



# NEWSLETTER

September 2012

## 30th Fall Reunion: speeder rides, tours, other surprises

Join us October 5, 6, and 7 for our 30th annual Fall Reunion at the East Broad Top Railroad and the Friends of the East Broad Top Museum. Our schedule for the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of the Columbus Day holiday weekend offers numerous activities at the Rockhill Trolley Museum, the Orbisonia Rockhill Elementary School, and in Robertsdale.

Fall Reunion activities begin at 7:00 p.m. Friday with the annual Friends of the East Broad Top business meeting in the Rockhill Trolley Museum pavilion. The meeting is open to all members. Following the business meeting will be a slide presentation.

On Saturday Fall Reunion registrants will have the rare opportunity to ride the FEBT's own handcar and speeder car on a portion of the Shade Gap Branch, starting near the Rockhill Trolley Museum's Meadow Street Platform.

Meanwhile, FEBT President R. Lee Rainey will present a "Modeling Mount Union" clinic Saturday morning at the Rockhill Elementary School. Later in the day he will lead a walking/driving tour of Mount Union industries served by the EBT. A new Fall Reunion feature will be the "Tour d'Easy" bike ride from Rockhill Furnace to Mount Union. The 12-mile ride, which should take a bit more than an hour, will be timed to allow participants to enjoy both Lee's presentation and tour.

### Fall open house at FEBT Museum

The Friends of the East Broad Top Museum in Robertsdale will hold its annual fall open house in conjunction with the 2012 FEBT Fall Reunion. Both the general public and Fall Reunion registrants are invited to enjoy refreshments on Sunday, October 7, between 10 am and 3 pm. Visitors to our museum can tour exhibits inside the former East Broad Top Railroad station and adjoining old Robertsdale post office. EBT books, DVDs, clothing, and souvenirs can be purchased in our museum gift shop.

Our museum will also be open on Saturday, October 6. Because of our 2012 Fall Reunion, special hours this day only will be 1 to 4 pm. The telephone number for the FEBT Museum, answered when the museum is open, is (814) 635-2388.

### Fund-raising auction

An auction of items donated by Fall Reunion attendees will be held on Saturday evening, October 6, at 8:00 p.m. in the Orbisonia-Rockhill Elementary School. Contributions of East Broad Top Railroad-related materials and other items of general railroad interest are welcome. Your donated items will be accepted when you register for the Fall Reunion.

Reunion registrants can also participate in our annual photo and model contests and auction, which will be held Saturday in the Orbisonia-Rockhill Elementary School. We expect to offer several talks and demonstrations related to the restoration work of our volunteers at Rockhill Furnace, as well as tours of the roundhouse and machine shops.

Saturday evening a banquet dinner will be held in the Rockhill Trolley Museum pavilion at 6:00 pm. Winners of the contests will be announced, and the first exciting element of our next restoration fund-raising campaign will be unveiled. Saturday's events will be topped off with the fundraising auction of items members have donated.

On Sunday the focus shifts to Robertsdale and the FEBT Museum, where FEBT volunteers will conduct the annual tour of Robertsdale sites related to the EBT and the Rockhill Iron & Coal Company. The station and old post office will be open in Robertsdale so registrants can see the progress of our restoration efforts.

Look for Fall Reunion updates and detailed schedule information on the FEBT web site at [www.febt.org](http://www.febt.org). For further information contact FEBT Fall Reunion coordinator Andrew H. Van Scyoc at [vanscyoc@gmail.com](mailto:vanscyoc@gmail.com) or (301) 943-6255.

### Registering for the 2012 Fall Reunion

You can register for this year's Fall Reunion in person at the Rockhill Trolley Museum pavilion, next to the museum store, on Friday, October 5, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Registration will also be open from 9:00 am to noon on Saturday, October 6, in the Orbisonia-Rockhill Elementary School.

**2012 Fall Reunion registration** includes access to all FEBT activities, including FEBT speeder and handcar rides, roundhouse and shop tours, banquet, auction, contests, presentations, and demonstrations.

<b>FEBT members</b>	<b>\$40.00</b> (each person)
<b>Non-members</b>	<b>\$45.00</b> (each person)

So where is the **Orbisonia-Rockhill Elementary School**? To get to the school from US 522, turn west (toward the EBT) at the Orbisonia traffic light. You'll find the school on your left, shortly before Meadow Street crosses the EBT tracks.

## New at this year's Fall Reunion! The 'Tour d' Easty'

Tour the north end of the East Broad Top on your bike! As part of this year's FEBT Fall Reunion you can ride your bicycle from Rockhill Furnace to Mount Union and back on Saturday, October 6. It's a wonderful chance to see the Aughwick valley at about the speed of an EBT train.

The ride will start from the Orbisonia-Rockhill Elementary School parking lot, after R. Lee Rainey concludes his presentation on modeling Mount Union. We will visit the site of the iron furnace and then head to Shirleysburg on US 522. We'll make use of Pump Station Road to see the railroad's four-arch concrete bridge over Aughwick Creek. Back on US 522, we'll continue to the engine house in Mount Union.

