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NEWSLETTER

Preservation Restoration Interpretation

Volume 7, Issue 2

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FEBT Volunteers gather to kick off the January 2026 work weekend. – Al Gallo photo

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Storehouse 2 at the conclusion of the January work weekend, showing the completed north stock rack and a late afternoon snow squall. – Dave Bulman photo

EBT ARCHIVES CONTINUED PROGRAM SUCCESS IN 2025

The East Broad Top Archives and Special Collections achieved another year of significant accomplishments to protect, preserve, and provide access to not only the EBT Foundation’s collection of EBT corporate records and FEBT collections, but also the many donations received for both organizations. Here are just a few highlights from 2025.



Above: FEBT’s Scarlett Wirt with Broad Top Area Miners Museum librarians Dennis Fields and Carolyn Carroll after assembling disaster recovery supply kits funded by the NEH Preservation Assistance Grant. – Julie Fether photo

Below: EBT historians Vagel Keller, Ron Pearson, and Ric Case pouring over a newly discovered map of Broad Top Mountain coal fields while sorting through the mammoth collection stored in the Chief Engineer’s Office vault. – Julie Fether photo



Protect

Last May, FEBT was awarded a \$5,000 National Railway Historical Society Heritage Grant for the EBT Archives Secure Space Storage Project. The funding will enable the initial procurement of basic storage shelves to outfit the new archives headquarters to be established in Mount Union, PA. The EBT Archives also concluded work on the EBT Disaster Response Planning and Environmental Monitoring Project funded by the National Endowment of the Humanities. The grant funded disaster recovery and response training for the collecting organizations in southern Huntingdon County, and the procurement of supplies for response and recovery kits. Last February, four kits were assembled by members of the cultural resilience community team and distributed to areas of the EBT Corridor: Mount Union, Rockhill Furnace, Three Springs, and Robertsdale.

FEBT’s awarding of a Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Historical and Archival Records Care Grant will fund the EBT Oral History and Film Project, 2025-2027. The \$15,000 award supports the work to prepare oral histories and films of the EBT owned by FEBT, the Foundation, and the Broad Top Area Coal Miners Historical Society, for future public access. Last summer, Juniata College intern Zoe Merkel completed the initial inventory of the oral history and film collections. In the fall, the physical collections were transferred for digitization to the vendor The MediaPreserve in Pittsburgh, with the collections and new digital assets returned to the Archives in December. The project will continue this year.

Preserve

In 2025, the Archives continued to inventory and preserve the Foundation’s collection of architectural and engineering maps and drawings. To date, over 7,000 maps and drawings have been preserved. Over 500 maps and drawings are publicly accessible. 15 other EBTF collections and 21 FEBT collections were preserved in archival housing supplies. 45 collections [26 EBTF, 19 FEBT] by donors were accepted into the Archives. The robust collections management system, PastPerfect™ Web Edition holds over 5,009 catalog records in 137 EBTF and FEBT collections. Over 14,682 images scanned are recorded within these catalog records.

Provide Access

In addition to providing the EBTF and FEBT use of the Archives to support restoration, operations, education, and sales and marketing activities, the Archives is most known for its publicly accessible Digital Catalog. Since October 2022 when the Catalog was launched, the Archives has provided new selections from collections viewable to the public each month. In 2025, there were 9,300 active and new users and 19,695 catalog searches captured!



Juniata College summer intern Zoe Merkel and volunteer Sue Briggs on a typical workday in the Archives office. – Julie Fether photo

The Archives also provided educational and exhibit content for the FEBT Robertsdale Museum's tourist season. A series of lectures highlighted two Archives Days and the annual FEBT Reunion. Vault tours were given at the Orbisonia Passenger Depot where the Archives currently operates. Participation in local events featuring displays of archival materials and photographs was well received.

FEBT Volunteers

Of course, none of this work would be possible without the Archives key volunteers! Lee Rainey, EBTF Curator and Historian, and Scarlett Wirt, FEBT Collections Custodian and Museum Curator, continued to support the Archives as an integral part of program development, planning, and advocacy, and collections management. To date, Rainey has created over 2,000 meta-tags/search terms for the collections. Wirt focused on policy development, on FEBT collections management, and on Mount Union space planning, while also acting as Project Director for the PHMC HARC Grant.

Thank you to our many other volunteers last year who brought a broad variety of skill sets to support the Archives: Kevin Nolish, Lawrence Biemiller, Deb

FEBT volunteer Eric Knepp reviews a slide collection from the Kovalchick Tourist Railroad era to select rare and unique images for scanning and public access. – Julie Fether photo



Tucker, Sue Briggs, Jessica Moore, Walt Keely, Craig Miller, Eric Knepp, Bill Adams, Charlie Wootton, Ron Pearson, Vagel Keller, and Ric Case. Total volunteer hours last year? 422!

2026 - EBT Archives 5th Anniversary

The Archives, with new staff in place, are already busy continuing the never-ending work of managing daily operations, preserving collections, and making those collections available and accessible to the public. One of the goals this year is to conduct a thorough holdings inventory of the Foundation's EBT corporate records located at the depot, resulting in a formal collections finding aid. New exhibits of featured collections will continue to be offered online every month, vault tours are scheduled, and the FEBT Museum visitors can come to the now traditional Archives Days; already tentatively for Saturday, June 13, and confirmed for Saturday, August 8.

