

Pike National Historic Trail Association Newsletter May-June 2009 Vol. 3 No 5

A Charitable nonprofit organization

Our Purpose: To Establish federal designation of the Pike National Historic Trail.



Mike Bandera, Dorothy Urban, John Murphy, Harv Hisgen, Pat Surrena, & Laura Billingsley

Pike Members & Board Meet at the Royal Gorge

The Board and Officers of the Association met on Saturday, May 30th beside the 1053 foot deep Royal Gorge in Cañon City Colorado.

Our new treasurer is Laura Billingsley and new Board member is Pat Surrena to replace Norm Meyer. The other officers and Board were reelected.

Association documents were formally accepted and policies were discussed and set or assigned to committee. A budget was established and seven committees were recognized :

[Membership/ Outreach, Newsletter & Publications, Executive,

Long-Short Range Planning/Strategic Plan, Financial, Education/Association Activities, and Nomination.]

The Board voted to participate as a Fiscal Sponsor with a Pike/PBS project loosely connected with the Pike Family Association.

The dates for the Membership meeting for the next 5 years were determined as April 24, 2010; April 30, 2011; April 28, 2012; Apr. 27, 2013; April 26, 2014, all at the Royal Gorge Big Horn Lodge. Each gathering will begin with a Friday evening reception with Pike area tours on Sunday. The Park Company has generously donated the facility and lodging to our Association.

Who Named Pikes Peak? by Allan Vainley

A number of years ago, the Association's first member and I attempted to view what Pike and his men saw on November 15, 1806, from where we believed he saw it. Because the dam at John Martin Reservoir [CO] is now in that view, we moved in front of the Visitor's Center, still 123 miles away. We immediately saw the two Spanish Peaks on our left and to the north we observed a bluish-purple cloud just above the horizon, ruffly what Pike saw.

Naming conventions leave the name Pikes Peak instead of Pike's Peak. Those who explored the area prior and after Monte's expedition have shared in the naming of the peak.

- The Ute inhabited these mountains long before explorers and fur traders came and could have used the Spanish word- El Capitan for the peak.
- In 1541- Francisco Vasquez de Coronado explored southern Kansas and probably didn't see the mountain,
- 1665- Juan de Archulera chasing "excaped" Pueblo indians from New Spain probably saw El Capitan.
- 1719- Antonio de Valverde's assignment was to punish raiding Ute & Comanche. His party came to the Colorado Springs area before turning east.
- 1739- Pierre & Paul Mallet tried to open trade route to Santa Fe along the Arkansas River and probably saw the peak.
- Aug 30 1779- Juan Bautista de Ansa, the 43 year old governor of New Spain, attempted to stop Comanche raiding with Ute and Apache allies. Called the range Sierra del Almagre and would have referred to the Grand mountain as El Capitan. (He had earlier led settlers to establish the presidio of San Francisco CA.)
- Nov 15, 1806- Zebulon Montgomery Pike: "At two o'clock I thought I could distinguish a mountain to our right, which appeared like a small blue cloud." -Pike's Grand Mountain.
- 1819- Dr. John Hamilton Robinson's map of Louisiana called it "Pike's Mountain."
- July 14, 1820- Army surgeon Edwin James (Long's party) reached the top @ 4 p.m., the 1st recorded completion. Maj. Stephen Long's map labels the peak "James' Peak," and Long's Peak noted by the party earlier that month "Highest Peak."
- 1832- Timothy Flint used both names.
- 1835- Col. Henry Dodge called it "Pike's peak."
- Sept. 5, 1839- E.W. Smith called it "Pike's Peak."
- July 10, 1843- Lt. John Charles Frémont wrote using "Pike's" peak and used "Pike's peak" on his map of Bayou Salade (South Park.)
- 1844- Lt. Wm. Emory's map uses "James or Pikes Peak."
- 1846- British soldier George Ruxton - "Pike's Peak."
- 1858- Dr. J.W. Reed published *Reed's Guide* using "Pike's Peak" which, with the discovery of gold in Colorado, spurred "Pike's Peak or Bust" being painted on the wagon covers.
- August 5, 1858- 20 year old Julia Anna Archibald Holmes, a member of a Lawrence KS party became the 1st woman to climb the mountain and referred to the mountain as Pike's Peak.
- On July 28, 1867- Emma Dean Powell (the 4th woman to climb) with her one-armed husband Maj. John Wesley Powell mentions Pike's Peak.

The name Pikes Peak stuck. (James Peak, a 13'er west of Central City CO, is named for Edwin James.)

