



General Zebulon Montgomery Pike

Progress on designation

The feasibility study is still hung up at the National Park Service in Washington after 18 months having been completed by the feasibility study team. Communication is difficult.

Fire at Colorado Gator Reptile Sanctuary in Mosca, CO, on April 18th 2023- several animals did not survive... All alligators and crocodiles were safe

Most of the rescue snakes, lizards, tortoises, parrots, and cats perished. The Mosca-Hopper Fire Department was able to save three dwarf caimans and several turtles and tortoises.

No foul play is suspected at this time, and the fire department is still investigating.

Fortunately, all alligators and crocodiles who resided outside that building were unharmed. The fish building where many other turtles, fish and sharks were housed also were unharmed. Two buildings were destroyed but the sanctuary remains open.

Jay Young, general manager of the reptile Park and son of Erwin Young Colorado Gator Farm's founder, said, "The fire began at 4:30 am with little chance of putting it out. The smoke made it impossible. How anything survived was amazing." "It is what it is and we have to move on."

Mark Young writes, "My Mom, Dad and brother Jay Young, have put their whole life into saving orphaned animals and reptiles. Only a few survived the fire. They had close to 1000 orphaned animals they had taken in over the last 40 years. Please help with \$100 or anything you can to help them rebuild this important place. They have given animals from all over the world a home so they wouldn't be destroyed."

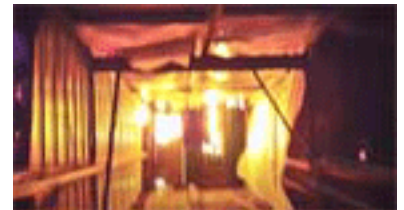
KRDO-ABC TV News Channel 13 reports that it will take several thousands of dollars to restore the buildings.

Alamosa Citizen reports that, "A GoFundMe for the Colorado Gators Reptile Sanctuary is open. Their goal of \$150,000 is already making headway with over \$19,000 in donations in its first 24 hours."

"It's a regional landmark," remarked Alamosa County Sheriff Robert Jackson. "That family is really part of our community."

For us at the Pike National Historic Trail Association, we are happy that Erwin and Jay and families are safe and that Erwin's dream will be rebuilt.

Erwin's Report 6/20/23: "It took two months to receive demolition permits and three days to do the demo. We hope to have the buildings built by the end of August and full operations in November.



New Corporate members

The Pike National Historic Trail Association welcomes two new Corporate sponsors/members- The Pikes Peak Historical Society and Red Cloud Heritage Tourism Development in Red Cloud Nebraska.

Our Corporate Partners



Both organizations support designation of the Pike National Historic Trail and are patiently waiting for designation.

Pike National Historic Trail Association



PIKES PEAK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Pikes Peak Historical Society preserves the history of Florissant and the Pikes Peak western slope. PPHS owns and operates two museums:

The Pikes Peak Historical Society Museum, at 18033 Teller County Road #1 across from the Florissant Post Office, and the Schoolhouse Museum located at Teller County Road #31 and Wildhorn.

Red Cloud Heritage Tourism Development

New Corporate members Continued



Red Cloud Heritage Tourism Development has offices in the National Walla Cather Center in Red Cloud, Nebraska. Jarrod McCartney, the Director, has been particularly helpful in locating and photographing the Pawnee Village location that Pike visited in Nebraska on the Republican River in 1806.

Others in Red Cloud have helped locate Pike's defense locations on the north side of the River.

Together with the Guide Rock historical marker, we are becoming somewhat establish in Nebraska.

2023 Annual membership and board meeting Report

The 2023 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AND BOARD MEETING began at 10:02 AM MST on May 20, 2023 as a Zoom Phone Call.

1 Brian Pike brought up several topics:

He suggested looking on the Lewis and Clark website for things we could pick up on.

He feels that designation is very important and we need to be pushing forward for it.

He felt the newsletter was most important tool for communication we have.

He was concerned about Paypal and the confusion and using it on our website.

Many people have told him that they have gotten confused using it and gave up.

He has not had a response from KIA regarding Chief Petty Officer US Navy retired

Zebulon Montgomery Pike III appearing in an ad and KIA's financial help.

2 The treasurer reported a balance in the treasury of less than \$2000. Large expenses occur during the year including Board Liability & Website costs.

3 BUDGET 2023-2024 If designation does occur our financial position will likely change. Harv asked Mike to find the names of Byway commissions which overlap the Pike Trail.

