

# BOSTON METRO HI-RAILERS CLUB OF WILMINGTON BECOMES A 501(C)(3) TAX EXEMPT ORGANIZATION

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The Boston Metro Hi-Railers Club has been located at 5 Waltham Street in Wilmington, Massachusetts for the past 6 years. Earlier [in 2016] the IRS granted the club 501(c)(3) tax status that will allow the club to accept tax deductible gifts.

The BMHR Club will continue to hold open house events for families and provide opportunities for groups like the Boy Scouts to visit and to participate in local community events where a model railroad train layout is place on display.

However, the club does hope that the new tax status will generate some additional funds to allow its members to expand the club's its reach within the local communities

Activities either in progress or being considered by the club include:

- Continue to “flesh out” the main club layout with scenery displays and interactive elements to enhance the visitor’s experience when visiting the club.
- Enhance the children’s layouts that are expressly designed to allow children of all ages to have a “hands-on” interaction with model trains and related operating accessories.
- Maintain and enhance the club’s portable layout that is used for operation and display at community events. Recent “outings” included the Town of Wilmington 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration on the Town Common and the Town of Wellesley Community Center Train show.
- Entertain groups for special events at the club. Recent events included a Boy Scout night and a local school class event. The class had been studying the building of the transcontinental railroad.
- Visitations with the portable layout to additional community events, senior centers and similar organizations.

The organization under federal statute is educational in purpose and is looking forward to continuing and expanding the mission to *“promote and encourage participation in the model railroading hobby through educational, nonprofit and charitable activities with emphasis on preserving our nation’s railroading heritage through the maintenance, operation and demonstration of model railroading.”*