Which Mountain Did Pike Climb? By John Patrick Michael Murphy

continued from the February, 2009 issue Part 5 of 6



10. Is the environmental lapse rate (ELR) consistent with the height gained from base camp to the summit?

Meteorologists use the term "lapse rate" to describe temperature decrease as elevation increases. Pike's thermometer was a Reaumur instrument that only had 80 degrees between the freezing and boiling of water. When Pike wrote that the temperature at the foot of the mountain was 9 degrees above 0, at the foot of the mountain, it meant that it was 52 degrees Fahrenheit ($32 + 2.25 \times 9$). When he wrote it was 4 below 0 on the summit it meant it was 23 degrees above 0 Fahrenheit ($32 - 2.25 \times 4$). Many historians did not realize that he had wonderful weather and attributed his failure to the freezing temperature. Mt. Rosa is the only mountain that has an elevation gain consistent with the average lapse rate of 5.4 degrees Fahrenheit for each 1000 feet gained, or 6.5 C/1000m. Base camp was at about 6,300', and the summit of Rosa at 11,499' with a difference of a mile or 28 degrees lower, compared to Pike's 29 degrees lower. The base temperature was taken on Wednesday morning, and the summit temperature taken Thursday morning. It is clear however, that there was an inversion where it was warmer at higher elevations than below, due to the cloud cover he described below, while it was clear and bright at his location.

11. While on the summit, can one reasonably describe it as the highest one in the area excepting Pikes Peak?

This clue that they were on the "summit of this chain" is one of the most important hints as to which mountain they were on. If one climbs any of the mountains other than Rosa, there are many mountains above besides Pikes Peak. Knights Peak is 10,490' and Mt. Rosa is a thousand feet higher than Knights Peak. Both can be seen looking down on Black, Blue, Miller, Gray Back, and Cheyenne Mountains. Only on Rosa does it appear that there are no mountains higher except Pikes Peak. As noted from the summit of Rosa, Mt. Almagre appears to be a part of Pikes Peak as the drop to Lake Moraine from Almagre cannot be seen. The fact that Rosa was chosen by Professor DeWitt was a result of Pike's description that he was on the "summit of this chain." James, like Pike, also treated Mt. Almagre as nothing but a ridge that was part of Pikes Peak, as he states "On the south the mountain [Pikes Peak] is continued..." going on to describe Almagre [xx] James, Edwin, *Account of an Expedition from Pittsburg to the Rocky Mountains*, Ed. Maxine Benson. July 14, 1820- Army surgeon Edwin James (Long's party)

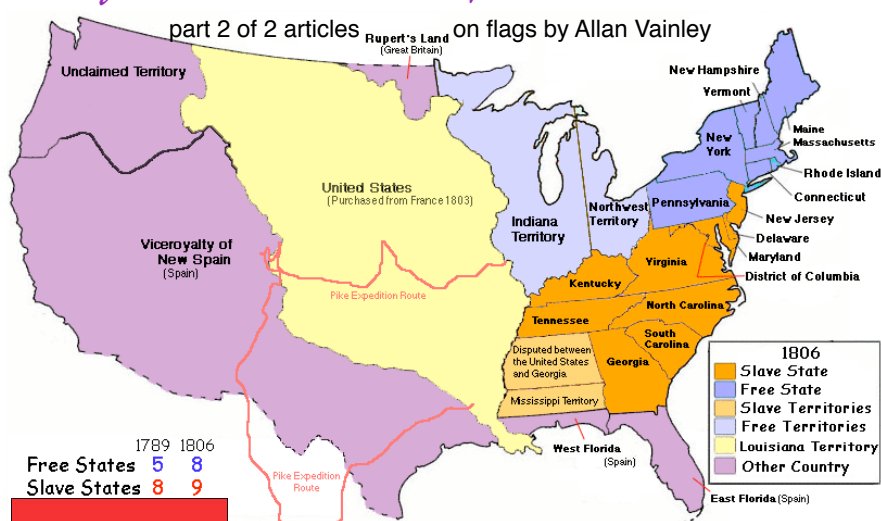
The following chart takes Pikes description and compares it to what is found by climbing each mountain:

