

Newsletter *Pike National Historic Trail* Association Oct. 2008 Vol. 2 No 8

A Charitable nonprofit organization

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



Our First Birthday



Our Association celebrates our first birthday this month.

We are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

We enjoy the support and assistance of the long distance trail community and individuals.

We are especially grateful for help from the Santa Fe Trail Association.

- Last month we announced that SFTA's zelulonpike.org Bicentennial website is being transferred to PNHTA & will contain all educational materials as well as Assoc. materials.
- In the SFTA May issue of Wagon Tracks, the SFTA issued a feature introducing our Association to their membership. "The new association's immediate goal is to nominate the route of Pike's Southwest Expedition, 1806-1807, as a National Historic Trail. Because Pike's journals and reports were invaluable in the opening of the Santa Fe Trail, SFTA members are encouraged to support this new organization."
- We have received Nonprofit status [IRS 501 (c)(3)]. Contributions to us are deductible under section 170 of the IRS Code.

Membership

Members and nonmembers receive newsletters, invitations for field trips and the membership meetings, and access to the website. Members also receive membership cards, Auto tours, Hike/Bike tours, and access to member areas of the redesigned Pike Bicentennial Website.

Our Congressional Effort

Organizations or individuals from all states Pike traversed (MO, KS, NE, CO, NM, TX and LA) as well as Mexico and 14 other states, have pledged their support in our Legislative effort. We will request that you visit, write or call your Congress persons in support of the establishment of the Pike National Historic Trail. We will send to you a suggested letter when the legislation requires support, both for the feasibility study and enabling legislation. We find that visiting your Senator or Representative has most successful effect, calling second, mail third with email being the least effective.

The new Congress is likely to consider our legislation.

Join Now! Please consider membership in our organization

<u>Level</u>	<u>Amt.</u>	<u>Level Name</u>	<u>Level</u>	<u>Amt.</u>	<u>Level Name</u>
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

Contact us: 303/816-7424 harv.pike@gmail.com Make checks payable to:

I/we will write letters of legislative support Yes

I/we would like to help (Assoc. will contact) Yes

Pike National Historic Trail Association 10060 Blue Sky Trail Conifer CO 80433



Monty Pike's Page-

There has been too much attention given to the reasons that Pike Expedition and the orders given Pike before he left St. Charles. The instructions and materials he was given were not the best. He was ill equipped but as a soldier he did prepare himself and the men chosen by or given to him. Hardy "Damn Rascals" as a whole. And there was Dr. Robinson, who was chosen to attain the medical assistance to the group. I think that he had dual purpose in the ----- but did pave the way for favorable treatment given the group while he and they were in the hands of the Spanish Military. I suspect that he did this to protect himself. He did not return with Pike on Pike's return to the U.S. He later was given Generals rank in the Spanish or Mexican Army. Again some facts and imagination on my part.

Then we get to the charges that Pike was sent west to spy. He did no more than Lewis and Clark's charge. And that was to take notes of the terrain, wild life, trees and scrubs and anything else they saw or heard. Also they were sent out following orders as was Pike. The Northern Expedition [Mississippi River 1805 assignment] did not include the possibility of encountering Spanish or other foreign troops. But there were Indians to be tallied and surveyed.

My point is this, he, Pike, was no more a spy than a soldier following orders.

I had a similar situation as I was sent from a Regimental Command post in Southern Germany. I was there to guard the Colonel in command of the 301st Infantry 94th Infantry Division. He told me to get down to the next object town and report back the number and location of German soldiers. Following orders, that I received, I took off in my jeep and saw many Germans deployed to protect the town. Upon my return I gave my report that the Germans were there and in great numbers. The Colonel thanked me and changed his plans.

Now my point is this, simply stated, I was not a spy but I was following orders as did my uncle, five generations removed. If Pike was a spy, he was not treated as a spy as by most accounts that I read. I can assume that the Spanish Melgares, who was a friend of Pike also probably did not consider Pike a spy.

Then there is a letter that President Jefferson wrote to the then Secy. of State of the U.S. announcing that Pike was not a spy.

Captain Zebulon Montgomery Pike, Jr. [retired US Army] serves the Pike National Historic Trail Association as Vice-President. He also served as President of the Pike Family Association.

Monty Pike

Jefferson's August 30, 1807 from Monticello (on left)

Thomas Jefferson, in writing to his Secretary of State two months after Pike's return from his Southwest Expedition, responds [left] to a "charge of this government sending a spy to Santa Fe."