4 ELECTION OF BOARD SLATE – passed unanimously. Remaining unfilled- Secretary Recording and Corresponding, Storekeep & Custodian of Association Goods

5 MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Drive had limited success. 80% receiving the newsletter have **never** paid for membership or donated. Concern was voiced about Paypal confusion by many people i.e. for potential members

6 PRESIDENT'S REPORT-

a. Fire at Gator Farm Mosca, CO - demo permits are difficult to procure. Sufficient funds are available to rebuild.

b. Communications- [*see stories below*]

i. Video production by the Iowa Mississippi River Commission featuring Pike. Brian will partially narrate in their production.

ii. Constance Barone [Sackets Harbor NY] reports their production of 'Hello from "the path of totality"'

The April 8, 2024 solar eclipse passes directly over Pike's grave in Sackets Harbor NY.

iii. Colorado Springs Gazette article Sep 23, 2022 completely covered Pike and our Association.

LINK: https://gazette.com/life/while-pike-national-historic-trail-stalls-effort-leader-stays-on-path-of-discovery/article_1d4ee690-3927-11ed-a11c-db6d5d64c157.html

iv. TravelStorysGPS creators of smart phone apps is producing an app regarding Pike @ Cotopaxi & the upper Arkansas. Brian and Harv will partially narrate in their production.

7 The DESIGNATION PLAN includes, in the near future, Mike, Harv and John Murphy visiting the KIA Colorado Springs general manager. We will also visit Senator Hickenlooper's office and Natasha in Senator Bennett's office.

Plan for designation and beyond

Prior to the designation bill introduction and enactment, we will

† Act on NPS recommendations, † review feasibility study draft, † go through the designation bill process in Congress, † designation,

Following passage- management committee membership, **additions to designation:** Pike in Mexico – international, Pike's first expedition Mississippi, Pike on the Ohio early life, Pike in Toronto and heroic death — doubly international.

Another Glance at November 26-27, 1806 Summit Pikes Peak



Pikes Peak from Mt. Rosa 7.78 miles distant

Pikes peak from the top of Mt. Rosa
From eastern Colorado Springs, you
can spot its unique "witch's hat"
profile by looking at Pike's Peak.

From November 25th to 29th, 1806, Captain Zebulon Montgomery Pike, Dr. John Robinson, Pvt. Theodore Miller and Pvt. John Brown set out to summit Pike's Grand Peak. Lt. Zebulon Pike's unit was ambushed by the weather. They spent one night in a cave on the southeastern ridge of Mt Rosa at 10,400'. The next day he reached the summit, climbing through waist deep snow, only to realize that his goal was still eight miles away, farther north.

They were 7.78 miles away and 2611' below the summit. [Mount Rosa [11,504'] Pikes Peak [14,115'].]

[Lieut. now Captain Zebulon Montgomery Pike (promoted 12 August 1806- unknown to him)]

25th November, Tuesday.- Marched early, with an expectation of ascending the mountain, but was only able to encamp at its base, after passing over many small hills covered with cedars air pitch pines. Our encampment was on a creek where we found no water for several miles from the mountain, but near its base found springs sufficient. Took a meridional observation, in The altitude of the mountain. Killed two buffalo. Distance 22 miles.

Camp Location: Deadman's Gulch just E of Keeton Ranch Rd. and CO 115, Colorado Springs, CO/ on Little Fountain Creek El Paso County, CO 38.67961, -104.8451

26th November, Wednesday.- Expecting to return to our camp that evening, we left all our blankets and provisions, at the foot of the mountain. Kill a deer of a new species, it hung his skin on a tree with some meat. We commenced ascending, found it very difficult, being obliged to climb up rocks, sometimes almost perpendicular; and after marching all day, we encamped in a cave, without blankets, victuals or water. We had a fine clear sky, whilst it was snowing at the bottom. On the side of the mountain, we found only yellow and pitch pine. Some distance up we found buffalo, Higher still the newer species of deer and pheasants.

