

NMRA IN ACTION

On March 21, 2009, NMRA members of the Worcester Model Railroad Club (HUB Division) presented a fully equipped, 4x8-foot model railroad to the Webster/Dudley Boys and Girls Club to the great delight of the Boys and Girls Club's members. Mike Kelly, staff member of the Boys and Girls Club, accepted it enthusiastically on behalf of the club.

The Worcester Model Railroad Club will celebrate its two-year anniversary this June at its new location in a 3,300-square-foot area in the Stevens Linen Complex, 137 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, after spending the previous 56 years at various Worcester locations. We have 40 dedicated members, of all ages and all walks of life, who are building a brand-new, computer-controlled, 43x51-foot HO model railroad from the ground up. This encompasses drawing on the various skills of our members that include project management, financial discipline, carpentry, electronics, conceptual de-

sign, model making, track laying, computer programming, painting, artistry, scenery construction, and knowledge sharing, all with the focus of fellowship, having a good



time, and running trains that simulate real world train action.

The theme of the model railroad is loosely based on the Providence & Worcester Railroad that runs from Worcester to Providence and New London, and on the Boston & Maine Railroad that runs from Boston to Springfield.

In the last 20 months we have completed the bench work, 400 feet of mainline track work and supporting electronics, and have begun to run trains. The branchline is in process with completion expected by summer. An open house is scheduled for July in conjunction with the NMRA's Convention in Hartford, Connecticut. We are open to the public every Tuesday night and most Saturday mornings and visitors are welcome.

While devoting most of our time and energy to the big layout, we also found time to build a 4x8-foot, fully equipped model railroad to raffle off as part of our annual fundraising initiatives. This year's winner happened to be one of our own members, and he graciously donated it to the Webster/Dudley Boys and Girls Club.

Membership is open to anyone that has an interest in model railroading or wants to learn more about the hobby. For additional information, contact Peter J. Smith at pjsmithross@aol.com, www.wmrr.org <<http://www.wmrr.org/>> . 