

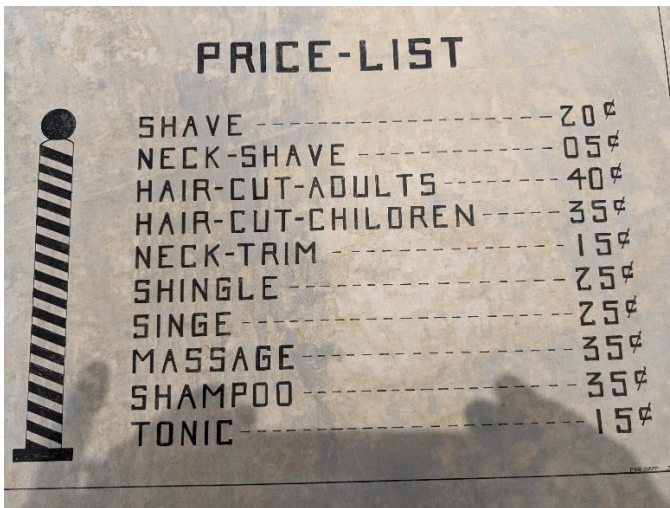
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*FEBT volunteers Brad Morocco, Doug Linebaugh, and Alex Cook are in the Roundhouse painting the pilot, cab windows, and piping of locomotive No. 16.
– Dave Bulman photo*

A FUN SERIES OF EVENTS AT THE SOUTHERN TERMINUS

I'm happy to report that 7/30, which was one of our Archives Days, was very successful. We had 31 folks sign in (and we always know that there are some who don't sign). That included Lee Rainey who came and spent several hours at the museum. What fun it was to watch him change back and forth from being just another excited guest seeing the items that Julie brought with her and then switching to being the guy who knows the most EBT history and explaining things to other guests. Gene Tucker was there (fresh off knee replacement surgery). He took a seat on the handcar and a group (including his wife) took a ride to the end of the restored track. It was great to listen to him tell us stories of the track work; things like, "This area looks like it was hard to do, but it was easy," or, "See that? That made this section really difficult."



Above: This sign once adorned the Old Post Office Building in Robertsdale, during the post-common carrier era. – Jane Clarke photo

Right: This banner is now in the Orbisonia Station to guide visitors to Robertsdale via the QR code at the bottom. – Andrew Greene photo

I'm also happy to report that Jane took our new big banner down to the station at Orby. They put it right near the door, so everyone there will see it. It's seven feet tall and more impressive in person than it looks in photos. See picture attached. Its presence shows how strongly the Foundation supports the FEBT, and vice versa.

Saturday 8/6 was just a normal day, yet we had 35 visitors sign in. Included among them was Frank Kyper, who came with his son and grandson. How great to listen to him tell of visiting with his grandfather and his joy of being able to now be visiting with his son and grandson.

Saturday 8/13 was another Archives Day. It's one thing to read in Rainey & Kyper of how the coal seams in Robertsdale are folded, shaped like a series of letter W's put end to end. But then to see a report of a series of test bore hole results that show in just a short distance that the coal seam that is 50' down and 4' thick in the first test, is then 75' down and only 6"

What did we learn at this Archives Day? We learned that the barbershop (you do know that a portion of the old Post Office was used as a barbershop, don't you?) listed "Singe" among its services. Google it and you'll find that they really used to burn off the "split ends" of hair. I bet that smelled, and don't you have to think that sometimes it went wrong? We saw plans for the old post office – but as only a single-story building. Shocking to me to learn that it was designed to house a barber shop. I had always assumed that it became a barber shop when that space was no longer needed by the railroad or mine company. I guess what we take from that is an understanding that if you are "the company" of a company town, that you have to supply all the needs the people there will have.



thick in the next, and does not exist in the 3rd hole. That really brings it home. The hit of the day was when we took a huge folded-up blueprint outside and opened it up (on nice picnic tables that had just been donated that morning in memory of Edgar Mitchell). It was too large to open it up inside, when unfolded, this document proved to be at least 10' x 10'. It was a map showing all the underground mine tunnels. The label says that it covered mines 1, 5, and 9. The area seemed to run from Robertsdale to Broad Top City, and well south of Woodvale. It is amazing to see the massive area that the mines covered and how they really completely removed one layer (actually more than one layer) of what we are standing on. We had 47 visitors sign in that day. I think that's a new, non-reunion attendance record. Our hosts were busy all day giving walking tours, handcar rides, and discussing topics and items displayed in the museum.



