Robert Burns recognized the growing animosity of some societies against monarchical governments especially in France and the American colonies. Burns’ recognized America’s struggle, and its leader, General George Washington against the British Crown when he wrote his Ode to General Washington. Georgia was one of the original thirteen British colonies that participated in the American revolution for independence from Great Britain: “To thee I turn with swimming eyes; Where is that soul of Freedom fled.”

The Burns Club of Atlanta, Georgia is honored to host the 40th Annual, RBANA Conference which will take place in April 2020. Plan to join fellow Burnsians, from Canada and across the waters while enjoying the pleasant refreshing climate of a Southern Spring!

To participate in the forthcoming RBANA2020 AGM & Conference, a Registration Package is included and can also be accessed from the RBANA website. The form details how to make a hotel reservation, as well as how to Register, pay by check and pay by PayPal. Online, the downloaded form can be filled out on-screen, saved, and then forwarded to rbana2020@gmail.com.

The RBANA2020 organizers, George McClellan and Mark Ferguson have selected the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center, (pictured right) 800 Spring Street NW, Atlanta, GA 30308 as the location for the Conference. Room reservations must be made directly with the hotel. Please book online at the Robert Burns Association of North America-RBANA-Reservations Link on the website or call the hotel directly at 1-800-706-2899 or 404-347-9440 and make sure to mention RBANA 2020 when booking. Room rates will last until March 24, 2020.

The conference registration fee of $220 (US) or $289 (Canadian) includes all events, seminars, the dinner and Ceilidh Friday evening plus the formal Burns Dinner on Saturday evening with the RBANA Presidential Investiture.

Golf for the RBANA trophy will be scheduled for Friday morning at a nearby course, fees and cart rental are the players responsibility at the course. Please indicate if you wish to play on the registration form.

We are hoping for a very good turnout and although the hotel has plenty of rooms, we don’t want you to be disappointed and miss these special rates. BOOK NOW. Registration closes on March 24, 2020 and we can’t guarantee these rates after that time.

Atlanta Georgia has a strong Scottish element that has figured prominently into the State’s history. That element remains strong, with specialized pubs and eatery’s, Celtic music and theater Gael style interment groups. The Ceilidh will show off Atlanta’s Scottish cultural heritage, notably, The Burns Club of Atlanta owns the only replica of the Burns Alloway Cottage, (pictured left) the home of the poets’ birth. An afternoon reception will be held at the Cottage on Thursday, April 23 for early arrivals, and for those who have never been there before and wish to come visit.

We believe the 2020 RBANA Conference will one of the best yet. For non-conference at-
tendees, visitations to the Atlanta Historical Society’s US Civil War Cyclorama exposition and the World of Coca Cola museum will be available.

**Transportation Options**

From the Atlanta-Hartsfield-Jackson Airport it is possible to hire a taxi that charges a one-person flat rate of $36.50 (US) or, reverse trip for $34.50 (US). Additional riders are $2.00 (US) each. Taxi companies are Yellow Cab and Checker Cab. Uber and Lyft also are available. Preferably, MARTA rail, North Line, from the airport, is $2.50 (US) one way. The nearest exit to the Conference site is the “Midtown” station. There, signs will direct the traveler to the Peachtree Place/Georgia Tech Stinger (Tech Trolley) shuttle at the pickup point right outside the station.
THE ROBERT BURNS ASSOCIATION
OF NORTH AMERICA
THE 40th AGM and CONFERENCE
April 24 to April 26, 2020
ATLANTA, GEORGIA, USA

The conference will be held at the Georgia Tech Hotel and Conference Center, 800 Spring Street, Atlanta, GA 30308

ROOM RATE: $139.00(US) + TAXES. SINGLE OR DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

If you wish to extend your stay:
The room rate for Thursday, April 23 is $194.00(US) + Taxes
The room rate for Sunday, April 26 is $139.00(US) + Taxes

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEE PER PERSON:
$220.00(US)
$289.00(CAN)

Note: Breakfast is not included

Full Buffet Breakfast is available in Conference Dining for $14.95 + Taxes

ROOMS MUST BE BOOKED DIRECTLY WITH THE HOTEL

To reserve rooms on-line for this conference, use this link:
Robert Burns Association of North America-RBANA-Reservations Link

or call the hotel directly at 1-800-706-2899 or 404-347-9440 and make sure to mention RBANA 2020 when booking. Room rates will last until March 24, 2020.