Issue:	Black Mt.	Blue	Miller	Gray Back	Chey- enne	Rosa
1. Can base camp be reached "at the base" of the mountain "on a creek" with a march of 34 miles from the confluence of Fountain Creek and the Arkansas River?				■		■
2. Is there a rock shelter (cave) area about an hour from the summit?	■				■	■
3. Is the summit of Pikes Peak obscured by intervening terrain during the entire climb?						■
4. Does the summit of Pikes Peak appear only when the summit is this mountain is reached?						■
5. Can the summit of Pikes Peak be seen from the summit of this mountain?	■				■	■
6. Will it take about 10 hours to complete the climb from base camp to the summit?						■
7. Is there an area where Pike could see buffalo below him while high on the mountain?	■	■	■			■
8. Is there an easy descent route by following a stream back to base camp that can be described as a "deep ravine?"						■
9. Is the Shelving Rock on Turkey Creek about 4 ½ hours hiking time from the base camp?						■
10. Is the lapse rate (temperature decline at elevation) consistent with the height gained from base camp to the summit?						■
11. While on the summit can one reasonably describe it as the highest one in the area excepting Pikes Peak?						■
12. Is the summit about 15 to 16 miles from the summit of Pikes Peak?						

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It must be noted that all of the mountains fail to meet Pike's estimate that the mountain he climbed was "fifteen or sixteen miles" from the summit of Grand Peak. Mt. Rosa's summit is 7.8 miles in a direct line from Pikes Peak. (Continued on page 4)

Subsequent States the Pike Expedition Touched, the Question of Slavery, and the State Flags



STATE in order of entry	DATE of entry	STATE number
LA Louisiana	Apr 30, 1812	(18th)
MO Missouri	Aug 10, 1821	(24th)
TX Texas	Dec 29, 1845	(28th)
KS Kansas	Jan 29, 1861	(34th)
NE Nebraska	Mar 1, 1867	(37th)
CO Colorado	Aug 1, 1876	(38th)
OK Oklahoma	Nov 16, 1907	(46th)
NM New Mexico	Jan 6, 1912	(47th)

The 1806-7 Pike Expedition traversed areas which would become 9 states and Mexico, 8 states of which he explored. There is a varied issues which stood in the way to statehood history of the

and while the slavery issue was not a question for Pike, the slavery issue played a role in the entry into the union of 4 of these states as our nation was heading toward Civil War.

Louisiana - Pike covered 60 miles in LA upon his return on July 1, 1807. With the Louisiana Purchase of 1803, the US claimed the vital port of New Orleans together with a history of questions about French slaves, insubordinate slaves from the West Indies, mixed with past French and Spanish control. Louisiana would enter the Union on April 30, 1812 (18th) as a slave state, and it's flag [below] conveys an interesting message.

Missouri entered the Union on August 10, 1821 (24th) as a slave state as a result to the Missouri Compromise, following a lengthy debate to balance the number of slave and free states, It's flag contains 24 stars in a circle with 24 more stars above the two bears is the state symbol.

Texas became a Republic breaking with the Mexican province of Coahuila on November 9, 1835. Texas was annexed to the US on July 4, 1845 and became the union's 28th state on December 29, 1845 as a slave state. It's statehood further led to the Mexican-American War.

Kansas On May 30, 1854, the territories of Nebraska and Kansas were established divided by the Parallel 40° North. Kansas became a free state on January 29, 1861 (34th).

Nebraska became our 37th state on March 1, 1867 shortly after the Civil War. Slavery was practiced in the territory and state.

Colorado In 1850, the US created the mineral rich area of the future Colorado with the Territory of New Mexico and the Territory of Utah. On August 1, 1876 (28 days after the Centennial of the United States), U.S. President Ulysses S. Grant signed a proclamation admitting the State of Colorado to the Union as the 38th state and earning it the moniker "Centennial State". One issue which held up statehood was women's suffrage.

New Mexico After the 1846-48 Mexican-American War and the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848, Mexico ceded its mostly unsettled northern holdings, our American Southwest and California, to the US. New Mexico became our 47th state on January 6, 1912.

Oklahoma Although Pike never set foot in Sequoyah, where Indian land would be allotted, Oklahoma became our 46th state on November 16, 1907. Slavery was practiced.

Mexico gained it's independence from Spain on September 16, 1810 (dieciséis de septiembre) which signaled free trade with the US. With Pike's information about cost of goods, the building of the the Santa Fe Trail from Independence MO to Santa Fe NM was spurred. Pike wrote extensively in 1807 about the independence sentiments in New Spain.

Cinco de Mayo (fifth of May) on May 5, 1862 is commonly and wrongfully thought to be Mexico's day of independence. Rather it celebrates Mexican heritage and pride. The holiday commemorates the Mexican army's improbable victory over French forces at the Battle of Puebla, under Mexican General Ignacio Zaragoza Seguín defeating a much better-equipped French army.

In 1861, Mexico ceased making interest payments to France (and other European countries). In response, France attacked Mexico to force payment of this debt by occupation. In 1863, the French occupied Mexico. The French, under U.S. pressure, eventually withdrew in 1866-1867.