The inside of the FEBT Museum lacks the space to display this map of the mines that the Archives & Special Collections program has discovered. It takes the space of the Robertsdale Yard to show off this artifact during the August Archives Day. – Jane Clarke photo

Our next Archives Day will be September 17, but I hope you will have realized by now that there's always something happening at your FEBT Museum. So even if you visited last month, or last week, there's something new to see if you come again now. Don't you wish you'd have been there to meet Frank Kyper? Oh, by the way, he signed a couple copies of his books, and we have them for sale at the museum gift shop (and lots of other cool stuff as well). The Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum has also re-opened just a few short blocks away, so there's another reason to come visit Robertsdale.



The happiest people I see seem to be those that are working on Friar Tuck's track work crew, those working on the many other jobs in Rockhill Furnace/Orbisonia, and those who are part of our museum host crew. I encourage you to join in, it really is fun and you learn something every day. It's easy to reach me, my email address is febt@aol.com. – Pete Clarke

AUGUST PROGRESS AROUND THE SHOPS COMPLEX



A strong turnout of FEBT volunteers worked on a variety of railroad projects during the August 13-14 work weekend. The track crew was busy spiking ties on the mainline south of Rockhill, volunteers constructed the frame of the new door for the Car Shop, and a team worked in the Roundhouse painting engine No. 16. Other teams continued work on the Storehouse, Combine 14, Box Car 174, building painting, and window replacement. The weather was beautiful, as you can see in the photos.

Ben Bilott welds new side channel to the frame of Box Car 174 during the August work session. – Steve Jacobs photo

STOREHOUSE RESTORATION REACHES MILESTONE

The EBT storehouse project reached a milestone at the August work weekend with the completion of the interior bin restoration and the beginning of returning the historic EBT hardware back to the storehouse. This was the culmination of a 15 month effort to empty the Storehouse, disassemble the first floor bins, jacking the building and restoring the structure by Woodford Brothers, prepping and pouring a new concrete floor, replacing all of the lower siding, rebuilding the front doors, rebuilding the stairway, and rebuilding and reassembling the 565 first floor bins. During this work weekend, multiple pallets of hardware were moved from the temporary storage container back to the first floor of the Storehouse. Original EBT hardware including square head bolts, lag screws, nuts, shims, and rivets were returned to original locations in 75 individual bins. Work will continue in future work sessions to return all of the original hardware to the Storehouse.



Comparison shots of the inside of the Storehouse. Left: The upstairs of the Storehouse is filled with locomotive and rolling stock parts in a pattern of somewhat-organized chaos in May of 2021, prior to FEBT relocating the materials from the Storehouse to allow for structure stabilization. The curvature in the bins is not an optical illusion, they had bowed with the sag of the building. – FEBT collection. Right: Straight, level bins sit on the solid concrete floor of a stabilized Storehouse in August 2022. – Dave Bulman photo



An FEBT carpentry crew of Craig Confair, Jim Witmer, and Mark Reese build the first of the new car shop doors for the south end of the building. Previous work from this summer to replace the boards and battens is visible in the background. – Eric Knepp photo

Would you like to be better connected to what's going on at the EBT? Are you interested in behind-the-scenes progress and activities? Then come out and participate as an FEBT volunteer. There is no better way to be part of the exciting progress taking place at the railroad. Being an on-site volunteer gives you first-hand views of the latest activity. Rockhill work sessions frequently start with an update from EBT Foundation GM Brad Esposito on the latest news on the railroad. Volunteers also often get first looks at new progress and new equipment. Recent work sessions have included volunteer-only tours of the progress on engine No. 16 and walk-throughs of the new coaches. This is all in addition to the knowledge and satisfaction that comes from directly contributing to the preservation and restoration of the EBT through FEBT volunteering. See our website at <https://febt.org/volunteer/> for information on how you can participate. If you have questions about volunteering, or have suggestions for our volunteer recruiting efforts, please email me at dbulman115@gmail.com. – Dave Bulman



FEBT Glass Rattlers Bill Adams and Bobby Goldby pause for a picture while working on building window sashes for the Rockhill Shops Complex. This work is taking place inside the rejuvenated Carpentry Shop, an FEBT-financed project completed in 2021. – Dave Bulman photo

AUGUST FUNDRAISING UPDATE

August donations totaled in excess of \$6200, with contributions coming from 15 different donors. With one month left in the 2022 FEBT Fundraising Campaign, donations are approaching \$243,000, and have been given in over 800 individual donations. The organization is grateful for the contributions of all values. While money buys the materials to use for restorations, the greatest donation one can give is their time. The funds received, combined with the “sweat equity”, has made 2022 a very productive year for FEBT.

