

310 West Forest Avenue  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

June 27, 2012

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Secretary Caranci,

I am adding my name to the list of people who know and admire the works of Patrick T. Conley.

I have known Pat and worked with him for many years and often relied on his extraordinary knowledge of all things historical in my work as a reporter for WPRI News.

I have seen the volume of historical books he has researched and written and I am more than convinced that he is the ideal candidate for Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

I have never heard him say he did not know in answer to any question I have asked concerning Rhode Island history.

As an often published author of historical works myself, I am proud to stand in his shadow as an admirer of what he has produced on Rhode Island history.

Respectfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Glenn Laxton".

Glenn Laxton  
WPRI TV News (Retired)



Department of History  
College of Arts and Sciences  
1715 Patterson Office Tower  
Lexington, KY 40506-0027

859 257-6861  
fax 859 323-3885

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June 26, 2012

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci  
148 West River Street  
Providence, R.I. 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci:

I would be astonished if there is anyone in the state of Rhode Island, or the country, more qualified to be Rhode Island Historian Laureate than Dr. Patrick T. Conley. He has delivered countless lectures about Rhode Island history, its peoples, the functioning of the government; he has published extensively articles and books, and in so many ways remains capable of disseminating information regarding Rhode Island history and heritage.

His vita and bibliography speak for themselves. I find the range of his activities in promoting the history of the state simply staggering. Where does he find the time? Has anyone ever known more about the history of the state and at the same time been able to place it in the larger context of political, social, and cultural change within the entire nation? That individual is not yet born and may never be.

I had the good fortune to be part of a lecture series that spanned the years 2000-2009 that resulted in a scholarly book of essays by prominent historians (Constitution Day 2010) two of whom were Pulitzer Prize Winners. The quality of those lectures and that book well reflect the ongoing scholarly nature of Dr. Conley's work as well as its dissemination to the public at large.

Conversation with him about the state's history is an illuminating delight. At the mere mention of a name or town—for example, the name of schools or streets in my native town of Bristol—triggers a quick vignette of context and detail. Conley is no pedant and never boring. He can entertain an audience of one or one hundred with his knowledge of Rhode Island and United States history in a serious and accessible manner.

My visits to Rhode Island are now infrequent, but I count any of them fortunate when I come into contact with Conley. I give him my enthusiastic and unqualified endorsement for the post of Historian Laureate.

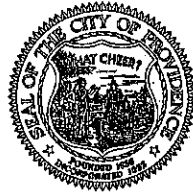
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ronald P. Formisano'.

Ronald P. Formisano

Professor of History

William T. Bryan Chair of American History



City of Providence  
Division of Archives and History

June 29, 2012

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

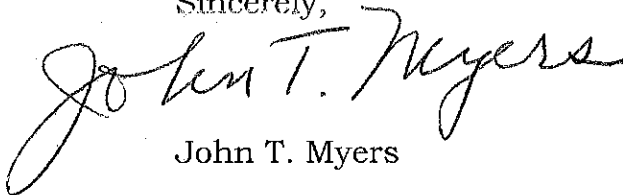
Dear Mr. Caranci:

It has recently come to my attention that the Secretary of State will soon be announcing the name of the person who will become the first Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

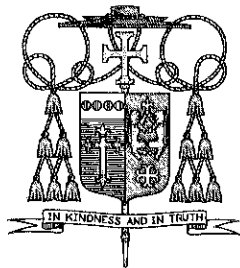
During my years as Archivist for the City of Providence, I had the unique opportunity to work with Dr. Patrick T. Conley on numerous research projects as well as various historical endeavors. Dr. Conley has the distinction of being the most knowledgeable historian on Rhode Island history.

It is with great pleasure that I recommend the name of Dr. Patrick T. Conley for the appointment as the first Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

Sincerely,



John T. Myers



**Most Reverend Daniel P. Reilly**  
Bishop Emeritus  
St. Paul's Cathedral  
38 High Street  
Worcester, MA 01609

+ AMDG

Mr. Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci,

I am a native of Providence, RI. I grew up in South Providence and St. Michael's Parish during the 1930's and 40's. I was ordained a priest for the Diocese of Providence in 1953 and since then I have served as Bishop of Norwich, CT. from 1975 to 1994 and Bishop of Worcester, MA. from 1994 to 2004. I am now living in Worcester as the Bishop Emeritus.

I have known Dr. Patrick T. Conley all of my adult life. He came from the same neighborhood as I did but is a few years younger than I am. We have been good friends all of these years and I admire him for all of his accomplishments as a citizen of R.I. and a professor at Providence College and other colleges and universities and as a prolific author and lecturer on R.I. history.

I write to you to recommend him for the position of Historian Laureate for the State of Rhode Island.

His record speaks for itself. He has written prodigiously and well about the history of his beloved state and has spoken eloquently, authentically and frequently on R.I. history. He is a true credit to our state, its people and its history.

I am happy then to recommend him to you for this high honor. I am sure he will carry out his duties as Historian Laureate with great ability and success.

I am grateful for the opportunity to write to you on Dr. Conley's behalf and extend to you my best wishes in your service to the State of R.I.

Sincerely Yours,

*+ Daniel P. Reilly*

**Jones Associates**  **Attorneys at Law**

72 South Main Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
Telephone 401 274-4446  
Fax 401 274-2805



Lauren E. Jones

Robert S. Thurston

June 29, 2012

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci  
**Rhode Island Secretary of State**  
148 West River Street  
Providence RI 02904

**Re: Patrick T. Conley, J.D., Ph.D.**

Dear Secretary Caranci and Members of the Selection Committee:

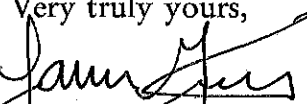
I write in support of the application of Patrick T. Conley, J.D., Ph.D., for the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. I frankly cannot imagine anyone more aptly qualified for the position.

I have known Dr. Conley for more than 20 years. Although my original contact with Dr. Conley was in legal matters, I have had the experience of having his history background come into play in several of my cases. Dr. Conley testified as an expert witness on the history of Rhode Island lotteries, for example, in the case involving the validity of the Lottery Commission. In the Separation of Powers cases, Dr. Conley wrote a magnificent amicus brief which was more history treatise than legal brief (and which he then turned into a book). It was a tour de force of historical fact and argument. Moreover, Dr. Conley was given one-half hour of the argument time in that matter and took exactly one-half hour for his comments: Quite frankly, the members of the Supreme Court listened spellbound as he outlined the history of Separation of Powers in Rhode Island.

In addition, for a number of years I had the great pleasure of attending the Constitution Day celebration that Dr. Conley presented annually in September. He brought to Rhode Island historians of great renown who spoke about the history and development of the United States Constitution, among other things. The gatherings were entertaining, enlightening, and educational. Dr. Conley made sure that the presentations were timely and that the experience for those of us in attendance was absolutely top-drawer.

Although I know that Dr. Conley has had a somewhat controversial career in land development, I do not believe his career as an historian is controversial in the slightest. His curriculum vitae speaks for itself. His commitment to Rhode Island history cannot be questioned. I believe he will be exactly the right person for this position.

Very truly yours,

  
Lauren E. Jones  
ljones@appeallaw.com

LEJ/smc



**AMERICAN LEGION POST 85**  
**870 River St**  
**Woonsocket, RI 02895**  
**401-766-7585**

July 2, 2012

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Deputy Secretary Caranci:

As a veteran, and historian officer of the American Legion Post 85 Woonsocket, Rhode Island, I am writing a letter of support to nominate Dr. Patrick T. Conley for the honorary position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. My task is to give current historical facts and to disseminate it accurately to other veterans.

With Dr. Conley it is a monumental task to be brief. His accomplishments are many and his oratorical, historical, and constitutional knowledge of Rhode Island is biblical. It is in this light that I will be brief. In my view, since I have known him for some 22 years, he has already been conducting himself as Historian Laureate. The formality from his beloved state and peers to recognize him as Rhode Island's foremost historian is truly an honor and the correct one at that.

With this as a backdrop, one current event transcends Dr. Conley's life commitment to Rhode Island. It embraces and endorses who he is and the time he has given to our state for decades.

Recently, Woonsocket was in the crosshairs of a group that wanted a cross removed from a war monument which had gained national attention. I went to see historian, Dr. Conley to ask for some intellectual philanthropy and, as usual, he said yes. Dr. Conley directed and educated me with information. He also told me he would answer any legal, historical, or constitutional questions that may arise for the Woonsocket War Memorial Committee that had formed, which in fact he has already done, and he drove to Woonsocket to personally visit the monument. His insight and actions were at lightening speed. What a gift it is to have him at our disposal.

Having Dr. Conley as Rhode Island Historian Laureate is like going into battle and having General Patton to confer with. Both would be of equal treasure but Dr. Conley is here so I suggest we seize the moment and act upon it.

Washington was our first president and a great one at that who set the tone for all others that followed. As the first Historian Laureate of Rhode Island, I am sure Dr. Conley will pioneer the path for all others that will hold that future distinction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Albert R. Beuparlant". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Albert R. Beuparlant  
Historian Officer  
American Legion Post 85  
Woonsocket, RI

Cc: Dr. Patrick T. Conley, Esq., J.D., Ph.D.  
David Malone, Commander, Post 85

Michael G. Sarli\*  
James P. Marusak\*  
Michael R. De Luca\*

One Turks Head Place, Suite 900  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903  
Telephone 401-274-6644  
Fax 401-331-9304

Per C. Vaage\*  
Andrea L. Merolla-Simister\*  
Jessica Schachter\*

Thomas D. Gidley, Retired

Gidley, Sarli & Marusak, LLP

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

\* Also admitted in Massachusetts

June 29, 2012

Paul F. Caranci, Deputy Secretary of State  
Secretary of State's Office  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

RE: Letter of Recommendation  
RI Historian Laureate / Dr. Patrick T. Conley

Dear Mr. Caranci:

I am pleased to address this letter to you in your capacity as Chairperson of the Rhode Island Historian Laureate Selection Committee. It is my understanding that you are currently considering applications for the position of Historian Laureate for the State of Rhode Island.

In that regard, I am most honored to forward this communication as my full endorsement of Dr. Patrick T. Conley for the position.

Although I am not a professionally-trained historian, I, like many other Rhode Islanders, have a deep respect and an abiding interest in the history of our fascinating State. I am a practicing attorney-at-law and have often been privileged to present briefs to, and arguments before, the Rhode Island Supreme Court, sometimes involving rather complex historical analyses. One such case, which turned on historic analysis, was the celebrated "Separation of Powers Case". That case considered the great question of the jurisdictional limits of executive and legislative powers. In that case, Dr. Conley convincingly presented the prevailing position on behalf of the Rhode Island Legislature. Although I was his adversary, I must admit that his presentation was the finest that I have witnessed in 32 years of practice.

I have also been a member of the Rhode Island Historical Society for over 30 years and was a member of the Publications Committee of that organization for over a decade. During that time, our committee reviewed, selected, and oversaw the publication of articles in the organization's quarterly magazine, Rhode Island History. We also supervised the publication of the celebrated "Papers of Gen. Nathanael Greene". In addition, I have been pleased to have been a member of the Board of

Paul F. Caranci, Deputy Secretary of State  
Secretary of State's Office  
RE: Letter of Recommendation  
RI Historian Laureate / Dr. Patrick T. Conley

June 29, 2012  
Page 2

Directors of the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame and am an active member of that organization's Historian's Committee. In that capacity, I have assisted in researching and presenting numerous worthy Rhode Islanders for introduction into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame.

It was through each of these organizations that I came to know and appreciate Dr. Conley. For approximately two decades, I have read his masterful articles and books on wide-ranging subjects concerning innumerable aspects of Rhode Island history. I have also seen Dr. Conley present lectures to civic organizations, public fora, educational institutions, and the Rhode Island Supreme Court.

