



FEBT Volunteers stand ready for the start of the July 19 work session. – Dave Bulman photo

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The EBT took on a patriotic look in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the United States. – Matthew Malkiewicz photo

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION RESULTS

The 2026 FEBT Directors Election was completed in June and the results were accepted by the Board on July 2, 2026. 562 ballots were received by Election Judge Steve Jackson. Incumbents Lawrence Biemiller, Doug Davenport, and Gene Tucker were re-elected, and new Directors Jane Clarke and John Quinn were elected. Thank you to Steve Jackson for serving as Election Judge, and to all members who submitted their ballots. – *Dave Bulman*

WANTS AND NEEDS

We are in need of a new volunteer to take on the FEBT Company Store website development and maintenance. This is a critical role that enables the online Company Store, including its membership and donation functions. Responsibilities of the role include maintaining the Zen Cart code and databases for the Company Store websites, incorporating new website features and info, adding new Company Store products to the website, and managing recurring website maintenance and trouble shooting.

If you have the skills and desire to help the FEBT with this critical role, please contact Dave Bulman at volunteer@febt.org. – *Dave Bulman*

YOUNG EASTIES STAY FLEXIBLE, PRODUCE AND LEARN DESPITE WEATHER

The weather for the July Young Eastie session was spotty rain, but not as hot as it had been prior. No matter the conditions, nine kids were excited to work. Those conditions altered our plans continuously.

The first plan adjustment included painting the interior of Storehouse 2 (not the exterior of the south side of the lumber shed as scheduled). Storehouse 2 holds long "stock" material on the horizontal metal rails. Material 20+ feet long would be stored and retrieved when needed. The kids stained the interior and painted some of the exterior. Inside the building, nine teens moved like bees carrying stain from one post to the next, only leaving that position when it was satisfactorily covered. It was impressive to see the kids work. They were able to paint the entire thing in only a few short hours. It was also impressive that they kept a vast majority of the stain on the wood and off themselves.



After lunch, the youth had access to a multitude of books, magazines, and calendars brought in by Chuck Geletzke, an FEBT member, volunteer, retired locomotive engineer, and author. They were excited to see the variety of documents and, I believe, many went home with at least one item.

The rain started stronger, so the ever-changing plan was to get a tour of Storehouse 1. On the way there, plans again changed as FEBT General Manager Brad Esposito offered an impromptu discussion and presentation about some of the equipment they have

Young Easties apply wood stain to the Storehouse 2 stock rack. – Tim Schindele photo

been working on. As the discussion continued, the rain intensified and, changing plans again, he graciously offered to take everyone into the roundhouse to show the kids even more. No photos were allowed, but the kids' minds were blown and many great questions were asked.

As the group left the roundhouse, the rain subsided and the ability to ride the handcar appeared. It pushed us past our scheduled ending time, but the parents were flexible and all youth got to ride the handcar.

The trajectory of the day changed many times, but through it all the Young Easties adapted and enjoyed the fantastic day. Thank you to all who helped make this session successful including Dave Bulman, Brad Esposito, Al Gallo, Chuck Geletzke, and Gene Tucker.

If you know of a teen (ages 13-18) who loves railroads and wants to be a part of something unique, encourage them to register for the next session (September 12). Information about registration can be found at <https://febt.org/youngeasties> or contact Tim Schindele at YouthVol@FEBT.org. – Tim Schindele



Brad Esposito explains restoration concepts to the Young Easties in Stall 8 of the roundhouse. – Tim Schindele photo

JULY HAPPENINGS IN ROBERTSDALE

Elsewhere in this newsletter, Rob Wilhite has written about the Robertsdale-Wood Heritage Day. Alas, the weather was bad and the EBT could not bring up the speeder as had been planned. That's life at a museum that's about 50% outside activities.