2022 Fundraising Goal:

\$100,000

August Donations:

\$6296.52

Campaign Total:

\$242,829.28 – 242.8%

August donors*:

Keith Allen
Douglas E. Fink
Keith Kreider

Rick & Ellen Arnold
Fred Hagerich
Robert J. McShea

Alexander Bowser
Dave Johnson
Anthony Molish

Ryan Confair on behalf of Craig Confair
Victor V. Kidd
Ann Sparrough

* - All donors listed represent donations received between July 22, 2022 and August 21, 2022. Donations received after August 21 will be reported in the October 2022 issue due to press time constraints.

- Ray Davidowski and Doug Davenport



A large group of FEBT volunteers poses in front of EBT's newly acquired Coach 21 at the August 2022 work session. – Brad Esposito photo

FEBT FUNDS HAVE GONE A LONG WAY IN 2022

Thanks to your generous donations, we are ending the 2022 fundraising campaign with \$242,829.28 (to date), far exceeding our goal of \$100,000. You will recall we sought with the 2022 campaign to supplement the work of the EBT Foundation by undertaking four timely projects from Rockhill to Robertsdale. Your strong support has actually made it possible to undertake much more. Here is what we have been able to accomplish.

Archive. A portion of the additional funds raised was used to shift the entire responsibility for funding of the archive work over to the FEBT, allowing the Foundation to focus their own fundraising efforts on major capital projects. The archive team has done a preliminary inventory of over 1000 maps, plans, and drawings, and has digitized and cataloged over 650 photos and documents in anticipation of the launch of online access in the near future.

Rockhill. A top priority was to complete the structural repairs to the iconic, concrete Rockhill Coaling Tipple. This will allow it to be used not just for coaling engines but as a place to house the pumps that are a key component of the fire suppression system planned for the historic Rockhill shops. If you have had the opportunity to visit the yard recently, you will have noticed the installation of new water pipe for the fire suppression system. The interior of the coaling tipple has also been prepared for the pumps. Materials for the recreated dumping shed on top have been arriving and work to construct it is expected to start this fall. The rebuilding of the retaining walls, for which we have already raised our share of the funds, has been delayed by the availability of the contractor. We were pleased to use a portion of the additional funds raised to pledge an additional \$50,000 to the fire suppression project. Our added contribution will serve as matching money required for a grant received by the Foundation.

South to Saltillo. Based on conversations with the Foundation, historical architect and FEBT member John Bowie has been working on plans for recreating the Saltillo station and water tank. The next step is a detailed mapping of the property lines, utility connections, and other details by a land surveyor. The cost for this professional will be paid from the funds we raised in 2022; the biggest challenge has been to find a surveyor who is able to fit the job into his schedule. Your board also voted \$20,000 from the extra funds raised to buy ties for the track rehabilitation south from Rockhill. That amount is expected to permit renovation of the track to a condition that will allow the work train to operate as far as the Rt. 475 crossing. The installation work will be shared by the Foundation crew and the FEBT track crew.

Robertsdale. The extra funds generously contributed to our 2022 campaign made it possible to accelerate two badly needed projects in Robertsdale. Our museum building (the old post office) received a new roof and is due shortly to receive an air conditioning update that will help protect the historical materials that reside in it. Work on the outdoor visitor enhancements is underway, including plans for signage and for the construction of a paved tour path.

The balance of the funds raised remains in our restoration account, and we are in regular communication with the Foundation about additional needs on the way to Saltillo.



FEBT-installed and sponsored ties are visible south of Odd Fellows Cemetery Road towards Saltillo in August of 2022. – Gene Tucker photo

This could not happen without your support. Thank you again. – Lee Rainey

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Host	Event
September 3	EBT	East Broad Top 101
September 3, 4	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
September 9, 10, 11	EBT	Orbisonia Antique Power Show
September 17	FEBT	FEBT Museum September Archives Day
September 17	EBT	First Responder Day
September 17	RTM	First Day Celebration
September 19-23	FEBT	Rockhill Work Week Session
September 23, 24, 25	EBT	Ragtime in Rockhill
October 7	FEBT	FEBT Museum October Archives Day
October 7, 8, 9	FEBT	FEBT Fall Reunion
October 8	RTM	Fall Spectacular
October 15, 16	RTM	Pumpkin Patch Trolley 2022
October 22	RTM	Phantom Trolley
October 22, 23, 29, 30	EBT	Great Pumpkin Patch Express
November 5, 6	FEBT	Rockhill Work Session
November 25, 26, 27	EBT/RTM	Christmas in Coal Country
December 2-4, 9-11, 16-18	EBT/RTM	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

