



# WMRHS 40<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONVENTION

## October 6, 7, 8, 2023

### Robertsdale & Rockhill Furnace, PA

This year our annual convention will be held at the East Broad Top Railroad in Robertsdale and Rockhill Furnace, PA starting on Friday, October 6th. This will be a joint convention together with members of the Friends of the East Broad Top who have graciously agreed to share their event with us as they have done in the distant past. The shared event allows for additional extra activities such as a photo freight train and speeder rides that would otherwise be uneconomical for our society. It will also allow us to mingle with other dedicated railfans of another organization with a similar goal of preserving railroad history.

The convention hotel will be the Days Inn, 16407 Lincoln Hwy, Breezewood, PA 15533. If you would like to reserve a room at this hotel, please contact the hotel directly at 814-735-4352 and ask for the manager Jeffrey. Mention you are with the group "Western Maryland Railway Historical Society" to receive the special rate of \$135 per night with free breakfast (normally \$170). Be aware this hotel is 30 miles south of the East Broad Top, but it is only 19 miles from Robertsdale.

No group activities will be held at the hotel, so feel free to choose any other hotel that better meets your needs. Alternatively, Chambersburg is 36 miles away but keep in mind there are significant winding roads and steep mountain terrain between Chambersburg and Robertsdale/Rockhill. We have avoided the hotels in Huntingdon for the benefit of the FEBT members who are sharing their event. This year's convention also lends itself to be a day trip for some members living close enough to do so.

Registration and tickets this year will be a single price per person of \$75. We will register via the WMRHS website with online payment through PayPal using a credit/debit card. This is the preferred registration method and ONLY those members not on-line, or unwilling to pay online, should use the attached mail-in registration form. Please visit the WMRHS website <http://www.westernmarylandrhs.com>, click on the registration link from the main page then complete the convention registration form and submit your payment with Paypal from the second page. Note: we are using the membership Paypal app so it will say Membership and only show quantity 1. Enter the convention grand total in the "Price per item field" and press "Continue" to pay.

Each convention registration includes all tours and programs, one regular train voucher for the EBT, speeder ride, and the Saturday evening banquet dinner. The regular train voucher permits one train ride, anytime during the day. Trolley rides, rides aboard any special equipment such as the M-1, and additional train rides beyond the included one ride voucher will require purchase directly from trolley museum or EBT Railroad.

On Friday afternoon, at 1:00 PM we will kick off our convention in Robertsdale, PA with in-person registration check-in at the Robertsdale Fire Company, 13 N Main St, Robertsdale, PA 16674 starting at 1:00 pm. We will also have the opportunity to visit Friends of the East Broad Top Museum 550 S Main St, Robertsdale, PA 16674 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm this day as well as the Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum 704 S Main St, Robertsdale, PA 16674 from 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Handcar and railbike rides will also be available. At 6:00 pm we will split away from the FEBT and have a regular WMRHS business meeting at the Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum which is about 800 feet north of the fire hall. We will have pizza and refreshments for those attending the meeting. Later that evening we will re-join the FEBT at the Robertsdale Fire Co to have a presentation from EBT historian Ron Morgan.

On Saturday, we will be in Rockhill at the East Broad Top Railroad. Saturday events will start at 9 am. Registration will again be available at the Rockhill Elementary School, 510 Meadow St, Rockhill, PA 17249 next to the railroad. The day will consist of a photo freight train, building tours including the machine shop and roundhouse, train rides, trolley rides (pay trolley museum), speeder rides, clinics, and presentations. Our banquet (included in the registration price) will be held Saturday evening at 6:00 pm in the Orbisonia Fire Hall, 873 Elliot St, Orbisonia, PA 17243. The menu will include chicken, pulled pork, mac & cheese, rolls. After the banquet we will re-convene at the Rockhill Elementary School for a presentation by Dave Domitrovich, EBT Chief Mechanical Officer.

On Sunday, we will have the opportunity to visit the Bricktown Museum 300 W Small St, Mt Union, PA 17066. Back in Rockhill Furnace, the same tours including the machine shop and roundhouse, train rides, trolley rides, speeder rides

will also be available on Sunday. For those who missed Friday's activities, or just want to go back, the Robertsdale attractions including the FEBT Museum and the Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum will again be open with handcar and railbike rides.

