

NFA XLII

Ohio University

April 19-23, 2012

Driving to Athens, Ohio

Please DO NOT trust your GPS when traveling in Southeast Ohio...unless you want to explore the ridges and back roads of the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. To make your journey pleasant, please follow these directions.

From Columbus, the Columbus Airport and points Northwest and West:

As you leave the airport, get onto I-270 South (it may be marked "Wheeling," because that direction takes you toward the I-70 interchange). You will travel approximately 10 miles on I-270. As you approach the I-70 interchange, I-270 splits into two sets of lanes. It does not matter which set you take, but the left set has less merging traffic, so is usually a bit faster. If you take the right set, stay to the left, so that you don't get forced onto I-70.

Immediately after the I-70 interchange, the two sets of lanes re-merge. Once that has settled out, change lanes toward the right, so that you will be positioned to take US-33 East, Exit 46 B (the **second** off-ramp at the I-270/US-33 interchange). You will travel on US-33E for approximately 67 miles from I-270 to get to Athens.

Fourteen miles from I-270 you will reach the exit for Business US-33 through the city of Lancaster. Business US-33 encounters numerous traffic lights, but provides access to motels, gasoline filling stations, and restaurants. The Lancaster bypass is now open, and unless you need those services, we do advise that you use the bypass, staying on US-33 instead of taking the Business Route exit as you approach Lancaster. Continue on US-33 East past Logan and through Nelsonville.

After Nelsonville, as you approach Athens, **pass the first OH-682 exit** (for "The Plains"). If there is a stop sign at the end of the OH-682 off-ramp, you have taken the exit for The Plains. You can either turn right, go to the fourth traffic light and turn left onto Richland Avenue, or get back on the highway and follow the directions in the next paragraph.

After US-33 E joins US-50 W and OH-32 W in Athens, take Exit 17, for OH-682 N. Turn right at the first traffic light, onto Richland Avenue, to cross the Hocking River and enter the Ohio University campus.

From Northeast Ohio and PA:

If you are driving from the Cleveland or Akron area, take I-77 S through Marietta and into West Virginia.

Stay on I-77 South, approximately 4 miles past WV-2, to US-50 West.

The four-lane bypass for US-50 through Parkersburg, WV, and Belpre, OH, has been completed, using a new bridge over the Ohio River. Stay on US-50 W (which joins OH-7 W and OH-32 W for parts of your travel) from Belpre to Athens. Once you cross the Ohio River, you have about 45 minutes still to go.

Stay on US-50 W all the way up the Hocking River valley to the city of Athens. This will require an **exit from the OH-7 four-lane** less than a mile West of the small sign to turn left for "downtown Coolville."

US-50 has been upgraded, and is now four lanes all the way from Belpre to Athens. After US-33 E joins US-50 W in Athens, take Exit 17, for OH-682 N. Turn right at the first traffic light, onto Richland Avenue, to cross the Hocking River and enter the Ohio University campus.

From Southwest Ohio and Cincinnati:

If you are driving from Southwest Ohio, take OH-32 E to Athens. If you are driving from the Chillicothe area, DO NOT take US-50 E to Athens (unless you wish to travel on 2-lane roads over the ridges). Continue on US-35S to Jackson. In Jackson take the exit for OH-32E.

Just West of Albany, OH, at the Ohio University Airport, OH-32 E and US-50 E join together. Continue East on OH-32 and US-50.

Pass the exit for US-33 E to Pomeroy, OH (that off-ramp exits to the left).

Take Exit 17, for OH-682 N. You will have gone about nine miles from the airport. Turn right at the first traffic light, onto Richland Avenue, to cross the Hocking River and enter the Ohio University campus.

Arriving on Campus:

The tournament will be run out of the Baker University Center. On Thursday, Friday and Monday, parking will be somewhat limited. To reach the NFA parking lot, as you cross the Hocking River on Richland Avenue, turn RIGHT onto SOUTH GREEN DRIVE and the turn right into the first parking lot AFTER the Stadium (there will be signs). If you wish to drop your team at the Baker Center, just continue down SOUTH GREEN DRIVE and take the first LEFT onto OXBOW TRAIL (poorly marked). The large 5-story building on your right is the Baker University Center. Buses should drop off at this location. Buses can park in the rear of the Convocation Center (big round building on the corner of Richland and South Green Drive). On Saturday and Sunday, you may park in the NFA lot, the Walter Hall Lot (across the street) or the Peden Stadium lot (on the corner of Richland and South Green Drive). DO NOT park in metered spaces or in any lot marked Faculty/Staff All Times (the top of the parking deck at the Baker Center).

