

Freemasons on the Frontier

Quatuor Coronati's Conference in Boston in 2020

by W. Bro. Dr. Richard Berman

The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts will be the venue for next year's Quatuor Coronati Masonic Research Conference – Freemasonry on the Frontier - from September 18-20, 2020. Quatuor Coronati is regarded as the world's premier lodge of Masonic Research, and the Conference builds on the highly successful event held last year at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial in Alexandria, VA, which saw Masons attend from across the United States, as well as internationally.

Quatuor Coronati was established in 1884, in London, and is the world's oldest Masonic research lodge. The Lodge established the QC Correspondence Circle, QCCC, the first Masonic research society, over 130 years ago, with the purpose of sharing research, and encouraging education and scholarship. This continues today.

The Boston Conference brings together a slate of world-class speakers, not only from around the United States, but also from across the Atlantic, with many well-known and popular presenters, including Bob Cooper, the Curator of the Grand Lodge of Scotland; Brent Morris, Editor of Heredom; Mike Kearsley, a past Prestonian Lecturer; Ric Berman, the Immediate Past Master of QC and past Prestonian Lecturer; our own Walter Hunt, Grand Historian of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts; Andreas Onnerfors, Professor at the University of Gothenburg Sweden, the current Master of QC; and other leading national and international speakers. A full list of speakers,

papers, and the detailed Conference Program is online at www.quatuorcoronati.com.

The Conference program has been structured to mirror the westward expansion of the American frontier from the Atlantic coast in the early 18th century, through to the Midwest in the late 18th and 19th centuries, and finally to the Pacific coastal states at the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries.

Unlike many other conferences, the intention is to make certain there is plenty of time for attendees to question speakers and raise their own points, with the aim of generating a stimulating discussion and debate across the floor. Massachusetts

Freemasons are not only welcome, but positively encouraged to attend the Conference, whether they are members of QCCC or not, almost half of whose membership is in North

America. The Conference begins in the early afternoon of September 18th and features a period-costume demonstration lodge that

evening. Saturday's lecture program is followed by a reception and dinner that evening. The Conference ends just after midday on Sunday, September 20th.

This is an incredible opportunity for Massachusetts Masons to attend a unique Masonic event in the state, and to listen to papers from, and discussions with, some of Freemasonry's foremost speakers. TROWEL will provide regular updates as the Conference draws closer. Tickets can be purchased online at www.quatuorcoronati.com/2020-conference-book. ■