Camp Location: Small cave on SE ridge of Mt. Rosa at 10,700 feet Teller County, CO GPS: 38.74718, -104.94385

27th November, Thursday.- Arose hungry, dry, and extremely sore, from the inequality of the rocks, on which we had lain all night, but were amply compensated for toil by the sublimity of the prospects below. The unbounded prairie was overhung with clouds, which appeared like an ocean in the storm; wave piled upon wave and foaming, whilst the sky was perfectly clear where we were. Commenced our march up the mountain, and in about one hour arrived at the summit of this chain: **here we found the snow middle deep**; no sign of beast or bird inhabiting the region. The thermometer which stood at **9° above 0 [Réaumur] at the foot of the mountain [52°F], here fell to 4° below 0 [-4° Ré = 23°Fahrenheit]**. The summit of the Grand Peak, which was entirely bare of vegetation and covered with snow, now appeared at a distance of 15 or 16 miles from us, and as a high again as what we had ascended, it would've taken a whole days march to arrive at its base, when I believe no human being could have ascended to his pinical. This with the condition of my soldiers who had only light overhauls on, and no stockings, and every way ill prepared to endure the inclemency of the region; the bad prospect of killing any thing to subsist on, with the further detention of two or three days, which it must occasion, **determined us to return**. The clouds from above had now ascended the mountain and entirely enveloped the summit on which rest eternal snows. We descended by a long deep ravine with much difficulty than contemplated. Found all our baggage safe, but the provisions all destroyed. It began to snow, it we sought shelter over the side of the projecting rock, w[h]ere we, all four, made a meal of one partridge and a piece of deer's ribs, the ravens had left us, the first we had eaten in that 48 hours.

Camp Location: Deadman's Gulch just E of Keeton Ranch Rd. and CO 115, Colorado Springs, CO/ Little Fountain Creek El Paso County, CO 38.67961, -104.8451

28th November, Friday.- Marched at 9 o'clock. Kept straight down the creek to avoid the hills. At half past one o'clock shot two buffalo, when we made the first full meal we had in three days. Encamped in a valley under a shelving rock. The land here very rich, and covered with old Tetau camps.

Camp Location: approx. 38.5444, -104.8257 on Turkey Creek near the Pueblo/ El Paso county line

29th November, Saturday.- Marched after a short repast, in arrived at our camp [Pueblo] before night; found all well.

Camp Location: Pueblo stockade-Mouth of Fountain Creek in the Arkansas River (original location) Pueblo County, CO 38.249517, -104.592419

Routes:

The route that Pike's group took was the "highroad" to ascend [orange on map] and the "low road" along Little Fountain Creek to descend [red on map].



If they had decided to summit by continually climbing up and down perpendicular, sheer peaks and in 4 feet of snow a distance of at least 13.2 miles, it would've been nearly impossible.

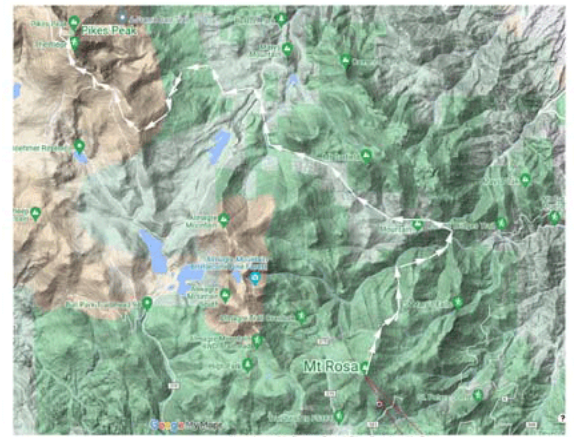
Naming of Mt. Rosa - Zebulon Pike & Rose Kingsley

The summit of Mt Rosa is at 11,533 ft. It was named for Rose Kingsley, an aristocratic young English woman who arrived in Colorado Springs in 1871, and, incidentally, started its first library. She was an avid hiker, and soon earned the nickname Rosa del Mont, or Rose of the Mount. Ms Kingsley was the first woman to climb this mountain.

John Patrick Michael Murphy emailed 5 /1/23, "The Kingsleys were friends with the Palmer's. General Palmer had it named for her. Her father was Charles Kingsley was the author of The Man Without a Country."

Réaumur temperature conversion formulae $x^{\circ}\text{Ré} = (x \times 9/4 + 32) \text{ F}$.

<https://www.metric-conversions.org/temperature/reaumur-to-fahrenheit.htm>



Communication from Constance Barone Sackets Harbor Battlefield Historic Site-

Connie, who we consider the custodian of Pike's final resting place, wrote on 4/12/23:

Hello from "the path of totality" Sackets Harbor,

Nice to hear from you and see that Zebulon's burial site is mentioned in your extensive report on the 2024 eclipse [1st quarter Pike newsletter].

