

**The Rhode Island Civil War Sesquicentennial Commemoration
Commission**

Presents

A Conference on Rhode Island's Civil War Experience

“Rhode Islanders on the Home Front”

Saturday, April 12, 2014

8:00 AM Registration - Program Begins at 9:00 AM

The Conley Conference Center

200 Allens Avenue, Providence, RI 02903



“We are coming, Father Abraham, 300,000 more.”

Rhode Island 1st Regiment prepares to leave for Washington City`

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Sponsored by the Rhode Island Civil War Sesquicentennial Commemorative Commission

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- 8:00 – 9:00 AM Registration, coffee & pastries
- 9:00 AM Welcome to conference attendees & Introduction of Master of Ceremonies - Patrick Conley
- Program Announcements / Changes / Reminders - the Honorable Chief Justice Frank J. Williams
- 9:10 AM Introduction of Program - The Honorable Frank J. Williams
- 9:15 AM Morgan Grefe – Executive Director, Rhode Island Historical Society

“Rhode Island During the Time of Lincoln”

- 10:00 AM View Exhibit
- 10:15 AM Coffee Break
- 10:30 AM Panel #1: **The Home Front**

Moderator: Anne Valk, Associate Director for Programs, the John Nicholas Brown Center, Brown University Director

Panelist: Frank Grzyb, Local Historian & Author

“The Hidden History of Rhode Island and the Civil War”

James Tackach – Professor of English, Roger Williams University

“Rhode Island Responds to The Civil War: In Song, Story And Speech”

Mackubin Thomas Owen - Professor National Security Affairs, Naval War College , Newport, RI

“Annapolis Comes to Newport: The US Naval Academy During the Civil War”

12:00 Noon Lunch

1:00 PM **Keynote Speaker: Dwight Pitcaithley, former Chief Historian for the National Park Service, History Professor at New Mexico State University**

“Disunion! Thoughts on Secession After 150 Years”

2:00 PM **Panel #2: Industry & Innovation**

Moderator: Chuck Arning, Ranger/AV Specialist, National Park Service

Panelist:

Kevin Klyberg, Ranger/Historian, National Park Service

“Blackstone Valley on the ‘Home Front’ During the Civil War”

Ged Carbone, Public Historian

“Irons in the Fire: Retooling Industry for the Civil War”

Robert Grandchamp, Historian & Author

“Battlefield Losses and Their Impact on the Home Front – A Case Study: Fredericksburg & the Rhode Island 7th”

3:30 PM Break

3:45 PM **Panel #3: Impact of War on the Home Front**

Moderator: Chief Justice Frank J. Williams

Panelists:

Patrick T. Conley, Rhode Island Historian Laureate

“Politics, Prejudice, Patriotism, And Perseverance: Rhode Island’s Catholic Irish Confront the Civil War”

Keith Stokes, Rhode Island Historian

“The Other War: The Fight for Public School Desegregation in Civil War Era Rhode Island”

Les Rolston, Local Historian & Author

“Long Time Gone: Neighbors Divided by Civil War”

5:15 PM Conference adjourn to Fabre Line Club for Reception