



Heritage News

Discover Crowsnest Heritage

ISSUE #30

May 2013

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A Crowsnest Heritage Initiative Project.

If interested in submitting an article, news piece, or update, please send it to cnheritage@shaw.ca.

Every picture has a story.

I apologize for the lateness of this edition of the Crowsnest Heritage Newsletter. We hope to get the newsletter back on schedule this summer.

Submitter Annie Vigna sent me a newspaper clipping of her father, Bill Wesko, taken in 1940 as part of her review of Joseph L. Lothian's book "The Grasshopper." It made me realize that there are probably a lot of you out there who have old photographs of family and friends to share. This newsletter would be happy to publish them, especially if you send along a short explanation of who they are and what they are doing. Also, old streetscapes or landscapes in the Crowsnest Pass would be a wonderful addition as well. For example, so you know anyone in the picture to the below?

So, dig through your attic, rummage through your trunks and scour your old photograph albums and find something to share. Scan it and send it to me with its story at the address on the left.



School children with British Flags, Crowsnest Pass, AB, c.1920. Glenbow Museum Archives, NC-54-4185.

Happy May!

WHAT'S ON

THE CROWSNEST MUSEUM

7701 18th Ave. Coleman. 403-563-5434



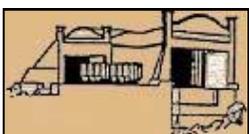
Open : Tuesday to Saturday. 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.
Starting June 1st the Museum will be open 7 days a week from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm.

As well as exhibits on coal mining in the Crowsnest Pass, there are galleries on Pass life in the early 1900s, natural history, the military, and on Emperor Pic and rum-running. There is a gift shop near the entrance. For tours and educational programs: Contact: cnmuseum@shaw.ca.

Adults \$10, Seniors (65+) \$8, Youth (6-16) \$6, Under 6 free, Families \$24.

BELLEVUE UNDERGROUND MINE

21814 28th Avenue Bellevue, AB T0K 0C0 (403) 564-4700



Don a hard-hat and light and come on a tour of the historic coal mine.

Admission Adults \$14, Seniors (65+) \$13, Youth (6-17) \$8, Under 5 free, Families \$38. To enquire about Pre-Booked Tours (15-25 people, one person pays for the group), please contact the Mine.

2ND ANNUAL BELLEVUE UNDERGROUND MINE FUNDRAISING GALA

Saturday, June 22nd. Doors open at 5:30 pm; Cocktails and Silent Auction 6:00 pm; Dinner 7:30 pm; Dance 9:30 pm. Entertainment provided by Texas Flood. Catering by Country Encounters. Location: MDM Community Centre. Tickets are available at the Mine (403-564-4711, 403-564-4700), Fibonacci Tattoo, Sinistra Salon; and Sears.

BELLECREST DAYS

Friday, June 21st - Saturday, June 22nd. Bellecrest days will be held in Hillcrest. A bicycle decorating activity has been added on Friday to encourage kids to prepare their mounts for the parade on Saturday.

THE FRANK SLIDE CENTRE

Hwy 3 Crowsnest Pass 403-562-7388



The Frank Slide Interpretive Centre highlights the rich heritage of the Crowsnest Pass amid the breathtaking beauty of the Canadian Rockies. The Centre is open all year and visitors will be greeted by friendly, knowledgeable staff who will share the fascinating stories of the Frank Slide through dynamic interpretive programs and presentations. State-of-the-art interactive displays and exhibits throughout the Centre focus on the infamous Frank Slide of 1903 - Canada's deadliest rockslide. The Frank Slide Interpretive Centre is open year round 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Adults \$10, Seniors (65+) \$8, Youth (7-17) \$5, Under 7 free, Families \$22. The Centre will be closed on Dec. 24th, 25th, and Jan. 1st.

Hillcrest Mine Disaster 99th Anniversary. Sunday, Jun. 16th.

