

Press Release

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THE OREGON ENCYCLOPEDIA



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A partnership of Portland State University, the Oregon Historical Society, and The Oregon Council of Teachers of English

CONTACT: Tania Hyatt-Evenson

PHONE: 503.725.3990

EMAIL: pdx05508@pdx.edu

The OE History Night at the Mission in February

The Oregon Encyclopedia (The OE) continues its monthly series of History Nights at McMenamins pubs with new programs at the Mission Theater in partnership with the *Northwest Examiner*. At each History Night, The OE will look back at the people and events that have shaped our communities. Visit www.oregonencyclopedia.org for History Night locations and more details.

“Abraham Lincoln and the American West in the Civil War Era”

Presented by Richard Wayne Etulain

Monday, February 13, 2012

7 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m.

McMenamins Mission, 1624 NW Glisan Street, Portland

Free and open to the public

More than 16,000 books have been published about Abraham Lincoln, many more than on any other American. Unfortunately, none deals thoroughly with Lincoln and Oregon. Richard Etulain, professor emeritus at the University of New Mexico, has published extensively on Abraham Lincoln. He is the author of *Lincoln Looks West* (2010), and a new study of Lincoln and the Oregon Country (forthcoming). For this History Night presentation, Etulain will discuss how even though Lincoln spent little time west of the Mississippi, he was, as president, closely connected to the West and Oregon. Several of Lincoln’s close friends moved to the Pacific Northwest and acquainted him with the course of regional politics. The transcontinental railroad, a homestead act, and a college land-grant act--all of which Lincoln supported--also clearly affected the West. But it was in politics where we find Lincoln’s clearest and strongest connections to the West and Oregon. In several ways, Abraham Lincoln was one of Oregon’s political founding fathers.

Richard W. Etulain is the author or editor of 50 books, most of them on the American West. He holds the PhD from the University of Oregon and has taught at Northwest Nazarene University, Idaho State University, and most recently at the University of New Mexico. He is past president of both the Western Literature and Western History associations. He is currently researching a book on Calamity Jane.

The OE is an online resource for information on the state’s significant people, places, events, institutions, and biota. Over 1000 entries and essays have been published online and new entries are added every day. For more information visit www.oregonencyclopedia.org.

The OE is a partnership between Portland State University, the Oregon Council of Teachers of English, and the Oregon Historical Society. The OE has received support from a collaborative of the state’s five cultural partners—the Oregon Arts Council, Oregon Council for the Humanities, Oregon Heritage Commission, Oregon Historical Society, and the State Historic Preservation Office—with funding from the Oregon Cultural Trust. The Oregon Council of Teachers of English, the Oregon Heritage Commission, the Oregon University System, Willamette University, and private donors have provided additional support.