

Hello NE2334 members,

This will be a long email with a lot of information, so bear with me. I am finalizing the details for the NE2334 Multistate Annual Meeting to be held Oct. 2-3, 2024, hosted by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I have reserved the Humanities room at the iHotel and Conference Center (<https://stayatthei.com/>) for talks from 8 AM – 5 PM on both days, but I'm guessing the last day will only be a half-day. The schedule will be finalized in September. Most would likely arrive Tuesday, Oct. 1, in the afternoon/evening, and the meeting will begin the next day (Oct. 2). People should be able to leave Thursday, Oct. 3rd the afternoon/evening. There is a Google Doc for you to sign in, your station, whether you want a talk and how long you might need. There is no guarantee you will get the amount of time requested, but we will try to accommodate larger stations.

Lodging Options:

iHotel (see above) – Meeting location. We have 11 Queen rooms blocked at \$189/day until September 1, 2024. Go here to book and use the code and password below for this rate. <https://book.rguest.com/wbe/group/1907/stayatthei/auth>. If you call, you will need the Code as well so please have that handy.

Block Code: **NE2334OCT123**

Guest Password: **7%Snt**

Other Lodging Options within decent distance:

Holiday Inn Champaign (101 Trade Center Dr.) – 20 min walk to iHotel (~ 1 mi)

Homewood Suites by Hilton (1417 S. Neil St) – 25 min walk to iHotel (~1 mi)

Hilton Garden Inn (1501 S. Neil St) – 25 min walk to iHotel (~ 1 mi)

Home2 Suites by Hilton (2013 S. Neil St.) – 25 min walk to iHotel (~1 mi)

Hyatt Place Downtown (217 N. Neil St.) – 10 min drive to iHotel

Flying options:

Most nearby airports have flights arriving in the evening from connections in major hubs (DFW, ORD, ATL, DEN).

CMI (UIUC-Willard Airport) – 10 min drive to/from iHotel. Only American Airlines through DFW (Dallas) and ORD (Chicago).

BMI (Central Illinois Regional Airport) – 50-60 min drive to/from iHotel (\$50-100 Uber). More flight options.

Allegiant – through SFB (Orlando) and PIE (Tampa)

AA – through DFW (Dallas) and ORD (Chicago)

Delta – through ATL (Atlanta)

Frontier – through DEN (Denver)

DEC (Decatur Airport) – 50-60 min drive to/from iHotel (\$50-100 Uber). Only United Airlines through Chicago.

I ask people to put their flight numbers, arrival airports, and times on the Google Spreadsheet (Travel and Lodging Worksheet) to coordinate rides, especially if people come into DEC or BMI. If enough people arrive at the same time, I may be able to coordinate a pickup, but I will need to know when people arrive/depart.

Food:

I have arranged some breakfast and lunch for both days. UIUC will cover the cost of the Humanities room and food.

Breakfast will include scrambled eggs, bacon or sausage, home fries, fruit salad, and pastries. Other beverages (coffee, tea, water, soda) will be included.

Lunch will be boxed lunches with an assorted list of sandwiches and some sides. I will get people's "orders" as we get closer to the meeting. I've made a Google spreadsheet for people to pick their sandwiches (below). You can choose two, one for each day. Dinner will be on your own since some may want to explore the town/city, but the hotel has an excellent restaurant, too (<https://stayatthei.com/houlihans/>).

We will likely have a welcome reception for people arriving that evening on Tuesday, Oct. 1st. I'm working out those details.

Anyway, that is it for now. Please begin planning when you can, and I will send some reminders in the coming months. Please complete the Google document as you make your arrangements. There are two worksheets, one for Travel and Lodging and another for Food Options. Please complete both worksheets.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NZiVZAA-vUCxKxiEPiJ36Tw-fRDN2hOs5VGr0U3gaUA/edit#gid=816556894>

Have a nice summer,

Keith

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