
Volume 2, Issue 10

October 2021

In This Issue: September Work Sessions Move the Needle	2
Trackwork Progress Map	4
Robertsdale Has New Depot Roof, Reunion Events	5
Fall Reunion Reminder	7
Upcoming Events	7
Company Store Item of the Month	8
Store Website Checkout Improvement	9
September Fundraising Update	10



The EBT Foundation and FEBT track crews pose at Colgate Grove following the Golden Spike ceremony on September 16, 2021. The symbolic ceremony certifies the completion of trackwork between Orbisonia Station and Colgate Grove. – Matthew Malkiewicz photo

SEPTEMBER WORK SESSIONS MOVE THE NEEDLE

FEBT volunteers made great progress on multiple restoration projects in September, with a work weekend on the 4th and the 5th, and a work week from the 20th to the 24th. Numerous projects saw some attention and had progress made on them.

Storehouse – The new storehouse concrete floor was poured in late August, after prep work was completed by FEBT volunteers. During the September work sessions, all of the deteriorated exterior siding was replaced. In the interior, a rotted second floor beam was replaced and the south bin bank was leveled and the lower bins rebuilt. The stairway to the second floor was rebuilt, including reinstalling the adjacent column and bins, and replacing deteriorated stairway stringers, treads, and risers.



The new boards on the exterior of the Storehouse, as well as the new interior concrete slab, repaired storage bins, and replaced stairs show the progress made by the carpentry crew in September. – Dave Bulman photos

Carpentry Shop – Exterior battens were installed on the previously installed new siding, and exterior priming and painting was completed. During the work week, reconstruction of the lean-to adjacent to the south wall was begun with the outside posts being set in place.

A south view of the Carpentry Shop shows the new posts for the lean to, and the freshly painted boards and battens along the east face of the structure. – Eric Knepp photo



M-1 – FEBT volunteers and EBTF employees, while working together, completed the replacement of the canvas roof on the M-1, including two coats of paint.

Track work – FEBT volunteers and EBTF employees completed tie replacement between Rockhill Furnace and Colgate Grove on Sept. 14, with a “golden spike” ceremony held on Sept. 16. Track work continued during the work week with joint bolt tightening and replacements. Ballast work will continue before the remaining tourist era main line to Colgate Grove will be returned to operation, but the FEBT members who have spent countless days participating in this process have made a significant contribution to the return of the East Broad Top. The railroad estimates that 10,000 ties have been replaced by the collaboration of both entities.