On June 19, 1914, 189 men and boys were killed in Canada's worst disaster. The Frank Slide will offer audiovisual and interpretive presentations of this tragic day—the mine explosion and its aftermath.

CROWSNEST PASS DOORS OPEN AND HERITAGE FESTIVAL



Thursday, August 1st - Monday, August 5th.

The Crowsnest Pass will hold its 8th annual Doors Open and Heritage Festival. Join other groups, local residents and businesses as they offer free Doors Open activities throughout the Pass. Guided hikes, garden tours, cemetery tours and heritage building tours will all be a part of the celebration. The Heritage Festival also includes special presentations at the Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, the Bellevue Underground Mine and the Crowsnest Museum.

KOOTENAI BROWN MUSEUM

1037 Bev McLachlin Dr., Pincher Creek. 403-627-3684



Established in 1966, the Museum consists of 19 buildings housing over 18,000 artifacts from southern Alberta. The legendary George "Kootenai" Brown lived in southern Alberta and his cabin and some of his possessions form part of the Museum's exhibits.

Kootenai Brown is open to the public daily from 9 am to 4 pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday through the winter season, Adults \$10, Seniors (65+) \$7, Youth (7-17) \$7, Under 7 free, Families \$25

PRAIRIE GRASS TO MOUNTAIN PASS: History of the Pioneers of Pincher Creek and District.

Wednesday, May 29th. The new edition of the history book, produced by the Pincher Creek Historical Society and curator, Farley S. Wuth, is finished. A book launch will be held at Pioneer Place, 1037 Bev McLachlin Dr., at 7:00 pm. There will be a book signing, auction of the first copy, wine and cheese, and entertainment provided by Rhythm of the Rockies. The event is free but donations will be gratefully received. There will be copies of the book for sale.

The book contains approximately 100 community histories and 700 genealogies, many not included in the previous edition, from the early days of the Pincher Creek district. Businesses, community groups, and families who had a pioneer connection with this area between its establishment in 1878 and 1910 are chronicled in this volume. A second volume, still forthcoming, will highlight those agencies and people who arrived here between 1911 and the end of the Second World War in 1945. Riveting archival research coupled with vivid writings and accompanied by local historical photos make this volume a must read for anyone interested in local history as well as for those families and people who have a frontier connection with this area. This volume is divided into close to forty chapters representing the communities of Pincher Creek, Cowley, Lundbreck, Twin Butte and the rural localities now encompassed by the Municipal District of Pincher Creek.

PIONEER FARMERS' MARKET (Museum grounds)

Fridays, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm June 7th - October 18th.

A variety of vendors will be showing their wares every Friday. You can find everything from plants, meat, poultry, eggs, produce, baking, jewelry, and handicrafts

SALUTE TO FIBRE ARTS WEEK

Monday June 10th - Sunday, June 16th

As Pincher Creek celebrates Fibre Arts week, the Kootenai Brown Museum will have a display of historical and locally produced textile treasures. Regular admission and hours apply for this exhibition.

FERNIE MUSEUM

491 Victoria Ave. (2nd Ave.), Fernie, BC 250-423-7016



The Fernie Museum & Visitor Information Centre is located in one of Fernie's distinctive heritage buildings at 491 2nd Ave. The building itself, an important example of Fernie's rich history, boasts a main floor exhibit hall with the visitor info centre, as well as a lovely Museum Gallery on the 2nd floor. Public washrooms are available on each floor.

HEAD-SMASHED-IN (UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE)

Hwy 785 403-553-2731



Along with its displays, the interpretive centre has audio-visual presentations, a cafeteria featuring bison burgers, a gift shop filled with First Nations handicrafts, and hosts tour groups and runs educational programs. Open daily 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Contact: info@head-smashed-in.com. Admission: Adults \$10, Seniors (65+) \$8, Youth (7-17) \$5, Under 7 free, Families \$22.

HIKE TO THE DRIVE LANES: First Saturday of each month, May through October.

