



PIKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL ASSOCIATION

Monty Pike

Newsletter February— 2018 Vol. 12 No. 2

GOLDEN MEMORIES OF OUR ZEBULON

MONTGOMERY PIKE - MONTY by Monty (Fall 2009)



Golden [Colorado] was a pretty laid-back place when I was a kid in the 1920s and 30s. Coors was doing well, and many of the people in town worked either at the brewery or the pottery [Coors Ceramics]. The School of Mines was also an important part of the local economy. Even during the depression years Golden wasn't as bad off as a lot of places. Of course during Prohibition Coors had to make beer without alcohol—they called it near beer. They also produced malted milk, so they were able to keep going that way.

After high school I work for Colorado Central Power Company. I was going to school at the University of Denver. I'd take the #84 streetcar from the depot at 13th and Washington in Golden. From there it ran down through Pleasant View to Camp George West, through Lakewood and then to the station in Denver at 13th and Curtis. So I'd go school in the morning and then work at Colorado Central Power in the afternoon.

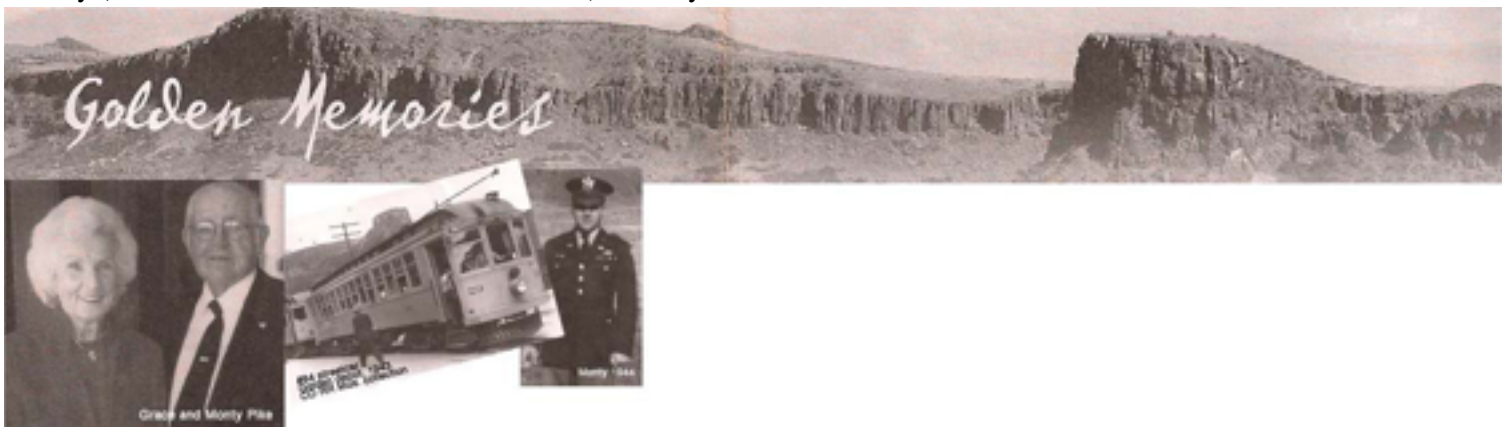
Uncle Sam came calling and I was in General Patton's infantry in Europe during World War II. I finally got my bachelor's degree in 1948. I was married to Grace by that time and we stayed in Golden. I had a series of jobs including managing the Golden Chamber of Commerce. One interesting job I had was doing the public relations for Magic Mountain, which is now Heritage Square.

Originally this was going to be a huge theme park along the lines of Disneyland, but the project was underfunded and went bankrupt after a few years. For a while we had a full-on narrow gauge railroad that ran in a figure eight, and we had a Baldwin engine and coal car. It cost 50 cents for a ride and in one year that train carried more people than the whole Burlington Northern system.

I also enjoyed being a volunteer firefighter. We had a house where the Foss Drug Store parking lot is now, and the fire station was across the street, and when the siren went off, well, I'd be dressed and sitting in the driver's seat of the fire truck before the other guys arrived. If you got there first, you got to drive the truck. One time I was having supper with Cliff Schoech and there was a fire at Stratton Hall at the School of Mines. We just ran on over, didn't bother to go to the station. Someone had been using heating oil in the basement and left and didn't turn off the heat and the oil caught fire. I remember Cliff broke out the window and as he did so the fire roared back in our faces. He was wearing his Lions Club tie and it almost evaporated— it shriveled up to about an inch long, and he lost his eyebrows and was severely burned. He recovered okay, but that was the worst fire I remember.