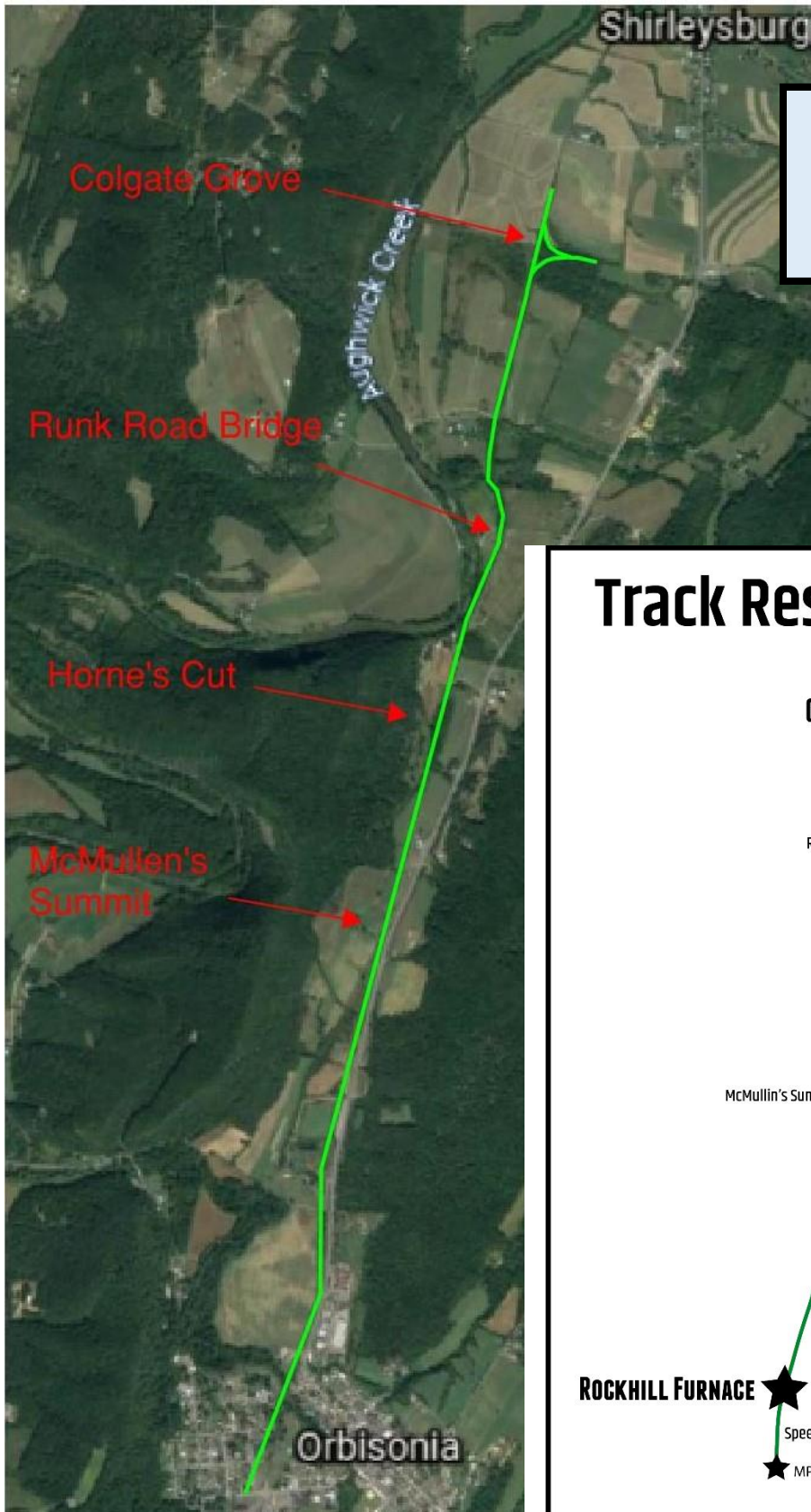
FEBT Track Crew Leader Gene Tucker takes his aim at the golden spike along the main line at Colgate Grove on September 16th. – Matthew Malkiewicz photo



Trackwork will continue with some bolt replacement where needed, which the FEBT track crew has been steadily contributing to during each recent work session. Ballast work will then be accomplished during the week, and then the line will be tamped and leveled using the East Broad Top’s new tamper, which was announced as being available the day before the Golden Spike ceremony.
– Dave Bulman

The EBT Foundation’s tamper poses in the Rockhill yard in mid-September. Note last month’s new addition, the PRR X29 box car, in the background. – Dave Camisa photo

