



*Our Purpose: To Establish federal designation of the Pike National Historic Trail*  
 We are a Charitable nonprofit organization Our website is [www.zebulonpike.org](http://www.zebulonpike.org)  
 "Zebulon Pike was an American hero, a patriot who lived and died for his country." -Thomas Jefferson

# Pike National Historic Trail Association



Newsletter July-August 2015 Vol. 9 No. 5

*This is news and great news*

## 1. Smart phone app- Pike Heritage Zebulon Montgomery Pike Expeditions and Legacy

The Weldon Foundation Inc has fully funded our smart phone app. We are currently building that app with the folks in Auckland, NZ. We will likely publish it in mid September.

A little about what a smart phone app is all about--  
 The user of the app turns on his/her iPhone (iOS) or Android Smart phone, and engages our app at a location. Their smart phone matches it's location to material we supply (text, audio, video, pictures) and displays it on the screen for that location for them. (The National Park Service, Kit Shy and Harv have built an inventory of Pike signs/ locations.)

There are number of board members working on this app. We will need ideas and your help in making the app known. It's no good building the app if no one uses it.

This is all to accomplish one of our missions- to make Pike more generally known to the public.

## 2. Coin set with printed pamphlet -

Erwin, Jay and Lynn Young have produced 50 limited edition Pike coin sets (six to a set). This was accomplished as an incentive for membership but also to be sold across the state of Colorado and elsewhere to provide funds for Pike memorabilia preservation.

Packaging of individual coins, framed coin sets with our printed Pike coin pamphlet has been accomplished. The Royal Gorge and Fort Garland have agreed to sell these various products. We are looking to sell these in Manitou Springs, CO near the Barr Trail as well as the gift shop on Pike's Peak, the Visitor Center at the Great Sand Dunes National Park, the Museum in Alamosa, as well as from our address.



## 3. Our Pike Hiking Trail - Our Pike Hiking Trail in Colorado is now on the Colorado DNR recreation map.

## 4. Boy Scouts of America- Eagle projects -

We are currently cooperating with the Boy Scouts in Colorado to provide opportunities for those boys seeking Eagle Projects. One young man, Zander in Castle Rock, CO., is already planning a video interview of Monty Pike. Thanks Pat Surrena, Chairman, for getting this project moving.

## 5. Pike National Historic Trail- Colorado -

South Park National Heritage Area Executive Secretary Linda Balough has agreed to work on passing legislation in the Colorado Legislature to establish the Pike National Historic Trail- Colorado. When the legislation is framed, we will need Colorado residents to contact their State representative and senator for sponsorship and support of such a bill in the state legislature. Governor Hickenlooper will be contacted for his support.

## 6. Grant - Pike roadside panels -

We are currently applying for a Grant to fund 13 more Pike roadside panels in the San Luis Valley, Upper Arkansas, and Pikes Peak area. This and the smart phone app are being accomplished with our work with several organizations in the San Luis Valley.

See the accompanying proto type.



## 7. Membership Drive -

Brian Pike's efforts as membership chairman have paid off and we thank our renewing and new members for their generosity. Several from the Pike Family Association have joined and we have picked up a couple of corporate sponsors.

We will again be renewing our effort to encourage a greater membership. **Please join us!** Please encourage your friends as Brian and others have: to visit our website- [www.zebulonpike.org](http://www.zebulonpike.org) inquiring about membership. We can email information with an application to your friends. Printed membership brochures are available via snail mail from the Association address.

We will need matching funds should we acquire additional grants for projects.

Please if you have Corporate Contacts or ideas about corporate contacts regarding partnerships- contact Harv at 303/ 816 7424.

Continued - top of page 2

8. Pike song-

A person at the Westcliffe bluegrass festival in July has agreed to write a song about the Pike Expedition's struggles in the Wet Mountain Valley- Colorado 1806-7 and **Sons and Brothers** has agreed to debut the song at next year's festival in Westcliffe.

*Interesting sayings*

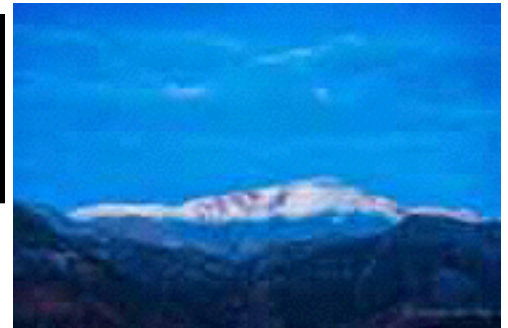
These quotes were posted on a wall in Pieology Pizza in CA.