The next Rockhill Furnace volunteer session will take place Saturday and Sunday September 3rd and 4th. Also, the Fall Work Week will be September 19th thru the 23rd. Any days you may be able to join us, you are welcome. If you are interested in participating in the Rockhill Furnace volunteer sessions including track work, and are not on the current signup distribution, please contact Charlie Wootton, the Rockhill Furnace volunteer coordinator, at rhrestoration@febt.org. – *Dave Bulman*

UPCOMING ROBERTSDALE VOLUNTEER SESSIONS

The FEBT Museum is open every Saturday thru October. Contact Pete Clarke if you are interested in serving as a host at the museum. Pete can be reached at febt@aol.com. – *Doug Davenport*

MEMBERSHIP BOX SCORE

The Friends of the East Broad Top
membership is up to
1725

COMPANY STORE ITEM OF THE MONTH

EBT Rockhill Carpenter Shop *Available Now from FEBT Company Store!*



Conceived by
Broad Top
Mountain Models



Designed and
manufactured by
banta modelworks

As true to the century-old prototype as possible, with laser cut floor, interior framing, roof rafters, walls, battens, doors, windows, and sub-roof for construction ease and excellent fit! Corrugated metal roofing material. HO scale.

13" x 5" actual footprint.

A 3- or 4-evening project. **\$120** (members get 15% discount)

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.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: DICK ULLERY



Dick Ullery, manager of the FEBT Company Store, is a longtime FEBT volunteer who's had a hand in numerous major projects, including stabilization of the oldest part of the shops complex. Dick and his wife, Sue, are great breakfast, lunch, or dinner company. The Ullerys lived for nearly four decades in Sewickley, Pa., on the Ohio River northwest of Pittsburgh, where Dick retired from management in an engineering construction company that specialized in the steel industry. But for the past five years they've lived in Nicholasville, Ky., about 10 miles south of Lexington.

How did you get interested in the East Broad Top?

I became interested in the East Broad Top after a visit in 1997. I was hooked the first time Sue and I were there. When Lee Rainey began organizing the Friends to volunteer for work weekends in 2002, I started to make those weekends regularly. Our first project was the two section sheds across from the coal tipple. Then I gravitated towards Jim Bacon's gang, which became forever known as the Boilerhouse Rats.

I learned a lot of skills working from the guys I worked with at the EBT, especially with hand and power tools. While our first projects were pretty

small, we gradually took on much larger projects after Stanley Hall, the EBT general manager, realized we knew how to plan and get things done. Every project was interesting and although it was mostly hard, it was always fun.



Left: Boilerhouse Rats in 2012: Tom Diehl, Brad Esposito, Jim Bacon, and Dick Ullery.

Is there an FEBT project you're particularly proud of having been part of?

Rebuilding the boiler house was the most memorable because it was the first really big project we undertook. The boiler house was on the verge of collapse when we started. Jim planned the whole project and got Stanley's blessing to go ahead. Jim found a bricklayer who repaired the brick wall before we started with the rebuild of the entire roof. It was tricky because it was steep and built in four sections. Stanley was pleased with it and that launched our work into other major projects.

My volunteer work at the EBT now is pretty much limited to my work as manager of the FEBT Company Store. I was asked to do this by Hank Inman, then the FEBT president, about 15 years ago, after the death of Rich Keller. For a number of years I was a one-man band, operating the Store out of my home in Sewickley. After we moved to Kentucky, the inventory was moved to Wade Woodcock's home in Mount Union and Wade took over shipping duties. In the past year John Quinn has stepped up and assumed duties as Fulfillment Manager from his home in Pine Grove Mills, Pa. Dave Phillips is the third leg of the Company Store stool. Dave single handedly built the e-commerce store which has made life much easier for me, John, and Pete and Jane Clarke for the Robertsdale Museum.

I'm sorry I am no longer in a position to regularly volunteer in Rockhill — age and distance has caught up with me. But those were some of the best times of my life. Jim Bacon, Dave Richards, Brad Esposito, and Rich Wickett were the core of the Boilerhouse Rats gang in the beginning, and they're still good friends. We did a lot of work together and sure shared a lot of laughs!

Is there an FEBT volunteer you particularly admire?