Most importantly, the Archives thanks YOU for your campaign funding and other financial support, and encouragement and enthusiasm for this critical work to preserve the EBT's unique collections. We look forward to celebrating 5 years in the Archives with you! – *Julie Fether*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS DUE MARCH 15

The deadline for nominations for Board of Directors candidates is March 15. If you believe someone would be a quality director, or are thinking of stepping forward yourself, please inform the 2026 Nominating Committee chair. The chairperson rotates each year, and this year it is Dave Bulman. Please contact him with your nomination recommendations at dbulman115@gmail.com. Five BOD seats are to be voted on in 2026. – *Dave Bulman*

JANUARY 2026 ROCKHILL RESTORATION SESSION NOTES

The 2026 Rockhill work sessions got off to a great start with a productive work weekend on Saturday, January 10 and Sunday, January 11. We had 21 volunteers Saturday, and 14 on Sunday. The weather was a bit of a challenge, with rain on Saturday and cold with snow squalls on Sunday. Fortunately all the crews had work inside or under-roof so good progress was made on multiple projects despite the weather.



The Combine 14 crew continued to work a variety of remaining details including end door thresholds, window hardware, the center bench top cover, the baggage doorway metal protector plates, and electrical items.

*Mark Reese
installs the center
cover on
Combines 14's
baggage
compartment
bench. – Al Gallo*

The windows crew began restoration work on the Foundry windows. Several sashes were removed and began the process of scraping, repair, and reglazing.

The Storehouse crew spent most of Saturday drilling over 250 1-1/4" holes in rough-sawn 2x4 studs to create the new stock rack posts. On Sunday, 15 of the posts were installed and the horizontal rods installed to create the first of the four stock racks that run the length of the building.

Finally, the Next Gen Easties team continued their work in the Blacksmith Shop, jacking and leveling the large stock rack in the northwest corner of the building. – *Dave Bulman*



Top: Curt Miller and Bill Adams restoring Foundry window sashes in the Carpentry Shop. – Al Gallo photo

Right: Tom Perman and Butch Kerchenske complete the first section of the north stock rack in Storehouse 2. – Al Gallo photo

Below: Alex Cook and other volunteers work to jack and level the Blacksmith Shop stock rack. – Al Gallo photo



MEMBERSHIP BOX SCORE

The Friends of the East Broad Top membership is up to
2210

ALL ABOARD!
Join the Young Easties!

Official Youth Volunteer Program of The Friends of the East Broad Top

GET YOUR HANDS ON HISTORY!
WORK ON A REAL STEAM RAILROAD

EXPLORE A 19th CENTURY WORLD

RIDE THE RAILS

YOUR TICKET TO ADVENTURE

WHO CAN JOIN?
Enthusiastic teens
ages 13 to 17 (18 if
still in High School).

Visit our website for more
information and to register.

FEBT.org/YoungEasties

COME CHECK OUT THE NEW FEBT LIBRARIAN

Even though it's cold and foggy in Robertsdale, things are happening at the Friends Library. My name is Kevin Nolish and I'm taking over librarian duties from Don Barton Jr., who served long and well and left the library in good shape. Thank you Don.

So...what's happening at the library? First, the library space in the 2nd floor of the Museum, and yes you can visit, is being rearranged. We are bringing more shelving and generally moving things around to make better use of the available space. Second, we've started an inventory and cataloging project. The library has received a number of donations in the time between Don wrapping up and my taking over. These need to be cataloged and added to the inventory. We are working through a shelf audit to verify that the inventory that we have matches the reality of our holdings. So far, the errors have all been, "We have this item, but it's not in the inventory".

So, for the near term, the tasks are to get the library collection better organized and the inventory up to date and in agreement with the collection. One of the goals is to get the location information in the inventory in a better state so that any Museum volunteer can bring someone upstairs and use the inventory to find the item in question. The idea is that the library should be usable when the Museum is open, not just when the librarian is present.

That's right, you have to visit the library to use the library, at least for now. The biggest obstacle to an online presence is legal. Given the issues with copyright, many of the library's holdings cannot be scanned and put online. You are free to look at the physical copies that the library has, but the library cannot publish them online. On the plus side we have nice comfortable reading chairs on the 2nd floor, and I can't think of a better way to relax after your railbike adventure from Robertsdale to Wood and back.

So that's where things stand. The task for the winter is to better arrange the library contents and to get the cataloging and inventory up to date. Beyond that...well I need something to write about in future newsletters. – *Kevin Nolish*

COME BE A PART OF THE 2026 ROBERTSDALE PLAN!

I've been encouraged to make this month's article be a look forward to what is planned for 2026. So, since I'm so good at predicting the future in football pools, let's look at what we hope/expect/plan to make happen in Robertsdale in 2026:

- New displays in the museum. Although it seems that Scarlett (and Bill) only just finished putting up new displays for the 2025 reunion, by the time of the 2026 reunion (in May this year!) there will be, yet again, new displays. Good grief, you'd think we were trying to give you reasons to come to the museum more than once each year!
- Those new displays mean that we need to start thinking about how to store the displays we rotate out. We will build various storage systems to handle the different types & sizes of display items.
- Late in 2025, FEBT acquired an historic Robertsdale mine car. It's on display right now. Hopefully, at some point it will go away and restoration work will start on it. So, come see it now so you'll be able to see the before/after difference.
- More improvements to the railbikes. What difference will you see? Probably nothing. What difference will we know has happened? We hope to make them bulletproof. By the end of this year, we hope they are so well built that we grease 'em up in the spring and never have to touch them again that year. Hey, let me dream!
- Victor Booth plans to move the Robertsdale railbike turntable and adjust the access track from the station to make it so we never have to lift the bikes at all.
- Kevin Nolish has put a separate article in this newsletter about the library (see Page 7). It's back! Can't see your way clear to buy a copy of Rainey and Kyper? Members can come read it for free at the library. The library has that, and just about every book ever published about the EBT. Many magazine articles, newspaper articles and photographs are all part of the library's collection.
- The gift shop continues to add more new items; many are items that you can only buy at the gift shop.
- We'll have two Archives Days (June 13 and August 8)
- We'll host the Robertsdale-Wood Heritage Day (July 18)
- We will attempt to get a food truck to offer lunch on special occasions.
- Every year those who do research (thanks Lee, Ric, Ron, Vagel, and many more) learn more (and tell us), so every year our walking and railbike tours have more information to pass on to you.
- The station doors will get done this year.
- We plan to build storage systems to better store the kinds of items we have in the station.
- The first three signs for the walking tour will get done and installed this year.
- We plan to extend the walking tour pathway surface improvements.
- We are starting a project to make and mount a "Historic Robertsdale Company Square" sign.

