

# Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Scott Porter

Part of the Dixon Historic Center's  
*Ronald Reagan* Oral History project

Interview # ISR-V-D-2013-108

Scott Porter is a pastor at Abiding Word Church in Sterling and a leading member of the Reagan Centennial Commission. He was interviewed on the dates listed below as part of the Dixon Historic Center's *Ronald Reagan* Oral History project.

Interview dates & locations:

Date: January 25, 2013      Location: Dixon Historic Center

Interview Format: Digital Video

Interviewer: Ann Lewis

Technical Support (cameraman, etc.): Jerry Knox, Dixon Historic Center

Transcription by: \_\_\_\_\_

Edited by: \_\_\_\_\_

Transcript being  
processed

Total Pages: \_\_\_\_\_      Total Time: 59 min / 0.98 hrs.

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on July 30, 2015.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in  
Springfield, Illinois.

## Abstract

Scott Porter, *Ronald Reagan*, ISR-V-D-2013-108

**Biographical Information Overview of Interview:** Scott Porter was born in Dixon, Illinois in 1964 and was raised in nearby Rock Falls. In 1986 he graduated from Rhema Bible Training College in Tulsa, Oklahoma and has been the pastor at Sterling's Abiding Word Church for over twenty six years at the time of the interview. Porter first saw Ronald Reagan in 1980 during his campaign in Whiteside County, Illinois. Porter developed a life-long fascination in history and in President Reagan, and recounts through his interview a variety of encounters that he had with the president. He discusses the birthday party that Dixon threw for the president in 1984, and the speech the president gave at the local high school in 1990 where Reagan received a letterman's jacket. On September 11, 1998 Porter and Todd Bailey visited Ronald Reagan in his office in California. By this point, the Alzheimer's had taken over and Reagan did not remember his presidency. Because of his passion for history and his love of Ronald Reagan and his life, Porter has served on the board of the Boyhood Home since 2006 and headed up such organizations as the Reagan Centennial Commission.

**Subject Headings/Keywords:** Rhema Bible Training College; Abiding Word Church, Sterling, Illinois; Ronald Reagan's 1984 birthday visit to Dixon; Ronald Reagan's 1990 speech at Dixon High School; Alzheimer's disease and Ronald Reagan; Ronald Reagan Historical Library & Museum; Kenneth Starr; recession during Carter's administration; Reagan Centennial Commission; Gertrude Childers; Ron Marlow

**Note to the Reader:** Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

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