Missouri August 10, 1821 (24th)



Kansas January 29, 1861 (34th)



Nebraska March 1, 1867 (37th)



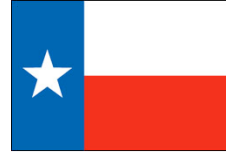
Colorado August 1, 1876 (38th)



New Mexico January 6, 1912 (47th)



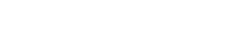
Oklahoma November 16, 1907 (46th)



Mexico September 16, 1810



Texas December 29, 1845 (28th)



Louisiana April 30, 1812 (18th)

Which Mountain? continued from Page 3

If Pike was estimating the ground distance it would be more but still not "fifteen or sixteen miles." Colorado Springs city center is less than that from the summit of Pikes Peak. All of the potential summits are closer to Pikes Peak than 15 or 16 miles. Pike had been fooled by the distance from his location to Pikes Peak at least three times. He left today's Pueblo on a Monday at 1 PM and thought he would climb the peak and be back by Wednesday evening. He thought he would climb the peak on Tuesday. He left his blankets and gear at base camp on Wednesday morning thinking he would be back that night after ascending Pikes Peak. It was much farther than he estimated, and from the summit of the mountain he climbed he now *overestimated* the distance by doubling it after *underestimating* it 3 days in a row. James made the same error in thinking that it was 8 or 9 miles from the summit of Pikes Peak to the summit of Almagre. [xx] In reality it is only four miles distance between the summits. This one item of description by Pike is a neutral for all the summits, for it does not aid or detract from any of them. Pike's estimate of mileage was only accurate so long as he could use his cased pocket watch over terrain that allowed his men to "march" as he termed it. Over broken, but basically open country he and his men usually averaged a bit above 2 miles each hour. Once climbing, this method was useless and he had to rely on visual estimates. He gave no estimate as to mileage covered, only the time it took, for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

"The Law" In civil and criminal law the jury is the sole decider of what happened. The jury is in charge of the facts. The judge is in charge of the law having received it from the legislature. Among historians it is different. There are historical researchers who posit opinions and their ideas are read and reviewed by their peers. Among mountaineering historians, William R. Bueler has been recognized as one of the deans of the art. He examined the Grand Teton controversy and set forth a fair standard to follow. He wrote, "The only reasonable position for a mountaineering historian to take is that, when honorable men claim to have reached a summit and when they can reasonably be assumed to have had the time and skill to do so, then it becomes incumbent upon any challenger to provide convincing contrary evidence..." [xxi]

The Argument I used to argue to juries that truth is like a well founded bell. A fine bell will sound the same no matter where it is struck. Truth will not only be consistent with itself, but will all other provable facts. Robert Ingersoll described this as, "Every molecule in the universe is in a conspiracy against a lie or a mistake." Only one mountain, and no other, meets the test. Mount Rosa is no longer conjectural, or even probable, as it has been proven to be the only mountain that they could have climbed. Some maintain that we can not, with certainty, ascertain the route followed by historical characters by just taking journal entries and comparing them to the topography. Only archeological artifacts tied to the historic trek will suffice, they argue. This may be true if we are investigating Hannibal's route over the Alps (there are 5 possible passes he could have taken), or Coronado's actual path from Santa Fe to Kansas, but, it should not be a hard and fast rule that must be applied to all cases. Here we are dealing with a climb of less than 10 miles from the base camp to the summit, and the evidence is overpowering.

[xx] James, Edwin, *Account of an Expedition from Pittsburg to the Rocky Mountains*, Ed. Maxine Benson. July 14, 1820- Army surgeon Edwin James (Long's party)

[xxi] Bueler, William R., *Who First Climbed the Grand Mountain*.

Concludes in the next Newsletter - July/August edition

Join Now! Please consider membership in our organization

Level	Amt.	Level Name	Level	Amt.	Level Name
Student	\$15	Corporal Jackson	Small Business	\$75	Robinson-Brown-Miller
Individual	\$25	Sergeant Meek	Corporation	\$200 & up	Carter-Gordon-Mountjoy-Roy
Family	\$35	Menaugh-Stout	Benefactor	\$500	Sparks-Daugherty
Non profit organization	\$50	Vasquez-Smith	Life	\$1000	Zebulon Pike

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____ The Pike Assoc. website

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

____ Historic/heritage investigation

____ Providing educational opportunities

Phone (____) _____ Cell _____

____ Producing educational materials

e-mail _____

____ I /we will personally contact legislators for legislative support

____ I /we will write letters of legislative support

____ I/we would like to help in any way (Assoc. will contact)

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