Maybe this year is the year you'll join our crew of hosts. We need you. As Membership Guy, I hear from a lot of people that their Superman cape has lost its luster and they just can't do track work or lift buildings anymore. Being a host at the museum does not require super-human strength. Regular, even old, regular people can do it. Don't think you know enough? Come to the museum and learn. We train you how to do the things that a host does and we discuss the history so you'll learn just by being there. That being said, it's also true that being a museum host is something that takes time. Doing it one day a year really does not give you time to get used to it. Our new hosts always say that coming (on average) once each month lets them ease into it and removes their anxiety. Why not come to a training session? This year we will have training sessions on two days; Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18. Email me (Pete Clarke) to tell me you are interested – febt@aol.com.

Finally, I guess I should discuss what we are not doing. This year the EBT has decided to open (on a limited basis) starting in February. We applaud and support their efforts to expand their season, but for our museum, on the top of the mountain, with volunteer hosts, many who drive long distances, with short hours of daylight, we just don't think that works for the museum (and we have records from past winter and spring dates to back it up). I've been so happy to be able to claim that if it's a Saturday and the EBT is open – that the museum is open. But that's not the case anymore. The museum will open on Saturdays of the Easter events (March 28 and April 4). It will open for Friday of the Reunion (May 1 from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM) and on Saturday of the Reunion (May 2 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon – sorry for the short day, but just like you, we'd like to attend the events at the EBT). Then, from May 9 through October 31 we'll be open

every Saturday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. We'll open again for the Christmas events November 28 through December 19 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, as we have in years past.

The Miners Museum will also open starting in May. Robertsdale, one small town, two great museums! – *Pete Clarke*

TRACK DO'INS IN WINTERTIME

Dealing with Mother Nature's "Gifts"

The track gang's existence is deeply connected to the vagaries of Mother Nature's whims. For example, in the summertime, we have to contend with high temperatures and also high humidity. The "humiture" or wet-bulb readings affect how much we can get done, how much water our crews need to drink, and also the need to carefully monitor everyone's welfare so as not to invite heat stroke and related concerns. Consequently, the pace of the work slows down. Then, of course, there's always the rain that has to be considered.

In the wintertime, the opposite is true: We need to be concerned about everyone's ability to keep warm, and to ward off any possibility of frostbite and related concerns. In wintertime, wind speed is also a factor, as it tends to lower the perceived temperature. Obviously, if there's a good bit of snow on the ground, or worse, ice, then work stops.

Now, if we could only manage to average out the highs of the summertime and the lows of the wintertime, we'd be able to get an enormous amount done. Alas, such a solution is "echelons above our collective pay grades", so we manage to work in less-than-ideal conditions, working in temperatures that are in the 20s, but also in the 90s.

One of our number recently uttered this gem of wisdom about the weather, saying, "There will be weather today, and there will be weather tomorrow...enjoyment, however, is optional".

The Track Gang's Winter Hiatus

Our work in calendar year 2025 ended on December 11. We were poised to continue our work to upgrade Track 3 in the Rockhill Yard during the January FEBT Work Weekend on January 10. The temperatures were high enough that the "schmutz" we would be digging in would be thawed, thereby allowing the work to go forward. We were also planning to break apart joints in some trackage south of the Pogue Station. But, Mother Nature (see the paragraph above) had other ideas: A healthy offering of rain put the kybosh on those plans, so the work was cancelled.

FEBT Track Crew members cut brush near the McCoy Road grade crossing. – John Quinn photo