Although Rhode Island is blessed with several fine professional historians, no one has devoted his or her life with more distinction to the history of our State as has Dr. Conley. He is a born-and-bred Rhode Islander. He has achieved a tangible place in our history by being inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame for his scholarly devotion to the State. His articles are always fascinating. His books are scholarly, professionally authoritative, and yet ultimately understandable by those who, like me, are not trained professional historians. His lectures on Rhode Island history are spellbinding and tremendously informative. His presentations on such subjects at the highest levels of our judicial system are formidably persuasive and unsurpassed in professional technique and presentation.

Based upon these enjoyable experiences, I can state without equivocation that Dr. Conley is the most highly-suited candidate for the honor of being named the Historian Laureate of the State of Rhode Island.

While Dr. Conley's incredibly diverse résumé speaks for itself, I can only add that our State has been eminently enriched by his literary and oratory presentations. His future service as Historian Laureate will certainly be of immense value and credit to our State and to those of us who love its unique history. Bestowing this honor on Dr. Conley is certainly long overdue.

Please accept this as my highest endorsement of Dr. Patrick T. Conley for the richly-deserved honor of becoming the first Historian Laureate of the State of Rhode Island.

Gidley, Sarli & Marusak, LLP

Paul F. Caranci, Deputy Secretary of State  
Secretary of State's Office  
RE: Letter of Recommendation  
RI Historian Laureate / Dr. Patrick T. Conley

June 29, 2012  
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If you should have any questions or need anything further from me, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



James P. Marusak

pjg

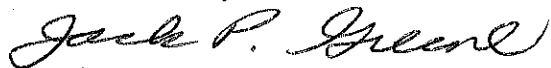
1974 Division Road  
East Greenwich, RI 02818  
June 11, 2012

Mr. Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci:

At the request of Dr. Patrick T. Conley, I am writing to recommend for the new honorary post of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. As a historian of colonial and Revolutionary America, I was well aware of Dr. Conley's distinguished and extensive body of publications on Rhode Island history long before I decided to retire from Johns Hopkins University and move to Rhode Island early in the last decade. As I have become acquainted with Dr. Conley over the last decade, I have also become aware of his prolific efforts to support the recovery and enhance public awareness of the unique and important history of this state. Indeed, I think it may be said beyond any question of doubt that no person of his generation has done more in this regard through both his publications and public activities than Dr. Conley. But his historical achievement cannot be measured only in quantity. He is an insightful historical analyst whose work commands national attention and national academic respect. On the national level, Professor Gordon S. Wood of Brown University may be the Rhode Island resident with the single most distinguished career as a historian, but the history of Rhode Island has not been the subject of Wood's writings. On that subject, Dr. Conley stands on the very top of the heap, a heap, I might add that, that, notwithstanding Dr. Conley's protean efforts to promote the study of Rhode Island history, looks rather more like a thin tower than a sturdy pyramid. I should think, therefore, that Dr. Conley's claim to the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate would be undeniable. Few states could do as well. I recommend him with the highest enthusiasm.

Yours sincerely,



Jack P. Greene  
Andrew W. Mellon Professor in the  
Humanities, Emeritus  
Johns Hopkins University  
Baltimore, Md. 21218



Supreme Court of Rhode Island  
Frank Licht Judicial Complex  
250 Benefit Street  
Providence, RI 02903

FRANK J. WILLIAMS  
CHIEF JUSTICE (RETIRED)

June 12, 2012

The Honorable Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
State of Rhode Island  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci:

I write in support of the appointment of Patrick T. Conley, who has applied for the unpaid position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

I cannot think of anyone more deserving or with the experience and qualifications for this position.

His teaching at Providence College, numerous books and other publications and knowledge of Rhode Island history eminently qualify him for this appointment.

Please do not hesitate to call me if I can assist you in any way regarding this.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frank Williams".

Frank J. Williams  
Chief Justice (Ret.)

FJW/mla

**ERNEST G. MAYO, ESQ.**

628 METACOM AVENUE

WARREN, RHODE ISLAND 02885

401/245-7985 CELL 401/688-6083

[mayo.ernest@verizon.net](mailto:mayo.ernest@verizon.net)

June 11, 2012

Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Re: Application of Patrick T. Conley for the Position of  
Historian Laureate of the State of Rhode Island

Deputy Secretary Caranci:

I am writing in support of Patrick Conley's application for appointment to the newly created Historian Laureate position. There is no doubt or reservation in my mind regarding Dr. Conley's fitness for this position. His devotion to the study and dissemination of Rhode Island history is without peer.

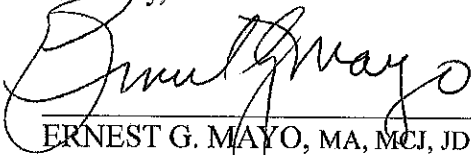
I first met him at Providence College in the early 1990's during my tenure as a graduate student in his historiography class. Since that time we have participated together in several cultural endeavors including as members of the original Bristol Statehouse Foundation board.

Dr. Conley's qualifications are exemplary on their face and easily demonstrated to any skeptic through a review of his Rhode Island specific publications and lectures. One outstanding example and a favorite of mine is his opening essay, "Rhode Island Constitutional Development, 1636-2006," in *The Rhode Island State Constitution: A Reference Guide*, co-authored with former Justice Flanders.

As a lawyer and academic I fully appreciate the depth of his knowledge and the clarity of his writing. One role of the Historian Laureate will be the presentation of lectures; in this regard, Dr. Conley is unequalled in his dynamic and captivating ability to inform and entertain any gathering.

Please accept this unqualified and enthusiastic endorsement of Patrick Conley's application. Our state will be well served by his appointment.

Sincerely,



ERNEST G. MAYO, MA, MCJ, JD

Judge of the Warren, RI Municipal Court

& Professor of Legal Studies, Johnson & Wales University



# The Japan-America Society and Black Ships Festival of Rhode Island, Inc.

28 PELHAM STREET, NEWPORT, RI 02840 • (401)846-2720 • FAX (401)846-5600 • JAS@NEWPORTEVENTS.COM

June 12, 2012

Mr. Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 W. River St.  
Providence, R.I. 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci:

As the former general counsel to Secretary of State Kathleen Connell, I came to know the importance of the office of Secretary of State in the preservation and promotion of Rhode Island history. As the current president of the Japan-America Society of Rhode Island, I have experienced first-hand the amount of effort it takes to stage a major cultural event.

Based on these experiences, I am most happy to recommend Dr. Patrick T. Conley for the position of Historian Laureate. There is no one more well-versed in Rhode Island history than he. I have talked with him on occasion concerning the role of Matthew Calbraith Perry, the great Rhode Islander who opened up diplomatic relations with Japan during the 1850s. He spoke of Perry as if he knew him personally. Presently, he serves on the Advisory Council of the Japan-America Society, and has faithfully attended our annual events.

Knowledge of history would qualify him for the position he seeks, but Dr. Conley has gone far beyond the mere acquisition of knowledge and the writing of books about Rhode Island.

To my knowledge, he has led three statewide historical celebrations and done this on a volunteer basis. It is my understanding that the laureate position is also unpaid, so Dr. Conley would merely be continuing a tradition he established for himself more than 40 years ago.

I serve with Dr. Conley on the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame, yet another of his volunteer efforts. We have worked together on that board to honor a number of deserving Rhode Island labor leaders. I can recommend him to you with confidence and enthusiasm.

Sincerely,

Spencer W. Viner, President  
Japan-America Society

**Robert G. Flanders, Jr.**  
[rflanders@haslaw.com](mailto:rflanders@haslaw.com)

June 13, 2012

Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

**Re: Application of Patrick T. Conley, J.D., Ph.D. for the Position of Historian Laureate  
of the State of Rhode Island**

Dear Mr. Caranci:

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Patrick T. Conley, J.D., Ph.D. who is applying for the position of Historian Laureate of the State of Rhode Island.

I have known Mr. Conley for many years. Originally, I read his briefs and listened to the arguments he presented as a lawyer appearing before the Rhode Island Supreme Court when I was serving as an Associate Justice on that Bench. In more recent years, I have co-authored a treatise of Rhode Island constitutional law with him.

As his resume attests, he is a most prolific author on the subject of Rhode Island history. Beyond that, he is a most entertaining and knowledgeable public speaker on this subject. I have heard him deliver innumerable addresses and public speeches on subjects involving Rhode Island history, and he has never failed to present a most entertaining and informative discussion of the subject at hand.

Although it is hard to imagine, one glance at his resume would lead one to the conclusion that, if anything, he is overqualified for this post. Nevertheless, I am sure that this appointment would be a capstone to his career as a historian and expert on Rhode Island history and I am quite confident he would do an outstanding job in that role.

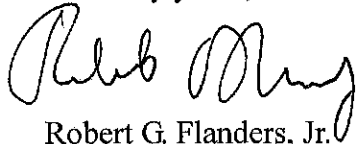
Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
June 13, 2012  
Page 2

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**HinckleyAllenSnyder** LLP  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

For these reasons, I would urge you to give his candidacy every favorable consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Flanders", written in a cursive style.

Robert G. Flanders, Jr.

RGF:dmf

1027 Lower River Road  
Lincoln, RI 02865

Mr. Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Paul:

Ever since I arrived in Rhode Island, in the spring of 1968, some 44 years ago, I have been a student of Dr. Patrick T. Conley with regard to my interest in the study of Rhode Island history. My first job at The Rhode Island Historical Society focused my attention upon the development of the Society's library as a scholarly resource. I also undertook the editor's position for the Society's publication. Within a year I became the executive director of the Society. Over the years, my association with Pat and my admiration for his grasp of the study of the state's heritage has only grown with admiration for his incredible grasp of the scope of our past.

I honestly can't think of a better candidate for the new post of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. He is one of the most respected and most published of the Rhode Island scholars. He has initiated many heritage activities over the years with great impact, and he has expanded the idea that every part of our state population has a story to tell.

Pat Conley's perspective and historical knowledge about Rhode Island would be put to great use and benefit were he to be accorded this honor.



Albert T. Klyberg, L.H.D.  
Director Emeritus  
Rhode Island Historical Society

*Matthew J. Smith*

*Speaker Emeritus*

*32 Riverview Drive*

*North Providence, R.I. 02904*

*(401) 354-5109*

June 22, 2012

Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci:

Jack Dempsey, the first modern heavyweight champion, was hailed by his early supporters with the distinctive appellation: the "nonpareil." Those mining camp roustabouts knew their man! While this nickname gave way to more colorful newspaper epitaphs, its meaning, "having no equal" defined the essence of the great Dempsey!

While Patrick T. Conley was a fine athlete, it is his pioneering historical scholarship of Rhode Island's 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries that merits calling him the "nonpareil" of our state's historians. This is a very ambitious and somewhat boastful assertion, but as the great Al Smith would say when challenged about the accuracy of a statement: "Let's look at the record."

For almost **fifty** years, Pat has labored tirelessly to open Rhode Island's modern period to professional scholarship!!

Using his Providence College graduate school classes, seminars, and directed studies, Dr. Conley unleashed waves of young scholars seeking to unravel the political, economic, and social issues of this quite neglected period. Prior to the advent of Conley and his followers, the major focus of historians had been on the State's Colonial and Revolutionary periods.

Conley's encyclopedic study of our state's Constitutional crisis of the 1830s and 40s was the first updated revision of earlier studies. The Constitution of 1842 and the resulting Dorr War gave to scholars of the Jacksonian period a vivid example of a popular local uprising with national overtones. Dr. Conley's study of Thomas W. Dorr and his followers laid bare for all to see the reactionary society which came to dominate our state became until the "Bloodless Revolution" of 1935. If this was Conley's only historical contribution to our understanding Rhode Island, it would be labeled "seminal."

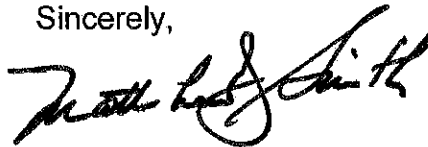
Conley's leadership and relentless quest for excellence in research and writing led his pupils and other scholars to mine this fertile period. His overview of the modern period, reinforced by lectures and articles produced a robust harvest of credible studies. For the first time our state's nativist and anti-Catholic prejudice was exposed! The mill system with its paternalistic governance and economic manipulation was examined. The "Rotten Borough" system of legislative control with its "imaginary" executive branch received the proper study by mature scholars. This is the Conley legacy!