— — Monty was born in 1922. Grace and Monty live on beside Tenderfoot Hill in Salida, Colorado. He is the closest living relative to Zebulon Montgomery Pike for whom Pikes Peak is named.

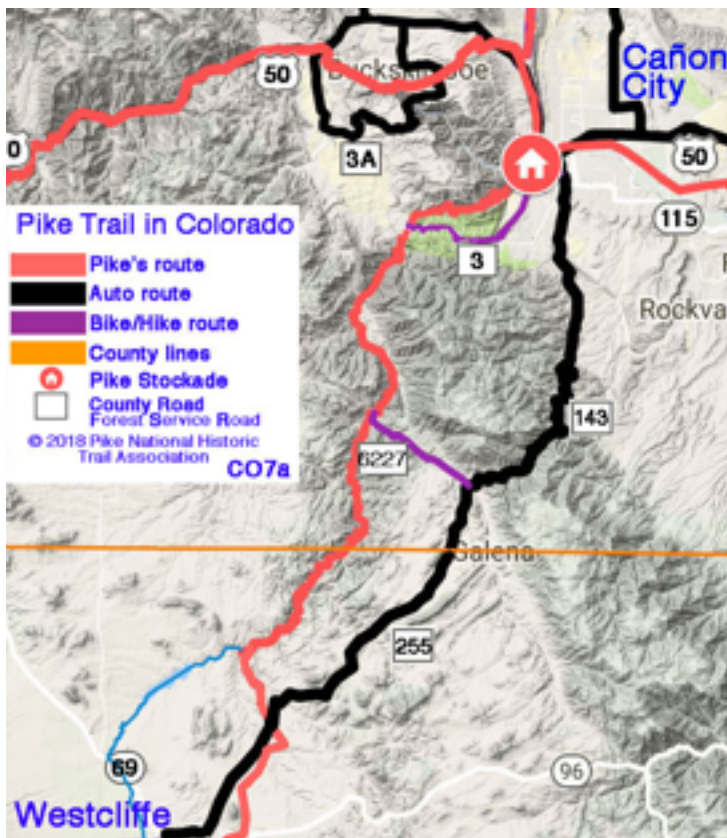
May we note that Monty is a past Pike Family Association President, and our Pike Association 1st Vice President, Emeritus. Monty (as well as his celebrated direct line uncle) not only are named the same, but he is as much a hero.



Monty's exemplary service during WW II illustrates that the two Montys have like characters we as Americans can emulate.

ANNUAL MEETING- Saturday May 19, 2018 at 9am at the Royal Gorge.

CAÑON CITY INTO THE WET MOUNTAIN VALLEY by Allan Vainley (WE QUOTE PIKE IN GREEN.)



Early January, 1807- Pike is in Cañon City at what he referred to as “Arkansaw foot of the Mountains.” Very little is known of the area watercourses by him.

They have had four options:

- Return east,
- Explore territory north,
- Traverse west beyond the Royal Gorge, or
- Travel south.

East- The decision to return to the east was out of the question.

FYI- Unknown to Pike- If he removes his group from the mountains and travels south, it is possible to find the north branch of the Canadian River, not the Red River.

Major Long in 1820 made such an error. ¹

¹- Jackson, Donald, *Journals (of ZMP)*, Univ. of Oklahoma Press, 1966, V1, p. 366.

North and West- While having traveled generally on the north side of the Arkansas River (perhaps to avoid conflicted interest with the Spanish) in search for the Red River, they have eliminated options b. and c, finding they were still on the Arkansas.

South- The plans are now to travel south up Grape Creek toward the Wet Mountain Valley toward the Sangre de Cristos Mountains.

Pike's Trip

**Pike CO 7a Ascending Grape Creek from the Cañon City Stockade to Fourmile Gulch 26.2 miles
Elevation climb 5332-7888 = 2556 feet (0.48mi)**

After returning to the Cañon City stockade, the party was once more all together in need of rest. Their remaining horses had all suffered injuries on the ice and could not be further used. They needed food.