## **2023 Itinerary**

*\*schedule and events subject to change as needed*

### **Friday, October 6th - Robertsdale**

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM: FEBT Museum 550 S Main St, Robertsdale, PA 16674 open. Handcar and railbike rides available.

1:00-5:00 PM: Convention Registration / Check-in at the Robertsdale Fire Co, 13 N Main St, Robertsdale, PA 16674. Badge/ticket for the convention activities can be picked up at this time or Saturday in Rockhill.

2:00-5:00 PM: Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum, 704 S Main St, Robertsdale, PA 16674 open.

6:00 PM: WMRHS members business meeting at the Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum while FEBT members have their annual business meeting. (800 ft walk from the Fire Hall)

7:15 PM: Re-convene at the Robertsdale Fire Hall with the FEBT members for a presentation by EBT historian Ron Morgan

**Note: It is suggested to have lunch before arriving in Robertsdale or plan to drive over to Orbisonia as there are no restaurants in the immediate area of Robertsdale.**

### **Saturday, October 7th - Rockhill**

9:00 AM: Photo Freight train

9:00 AM – 12 PM: Registration available at Rockhill Elementary School, 510 Meadow St, Rockhill, PA 17249

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM: Train rides to Colgate Grove (use your voucher to redeem for one ride of your choice)

9:00 AM – 11:00 PM: Shop and roundhouse tours

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Speeder rides one per person per day

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Trolley rides (pay separately)

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Clinics at the Rockhill Elementary School

Lunch: Dine locally at the various options on the attached list (last page)

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM: More shop and roundhouse tours

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM: FEBT Company Store / WMRHS Giftshop at the Rockhill Elementary School

6:00 PM: Banquet held at the Orbisonia Fire Company, 873 Elliot St, Orbisonia, PA 17243

7:30 PM: Presentation by Dave Domitrovich, EBT Chief Mechanical Officer at the Rockhill Elementary School

### **Sunday, October 8th - Mount Union, Rockhill, and Robertsdale**

10:00 AM: Bricktown Museum 300 W Small St, Mt Union, PA 17066 open for tours in Mount Union

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM: Robertsdale FEBT museum open from Ride the handcar and railbikes.

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM: Broad Top Area Coal Miners Museum in Robertsdale open.

10:00 AM – 4:00 PM: Rockhill building, shop tours, and speeder rides continue (9 am-11 am), Additional regular schedule EBT train rides and trolley rides also available (pay the railroad or trolley museum separately)

You may send any questions about the convention details to the following email address:

[wmrhsconvention@gmail.com](mailto:wmrhsconvention@gmail.com)

# Convention Dining Choices in Orbisonia

\*special thanks to member Warren Jenkins for compiling this list

## Supermarket/Convenience stores: (All open daily)

- Sandy Ridge Supermarket; 18851 Sandy Ridge Station
- Sandy Ridge Express; 18842 Croghan Pike
- Martin General Store; 438 Ridgeley St.

## Fast Food/Casual dining: (All open daily)

- A&W All-American Food; 18842 Croghan Pike
- Subway; 18851 Sandy Ridge Station (inside Sandy Ridge Market)
- Pizza Star 509 Ridgeley St.