I am working on news articles now for our 2023 planned "Path of Totality: Sackets Harbor Battlefield" series of events for this coming season.

These include two summer evening star-gazing programs, an afternoon with a living history presenter focusing on early 19th c. farming practices as they relate to the seasons, and a late autumn StoryWalk with the library featuring a children's book about eclipses.

Next April our site will not be officially open for the season but the few staff here will be on the grounds that day to greet eclipse gazers.

The community is doing a great deal of planning right now leading up to the eclipse day in April 2024.

I will of course be sure to include mention of your Association and the publicity you regularly provide for Sackets Harbor, due to Zebulon's important story.

If you think of anything Pike-related that we might add to our summer programs this year, or even something we might do in April during the event, let me know.

Best wishes,

Connie

Iowa Mississippi River Parkway Commission Pike Project

Ann Geiger, Princeton, IA, Secretary of the Iowa Mississippi River Parkway Commission called to let us know that they are producing a video about Pike and his first expedition up the Mississippi. It will include images from the Pikes Peak State Park in Iowa as well as the General Pike dam [Dam 11] in Dubuque and DAR marker in Dubuque.

Painting Pikes Men Cotopaxi Colorado Audio tour

Todd Bachmann, Producer of travelstorysgps.com called to request permission to feature [Ed French's painting 'Pikes Men in Cotopaxi Colorado'](#) for an audio tour of the Bighorn Sheep Canyon Colorado. The audio tour is in conjunction with the Colorado Board of Tourism, the Fremont Heritage County Commission and others. The tour will be offered for free on the audio tour smartphone app called [TravelStorysGPS](#). It's to highlight the distinctive Bighorn Sheep canyon region and its history. Part of what we highlight is Pike Expedition through the Upper Arkansas from Cañon City and link Pike's exploration as an important role in American history and its western expansion. We talk about his time passing through Cotopaxi, which makes Mr. French's painting worthwhile to feature. It will be a corresponding digital image to the audio tour within the app. We'd like a version with the watermark signature less pronounced so it doesn't interfere with the imagery. We can link to the zebulonpike.org website and, maybe, directly to the store.

Animation of the path April 8, 2024 Solar Eclipse link:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solar_eclipse_of_April_8,_2024#/media/File:SE2024Apr08T.gif



Marshall Pike enjoys his life membership and the effort to memorialize his relative with the Congressional designation.

GOING FORWARD AS AN ASSOCIATION IS BECOMING FINANCIALLY AND CONCEPTUALLY IRRESPONSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR HELP.

Please- Renew your membership, donate or join for the first time. Send your **check** to:

Pike National Historic Trail Association PO Box 195 Conifer, CO 80433

Membership Categories

Student- \$15

Individual- Corporal Jeremiah E. Jackson \$25

Family- Sergeant William Meek \$35

Nonprofit Organization- Hugh Menaugh/Freegift Stout \$50

Small Business- Dr. John Robinson/John Brown/Theodore Miller \$75

Corporation- Jacob Carter/William Gordon John Mountjoy/Alexander Roy \$200

Benefactor- John Sparks/Thomas Daugherty \$500

LIFE membership- General Zebulon Montgomery Pike \$1000

To insure that the push for designation by Congress, we request that you e-sign at this link: <https://www.zebulonpike.org/designation-support/> . Please, please sign if you have not.

As the proposal moves into the final stages through government review and toward the desks of our members of Congress, please lend your support to help the Pike Trail take its place as one of the nation's National Historic Trails.

Send your **check** to: Pike National Historic Trail Association
PO Box 195 Conifer, CO 80433

Our **Vision** is TO PROVIDE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PIKE AND CELEBRATE HIS MEMORY AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Our **Purpose** is to establish federal designation of the Pike National Historic Trail.

"Zebulon Pike was an American hero, a patriot who lived and died for his country." -Thomas Jefferson

Contact us: 303/912-9939 harv.pike@gmail.com PO Box 195 Conifer CO 80433

Our Website: www.zebulonpike.org We are a charitable nonprofit organization. [501-C-3]

© 2023 Pike National Historic Trail Association

Questions for the quarter - Pike explored the Southwest and the Midwest on his second expedition, did he grow up and die in the middle east? Sorry for the double or triple meaning. and on Pike's first expedition up the Mississippi River was he exploring the upper or lower middle north?