

## **Operating Sessions**

We are planning operating sessions on local layouts as part of the SFRH&MS 2025 Chicago Convention.

**What is an operating session?** – This is a group getting together at someone’s layout to operate their railroad in a prototypical manner. Sessions typically last about three hours. Most of the layouts planned for this event do not require much experience and can even handle a couple of operators with no experience.



Layouts are different sizes and require different numbers of operators. A couple of the layouts feature Santa Fe, but many will be based on other railroads. The number of people that sign up for each time slot will determine which layouts will be offered in each time slot.

Please note that most layouts are in residential basements, and you will need to go up and down stairs.

**How do you sign up?** – Below is a list of days and time planned for operating sessions.

The first step is to indicate which time slots you would like (times shown are approximate).

- Tuesday June 10<sup>th</sup> evening (6:30 pm - 9:30 pm)
- Wednesday June 11<sup>th</sup> evening (6:30 pm - 9:30 pm)
- Sunday June 15<sup>th</sup> afternoon (12 noon – 3:00 pm)
- Thursday June 12<sup>th</sup> afternoon (2 pm- 5 pm; in-hotel convention activities start about 7 pm)

Please email Bob Denes ([rdenes3751@aol.com](mailto:rdenes3751@aol.com)) with your selections by April 15<sup>th</sup> (earlier is better).

## **Follow-up**

Once we see how many people sign up for each slot, we will determine which layouts will host operating sessions. If more than one layout is scheduled for a time slot, we will give you an opportunity to indicate your preference. Priority will be based on your convention registration number. We will confirm selections by May 1.