There are a number of FEBT volunteers whom I admire, but Lee Rainey and Jim Bacon are the two that stand out for me. Lee, of course, restarted the FEBT volunteer work that had been halted for a number of years. And during the dark years when the railroad ceased operations, Lee — always the encourager — said at nearly every work session, "There will be another chapter in the life of the EBT, we just don't know what that will be yet."

Jim Bacon was the brains and force behind the number of major projects the Rats undertook. Without Jim's leadership the projects like the boiler house, machine shop, coal bin, foundry, sand house, and others could never have been done. And if they had not been done when they were, the threat of collapse was very real.

Anything else we should know?

I have for many years had a hobby of collecting railroad related memorabilia from a number of railroads, but in later years I concentrated on the B&O and the EBT. The EBT was always fun because finding original EBT lanterns and other memorabilia was difficult but rewarding when they turned up. Because of our move from Sewickley to Nicholasville, I have pared down my collection to a few items that have a special fondness and don't take up too much room in our house.

— *Lawrence Biemiller*

AN ACTIVE MONTH FOR FEBT TRACK PERSONNEL

FEBT track personnel resumed a more active pace during the month of August, and were quite active assisting full-time railroad personnel with work on Track Zero, with spiking up of newly-installed ties south of the Rockhill yard, and in planning for work in Robertsdale.



Track Zero had new ties installed by the FEBT Track Crew during the August 2022 work session. The concrete frame of the former scale pit is still intact. – Gene Tucker photo

Early in the month, we helped with tie installation and spiking on Track Zero (this is the track in the Rockhill yard that leads into the north side of the Car Shop). Installing ties in the old scale pit in the track was especially challenging, requiring four persons to nip up each tie in the scale pit for spiking. Once tie installation was complete, we assisted with leveling, surfacing and tamping of the track. This project will allow shop personnel to work under cars on brake systems and the like more easily.

Once that work was complete, we turned our attention to the rebuilding of the track south of the Rockhill yard. Work is initially focused on the stretch of track from the south end of the yard to PA Route 475, a distance of about 8/10 mile. Current plans call for installation of one-third of the ties that will eventually be installed. This interim measure makes good use of available resources, and sets the stage for a more complete rebuilding in the near future. Installation of a new tie at a spacing of a little more than five feet (on average) will permit opening of the track to speeder use and to work train use. In preparation for this work, FEBT personnel removed steel ties and hook bars from the track structure. We also despiked several old ties which will require replacement. In addition, we were able to install bolts in four joints whose bolts had sheared off due to thermal contraction of the rail (known as pull-aparts). The process begins with full-time railroad personnel installing the new ties, which is then followed by spiking, with railroad staff and FEBT personnel working together. At this writing, work has been complete to a point about 450 feet south of the International Order of Oddfellows (IOOF) Cemetery Road, or about 3/10 mile south of the yard.

Planning for the Saturday session of the FEBT Work Weekend took place on August 14th. On the September 3rd session of the weekend, we intend to build a small bridge across the seventeen-foot wide washout at the current end of usable track in Robertsdale, which will enable handcar and speeder operation further south toward Wood.

Many of our FEBT track crew personnel were involved this month, both in the Work Weekend

FEBT Robertsdale Coordinator Pete Clarke, author Frank Kyper Sr., and Frank Kyper Jr. pose at the end of handcar-usable track south of Robertsdale. The location of the bridge to be constructed in September is in the background. – Frank Kyper III photo



on August 13 – 14 and in midweek work sessions, including: Gordon Ley, Daniel Lane, Larry Fuchs, Phil Coyle, Tom Perman, John Quinn, Chris Wenger, and Justin Santichen. Notable in this month's work force is the presence of three new members: Collin Corrie, Roy Burnham, and Brian Hoffman (Welcome!). In addition, two FEBT members joined in Rockhill work for the first time: Steve Jackson and Rick Rourke. – *Gene Tucker*

EBT ARTIFACTS ON DISPLAY AT JUNIATA COLLEGE

Mark your calendars! The Juniata College Museum of Art will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the start of construction on the East Broad Top with an exhibition opening September 29th and running until the first week of December. The exhibit will include photos, drawings, documents, artifacts, and even patterns and tools from the machine shops. – *Lawrence Biemiller*



EBT/FEBT Archivist Julie Rockwell, left, and her assistant, Sammy Bellin, delivered items this week to Kathryn Blake, the museum director, and Elizabeth Gordon, the museum registrar. The exhibit is being mounted by students in Blake's museum-studies course. – Lawrence Biemiller photo

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 1,700 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. 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.