Any questions or concerns contact George McClellan or Mark Ferguson at rbana2020@gmail.com
ROBERT BURNS ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA
40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
GEORGIA TECH HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER,
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
APRIL 24 -26, 2020

REGISTRATION FORM

Attendees:
1. No. of participants attending the conference ___
2. No. of participants attending dinners only ___
3. No. of participants for golf tournament ___

Names: _______________________________________
Address: _______________________________________
_______________________________________
_______________________________________
Club:  _______________________________________
Tel:  _______________________________________
Email: _______________________________________
Any special needs? _______________________________

REGISTRATION FEE:
Full Conference: $220.00 (US) per person or $289.00 (CAN)
Dinners only: $150.00 (US) per person

Total enclosed: $___________________

By Check: Make checks payable to “Burns Club of Atlanta” reference RBANA2020 and mail to:
Burns Club of Atlanta
c/o David McDaniel
533 Shannon Green Circle SW
Mableton, GA 30126

By PayPal: send to bcoatreasurer@gmail.com
Go to: www.paypal.com (set up an account or sign in)
“Click” the icon with the banknote symbol “Send”
In the field under “Send money” enter bcoatreasurer@gmail.com
“Click” next; enter the amount and select “USD”
“Click” change and select “Sending to a friend”
In “add a note” type “RBANA 2020” and “click” continue
Make sure you use a debit card or bank account to avoid fees.
Click on “send payment now” and you will get a confirmation message.
Atlanta, capital of Georgia, and host of the 2020 RBANA Conference, is the principal center of the American South. The city was originally a military outpost, becoming an early railway junction and rapidly developing into an important commercial town. During the Civil War, it was an important Confederate stronghold and supply base but was reduced to rubble when captured by Union General William Sherman. These events became the setting for Atlanta native Margaret Mitchell's best-selling novel *Gone with the Wind*, which won her the Pulitzer Prize. In recent years, Atlanta has become a major economic and cultural center and an important hub of air traffic. Internationally famed businesses, including Coca-Cola and CNN, have their headquarters here. Don't expect to find a romantic southern city, but rather a large and vibrant American city with southern charm and plenty of things to see and do. Its tourist attractions range from the arts to sports and include historic sites, museums, and gardens.

**Georgia Aquarium:**

One of the top things to do in Atlanta, the Georgia Aquarium features a wide variety of marine life and some very interesting and interactive activities for visitors. The world's largest aquarium, it houses more than 100,000 aquatic creatures, including the largest in the ocean - whale sharks. You can see rare albino alligators and watch as trainers interact with California sea lions. One unique option offered by the Georgia Aquarium is the opportunity to dive or snorkel in the tank with the sharks. To participate in the dive program, visitors must have SCUBA diving certification. For those not looking to get wet, the aquarium also has an acrylic tunnel to walk through and view fish swimming on all sides.

Address: 225 Baker Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia


**Atlanta Botanical Garden**

The Atlanta Botanical Garden offers a lovely space with a variety of well laid out gardens, including formal flower beds and majestic trees that frame the urban landscape of Midtown Atlanta. The Botanical Garden is a great place year-round, with something always in bloom. Spring is, of course, an amazing time with a riot of colors. Some of the highlights include the Orchid Display House in the Fuqua Orchid Center, the Winter Garden, the Japanese Garden, the Conservation Garden, and the Desert House. Two of its major specialties are the Rose Garden and the hydrangeas, each of which comprise the largest collections in the southeast. A special garden area is designed for children, and an elevated boardwalk gives visitors tree-top views down into the forest. What you will see there depends on the time of year you are visiting, although the indoor gardens are always beautiful at any time of year.

