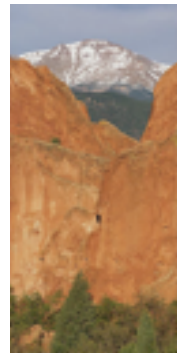




# PIKE NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL ASSOCIATION

Newsletter Dec — 2018 Vol. 12 No. 10



## THE NEW PIKE WEBSITE

([www.zebulonpike.org](http://www.zebulonpike.org)) has been launched.

**PLEASE survey this website and USE ALL ITS FUNCTIONALITY**

For several months we have been working very diligently on creating this fabulous new website for our organization.

Holly Nelson, of [2C Dev Group](#), designed both our original site, and the new site. She has designed both a fresh modern look, and coded it in a way that it will work well across smartphones, tablets and desktop computers.

Holly is an avid history buff, and is in full support of the association's mission.

Harv Hisgen, and several of the board

members, have spent many hours on bringing the content up to date, as well.

**OUR ORGANIZATION IS BLAZING TRAILS** by Holly Nelson

**We are excited that our new site offers some wonderful new features:**

- new educational information
- online membership renewal (via PayPal or credit card)
- **online store to purchase Pike art** by celebrated retired Disney artist, Ed French, and other promotional items
- a blog, that will add to the monthly pdf newsletter

### Benefits

With these added features and volumes of educational information, we expect our educational, interpretive, and preservation mission will be enhanced. In fact, you can become a member, donate and purchase items, now online. It is just so easy with this new website. **Ready to join? [Go here](#).** Memberships start at \$15.

Of course, if you are more comfortable making payments by phone or regular mail with your checks you can continue to do so. See details at the bottom of this newsletter.

### Did you know?

You can purchase unique Zebulon Pike art by renowned, retired Disney Artist, Ed French on our site?

These products are easily found on our website:

- Starting at \$2, you can own this art in the form of notecards: <https://www.zebulonpike.org/product-category/cards/>
- For those who want to own the original canvas painting: <https://www.zebulonpike.org/product-category/art/original-paintings/>
- Perhaps a t-shirt is your thing? Look here: <https://www.zebulonpike.org/product-category/clothing/>

You can now find this newsletter online, on our brand new site, here: <https://www.zebulonpike.org/newsletters/>

While we will continue to send out the newsletter in PDF format by email, we also offer it online, for your convenience.

Be sure to visit our [blog](#) for up-to-the-minute announcements, and association news.

COMPARISONS OF THE TWO CHRISTMASSES 1805 AND 1806 by Allan Vainley

Pike and most of the same men spent Christmas together on both expeditions. They were of course far away from family- 130 miles northwest of Minneapolis near Brainerd, MN in 1805, and 245 miles into Colorado (60 miles into the Rocky Mountains) near Salida, CO in 1806.

In 1805 the distances they were traveling on the frozen Mississippi with sled were shorter. In 1806 even though they were viewing the 14,000 foot Collegiate Peaks, they had to deal with ice and snow on the Arkansas River.

On both expeditions they dealt with freezing temperatures, snow and limited provisions including clothing and food. Pike lamented in Salida- "We spent the day as agreeably as could be expected by men in our situation."

On both expeditions they were on the move. On the 1st Expedition (Mississippi River) they were using sleds to carry provisions from their stockade in Little Falls. On the 2nd Expedition (Southwest) horses carried the loads, but were slipping and being injured on the ice and dying. The men were forced to carry more and more weight.

Christmas was observed by their leader on both expeditions. In 1805 they encamped early and in 1806 because of stormy weather- "I concluded to lie by this date" stopping the 24th to dry provisions just shot.

From Pike's Journal --

## 1805

**24th December, Tuesday.**- The Mississippi becomes (above the River De Corbeau) very narrow, and, as if it was forks. Changes attractions from hard W. to N.E. generally. Distance 10 1/2 miles. **Camp Location: near Brainerd, MN.**

**25th December, Wednesday.**- Marched, and encamped at 11 o'clock. Gave out two pound of extra meat-- 2 pound of extra flour, one gill of whiskey and some tobacco per man-- by way of a little distinguishing mark on Christmas Day. Distance 3 miles. **Camp location: below Brainerd**

**26th December, Thursday.**- Broke four sleds. Broke in the River 6 times, and had 4 carrying places since we passed the River De Corbeau. The timber was all yellow and pitch Pine, of which there was scarcely any below. Distance 3 miles.