I have, by design, not mentioned Dr. Conley's books, monographs, articles, pamphlets, and lectures which outline our state's development since 1636. Nor, do I detail the numerous boards, commissions, constitutional conventions, or local charter studies that Conley chaired or served on--mostly without compensation! Easily, these achievements would fill a large volume.

My personal experience with this scholar influenced my teaching ability, historical publications, and political success. I have benefitted greatly from his historical wisdom!

Truly, Patrick T. Conley is the "nonpareil" of Rhode Island historians. It is with this sentiment, I am honored to nominate him to be the first Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew J. Smith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" and last name "Smith" clearly distinguishable.

Matthew J. Smith

MJS:aml

**John C. Fredriksen, Ph.D.**  
**210 Farnum Pike**  
**Smithfield, RI 02917**  
**401-232-0681/jfredriksen@Sisna.com**

June 25, 2012

Dear Sir,

I have been approached by my friend and colleague, Dr. Patrick T. Conley, for a letter of recommendation relative to the vacant position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. Such a document I am very grateful to provide.

I met Pat when he served as my dissertation advisor at Providence College, 1990-1993, where he proved a tough but supportive task-master. He unhesitatingly brought me down a few notches whenever necessary and, hence, I am a much better scholar in consequence. Even though Pat is not a specialist in military history, he quickly grasped the nuances of what I was trying to achieve professionally, and guided it to a successful conclusion. Kudos all-around.

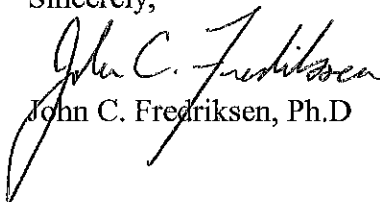
Since then, Pat has gone on to distinguish himself by adding that ever-spiraling oeuvre of published works, especially as they pertain to constitutional law, Rhode Island history, and regional Irish-American matters. His resume is awesome and, quite simply, speaks for itself.

In sum, I cannot think of a more deserving individual for this post than my old mentor, Pat Conley, who, pound-for-pound, is the most unique and gifted history scholar this state has ever—and in all likelihood will ever—produce. He would make a most formidable Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

I would gladly expand upon any of these comments, if so desired.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

  
John C. Fredriksen, Ph.D.



1775 - HEADQUARTERS - 1907  
**VARNUM CONTINENTALS**

6 MAIN STREET  
EAST GREENWICH, RI 02818-3827  
[www.varnumcontinentals.org](http://www.varnumcontinentals.org)  
401.884-4110

Bruce Campbell MacGunnigle  
*President & Museum Director*  
202 Kent Drive  
East Greenwich, RI 02818-2310  
401-884-7074  
[k8bcm@cox.net](mailto:k8bcm@cox.net)

June 24, 2012

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci,

I am writing to support Patrick T. Conley, JD, PhD, for the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

Dr. Conley has always been most helpful to our non-profit educational and historic organization, which focuses on the American Revolution, and operates three museums in East Greenwich.

In 2007, on the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our incorporation, Dr. Conley presented a scholarly address about the Battle of Rhode Island, which to an organization such as ours, was greatly appreciated.

In 2011, Dr. Conley supplied important references on General James Mitchell Varnum's famous legal case, *Trevett v. Weeden*, which was a precursor to the landmark case of *Marbury v. Madison*, establishing the concept of judicial review. We needed this scholarly information to support our application for recognition of the 1773 Varnum House Museum as a National Historic Landmark by the National Park Service.

I heartily support Dr. Conley for the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. I can think of no one more qualified.

Sincerely,



**AARP Rhode Island**  
10 Orms Street  
Suite 200  
Providence, RI 02904

T 1-866-542-8170  
F 401-272-0596  
[www.aarp.org/ri](http://www.aarp.org/ri)

June 25, 2012

Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 River St.  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci

Please kindly forward this letter to the chair of the selection committee reviewing candidates for Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

I am writing on behalf of my longtime acquaintance Patrick T. Conley, Ph.D, who I believe would be an outstanding appointee.

For those of us with a thirst for Rhode Island history, Patrick's contributions never fail to enlighten and illuminate. I know of many others who share my enthusiastic endorsement.

Patrick embodies what I believe are the qualities that would define this new position: His academic achievements and publishing history are well known and greatly respected among his fellow historians and academics. At the same time, he is brilliant when it comes to telling the simple stories that are relevant and enjoyed by Rhode Islanders regardless of age or background. That is to say, he is not confined to ivory towers when it comes to showcasing the state's long and colorful history.

Patrick is involved in many community activities, one of which is very near my heart. He is a dedicated supporter of the Rhode Island Senior Olympics, an annual event that celebrates the energy and excellence of older athletes. In 2011, Senior Olympics honored Patrick for his service with a special award.

Although his CV speaks volumes, those of us who know Patrick Conley appreciate that he is the right person with the right personality for this honorable distinction.

Thank you for considering my recommendation.

Sincerely,

Kathleen S. Connell  
State Director  
AARP Rhode Island

Superior Court of Rhode Island  
Licht Judicial Complex  
250 Benefit Street  
Providence, RI 02903

STEPHEN J. FORTUNATO, JR.  
ASSOCIATE JUSTICE - RETIRED

June 20, 2012

Mr. Paul Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

**RE: Patrick Conley (Candidate for Rhode Island Historian Laureate)**

Dear Chairman Caranci:

I write to enthusiastically endorse the candidacy of Patrick Conley for the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. As a scholar of Rhode Island (and American) history, lawyer, and community leader, Dr. Conley is eminently qualified for the position. I have known Dr. Conley for nearly fifty years and have encountered him in probably more capacities than anyone else recommending him.

I first met Dr. Conley when I was a student in several of the history classes he taught as a professor at Providence College. His knowledge of his topics was extensive and deep, and his presentations were eloquent and entertaining. He demanded much of the students but was impeccably fair and certainly willing to consider viewpoints different from his. He was universally respected by the students.

I later encountered Dr. Conley when we were both involved in Providence politics. Again, Dr. Conley was widely admired for his integrity, energy and intellect; and still later, when I became a judge of the Superior Court in 1994, he appeared in front of me a number of times. He was always well prepared and courteous, knew legal history and constitutional principles with a depth that would certainly qualify him to sit on the Rhode Island Supreme Court, and was always prepared to act with charity toward an opponent who deserved some "slack."

For several years in the recent past, I served on the board of directors of the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame, of which Dr. Conley was the chairman. His enthusiasm for Rhode Island history and famous personages of our state is boundless, and the board meetings were run fairly and expeditiously and marked by his famous humor and wit.

Mr. Paul Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
June 20, 2012  
Page 2

Dr. Conley is known for his eloquence, both when giving prepared remarks and when speaking extemporaneously. And, of course, I hasten to add that his scholarship in the area of Rhode Island history is unequalled. He is not only an expert on the founding and colonial eras but has read, written and lectured widely on the Dorr Rebellion, immigration, industrial development, labor strife, urban politics, the role of the Catholic Church, etc. If there is someone with even half his accomplishments in his area, I have yet to meet him or her. Though his primary focus has been Rhode Island, Dr. Conley enjoys a national reputation, as evidenced by the nationally prominent, prize-winning historians who regularly make important presentations at the Constitutional Day celebration he hosts each year.

No doubt the Laureate will be called upon to address civic groups and assemblies of students. No one is more qualified by background and temperament to convey to the public the absolutely crucial need to appreciate and understand the history of our state and nation. You will bring credit to your office and our state if you select this deserving Rhode Islander as the State's first Historian Laureate.

Very truly yours,



Stephen J. Fortunato, Jr.  
Associate Justice -- Retired

SJF/lrs



## SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF LAW  
OFFICE OF THE FACULTY

June 18, 2012

Mr Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State, State of Rhode Island  
148 West River St  
Providence RI 02904

Dear Mr Caranci:

I write to recommend the appointment of Patrick T. Conley as the Rhode Island Historian Laureate. I have known Dr. Conley since the mid-1960s, when he and I were part of a small group of historians, no more than half-a-dozen, who were writing about Rhode Island's Dorr Rebellion (1842). What began as a scholarly acquaintance blossomed into a warm friendship over the years. I have followed Pat's eminent career from a distance (I have the misfortune not to live in Rhode Island) and have admired his multiple achievements, any one of which would make a satisfactory career for an ordinary mortal like myself, but which together make him one of the Island State's most distinguished citizens.

Pat's scholarly output is astonishing. While I take pride in my own scholarly output, it shrinks in comparison, at least quantitatively, with Pat's. I doubt that there is anyone on the planet who knows more about Rhode Island's past, or who has done a better job of relating it and, most importantly, of popularizing it. He is the only person I know who can be compared to Kevin Starr, the official state historian of California.

Pat has taken the lead in organizing Constitution Day in Rhode Island, an annual observance mandated by Congress that is meant to educate our citizens on the meaning and significance of the United States Constitution. It is almost through his single-handed efforts that the state has such an observance, capped by publication of Constitution Day, a collection essays and addresses growing out of this event.

I urge the appointment of Dr Patrick Conley as Rhode Island's Historian Laureate with the greatest enthusiasm.

Yours truly,

William M. Wiecek  
Congdon Professor of Public Law, Emeritus  
Professor of History

# WALTER K. SCHRODER

Author - Researcher - Lecturer

16 Hamilton Gate Court  
North Kingstown, RI 02852  
(401) 294-0874  
E-Mail: [WKSCHRODER@aol.com](mailto:WKSCHRODER@aol.com)

June 19, 2012

Deputy Secretary of State  
Paul F. Caranci  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Re: Rhode Island Historian Laureate

Dear Secretary Caranci,

Please accept this writing as my recommendation for the designation of Dr. Patrick T. Conley as Rhode Island's first Historian Laureate.

I have known Dr. Conley since 1977 when he was the Chairman of the Rhode Island Bicentennial Commission and subsequently, Chairman of the Rhode Island Publications Society, at the time I proposed writing my first book: *The Defenses of Narragansett Bay in World War II*.

I soon learned that I was dealing with a highly professional and distinguished scholar with a dedicated and knowledgeable staff that guided me through the process of compiling an unchallenged account of the events of World War II as they played out in the Narragansett Bay area. To date the narrative has seen 10 printings with a total of 13,000 books sold, for which much of the credit goes to the above reviewers and sponsors. Subsequently, in 2005, it was an honor to have Dr. Conley take on the task of reviewing and critiquing another one of my Rhode Island (military) history projects despite the fact that his professional commitments placed great demands on his time and person.

My direct exposure and positive experiences in dealings with Dr. Conley prompt me to write this letter in support of his request for consideration for the position of Rhode Island's first Historian Laureate. I do not know of any other person in Rhode Island who is better qualified or more deserving to receive this high honor than Dr. Patrick T. Conley.

Respectfully submitted:



Walter K. Schroder

Council on Americas Military Past (CAMP) - Coast Defense Study Group (CDSG) -  
Fort Adams Advisory Committee - Friends of Conanicut Battery - Artillery Company of Newport -  
Jamestown Historical Society -  
2007 Inductee Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame

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OF RHODE ISLAND  
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DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

80 Upper College Road, 113 Washburn Hall, Kingston, RI 02881 USA

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June 20, 1012

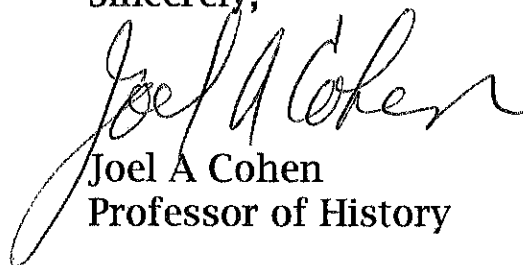


Paul F Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River St  
Providence RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci:

Having taught American history at the University of Rhode Island for forty-seven years, I have a good understanding and knowledge of the field of history. Patrick T Conley is one of the most respected and accomplished scholars in American history and is especially noted for his expertise on Rhode Island. His numerous publications, public lectures, and service to the State make him uniquely qualified to be the first Historian Laureate of the State of Rhode Island and I strongly endorse him for that position.

