



February 14, 2020

Dear Friend of the East Broad Top,

Today, the East Broad Top Railroad announced that the Kovalchick family has agreed to sell the railroad in its entirety to the non-profit EBT Foundation, Inc. a newly formed group of prominent railroad industry figures, philanthropists, and longtime EBT enthusiasts.

The Kovalchick family has been a gracious steward of the East Broad Top Railroad for over 60 years. They kept this unique national treasure alive by running excursions for 50 years and have maintained it intact as a single collection of magnificent artifacts until a new and able custodian could be identified and readied to take on the awesome responsibility.

The new group is led by one of our own, Brad Esposito. Brad is a professional railroader with a background in both operations and management. He has been a member and active FEBT volunteer for many years. David Brightbill and Lawrence Biemiller round out the Foundation's management team. Both of their ties run deep; David is a former EBT employee, FEBT member, and Railways to Yesterday Board member while Lawrence is FEBT's own Secretary, long-time volunteer, and shop tour guide.

The Foundation is determined to preserve every possible aspect of the railroad and to restore operations. The long-term hope is to expand operations to areas not accessed since 1956.

As successful as Brad and his team have been in recruiting both staff and financial resources, he has clearly expressed that the EBT's survival and future success is also heavily dependent upon us, the Friends of the East Broad Top. Your Directors and I have been working closely with him and his team to define and develop the ways that the FEBT will be a part of the future EBT and how our resources can be best brought to bear.

FEBT restoration volunteers have often said that 'we don't know what the future may hold, but we're working to ensure the EBT is ready for it when it arrives.' Now that there is a clearly defined future path for the EBT, we must all pitch in to help ensure this future is successful and enduring.

***Dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the East Broad Top Railroad***

Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc., is not affiliated with the East Broad Top Railroad and Coal Company

You can support this future in two ways: financial contributions and volunteer help. Our restoration funds will continue to support the restoration work that FEBT volunteers do all around the railroad. This now must proceed at an even faster pace to assist the resumption of operations. In order to accelerate the pace of work, we also need additional volunteers more than ever. As only one example, the Foundation has expressed that completion of Combine 14 is a priority and we need your help to accomplish this.

For nearly four decades, FEBT has been working to preserve the memory of the East Broad Top Railroad. This unique National Historic Landmark showcases both industrial technology in its original context and the way people lived and worked during the first half of the 20th Century.

Through letters, *Timber Transfer*, and the new FEBT website, we'll keep you up to date on the progress as FEBT partners with the Foundation to return the EBT to a vibrant historical experience. In the meantime, FEBT continues to welcome your donations, and your hands-on help in Rockhill and Robertsdale. Donations may be sent to:

Ray Davidowski  
FEBT Fundraising Treasurer  
PO Box 81  
Sarver, PA 16055

FEBTfundraisingtreasurer@gmail.com

Please make checks payable to FEBT. You may also donate online (credit card and Paypal accepted) at the FEBT Company Store: <https://febt.org/CoStore/>

For information about volunteer opportunities at the railroad in 2020, visit [febt.org/volunteer/](http://febt.org/volunteer/)

Yours truly,



Andrew H. Van Scyoc, President  
Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc.

P.S. Your support of Friends of the East Broad Top will never have greater leverage than in the coming year. Won't you please contribute to this exciting new initiative with your financial donations and on-site volunteer effort?

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