- Pike, 9th January, Friday “I now felt at considerable loss how to proceed, as any idea of services at that time for my horses were entirely preposterous; thus after various plans formed and rejected, and the most mature deliberation, I determined to build a small place for defence and deposit, and leave part of the baggage, horses, my interpreter and one man, and with the balance, our packs of Indian presents, ammunition, tools, &c. on our backs, cross the mountains on foot, find the Red river, and then send back a party to conduct their horses and baggage by the most eligible route we could discover, by which time the horses would be so recovered as to be able to endure a march.

Camp Location: Cañon City, CO 81212 Elevation: 5332 feet GPS: 38.434625, -105.255755

The next few days were spent constructing the block houses, hunting, taking care of the horses, and preparing to leave, etc. They spent five days in preparation to journey up the Grape Creek (Pike referred to it as Branch Creek) which enters the Arkansas River on its south side about a mile west of the stockade which they had constructed. Grape Creek runs from the Wet Mountain Valley (located south) 25 miles through a mountain canyon.

They were about to ascend 2556 feet for 25 miles in the Grape Creek Canyon struggling to avoid getting wet. Little did they know there would be days ahead with very cold weather, trudging through several feet of snow with 70 pounds on their backs, hunger, and frostbite which would require leaving three men in the Valley.

Leaving the Cañon City Stockade/ Blockhouse on foot

- Pike, 14th January, Wednesday. “We marched our party, consisting of 18 soldiers, the doctor and myself, each of us carrying 45 lbs. and as much provision as he thought proper, which, with arms, &c. made on an average, 70 lbs. leaving Baroney and one man, Patrick Smith.

We crossed the first ridge (leaving the main branch of the river to the north of us,) and struck on the south fork, on which we encamped, intending to pursue it thro’ the mountains, as its course was more southerly.

The doctor killed one deer. Distance 13 miles.

Camp Location: On Grape Creek 1 mile above the head of Temple Canyon between Horseshoe and Dawson Mtns. in Fremont County, CO 38.396930, -105.331195

15th January, Thursday.- Followed up this branch and passed the main ridge, of what I term the Blue Mountains. Halted early. The doctor, myself, and one hunter, went out with our guns, each killed a deer, and brought them into camp. Distance 19 miles.

Camp Location: On Grape Creek 1 mile N of Fremont/Custer line Fremont County CO Elevation: 6970 feet GPS: 38.27865, -105.35493

16th January, Friday.- Marched up the creek all day. Encamped early as it was snowing. I went out to hunt, but killed nothing. Deer on the hill; the mountains lessening. Distance 18 miles.

Camp Location: Down creek from DeWeese Reservoir on Grape Creek at Fourmile or Johnson Gulch Elevation: 7520 feet GPS; 38.21845, -105.41463 (Westcliffe- Elevation: 7888 feet)

Pike's estimate of the distance they traveled was 50 miles for these three days January 14-16, 1807. The actual distance is 26 miles. One can conjecture that distance judgement is difficult in a canyon.

On 17th January, Saturday.- Marched about 4 miles, when the great White Mountain [Sangre de Cristo] presented itself before us, in sight of which we had been for more than one month, and through which we supposed lay the long sought Red river.

They would now be forced to spend 11 days in the Wet Mountain Valley with temperatures at night at -10 ° F. (See THE WORST 11 DAYS OF THE SECOND EXPEDITION in the November 2017 Pike Newsletter.)

Your Trip CO 7 Section a for Auto, Bike, & Hike on Oak Creek Grade (Identical route) CO 7 S1 Cañon City Stockade/Blockhouse 110 Tunnel Dr, Cañon City, CO to Westcliffe, CO via Oak Creek Grade (Fremont County Road 143 & Custer County Road 255)

53.4 miles including 14 mi to Pike encampment near Temple Canyon and 8 mi to Pike encampment near Bear Gulch side trips (not marked). 32.2 miles without side trips.



Auto- 2 h 26 min (53.4 miles) (To avoid Oak Creek Grade - See below)

1h 6min w/o side trips



Bike- 7 h 3 min (53.4 miles)

4h 7min w/o side trips



Hike- 19 h 6 min (53.4 miles)

11h 28min w/o side trips

Side trips to two Pike Encampment areas- Both WEST of Oak Creek Grade:

1. Side Trip- To Temple Canyon/ Grape Creek bridge on Fremont County Road 3 from CR 143 7.2 miles one way 14.4 miles round trip

2. Side Trip- To Bear Gulch on Access Rd 6227: Directions from Fremont County Route 143 4.09mi one way 8.2 miles round trip

