user friendly on Jan. 1 of this year. It was a long process, but will prove to be very worthwhile for presenters, coordinators and contributors. The OLI database provides “at a glance” statistical information along with detailed contact information accessible to coordinators. It will eventually streamline all presentation information that presenters and coordinators so diligently compile.

With that said, I’d like to encourage all of you to go to the www.oli.org website and check out your presenter information and your personal profile information to make sure it is up to date. No one can do this for you. It is password specific. If you have forgotten your certification number and/or your password please call 1-800-537-6224. National OLI will be able to walk you through the process.

I also encourage you to check out all the resources available on the national website. I also hope that you check out the Minnesota Operation Lifesaver, Inc. (MNOL, Inc.) website on a regular basis. It can be accessed via the national site or directly at www.mnoperationlifesaver.org.

MNOL, Inc. received a grant last fall to provide the new “Look to Live” award winning video to Driver Education instructors throughout Minnesota. This effort was made considerably more efficient with the assistance of the Minnesota Department of Motor Vehicle Services. We received positive feedback on this project and additional requests for the video.

MNOL, Inc. has been invited to participate in a grant funded pilot program that will allow us to work with two new passenger rail service projects in the state. Initial planning meetings have already been conducted earlier this year. This grant is a collaborative effort to promote safety when in the vicinity of passenger rail lines.

The NorthStar commuter rail is to begin service in November of 2009. For more information please go to <http://mn-getonboard.com/sitemap.html>. The Central Corridor is to run through St. Paul with an extension that connects to the Hiawatha Light Rail. To follow the progress of this project please go to:

<http://www.metrocouncil.org/transportation/ccorridor/centralcorridor.htm>

Finally, I encourage you to go to the www.mnoperationlifesaver.org website and review the annual report. This report shows just how much all of you have accomplished over the past year.

You are outstanding volunteers!

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A Minnesota Operation Lifesaver presenter with her son after presenting to his classmates!

If you have an interest in rail safety and would like to participate in MNOL, Inc. please contact Donna Naumann at the address located on this newsletter or you may call 651-328-3259.