Sincerely,

  
Joel A Cohen  
Professor of History

**Professor David R. Carlin  
Community College of Rhode Island  
One John Chafee Blvd  
Newport RI 02840  
drcarlin@hotmail.com  
401-849-7989**

June 17, 2012

Hon. Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci:

I am writing to recommend Dr. Patrick D. Conley for the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

I have known Pat Conley for more than a half-century now, and have followed his career – or should I say careers (in the plural)? – closely. We first met when we were undergraduates at Providence College in the late 1950s, and then we spent a few years together as graduate students at the University of Notre Dame. In those days we often traveled together (in Pat's car) between South Bend and Rhode Island.

I have always been impressed – *astonished*, rather – by Pat's great intellectual capacities (intelligence, inquisitiveness, memory, wit, and ever-expanding knowledge) and by his boundless energy. Amazingly, in recent years I have not been able to detect any diminution in his energy. As for his intellect, it continues to grow.

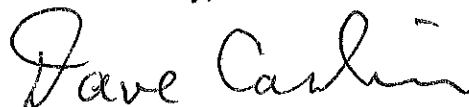
If you are to be the state's Historian Laureate, you should have a great knowledge of American history generally and of Rhode Island history in particular. I don't think there is anybody who knows Pat and his record who doubts that he meets that qualification, and meets it in spades.

But you should also have a great love for the state of Rhode Island. And Pat certainly has that. I remember many years ago when we would drive back to Rhode Island from South Bend. As we

approached the Rhode Island border, Pat would grow increasingly impatient to be back home. If he happened to be driving at the moment, the speed of the car picked up (somewhat to my alarm). And if he happened not to be driving, he would demand that the car stop so he could take over the wheel. For Pat there was no place like home – and there still isn't.

In sum, whatever may be the highest level of recommendation for Historian Laureate, that's the level at which I recommend Pat. To have such a post available and not award it to Dr. Patrick Conley would be, in my opinion, nothing less than an absurdity.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave Carlin". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

David R. Carlin



PROVIDENCE  
COLLEGE

***Feinstein Institute for Public Service***

June 21, 2012

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Deputy Secretary Caranci:

I would like to recommend Patrick T. Conley as an excellent candidate to serve as Rhode Island Historian Laureate. I have known Patrick for nearly forty years in my capacity as a faculty member at Providence College and as an author of one of the works published in the Rhode Island Ethnic Heritage series that was edited by Dr. Conley. During those forty years he has impressed me favorably as a man of great knowledge and wisdom about the State of Rhode Island.

I first met Patrick when I became a faculty member at Providence College in the fall of 1974. Already then Pat Conley had a reputation as an outstanding historian, especially of Rhode History. Since the 1970's, Patrick has produced significant, quality publications on multiple aspects of Rhode Island's rich past. His research skills, his grasp of the facts, his command of the literature, and his ability to tell a compelling story are all unmatched.

Moreover, he has served, and continues to serve, with distinction on the boards of numerous civic and fraternal organizations throughout this state. Indeed, he has rightfully won numerous awards that recognize his historical talents, including the Outstanding Service Award from the New England Bicentennial Leadership Conference, the Award of Merit from the American Association of State and Local History, and numerous awards for his contributions to ethnic culture and understanding. It is no surprise that he was inducted into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame in 1996.

The position description for Historian Laureate indicates that the chosen candidate must deliver historical lectures about pertinent aspects of Rhode Island history, furnish historical information and advice, read and edit state sponsored publications for accuracy, and perform other duties related to the state's history and heritage. With his expertise in state history, his vast experience lecturing in various venues about state history, his numerous publications on state history, and his talent for editing materials for publication, Patrick Conley is perfectly qualified for this position.

For all these reasons, I wholeheartedly recommend Patrick T. Conley to you as the best candidate for the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

Respectfully,

Raymond L. Sickinger, Ph.D.

Professor of History

Director, Feinstein Institute for Public Service

Chair, Department of Public and Community Service Studies

1 Cunningham Square, Providence, RI 02918-0001  
401-865-2190

June 19, 2012

Christian M. McBurney  
9912 Old Spring Road  
Kensington, MD 20895  
Phone: 202-585-8358  
cmcburney@nixonpeabody.com

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

To the Secretary of State:

I would like to recommend Patrick T. Conley for the post of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. It is difficult for me to imagine any person living who would be more qualified for the post.

Please allow me to introduce myself. I was born in Kingston, Rhode Island (where my parents still live in the historic Potter House) and attended Brown University, Class of '81. I am currently a partner with the law firm of Nixon Peabody LLP and work in its Washington, D.C. office (we also have an office in Providence, where I sometimes work). I have renewed my interest in Rhode Island history the last several years. Here is a list of books I have authored:

- *The Rhode Island Campaign: The First French and American Operation of the Revolutionary War*. Westholme, 2011. (Reviewed in the *Providence Journal* and *South County Independent*; History Book Club selection).
- *Jailed for Preaching: The Autobiography of Cato Pearce, a Freed Slave from Washington County, Rhode Island*. Pettaquamscutt Historical Society, 2006.
- *A History of Kingston, R.I., 1700-1900: Heart of Rural South County*. Pettaquamscutt Historical Society, 2004.

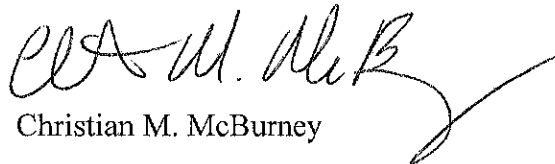
I have also written two recent articles: "Mutiny! American Mutinies in the Rhode Island Theater of War, September 1778-July 1779," *Rhode Island History* 69:2 (Summer/Fall 2011), and "British Treatment of Prisoners during the Occupation of Newport, 1776-1779: Disease, Starvation and Death Stalk the Prison Ships," *Newport History* 79:263 (Fall 2010). I had written two earlier articles for *Rhode Island History* as well. In connection with my most recent book, *The Rhode Island Campaign*, in 2011 and 2012 I gave book lectures in the state at the Rhode Island Historical Society, Newport Historical Society, Pettaquamscutt Historical Society, Varnum Armory, Redwood Library, Brown University Bookstore.

I have always found that Mr. Conley has encouraged my own history work, even before I met him in person earlier this year. Rather than be jealous of a new interloper, he was exactly the opposite. This is the mark of a man who is simply interested in promoting Rhode Island history. He has a tremendous passion for the topic, which is exactly what is needed for the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

Of course, the list of the Rhode Island historical works Mr. Conley has authored is amazing. I will just add a bit to that. I believe that his 1977 book *Democracy in Decline: Rhode Island's Constitutional Development, 1776-1841*, is the finest Rhode Island history book ever written. The story of the state's constitutional history—how it at one time led to the colony being perhaps the most democratic in the world prior to the Revolutionary War, but then, with increasing modernization and factory work, led to common people being denied the ability to vote, in particular, Irish-American urban immigrants, which in turn led to the Dorr War in the 1840s—is a fascinating story that Mr. Conley tells well and with an historian's eye to detail and accuracy. I also think it is appropriate that the person selected for the post of Rhode Island Historian Laureate have a focus on the state's rich ethnic past. Mr. Conley has done that, writing books and articles on Irish-Americans, French-Americans, Latino-Americans, and Jewish Americans, as well as on the role of the Catholic Church in the state. His *Democracy in Decline* book further details how African Americans were first granted the right to vote in the early 1800s, but then lost it for several decades, only to regain it later.

I whole-heartedly recommend Mr. Conley for the post of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. M. McBurney", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Christian M. McBurney

*Brigadier General (Ret) Richard J. Valente*  
*36 Barden Lane*  
*Warren R. I. 02885*

9 Jun 2012

Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Re: Honorary post of Rhode Island Historian Laureate

Dear Secretary Caranci:

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for the subject position on behalf of my very good friend and associate, Dr. Patrick T. Conley. We were classmates at La Salle Academy, class of '55, and we renewed that association about ten years ago, when I was asked to become a Director of the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame by Pat.

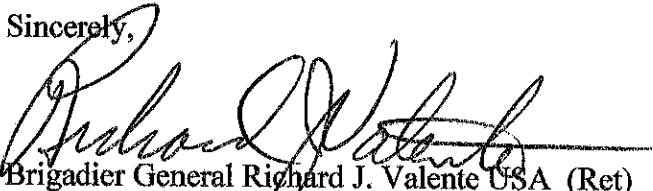
I can think of no one more eminently qualified to be named as Rhode Island Historian Laureate. Pat's credentials in the study and publishing of significant historical treatises, coupled with his in depth knowledge of Rhode Island constitutional law are without equal. He has never hesitated to give back to the community as witnessed by his many philanthropic activities, as well as his many accomplishments in chairing numerous historic endeavors, and delivering keynote addresses to historic groups.

I am enclosing a copy of his curricula vitae for your review, as the few words in this letter cannot begin to fully outline his qualifications for this very significant position.

I consider it an honor to make this recommendation for Dr Conley, and let me conclude by saying that the State of Rhode Island will be well served by appointing Pat as Historian Laureate.

If you wish to discuss, I can be reached at 245-0372.

Sincerely,



Brigadier General Richard J. Valente USA (Ret)  
Commander, Providence Marine Corps of Artillery

**BIOGRAPHICAL RESUME  
OF  
DR. PATRICK T. CONLEY**

**PERSONAL:**

Born: June 22, 1938. Children: Patrick Jr., Kathleen, Carolyn, Sharon, Thomas, and Colleen, seven grandchildren, and nine stepchildren  
Married to the former Gail C. Cahalan  
Residence: One Bristol Point Road, Bristol, RI 02809 ("Gale Winds")  
Summer Home: 943 Matunuck Beach Road, South Kingstown, RI ("Shack sur Mer")  
Office: 1445 Wampanoag Trail, Suite 203, East Providence, RI 02915 and  
Conley's Wharf, 200 Allens Avenue, Providence, RI 02903  
Phone: (401) 273-1787 or (401) 272-1776; Fax: (401) 273-1791 or (401) 461-1776  
Website: [www.drpatricktconley.org](http://www.drpatricktconley.org)  
E-mail: [ptconley@aol.com](mailto:ptconley@aol.com)

**PROFESSIONAL:**

Professor of History and Constitutional Law at Providence College (1963-88); Director, Graduate Research in American History (1964-94); Special Lecturer in History, Graduate School (1988-94).  
Special Lecturer in Constitutional Law, Salve Regina College, 1972-81.  
Adjunct Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School of Law (2008).  
Teacher, LaSalle Academy, Providence, 1961-62.  
Teaching Assistant, University of Notre Dame, 1962-63.  
Former Member of the Corporation, Former Member of the Law School Advisory Committee and Former Chairman of the Library Advisory Committee, Roger Williams University.  
Member, Board of Overseers, Roger Williams University (2008--).  
Member of the Rhode Island Bar Association and the Federal Bar.  
Author and Lecturer.  
Proprietor of P. T. Conley Books (1963-1997).  
Licensed Real Estate Broker and Realtor (President or Managing Partner of Phoenix Realty, Four Seas Realty, Hardscrabble Land Company, Sedona Associates, LLC, Options Realty, LLC, Phoenix Gambino, LLC, Zeus Realty Company, Providence Piers, LLC, and Rhode Island State Pier Properties, LLC). (Real estate holding companies).  
General Partner, Foreseeable Development, a Providence real estate development firm that constructed the Parsons Medical Center at 90 Plain Street near Rhode Island Hospital and other projects.  
Developer of the Rosedale Apartments (Cranston), Mill River Manor (Smithfield), Conley's Wharf at State Pier No. 1 and Dock Conley on the Providence Harborfront .  
Columnist, Editorial Pages, *Providence Journal* (2003--).  
Listed as Providence's largest, private landowner (in terms of number of parcels owned) by Providence Business News, 1987. Owner of more individual parcels of Providence real estate than any individual in the city's history.

