

May 24-25, 2025: Ops summary

Prepared by Mark M

Friday:

- Setup started at 1pm with 6 people (1 hour sooner than most setups). Grew to 7 until about 4:30 when it rose to 11, then to 15 then to 19 well exceeding our minimum of 14. This, happily, bucked the recent trend of declining volunteers for setup especially in May.
- Module setup went very well despite only having one 3-person team working on it. That one team installed, joined and leveled almost half the layout by 4:30. The east loop was concurrent put up but not joined or levelled due to missing modules leading to the east loop.
- The layout was fully up and levelled by 7:15 (45 mins before the standard) and layout population was complete by 7:25pm (1 hour 35 mins ahead of schedule) - Congrats to Gregg M and the team for this feat.
- All of this was achieved on a layout that had been classified as Medium size based on the number of modules and freight cars employed.
- What is remarkable is that had we had a second module team and if all modules had arrived near the start time, it is highly probably the layout could have been up by 5:30pm! However, to achieve this requires efficient, dedicated teams who move with purpose, maximizing efficiency. While I understand not everyone can work this way, it is not unrealistic to think that we could have a second such team.

Saturday:

- Ops started at 10:00 (30 mins late) due to some reverse wiring of the Anderson Power poles. Initial member turnout was low but did grow through the day. Even by noon, not many trains had ran. In fact as i ran my second train around noon, there was no other train running on the layout.
- A friend of George dropped in with an estate size of assorted items for sale, which many eagerly bought.
- Torson displayed his gauge changing module

Sunday:

- Overall, a very light ops day as we set two new lows and tied a third for low (see the stats)
- Sweep started at 2:30pm (15 min earlier than normal)
- Storage locker closed up at 4:33 (27 mins earlier than the standard)
- Last person left St. As at 4:40 pm (40 mins earlier than the standard)
- Well done to all for this effort!

Stats

63 trains total (new record low)

20 unique engineers (tied for lowest ever)

70.7 hours running time total (new record low)

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Fulls stats (and check your personal stats) [here](#)