11 am - 3 pm. Bring a lunch. Phone to book. Blackfoot guides will lead these hikes. Next hikes: June 2nd, July 7th, August 4th, September 1st and October 6th.

NATIONAL ABORIGINAL DAY. Friday, June 21st.

There will be drumming, dancing, guided facility tours and stories told by Blackfoot elders.

BOMBER COMMAND OF CANADA

1729 21st Ave. (Hwy 2 S) Nanton 403-646-2270



The Museum is open: April 16 to October 15 (every day 9 am—5 pm) October 16 to April 15 (weekends only 10 am—4 pm.)
Phone to arrange visits at other times

Lancaster Merlin Engine Run-ups

- Apr. 20th, Sat. 11 am—2 pm
- May 11th, Sat. 11 am—2 pm
- Jun. 1st, Sat. 11 am—2 pm
- Jul. 6th, Sat. 11 am—2 pm
- Aug. 5th, Sat. 2 pm
- Aug. 24th, Sat. 11 am—2 pm

WESTERN CANADIAN REGIONAL MODEL CONTEST

Saturday, June 1st. As part of "Nanton Celebrates History" day, the Bomber Command of Canada Museum is hosting the Western Canadian Regional Model Contest.

18TH WESTERN CANADIAN REGIONAL MODEL CONTEST

SATURDAY 1 JUNE 2013

9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

MAIN HANGAR (contest & vendors area) Registration: 9:00 a.m. to noon
Judging: noon to 3:00 p.m.
Awards: 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

BOMBER COMMAND MUSEUM OF CANADA
HIGHWAY 2 SOUTH
NANTON, ALBERTA
www.wcrmc.ca
rmmc_contest@hotmail.com

MODEL REGISTRATION FEE
Adult: \$2.50 each max of \$25.00
Junior (13-18 yrs): \$1.00 each
Preliminary (12 yrs and under): \$0.50 each

So many reasons to visit as ...

NANTON CELEBRATES HISTORY

Saturday, June 1st

Special Events, Tours, and Demonstrations at all our venues
Free Shuttle-Bus between sites

BOMBER COMMAND MUSEUM OF CANADA
-WW II Bombers, training aircraft, jets, displays
-Lancaster Bomber Engines Start-ups
-Western Canadian Regional Model Contest
-Canada's Bomber Command Memorial Wall

BIG SKY GARDEN RAILWAY
-Ride-On Train circling our 7000 sq.ft. Garden Railway
-FREE Admission for Kids to 3 Thomas Play-Areas
-12 trains running in their own, unique historic world

GRAIN ELEVATOR DISCOVERY CENTRE
-A row of three of these "Prairie Sentinels"
-Elevator Engine Demonstrations
-Agriculture and Grains Displays

MUSEUM OF MINIATURES
-Periods of history at 1/12 scale
-Model cars, pictures, and sculptures
-10% off regular admission

Art Shoppes
Antique Shoppes
Candy Store
Farmers Market
Ice Cream Store
Nanton Golf Course

NANTON IS JUST 35 MINUTES SOUTH OF CALGARY ON HWY #2

FORT WHOOP-UP NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Lethbridge, off Whoop-Up Drive. 403-329-0444



GRAND RE-OPENING

Saturday May 18th. The site was severely damaged by floods in July 2012 and an estimated \$150,000 damage was incurred—mostly covered by insurance. Parks Canada has donated replacement artifacts for those destroyed or badly damaged. The Fort is re-opening. Please join us for a free day filled with re-enactments and activities for the whole family from **10 am – 5 pm!**

Fort Whoop-Up existed before there was an Alberta or Mounties; it was a notorious frontier trading post. It lies nestled in the coulees of Indian Battle Park, near the Oldman River. It all started in 1869, when American fur traders brought a wagon

train of whiskey and other trade goods north. They established a stockade, later known as Fort Whoop Up, and made a ton of profit before the Mounties showed up to rein in the whiskey business. Today, the fort still trades with the aboriginal Blackfoot tribes of Southern Alberta, supplying many ceremonial goods, hides, sweetgrass, and other items.