Cañon City Stockade/Blockhouse 110 Tunnel Dr, Cañon City, CO 81212 (38.436724, -105.257778)

Head northeast on Tunnel Dr toward US-50 W 0.2 mi

Turn right onto Royal Gorge Blvd 0.6 mi

Turn right onto S 1st St 1.1 mi

1. Side Trip to Jan 14th Encampment area- To Temple Canyon- Grape Creek CR3 bridge Turn right onto Temple Canyon Rd 6.5 mi Auto 27min (8.3 mi) Bike 1 h 4 min (8.3 mi)

CR3-Temple Canyon Rd, Grape Creek bridge Cañon City, CO 81212

Head northeast on Temple Canyon Rd 6.5 mi

Turn right onto Mariposa Rd 0.3 mi

Turn left onto Valley Rd 0.3 mi

Turn left onto Forge Rd 0.4 mi

Turn right onto Oak Creek Grade 13.2 mi

2. Side Trip to Jan 15th Encampment area- To Bear Gulch

Turn right onto Access Rd 6227 0.9 mi

Turn left to stay on Access Rd 6227 59 ft

Turn right to stay on Access Rd 62273.1 mi

Auto 1h 11 min (24.6 mi) Bike 3 h 24 min (24.6 mi)

Bear Gulch and W end of Access Rd 6227, Cañon City, CO 81212

Turn right onto Oak Creek Grade	15.1 mi
Turn right onto Main St	1.3 mi
Turn left onto S 6th St	436 ft
Turn right onto Rosita St	0.1 mi

Auto 46 min (20.5 mi) Bike 2 h 24 min (20.5 mi)

Westcliffe, Colorado 81252

Auto- Oak Creek Grade is a well-kept road. Alt. Rt. Cañon City to Westcliffe: Take US-50W 35mi for 40min to Texas Creek, then south on CO-69 15 mi for 13.8 min. Total: 56 miles (50 min)

THE MORE PRIVATE THOMAS JEFFERSON (Part 2) by Allan Vainley

Jefferson's Predicaments (Messes)

We checked out the many biographies about him and ran across a small book about the private Thomas Jefferson- *How Jefferson Made the Best of Bad Messes* by Jack Van Ens. Because Jefferson cherished privacy to keep his family from scandal and scrutiny, one rarely finds the quiet intimacies of his character.

- **Jilted by a young lady (~1763)**
- **Early death of 5 of 6 children- 4 very young, 1 at age 26. (1775-1785)**
- **Early death of his wife Martha in 1782. They married when he was 29. These were the "happiest years" of his life. She died ten years later.**
- **The Barbary Pirate War in the Mediterranean (1801–1805)**
- **Financial challenges with cash flow problems**
- **Stretching his authority and responsibility with the Louisiana Purchase (1803)**
- **His refusal to testify at the Aaron Burr trial for treason holding that Burr's guilt was "beyond question." 1807**

Jefferson certainly had his share of predicaments and messes. He grieved. He laid out firm plans of action to deal with messes and persevered in dealing with issues. He made the best of bad messes.

Short facts- He was interested in birds and wine, and was a noted gourmet; he was also a prolific writer and linguist, and spoke several languages.

As a naturalist, he was fascinated by the Natural Bridge geological formation in Virginia, and in 1774 successfully acquired the Bridge by grant from George III.

Jefferson was not an outstanding orator.

Life-long learner- One would hope, as he did, that each of us would attempt to emulate our 3rd President in being life long learners. He loved learning and his books. This prepared him to accomplish so much in his 83 years.

Jefferson searching mind- He believed in the use of a vacant mind and intellect. He sought truth personally by thinking. He approached the fears of decision-making so intensely that his only escape was thinking.

In many of the private areas-

Personal Liberty and Slavery-

It seems that there is a conflict between the public and private Jefferson. He had a blind spot. He is well known for equality and personal liberty for all humans yet he owned slaves.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."

Jefferson defended seven cases for freedom-seeking slaves, and 68 in for the Court of Virginia in 1767 arguing that **"everyone comes into the world with a right to his own person and using it at his own will ... This is what is called personal liberty, and is given him by the author of nature, because it is necessary for his own sustenance."** He held much the same view for native Americans.

As a Southerner, however, he could not altogether let go of slavery choosing not to act on his conviction perhaps to avoid scandal.