While attendance was lower than hoped for, those who came had great weather in the morning and had a wonderful day. Not referenced in Rob's article - Hans Plugge gave hands-on training sessions on how to operate a surveyor's transit. He had a small but enthusiastic audience. A little girl enjoyed measuring distances of up to 100 feet and checking the elevation difference. Julie Fether came by with Archives intern Ricky Conrad. Ricky is working on the oral history records that had been recorded years ago – getting them converted to text so that we'll be able print them in future articles and look things up in them. Ricky visited Robertsdale for the first time and was impressed with the history here.



Hans Plugge demonstrates the use of a transit during Heritage Day. – Jane Clarke photo



Above: The AED is now stowed accessibly and securely in the FEBT Museum. – Hans Plugge photo

Right and Below: A variety of new 3D printed items available for purchase exclusively at the FEBT Museum. – Roy Burnham photos

I hope you caught that FEBT worked closely with the Miners Museum and with the Robertsdale, Wood, and Broad Top Volunteer Fire Department for this event. Building working relationships with other local and rail organizations is part of what FEBT can do to help Preserve, Restore, and Interpret the EBT.

We have had an AED (automated external defibrillator) at the museum for several months. Now, again thanks to Hans, it is permanently mounted for easy access. We hope to never need it, but it is nice to know it's there.

More items continue to be added to the items for sale in the gift shop. See the pictures.

August, what a great time to visit the FEBT museum in Robertsdale, and don't forget to visit the Miners Museum while you are in Robertsdale. Robertsdale, so much to see, so much to do! – *Pete Clarke*



R'DALE-WOOD HERITAGE DAY PERSPECTIVE

Although local fire police weren't needed for crowd control on Saturday, July 18, two Broad Top area heritage groups successfully benefited from a revised heritage agenda of activities during the second annual Robertsdale-Wood Heritage Day.

The weatherman's stormy predictions for Saturday didn't impede visitors' turnout and appreciation of the heritage celebration, although most of the scheduled outdoor events had to be moved inside, planners explained. The full day of events were sponsored by the nonprofit Friends of the East Broad Top (FEBT), East Broad Top Railroad, and Broad Top Area Coal Miners Historical Society, in cooperation with the Robertsdale-based RW&BT Volunteer Fire Co. and the St. Michael's Orthodox Church of Wood.

The activities, which kicked off at 10:00 AM and lasted until 5:00 PM, included a visit to the St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Wood, FEBT lawn games on Robertsdale's historic "Company Square," activities in the FEBT and Coal Miners museums, and a chicken BBQ at the RW&BT Fire Hall.

Tours of the Italian Cemetery at Robertsdale and the former Woodvale Shaft Mine complex had to be cancelled due to the weather, with special presentations about the two topics moved inside the Coal Miners Museum. Scheduled FEBT railbike and Robertsdale mining area tours were limited.

Several Robertsdale citizens also set up yard sales on their properties but most of them were impacted by the stormy weather.

The mission of the cooperative heritage groups was to promote the industrial, transportation, and cultural heritage of the era of King Coal and the EBT on the eastern side of the semi-bituminous coal field, situated in the corners of Huntingdon, Bedford, and Fulton counties. – Ron Morgan



Above: The Walker family of Leesburg, VA, learned about the history of the EBT and the local coal mining industry during a tour of the FEBT Museum at Heritage Day. The family also benefited from the outdoor opportunities of the region at a Saxton area campground. – Ron Morgan photo

Below: Susan Pawuk, a parishioner at the St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Wood, second from the right, recalls the history and traditions of the cultural edifice during the annual Robertsdale and Wood Heritage Day. – Ron Morgan photo



ROBERTSDALE-WOOD HERITAGE DAY WRAP-UP

The smoke and the rain may have kept the attendance down from last year, but everyone had a good time at the Robertsdale-Wood Heritage Day on Saturday, July 18. The event was sponsored by the Friends of the EBT, the East Broad Top Railroad, the Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum, and the RW&BT Fire Company.



The day started with an impromptu cornhole tournament between some FEBT Museum staff and local townsfolk. In the end, I think our FEBT staff were a little bit rusty. A couple of walking tours of the former mining area were held in the morning as well.