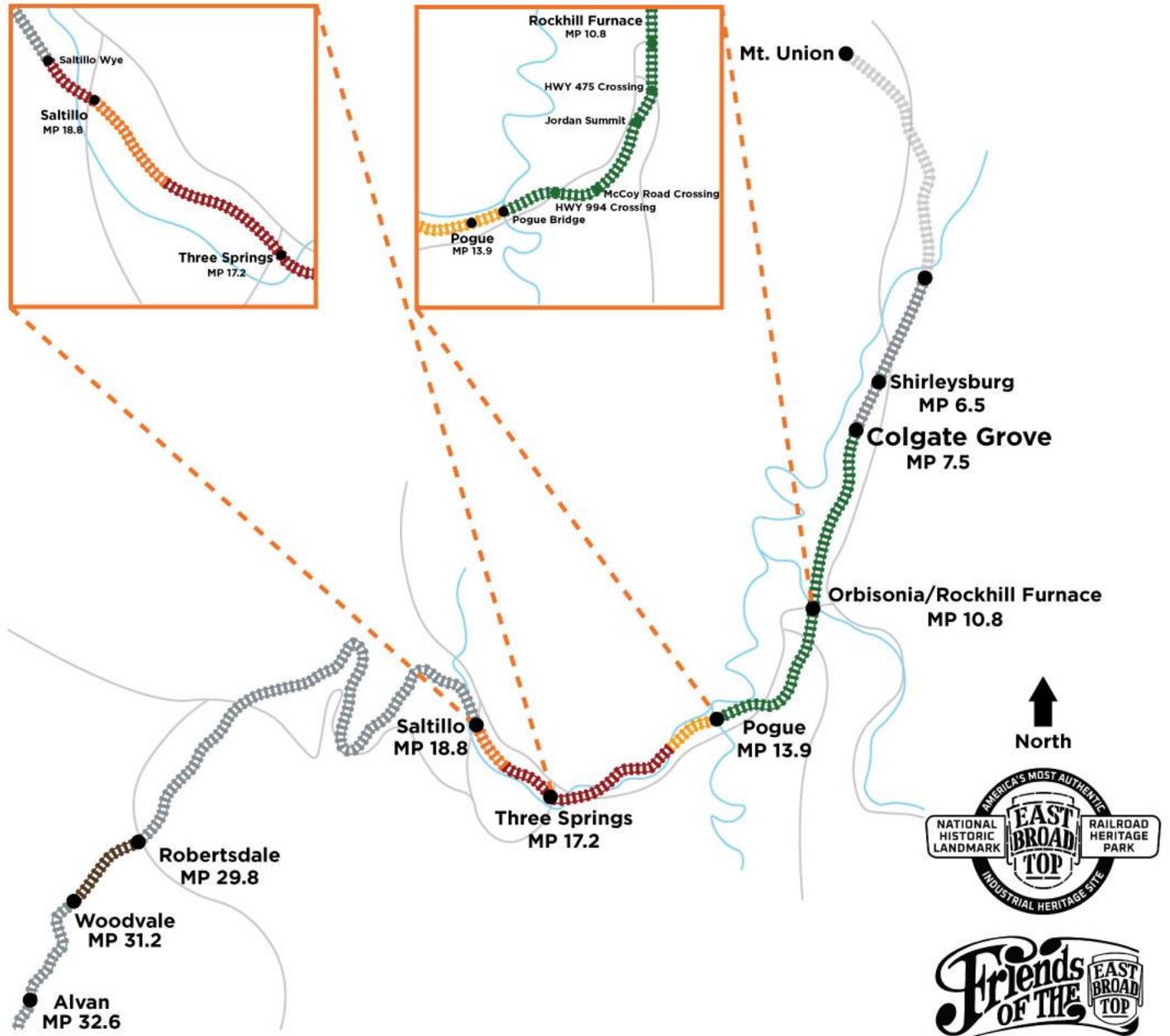
This Year's Work Resumes

Six of our number assisted the railroad's full-time staff in brush cutting on Thursday, January 22. The goal of this work was to improve the sightlines at three locations, so as to better conditions for photographers of the photo charters that will

be a part of this year's Winter Spectacular in February. The locations receiving our attention where the north side of the McCoy Road crossing, the hill at Jordan Summit, and the northern side of the IOOF Cemetery Road crossing.

A Busy Year Ahead

Looking ahead, once Mother Nature has exhausted her reticule of wintery offerings, we'll be able to tackle a number of tasks, including aspects of the March to Saltillo, with work in Saltillo adjacent to the newly-rebuilt station, track construction south of Pogue Station; and maintenance work on the main track north of the Orbisonia station. Most of the pieces needed for the work related to the March to Saltillo to begin are now in place. It's conceivable that we could construct a mile of newly-rebuilt track this year. – Gene Tucker



March to Saltillo Restoration Progress

- Out-Of-Service**
- Restoration Goal**
- Brush Cleared**
- Track Work Underway**
- In-Service**
- Railbikes**

EBT ARCHIVES RELEASES ANOTHER INSTALLMENT OF ICC MATERIAL

This February, the East Broad Top Railroad Archives and Special Collections is releasing another installment of ICC material: EBT's Local Passenger Tariffs.

<https://ebtarchives.catalogaccess.com/exhibits/49>

In November 2025, the East Broad Top Railroad Archives and Special Collections highlighted Car Capacity Tariffs issued by the EBT from 1912 to 1952. This month's release is similar; however, these tariffs focus on EBT's passenger transport rather than freight shipment and rolling stock. This collection contains fifteen Passenger Tariff issues from 1912-1948 and one Index to Freight and Passenger Tariffs from 1945, as well as related documents and correspondence.

This Passenger Tariff material is valuable in understanding the EBT's role as a passenger carrier. In addition to documenting EBT's one-way and round-trip fares along the main line, these tariffs also shed light on the Rocky Ridge and Shade Gap RRs, discounted fares, agency stations, and, in one envelope, even the shipment of milk and newsdealers' packages, which were often transported on passenger trains.

The tariff material also contains comprehensive lists of EBT stations and flag stops, allowing researchers to track the growth and decline of EBT's main and branch lines. Correspondence discusses fare changes, corpse transportation, special military rates, and the value of certain stops (for example, the addition of the Pump Station and the removal of Sleeman as flag stops), as well as the expected nitpicking and mutual frustration from EBT officials over the ICC's bureaucratic specifics.

The EBT Archives is a conjoined operating unit between the EBT Foundation and the Friends of the East Broad Top, and thanks you for your continued support to protect, preserve, and provide access to EBT Foundation and Friends of the EBT collections! – *Amelia Kasdorf*

Above: Local Passenger Tariff Effective July 15, 1912, p. 2. – EBT Archives photo, EBTF.2023.3.22, East Broad Top Railroad Tariffs Collection

Left: Local Passenger Tariff Effective June 30, 1916, p. 11. – EBT Archives photo, EBTF.2023.3.23, East Broad Top Railroad Tariffs Collection

EBTF.2023.3.22

I. C. C.--P. No. 9.
Superseding I. C. C.--P. No. 3

THE EAST BROAD TOP RAILROAD AND COAL CO.
SHADE GAP RAILROAD COMPANY
ROCKY RIDGE RAILROAD COMPANY

JUN 14 1917
RECEIVED

LOCAL PASSENGER TARIFF
One Way Fares Shown in Light Type. Round Trip Fares Shown in Heavy Type.