"... no matter how big government gets, and no matter how many services it provides, it can never take the place of volunteers" — Ronald Reagan

"Whenever you reach the end of your rope, tie a knot in it and hang on" — Thomas Jefferson

"You are never too old to set another goal" —C.S. Lewis

*Pike's Grand Mountain-*  
The small Blue Cloud Picture-  
Thank you Jim Van Hoy for letting us use your excellent photo.



*Pike Humor*

The Monty Pike and John Robinson were camping in the wilderness. After they got their tent set up, both men fell sound asleep. Some hours later, Dr. Robinson wakes Monty and says, "Kemo Sabe, look towards sky, what you see?"

Monty replied, "I see millions of stars."

"What that tell you?" asked John.

Pike ponders for a minute then says, "Astronomically-speaking, it tells me there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, it tells me that Saturn is in Leo. Time-wise, it appears to be approximately a quarter past three in the morning. Theologically, the Lord is all-powerful and we are small and insignificant. Meteorologically, it seems we will have a beautiful day tomorrow.

What does it tell you, John?"

"You dumber than buffalo... It means someone stole our tent."

*The Pike National Historic Trail Association- our Facebook page*

Visit our Facebook page- (<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pike-National-Historic-Trail-Association/167853563238403?ref=ts>)



*Coin set available*

Coins are individually available as well as framed and loose coin sets. These are all Limited edition coins and numbers so they have additional historic value. They can be purchased from the Association.

*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- \$ 1.50*

*The Pike Association's vinyl decals-*

The new Pike vinyl decals are available for purchase\*.

We approved and aggressive membership plan with offering gifts as incentives for membership. We will emphasize not only your membership put that you actively seek membership of three other individuals and the Sponsorship of corporations with which you are associated.

Two corporations and one Foundation have donated funds and are sponsoring our projects.

The association budget will be available, upon request.

We are moving ahead aggressively with our efforts.

\* The cost is \$2.50 each with price breaks at 5, 10, or 25 decals, plus shipping.

*Our next Annual Meeting will be on April 30th 2016 at the Royal Gorge.*





Hey Monty- what did you walk into?

Dr. Keenan Lee is a Professor Emeritus - Colorado School of Mines.

Part 3- Making Today's visitor more aware.

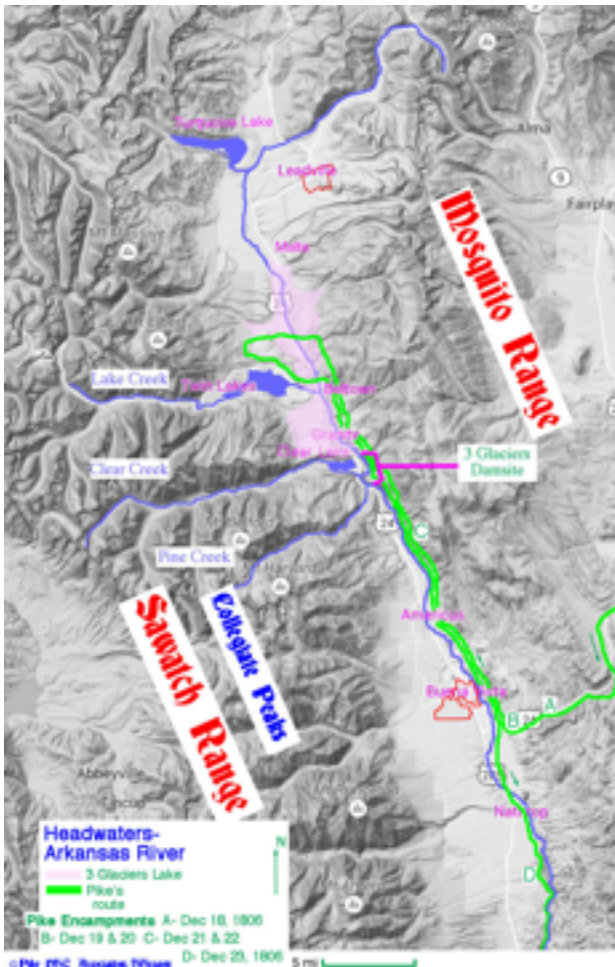
Part 1- Published Mar-Apr 2015 Pike Newsletter

Part 2- Published May-June 2015 Pike Newsletter

by Allan Vainley with help from Dr. Keenan Lee

Introduction- In Part 2 of this series I described an event which occurred in the upper Arkansas River Valley (the location of Pike's discovery of the Arkansas River headwaters- December 21 & 22, 1806) called the Three Glacier Flood. I will further describe this flood in this article with the purpose of informing today's visitor (using the Pike Trail and likely it's smart phone app) about what they are viewing. Hopefully this will make for a more enlightening visit.