## **EDUCATION:**

St. Michael's School, South Providence--1952. Graduating class president.  
LaSalle Academy, Providence--1955.  
Providence College--A.B. in History--1959, *Magna cum laude*.  
University of Notre Dame--M.A. in History--1961; Ph.D.--1970, with highest honors.  
Suffolk University Law School--Juris Doctor--1973.

## **BOOKS and PUBLICATION PROJECTS (Select listing):**

Author, Makers of Modern Rhode Island, 1790-1860 (2012).  
Consulting Editor, The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution, Rhode Island Series, 3 vols. (2011-12).  
Author, People, Places, Laws, and Lore of the Ocean State: A Rhode Island Historical Sampler, (2012).  
Editor, Constitution Day: Random Reflections by Respected Scholars (2010).  
Author, Rhode Island Founders: From Settlement to Statehood (2010).  
Co-author (with Robert G. Flanders, Jr.) of The Rhode Island Constitution: A Reference Guide (2007).  
Co-author (with Paul R. Campbell) of South Providence: The Origins and Heyday of an Ethnic Neighborhood, 1832-1968 (2006).  
Author of Rhode Island in Rhetoric and Reflection (2002).  
Author of Neither Separate Nor Equal: Legislature and Executive in Rhode Island Constitutional History. (1999).  
Author of Liberty and Justice: A History of Law and Lawyers in Rhode Island, 1636-1998 (1998).  
Co-editor (with John P. Kaminski) of The Bill of Rights and the States (1992).  
Co-editor (with John P. Kaminski) of The Constitution and the States (1988).  
Co-author (with William MacKenzie Woodward and Robert Jones) of The Statehouses of Rhode Island: An Architectural and Historical Survey (1988).  
Author of First in War; Last in Peace: Rhode Island and the Constitution, 1786-1790 (1987).  
Author of An Album of Rhode Island History (1986).  
Co-author (with Paul Campbell) of Firefighters and Fires in Providence, 1754-1984 (1985), Revised edition to 2001 (2002).  
Co-author (with Paul Campbell) of Providence: A Pictorial History (1982).  
Author of Rhode Island Profile (1982).  
Author of Democracy in Decline: Rhode Island's Constitutional Development, 1776-1841 (1977).  
Co-author (with Matthew Smith) of Catholicism in Rhode Island: The Formative Era (1976).  
Editor of Proceedings of the Rhode Island Constitutional Convention of 1973 (1973).  
Editorial Board - Rhode Island Bar Journal (1980-81, 1985-88, 1990-93, 1998--).  
Winner, Rhode Island Bar Journal's First Annual Writing Contest (1986).  
Recipient of the 1993 Fraunces Tavern Museum (N.Y.C.) Book Award for The Bill of Rights and the States and The Constitution and the States.  
Contributor of reviews or articles to more than a dozen learned journals and author of more than twenty historical pamphlets.  
Co-founder of the archives of the City of Providence and the archives of the Diocese of Providence (1977).  
Chairman: Rhode Island Publications Society (1981--).  
General Editor, Rhode Island Ethnic Heritage Pamphlet Series (13 volumes).  
Substantive Editor of twelve books on American or Rhode Island history by various scholars.

## **GOVERNMENTAL AFFILIATIONS and POSITIONS (Partial listing):**

Cadet, Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC) (1955-56).  
Special Assistant to U.S. Congressman, Robert O. Tiernan (2<sup>nd</sup> District-RI) and Chairman of Tiernan's Advisory Council (1967-1974).  
Chairman: Cranston Historic District Commission (1970-72).  
Member: Governor's Justice Commission (1967-69).  
Chairman: Cranston Charter Review Commission (1972-73).  
Policy advisor to Governor Frank Licht, Governor Philip Noel, Lt. Governor J. Joseph Garrahy and Attorney General Herbert F. DeSimone (1966-76).  
Secretary and Delegate: Rhode Island Constitutional Convention (1973), and principal sponsor of the constitutional provision on financial disclosure (now Article IV, Section 9) and the amendment setting new procedures for revising the state constitution and convening constitutional conventions (now Article XIV).  
Chairman: Rhode Island Bicentennial Commission and Foundation, 1976 (1974-1977).  
Founder: Rhode Island Heritage Commission (1977).  
Director: Providence Crime Commission (1977-84).  
General Counsel to the President of the Rhode Island Constitutional Convention of 1986.  
Chairman of the official state commission to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U. S. Constitution and Bill of Rights (1986-91).  
Founder and Chairman: Providence Heritage Commission (1979-84, 1991-93).  
Legal Counsel to Rep. John Harwood, Speaker, Rhode Island House of Representatives (1998-99) and Speaker William Murphy (2003-04).  
Member, Special Legislative Commission to Provide for the Settlement of the Boundary Line Between Connecticut and Rhode Island (2003).  
Member, Rhode Island Colonial Charter, 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission (2012--).

## **CIVIC, FRATERNAL and RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS (Select Listing):**

Board of Trustees (representing Rhode Island), Bicentennial Council of the Thirteen Original States (1970-1992); Vice Chairman (1986-87).  
Chairman, United States Constitution Council (1988-90).  
Past President, Catholic Association of College Alumni (1976).  
Past Vice-President, Human Relations Commission, Diocese of Providence (1968-1969).  
Past Member, Board of Trustees, Rhode Island Historical Society.  
Life Member of the Organization of American Historians, the American Historical Association, the Rhode Island Historical Society and the Bristol Historical and Preservation Society.  
Member (Present or Past): Knights of Columbus, Elks, Eagles, Rotary, The Squantum Association, the Brahmin Society of Bristol County, Carnegie Abbey, and the Italo-American Club (this club's first member in 105 years without an Italian surname).  
Founder and President, Bristol Statehouse Foundation (1995-1999).  
President, Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame (2003--), Chairman, Historians' Committee (1997--); Board of Directors (1996--).  
Vice President and Director: Providence Maritime Heritage Foundation (1998-2003).  
Board of Directors: Heritage Harbor Museum (1999-2008), President, (2008--).

Board of Directors: Bristol Train of Artillery Foundation (2001-2007).

General Chairman: Bishop Daniel Reilly Testimonial for the benefit of the Bishop McVinney Regional School (2004).

Founding Member, National History Center, Philadelphia, (2004).

Honorary Co-Chairman and Patron, Rhode Island Irish Famine Memorial (2007).

Founding President, Fabre Line Club, (2007--).

## **PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITIES**

Significant donations in cash, artworks, books, or real estate to the following public, non-profit, or charitable agencies and institutions:

Over \$600,000.00: Providence Redevelopment Agency

Over \$100,000.00: St. Michael's (Providence) Charitable Trust; Roger Williams University; City of Cranston; Heritage Harbor Museum; Seaconke Tribe of the Wampanoag Nation.

Over \$20,000.00: University of Notre Dame Library; Providence College; Johnson and Wales University Library; Rhode Island Historical Society Library; Rhode Island Publications Society; Conanicut Island Land Trust; Remnant Ministries, Inc.; Rhode Island Irish Famine Memorial; New Life Community Church (Providence); Providence Maritime Heritage Foundation; Partnership for Creative Industrial Space (Providence); Town of Portsmouth, Pawtuxet River Authority; City of East Providence, City of Central Falls.

Over \$5,000.00: Southside Land Trust (Providence); The Nature Conservancy; Herreshoff Marine Museum; Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame Foundation; Rhode Island Bicentennial Foundation; Immaculate Conception Church (Cranston); Bristol Historical and Preservation Society; Bristol Statehouse Foundation; Rhode Island Historical Society;

Seekonk Land Trust, Bishop Russell J. McVinney, Regional School, Steamship Historical Society of America, The Pastime Theater.

Over \$1,000.00: Our Lady of Fatima Church (Cumberland); LaSalle Academy; Friends of Linden Place (Bristol); Salvation Army, Southside Gardens Land Trust; The Mount Hope Trust in Bristol, the Sisters of St. Dorothy (Bristol); the American Historical Association; the Bristol Train of Artillery, RIM; the Pawtuxet Rangers, RIM; Providence Public Library; the American Historical Association; the Rhode Island Senior Olympics, Providence Boys and Girls Club, Central Falls Public Library.

## **HISTORIC PRESERVATION EFFORTS**

\$6.8 million historic renovation of the 1899 Providence Gas Company Purifier House n/k/a the Conley's Wharf Building at 200 Allens Avenue, Providence gaining for it a listing on the National Register of Historic Places, plus the stabilization of several other rehabilitated historic buildings including the Monohasset Mill (Kinsley Avenue, Providence), the Providence Bleaching, Dyeing, and Calendering Company Mill (Valley Street, Providence), the Rosedale Apartments (Narragansett Boulevard, Cranston), the King Philip House on Mount Hope (Bristol), and the Bristol County Statehouse and Courthouse (High Street Bristol).

Served as a consultant/staff reviewer for the following architectural surveys published by the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission between 1976 and 1986: *Providence Citywide Survey* (1986), *Smith Hill* (1980), *South Providence* (1978), *West Side Providence* (1976), *Central Falls* (1978), *Cranston* (1980), *Southern Thames Street, Newport* (1980).

## AWARDS and ACHIEVEMENTS

### 1. Athletic:

Co-Captain, I.B.A.A. Baseball Team - Rhode Island Circuit League Champions, 1954 (as RWSO); Providence Junior League Champions, 1955; Rhode Island Independent Amateur League Champions, 1956.

Medalist, Rhode Island Interscholastic Indoor Track Championship (High Jump); State meet qualifier, Outdoor Track (High Jump, Long Jump, 180-yard Low Hurdles, and Javelin), 1955.

Three-Letterman - LaSalle Academy, 1954-55.

Basketball Skills Champion - Providence Recreation Department Competition, 1956.

Outstanding Athlete, Providence College Intramural Track Championship Meet, 1956.

Co-Captain, St. Michael's Parish Baseball Team - Rhode Island C.Y.O. Champions, 1957.

State C.Y.O. Senior Track Champion - 100 yard dash, high jump and long jump, 1957.

Outstanding Athlete Award - Providence Junior Olympics, 1957.

New England and Eastern U.S. Intercollegiate Track Medalist (Javelin), 1959.

Indoor and Outdoor Track Teams and Baseball Team, Providence College.

Player-manager, 1976 Seniors - State Senior Softball Champions, 1976.

Rhode Island Masters Track and Field Champion (all divisions)--Javelin, 1980-82, Division 1B, 1985, Division 2A, 1989-91; Division 2B, 1994-95; Division 3A, 1999, Division 3B, 2004; Division 4A, 2009.

New England Masters Champion--Javelin--Division 2A, 1991; Division 2B, 1993-94; Division 3B, 2007.

Eastern United States Track and Field Champion--Javelin, Division 1A, 1980; Division 2B, 1994.

Canadian National Masters Champion--Javelin, Division 1A, 1981.

Massachusetts Masters Champion--Javelin, Division 2B (55-59), 1994-95, Division 3A (60-64), 1999, Division 3B (65-69) 2004.

Granite Senior Games New Hampshire Champion--Javelin, Division 3A, 1998 and 2000, Division 3B, 2004.

Connecticut Senior Games Champion--Javelin, Division 3A, 2000; Division 3B, 2003-04, 2007.

Green Mountain (Vermont) Senior Games Champion--Javelin, Division 3A, 2000 and 2001.

Maine Senior Games Champion--Javelin, Division 3B (65-69), 2006-07.

National Senior Games Medalist (8<sup>th</sup> Place), Javelin, 1999.

Captain of the 108-member Rhode Island delegation to the 1999 National Senior Games in Orlando, Florida.