TRACKWORK PROGRESS MAP

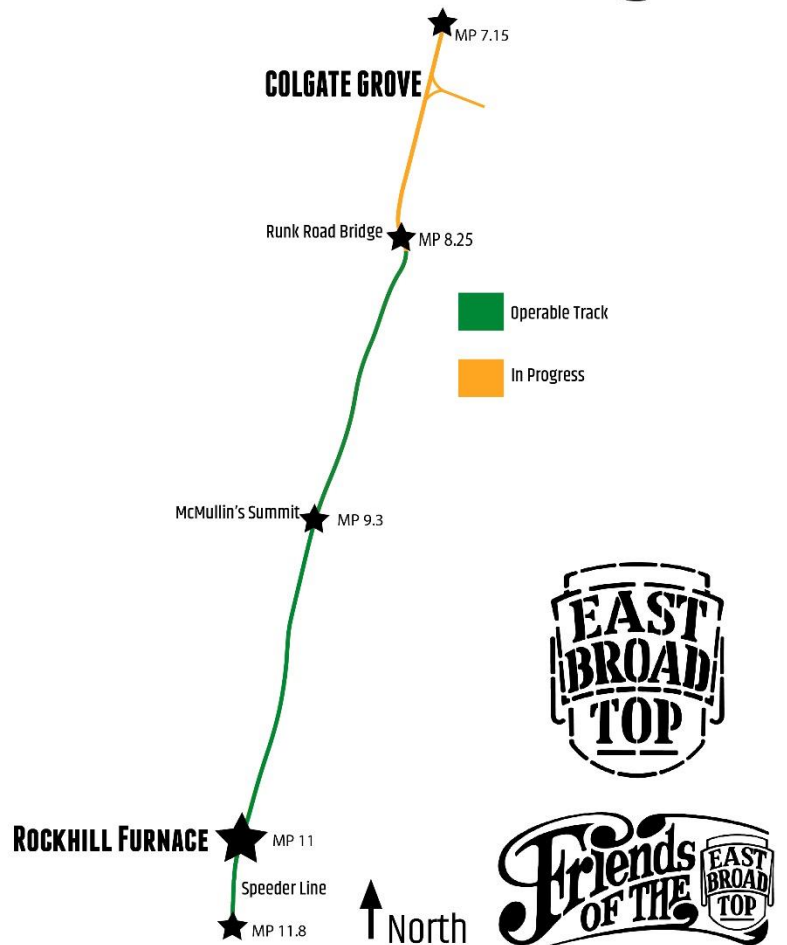


TRACKWORK BOX SCORE

North of Rockhill, track restoration work is now complete to just north of the Runk Road Bridge, 2.8 miles from the Orbisonia depot.

*Left: Map overlay by Doug Davenport
Below: Graphic by Jonathan Smith*

Track Restoration Progress



ROBERTSDALE HAS NEW DEPOT ROOF, REUNION EVENTS

September has been all about the new roof on the station. FEBT volunteers, led by Bill Reynolds, replaced and painted the fascia and coving. Once Ike Covert got the material for the roof, he worked very quickly. Uh oh, he was one sheet short. No problem, it gave us an opportunity to take some interesting photos. The additional metal was delivered and installed in good time. He found that the rafters and other interior supports were in amazingly good shape; no worries there. FEBT volunteers will replace the soffits next year, if not sooner.



Above: A view of the new roof on the Robertsdale Depot from where the Company Store had stood. – Pete Clarke photo

Below right: Mark Reese works to clear the tree that fell across the tracks. – Steve Zuiderveen photo

Other projects included:

- More brush cutting, including a tree that fell smack-dab on top of the FEBT-restored switch stand (thankfully, no damage).
- The museum's entrance door swelled during the summer, so it had to be planed and painted. I thought we were done with these doors!
- The freight doors on the station were modified to well, work. Also adjusted so they create an opening large enough for the handcar to fit through. This work should be done by the time of the reunion.
- A volunteer named Victor Booth created a ramp from steel pipes which will allow us to more easily move the handcar out of the freight section, over the new scale track, and onto the main line. This is not yet in place, but we hope it will be ready for the reunion.
- Bill Adams made some improvements to the museum display panels.
- The gift shop has a new supply of hats, shirts, and books in stock and ready for purchase.



We are thrilled that Robertsdale will be the site of the FEBT reunion on Friday, Oct 8th and Sunday, Oct 10th! So thrilled, that we gave our volunteer hosts Saturday off. Registration will be at the Robertsdale Wood Broad Top Fire Hall, as noted in the reunion flyer. What was not in the flyer, however, is that we believe (but do not guarantee) that a vintage EBT vehicle will be parked at the station on Friday. It would be great to take photos of this without modern cars in the way. To that end, please park at the fire hall and then walk or catch a ride down to the museum (open from 10 AM to 5 PM). Catch a ride? Is there an Uber? No, we are counting on volunteers with 4-door vehicles to shuttle people to and from the museum. Please contact Pete at FEBT@aol.com or Randy at randy.lehrian@gmail.com to volunteer.