Three Glacier Flood was probably the last of three or four floods that occurred in the valley at the end of glacial periods during the Pleistocene epoch. FYI- The first flood was older than 759 ka, and the second was older than 639 ka. The Pleistocene epoch included several glacial periods. The epoch ended about 10,000 years ago with our last ICE AGE. (Forerunners of modern humans, began to appear.)



Dr. Keenan Lee, a retired geologist from the Colorado School of Mines, has studied this area for years and describes for us in Colorado Outcrop Magazine what the geological record shows.

I am indebted for his help.

What you see today is the result of this last catastrophic damming and resultant flooding.

The map and the Three Glaciers Dam and Flood-

The area: South of Leadville, CO, Twin Lakes and Clear Lake to South of Buena Vista .

When Pike left the Johnson Village area (map point B) on December 21, 1806 to explore the headwaters with Mountjoy and Miller, he may not have noticed the unusually large boulders on the valley floor. The visitor today should note that the boulders (from Johnson Village north to Clear Lake- 18 miles) are not native to the valley but rather came from the Sawatch range to the west of Mt Elbert.



The main point of interest is how they got there.

At the decline of the last Ice Age, the Lake Creek glacier calved pushing the river east, and the Clear Creek and Pine Creek glaciers together formed an ice dam 670 ft high and a large lake 600 ft deep, 12 miles long. (see map- in pink.)

When the ice dam broke, the lake drained catastrophically spreading the boulders (tens of feet in diameter, and some 150 ft

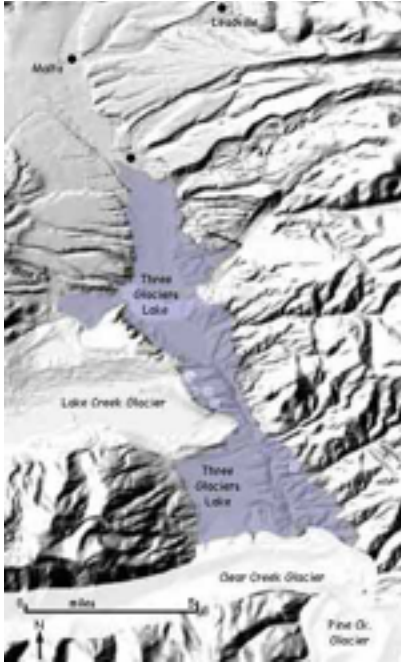
up the valley wall) and other detritus down the valley.

Dam Failure and Catastrophic Floods

Clearly huge boulders strewn for miles downstream were a result of the floods from the catastrophic failure of the dam and rapid dumping of the lake. The failure mechanism probably combined leakage around the dam and flotation. When water depth reached about 90 percent of the thickness of the ice, the ice dam became buoyant, and when high-pressure water got under the ice dam, it would have destroyed the dam rapidly.



Erosion was severe in the dam-site area; floodwaters tore out the lower ends of moraines, causing landslides and ripped out parts of the granite river bottom, causing an extremely steep gradient at Pine Creek, where the Arkansas River today drops 50 ft in a distance of 1300 ft, or more than 200 ft per mile.



**So...**

The Lake Creek glacier forced the Arkansas River onto Precambrian granite to the east. The Pine Creek and Clear Creek glaciers merged to form an ice dam about 670 ft high on the upstream face.

**So...**

Glaciers dammed the Arkansas River at the Three Glaciers dam-site. The dammed Arkansas River created Three Glaciers Lake, about 600 ft deep and 12 mi long. When this ice dam failed, catastrophic floods deposited flood boulders downstream.

When lake level rose to about 9,480 ft elevation, the ice dam failed, and the lake emptied catastrophically. The outburst flood tore out the end moraines and deposited the detritus as an extensive sheet of flood gravels at least 59 ft thick below the dam.

K. Lee

© 2015, Pike National Historic Trail Association Contact: [harv.pike@gmail.com](mailto:harv.pike@gmail.com) Our Website: [www.zebulonpike.org](http://www.zebulonpike.org)

*Pike National Historic Trail Association* 10060 Blue Sky Trail Conifer CO 80433 303/816-7424