Lunchtime was a chicken BBQ meal prepared by the RW&BT Fire Company. After lunch, our friends at the coal miners museum sponsored a presentation by Ron Morgan on the history of the Italian Cemetery. Did you know that most of the burials in that cemetery were due to the flu pandemic in 1918? Also, back in the 1970s, the local Lions Club refurbished the cemetery after it had become overgrown and neglected. Next, the presentations moved to St. Michael's Orthodox church in Wood for a history and tour of the church. And finally, we moved back over to the coal miners museum for a presentation on deep shaft Mine #6 by Ron Morgan.

The afternoon rain may have kept the attendance down from last year, but it did not dampen the spirits of those who came out to enjoy the activities. – Rob Willhite

Left: Pete Clarke and Roy Burnham play some cornhole on custom EBT boards. – Rob Willhite photo

JULY CAMPAIGN-FUNDED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

There was a lot of new progress in July made possible by donations to the 2026 Campaign. The March to Saltillo continued to build track north of the Saltillo Station, including constructing the NARCO siding switch and building additional main track heading north (see Gene's track article on Page 13 for more details). We are about \$7,000 in donations away from being able to fund another major step in the March to Saltillo, so stay tuned.

The newly-constructed NARCO siding north switch with Saltillo in the distance. – Al Gallo photo



Progress also continued at Saltillo Station. FEBT volunteers installed more campaign-funded interior materials including the agent's office ceiling. The FEBT Board, in July, also authorized additional funding for final grading and landscaping around the station.

The Storehouse 2 team in Rockhill installed additional exterior siding, and the connector space between Storehouses 1 and 2 received a new concrete floor. This floor will support a reconstructed stairway between the buildings to a second floor landing and access to the second floors of both buildings.

The East Broad Top Railroad Archives and Special Collections team continued their efforts to preserve and interpret EBT materials this month, funded by the FEBT Campaign. The July online exhibit features a series of about 100 color slides, the majority taken by photographer John B. Hungerford Jr. (1897-1975). Donated by Tom and Barbara Moungovon, the Moungovon Collection (EBTF.2025.19) captures both ends of the line, in color, during the final years of the East Broad Top's freight operation. See <https://ebtarchives.catalogaccess.com/exhibits/55>.

Additionally, 12 donations have been sent to the Archives that include EBT photographs, corporate records, and historic postcards. The donated materials will be reviewed in August for entering the Foundation or Friends collections. The Archival Arrangement Project continues with detailed inventory of one of the second floor vaults in the Orbisonia Passenger Station that includes Shade Gap Railroad records, and many EBT Common Carrier corporate records, bound volumes, and loose paper materials.

Top: Newly installed ceiling in the Saltillo station agent's office. – Dave Bulman photo
Center: New replica siding installed on Storehouse 2. – Dave Bulman photo
Bottom: Engine No. 16 in Robertsdale. 1955. – EBT Archives photo, EBTF.2025.10.24, Tom and Barbara Moungovon Collection

Your continued support of the 2026 Campaign will provide needed track materials for the March to Saltillo, allow the completion of the Saltillo Station, continue building restoration in Rockhill Furnace, continue to fund the East Broad Top Railroad Archives and Special Collections activities, support the restoration of locomotive No. 15, and support other projects to preserve, restore, and interpret the EBT.



The 2026 Campaign runs until September 30, 2026. You may donate online (credit card and PayPal accepted) at the FEBT Company Store, <https://store.febt.org/donate>. If you prefer to send a check or money order payable to FEBT, address it to:

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. – *Dave and Karen Bulman.*

MEMBERSHIP BOX SCORE

The Friends of the East Broad Top
membership is up to
2256

New concrete floor installed between Storehouses 1 and 2. – James Roslund photo



COMPANY STORE FEATURED ITEMS



Wood Box Car Kit (New and Improved)