The handcar ramp over the scale track was fabricated by Victor Booth. The ramp will see action at the Fall Reunion in October. – Gene Tucker photo

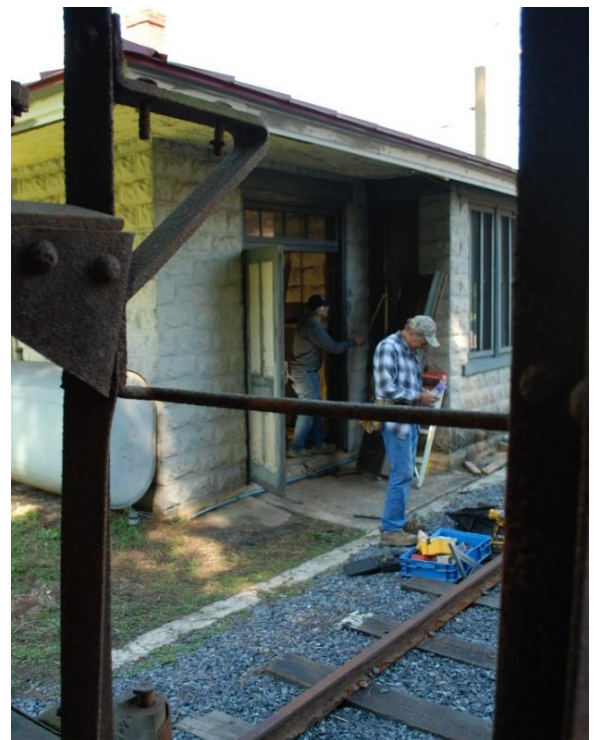
On Friday, the Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum will be open especially for FEBT members (it will be open on Saturday and Sunday to the general public too). Please patronize it! It is located in the former church you can see from the station (105 Church St). Allow plenty of time to tour it; there is a ton of interesting stuff there!

Our reunion weekend is also the weekend of the Coal Miners Heritage and Robertsdale Community Days (Sat and Sun only). This means that on Sunday, there will be other things to do, see, and EAT in Robertsdale. There will be several food vendors, probably near the ball field across from the fire hall. We will have the traditional donuts and coffee at the FEBT museum in the morning, of course. Because of this community event, on Sunday, please park across the street at the current post office (former RI&C Company office building) on the grass or its gravel lot, in the gravel lot between the museum and the station, or along Railroad Street. Do not park on Main Street!

To summarize the parking situation:

- Friday 10/8/21: park at the RWBT Fire Hall and then walk or catch a shuttle to and from the museum
- Sunday 10/10/21: park at the current post office, the museum, or along Railroad St.

October 23rd (2 weeks after the reunion) marks the end of the museum's open season. Everyone agrees that it was a very successful season, especially in light of the pandemic. We will continue to work on the interior of the buildings and the exterior of the station as weather permits. If you are interested in helping sometime, please contact Pete at FEBT@aol.com. – Jane Clarke



Bill Reynolds and Frank Benenati work on the freight doors of the depot, as viewed through the hopper display. – Pete Clarke photo

FALL REUNION REMINDER

The annual Friends of the East Broad Top Fall Reunion is fast approaching. After a virtual gathering in 2020, an in-person event is planned for this year. This event will cover three days, Friday, October 8th thru Sunday, October 10th. The registration fee is \$25. Please register online at <https://store.febt.org> ahead of time so that the anticipated crowd can be understood by the committee orchestrating this event. You may also register in person beginning at 1:00 PM on Friday at the Robertsdale VFD, or beginning at 10:00 AM on Saturday at Rockhill ES. Please see last month's newsletter issue for the full details at <https://febt.org/newsletter/>.

Please be sure to check the insert that was placed in the most recent *Timber Transfer* for more information, and for details on the Model and Photo Contest. Any updates to the event information will be published to the FEBT website, <https://febt.org/>. The 2020 virtual reunion event can be viewed on the FEBT YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/c/FriendsoftheEastBroadTop>. – Randy Lehrian and Doug Davenport

MEMBERSHIP BOX SCORE

The Friends of the East Broad Top
membership is up to
1604

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Host	Event
October 8, 9, 10	FEBT	Annual Fall Reunion
October 9	EBT	Fall Reunion
October 9	RTM	Fall Spectacular 2021
October 16, 17, 23, 24	EBT/RTM	Pumpkin Festival
November 6, 7	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
November 26, 27, 28	EBT/RTM	Christmas in Coal Country
December 3-5, 10-12	EBT/RTM	Christmas in Coal Country
December 4	EBT	Christmas Tree Train