Chairman, Board of Directors, Rhode Island Senior Olympics, Inc. (2004-2010).

Lifetime Achievement Award (the John Costine Cup), Rhode Island Senior Olympics (2011).

## 2. Civic and Educational

Elected to Delta Epsilon Sigma, the National Catholic Honor Society (1959).  
Chosen an Outstanding Educator of America by the Outstanding Americans Foundation (1971).  
Recipient of the Patriotic Civilian Service Award from the U. S. Army (1971).  
Chosen Young Man of the Year by the Cranston Jaycees (1972).  
Chosen Citizen of the Year by the International Institute (1976).  
Recipient of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Citizenship Award (1976).  
Honored for contributions to ethnic culture and intergroup understanding by the Jewish, German, Cape Verdean, Greek, and Italian communities of Rhode Island (1976).  
Exceptional Community Service Award from the Rhode Island State Fraternal Order of Eagles (1978).  
Man of the Year, University of Notre Dame Alumni Association (1978).  
Liberty Under Law Award from the Rhode Island State-Fraternal Order of Eagles (1988).  
Initiated as Charter Member of Alpha-Epsilon-Xi Providence College Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta International Honor Society in History (1991).  
Outstanding Service Award, New England Bicentennial [Bill of Rights] Leadership Conference (1991).  
President's Medallion Club, Lifetime Diamond Award, Roger Williams University (1993).  
Annual Community Service Award (1998) from the Bristol Train of Artillery, R.I. Militia..  
Award of Merit. American Association of State and Local History (2003).  
St. Barbara Award, United States Army Field Artillery Association (2003).  
Medal for Excellence, Rhode Island National Guard (2006).  
Eagle Award, Rhode Island Commandery, Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States (2011).  
Commander's Award, Pawtuxet Rangers, Rhode Island Militia (2011).  
Honorary Companion, Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States, Rhode Island Commandery (2012)  
Listed in *Who's Who in the World*, *Who's Who in America*, *Who's Who in American Law*, *Who's Who in Finance and Business*.

## MISCELLANEOUS ACADEMIC or HISTORICAL ACTIVITIES:

Delivered the David C. Adelman Memorial Lecture--Rhode Island Jewish Historical Society (1976).  
Delivered the Law Day Address to the Rhode Island Supreme Court (1976).  
Principal Speaker, George Washington Letter Observance, Touro Synagogue, Newport (1976).  
Grand Marshal of the Gaspee Days Parade (1977).  
Principal Centennial Speaker--Henry Barnard Club of Rhode Island (1977).  
Delivered the Constitution Bicentennial Address--Rhode Island Supreme Court (1987).  
Principal Speaker on the occasion of the visit of the Magna Carta to Rhode Island (State House, 1987).  
Delivered the Major Address to the Annual Spring Meeting of the American Catholic Historical Association (1988).  
Principal Speaker, the Bicentennial Observance of George Washington's Inauguration, Masonic Hall, New York City (1989).  
Co-Chairman with Justice Florence K. Murray of, "Forums for Freedom: Rhode Island Debates the Bill of Rights" (9 Forums - 1991).  
Principal Speaker, Congress Hall, Philadelphia, at the Bicentennial Observance of the Ratification of the Bill of Rights (December 15, 1991).

Chairman, Dorr Sesquicentennial Committee of the Rhode Island Historical Society (1991-92).  
 Co-Chairman, U.S. Information Agency's advisory panel, which planned the Bill of Rights exhibit at the 1992 Barcelona World's Fair.  
 Delivered the Law Day Address to the Rhode Island Supreme Court (1993).  
 Delivered the Law Day Address to the Rhode Island Supreme Court (1998).  
 Board of Directors, Spanish-American War Centennial Committee of Rhode Island (1998).  
 Principal Speaker, the Millennium Session of the Rhode Island General Assembly held at the Colony House, Newport (May 4, 2000).  
 Principal Speaker, Warren Veterans' Memorial Dedication (November 11, 2001).  
 Principal Speaker, 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary observance of the founding of the Providence Marine Corps of Artillery (May 4, 2002).  
 Inaugural address to the newly-constituted Rhode Island Senate (January, 2003).  
 Principal Address, 325<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Founding of Bristol, Rhode Island (2005).  
 Principal Address, 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Observance of the Beginning of the Rochambeau March to Yorktown, Providence (June, 2006).  
 Patriotic Speaker, Bristol Fourth of July Celebration (2007).  
 Principal Speaker, Annual Meeting of the Rhode Island Historical Society (2007).  
 Speaker, Dedication of the Irish Famine Memorial, Providence (2007).  
 Principal Speaker, Centennial Observance for the Varnum Continentals, Rhode Island Militia (2007).  
 Principal Speaker, The North Atlantic Regional Business Law Association (April, 2008).  
 Principal Speaker, Dedication of Memorial Stone to John Gordon, St. Mary's Cemetery, Pawtucket (2011).  
 Principal Speaker, Dedication of Memorial Flagstone to John Gordon at the Irish Famine Memorial, Providence (2011).  
 Sponsor with Gail Conley of the annual Constitution Day observance at Gale Winds and Conley's Wharf featuring lectures on the federal Constitution by nationally prominent scholars since 2000.  
 Delivered hundreds of public lectures on various aspects of American History, government, and law to Rhode Island civic, cultural, political, and educational organizations.

**INDUCTED INTO THE RHODE ISLAND HERITAGE HALL OF FAME (MAY 7, 1995).**

**PATRICK T. CONLEY**  
**A BIBLIOGRAPHY**

**BOOKS** (In chronological order within each category)

*Proceedings of the Rhode Island Constitutional Convention of 1973.* Providence: Oxford Press, 1973.

*Catholicism in Rhode Island: The Formative Era* (with Matthew J. Smith). Providence: Diocese of Providence, 1976.

*Democracy in Decline: Rhode Island's Constitutional Development, 1776-1841.* Providence: Rhode Island Historical Society, 1977 .

*Providence: A Pictorial History* (with Paul R. Campbell). Norfolk, Va.: Donning Company, 1982.

*The Aurora Club of Rhode Island: A Fifty-Year History* (with Paul R. Campbell). Providence: privately printed, 1982.

*Rhode Island Profile.* Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1982.

*Fires and Firefighters in Providence, 1754-1984: A Pictorial History of the Providence Fire Department* (with Paul R. Campbell). Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1985. Revised edition (1754-2001), 2002.

*The Irish in Rhode Island: A Historical Appreciation.* Providence: Rhode Island Heritage Commission, 1986.

*An Album of Rhode Island History, 1636-1986.* Norfolk: Donning Company, 1986. Reprinted with additions, 1992 and 2000.

*First in War, Last in Peace: Rhode Island and the Constitution, 1786-1790.* Providence: Rhode Island Bicentennial Foundation, 1987.

*The Colony and State Houses of Rhode Island: An Architectural and Historical Study* (with Robert O. Jones and William McKenzie Woodward). Providence: Rhode Island Historical Society, 1988.

*The Constitution and the States: The Role of the Original Thirteen in the Framing and Adoption of the Constitution* (with John P. Kaminski). Madison, Wis.: Madison House Publishers, 1988. Winner of the 1993 Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award from the Sons of the American Revolution.

*The Bill of Rights and the States: The Colonial and Revolutionary Origins of American Liberties* (with John P. Kaminski). Madison, Wis.: Madison House Publishers, 1992. Winner of the 1993 Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Award from the Sons of the American Revolution.

*Liberty and Justice: A History of Law and Lawyers in Rhode Island, 1636-1998*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1998.

*Neither Separate nor Equal: Legislature and Executive in Rhode Island Constitutional History*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1999.

*Rhode Island in Rhetoric and Reflection*, Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 2002.

*South Providence: The Origins and Heyday of an Ethnic Neighborhood, 1832-1968* (with Paul R. Campbell) Portsmouth, NH: Arcadia Publishing, 2006

*The Rhode Island State Constitution: A Reference Guide* (with Robert G. Flanders, Jr.) Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers, 2007

*Rhode Island's Founders: From Settlement to Statehood*. Charleston, S.C.: The History Press, 2010.

*Constitution Day: Reflections by Respected Scholars*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 2010.

*People, Places, Laws, and Lore of the Ocean State*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 2012.

*Makers of Modern Rhode Island*. Charleston, S.C.: The History Press, 2012.

## ARTICLES

"A Clear Dichotomy" (with Jay S. Goodman). *National Civic Review* 56 (September 1967): 447-52, 469. The Local Government Article of the proposed Rhode Island constitution.

"The Dorr Rebellion." *Rhode Island Yearbook*, 1967, H80-H88.

"The Real Ichabod Crane." *American Literature* 40 (March 1968): 70-71.

"Rhode Island Constitutional Development, 1636-1775: A Survey." *Rhode Island History* 27 (April-June 1968): 49-63, 74-94. Reprinted in *Rhode Island Bar Annual* 5 (1968): 62-91.

"Rhode Island's Paper Money Issue and *Trevett v. Weeden* (1786)." *Rhode Island History* 30 (August 1971): 95-108. Reprinted in abridged form in *Rhode Island Reports* 116 (1976): 964-74.

"The Dorr Rebellion: Rhode Island's Crisis in Constitutional Government." *American Chronicle: A Magazine of History* 1 (January 1972): 48-53.

- "Brooks Adams' Law of Civilization and Decay." *Essex Institute Historical Collections* 108 (April 1972): 89-98.
- "Rhode Island in Disunion, 1787-1790." *Rhode Island History* 31 (November 1972): 99-115.
- "The Supreme Court on Abortion: A Dissenting Opinion" (with R. J. McKenna). *Catholic Lawyer* 19 (Winter 1973): 19-28. Reprinted without documentation in *Review for Religious* 32 (May 1973): 473-81. Published also in *Providence Visitor*, February 23, 1973. Reprinted in Glenn A. Phelps and Robert A. Porier, eds., *Contemporary Debates on Civil Liberties: Enduring Constitutional Questions* (Lexington, Mass.: D. C. Heath & Co., 1985), pp. 204-10.
- "State Restrictions on Local Government Debt with Special Reference to Rhode Island," "State Restrictions on the Taxing Powers of Local Government with Special Reference to Rhode Island," and "An Annotated Bibliography of Works Relating to the Development of Local Government in Rhode Island, 1636-1972." In Robert W. Sutton, Jr., ed., *Rhode Island Local Government: Past, Present, Future*, pp. 70-77, 78-82, 153-66. Kingston, R.I.: URI Bureau of Government Research, 1974.
- "Rhode Island's Latin Americans--An Historical Profile" (with John Carpenter). *Providence Visitor*, August 9, 16, and 23, 1974.
- "State Aid to Rhode Island's Private Schools: A Case Study of *DiCenso v. Robinson*" (with Fernando S. Cunha). *Catholic Lawyer* 22 (Autumn 1976): 329-43.
- "Rhode Island Constitutional Issues during the Early National Period." In Linda L. Levin, ed., *Federal Rhode Island: The Age of the China Trade*, pp. 1-37. Providence: Rhode Island Historical Society, 1978.
- "Ethnic Politics in Rhode Island: The Case of the Franco-Americans." In Marcel P. Fortin, ed., *Woonsocket, R.I.: The Americanization of a Foreign City*, pp. 11-13. Providence: Rhode Island Committee for the Humanities, 1981. Reprinted in *Old Rhode Island*, June 1993, pp. 16-22.
- "Rhode Island." In *Worldmark Encyclopedia of the States*, ed. Moshe Y. Sachs et al., pp. 481-86. New York: Worldmark Press, 1981.
- "Rhode Island." In *Encyclopedia Americana* (1983), 23:472-86.
- "Death Knell for the Death Penalty: The Gordon Murder Trial and Rhode Island's Abolition of Capital Punishment." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 34 (May 1986): 11-15. Winner of the First Annual Writing Contest of the Rhode Island Bar Association. An earlier version published in *Providence Visitor*, July 6, 1973.
- "Rhode Island History--An Outline." In *Rhode Island Manual* for 1985-1986, prepared by Secretary of State Susan L. Farmer, pp. 131-75.