Address: 1345 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia

Center for Civil and Human Rights

Atlanta's place in the American Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s is marked by a beautifully conceived interpretation center/museum that places this epic struggle into the greater worldwide movement for human rights. The Center for Civil and Human Rights explores the history of Jim Crow laws with actual television newscasts, speeches, photos, videos, personal accounts, and interactive experiences that bring visitors into the struggle. Portraits and stories of their work honor men and women who lost their lives in the struggle.

Stone Mountain Park

One of the most popular places to visit near Atlanta is Stone Mountain Park, 16 miles east of the city center in DeKalb County. At its center is Stone Mountain, an 863-foot-high mass of exposed granite with a circumference of five miles. On the east flank of the hill is a relief of the three Confederate leaders, President Jefferson Davis and his two generals, Stonewall Jackson and Robert E. Lee, hewn from the rock between 1923 and 1970. But there is much more to do here than see this memorial to Confederate soldiers, who fell in the Civil War. You can climb to the top of the hill or ascend by cable car, and around it runs a 1940s locomotive on a five-mile circuit through the park. There are endurance courses of suspended rope walks and bridges through the treetops, a petting farm for small children, a land/lake tour on a 1940s Army DUKW that includes some local history, a restored antebellum plantation, and a museum with Native American artifacts and exhibits. Official site: www.stonemountainpark.com/

Fernbank Museum of Natural History

Opened in 1992, the Fernbank Museum of Natural History portrays the nature and environment of Georgia, as well as technical and scientific phenomena with the aid of modern techniques. Some of the most eye-catching exhibits at the museum are the huge dinosaur statues at the entrance and the dinosaur skeletons in the Great Hall. Perhaps more entertaining are the interactive displays of the "Sensing Nature." There are many other interesting exhibits on the natural history of the local landscape and cultures from other parts of the world. Even the floors are attention-getting, made of limestone tiles with embedded fossils. A huge gallery is dedicated to temporary and traveling exhibits, and an IMAX theater shows nature-related films. Address: 767 Clifton Road NE, Atlanta, Georgia Official site: www.fernbankmuseum.org/
Center for Puppetry Arts

The Center for Puppetry Arts is a hands-on museum with a large collection of puppets from around the world. Some of the displays include Chinese hand puppets and African rod puppets. Other exhibits feature posters, videos, and photographs about puppetry. The Center offers a range of productions, from the Family Series performances to New Directions Series performances, which are designed for teen and adult audiences and focus on more sophisticated themes.

Address: 1404 Spring Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia
Official site: http://www.puppet.org/

World of Coca-Cola

In 1886, a chemist named Dr John Pemberton devised a syrup designed to relieve headaches. A friend of his mixed the glutinous liquid with water and carbonic acid, and the result of the mixture soon became the world's most popular soft drink. The World of Coca-Cola illustrates the history and triumphal progress of the world-famous drink in entertaining ways that will please all ages.

Address: 121 Baker Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia
Official site: www.worldofcoca-cola.com/

Margaret Mitchell House

Though humble with its red brick and white trim, the Tudor Revival–style apartment building (formerly known as the Crescent Apartments) is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Here visitors learn about Mitchell’s life in Atlanta and trivia about her writing of the novel. Guided tours are offered every half-hour and included with admission. An adjacent building houses a Making of the Movie exhibit with exceptional items such as photos from Gone with the Wind’s 1939 Atlanta movie premiere; the portrait of Scarlett O’Hara hanging in the Butler Mansion in the film; and pieces of the original Hollywood movie set. You can visit the house independently, or as part of a Gone with the Wind tour that includes other key locations from the book and movie, an Atlanta film tour, or a tour of historic Atlanta homes.

Address: 979 Crescent Ave NE, Atlanta, Georgia
Official site: www.atlantahistorycenter.com/explore/destinations/margaret-mitchell-house