Hosts: FEBT	Friends of the East Broad Top	www.febt.org
EBT	East Broad Top Railroad	www.eastbroadtop.com
RTM	Rockhill Trolley Museum	www.rockhilltrolley.org

FEBT MUSEUM DAYS OF OPERATION

October: 8 (Friday), 10 (Sunday), 23

Museum Hours: 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Walking Tours at 11:00 AM, 1:00 PM, 3:00 PM

EAST BROAD TOP RAILROAD EXCURSION DATES

October: 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24

COMPANY STORE ITEM OF THE MONTH

Company Store: New and Back in Stock!

NEW! Broad Top Mountain Models HO kits
Rockhill car shop 24"x7" footprint \$236.00

NEW! Iron Horse Engraving Fn3 1:20.3 kits
EBT miners' coach #5 \$500.00
EBT combine #16 \$500.00
EBT baggage express #29 \$500.00
EBT caboose \$400.00

NEW! Funaro and Camerlengo HOn3 kit
2nd generation EBT wood box car \$40.00

NEW! 3D-printed items
EBT M-3 inspection car HOn3 (static) \$18.25
PRR scale house at Mt. Union HO \$29.95
PRR scale house at Mt. Union O \$45.95
Joller Mine scale house HO \$23.25
Brick piers from Rockhill HO (limited quan.) \$15.00

BACK IN STOCK! EBT HOn3 2-Bay Hopper Kits
1913 25' 9" side-dump and horiz.-door variants SALE! \$32.50
1914 28' 2" version SALE! \$32.50

BACK IN STOCK! HOn3 Vulcan Trucks
C&BT truck frames with NWSL 24" wheel sets \$10.00

NEW! Scale drawing of B&S-built EBT wood hopper \$2.00

NEW! Decals
2nd generation EBT wood box car HO \$5.00
Caboose, redesigned, multiple era variations HO \$5.00
Caboose, redesigned, multiple era variations S \$6.00
Caboose, redesigned, multiple era variations O \$10.00

BACK IN STOCK! FEBT publications
1983 Newsletters: 75 pp. of info pub'd before the TT \$12.00
Timber Transfer Vol. 4, No. 1 Spring 1987 \$4.25
Timber Transfer Vol. 7, No. 1 Spring 1990 \$4.25
Timber Transfer Vol. 8, No. 3 Autumn 1991 \$4.25

NEW BOOK! *Focused on Steam -- Fifty Years of Steam Locomotive Photography* by Ken Kraemer. 134 pages of all color steam photographs of many railroads. The EBT is featured on the cover with 4 pages of photographs inside. \$40.00

Shipping charges and sales tax are not included in the prices above. The most convenient way to order is through the FEBT Company Store website at the URL store.FEBT.org. We accept PayPal, credit cards, checks, and money orders. You may also contact the store by paper mail at FEBT Company Store, 19 W. Vandevender Street, Mount Union, PA 17066.



An interesting view of the new and old roof panels on the Robertsdale Station building during the roof replacement process. – Jane Clarke photo

STORE WEBSITE CHECKOUT IMPROVEMENT

If you have used the company store website to sign up for the Reunion, then you may have noticed a change. Dave Phillips, a volunteer like ALL of us who work for FEBT, has found a way to overcome something that had become our members favorite thing to hate. Now when you make a purchase from the company store, and that includes renewing your membership and purchasing your reunion package, you don't have to go through PayPal. You simply enter your credit card info directly on a company store screen, which is then sent securely to the credit card processing company. So, you never have to work your way through the PayPal screens (over which we have no control, and which encourage you to create a PayPal account). See the screen shot to the right. As you can see, to pay with your credit card you just enter the info. Just like you do when ordering on other online shopping sites, (credit card number, security code, expiration date). This data is not saved nor stored by the FEBT website, shopping on the FEBT website is safe and secure. All standard industry safeguards are followed. Note that you can still select to pay by PayPal and once there, you could still select to pay using your credit card. But why bother when you can do it without the aggravation of dealing with the PayPal screens? Well, one reason to still use the PayPal option is that PayPal charges a little less for credit card processing. So, if you are comfortable navigating the PayPal site, go on and use it. That keeps just a little bit more money for FEBT.