**Camp Location: within the present city limits of Brainerd**

## 1806

**24th December, Wednesday.**- The party's provisions extending only to the 23rd, and their orders being not to halt until they killed some game, and then wait for us: consequently they might have been considerably advanced. About 11 o'clock, met Dr. Robinson on a prairie, who informed me that he and Baroney had been absent from the party two days without killing any thing, (also without eating,) but that overnight, they had killed four buffalo, and that he was in search of the men; suffered the two lads with me to go to the camp where the meat was, as we had also been nearly 2 days without eating. The doctor and myself pursued the trace and found them encamped on the river bottom. Send out horses for the meat, shortly after Sparks arrived and informed us he had killed four cows. Some being in the starving condition we had eight beeves in our camp. We now again found ourselves all assembled together on Christmas Eve, and appeared generally to be content, although all the refreshment we had to celebrate that day with, was buffalo meat, without salt, or anything whatever. My little excursion up the river was in order to establish the geography of the sources of this (supposed) Red River, as I well knew the indefatigable researches of doctor Hunter, Dunbar and Freeman, had left nothing unnoticed in the extent of their voyage up said river, I determined that its upper branches should be equally well explored; as in this voyage I had already ascertained the sources of the Osage, and White Rivers, (been around the head of the Kans river) and in the headwaters of the Platte.

**Camp Location: Big Bend State Park 7200 feet elevation**

**25th December, Thursday.**- It being stormy weather and having meet to dry; I concluded to lie by this date. Here I must take the liberty of observing that in this situation, the hardships and privations we underwent, were on this day brought more fully to our mind. Having been accustomed to some degree of relaxation, and extra enjoyments; but here 800 miles from the frontiers of our country, in the most inclement season of the year; not one person clothed for winter, many without blankets, (having been obliged to cut them up for socks, &c.) and now lying down at night on the snow or wet ground; one side burning whilst the other was pierced with a cold wind: this was in part the situation of the party whilst some were endeavoring to make a miserable substitute of raw buffalo hide for shoes &c. I will not speak of diet, as I conceive that to be beneath the serious consideration of a man on the voyage of such nature. We spent the day as agreeably as we could be expected from men in our situation. Caught a new species, having made a trap for him. **Camp Location: Big Bend 7200 feet elevation**

**26th December, Friday.**- Marched at 2 o'clock and made 7 1/2 miles to the entrance of the mountains. On this piece of prairie the river spread considerably, and formed several small islands, a large stream enters from the south. As my boy and some others were sick, I omitted pitching our tent in order that they might have it; in consequence of which we were completely covered with snow on top, as well as that part on which we lay.