Station Nos.	FARE IN CENTS BETWEEN AND	MAIN LINE					SHADE GAP BRANCH					ROCKY RIDGE BRANCH					MAIN LINE				
		MOIST UNION	AVONWICK	SHIRLEY	OHIOHONIA	CHADAR ROCK	SHADE GAP	LOCKE VALLEY	NEBLEYTON	FOUR	THREE SPRINGS	SALTILO	COLES	ROCKY RIDGE	UBERMAN	JACOB	SHERMAN	EVANSTON	COOKS	ROBERTSDALE	
0	MOIST UNION, PA.																				
4	*AUGHWICK "	\$12																			
7	*SHIRLEY "	\$18.00																			
11	*OHIOHONIA "	\$21.81																			
8 2	*BLACKLOG "	\$29.27																			
8 4	*CEDAR ROCK "	\$45.33																			
8 5	*LOCKE VALLEY "	\$48.36																			
8 6	*SHADE GAP "	\$51.39																			
8 10	*NEBLEYTON "	\$63.51																			
14	*FOUR "	\$82.30																			
17	*THREE SPRINGS "	\$91.39																			
19	*SALTILO "	\$97.45																			
24	*COLES "	\$127.63																			
25	*ROCKY RIDGE "	\$175.66																			
R 2	*CHUEMAN "	\$175.72																			
R 3	*JACOB "	\$175.75																			
R 4	*SHERMAN "	\$175.75																			
R 5	*EVANSTON "	\$175.75																			
28	*COOKS "	\$175.69																			
30	*ROBERTSDALE "	\$175.75																			

Children under five (5) years of age will be carried free. Half Fare will be charged for children five (5) years of age and under twelve. The Minimum Fare in any case will be five (5) cents.

STOPPAGES PRIVILEGE allowed on tickets to all points for unlimited time, except between Mt. Union, Pa. and points south of and including Rocky Ridge, Pa.

All tickets sold under this tariff are good until used.

BAGGAGE--35 pounds of baggage free on each whole ticket, and 72 pounds free on each half ticket. Excess weight will be charged 25 cents per ten pounds. Minimum charges as usual.

Trains will run on Rocky Ridge Branch irregularly on special orders, therefore train service is not guaranteed on day tickets are purchased to points on this branch.

Corpses will be carried if first class fare has been paid for each, conductor satisfied as to transfer arrangements at destination and there is an escort in full charge, who has also paid first class fare, the movement in all cases to be subject to the rules of the governing road of line.

Dogs will be carried in baggage cars only, if chained or crated and accompanied by passenger. A charge of 25 cents each will be made for this service regardless of destination.

*No Agent. †Indicates advance in fares. #Station numbers for the use of Agents and Conductors.

ISSUED JUNE 15, 1912
THE EAST BROAD TOP R. R. & C. CO.
SHADE GAP R. R. CO.
ROCKY RIDGE R. R. CO.
By C. D. JONES, Auditor,
Philadelphia, Pa.

EFFECTIVE JULY 15, 1912
E. C. HALL, Gen. Mgr.,
Orbisonia, Pa.

Continuation from Page 2 of

List of All Tickets Sold at Lower Rates than those Published in Regular Passenger Tariff I.C.C. P. No. 19--P.S.C. Pa.--No. P. 9 or reissues thereof

Form No.	KIND	RATES	CONDITIONS	POINTS
20	Mileage	\$12.50 per book of 500 miles (2 1/2¢ per mile).	<p>The conditions under which this ticket is issued are as follows:</p> <p>1. That ticket is good only on made as specified on reverse.</p> <p>2. That the amount shall be used if detached by the holder.</p> <p>3. That one mile shall be credited for each mile or part thereof as shown on the reverse, unless otherwise provided.</p> <p>4. That if the option remaining attached hereto at the time any conditions are violated, the holder shall be entitled to the full amount of the ticket, less the amount of the option, and shall be considered as the holder.</p> <p>5. That this ticket shall not be destroyed if used.</p> <p>6. That in honoring this ticket for mileage of a third party, the amount of the option shall be credited to the holder.</p> <p>7. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>8. That all amounts paid, will be credited to the holder of the ticket, and shall be considered as the holder's property.</p> <p>9. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>10. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>11. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>12. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>13. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>14. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>15. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>16. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>17. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>18. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>19. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>20. That this ticket shall not be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p>	Between all stations on E.B.T.R.R. & C. Co.
10	Workmen's Ticket	\$85.00 per book of 50 trips.	<p>Sold only upon written request of Superintendent of mines at which purchaser is employed. No baggage will be checked on this ticket.</p> <p>CONTRACT.</p> <p>In consideration of the reduced rate at which this ticket is issued, the purchaser agrees that the use shall be subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>1. That the Workmen's Ticket is to be used by no one but the person named on the reverse, and is to be honored if issued by the carrier.</p> <p>2. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>3. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>4. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>5. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>6. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>7. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>8. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>9. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>10. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>11. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>12. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>13. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>14. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>15. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>16. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>17. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>18. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>19. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p> <p>20. It is not to be used for the purpose of making a round trip.</p>	Between all stations on E.B.T.R.R. & C. Co. Each book sold being confined however, to stations named on front cover of that book.

*Advance.

EBTF.2023.3.23

THE 43RD ANNUAL FEBT REUNION: NEW DATE, NEW STRUCTURE, SAME GREAT EVENT

It feels like it was only yesterday that we were celebrating and then recapping the record-shattering event that was the 2025 FEBT Reunion, but now is definitely the time to be looking at this year's event on May 1, 2, and 3.



Registration has been on sale by logging into www.store.febt.org with an active FEBT Membership and will continue to be so for the same great price of \$40 per person until Sunday, April 26, 2026. Remember, the FEBT Reunion is a members only event, so any guests you buy tickets for must also be an FEBT member. Additionally, be sure to include any member guest names in the comments section of your order.

