

# Press Release

October 26, 2010

## **THE OREGON ENCYCLOPEDIA**



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

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## **Oregon Encyclopedia History Nights**

This fall the Oregon Encyclopedia (The OE) continues its monthly series of History Nights at McMenamins pubs. At each History Night The OE will look back at the seminal people and events that have shaped our communities. Special guests and historic images are a part of every event. All events are free and open to the public.

Tuesday, November 16, 2010

7:00 p.m. Presentation by Doug Decker

“Tillamook Forest: Past, Present & Future.”

McMenamins Cornelius Pass Roadhouse, 4045 NW Cornelius Pass Road

Hillsboro, OR 97124

Come hear how the landscape of the Tillamook State Forest has been shaped over time and how the forest, in turn, has shaped generations of Oregonians—many who remember the Tillamook simply as “The Burn.”

Using writings, oral history interviews, photographs, maps, and stories from those who have known and shaped the forest over many years, Doug Decker will portray the dramatic changes of the 20th Century and sketch how that legacy shapes the future of the Tillamook State Forest.

Doug Decker serves as Executive Director of the non-profit Tillamook Forest Heritage Trust, based in Forest Grove, Oregon. Doug was the Project Leader for the Tillamook Forest Center, which opened in 2006 to tell the story of The Burn and the forest. He’s been a student of the Tillamook Burn for 20 years and has a special interest in examining forest history for clues to the past, present and future.

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Tuesday, November 30, 2010

6:30 pm

Val Ballestrem presents “Next Exit *Concrete Forest*: The Mt. Hood Freeway Story.”

McMenamins Edgefield Theater, 2126 S.W. Halsey Street

Troutdale, OR 97060

In the 1960s, city planners had their eyes on a highway running from the Marquam Bridge through southeast Portland up to SE 122nd Avenue in an attempt to speed traffic to Mt. Hood. By 1974, the freeway plan had all but died, having met opposition from residents, environmental groups, and proponents of public transportation (led by Neil Goldschmidt). Val Ballestrem traces the origins of both the original freeway plan and the protest against it, and connects the debate to Portland’s present landscape.

Val Ballestrem is an independent historian and the education manager for the Bosco-Milligan Foundation/Architectural Heritage Center in Portland. A life-long Oregonian, he has a master’s degree in western U.S. history and public history from Portland State University.

The OE is an online resource for information on the state’s significant people, places, events, institutions, and biota. Over 700 entries and essays have been published online and new entries are added every day. For More Information visit [www.oregonencyclopedia.org](http://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.

For more information please visit: [www.oregonencyclopedia.org](http://www.oregonencyclopedia.org)

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