The Fort is open June 1st - Sept. 30th, Wednesday to Monday (closed Tuesdays) from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; October, Wednesday to Saturday, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm; November to March, Saturday and Sunday, 12:00 - 4:00 pm; April and May, Wednesday to Saturday, 12:00 - 4:00 pm. Adults \$7, Seniors (65+) \$6, Students \$5, Under 5 free, Families \$18.69.

GALT MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

502 1st St. S., Lethbridge 1-866-320-3898



Wind Work, Wind Play: Weathervanes & Whirligigs. Jun 1st - Sep. 2nd.

Showcasing 30+ pieces of wind-powered Canadian folk art dating from the 1870s-1970s, and a number of southern Alberta examples too.

Weathervanes have been part of the European and North American landscape for centuries, perched atop every community's tallest buildings, on barn roofs, church, steeples, and castle towers. Many are now considered icons of folk art.

Whirligigs, on the other hand, are created to amuse and entertain. These wind-driven lawn ornaments are generally small figural creations, which, when placed outdoors, engage in frantic movements as they ceaselessly accomplish nothing.

The Museum is open all year round. Monday to Saturday 10:00 am to 4:30 pm, Sundays and Holidays 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Adults \$5, Seniors (65+) \$4, Youth (7-17) \$3, Under 7 free, Families \$12.

REMINGTON CARRIAGE MUSEUM

623 Main St. Cardston. 403-653-5139



The Museum has the largest collection of horse-drawn vehicles in North America with over 240 carriages, wagons and sleighs. The 63,000 square foot facility features video displays, a fire hall, a carriage factory, a restoration shop, a working stable, carriage rides, carriage rentals, a restaurant and a gift shop. There are free guided tours. Group tours and educational tours are offered. Open daily 9 am—4 pm. Contact: info@remingtoncarragemuseum.com. Admission: Adults \$10, Seniors (65+) \$8, Youth (7-17) \$5, Under 7 free, Families \$22.

WORLD MINI CHUCKWAGON CHAMPIONSHIPS

Friday, August 16th and Saturday, August 17th. More information upcoming.

BAR-U RANCH

13 km south of Longview on Hwy 22. 1/2 km west on Hwy 540. 403-395-2212



Opens May 26th.

Nestled between the rolling Porcupine Hills and the towering Rocky Mountains, surrounded by the prairie landscape and shaped by Chinook winds, the Bar U Ranch National Historic Site is one of the first and most enduring large corporate ranches of the West. Steeped in history, the Bar U commemorates the history and importance of the ranching industry in Canada.

Admission: Adults (17 and over) \$7.80; Youth (6-16) \$3.90; Seniors (65+) \$6.55; Children (under 6) Free; Family (2 parents

WRITING-ON-STONE



May 17th - Oct. 13th.

Rock art tours. Writing-on-Stone / Áísinaí'pi is a sacred landscape. The spectacular Milk River valley contains the largest concentration of First Nation petroglyphs (rock carvings) and pictographs (rock paintings) on the great plains of North America.

ALBERTA CULTURE DAYS

September 27th—29th.

Venues throughout the Crowsnest Pass will be holding cultural events, displays and presentations in celebration of Alberta Culture Days. Keep these days free in order to participate.

The “Colorful” Mike Rosse

By
Ian McKenzie



Mike Rosse ca. 1920. Courtesy of Louis Rosse, Vancouver.

Michel (“Mike”) Rosse was born in Italy on 15 Jan 1871, emigrated to the United States in 1886 and married Angelina Seriani (or Siriano, 1869 – 1948) in Buffalo, NY, lived in the Crowsnest Pass between about 1903 and 1920, and died on 12 Apr 1940 in Vancouver.

