

# RTA Photo Contest Ends On A High Note

By Carol Sue Ray

**T**he 2011 RTA Photo Contest has been a great success with many members and their families participating. Our focus on sawmills in the last issue of *Crossties* required that we postpone the announcement about the winners for Phase 5 of the contest until now. In this issue, we also are pleased to honor our grand prizewinners for the entire contest.

## Phase 5

The fifth and final phase of the contest focused on the used crosstie, which included removal from track and processing for cogeneration.

Jason Feagans, railroad division manager for National Salvage and Service Corp. in Clear Creek, Ind., submitted both the first and second place photos. His first place picture shows railroad ties being unloaded from railcars and loaded into a huge grinder.

The resulting chips are going into trailers to be hauled to a cogeneration customer at the National Salvage & Service Corp. tie recycling facility in Selma, Ala.

Jason's second place photo was taken in North Carolina where a customer built a fence from recycled railroad ties. Congratulations to Jason for winning a combined \$200 E-gift card.

Honorable Mention—and the \$25 E-gift card—for phase 5 went to Diane Stackhouse, one of the owners of East Coast Railroad Services and Ray's Transportation in New Windsor, N.Y.

She used her Kodak EasyShare C913 camera to record a pile of unsorted ties brought into their facility by boom trucks and tractor-trailers for sorting and grading. The boom operator off loads the material and a skid steer operator sorts the ties as relay, landscape #1, landscape #2 and scrap, and placed into inventory. All scrap ties are taken to the Koppers co-generation plant ▶



In this photo by Norfolk Southern's Brad Brenneman, you see a German stack of untreated ties drying in the shadow of the Shenandoah Mountains.

## FIRST PLACE - PHASE 5



Snapped by Jason Feagans of National Salvage and Service Corp., this photo shows railroad ties being unloaded from railcars and loaded into a huge grinder.

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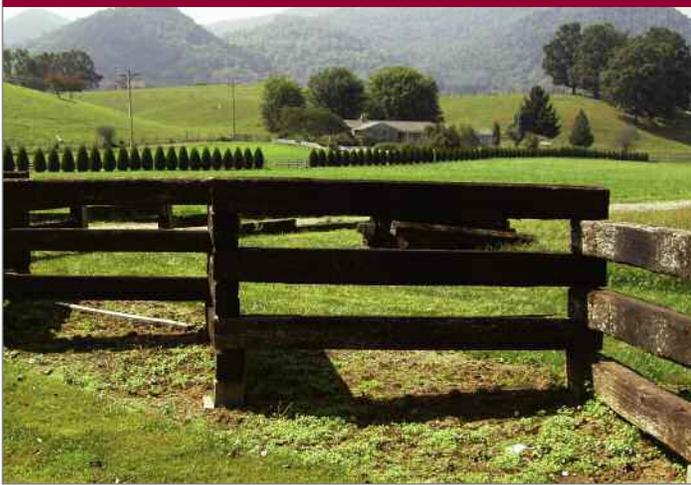
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## Phase 5 Winners

### SECOND PLACE



Also taken by Jason Feagans of National Salvage and Service Corp., this photo shows recycled railroad ties serving out their life as a unique fence.

### THIRD PLACE



Diane Stackhouse of East Coast Railroad Services snapped this photo of a pile of unsorted ties being brought into her New Windsor, N.Y., facility for sorting and grinding.



## Where Is It? A Tough One This Time

It looks like the “Where Was This Photo Taken” puzzle in the November/December issue of *Crossties* was pretty challenging. We had a couple of good guesses, but they only identified that the photo was taken on a Norfolk Southern line. It’s actually a cut in limestone cliffs about two miles south of Wilmore, Ky. The train had just traveled over one of the highest railroad bridges in the United States.

## Congratulations & thank you...

to all the RTA members who submitted photos for all phases of the “Wood Crosstie Story” photo contest and especially to our winners! We all learned from your perspectives and wonderful creativity.

in Muncy, Pa. The other ties are sold and shipped out.

### Grand Prize Winners

Now that the photo contest is officially complete, it’s time to announce the grand prizewinners. We hope you appreciate the photos RTA’s Executive Committee selected to honor this year.

Grand prizewinning photos were selected a little differently from than those selected as winners of the different phases of the contest. While the overall grand prizewinner was voted on by our Executive Committee, these other winners came from random drawings of many submissions. The rules that were established before the RTA Photo Contest began will remain on our website for a bit longer at <http://rta.org/Default.aspx?tabid=171>.

Congratulations to Brad Brenneman, purchasing supervisor for MOW with Norfolk Southern in Roanoke, Va., for being selected as the overall grand prizewinner! Brad’s picture is a quintessential representation of railway ties in transit. This German stack of untreated ties is drying in the shadow of the Shenandoah Mountains. Brad is rewarded with a \$250 E-gift card.

The second and third grand prizewinners were chosen in a random drawing from all the other first and second place winners selected during the various phased contests during the year. The second grand prize of a \$150 E-gift card is awarded to Jason Feagans of National Salvage and Service Corporation. You can see his winning photo on page 9.

The third grand prize of a \$100 e-gift card goes to Jeffrey Lippincott, national sales manager for Tank Fab in Rocky Mount, N.C. This black and white image was taken at the Amerities facility in Hope, Ark. Andy Andreykovich of Appalachian Timber Services in Pittsburgh receives the \$100 E-gift card for his photo randomly drawn from all the Honorable Mention photos throughout the contest. The picture was snapped at the Appalachian Timber Services plant in Sutton, W.Va.

Two other pictures were honored in a random drawing from all the other photos submitted throughout the year. Fifty-dollar E-gift cards from RTA go to Lance Ramsay of Mechanicsburg Lumber Company in Yazoo City, Miss., and Cameron Chapman, son of BNSF Railway employee Ed Chapman. ■

*Grand prize photos continued on page 12 ►*

## More Grand Prizewinners

### SECOND PLACE



Photo by Jason Feagans. See page 9 for details.

### THIRD PLACE



Taken by Jeffrey Lippincott of Tank Fab, this black and white image was taken at the Amerities facility in Hope, Ark.

### HONORABLE MENTION



Cameron Chapman, son of Ed Chapman of Burlington Northern Santa Fe, took this peaceful photo of standing trees.

### HONORABLE MENTION



Lance Ramsay of Mechanicsburg Lumber Company in Yazoo City, Miss., photographed this sawmill in action.

### HONORABLE MENTION



Andy Andreykovich of Appalachian Timber Services in Pittsburgh snapped this photo of stacked ties in Sutton, W.Va.

To view all the photos from the contest go to [www.rta.org](http://www.rta.org)



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