On a different note, the whole reason the FEBT Reunion is even possible is because of the people. From the incredible staff at the EBT to our own volunteers, restoration project leads and Robertsdale hosts, making Reunion happen is by no means the work and effort of one individual, it takes an entire team.

And with the way that Reunion has grown over the last few years, this year we're going to need more help than ever before. So if you want to be a part of making the FEBT Reunion even better this year, be sure to fill out this google form at:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdL_7uucx3bB68GKjhTeukiKVC97a1XI0EQbHb1B3XaWHpIcA/viewform?usp=header

It should be noted, FEBT Reunion Volunteers still need to register for reunion as normal, however we are working on an appropriate thank you/gift for those who volunteer their time for the event.

While the exact details are still being finalized, with a new date comes a new structure for the Reunion; one that allows a clear path from the beginning, through the middle, and finally to the end of the event. This new scheduling structure will allow attendees to partake in even more events throughout the Reunion Weekend, including the special excursions and tours available separately with our partners at the East Broad Top Railroad. The railroad has also graciously given FEBT

an exclusive ticket window for the excursions from February 1, to February 14 for our members to purchase their tickets before they're on sale to the general public. Check out the links (the event listed on right hand column) below :

Saturday - May 2

8:00 AM	Morning Freight heading South
10:00 AM	Archivists Tour
11:15 AM	M-1 Excursion heading South
12:10 PM	Diesel Freight to Colgate Grove
12:45 PM	M-1 Excursion heading South
2:00 PM	Archivists Tour
2:15 PM	M-1 Excursion heading South
3:00 PM	Southbound Excursion

Sunday - May 3

8:00 AM	Morning Freight heading South
11:15 AM	M-1 Excursion heading South
12:10 PM	Diesel Freight to Colgate Grove
12:45 PM	M-1 Excursion heading South

And of course the East Broad Top Railroad will be offering its usual selection of regular excursions at 10:30, 12:00 and 1:30* (*Friday and Saturday only) and the always popular guided tours. The M-3 and speeders will also be running through the yard on Saturday, May 2.

Now that we have seen the East Broad Top's separate offerings for this year's reunion, we also have a first look at the FEBT's included events for the Reunion weekend. Timings are still subject to change and look forward to more timings, details and events being finalized as we get closer and closer to reunion.

Friday - May 1, 2026

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Registration Pick Up at the historic Robertsdale Depot
10:00 AM to 4:30 PM	FEBT's Robertsdale Museum Open - Regular Tours offered frequently, extended mine tour, new exhibit opening
5:00 PM to 5:30 PM	Reunion Kickoff at Robertsdale Fire hall
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM	FEBT Annual Business Meeting at Robertsdale Fire hall
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM	Panel #1 at Robertsdale Fire hall

Saturday - May 2, 2026

8:00 AM to 10:00 AM	Open House of the Rockhill Furnace Yard
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM	FEBT's Robertsdale Museum Open
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM	Vendors, Contests, Silent Auction at Rockhill Elementary
5:30 PM to 6:00 PM	Feature Auction at Rockhill Elementary
6:00 PM to 7:00 PM	Panel #2 at Rockhill Elementary
7:00 PM to 8:00 PM	Panel #3 at Rockhill Elementary
8:00 PM to 9:00 PM	Panel #4 at Rockhill Elementary

Sunday - May 3, 2026

9:30 AM to 12:00 PM	An event at the Saltillo Station
1:30 PM to 5:00 PM	FEBT Reunion Lunch Train

That's right, the FEBT train and meal are returning this year, but at a new time slot of 1:30 PM on Sunday May 3, providing the perfect closing ceremony to this year's FEBT Reunion! Seating is limited for this popular FEBT Reunion experience so be sure to register online as soon as possible as space will fill quickly!

With that, I think it's time I head back to the planning den, but I will encourage you to continue to keep an eye on future FEBT Newsletters as well as the FEBT's Facebook page as more information and details surrounding the 43rd Edition of FEBT's Premier Annual Event are announced. And I will see you, down the line. – *Al Gallo*

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FEBT COMPANY STORE

VERY LIMITED QUANTITY - WHILE SUPPLY LASTS

2026 Calendars Are Here

Our 2026 calendar features images taken by the East Broad Top Railroad's official photographer, Matthew Malkiewicz (www.lostracksoftime.com). These photographs, taken over the past few years, showcase the East Broad Top from the end of the Kovalchick era through its rebirth under the EBT Foundation ownership. Many of these photographs are available to the public for the first time in this calendar. Enjoy these scenes of America's oldest operating narrow gauge railroad, the East Broad Top, through the lens of Matthew Malkiewicz.

Calendar is 11x17 inches. Photo of the calendar cover and text courtesy of the East Broad Top Foundation.



~~\$19.99~~ **50% OFF**
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Order on-line through the FEBT Company Store website at store.febt.org, using your account or create an account. PayPal, major credit cards, and personal checks payable to FEBT Company Store are accepted.

JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

The following members volunteered from December 22 to January 21 in Rockhill Furnace, in Robertsdale, along the line, or remotely to support FEBT. Thanks to all FEBT volunteers for their dedicated efforts to preserve, restore, and interpret the EBT.

- | | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| Bill Adams | Lawrence Biemiller | Victor Booth | John Bowie |
| Alexander Brown | Dave Bulman | Karen Bulman | Roy Burnham |
| Jane Clarke | Pete Clarke | Chris Coleman | Craig Confair |
| Alex Cook | Doug Davenport | Ray Davidowski | George Dvorak |
| Linda Dvorak | Dave Ebright | Al Gallo | Steve Jackson |
| Butch Kerchenske | Wyatt Kindler | Brent Kendrick | Eric Knepp |
| Ed Kompare | Ben Leese | James Loope | Mathew Malkiewicz |
| Curtis Miller | Kevin Nolish | Tom Perman | Dave Phillips |
| John Quinn | Jon Radder | Lee Rainey | Mark Reese |
| Jim Troup | Gene Tucker | Dick Ullery | Andy Van Scyoc |
| Mike Wahler | Bill Wheeler | Scarlett Wirt | Jim Witmer |
| Charlie Wootton | | | |

JANUARY CAMPAIGN-FUNDED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Progress continued on multiple projects to restore the East Broad Top in January, which were enabled by your donations to the FEBT Campaign.

The new tender tank for locomotive No. 15 was delivered to Rockhill Furnace on January 14. The tank was constructed by Curry Supply Company in Hollidaysburg, PA. Funding for the new tank was provided by the 2024 FEBT campaign. The 2025 campaign provided funding for the overhaul of No. 15's trailing truck, and the 2026 campaign will provide funding to purchase new staybolts.

Work continued at Saltillo Station this month. The electrical rough-in was completed, and the electrical hook-up has been requested. Soon we'll have power in the building. The plumbing rough-in has also been completed, and the remaining HVAC details have been worked out to allow completion of the system. The custom interior siding to match the original is on order and is expected in February.

Above: The new tender tank for engine No. 15 arrives in Rockhill Furnace. – Rick Hamilton photo

Right: The new electrical panel and wiring are installed in the Saltillo Station. – Al Gallo photo

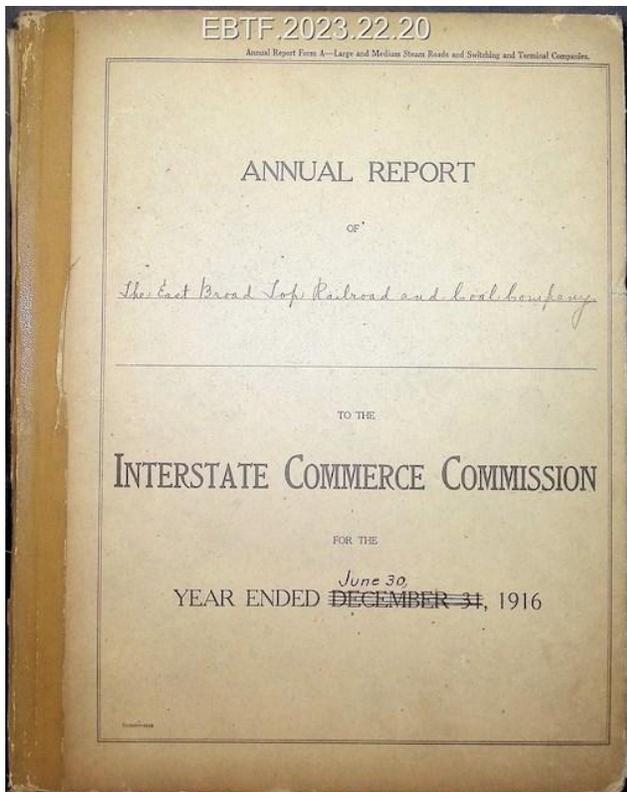




The clearing and grading between Pogue siding and Price's Bridge was completed this month by G&H Anderson Excavating. This work, which will allow track construction to proceed south of Pogue in 2026, was funded by the 2025 FEBT campaign.

Freshly graded right-of-way stretches south toward Price's Bridge on the March to Saltillo. – EBTF staff photo

The East Broad Top Railroad Archives and Special Collections kicked off 2026 by releasing a treasure trove of information scanned from selected volumes of the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) Annual Reports. There are 79 annual reports in this collection and considered an enormous resource on not just rolling stock but also traffic, finance, and more. <https://ebtarchives.catalogaccess.com/exhibits/48>.



Selected images from ICC Annual Reports. 1890-1916. – EBT Archives photo, EBTF.2023.22, EBT-ICC Collection

JANUARY FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The 2026 Campaign continues to make great progress thanks to our very generous donors. January donations totaled \$51,936 in 121 donations. This brings the 2026 Campaign total to \$236,385. FEBT appreciates your help to support its goals of restoring, preserving, and interpreting the East Broad Top Railroad. Thank you!

2026 Campaign Goal:
\$350,000

January Donations:
\$51,936

Campaign Total:
\$236,385 – 67.5%

January donors*:

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Bruce O. Allen | Paul Backenstose | Richard Bader | |
| Wayne Baldwin | Timothy Banfield | Owen F. Beeder, Jr. | William Best |
| Casper Bocklage | Eric Booher | Kenneth Borg | Alexander Bowser |
| David H. Capp | Thomas Carlson | William H. Chaffee | Christopher Chany |
| William Cosgrove | Curtis Criss | George Crum | David Currier |
| Larry DeYoung | Craig Dunn | George J. Dvorak II | Frank R. Dziama |
| Wade C. Eagleton | J. Robert Engle | Douglas E. Fink | Louis Fisher |
| Lawrence Fobiano | John Fowler, Jr. | Edmund M. Fox | Ray Fritsch |
| Stephen Gardner | Charlene Gillam | Brian & Lisa Gilleran | John Gummo |
| David Hart | Robert B. Hart | Jeffrey Haslam | Michael Hegedus |
| Jeff Hickman | Charles W. High | Manly Hyde | Dave Johnson |
| Roy W. Johnson | John T. Keene | Kenneth M. Kelly | Victor V. Kidd |
| George Klair | Charles Klump | David Kneisley Sr. | John E. Kokas |
| Douglas O. Langdon | William Larduskey | Troy C. Leitzel | Charles Lindrooth |
| Kevin Lynch | Richard J. Magee | Christopher Manthey | Paul A. Mensing |
| James G. Milheim | Irvine G. Milheim Jr. | Craig M. Miller | Jim Missenda |
| James R. Montgomery | Tim Moore | Gene Moser Jr. | Craig Musser |
| Joshua Nelson | Selwyn Parks | David A. Phillips | Marie Plishka Spittell |
| Jonathan Scott Procter | David Redding | Michael Reed | Ray Renner |
| Jim & Jane Richardson | Dale Rider | Jared I. Roberts | Anthony Rollett |
| Anthony Sallo III | Bill and Sue Sample | Paul Scheible | Peter Schierloh |
| Daniel Schmidt | John W. Schmidt | Kenneth R. Schumacher | Lester Sittler |
| Tom Stackhouse | Jim Stapleton | Steve Stroman | Clay Sutton |
| Blair D. Tarr | Van Horn Foundation | John M. Van Scyoc | Jeff Wakefield |
| Walter Weart | Ted Weidlein | Tim Welch | Robert Wenger |
| Larry H. Williams | Lawrence Williams | Brian Wolfe | Jeanette Wolff Lustig |
| Paul Wolfgang | Terrill L. Woolsey | Susan E. Wootton | Eric Wunz |
| John S. Yoder | Patrick Yough | John D. Zidik | Robert E. Zischkau Jr. |