Mike Rosse brought his family to the Pass at about age 32, initially working in the coal mine at Lille before purchasing the only wholesale liquor business in Blairmore from James Paden in 1905. The ground floor of the building was split between Mike’s liquor business and Lemieux’s barber shop while the Rosse family lived upstairs. Mike soon dug a cold cellar beneath the building for his imported and domestic wines and liquors. This building burned in 1906 (where the west part of Pharmasave now stands).

By then Rosse had acquired two more commercial properties, both in Angelina’s name. In 1910 they had a large house built for them on State Street (now 21st Avenue; the house was opposite the present-day Sutton Real Estate office). According to the *Blairmore Enterprise*, “...it leads amongst Blairmore’s beautiful residences... 26 x 38 [feet], two full storeys and a full size basement... four rooms upstairs, a parlor, dining room, kitchen and two small rooms downstairs... steam heated and has every modern convenience.” In 1912 Mike Rosse and W. A. Beebe built a brick building on Victoria Street (main street) next to the Cosmopolitan Hotel, and moved Rosse’s liquor business in (presently occupied by Realty World/Chinook Realty). There is little doubt that Mike prospered; he was the first depositor in the new Royal Bank in February of 1912, and in October of that same year was appointed the local representative to the Governor General the Duke of Connaught’s visit, for the reception held in Ft. Macleod.

Mike was active in community affairs throughout his time in Blairmore. He was nominated for Blairmore village and town councils, but was not elected until 1914. At that time mayor Harry Lyon lodged a complaint that “this Italian’s name is not Michel Rosse” (*Blairmore Enterprise*, January 2 1914). The case was to be heard in a Fort Macleod courtroom, but the details of this curious claim were not revealed as the case was thrown out on a technicality. Mike took his council seat and Lyon paid his legal costs. One of his first tasks as councilor was to join in the successful opposition to Mayor Lyon’s questionable hiring of a police chief. Rosse was to remain a town councilor for the rest of his time in Blairmore.

With the coming of Prohibition in 1916, Mike’s liquor outlet was converted to a pool hall. With his connections within the liquor distribution trade, Mike became one of the better-known sources of illegally-imported alcohol. He was also Blairmore’s police commissioner! The *Blairmore Enterprise* and other papers often joked about the presence of ‘blind pigs’



Rosse mansion. Crowsnest Museum Archives.

where alcohol was quietly served, and makes it clear that the activities of Rosse, Picariello and others were pretty much an open secret. Even the legal profession were sympathetic and Mike endured little or no punishment when caught by the Alberta Provincial Police. One humorous case involved the discovery of a whiskey jug beneath a roosting chicken during a search of a house owned by Rosse; the judge threw the case out when ownership of both the booze and the chicken couldn't be proved.

However, the Rosse family's move to Vancouver in 1920 may have been due to increasing pressure from law enforcement. One can imagine Mike and Angelina's reaction to reading Vancouver newspaper accounts of the Lawson shooting in Coleman, just two years later. Mike, and later his sons, entered into the Vancouver hotel business in a big way, although he retained much of his Blairmore real estate into the 1940s. Their large house was briefly used as an RCMP barracks before being rented to various people until it's irreparable damage in the school fire of 1941.

In the 1970s Mike and Angelina's son Emile ("Millie"), now a senior citizen, applied for a copy of his American birth certificate and was surprised to find out he had been born as Salvatore Marrone, with his father listed as Carmelo Marrone. It looks like a previous relationship, but the Rosse family believes that Carmelo changed the family's name before emigrating to Canada, which fits in with that 1914 Lyons-Rosse court case. As a final note, "Rosse" is not the normal spelling of the surname Rossi; in Italian, rosse means red, and maronne means maroon. Colorful guy, that Mike.

Ian McKenzie is a writer and historian living in the Crowsnest Pass.