Lunch will be at McDonalds (on your own, so bring money). We'll then join the walking tour of Mount Union industries led by Lee Rainey. Rested and refreshed, we'll ride our bikes back to Rockhill. We'll take multiple breaks, including visits to two sites in Shirleysburg.

Please note that our route requires that we ride on US 522—a high-speed road with a wide shoulder. The road will not be closed, so there will be cars driving at the same time we ride. You might wonder, "Wouldn't I have to be crazy to do this?" No, but this is a ride best left to riders with some road-riding experience. All riders will be required to wear helmets (you must bring your own). And only a fool rides on roads without

a light—we encourage every rider to have a rear-facing light. All riders should carry a spare inner tube. The ride will total about 24 miles. Please don't start if you're not sure you can make it to the finish.

Riders will have to sign a disclaimer relieving FEBT of all liability. No one under age of 15 will be allowed. Those 15 to 18 will only be allowed if they ride with their parent or guardian. We'll ride together as a group—this is not a race. Riders must be able to maintain a pace of 10 miles per hour.

The distance from Rockhill Furnace to Mount Union is about 12 miles. With breaks (we'll have several) the ride should take no more than an hour and a half each way. Join us and invite your friends. No charge—it's included with your registration. Nonmembers are also welcome, but they'll need to pay the nonmember Fall Reunion registration fee. You do not have to pre-register, but please let ride leaders Pete and Jane Clarke know if you are thinking of participating. You can reach them at ebtmx5@aol.com or (301) 253 4913.

We plan to leave the Orbisonia-Rockhill Elementary School at approximately 10:00 am. Be sure to get your registration done early, as you must be a registered FEBT reunion attendee to go on this ride. The rain date is Sunday, in which case we'll do our own Mount Union tour.

### FEBT restoration program

To aid FEBT members interested in the special "exhibition" contests at this year's Fall Reunion, here's a list of buildings and equipment that have received attention from FEBT restoration volunteers. (Note buildings and equipment in *italics* are owned by FEBT.)

**Rockhill Furnace:** North and south section sheds; blacksmith shop; boiler house; shop stationary steam engine; car shop; main shop, including machine shop and boiler shop wings; paint shop; boiler house and coal bin; electrical shop; foundry; locomotive coal bunker; lumber storage shed; sandhouse; small garage near sandhouse; stone farmhouse (shop superintendent's office); turntable; and various yard and shop tracks.

**Robertsdale:** *EBT depot, old post office*, cosmetic track work.

**Saltillo:** EBT station.

**Coles Station:** EBT water tank.

**Rolling Stock:** Combine no. 14, combine no. 16 (*trucks*), combine no. 18, baggage car no. 29, coach no. 8, caboose no. 28, side-dump hopper car no. 802, steel boxcar no. 168, steel boxcar no. 174, flat car no. 119, locomotive no. 15, M-3 inspection motor car, *work motor car, and handcar.*

#### 2012 Rockhill Furnace Work Schedule

September 22-23      November 10-11

For more information contact **Lee Rainey** at (814) 867-7878 (home), (814) 404-3968 (cell), or leerainey@aol.com

#### 2012 Robertsdale Work Schedule

September 1-2      October 20-21  
September 15-16      November 3-4

For more information contact **Hank Inman** at (804) 353-0817 or **Vagel Keller** at (412) 441-7881 or vkeller@comcast.net

### FEBT annual business meeting and pizza on Friday, October 5

The 2012 business meeting of Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc., will be held at 7:00 pm on Friday, October 5, at the Rockhill Trolley Museum pavilion, located next to the museum store. FEBT officers and directors will report on various matters and answer questions about our 2011 and 2012 operations. All FEBT members are welcome to attend.

Pizza and soft drinks will be available starting at approximately 6:00 p.m.; cash contributions will be collected to cover the cost of the pizza.

## Rules for 2012 Fall Reunion contests

As a reminder to FEBT members interested in entering models or photographs in this year's Fall Reunion contests, the current rules governing these contests are reprinted here. Note that these rules are the same as those for the 2011 contests.

### General rules

Any FEBT member who is a Reunion registrant may enter the model and photo contests. A member in good standing who cannot attend the Reunion may have a Reunion registrant submit an entry for that member.

Any FEBT member who is a Reunion registrant may enter a model which he owns but did not build, and may choose to have any award the model earns placed in the builder's name.

No model or photo that has ever won an award in a previous FEBT contest may be entered. Any model or photo that has been entered in a previous FEBT contest without winning an award may be repeatedly entered until it wins an award.

### Photographs

All photographs must feature the contemporary East Broad Top Railroad; subjects may include railroad operations, equipment, buildings, active and inactive right of way, and restoration activities.

Photos will be entered in either the **black-and-white** or **color** categories.

All photos must be mounted on, or in, a mat board. No picture frames or glass/plexiglass covers may be used.