Hotels:

On-Campus housing still available for National Tournament! Rooms are still available in standard double suite style rooms (where 2 rooms share 1 bathroom) or in VIP suites in Bromley Hall - located 2 blocks away from the headquarters site, Baker University Center. Bromley Hall is also located right in the mix of restaurants and shops in close proximity to Court Street. On Campus housing is being offered at an affordable per person rate (\$26/person/night), which includes full linen and towel service and is convenient for those not wanting to travel far distances each day for the competition. Make your reservation now by contacting Judy Martin - 740/593-4020.

On Campus Housing:

Convenient and affordable housing is available on-campus in suite style rooms (2 rooms share one bathroom) in Bromley Hall, located 2 blocks away from Baker University Center, which is serving as the headquarters for the tournament. There are standard double suites available at \$26.00/person/night and there are limited VIP suites and rooms available at \$39/person/night and these rooms could hold 3-4 people. A limited number of

rooms are available now, please contact Judy Martin to make your reservation for the tournament - 740-566-9700 or conferences@ohio.edu. (Rates subject to change)

Additional availability in traditional residence halls which are located on the South Green of campus may come open in the next few months. Specific building names, the number of rooms and rooms rates will be posted in the near future. The room night charges will be \$26/person/night. Check back to the website for further updates on on-campus housing availability.

Hotel Accommodations:

The following hotel properties have room blocks held for the NFA National Tournament included below is specific contact information and property details.

Ohio University Inn & Conference Center

331 Richland Avenue
Athens, OH 45701
Contact: Betsy Baringer
Phone: 740/707-6786

The Ohio University Inn & Conference Center is delighted to offer preferred rates to those attending National Forensics Tournament in April 2012. A Preferred Group rate of \$109.95 is available- per night, plus applicable taxes. (Room rate is net, non-commissionable)

The Inn is the closest hotel to the campus of Ohio University (located on Campus edge) and is also Athens only full service hotel. Amenities include: Complimentary Hi-Speed wireless internet, 24 hour business and fitness centers, Cutler's restaurant, Bunch of Grapes Tavern, In-room coffee makers, irons with ironing boards. The bike- jogging path is within walking distance of the hotel as well as many uptown restaurants and shopping.

For reservations under the "National Forensics Tournament" group block, you may call the hotel directly at 740-593-6661 (866-593-6661) and ask for the National Forensics Tournament rate. The block date is for Wednesday, April 18, 2012 departing Tuesday, April 24, 2012. Reservations must be made prior to Wednesday, March 21, 2012 in order to receive the discounted rate. For details information about The Ohio University Inn & Conference Center as well as directions to Athens, please visit our website at www.ouinn.com.

Hampton Inn - Athens

986 East State Street
Athens, OH 45701
Contact: Gloria Hooper
Phone: 740/593-5600

Rate (Standard Double): \$109

Holiday Inn Express & Suites

11 East Park Drive
Athens, OH 45701
Contact: DJ Kitts
Phone: 740/592-4640

Rate (Standard Double): \$110

Baymont Inn

20 Home Street
Athens, OH 45701
Contact: Collin Arocho
Phone: 740/594-3000

Rate (Standard Double): \$75

You may also wish to consider the Super 8 or the Days Inn in Athens.

Other accommodations outside of Athens can be found in the following surrounding cities:

Logan, Ohio - 25 miles

Holiday Inn Express - 740/385-770
Amerihost Inn - 740/385-1700
Inn at Cedar Falls - 740/385-7489

Lancaster, Ohio - 43 miles

Hampton Inn - 740/654-2999
Baymont Inn and Suites - 740/654-5111
The Lancaster Inn - 740/653-3040

Jackson, Ohio - 40 miles

Red Roof Inn - 740/288-1200
Days Inn - 740/286-3464
Comfort Inn - 740/286-7581

Marietta, Ohio - 50 miles

Hampton Inn - 866/608-5968
Comfort Inn - 740/374-8190
Best Western - 740/373-5522
Holiday Inn - 866/630-3395

Parkersburg, West Virginia - 40 miles

Holiday Inn - 304/485-6200
Best Western - 304/485-6551
Comfort Inn - 304/424-5300
The Blennerhassett - 304/422-3131

Dining: The West 82 Food Court and the Front Room Coffeehouse located in the Baker Center will be open (limited hours) during the NFA tournament. The Uptown Business District is located 2 blocks North (out of the 4th floor entrance) of the Baker University Center. You will find Wendy's, Quizno's, Chipolte, Brennen's, Subway and many other fast-food restaurants a short walk from campus.

Internet Access: Ohio University will not be able to provide guest internet access. Schools requiring internet access should make their own arrangements.