\$20.00

**CLOSEOUT
SALE**

**When they're gone
they're gone!**



Wood Boxcar no. 154

\$12.00



Fishbelly Steel Flatcar no. 73

\$12.00

**HOn3
Cast Resin
Rolling Stock
Kits**

Stock Car no. 701 **\$13.00**



Steel Flatcar

\$12.00

Tank on Steel Flatcar **\$15.00**

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. *Money orders cannot be accepted and will be returned to sender. Mail orders, regardless of payment method, are no longer accepted.*

JULY FUNDRAISING UPDATE

The 2026 Campaign continued to make great progress thanks to our many generous donors. July donations totaled \$19,675 in 67 donations, a new high for July. This brings the 2026 Campaign total to \$433,309, which remains ahead of last year's record setting pace. Your continued support has allowed us to accomplish so many amazing things to restore, preserve, and interpret the EBT. Donations beyond the initial goal will be used to accelerate the March to Saltillo and other key EBT restoration needs. 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

July Donations:

\$19,675

Campaign Total:

\$433,309 – 123.8%

July donors:*

Wayne Baldwin	Alexander Bowser	Thomas Carlson	David H. Capp
Steven M. Chorkawy	Brooks A. Coburn	Bruce Courter	David Currier
Tom & Shirley Diehl	John Dowalgo	Rick Dunford	Craig Dunn
George J. Dvorak II	Frank R. Dziama	Wade C. Eagleton	Thomas A. Ennis
Douglas E. Fink	Lawrence Fobiano	Edmund M. Fox	Robert Gilbert
William Hessler	Charles W. High	Cliff Howell	Dave Johnson
Victor V. Kidd	Arthur Kinch	Robert W. Koch	John E. Kokas
Keith A. Kreider	Joseph Kwasizur	Jeff Lakaszcyck	Allen W. Landis
Lionel E. Lavoie	Michael Miehl	Paul Miller	Jim Missenda
Michael Moore	Rick Powell	R. Lee Rainey	David Reedy
Dale Rider	Albert Rizzo	Michael E. Romansky	James W. Seville
Peter Smykla	Jim Stapleton	Julie Stone	Blair D. Tarr
Marlin R. Taylor	Graham J.A. Todd	Darryl Turner	George Wachter
Bob Wallace	Lee Wheeler	Brian Wolfe	Terrill L. Woolsey
John S. Yoder			

In honor of Tom Hesketh:

Art & Joyce Andre

In memory of John D. Clark:

Jim Borez

Central Ohio O-Scale Engineers

Loysetta Sexton

* - All donors listed represent donations received between June 22, 2026 and July 21, 2026. Donations received after July 21 will be reported in the September 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 donate online (credit card and PayPal accepted) at the FEBT Company Store, <https://store.febt.org/donate>. If you prefer to send a check or money order payable to FEBT, address it to:

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*

**2026
CAMPAIGN**

Total to Date:
\$433,309.00
in 1,289 donations

July Period
(June 22 to July 21):
\$19,675.00
in 67 donations



JUNE AND JULY RESTORATION SESSIONS REPORT

The late June work session was held on Saturday and Sunday, June 27 and 28. We had a total of 23 volunteers on Saturday and 18 on Sunday. The mid-July work session was a three-day weekend from Saturday, July 18 through Monday, July 20. We had 30 volunteers, including nine Young Easties, on Saturday, 20 on Sunday, and 14 on Monday.

On Saturday, July 18, Brad Esposito gave the volunteers, including the Young Easties, a behind-the-scenes tour in the roundhouse of the progress of Combine 14's trucks and engine No. 15. On both Sundays, many of our volunteers enjoyed the 3:00 ice cream train to Colgate Grove. Although both sessions started off wet, the weather improved throughout both weekends, with the final two days in July being sunny and warm. Our volunteers made good progress on multiple projects throughout.

The Combine 14 crew continued working final details including trim, seat adjustments, and paint touch-up.

