UPCOMING EVENTS

RSVP for all upcoming events and programs at http://www.cspm.org/rsvp-for-an-event/

Saturday, April 19 | ALL DAY | EXHIBIT OPENING
Memories of a Massacre: Perspectives on Ludlow
The Memories of a Massacre: Perspectives on Ludlow exhibit opens to the public, an exhibit in commemoration of the centennial anniversary of the Ludlow Massacre. Art by Lindsay Hand. More info on the exhibit click here.

Saturday, April 19 | 1:30pm | WHITE GLOVE TOUR
EXHIBIT CLOSING
A Needle Pulling Thread: Selections from the CSPM Quilt Collection
Join guest curator Judi Amdt for one last behind the scenes look at our quilts exhibit A Needle Pulling Thread: Selections form the CSPM Quilt Collection. More info here...

Saturday, May 3 | 10am - 12pm | Young Chautauqua Project
Free and open to the public
History comes alive as young chautauquans from all over the city converge on the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum to portray historical characters during the Young Chautauqua Project, a collaborative program of Colorado Humanities, The Colorado Springs Conservatory, the Academy for Advanced and Creative Learning, the Academic Arts Academy at Eagleview Middle School, and the Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum. More info here...
Saturday, May 10 | 2pm | Children of Ludlow
Dawn DiPrince
Pikes Peak Regional History Lecture Series
$5 suggested donation, Free for members
Director of the El Pueblo History Museum Dawn DiPrince
joins us for a discussion of the children of Ludlow in
recognition of the centennial anniversary of the 1914 Ludlow
Massacre. Phone from here. More info here...

Every Saturday | 12 noon | WINDOWS INTO HISTORY
Hear the stories of the Pikes Peak Region and tour the fascinating exhibits of CSPM on
Saturdays at noon. Volunteer docents lead 30-minute tours every Saturday. No
reservations required.

See all of our upcoming events by visiting:
http://www.cspm.org/calendar-of-events/

NEWS & NOTES

Memories of a Massacre: Perspectives on Ludlow

Art by Lindsay Hand

"Coal mining in Colorado...has usually been carried out by large corporations...The
workmen employed have been looked upon as so many machines, useful for the purpose
of grinding out profits, but worthless from any other point of view."
Colorado Commissioner of Labor Statistics, 1902

On April 20, 1914, eleven children and two women suffocated as fire swept through the
United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) strikers’ tent colony of Ludlow. All told, nearly
twenty people died that day as machineguns rained down on the canvas tents and miners
fired at militia positions while families fled in terror or hid in earthen cellars beneath their
tents. Newspaper headlines and graphic photographs shocked readers around the world.
An outraged public asked, how could this happen in America?

Sympathy for the miners’ cause gained momentum as the deaths of women and children
came to symbolize the needless violence associated with labor-management conflicts in the early twentieth century. The actions of Colorado Fuel & Iron Company officials and the inaction of absentee landlord and scion of one of America's most powerful families John D. Rockefeller Jr., were publicly condemned. The Rocky Mountain News, at the time a conservative, pro-business newspaper declared:

"Out of this infamy one fact stands clear. Machine guns did the murder... It was a private war, with the wealth of the richest man in the world behind the armed guards. The blood of women and children, burned and shot like rats, cries aloud from the ground. The great state of Colorado has failed them. It has betrayed them."

While professing shock and horror - Americans had paid scant attention to the growing struggles of the working poor in a newly industrialized economy. In Southern Colorado, thousands of mostly immigrant coal miners and their families spent the past seven months, over 200 days, protesting against the feudalistic business practices of the most powerful coal company in the state. The striking miners sought recognition of their union, and some degree of control over their working and living conditions. Colorado Fuel and Iron (CF&I) officials fought for their right to conduct business as they pleased. Until the Ludlow Massacre, the strike went largely unnoticed.

One hundred years later and only a little over one hundred miles from the site - what do we know about this important event? Who were the people involved? Why did it happen? How did it shape the way we live and work today?

Utilizing archeological artifacts from the United Mine Workers of America Collection at the University of Denver, first person accounts of the tragedy, historic photographs and objects, and the deeply powerful paintings of contemporary artist Lindsay Hand, Memories of a Massacre: Perspectives on Ludlow seeks to uncover multiple layers of meaning while broadening our understanding of this pivotal chapter in American History.

WHO: The Colorado Springs Pioneers Museum  
WHAT: Memories of a Massacre: Perspectives on Ludlow  
WHEN: Public Opening Saturday, April 19, 2014 - January 2015  
WHERE: 215 S. Tejon Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
WHY: This event shaped the way we live and work today. Find out how!

History In the News

Brief History of Seven Falls (Gazette)  
Seven Falls’ natural beauty was recognized long before it became a popular Pikes Peak region tourist attraction. Read more...

Reinterpreting Ludlow (Indy)  
The completed works will serve as a dramatic backdrop to the Pioneers Museum's own exhibit of historical artifacts, helping fill out Memories of a Massacre: Perspectives on Ludlow. Read more...

Mission Work

Memories of a Massacre: Perspectives on Ludlow  
Exhibit Sponsors  
Thank you to the sponsors of our new exhibit (The Bee Vradenburg Foundation) and our
If YOU would like to sponsor an upcoming exhibit or if you are interested in partnering with the Museum to help preserve and share our cultural history, please contact the Development office at 719.385.5633 OR Click here for more information on ways to give.