BOOK REVIEW

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The Grasshopper by Joseph L. Lothian

by

Annie Vigna (nee Wesko)

In this early part of 2013 when there is optimistic talk about coal mining returning to the Crowsnest to the Grassy Mountain site in north Blairmore estimated to have production capability of about 50 million tons of coal, enough to keep any mine there operating for 30 years or more, **Joseph L. Lothian's** novel ***The Grasshopper*** is an essential read for anyone who needs to be submerged into the culture of coal mining.

I have been too long away from the cold of my childhood, and the beginning of my journey engenders a chill in my bones. . . . Snow would begin falling in October, and for a brief while the white blanket would soften the ugliness of the town. But then the mine tipples would begin grinding about their business, spewing coaldust to smudge the whiteness to a dirty grey. . . (30)

How well I remember growing up in Coleman where my father, Wasyl Wesko (William) and, later, for a time, my eldest brother Bill, worked in the coalmine. In 1956 when the mines were about to close, my father was lucky enough to obtain employment at the Summit Lime Works; my brother Bill, too. Bill moved on to a career in insurance and later, retail grocery in Lethbridge, and eventually in Cochrane; but my father retired from the Summit Lime Works. He and my dear mother Maria died in a car accident at Nanton in 1976.

*My brother Bill passed away recently on January 8th; and in homage to him and our father, and all those men who worked in the mines in Coleman, I am moved to submit my review of **The Grasshopper**, which I recommend wholeheartedly for all its truth and grace.*

Joseph L. Lothian wrote this novel in the first person narrative as his fictitious character, Mykola Krushelitznicki (Kola Krush), born in "1924 in a small mining town in southern Alberta" (11). Through Kola, the author precedes each chapter in a state of melancholy from his room in a retirement home on Vancouver Island, and offers only a hint—almost a whisper—of impending reckoning from the past.

In the first chapter Lothian gives a brief, but succinct, description of Kola's family background and circumstances. His parents were Ukrainian immigrants. 'Mike the Red' was his father. "His nickname identified him as a promoter of communism, but it could be equally derived from his shock of unkempt red hair that rarely received the benefits of a comb." (12) His mother, Marya, "dared baptism for her children against the violent opposition of her atheistic husband . . ." (12)

Following the 'Big Strike of 1932' many miners involved in union activism were blacklisted, and Kola's father was one of them, unemployed, with few opportunities for employment outside the mines. Lothian writes in broken English vernacular, "I esk him for

chob, he tell me No, I say Come to hell, bastid!" (13) And then he leaves forever, Kola and his mother eking out a most meager existence.

When young Kola enters the Creek Mine at age 15, he takes the reader along and, for the first time, this reader discovers what really went on under the mountain. What an education!

My special memory as a child of five, very precious to me always, was running to meet my father as he walked home following the end of his shift. I ran to the end of the alley next to the road that passed from West Coleman to downtown, past the International Coal Mine where my father worked. We hardly spoke; he was a quiet man, and I was very shy. I cannot recall any conversation we had then, but I cherish the memory of his opening up his lunch bucket to retrieve a quarter section of an orange that he had not eaten, taking off a segment and offering it to me. Then, he took my little hand in his enormous hand and we walked home together.

Lothian's miners go deep into the mine and, through their experiences, the reader learns everything there is to know about what happens before the final product is transported above ground. However, without the actual experience, one can only grab onto the descriptions that Lothian writes about the hard work and danger involved in packing timber and bucking coal; about how, when the light on a miner's hardhat goes out, "darkness beyond darkness" (114) is intolerably frightening. And how the only thing that allows a man to go back to the mine the next day is the knowledge that the crew is at his back, encouraging and compassionate: "Don't worry, Kola, sun gonna shine tomorrow, kiddo boy." (127)

And in the continuum of time, the coal is mined and the wages are earned. Soon enough the very pragmatic Kola opens

up a bank account, secure in the knowledge that his passbook tells a story of his value. His best friend is Billy, the school principal's son. Because of a disagreement between Billy and his parents over their scandalous treatment of his sister's out of wedlock pregnancy, Billy leaves school and his comfortable home to bunk in with Kola in Mrs. Pawlchuk's shack, and together the best friends go to the mines. Soon Claude, a boy from a farm in Saskatchewan joins them underground. When Billy asks what type of farm they had in Saskatchewan, what crops they grew, he answers, "Mostly grasshoppers". (150) And, as Hemingway would have done, Kola and Billy nicknamed Claude "The Grasshopper", an apt title for the novel.

