

# Helpful Local Details for the 2023 HOLMES, DOYLE, & FRIENDS Conference



**LOCAL WEATHER:** March weather, like Professor Coram’s appetite in GOLD, is “variable.” Although there are several Internet weather services available, your best bet is the Web site of the dominant local radio and TV station, [WHIO](#). This has the latest equipment (*e.g.*, Doppler high-definition radar) and the largest local staff of certified meteorologists.

**FRIDAY EVENING WELCOME RECEPTION AT 6:30 P.M.:** The traditional Friday evening Reception will be at the nearby Hampton Inn, an easy walk away. However, the shuttle (*see “FLYING IN,” just below*) will also be available.

**FLYING IN:** The airport shuttle is free. (But the driver gladly accepts tips.) When flying in, hotel staff request that you retrieve your traps (Victorian slang for “baggage” or “personal effects”) *first*; and then call **(937) 832-1234** on your wireless (cellular) telephone, or look for the free courtesy telephone to the [Airport Clarion Inn](#) near the luggage pickup area.

**MOTORING IN:** [The Airport Clarion Inn](#) is at Exit 29 (State Route 48) of Interstate 70, the second exit west of the intersection of Interstate Routes 70 and 75, two of the most heavily-traveled highways in the nation. For those with GPS systems, the address is **10 Rockridge Road, Englewood, Ohio 45322**. (Englewood is a north-side Dayton suburb.) The Inn is readily visible from I-70 if you’re going west (*e.g.*, coming from I-75). If you’re driving east (*e.g.*, from Indianapolis), you can’t see it quite as easily. Thus, for eastbound travelers, it’s best to look for Exit #29, turn left (north) off the ramp, go under the highway, and again turn left onto Rockridge Road. I-75 through downtown Dayton was completely reconstructed several years ago. But it’s still not a good idea to drive through downtown during rush hours. Dayton is not large enough to merit a full-scale beltway.

**A HINT TO WOULD-BE MYCROFT HOLMES’S:** Sherlock Holmes’ “corpulent” (fat) brother, Mycroft, you may recall, disliked walking and all other forms of exercise. In this document, a *short walk* is one-half mile or less. An *easy walk* is a full mile or less. If you are unable to walk these distances because of inclement weather, physical disability, or simply a Mycroftian dislike of physical exertion, we recommend sticking to the Welcome Reception or the Clarion’s own restaurant (see below).

**RESTAURANTS:** You can make a light meal of the *hors d’œuvres* at the Friday Reception. If you arrive early (and hungry) or choose not to go to the Reception, the Clarion has its own restaurant and bar. There are several chain eateries nearby (SHORT WALK): Bob Evans, Frisch’s Big Boy, Perkins’ Pancake House, and Skyline Chili; (EASY WALK) Waffle House, Panera Bread Restaurant, and a McDonald hamburger stand (walk to bottom of hill, turn right, go under the bridge for I-70—sidewalk all the way — cross the street for the Panera). There is a AAA-rated (2 diamonds), locally owned restaurant about two miles away: [The Buckhorn Tavern](#). The hotel shuttle (free, but the driver gladly accepts tips) can take you there and back, but reservations are recommended on weekends. There are numerous restaurants (Cracker Barrel, Olive Garden, Outback Steak House, and many more, some locally owned) on Miller’s Lane, just south of the I-70/I-75 intersection, about ten minutes by car from the Clarion. The strip is known to natives as “Restaurant Row.” Take I-70 east to I-75, take I-75 south to the BENCHWOOD ROAD/WYSE ROAD exit, turn right off the ramp, and finally turn right again. The Clarion Inn has complimentary breakfast for those lodging there.

**HOUSES OF WORSHIP:** There are several churches (and one synagogue) of various denominations within a ten minutes' drive (or less) for those with automobiles. Ask at the Conference Registration Desk.

**ROOM RATES:** You may see room rates lower than ours posted at the Clarion Inn's Web site. Such promotional rates are *not refundable*. If at the last minute you find that you cannot attend HD&F, you can receive a refund on advance payments with our rate. Also, promotional rates are generally available only when demand is slack, which is unlikely during our weekend.

**REWARD POINTS:** If you are a member of Choice Hotels' Rewards Plan (the Choice Corporation is the parent company of Clarion), you may use your accumulated points. Inform the clerk at the Front Desk upon registering.

**WI-FI:** The Clarion Inn has free wireless Internet. The pass word is: *guest* (all lower case). Like most public wireless networks, this one is unprotected, and we urge you to have reputable security software installed on your digital device. The more technically inclined may wish to use a virtual private network.

**TOURISM:** If you are coming with a spouse or friend who (heaven forbid!) will not attend the Conference, there are many sights to see. The most famous area attraction—tied with the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland as Ohio's largest single tourist draw—is the National [Air Force Museum](#) in suburban Riverside, open every day but Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's. Admission and parking are free. It is less than half an hour from the Clarion by car, but—alas!—the Museum is inaccessible on weekends via omnibus because of recent cuts in service. (However, both Lyft and Über are available in Dayton.) One can easily spend an entire day at the Museum, which has a cafeteria (no alcohol). Free guided tours are available. Dayton's rich history includes aviation (Dayton was home to the Wright Brothers) and technology (everything from cash registers to electronic point-of-sale terminals, flip-top cans, bar codes, RFID, and—most recently—drones). That history is recounted at [Carillon Park](#), run by [Dayton History](#). The Park is home to [The Carillon Brewing Company](#), a restaurant featuring a working wood-fired craft brewery (this writer does not find Victorian [beers](#) to his taste) and emphasizing mid-19<sup>th</sup> century [cuisine](#) and décor. The gas fixtures at the entrance are authentic, but interior chandeliers have been wired for electricity. Nearby [Culp's Café](#) showcases turn-of-the-20<sup>th</sup> Century [cuisine](#), but is only open to 3:00 P.M. The tramping tracks (hiking trails) of the [Aullwood Garden Center](#), an award-winning park not far from the Clarion, are ideal for a country walk, weather permitting, otherwise you'll return in a dreadful mess and risk having Mary Jane remove the mud from your boots. **If your companion wishes to attend the banquet, he or she need *not* register for the Conference. Merely buy an extra banquet admission.**

**PUBLIC TRANSIT:** Dayton and its suburbs have a good omnibus system run by the Regional Transit Authority (RTA), but weekend schedules are attenuated. There is a sheltered 'bus stop at the foot of the hill, a short walk from the Inn's entrance. Route maps and 'bus schedules for the entire metropolitan area can be found [here](#). Click on the "VIEW THE RTA SYSTEM MAP AS A PDF FILE" option. The Clarion is at H-6 on the RTA map and is served by the #16 'bus route. Look [here](#) in the column marked "Meijer & Route 48," then deduct five minutes from each time. (Be sure it's the Saturday, not the weekday, schedule.) In 2020, the RTA changed to a cashless fare system. Click [here](#) for details. As previously mentioned, both Lyft and Über are available in the Dayton region.

**BLACK-AND-WHITE PRINTED COPIES OF THIS DOCUMENT** will be available at the Conference Registration Desk on Saturday, but obviously the hyperlinks (underlined words in blue) will not work on a "hard" (paper) copy!

... Last revised, 29 Jan. 2023