He wrote, "this government has never employed a spy in any case; & that Pike's mission was to ascend the Arkansas & descend the Red river for the purpose of ascertaining their geography; that as far as we are yet informed, he entered the waters of the North river [Rio del Norte or Rio Grande], believing them to be of the Red river; and that however certain we are of a right extending to the North river, and participating of it's navigation with Spain, yet Pike's voyage was not intended as an exercise of that right, which we notice here merely because he has chosen to deny it. A question to be settled in another way."

Jefferson

The Secretary of State.

Jefferson

Camp Independence Pike Journal

Monday-August 18 to Monday -Sept. 1, 1806 by Allan Vainly

After arriving at the Grand Osage village on the Marmaton River and the Little Osage village on the Little Osage River, Pike spent 14 days¹ there. They unloaded their boats at a large drift [see map] on the Little Osage River with the help of the Grand Osage. They were warmly received, returning 51 Osage to their villages.

Pike: 19th August, Tuesday--- "...the chief of the Grand Osage, and 40 or 50 men of his village, arrived with horses. We loaded and took our departure for the place where Manuel de Liza had his establishment. ... Our reception by the Osage was flattering, and particularly by the White Hair and our fellow-travellers."

Pike and his men established an encampment at the confluence of the Little Osage and Marmaton rivers they called Camp Independence. Pike delivered General Wilkinson's parole in joint council between the two villages, visited, were visited and held further council. He made astronomical observations to draw detailed maps and record location. They made preparations to travel on land leaving their boats.

The principal Osage Pike and Lt. Wilkinson worked with were:

Osage Person	Indian Name	French Name	English Name
Grand Osage chief:	Pawhuska or Cahagatonga	Cheveux Blanche	White Hair
Grand Osage chief's son:	Tetobasi	Sans Oreilles	Without Ears
Grand Osage chief's son-in-law :	Watchawaha	Jean La Fon	John the Fool
Little Osage chief:	Tuttasuggy	Le Vent	Wind
Pike's Osage Guide-	Shenga Wassa	Belle Oiseau	Beautiful Bird
The son of Shenga Wassa:	Chinga Wassa		Handsome Bird

Pike shared dinners and lodging with Pawhuska (White Hair) and Tuttasuggy (Wind).

There are some interesting footnotes about White Hair- He received his English name because he wore a wig he discovered on a British soldier he was scalping. After Pike's visit, he fought in an American uniform in the French and Indian War. He was the last Osage chief to be buried on the sacred Blue Mound in Vernon County MO, and Pawhuska, Oklahoma is the current center for today's Osage. Pictured in paintings with White Hair in Butler, the county seat of Bates County and adjacent Nevada, county seat of Vernon County is Shenga Wassa, Pike's Osage guide into Pawnee and Kans country. We have reason to believe that Shenga Wassa was Pike's guide from Fort Bellefontaine to the Osage villages.

The Osage were willing to continue with Pike for peace talks with the Pawnee and Kans in north central Kansas. His greatest challenge was to purchase Osage horses for the men and their baggage. You could reasonably say the Osage were very reluctant to supply horses. Pike, after leaving the villages on September 1st, continued to lose horses through theft and defections of the Osage delegation to the

Pawnee.

1st September, Monday--- ... We now discovered that an Indian had stolen a large black horse, which the Cheveux Blanche had presented to lieutenant Wilkinson. I mounted a horse to pursue him; but the interpreter sent to town, and the chief's wife sent another in its place. We left the place about twelve o'clock with fifteen loaded horses, our party consisting of two lieutenants, one doctor, two sergeants, one corporal, fifteen privates, two interpreters, three Pawnees, and four chiefs of the Grand Osage, amounting in all to 30 warriors and one woman.

2nd September, Tuesday--- ... Whilst {at a creek} I was informed by a young Indian the Mr. {Cadet} Chouteau had arrived at the towns. I conceived it proper for me to return, which I did, accompanied by Baroney, first to the Little Village; from whence we were accompanied by the Wind to the Big Village, where we remained all night at the lodge of the Cheveux Blanche. Mr.Chouteau gave us all the news; after which I scrawled a letter to the general [not found] and my friends. See insert Pike map [route in green].

5th September, Friday--- In the morning our Little Osage all came to a determination to return, and, much to my surprise, Sans Oreille, amongst the rest!

¹The Osage villages are located near the Missouri/Kansas border near the Bates/Vernon county line in southwest Missouri.