The size of the mat board used to mount any photo can be no larger than 11 inches by 14 inches. The photo may be any size that does not exceed the size of the mat board.

Only one photo may be submitted by an entrant in each of the black-and-white and color categories.

The photo must be entered under the photographer's name. Only the photographer can enter a photo.

### Models

All models must be based on contemporary or historical subjects directly related to the East Broad Top Railroad. Models of locomotives and rolling stock may represent equipment owned and operated by the EBT, equipment proposed but never actually purchased and operated by the EBT, and equipment owned by other railroads or private owners that operated regularly on the EBT. Models of structures and dioramas may represent railroad buildings; structures proposed but never actually constructed and used by the EBT; structures adjacent to the railroad right of way, whether served directly by the EBT or not; and nearby structures and scenes which helped define the railroad's geographic context, character, and history.

There is no limit to the number of models entered by each entrant.

There must be at least two models entered in a category for a contest to be declared. No award will be given in any category in which a contest is not declared. At the discretion of the Contest Chairman, in consultation with the Reunion Chairman,

categories may be combined to insure a contest. All models submitted will be eligible for the Best in Show award and any special contest awards.

The contest categories for models are as follows:

**Locomotives**—Any self-propelled equipment except maintenance-of-way speeders;

**Rolling Stock**—Any revenue freight equipment, including cabooses; any revenue passenger equipment; and any nonrevenue equipment primarily intended for track or lineside maintenance;

**Structures and Module/Dioramas**—Any building or other structure, either railroad-related or lineside; and any structure or structures that are mounted on a base which depicts a scene, with or without track.

Supporting documentation may be displayed with any entry, so long as the entrant's name does not appear on any of the documentation.

**Special Contests:** From time to time, special contests may be announced, featuring a specific subject or type of equipment. A special award will be given for the entry with the highest vote tally among the entries in the special category.

### Awards

All awards will be by popular vote of all Reunion registrants. In addition to the categories listed above, a Best of Show category will be included for the model entries only.

Awards for first, second, and third place will be awarded in each category where a contest has been declared. In addition, all entries will receive a "Certificate of Merit" for participating in the contest.

Awards for first place in each contest will normally consist of a plaque; awards for second and third place may consist of either plaques or certificates. In order to control expenses, the plaques may be prepared and provided to the recipients at a later date, so as not to create award plaques for categories in which no contest is declared. An appropriate certificate and/or ribbon will be provided at the contest to signify the winners in lieu of the plaques.

### Special restoration program model contest

In addition to prizes awarded as described in the official contest rules, this year we continue the special contest we introduced last year. This award recognizes the model—in any scale—which best represents one of the substantially-completed projects undertaken by our restoration volunteers. The award consists of a special plaque created by our Rockhill Furnace restoration crew; artifacts from past restoration projects may be incorporated in the plaque. Each year's special award will be based on the popular vote of current restoration volunteers. (A list of our restoration projects can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.)

For more information about the Fall Reunion contests, contact Andrew H. Van Scyoc by telephone at (301) 943-6255 or by e-mail at [vanscyoc@gmail.com](mailto:vanscyoc@gmail.com).

## **FEBT displays at train shows and Conventions: can you help?**

Members of Friends of the East Broad Top regularly assist our outreach efforts by distributing information about the East Broad Top Railroad and FEBT at train shows, conventions, and other events.

We are always happy to provide literature and information about the EBT and FEBT to FEBT members for distribution at train shows, conventions, and other events. Please contact FEBT outreach coordinator Dennis R. Straub by telephone at (717) 249-4239 (home) or by e-mail at [denebntut@aol.com](mailto:denebntut@aol.com), providing as much advance notice as possible.

## **New fund-raising art reproductions Debut at 2012 Fall Reunion**

**By R. Lee Rainey  
FEBT President**

Friends of the East Broad Top will launch the second round of our popular and successful fund-raising campaign with the first of a series of reproductions of specially-commissioned paintings by distinguished railroad illustrator Peter Lerro, Jr. As in our previous campaign, each print will be available for a limited time, as our way of saying "thank you" for a qualifying donation to our restoration fund. Each painting in the series will be of a historic scene that features buildings and/or rolling stock restored or rehabilitated by FEBT work crews.

The campaign kicks off at the 2012 FEBT Fall Reunion with artist Peter Lerro on hand to personally sign and number your art reproductions.

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This newsletter is a publication of Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc., a nonprofit educational and historical society dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the East Broad Top Railroad, a US National Historic Landmark located in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. FEBT regular membership costs \$35.00 per twelve months; other memberships are available. For more information please consult the FEBT web site at [www.febt.org](http://www.febt.org) or contact our membership office by writing to the address below. Although not affiliated with the East Broad Top Railroad and Coal Company or the East Broad Top Railroad Preservation Association, Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc., holds events and work sessions on the property of the East Broad Top Railroad and Coal Company by arrangement. The East Broad Top Railroad and Coal Company and East Broad Top Railroad Preservation Association retain the right to restrict or deny access of any person to its property at any time and for any reason.

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