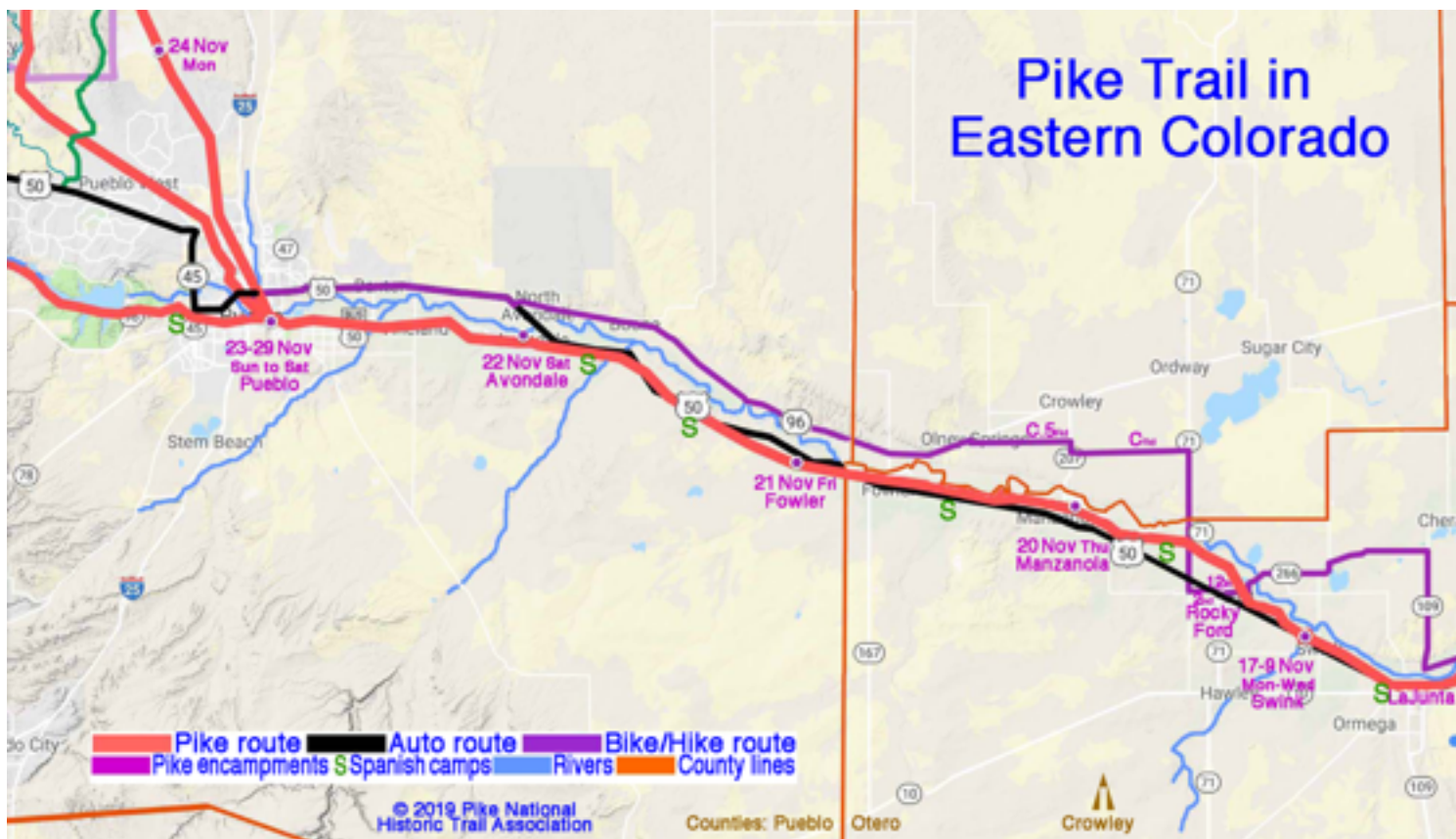
**Camp Location: Salida (town), CO 7020 feet elevation**



PIKE ASSOCIATION AWARDED ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AS BEST

The Pike National Historic Trail Association was chosen for the 2018 Best of Conifer (CO) Awards in the category of Association or Organization. The Best of Conifer Award was created to acknowledge the best businesses in our community.

PIKE FROM WESTERN OTERO COUNTY AND INTO PUEBLO COUNTY by Allan Vainley (WE QUOTE PIKE IN GREEN.)



**Pike's Trip** 11/17 to 23/1806 encountering the Grand Pawnee November 22.

Pike's crew traveled west on the south side of the Arkansas River for the 60 miles from LaJunta to Pueblo. Pike was concerned about Spanish troops returning to New Spain from the attempted interception of Pike and Lewis and Clark in Kansas about a month prior. Pike found Spanish sites marked "S" on our map.

Many scholars believe the Spanish turned south at Pueblo returning to New Spain on the east side of the front range perhaps traveling over La Veta Pass. Pike's concern seems to dissipate. But a confrontation with natives occurred.

He noted crossing 3 forks of the Arkansas- 1st Fork- Timpas Creek 2nd Huerfano River 3rd Fork- St. Charles River all on the S side of the Arkansas. They camped on Fountain Creek joining the Arkansas from the north- the Grand Fork.

Usually in view of the Grand Mountain (the Small Blue Cloud) and he attempted to climb it from Pueblo 11/24-29th.

**Pike Route-** The Journals of Zebulon Montgomery Pike

**16th November, Sunday.-** After asserting that the Spanish troops had ascended the right branch or main river; we marched at 2:00 PM. The Arkansaw appeared at this place to be much more navigable, .. Distance 11 1-2 miles **E of La Junta**

**17th to 19th November, Mon. to Wed.-** 17th- Marched at our usual hour, pushed with an idea of arriving at the mountains, but found at night, no visible difference in their appearance, from ... yesterday. Distance 23 1-2 miles

**18th-** As we discovered fresh signs of the savages, we concluded it best to stop can kill some meat, for fear we should get into a country where we could not kill game. Sent out the hunters; ... In the evening, found the hunters had killed without mercy, having slain 17 buffalo.