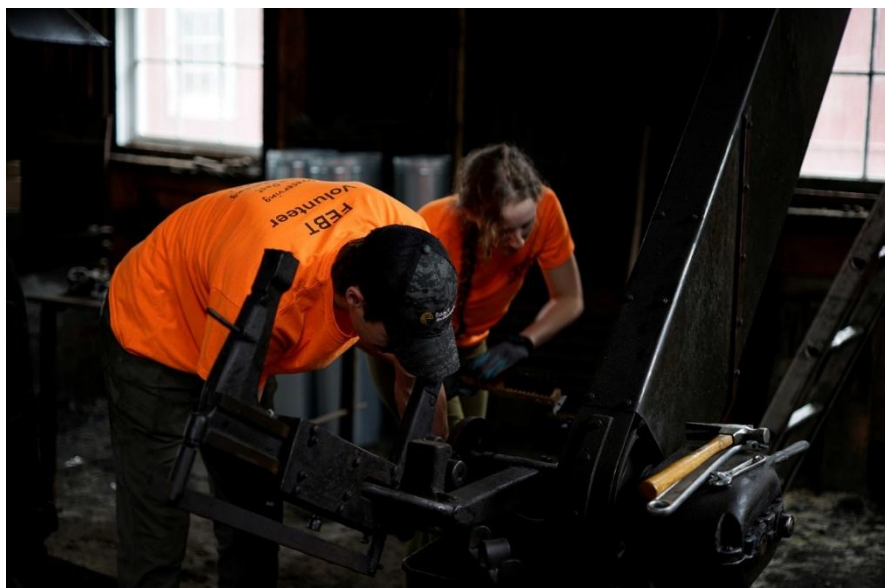
The boxcar crew worked on interior details of Boxcar 174 (A.K.A. 955), including a new bench and began exterior stenciling. Condition assessments of several other boxcars in the yard were also completed, along with a repair to re-secure the roofing on one of them.

The Next Gen Easties continued in the Blacksmith Shop, working to restore the belt drive power hacksaw to operation.

Top: Dave Ebright installs trim in the baggage door of Combine 14. – Al Gallo photo

Center: Carman Servocky begins stenciling on the newly painted box car. – Al Gallo photo

Bottom: Wyatt Kindler and Hannah Marchok work on the belt powered hacksaw in the Blacksmith Shop. – Al Gallo photo





The Glass Rattlers continued their window progress, installing and repairing windows in the second floor of the Stone House, and restoring other sashes inside the Carpentry Shop.

Storehouse 2 progressed with new siding installation completed on the south wall and well along on the north and west walls. The new lumber installed in the first floor was stained to match the original wood with help from the Young Easties (see Tim's article on Page 3).

On Monday, July 20, with the help of EBTF's Brad Esposito and James Roslund, the many tons of material that was removed from the first floor stock racks last year and stored on a flatcar was returned to the restored racks.

The Saltillo Station team continued with installation of interior materials, with the station agent's office tongue and groove ceiling completed, framing for the ticket window partition wall started, closet walls installed, and other interior details worked.

The track crew was busy during both work sessions (see Gene's article on Page 13). Tie replacement was completed on track 6 in the Rockhill yard, and rail spiking continued at Saltillo. – *Dave Bulman*

Top: Connie and Terry Wolfe work to restore a window sash outside of the Carpentry Shop. – Al Gallo photo

Center: Carman Servocky, Brad Esposito, Alex Brown, Dave Bulman, Bob Meek, Brent Kendrick, and Charlie Wootton after completing the return of the original materials to Storehouse 2. – Al Gallo photo

Bottom: Craig Confair, Mark Reese, and Butch Kerchenske begin installation of the Saltillo station partition wall. – Al Gallo photo

Below: FEBT volunteers riding the Sunday afternoon ice cream train. – Al Gallo photo



TRACK REPORTS FROM ROCKHILL AND SALTILLO

The Rockhill Report

During the July Work Weekend, tie installation, gauging, and spiking was completed on Track 6 in the Rockhill yard. This is a project we've been working on for the past few months. The work involved the installation of 43 ties, spaced on six-foot centers. This spacing will allow the remaining pieces of rolling stock that are sitting on the south end of the track to be moved. In due course, additional ties can be installed to fill in the spacing, using the railroad's two-foot spacing policy for ties in storage tracks.