In memory of John Snyder:

Wade N. Woodcock

In memory of Ross Rowland:

Sarah Fleming William P Kcenich

In honor of Gene Tucker & the Track Crew:

Paul Bergdolt

* - All donors listed represent donations received between December 22, 2025 and January 21, 2026. Donations received after January 21 will be reported in the March 2026 issue due to press time constraints.

The 2026 Annual Campaign began October 1, 2025 and will run through September 30, 2026. Campaign details were revealed on October 4, during the FEBT Reunion. You may contact the Fundraising Treasurer at:

Karen Bulman
 FEBT Fundraising Treasurer
 P.O. Box 43063
 Cincinnati, OH 45243

FEBT is a designated 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax-deductible in the U.S.

Thank you for your generous support! – *Karen Bulman and Dave Bulman*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Host	Event
February 7-8	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
February 13-15	EBT	Winter Spectacular
February 28 - March 1	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
March 21-22	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
March 28, 29	EBT	Easter on the Rails
April 4	EBT	Easter on the Rails
April 10-12	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
May 1-3	FEBT	2026 FEBT Reunion
May 16-17	EBT	The EBT Goes to War!
May 16	EBT	Trackside Tastes & Tunes
May 30-31	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
May 31	EBT	Ice Cream Train
June 1-5	FEBT	Rockhill Work Week
June 13	FEBT	FEBT Museum Archives Day
June 20	EBT	Broad Top Brews Train
June 27-28	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
June 28	EBT	Ice Cream Train
July 4	EBT	4 th of July at the EBT
July 18-20	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
July 18	FEBT/BCACMHS	Robertsdale-Wood Heritage Day
July 18	EBT	Trackside Tastes & Tunes
July 19	EBT	Ice Cream Train
August 8	FEBT	FEBT Museum Archives Day
August 15-16	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
August 15	EBT	Trackside Tastes & Tunes
August 16	EBT	Ice Cream Train
August 30	EBT	Trackside Tastes & Tunes
September 5	EBT	Clash of the Axemen
September 10-13	EBT	Central Pennsylvania Ragtime & American Music Fest.
September 12-13	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
September 12	EBT	Trackside Tastes & Tunes
September 14-18	FEBT	Rockhill Work Week
October 3	EBT	Broad Top Brews Train
October 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 31	EBT	Pumkin Patch Express
November 27, 28, 29	EBT	Christmas in Coal Country
December 4-6, 11-13, 18-20	EBT	Christmas in Coal Country

<u>Hosts:</u>	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
	BTACMHS	Broad Top Area Coal Miners Historical Society	broadtopminersmuseum.com

UPCOMING ROCKHILL FURNACE VOLUNTEER SESSIONS

We expect this to be another great year in Rockhill. We look forward to the completion of Combine 14 and Boxcar 174, major progress on the Storehouse and Blacksmith Shop, and continued progress on window restoration. We hope to put a renewed focus on building painting this year, addressing several areas that are in need. We also expect to launch additional rolling stock projects once the current ones are complete. All of this takes volunteers. We have dedicated core group, but we can always use more volunteers to help with our many restoration projects. If you'd like to help with these and future projects, please consider joining us!

The next Rockhill Restoration Work Weekend will take place Saturday and Sunday, February 7 and 8. The remainder of the 2026 Rockhill schedule is on our website at <https://febt.org/volunteer/>. Please consider coming out to help us continue to preserve and restore the EBT. If you are interested in participating in the Rockhill sessions, including track work and are not on the current signup distribution, or if you have questions or suggestions about volunteering please contact Dave Bulman, the FEBT Volunteer Coordinator, at volunteer@febt.org. – *Dave Bulman*

FEBT MUSEUM SCHEDULE

The FEBT Museum will open Saturdays March 28 and April 4, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM during the Easter on the Rails event.

FEBT Reunion Hours:
Friday 10:00 to 4:30
Saturday 9:00 to 12:00



The formal 2026 tourist season hours begin on May 9, 2026.
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM every Saturday, through October 31, 2026.

ABOUT THIS ORGANIZATION

Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc. (FEBT) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, historical, and educational society dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of the East Broad Top Railroad National Historic Landmark in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. It was organized in 1983 and now boasts over 2,200 members. FEBT publishes an award-winning magazine, *Timber Transfer*, and a monthly e-newsletter, and operates a museum in Robertsdale PA, the EBT's southern terminus. See febt.org/ for more information.

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. Previous issues of the FEBT Newsletter may be found at febt.org/newsletter. 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.