

## ABOUT THE EAST BROAD TOP R.R.

The East Broad Top Railroad is one of the few places left in North America where you can still see an authentic, steam-powered narrow gauge railroad virtually intact, operating on its original right-of-way with its own equipment. The EBT ran for over 80 years, hauling coal, iron ore, ganister rock, and lumber from the mountains of south-central Pennsylvania. It survived to become the last narrow gauge railroad operating east of the Rocky Mountains.

Today the EBT remains authentic, down to its last detail. It provides a faithful portrait of railroading from the first half of the last century, complete with original EBT locomotives, rolling stock, depots, shops, and round-house.

[www.ebtrr.com](http://www.ebtrr.com)

## ABOUT THE FRIENDS OF THE EBT

The Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, tax-exempt educational and historical society dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the East Broad Top Railroad National Historic Landmark in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. It was organized in 1983 by persons interested in the history, preservation, and restoration of the East Broad Top Railroad (EBT).

Currently FEBT has over 900 members, who reside throughout the United States and in several foreign countries. Regular FEBT membership costs \$35.00 for twelve months; other types of memberships are available.

FEBT is involved in a number of projects outside Rockhill, including restoration of the EBT station and coal company post office in Robertsdale as a museum, the restoration of EBT combine car #16, promotion and public awareness of the EBT, acquisition, preservation and organization of historic EBT materials and publication of a quarterly magazine covering the railroad's past present and future.

[www.febt.org](http://www.febt.org)

## ATTENDING A SESSION

There is much work ahead of us and it will take many hands to accomplish it. The more volunteers we have the more restoration work can be done. We have need for anyone who can volunteer, no matter what your skill level. Jobs range from simple to complex and we will help to train you.

Please join us for as many work sessions as you can. Even one will help! You are welcome to come for one or all days of any particular session. All participants must be members of the FEBT (or become members at the start of the work day.) In addition, all volunteers must be at least 18.

If you plan to attend a session, please contact our coordinator in advance at (814) 867-7878 or [LeeRainey@aol.com](mailto:LeeRainey@aol.com). We can always accommodate walk-ons also.

### 2009 Work Sessions

- January 10-11
- February 7-8
- March 7-8
- April 4-5
- May 2-3
- May 18-22 (work week)
- June 6-7
- June 27-28
- July 18-19
- August 15-16
- September 19-20
- November 7-8



## ROCKHILL FURNACE RESTORATION CREW



## WORKING TOWARD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

The Friends of the East Broad Top's Rockhill Furnace Restoration Crew is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the historic shop complex and other facilities in the East Broad Top's Rockhill Furnace yard, and along the East Broad Top Railroad. The crew performs repair and rehabilitation of the buildings, equipment and track to return them to their historic appearance and functionality. If you are interested in the future of the EBT, join us and help us preserve this national treasure.



## MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

The Rockhill Crew has been working since June of 2002 to preserve and restore the EBT. In cooperation with the East Broad Top Railroad and the Rockhill Trolley Museum, the crew has already made great strides toward the restoration of the East Broad Top.

Caboose 28 and rider flatcar 119 have been rehabilitated and returned passenger service. Flatcar 108 and hopper 802 have been restored for use in period freight trains and maintenance service. Historic passenger combine 14 is being restored and dilapidated boxcar 168 is being converted for passenger use. Historic motorcar M-3 has been fully restored to operation.

The crew has rehabilitated the dilapidated yard track #3 so that trains can pass for the first time in decades and worked to repair the turntable, Car Shop, Car Barn and Paint shop lead tracks.



The crew has been working to stabilize and rehabilitate the EBT Shop Complex. The Shops date from the 1880's to the 1910's and are the core of the facilities in Rockhill. Window, structural, siding, roofing, masonry and flooring repairs have been made. Some buildings have been leveled and their foundations reinforced. Painting of the buildings has started to bring them back to their former glory. Work to clean and organize the building interiors and around the historic machines has improved accessibility and safety for the public.



So far substantial work has taken place on the Machine Shop, Boiler Shop, Boiler House, Car Shop, Foundry, and Electrical/Brake Shop. The maintenance sheds at the south end of the yard have been completely rebuilt from a shambles to historically accurate and usable buildings. Still, there is much work that lies ahead. Hundreds of windows remain without glass or paint. Much of the buildings have not been painted in over thirty years. Many structural and roofing problems remain to be addressed. Numerous other structures around the yard and along the railroad's thirty miles have fallen into disrepair and are in danger of being lost forever. There are also many historic freight and passenger cars and other equipment needing preservation.

All these challenges are within our ability to correct, but it will take time, money and most of all VOLUNTEERS! We need you and your willingness to give your time to help save the East Broad Top. Our volunteers have come from as far as Michigan, Georgia and Ontario. Won't you join us as well?

## ABOUT THE EBT'S ROCKHILL FURNACE YARD

Rockhill Furnace was the core of the East Broad Top. It contained the main shops, offices, locomotive and car repair facilities, and classification yard. The shops are a time capsule of 19th century technology, employing line shafts, leather belts and wood pulleys to transfer power from the main steam engine to the machines throughout the complex. It provided all the repair needs of the railroad as well as the surrounding communities. Rockhill Furnace is the most complete example of an historic railroad shops complex to be found anywhere on the continent. Virtually unchanged since the railroad ceased freight operations in 1956, the shops retain their detail and charm of previous era.

