Abstract:
This presentation will highlight immigrant mining communities in early Colorado and several important strikes that they led. In particular, the Ludlow Massacre and Western Federation of Miners, and their organizing tactics and strategies will be highlighted, along with strategies used to weaken and break union organizing efforts. The presentation will conclude with a look at present effort along with the Irish government to memorialize Irish immigrant buried in unmarked graves in Leadville's Evergreen Cemetery.

Bio:
James Walsh is an Associate Professor in the Political Science Dept. at the University of Colorado Denver, where he has taught for the past 22 years, specializing in the Irish Diaspora in North America and American Labor and Immigration history. Walsh is co-author of Irish Denver and author of various articles about the labor organizing of Irish miners in early Leadville, where he is working with the Irish government and local Irish American organizations on memorializing immigrants buried in unmarked graves in the back of Evergreen Cemetery. Walsh is also the founder and director of the Romero Theater Troupe, a fifteen year old organic community theater which uses the stage to preserve important stories of working class and immigrant struggles.