**19th-** Having several buffalo brought in, gave out sufficient to last this month; I found expedient to remain in dry the meat, as our horses were getting very weak, and the one died which was brought back on the 18th. Had a general feast of marrow bones; 136 of them, furnished the repast. **At Timpas Creek 6 mi SE Rocky Ford W of Swink, Otero Co. 3 DAY CAMP**

**20th November, Thursday.-** Marched at our usual hour; but as our horses's loads were considerably augmented by the death of one horse and the addition of 900 lbs. of meat, we moved slowly and made only 18 miles. ...**Near Manzanola, Otero Co.**

**21st November, Friday.-** Marched at our usual hour; passed two Spanish camps, within three miles of each other. ... The river was certainly as navigable here (and I think much more so) ...Distance 21 miles. **Between Fowler & Napesta, Pueblo Co.**

**22d November, Saturday.-** .. After having marched about five miles ... when Baroney cried out *Voila un Savage*. ... We observed number running from the woods towards us, we advanced towards them and I'm turning my head to the left, I have observed several running on the hill, as it was to surround us; one with the stand of colors. this caused a momentarily halt; but perceiving those in front, reaching out their hands, and without arms we again advanced, they met us with open arms, crowding round, to touch and embrace us. They appeared so anxious that I dismounted my horse, and at the moment, a fellow had mounted him and was off. I then observed the doctor and Baroney, were in the same predicament. The Indians were embracing the soldiers; after some time tranquility was so far restored, (they having returned our horses is all safe) **as to enable us to learn they were a war party, from the grand Pawnees, who have been in search of Tetaus; but not finding them were on their return. An unsuccessful war party on their return home, are always ready to embrace an opportunity, of gratifying their disappointed vengeance, on the first persons they met.** Made for the woods and unloaded our horses; when two partizans endeavored to arrange the party; it was with great difficulty that they got them tranquil, not until there is been a bow or two, bent on the occasion. When in some order, we found them to be sixty warriors, half with firearms, and half with bows, arrows, and lances. Our party was sixteen total. In a short time they were arranged in the ring and I took my seat between the two partizans; our colors were placed opposite each other, the utensils for smoking &c. were paraded on a small seat before us; thus far all was well. I then ordered half a carrot of tobacco, one dozen knives, 60 fire steels and 60 flints to be presented them. They demanded ammunition, corn, blankets, kettles &c. all of which they were refused, notwithstanding the pressing instances of my interpreter, to accord to some points. The pipes lay yet unmoved, as if they were undetermined whether to treat us as friends or enemies; but after some time we were presented with a kettle of water, drank, smoked, and eat together. During this time doctor Robinson was standing up, to observe their actions, in order that we might be ready to commence hostilities as soon as them. They now took their presents and commenced distributing them, but some malcontents, threw them away, by contempt. We began to load our horses, when they encircled us and commenced stealing everything they could. Finding it was difficult to preserve my pistols; I mounted my horse when I found myself frequently surrounded during which some were endeavoring to steal the pistols. The doctor was equally engaged in another quarter, and all the soldiers in their positions; in taking things from them one having stolen my tomahawk, I informed the chief, but he paid no respect, except to reply that "*they are so pitiful*"; finding this I determined to protect ourselves, as far as was in my power, in the affair began to take a serious aspect. I ordering my men to take their arms, and separate themselves from the savages; at the same time declaring to them, I will *kill* the first man who touched our baggage. On which they commenced filing off immediately; we marched off about the same time and found, they had made out to steal one sword, tomahawk, broad axe, five canteens, and sundry other small articles. After our leaving them; when I reflected on the subject, I felt myself sincerely mortified, that the smallest of my number obliged me thus to submit to the insults of a lawless banditti, it being the first time ever a savage took anything from me, with the least appearance of force. After encamping at night the doctor and myself went about 1 mile back, and way laid the road, determined in case we discovered any of the rascals pursuing us to steal our horses, to kill two at least; but after waiting behind some logs until some time in the night, and discovering no person, we returned to camp. Distance 17 miles, ... **At about Avondale, Pueblo Co.**

**23d November, Sunday.-** Marched at ten o'clock; at one o'clock came to the third fork on the south side and encamped at night in the point of the grand forks. As the river appeared to be dividing itself into many small branches and of course must be near its extreme source, I concluded to put the party in a defensive situation; and ascend the north fork, to the high point of the blue mountain, which we conceived would be one days march, in order to be enabled from its pinnacle, to lay down the various branches and positions of the country. Distance 19 miles. Killed five buffalo. **The confluence- Arkansas & Fountain Ck.**