"Rhode Island's Crisis in Constitutionalism: The Dorr Rebellion and the Origins of the Present State Constitution." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 35 (October 1986): 12-15, 19-22.

"First in War; Last in Peace: Rhode Island and the Constitution, 1786-1790." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 35 (May 1987): 11-19.

"Civil Rights and Civil Wrongs in Rhode Island: Church, State, and the Constitution, 1636-1986." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 35 (June-July 1987): 14-19.

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"Thomas Wilson Dorr," "Henry Bowen Anthony," "Nelson Wilmarth Aldrich," and "Charles Ray Brayton." In *Encyclopedia of American Political Parties and Elections*, ed. Louis Maisel. New York, 1990.

"Rhode Island." In *The Encyclopedia of Colonial and Revolutionary America*, ed. John Mack Faragher, pp. 368-70. New York, 1990.

"The Irish of Bristol." In *Bristol Heritage and Discovery Celebration: Commemorative Book, 1492-1992* (1992). Reprinted as "The Irish in Rhode Island and the Bristol Connection" in *Old Rhode Island*, March 1993, pp. 7-13.

"No Tempest in a Teapot: The Dorr Rebellion in National Perspective." *Rhode Island History* 50 (August 1992): 67-100.

"The Biography of Nelson W. Aldrich (November 6, 1841-April 16, 1915)." *Old Rhode Island*, September 1992, p. 20.

"The Biography of Charles R. Brayton." *Old Rhode Island*, October 1992, pp. 16-17.

"The Dorr Rebellion and American Constitutional Theory: Popular Constituent Sovereignty, Political Questions, and the Case of *Luther v. Borden*." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 41 (November 1992): 19-25. Simultaneously published in Joyce M. Botelho, ed., *Right and Might: The Dorr Rebellion and the Struggle for Equal Rights*, pp. 79-90. Providence: Rhode Island Historical Society, 1992.

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"Rhode Island Profiles: Famed Irish Leaders from Rhode Island's Past." *Old Rhode Island*, March 1993, pp. 18-20.

"Ethnic Politics in Rhode Island: The Decisive Role of the Franco-Americans." *Old Rhode Island*, June-July 1993, pp. 16-22.

- "The Last Shall Be First: Rhode Island's Statehood Stamp." *Old Rhode Island*, January-February 1995, pp. 18-20.
- "Separation of Powers in Rhode Island." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 44 (October 1995): 9-11.
- "Matthew Harkins: Catholic Bishop and Educator." *Rhode Island History* 53 (August 1995): 70-89.
- "Andersonville and the Civil War Prison System." *Bristol Phoenix*, March 7, 1996, pp. 17, 20; March 14, 1996, pp. 21-22. A review of the Turner Network Television documentary film on Andersonville.
- "Rhode Island." An essay prepared for a CD-ROM production entitled *New England Business and Pleasure Guide*, by John Chaffee, 1996.
- "Rhode Island." An article prepared for the 1997 edition of the Microsoft *Encarta Encyclopedia*.
- "State of Rhode Island v. The Rev. Ephraim K. Avery (1833): The Legal and Geographical Setting." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 47 (May 1999): 5-7, 32-35. Published in an earlier abbreviated version in *Bristol Phoenix*, November 18, 1998, pp. 8-9.
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- "Charles Ray Brayton" and "Thomas Wilson Dorr." In *American National Biography*, ed. John A. Garraty and Mark C. Carnes, 3:447-48, 6:759-61. New York, 1999.
- "Revising the Revisionists: A Review Essay." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 48 (November 1999): 17-19, 40-42. The Supreme Court advisory opinion on separation of powers.
- "Joseph R. Weisberger: A Life in Law." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 49 (February 2001): 5-9, 32-42.
- "Founding Lawyers: Doing Justice to the Legal Architects of Rhode Island Statehood." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 50 (March/April, 2002): 15-17, 33-35.
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- "Article VI, Section 4: A Case Study in Constitutional Obsolescence." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 53 (September/October 2004): 7-11).
- "Providence, R.I." In *Encyclopedia of the New American Nation*, Charles Scribner's Sons, 2005
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- "Remembering Florence Murray: Rhode Island's Woman of the Century." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 53 (May/June, 2005): 5-7.
- "Rhode Island." In *Encyclopedia of New England*, ed. by Burt Feintuck and David H. Watters, pp. 705-07. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005.

"Dorr Rebellion." In *Encyclopedia of New England*, ed. by Burt Feintuck and David H. Watters, p. 683. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005.

"No Landless Irish Need Apply: Rhode Island's Role in the Framing and Fate of the Fifteenth Amendment." *Rhode Island History*, 68 (Summer/Fall 2010), 79-90.

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## ESSAYS

"A Statement in Defense of the Proposed Rhode Island Constitution." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 16 (January 1968): 3, 9-13. Reprinted in *Providence Visitor*.

"Reflections on Writing the History of the Diocese" (with Matthew J. Smith). *Providence Visitor*, November 3, 1972.

"Reflections on the Bicentennial Observance." *Woonsocket Call*, September 29, 1976.

"The 1986 State Constitutional Convention: The Salient Issues." *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 33 (May 1985): 10-12.

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*North Kingstown: An Historical Sketch*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1976. 11 pp.

*The Dorr Rebellion: Rhode Island's Crisis in Constitutional Government*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1976. 13 pp.

*The Blackstone Valley: A Sketch of Its River, Its Canal, and Its People*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1982. 18 pp.

*Providence: From Town to City*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1982. 6 pp.

*Rhode Island Catholicism: A Historical Guide*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1984. 24 pp.

*Rhode Island's Road to Liberty*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1987., 24 pp.

*Posterity Views the Founding: General Published Works Pertaining to the Creation of the Constitution: A Bibliographic Essay*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1988. Offprint from *The Constitution and the States*. 36 pp.

*The Bill of Rights and Rhode Island*. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1991. Offprint from *The Bill of Rights and the States*. 39 pp.

*The Battle of Rhode Island August 29, 1778: A Victory for the Patriots.* Rhode Island Publications Society, 2005. An expanded and more profusely illustrated version of an article that appeared in the fall, 2004 issue of *Rhode Island History*. 36 pp.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Sixteen research reports for the 1964-68 Rhode Island constitutional convention. Conley Collection, Providence College Archives.

Series of eight 16-page brochures on the eight Rhode Island Community Action Programs. Rhode Island Department of Community Affairs, 1971.

*Report of the Cranston Charter Review Commission*, 1973. 36 pp.

Historical consultant and editor for the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Commission (1976-1986). Reviewed and edited the following historical preservation reports: *Woonsocket* (1976); *The West Side-Providence* (1976); *Central Falls* (1978); *South Providence* (1978); *Pawtucket* (1978); *Elmwood-Providence* (1979); *Smith Hill-Providence* (1980); *Cranston* (1980); *Southern Thames Street, Newport* (1980); *Providence Citywide Survey* (1986).

Foreword. *Rhode Island Bar Journal* 34 (May 1986). Historical issue commemorating the 350th anniversary of the founding of Rhode Island, Patrick T. Conley, guest editor.

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*A Brief History of the Bicentennial Council of the Thirteen Original States and Its Successor, the U.S. Constitution Council.* Providence: privately printed, 1988. 25 pp.

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Foreword to William R. Staples, *The Documentary History of the Destruction of the Gaspee*, ed. Richard M. Deasy, pp. vii-x. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1990.

"Rhode Island in the Revolutionary Era, 1764-1790" (with John Kaminski). 1990. Instructional historical poster.

*The Rhode Island Ratification Celebration by the Rhode Island Bicentennial Foundation.* Providence: Rhode Island Bicentennial Foundation, 1990. 18 pp.

*A Blueprint for Providence in the 1990s.* Providence: privately printed, 1990. The position papers of Vincent A. Cianci, Jr., on crime, the drug problem, education, neighborhoods and human services, municipal finance and taxation, minorities, economic development and jobs, and housing. 108 pp.

Introduction to *The BroadSides of the Dorr Rebellion*, comp. Russell J. DeSimone and Daniel C. Schofield, pp. 1-13. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1992.

*The History of Gale Winds: One Bristol Point Road* (with James J. Mullen). Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 2001. 57 pp.

*Eminent Rhode Islanders: Biographical Profiles of the Inductees into the Rhode Island Heritage Hall of Fame, 1965-2000* (with Manuel Gorriaran, Jr.). Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 2001. 56 pp.

Regular contributor of commentaries for the editorial pages of the *Providence Journal*, 2004-

### **SCHOLARLY BOOK REVIEWS**

Review of James Madison's *Notes of Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787*, with an introduction by Adrienne Koch. *Catholic Historical Review* 55 (October 1969): 536-37.

Review of Madison's "Advice to My Country," by Adrienne Koch. *Catholic Historical Review* 55 (October 1969): 540-42.

Review of *Rhode Island and the Union, 1774-1795*, by Irwin H. Polishook. *New England Quarterly* 43 (December 1970): 678-80.

Review of *Lopez of Newport: Colonial American Merchant Prince*, by Stanley F. Chyet. *New England Quarterly* 44 (June 1971): 346-48.

Review of *Plantation in Yankeeland: The Story of Cocumscussoc, Mirror of Colonial Rhode Island*, by Carl Woodward. *New England Quarterly* 44 (March-December 1972): 597-99.

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Review of *Colonial Rhode Island: A History*, by Sydney V. James. *Journal of American History* 64 (December 1977): 755-56.

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### **EDITED WORKS** (with editor's introduction)

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- The Armenians in Rhode Island*, by Ara Arthur Gelenian. 1985.
- The Germans in Rhode Island*, by Raymond L. Sickinger and John K. Primeau. 1985.
- The Jews in Rhode Island*, by Geraldine Foster. 1985.
- The Irish in Rhode Island*, by Patrick T. Conley. 1986.
- The Arabic-Speaking People in Rhode Island*, by Eleanor A. Doumato. 1986.
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- The Ukrainians in Rhode Island*, by Rt. Rev. John J. Mowatt. 1988.
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- The Italians in Rhode Island*, by Carmela E. Santoro. 1990.
- The Cape Verdeans in Rhode Island*, by Waltraud Berger Coli and Richard A. Lobban. 1990.
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**General Editor, Rhode Island Revolutionary Heritage Series**

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- The Rights of Colonies Examined*, by Stephen Hopkins, introduced and edited by Paul Campbell. Providence: Rhode Island Bicentennial Foundation, 1974.
- Diary of a Common Soldier in the American Revolution, 1775-1783: An Annotated Edition of the Military Journal of Jeremiah Greenman*, ed. by Robert C. Bray and Paul E. Bushnell. Dekalb, Ill.: Northern Illinois University Press, 1978.
- Rhode Islanders Record the Revolution: The Journals of William Humphrey and Zuriel Waterman*, introduced and edited by Nathaniel N. Shipton and David Swain. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1984.

*Building Early American Warships: The Journal of the Rhode Island Committee for Constructing the Continental Frigates Providence and Warren, 1775-1777*, Introduced by John Fitzhugh Millar. Williamsburg, Va.: Thirteen Colonies Press; Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, 1988.

*The Documentary History of the Destruction of the Gaspee*, by William R. Staples, introduced and supplemented by Richard M. Deasy. Providence: Rhode Island Publications Society, Rhode Island Bicentennial Foundation, and Rhode Island Supreme Court Historical Society, 1990.

### **Consulting Editor**

*The Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution*, Rhode Island Series, 3 volumes, Madison: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 2011-12.

### **POETRY**

"A Lesson for Lamenters," "The Legacy," "The Forgotten," "The Fleeting Scepter," "Thoughts at Twilight," and "Song to Spring." *Alembic* (Providence College literary magazine) 33 (1959): 47, 48-49, 59, 60, 63-64, 64.

### **DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS DIRECTED**

Robert W. Hayman, "Catholicism in Rhode Island and the Diocese of Providence, 1780-1886." 1977.