The Saltillo Report

This reporting period began with the construction of the switch on the north end of the NARCO siding. This switch connects the main to the siding. At the moment, the siding isn't very long.

Since that time, about 600 feet of track has been assembled north of the new switch. Of that, 360 feet has been fully gauged and spiked, bringing the fully gauged and spiked track to a point over 1,600 feet north of the Saltillo Station.

Since our work began in Saltillo, FEBT track personnel, working in concert with the railroad's two full-time personnel, have constructed about a half-a-mile of track. This figure includes the station siding, the main both south and north of the NARCO switch, and the NARCO switch.

The Personnel Report



Our volunteers are the secret to our success. During this reporting period, 28 of our number assisted in the progress reported above. Thanks to each one who contributed to our efforts. We are always eager to welcome new members to the crew. This reporting period, we welcomed Jim Balogh, Dick Hoffman, Matthew Rueter, Aaron Rueter and David Getty as new active participants. Welcome, each of you! – Gene Tucker



Top: The landlocked rolling stock on Track 6 is now accessible for movement. – Al Zelazo photo
Above: In Saltillo, the north switch for the NARCO siding is installed. – John Quinn photo
Left: Dave Johnson guides rail into place on July 23. – Gene Tucker photo

HAPPY ORBISONIA-ROCKHILL HOMECOMING!

HAPPY AMERICA250!

This year, the Orbisonia-Rockhill Furnace Annual Homecoming will be extra special. As the country celebrates 250 years, the Twin Boroughs will host Huntingdon County's America250 parade on Monday, August 3, as part of the annual Homecoming festivities.



In preparing for this month's digital catalog exhibit, the East Broad Top Railroad Archives and Special Collections recalled past Homecomings, especially the 1960 Orbisonia Bicentennial, which also marked the birth of the East Broad Top Railroad as an excursion train destination. August's online exhibit features newly donated collections of color slides and black-and-white photographs of the 1960 bicentennial Homecoming, along with other items and images from that year's event. Also included are images from other Homecomings, including the 1963 and 1964 Homecomings, the latter of which saw the dedication of the EBT as a National Historic Landmark.



Many traditions of the Twin Boroughs' Homecoming celebrations have endured since 1960. A 1960 newspaper article called the Orbisonia-Rockhill Homecoming the "biggest celebration in Huntingdon County" of the year (complete with five parades), and this year, the area is proud to host the county's 250th parade. For entertainment, the 1960 schedule included shows and beauty pageants, which are also on this year, as are chicken dinners and a community Vespers Service. In preparation for Orbisonia's bicentennial, residents "gaily decorated," and this year, the town is hosting a patriotic house-decorating competition. With the tracks bordering the Homecoming Grounds, another similarity is, of course, the train.

On August 13, the first day of the 1960 Homecoming, the East Broad Top officially opened for tourist operations with Engine Nos. 12 and 15 freshly polished and painted. Millie Kovalchick, daughter of EBT president Nick Kovalchick, christened No. 12 with her name and a bottle of ginger ale. Tourists rode north from Orbisonia 3.5 miles on the

Top: East Broad Top No. 12 (by Homecoming Grounds), August 18, 1960 – EBT Archives photo, EBTF.2025.12.25, John Endler Jr. photo, Richard W. Jawn Collection

Above: Miss EBT (Betty Yohn) with C.R. Wilburn and Nick Kovalchick, August 15, 1964. - EBT Archives photo, FEFT.2023.1.884, J.J. Kelly photo, David Johnson Collection

four remaining passenger cars, along with a boxcar and a flat car rebuilt (Rider Cars 175 and 119, respectively) to resemble the Dolly Vardens of the freight era. Without a wye to turn around, No. 12 pulled the cars north while No. 15 followed in reverse, exchanging roles at the end of the refurbished track. During Homecoming week, 4,250 people rode the train– the EBT was an instant tourism hit, becoming part of the Homecoming festivities for years to come.

