

# Sunday at the Master

December 22, 2019

11:00 am

Riverside Lobby

## The History of Presidential Scandals

Don Schwartz, Ph.D., a friend of shareholders here at the Master Apartments, has generously offered to put “Presidential Scandals” in historical perspective for us on his upcoming trip to New York City from the West Coast where he now resides.

In an era of 24-hour news, and multiple forms of media, the behavior of our current public officials is amplified. However, scandals are nothing new in the presidency. The British philosopher Lord Acton famously pronounced that “*Power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely*”. The occupants of the Oval Office have not been exempt from that dictum. Every chief executive has had to deal with indiscretions and transgressions of some sort, ranging from alcoholism to sexual impropriety and even charges of treason. This presentation will highlight the major scandals that have besmirched presidential administrations from Washington to Trump.

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Don Schwartz, Ph.D., earned his doctorate in modern U.S. and European history from New York University and began his teaching career in New York City high schools, and at Pace University and the New School for Social Research.

He served on the faculty of the History Department at California State University, Long Beach from 1987 until his retirement in 2010. Since then he has taught in Shanghai and Phnom Penh as part of the Fulbright Specialist Program, and regularly offers lectures on historical topics in southern California.

He has written scholarly articles on the Holocaust and on the teaching of history and has been named by the Organization of American Historians to their Distinguished Lecturer Program.