**24th November, Monday.-** Early the morning cut down 14 logs, and put up a breastwork, 5 feet high on three sides in the other was thrown on the river. After giving the necessary orders for their government, during my absence, in case of our not returning. We marched at 1 o'clock with the idea of arriving at the foot of the mountain; but found ourselves obliged to take up our nights lodging under a single cedar, which we found in the prairie, without water and extremely cold. Our party besides myself consisted of doctor Robinson, privates Miller and Brown. Distance 12 miles. **N of Pueblo W of Fountain Creek**

**AUTO, BIKE AND HIKE ROUTES LAJUNTA- WEST GATEWAY PARK- PUEBLO EAST**

We are publishing the Auto route and Bike/Hike route for the Pike Trail in Colorado approved by Pueblo, Crowley and Otero Counties. The Auto Route is on US 50 and the Bike/Hike route, for safety reasons, is on less traveled roads. For your convenience the Auto route is presented in both directions. The Bike/Hike route is easily followed either east to west (Pike's direction of travel) or west to east.

**AUTO: Westbound via US-50 W: La Junta, CO to Gateway Park @ The River Walk- Pueblo, CO  
1 h 11 min (63.7 miles)**

La Junta, CO: on US-50 and 1st St.

On the west side of LaJunta is a Pike Monument.

1. Head west on US-50 W continue to follow US-50 W for 5.2 miles  
7 min (5.2 miles) to Swink, CO: US-50 and Columbia Ave.
2. Head west on US-50 W/2nd St toward Holly Ave Continue to follow US-50 W for 14.7 miles  
16 min (14.7 miles) to Manzanola, CO: US-50 and S Park St.
3. Head west on US-50 W/W 1st St toward N Grand Ave Continue to follow US-50 W for 8.7 miles  
9 min (8.7 miles) to Fowler, CO: US-50 and Main St.
4. Head west on US-50 W/E Cranston Ave toward S Main St Continue to follow US-50 W for 18.6 miles
5. Turn left onto US-50 BUS W in 1.4 miles  
19 min (20.0 miles) to Avondale, CO: US-50 and US-50 Business
6. Head west on US-50 BUS W toward Avondale St for 14.6 miles
7. Continue straight onto S Santa Fe Ave for 0.3 miles
8. Turn left onto S Grand Ave (Gateway Park & **Pike Monument and plaques** will be on the left in the park.)  
20 min (15.0 miles) to Gateway Park at The River Walk - 249 S Santa Fe Ave, Pueblo, CO

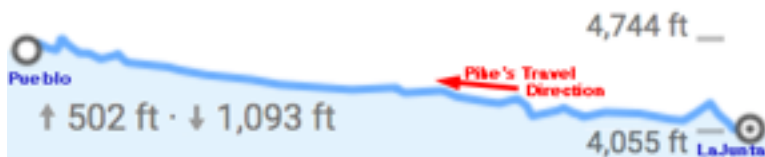


**AUTO: Eastbound via US-50 E: Gateway Park @ The River Walk- Pueblo, CO to La Junta, CO  
1 h 13 min (63.7 miles)**

Gateway Park **and Pike Monuments** at The River Walk - 249 S Santa Fe Ave Pueblo, CO

- 1, Head south on S Santa Fe Ave toward Spring St for 0.7 miles
2. Continue straight onto US-50 BUS E/Santa Fe Dr and Continue to follow US-50 BUS E for 14.3 miles  
20 min (15.0 miles) to Avondale, CO: US-50 BUS
3. Head east on US-50 BUS E toward Avondale Blvd for 1.3 miles
4. Slight right onto US-50 E for 18.7 miles  
19 min (20.0 miles) to Fowler, CO: US-50 and Main St.
5. Head east on US-50 E/E Cranston Ave toward 6th St and Continue to follow US-50 E for 8.7 miles  
9 min (8.7 miles) to Manzanola, CO US-50 and Park St.
6. Head east on US-50 E/W 1st St toward N Park St and Continue to follow US-50 E for 14.7 miles  
16 min (14.7 miles) to Swink, CO US-50 and Columbia Ave.
7. Head east on US-50 E/2nd St toward Powars Ave and Continue to follow US-50 E for 4.4 miles
8. Slight right onto W 3rd St for 0.7 miles
9. Turn left onto Colorado Ave for 0.1 miles  
9 min (5.3 miles) to E 1st St and US-50 — La Junta, CO

On the west side of LaJunta is a Pike Monument.