The newly featured Brian Wolfe Collection [FEBT.2026.25] includes sixty-six color slides from the 1960 and 1963 Homecomings, and the Alan Senft Family and Thomas Stackhouse Collections [EBTF.2026.2 and EBTF.2026.1] feature black-and-white family photographs from the 1960 Homecoming and opening week. Images and objects selected from other collections supplement this Homecoming exhibit, including *A Quick Review of the East Broad Top*, published for the 1960 reopening, a bicentennial Homecoming placemat, riders' ribbons from the 1964 Homecoming Landmark Dedication, plus photos of the railroad's preparations for reopening, the first few weeks of the tourist era, the homecoming fairgrounds, Millie christening No. 12, multiple Miss EBTs (an honor that became a Homecoming tradition), and the many people who came to ride the train in its early tourist years. We gather again to celebrate Homecoming and America's 250th Birthday. Enjoy! – Amelia Kasdorf



Ribbons from the EBT National Historic Landmark Dedication, August 15, 1964. – EBT Archives photo, unprocessed collections

JULY VOLUNTEERS

The following members volunteered from June 22 to July 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	Jim Balogh	Stacey Batovsky	Lawrence Biemiller
John Bowie	Sue Briggs	Alexander Brown	Dave Bulman
Karen Bulman	Roy Burnham	Wayne Cass	Jane Clarke
Pete Clarke	Chris Coleman	Craig Confair	Alex Cook
Doug Davenport	Ralph Davidson	George Dvorak	Dave Ebright
Julie Fether	Jack Fornadley	Larry Fuchs	Al Gallo
Charles Geletzke Jr.	David Getty	Lance Gilliland	Bobby Goldby
Charlie High	Dick Hoffman	Joyce Hoffman	Jim Hughes
Steve Jackson	Steve Jacobs	Dave Johnson	Garth Jones
Vagel Keller	Brent Kendrick	Butch Kerchenske	Wyatt Kindler
Eric Knepp	Ed Kompare	Daniel Lane	Jake Lane
Doug Linebaugh	Matthew Malkiewicz	Hannah Marchok	Ray McFalls
Andy McGuffy	Bob Meek	Curtis Miller	Bill Mosteller
Kevin Nolish	Tom Perman	Dave Phillips	Hans Plugge
John Quinn	Jon Radder	Becky Reese	Mark Reese
Bill Reynolds	Rick Rourke	Aaron Rueter	Mathew Rueter
Larry Sall	Tim Schindele	Carman Servocky	Elaine Snider
Roger Stier	Jim Troup	Deb Tucker	Gene Tucker
Lamar Tyson	Dick Ullery	Andy Van Scyoc	Mike Wahler
Bill Wheeler	John Widmeyer	Norm Wilcox	Rob Willhite
Scarlett Wirt	Jim Witmer	Brian Wolfe	Connie Wolfe
Terry Wolfe	Charlie Wootton		

EBT TO RECEIVE PRESERVATION AWARD

The East Broad Top Railroad and the EBT Foundation will be honored in September for their grass roots preservation efforts. Our favorite National Historic Landmark has been awarded the 2026 Henry A. Jordan Award by Preservation Pennsylvania. For more information on this award, the other 2026 winners, and the organization, see the awards' webpage at <https://www.preservationpa.org/programs/awards/>. – Doug Davenport

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FEBT MEMBERSHIP PROCESS CHANGES

We have previously teased that FEBT is in the process of modernizing how we manage our membership roster. We are now near the transition, which will improve our membership processes. First, venerable, longtime “Membership Guy,” Pete Clarke has passed the membership responsibilities on to two new membership coordinators, Elaine Snider and Becky Reese. Pete will now be able to focus his energies on the amazing work he does with our Robertsedale museum. Don't worry, we will more formally acknowledge Pete's dedicated service separately.

