

Press Release

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THE OREGON ENCYCLOPEDIA



www.oregonencyclopedia.org

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

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The OE History Night at the Edgefield in July

The Oregon Encyclopedia (The OE) continues its monthly series of History Nights at McMenamins pubs with programs at the Edgefield Power Station Theater. 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.

“Early Fishing on the Columbia River: From Native Americans to Commercial Operations of the 1930s”

Presented by Steve Lehl and Chuck Rollins

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

6:30 p.m., doors open at 5:00 pm

McMenamins Edgefield Power Station Theater, 2126 SW Halsey St., Troutdale

Fishing on the Columbia River is an ancient livelihood and tradition that has a profound spiritual and cultural significance for Native Peoples who have lived along the river’s banks for millennia. For centuries, Euro Americans have caught fish from the Columbia and its tributaries through a variety of methods, many of them completely different from the handmade dipnets and platforms still used by Columbia River Native Americans to this day. Have you ever wondered how different people have fished on the Columbia River in the last century? Join us at the July Oregon Encyclopedia History Night to view a remarkable collection of rarely seen images featuring the history of fishing on the Columbia River and its tributaries. Columbia Gorge historians, Chuck Rollins and Steve Lehl will demonstrate with historic photos and old postcard images the evolution of fishing on the Columbia from the 1860s into the 1930s. Through images of fishing methods such as fishwheels, fish traps, horse seines, dipnets, and gillnets, and of people fishing for salmon, sturgeon and smelt, they chronicle the diversity of people, fishing practices and fish species, from the mouth of the Columbia through the Gorge.

Chuck Rollins is President of the Crown Point Country Historical Society. Steve Lehl is a Columbia River Gorge historian. Rollins and Lehl have collaborated on several historical slide show presentations including the history of logging, with a focus on the town of Bridal Veil, and the Historic Columbia River Highway.

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.