How Kola ends up in a retirement home on Vancouver Island with his memories from the past forming the chronological details of the story, is something the reader will discover page after luminous page. As Joan Donaldson-Yarmey, author of "Illegally Dead", writes, "The ending is the way I like them, a total surprise."

Joseph L. Lothian was born in 1928 in the Crowsnest Pass. His father and grandfather mined coal from the pits of Belgium, Wales, Nova Scotia and Alberta. Joseph had a brief mining career as a timber packer, timber boss and an "A" Class miner. He and his wife Greta reside in Calgary. This is his first novel.

A dear old friend of mine gifted The Grasshopper to me in 2010; two new friends insisted I read it for our December 2012 book club selection; and these same new friends have invited Mr. Lothian to our book club meeting in March, 2013. I am exceedingly grateful to my friends, old and new, for introducing the man whose words and characters captivated me, and whose descriptions continue to resonate with me, a coal miner's daughter.



Newspaper clipping of Bill Wesko (father of author) and fellow Crowsnest miners. Property of author.

Annie Vigna is a former bookstore owner. She lives in Calgary, Alberta

This review was first published in the *Lethbridge Herald* and is reprinted here with permission of the author.

CROWNSNEST PASS HERITAGE INVENTORY PROJECT

The Municipality of Crowsnest Pass has hired Community Design Strategies Inc. to do Phase 1 of the Crowsnest Pass's Heritage Inventory Project. Phase 1 includes the old town of Coleman and the lands west of Coleman leading to the border with BC. On April 10th a public Open House was held to get recommendations and support from local residents on the buildings they thought were most important to the Crowsnest's history and heritage. This summer selected buildings will be historically researched and critically evaluated by Community Design Strategies for historic and heritage importance at the local, provincial and national levels.

This is year one of the Heritage Inventory Project. Future phases will include Blairmore, Bellevue, Hillcrest and the historic communities to the east.

110TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRANK SLIDE MEMORIAL SERVICE

On April 29th at 11:00 am about 80 people attended the Frank Slide Memorial Service at the grave site in the Frank Slide. The weather was challenging at first, but the sun came out by the ceremony's end. Mr. Fred Bradley served as Master of Ceremonies. Local speakers included: Ian McKenzie, Vice President of the Heritage Initiative; Brian Kakoske, President of the Blairmore Lions; Robert Zak, of the Ennis family; and His Worship, Mayor Bruce Decoux. MLA Pat Stier spoke on behalf of the Constituency of Livingstone-Macleod and MLA Bridget Pastoor of Lethbridge East spoke on behalf of the Honourable Heather Limchuk, Minister of Culture. The Crowsnest Community Choir sang "O Canada," "Amazing Grace," and "God Save the Queen." A spiritual blessing and closing prayer were given by Reverent Nicky Keyworth and Janni Belgium.



Pat Stier, MLA speaking at the Frank Slide Memorial Service.

100 YEARS AGO 1913

- The steamship S.S. Nasookin was launched. She was known as the "Crow Boat" because she met the trains on CPR's Crows' Nest Pass Railway at Kootenay Landing to take passengers to Nelson.
- The Blairmore South mine was closed down in and Greenhill Mine north of the town went into operation.
- The British House of Commons rejected woman's right to vote.
- Igor Stravinsky's ballet score *The Rite of Spring* premiered in Paris, provoking a riot.
- The population of Canada was just over 7 million. Today it is 34.5 million.



SS. Nasookin. Image from the Creston Museum.

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