Because of the changes, there is new contact information for membership. The new membership mailing address is:

Friends of East Broad Top
c/o Elaine Snider
PO Box 13
Marion, PA 17235

The membership email is now membership@febt.org. Please begin to use this new contact information immediately to avoid unnecessary delays and hand-offs.

We have been working for almost a year to shift to a Customer Relationship Management or CRM tool, called Bloomerang. A CRM is simply an advanced database tool that is built specifically to manage interactions with a large pool of people such as our membership. As we have grown past 2000 members, it is clear that we needed a better way to do things. Bloomerang introduces automation to the membership process that will make it easier for Elaine and Becky to manage your membership renewals. The system will also track donations, and when it is fully implemented, will track volunteer hours in the same place.

Having all of this in one database system ensures that we have a single, correct address, email, and phone number for each of you. It will allow us to send these newsletters from an up-to-the-minute roster, enter donations, and track volunteer hours all in one place. Rest assured that your personal data and financial information will remain secure! FEBT retains control of all data and it will never be sold or shared.

While most changes should be invisible, some may affect you. All membership levels and prices will remain the same. Members will still join or renew primarily through the Company Store membership page or when necessary, by mail. Keep an eye out for a newsletter in the next month or two dedicated to the Bloomerang system that will lay out all the details you need to know.

As we make the transition, there will be a period when membership transactions will be unavailable via the Company Store and any mailed membership forms will be held for processing until the new functionality is in place. Essentially, we will freeze membership updates for a period of time. We plan for the freeze to begin in early August, and it may last for at least six weeks. During that time, your membership status and benefits will remain exactly as they are on the date of the freeze until the backlog of transactions is cleared. Once the new system is functioning, if your membership status needs attention, the membership coordinators will reach out to you.

There will also be a shorter pause for online donations to the FEBT Campaign through the Company Store as we transition to the new system, but processing of mailed donations will continue as usual during the transition. We are always very grateful for your donations! Please note that donations to the FEBT Campaign are managed separately from membership. The address for donations is not changing. It is:

Karen Bulman
FEBT Fundraising Treasurer
PO Box 43063
Cincinnati, OH 45243

This is a very exciting improvement to FEBT's ability to manage the back end of the many moving parts of this vibrant volunteer organization! We appreciate your patience and apologize for any inconvenience. We are confident that the benefits of this change will far outweigh the inevitable temporary challenges that come with implementing it.

AIRSTREAM BAMBI SALE TO BENEFIT FEBT

A longtime member is looking for a buyer of the pictured Airstream Bambi, with proceeds to be donated to FEBT. The Airstream is a 2024 Bambi, 16ft, rear double bed and dinette (that turns into another double bed). It features a shower with toilet, (never used, the plumbing is still winterized), factory solar, two propane tanks nearly full, AC/heating, Battleborn lithium batteries, and includes power cord, sewer hookup, potable water hose, tv, radio, backup camera, fridge, microwave, cook top and storage bins. It has only been used twice with less than 250 miles traveled and is located within 25 miles of Rockhill Furnace. Serious inquiries can contact Andy Van Scyoc at vanscyoc@gmail.com. – *Andy Van Scyoc*



UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Host	Event
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	FEBT	Young Easties Work Session
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
October 10	FEBT	FEBT Museum Archives Day
October 18	FEBT	Young Easties Work Session
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
	EBT	East Broad Top Railroad
	RTM	Rockhill Trolley Museum
	BTACMHS	Broad Top Area Coal Miners Historical Society

www.febt.org
www.eastbroadtop.com
www.rockhilltrolley.org
broadtopminersmuseum.com

UPCOMING ROCKHILL FURNACE VOLUNTEER SESSIONS

We are making great progress on restoration projects in Rockhill and other locations, but there is much more to be done. We have a dedicated group of volunteers, but we can always use more to help with our many 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, August 15 and 16. 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

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 Young Easties (and Al Gallo) take in a train turning on the Rockhill wye after a handcar ride through the yard. – Tim Schindele photo

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.