Home Log Out Account Cart Checkout Back to FEBT Homepage

Friends of the EAST 100th

Your Best Source for EBT Research Materials, Models and Collectables!

Home :: Checkout - Step 1 :: Payment Method - Step 2

Step 2 of 3 - Payment Information

Billing Address:
Peter Clarke
10425 Carlyn Ridge
RD.
Dermasous, MD 20872-2157

[change your address](#)

Your billing address is shown to the left. The billing address should match the address on your credit card statement. You can change the billing address by clicking the [Change Address](#) button.

Your Total

Sub-Total:	\$35.00
Free Shipping:	\$0.00
Total:	\$35.00

Payment Method

Payment by check is strongly discouraged for online orders. If you must pay with a check, it will be accepted only if mailed to:
FEBT Company Store
c/o Richard Ullery
232 Gentle Trail
Nicholasville, KY 40356

Please select a payment method for this order.

☐ **Credit Card**

Card Number:

CVV Number:

Expiration Date:

Postal Code:

☐ **PayPal**

☐ **Check (discouraged)**

Special Instructions or Order Comments

[Continue to Step 3](#)
- to confirm your order

[continue checkout](#)

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The new credit card payment section

If you've been frustrated by the PayPal website, please use the new option. It's a breeze!
We all owe Dave a big "Thank you" for all the time he takes to constantly improve the company store web site. – Pete Clarke

SEPTEMBER FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The FEBT is extremely grateful to its financial contributors. In September, another 32 donations totaling more than \$6,000 pushed the total for the campaign over the 200% threshold. Please continue to monitor the FEBT Newsletter for continual updates on how your donations are being used. The 2022 Fundraising Campaign will be unveiled at the Fall Reunion, in only eight days from this publication. Thank you once again for making the 2021 campaign so successful.

There are several ways to donate. Donations can be made online at <https://febt.org/donate/> using the Company Store portion of the website, which accepts credit cards and PayPal payment methods to contribute. Donations may also be made by mailing a check, payable to FEBT, to:

FEBT Fundraising Treasurer
C/O Ray Davidowski
P.O Box 81
Sarver, PA 16055

2021 Fundraising Goal:

\$78,000

September Donations:

\$6,046.00

Campaign Progress:

\$156,819.31 – 201.1%

September Donors*:

Alexander Bowser	Robert Caccese	Beth & Bruce Courter	Ronald E. Davis
Walter D. Dietz	Bradley Dobbins	Douglas E. Fink	Peter Floyd
Stephen D. Gould	Weldon D. Greiger	Fred E. Hagerich	David Homer
Thomas Jennings Jr.	Dave Johnson	Victor V. Kidd	Bernard Kinlein
Keith Kreider	Joe Kress	Garret McCabe	William Melville
Edward Morin Jr.	David Phillips	Clifford Schoff	Ann Sparrough
Erica Stephenson	Douglas C. Taylor	Christopher Vitz	Walter Weart
Richard Weiss			

In Memory of Richard A. Strittmatter:
Willaim P. Kcenich

* - All donors listed represent donations received between August 22, 2021 and September 21, 2021. Donations received after September 21 will be reported in the November 2021 issue due to press time constraints.

- Ray Davidowski and Doug Davenport

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The Friends of the East Broad Top Newsletter is a monthly digital-only periodical. Started in 2020, it is intended to keep members and donors apprised of what the organization has done and will be doing. The FEBT Newsletter is distributed by email to the current list of members and donors, and is a privilege of contributing to the FEBT's cause of preserving, restoring, and interpreting the East Broad Top Railroad for current and future generations. The editor can be contacted at Newsletter@febt.org. Press time for information submitted is 8:00 PM Eastern time on the 25th of each month. Events occurring after the 25th, such as donations and memberships, will be considered part of the following month's information.