**BIKE/HIKE: Eastbound: Gateway Park @ The River Walk- Pueblo, CO to La Junta, CO**

**Bike: 6 hours 13 min Hike: 26 hours (79.7 miles) Use same route Westbound**

Gateway Park **and Pike Monuments** at The River Walk - 249 S Santa Fe Ave Pueblo, CO

1. Head north on S Santa Fe Ave toward S Grand Ave for 0.5 miles
2. Turn right onto CO-96 E/E 4th St and Continue to follow CO-96 E for 2.8 miles
3. Continue onto CO-47 W for 0.6 miles
4. Slight right onto CO-47 (signs for Pete Jimenez Pkwy) for 486 feet
5. Turn right onto Pete Jimenez Pkwy for 1.2 miles
6. Continue onto William White Blvd for 1.7 miles

7. Continue onto W United Ave for 2.6 miles
9. Turn right for 1.0 miles
11. Turn left onto US-50 W for 4.4 miles  
5 h 29 min (16.8 miles) to
13. Head east on CO-96 E toward Martin Rd for 23.9 miles  
**Bike 1 hour 18 min** Hike 7 h 42 min (23.9 miles) to Olney Springs, CO CO-96 and Crowley County C.5
15. Head south on Gould Ave toward Warner Ave for 0.3 miles
17. Turn left onto Co Ln 8 for 157 feet
19. Turn right onto CO-207 S for 0.5 miles
21. Turn right onto CO-71 S for 236 feet  
**Bike 53 min** Hike 3 h 40 min (11.4 miles) to
22. Head south on CO-71 S for 6.4 miles
24. Turn right onto CO-202 W for 59 feet  
**Bike 33 min** Hike 2 h 17 min (7.0 miles) to
25. Head east on CO-202 E toward Co Rd 18 for 1.0 miles
27. Turn left toward S 7th St for 276 feet
29. Turn left onto S 7th St for 486 feet
31. Turn left onto N 12th St for 0.2 miles
33. Turn left onto Holbrook Canal Rd for 2.4 miles  
**Bike 1h 4min** Hike 4 h 16 min (13.1 miles) to
35. Head east on CO-266 toward CO-109 N for 30 feet
37. Slight right onto E 2nd St for 0.6 miles  
**Bike 34min** Hike 2 h 25 min (7.4 miles) to
8. Continue onto Dot Test Rd for 0.6 miles
10. Turn right toward US-50 W for 344 feet
12. Turn left onto CO-96 E for 1.3 miles  
North Avondale, CO on CO-96
14. Turn left onto Gould Ave for 75 feet
16. Turn left onto County Rd C.5 for 0.6 miles
18. Turn right onto County Rd C.5 for 4.0 miles
20. Turn left onto Co Rd C for 5.9 miles  
Ordway, CO Crowley County C and CO-71
23. Continue onto Co Rd 18 for 0.6 miles  
Rocky Ford, CO (West side) CO-202
26. Continue onto Walnut Ave for 0.1 miles
28. Turn right toward S 7th St for 0.2 miles
30. Turn right onto Elm Ave for 0.5 miles
32. Turn right onto CO-266 for 3.8 miles
34. Slight left onto CO-266 for 4.8 miles  
La Junta, CO CO-266 CO-109
36. Turn right onto CO-109 S for 6.7 miles
38. Turn right onto Colorado Ave for 404 feet  
E 1st St and US-50 — La Junta, CO



## COMING SOON- FROM ED FRENCH

Ed French, artist and Board Member has completed another creation explained next month and on the website blog.

### 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 opportunity: <https://www.zebulonpike.org/product-category/pnht-association-materials/membership/> 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](http://www.zebulonpike.org)

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



Contact us: 303/816-7424 [harv.pike@gmail.com](mailto:harv.pike@gmail.com) Additional gifts are tax deductible.

Make checks payable to: Pike National Historic Trail Association

Mail membership and donation checks to:

Pike National Historic Trail Association, c/o Brian Pike, Membership Chair, 5357 Bristol; Arvada, CO 80002

© 2018, 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

Pike Dec 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.

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

## Membership Form

*Join Now!* Please consider membership in our organization

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I will be able to help with:

- The Pike Assoc. website
- Historic/heritage investigation
- Providing educational opportunities
- 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)



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