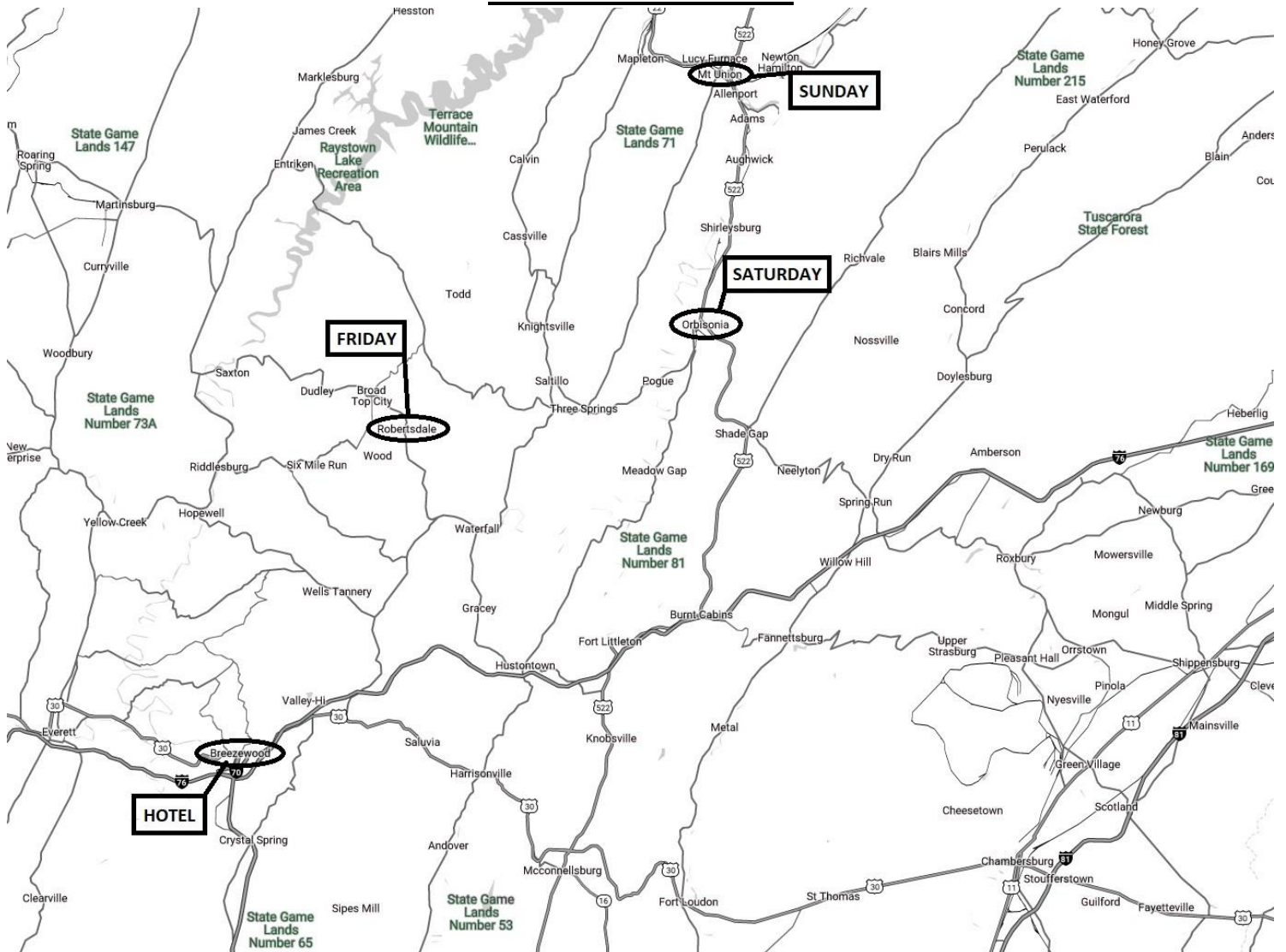
## Ice cream/other:

- The Caboose; 487 Ridgeley St. Grilled Sandwiches and ice cream, limited hours Fri.-Tues.
- Jenkie's Joint; 368 Pine St. Gourmet coffee, breakfast and lunch café, sandwiches, limited hours Mon.-Sat.
- Lil' Ice Creamer; 18676 Croghan Pike, grilled sandwiches and ice cream, limited hours Wed.-Sun.

## Food Trucks:

- Several food trucks will be present on Saturday at the EBT Railroad directly behind the station.

## AREA MAP



# USE THIS MAIL-IN FORM ONLY IF YOU CANNOT REGISTER ONLINE



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**October 6, 7, 8, 2023**  
**Robertsdale & Rockhill Furnace, PA**

## MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM

<b>Name</b>		
<b>Address</b>		
<b>City</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Zip</b>
<b>Phone</b>		
<b>Email address (for registration confirmation)</b>		

<b>Registration Fees (required for all convention attendees)</b>	<b>Price Ea.</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Total</b>
WMRHS Member convention registration fee	\$75.00		
Family/non-member guest registration fee (must be accompanied by a member)	\$75.00		
<b>Grand Total</b>			

**DEADLINE FOR MAIL-IN REGISTRATION: September 25, 2023**

Return this completed form with a check or money order payable to WMRHS, Inc.

Mail to: Mike Rakes  
16209 Eylers Valley Rd  
Thurmont, MD 21788-1028  
Phone (301) 271-2271 after 6pm weekdays