The private Jefferson rarely addressed the topic of his slaves. Throughout his life he owned slaves. Upon his death he freed them. In past articles we have pointed out that he lived culturally in a era where the southern planter economy was dependent on slave labor. He inherited many slaves from his father and father-in-law and bought slaves in order to unite black families. Many were born on his plantations.

He is described as a benevolent slaveowner. What is meant? He didn't overwork his slaves allowing reasonable hours, winter days off, and provided them log cabins with fireplaces, food, clothing and some household provisions, He gave his slaves financial and other incentives, something quite different in that day.

Religion-

The private Jefferson and Franklin avoided public display of his religious beliefs.

He said, "I am Christian, in the only sense in which [Jesus] wished any one to be." He defined 'being a Christian' as one who followed the simple teachings of Jesus.

Jefferson carefully reviewed New Testament teachings. He clearly rejected "orthodox" Christianity and was firmly anticlerical.

While at Monticello in 1977, I was treated to view a copy of the Jefferson Bible which he titled *The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth*. Jefferson had copied Jesus' biblical teachings from the evangelists- Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in four parallel columns in Greek, Latin, French and English. He omitted miraculous or supernatural references. He encouraged reason over supernatural revelation.

He interpreted the First Amendment or Establishment Clause as having built "a wall of separation between Church and State."

Jefferson donated to the American Bible Society, And he contributed generously to several local denominations near Monticello.

His bill Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom, made illegal compelling attendance or contributions to any state-sanctioned religious establishment and declared that men "shall be free to profess ... their opinions in matters of religion."

Although unconventional in some of his religious beliefs, he believed in a creator god, an afterlife, and the sum of religion as loving God and neighbors.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION REINTRODUCED

Senator Bennet has reintroduced the Pike bill in the US Senate hoping for inclusion in an omnibus bill.

CAÑON CITY STOCKADE PAINTING AVAILABLE

Ed French, former Disney artist, has completed his Cañon City Stockade Painting- the 9th in the series.

PIKE CHILDREN'S COLORING BOOK AVAILABLE

The print price for this 48 page coloring book is \$9.57, \$10 for face to face sales in Fremont County. It is now available on www.amazon.com under Zebulon Pike an American Hero under books.

It is also up on Kindle.

DISNEY ARTIST COMPLETES NINE PAINTINGS IN OUR PIKE SERIES

Original oil:	\$5995 framed.
24x36" LE framed giclee' canvas print:	\$595
20x30" LE framed giclee' canvas print:	\$455
16"x20" Poster " open edition unframed (pictured)	\$24.95

Ordering- By mail: -Ed French- PO Box 300 Cotopaxi, CO 81223 **or**
-Pike National Historic Trail Association 10060 Blue Sky Trail Conifer, CO 80433 **or** -by phone 303-912-9939 **or** email: harv.pike@gmail.com

plus Modest Shipping cost Sales tax (4.5%) added if ordered in Colorado

Will you consider joining us or renewing? Membership blank below.

Won't you join our Association also!

We need you to renew your membership or join for the first time. Click here for a membership form: <http://zebulonpike.org/docs/MembershipBrochure.pdf> or complete and mail the membership form below.



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

We are a Charitable nonprofit organization Our website is www.zebulonpike.org

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

VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE- (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pike-National-Historic-Trail-Association/167853563238403?fref=ts>)

COIN SET AVAILABLE INDIVIDUAL COINS- \$3 LOOSE SETS OF SIX- \$20 FRAME SETS WITH PAMPHLET (PIKE'S WORDS AND AN EXPLANATION FOR EACH COIN) \$30. SHIPPING AND HANDLING- \$ 1.00

The Pike Association's vinyl decals- The cost is \$2.50 each with price breaks at 5, 10, or 25 decals, plus shipping.

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

Name _____

I will be able to help with:

Address _____

The Pike Assoc. website

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Historic/heritage investigation

Phone (____) _____ Cell _____

Providing educational opportunities

e-mail _____

Producing educational materials

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)

Contact us: 303/816-7424 harv.pike@gmail.com Additional gifts are tax deductible. Make checks payable to:

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PIKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL ASSOCIATION 10060 Blue Sky Trail Conifer CO 80433 303/816-7424

Pike Feb 2018 Newsletter

We are a tax exempt not-for profit Association under Section 501 (c) (3) IRC. Your contributions are deductible under section 170 of the Code.

ANNUAL MEETING- is tentatively set for Saturday May 19, 2018 at 9am at the Royal Gorge. We trust it will be good weather and that Saturday is a better day than Friday to meet.

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