William J. Jennings, Jr., "The Prince of Pawtucket: A Study of the Politics of Thomas P. McCoy." 1985.

D. Scott Molloy, "Motormen, Moguls, and the Machine: Urban Mass Transit in Rhode Island, 1864-1902." 1991.

John C. Fredericksen, "Niagara, 1814: The United States Army's Quest for Tactical Parity in the War of 1812 and Its Legacy." 1993.

### **LONG SCHOLARLY UNPUBLISHED TREATISES**

"The Military Legislation of the First and Second Sessions of the Thirteenth Congress [1812-13]: A Study in War-Time Leadership." Doctoral research paper, University of Notre Dame, 1963. 123 pp.

"Christopher Dawson's Concept of World History." Doctoral research paper, University of Notre Dame, 1963. 54 pp.

## **PUBLICATIONS CONCERNING PATRICK T. CONLEY**

Matthew J. Smith and Jane M. Jackson, comps. *Inventory to the Conley Collection of the Rhode Island Constitutional Convention, 1964-1968*. Providence, 1973.

Wayne Worcester. "Dirt Rich." *Rhode Island Monthly*, October 1988, pp. 46-49, 87-88, 91, 93-96, 98, 101-2.

## **SCHOLARLY BOOKS BY OTHERS SUBSTANTIVELY EDITED**

William G. McLoughlin, *Rhode Island: A History* (1978).

Cornelius P. Forster, O.P., *The Uncontrolled Chancellor: Charles Townshend and His American Policy* (1978).

Paul F. Dearden, *The Rhode Island Campaign of 1778: Inauspicious Dawn of Alliance* (1980).

Julia V. Conley, *The Conley Family in America* (1990).

Robert W. Hayman, *Catholicism in Rhode Island and the Diocese of Providence, 1780-1886* (1982).

Marion I. Wright and Robert J. Sullivan, *The Rhode Island Atlas* (1982).

Scott Molloy, *Trolley Wars: Streetcar Workers on the Line* (1996).

Walter K. Schroder, *The Hessian Occupation of Newport and Rhode Island, 1776-1779* (2005).

Paul A. Darling, *Narragansett Bay* (2007).

Paul Campbell, *A Community Apart: A History of Public Housing in Providence* (2007).

Scott Molloy, *Irish Titan, Irish Toilers: Joseph Banigan and Nineteenth Century New England Labor* (2008).

Richard V. Simpson, *Preserving Bristol: Restoring, Reviving, and Remembering* (2008).

Gordon W. Wood, *Empire of Liberty: A History of the Early Republic, 1789-1815* (2009).

H. Philip West, *Secrets and Scandals: Reforming Rogues' Island, 1986-2006* (in process).

**CATHEDRAL RESIDENCE**  
**30 Fenner Street**  
**Providence, Rhode Island 02903**

June 21, 2012

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci  
148 West River Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02904

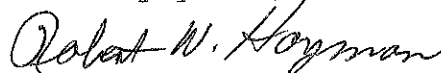
Dear Mr. Caranci,

Dr. Patrick T. Conley has asked me to write in support of his expression of interest in the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. I am familiar with the work of many of the men and women working in Rhode Island history at the current time. I know of no one more qualified and able to fulfill the position of Historian Laureate than Dr. Conley.

I have known Dr. Conley for more than forty years. He served as my dissertation director at Providence College and we worked together on the Providence College faculty. Over the years, he and I have consulted together many times. While there are many histories of the state of Rhode Island, there is still none that does complete justice to the many facets of the state's history. Dr. Conley has as extensive a knowledge of the state's history as anyone that I know. He is an excellent researcher and writer, as his many publications attest, and, in my opinion, supremely qualified to fulfill the position of Historian Laureate as outlined in the legislation establishing the position.

As anyone who is acquainted with Dr. Conley or who reads the *Providence Journal* knows, Dr. Conley, to use a baseball analogy, 'calls them as he sees them.' However, in his research and his writing, his narratives and conclusions are carefully considered and solidly based. I have every confidence that Dr. Conley can fulfill the duties of Historian Laureate in a manner that does credit to the state as well as to himself.

Sincerely yours,



Rev. Robert W. Hayman  
Archivist and Historian  
for the Diocese of Providence

**Halsey C. Herreshoff**  
**HERRESHOFF DESIGNS**  
**18 Burnside Street**  
**Bristol, Rhode Island 02809**  
**401-663-4543**

June 22, 2012

Mr. Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci:

I write to support the nomination of Dr. Patrick T. Conley to the new honorary position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

Of all contemporary Rhode Islanders, Pat Conley is the most knowledgeable, most printed, and most prominent speaker on subjects of Rhode Island history. The majority of his more than 20 books and innumerable publications address Rhode Island lore. These cover all significant events of our proud history from the days of Roger Williams, the notable RI inputs to the founding of our nation, the Dorr Rebellion, and on to the present day.

Pat Conley possesses a rare combination of congruent abilities: a seemingly photographic memory of major and minor detailed facts and dates; analytic technique to pinpoint that which is significant within the wide body of knowledge; pungent and always interesting writing style; outstanding speaking abilities combining fact, irony, humor and congeniality, always crowd pleasing. Capping those wonderful traits, Dr. Conley is a doer; his remarkable CD testifies to a life of eclectic accomplishment, usually in leadership positions.

Some years ago, I witnessed a significant bicentennial presentation by Dr. Patrick Conley to a distinguished audience at Philadelphia's Independence Hall. Seated next to me was a high ranking official from the White House; that gentleman,

obviously impressed, asked me "Who is this guy?" My reply conveyed my shared pride in a distinguished Rhode Islander able to so impress a national audience.

I must convey emphatically that we Rhode Islanders are ever so fortunate to have available a star in Pat Conley who is so eminently suited to enhance our state as its honorary Rhode Island Historian Laureate. Thus, I urge you to seize the opportunity by appointment of Dr. Patrick Conley for a five year term. He will make you and all Rhode Islanders proud of the attributes of this state, which in certain significant ways has led our nation.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Halsey C. Herreshoff". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a prominent flourish at the end.

Halsey C. Herreshoff

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Pauline Maier  
William Rand Kenan, Jr., Professor  
Of American History  
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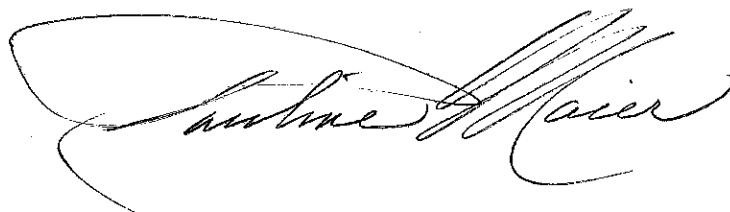
June 19, 2012

TO:  
Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

RE: Rhode Island Historian Laureate

I can think of nobody who would be a more appropriate Historian Laureate of Rhode Island than Patrick T. Conley. Certainly he is *the* expert on Rhode Island's role in the Revolution and its complicated response to the federal Constitution of 1787. Indeed, he is a consulting editor for the three volumes on Rhode Island now being published as part of the landmark Documentary History of the Ratification of the Constitution, which is edited by John P. Kaminski, the only other man on the face of the earth who knows almost as much about eighteenth-century Rhode Island as Pat. In writing Ratification: the People Debate the Constitution, 1787-1788 (Simon and Schuster; New York, 2010), I depended heavily on Pat's writings, including his essay in Conley and Kaminski, eds., The Constitution and the States (1988). His expertise doesn't stop in 1800 but, as his list of publications shows, ranges over the entire history of the state. And as founder and chair of the Rhode Island Publications Society, he has also brought a mass of material on Rhode Island history into print.

I first met Pat in conjunction with his annual celebration of "Constitution Day," which he held for a long time at his home in Bristol, then switched the locale to Providence Wharf when the burden of hosting hundreds of people at his home became too onerous. Under the aegis of the Rhode Island Publications Society, he invited a series of scholars to give presentations at that occasion. I first attended to hear a friend speak, then had the honor of serving as the speaker in a subsequent year. The more contact I had with Pat, the more impressed I became with his expertise on Rhode Island history. Indeed, he is at once a scholar (and onetime faculty member at Providence College), a prolific writer and editor, an entrepreneur, and an enthusiast for Rhode Island's history. I support his candidacy with great confidence and enthusiasm. You could do no better, and the appointment would acknowledge and honor Pat's extraordinary contributions to the history of his beloved home state.



JOHNSTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

101 PUTNAM PIKE

JOHNSTON, RI 02919

Deputy Secretary of State Paul F. Caranci

June 20, 2012

148 West River Street

Providence, RI 02904

Dear Mr. Caranci,

I am writing to you to show my support for Dr. Patrick T. Conley in his quest to become the Rhode Island Historian Laureate. I have known of Mr. Conley, of course, for many years because of his numerous publications about Rhode Island history. My personal collection of history books contains many works by him, as does the collection of our historical society. His scholarship and broad knowledge of history, and of Rhode Island history in particular, is obvious. His twenty-five years of teaching at Providence College, his numerous published works on the State's history, the many works that he has edited, his participation in numerous organizations of a historical nature, his efforts in historic preservation and his many awards all, to me, add up to making the strongest case possible for appointing Mr. Conley to the post of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. I know of no one else that can match his record for participation in the field of Rhode Island history.

Besides just knowing second-hand of Mr. Conley and his work, I have also seen and heard first-hand his efforts in the field of Rhode Island history. He has been a guest lecturer before our group on a number of occasions and thrilled our members with his entertaining and educational talks. When questions from the audience strayed away from his topic, he was always able to provide informative answers. I remember attending a conference at the Old Rhode Island State House a number of years ago, when a slate of experts in Rhode Island history made presentations to the audience. All the speakers gave good talks, reading from their notes. Mr. Conley spoke last and, to me, was the cream of the crop among his colleagues. He delivered a fascinating and highly descriptive speech without using any notes at all.

So, in closing, I heartily recommend Dr. Conley to be appointed to the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate. In my mind, there is no one else that can compare to him.

Sincerely,



Louis McGowan, President

Johnston Historical Society



# Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States

## Rhode Island Commandery

*Instituted 28 February 1900*

*Deus et Libertas*



432 Buchanan Street, Pawtucket, RI 02860  
401.533.8404 / dmorganltc@gmail.com

Hon. Paul F. Caranci  
Deputy Secretary of State  
State of Rhode Island  
148 West River Street  
Providence, RI 02904

22 June 2012

Dear Secretary Caranci,

I am writing in support of Dr. Patrick Conley's candidacy for appointment to the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

Having been acquainted with Dr. Conley for over 40 years, I can attest to his eminent qualifications for the position. You are in possession of his vita and bibliography of published works and accomplishments so I need not repeat them here. Suffice it to say, if you asked who "wrote the book(s)" on Rhode Island history in contemporary times the answer would Patrick Conley. With over 20 books and countless articles on Rhode Island history, Dr. Conley has contributed widely to our citizens' knowledge of our state and its unique place in history.

As a lecturer on the subject of Rhode Island History he has no equal, not only in his intimate knowledge of the subject matter, but also in the riveting, enthusiastic and articulate manner with which he delivers the topic. This ability will serve the state well in the position's duty of lecturing on historical issues at the request of state officials.

The Rhode Island Commandery has engaged Dr. Conley as a guest lecturer on many occasions and this year inducted him as an Honorary Companion in the Order.

In addition to his many talents, Dr. Conley possesses a unique ability for instant recall of facts and figures about Rhode Island along with implications and relevance to modern day situations that will be invaluable in furnishing advice to the Governor, the Speaker, the Senate President, the Chief Justice and the Secretary of State.

Finally, a review of his works positively demonstrates Dr. Conley's reading and editing abilities and many accomplishments in those and related fields.

It is without reservation that I recommend Dr. Patrick Conley to our Secretary of State for appointment to the position of Rhode Island Historian Laureate.

Very Respectfully,

Dennis Morgan  
Lt. Col. USA Ret.  
Commander

Rhode Island Commandery, MOFWUS