



Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

Volume 10, Number 4

April, 2011

Fort McKavett State Historical Site
P. O. Box 68
Fort McKavett, Texas 76841

Fort McKavett Upcoming Events

April 8-10, Fort Richardson Days
April 15-17, Confederate Reunion
Grounds Civil War event.
Education day on Friday*
May 6-7, Lake Brownwood State
Park Open House, Education Day
on Friday
May 6-7, Fort Chadbourne,
Education Day on Friday
May 13-14, Lake Arrowhead State
Park Open House, Education Day
on Friday
May 13-14, Texas Forts Muster,
Fort Worth
May 20-21, Fort Lancaster, Western
Frontier Days*
May 27- 29, Texas State Railroad,
Palestine, TX
June 24-26, Last Frontier Days,
Morton
Oct 7-8, Fort Griffin Living History
Days, Education Day on Friday*
Oct 15, Fort Day at Fort Stockton
*THC Historic Sites Event

Notes from the Fort

Thanks to all the staff, volunteers, hosts, and living history folks who made our 2011 West Texas Heritage Days a big success this year.

We had \$2,500 from donations, the silent auction and BBQ lunch this year. This will go a long way towards helping us put on the event in 2012.

The post is really starting to look good with all the improvements made over the last few months. There are photos showing the kitchen, curtains in the headquarters building, and new layout of the Cavalry barracks. Other recent projects include repainting the building signs, new handrails at the hospital, and the rainwater recovery system.

Thanks to everyone again for your hard work!

John Cobb
President
Friends of Fort McKavett



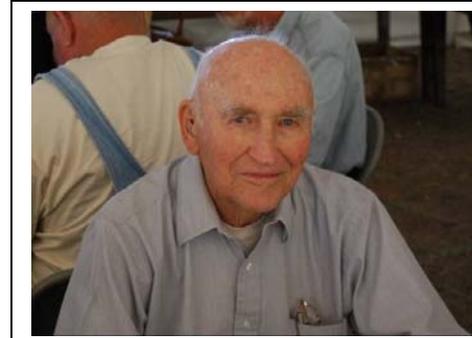
FORT MCKAVETT WEST TEXAS HERITAGE DAYS 2011



Fort McKavett hosted 545 students and teachers on Education Day this year. Saturday, was busy with visitors to the site all day. We owe a special thank you to all of our living history participants who attended this year's event. It was a great success!



Scenes from Saturday at the Big Tent



Above: Some of the crowd at this year's lunch. Left: Col. McTaggart, Lynn Dippel following in her father's footsteps serving in the lunch line, bottom left: the Band, Bottom: Buddy and some of the volunteers who prepared the meals and served us. Father Chris below.



Fort Clark 2011

FRIED EGGS.

Heat in a frying pan over a good fire enough beef dripping or lard so that when melted it will cover the bottom of the pan one-quarter of an inch deep.

Break the eggs gently into a saucer or small plate, and slip them carefully, one at a time, into the hot fat until the bottom of the pan is covered, taking care not to allow the eggs to adhere together. Lose no time putting the eggs into the pan. The eggs are first emptied into a saucer to keep the yolks from breaking and to detect the bad ones. They are cooked when the whites become firm, and should be taken up before the yolks become hard. When cooked, take them up without delay and pour the grease remaining in the pan over them, or strain it and set it aside in a cool place for cooking purposes.

From the Army Cook's Manual

16 colored recruits arrived at this post April 25, 1876, from Fort Concho, Texas, and were assigned to companies B and K of the 10th Cavalry.

April 25th, 1876, Fort McKavett received "16 Colored" recruits from Fort Concho and were assigned to Company I and K of the 10th Cavalry

From the Fort McKavett Medical Journal

A couple more views from Fort Clark

Fort McKavett Staff Members Russell Tipton and Nancy Jacoby



Fort McKavett was represented at Fort Clark this year by John Cobb, John Schultz, Don Bredthauer, Joe and Stella Gonzalez, Greg and Donna Hector, Richard Vaughn and Tommy and Brenda Koepke. We had over 1,100 students and teachers on education day and a steady stream of visitors all day Saturday. Russell and Nancy, Fort McKavett staff members represented the site as well.





L to R: Shirley and Colin Stanway, Marsha and Ralph Redman, Carolyn and Rodger McCartney

Fort McKavett State Historic Site is very grateful for all its volunteers. Our outreach programs are supported by a dedicated group of living historians that choose to represent our fort. The Friends of Fort McKavett offers its support through the funding of critical projects including the meals provided to the historians and public during our West Texas Heritage Days. Our scouting programs give the state's young people a chance to stay in an authentic 1850's barracks while doing service projects such as brush and rock removal. Our site host program attracts retired couples to stay on site in their RVs while supplementing the site's manpower with some much needed expertise and experience. This year we are very fortunate to have three couples from all over North America assist with some much needed repairs and improvement projects. Rodger and Carolyn McCartney have been in our host program for many years now. Their home base is Osborn, Missouri. They bring with them years of welding, fabrication, and organization experience. Colin and Shirley Stanway hail from England but now live in Canada. Colin was a professional painter and Shirley was a whiz at sewing. Ralph and Marsha Redmond are from Polk, Nebraska. Ralph was a plumber and Marsha was a teacher.

These three couples worked side by side with the staff for very long hours ensuring our event was a success. They helped in the setup and take down of our field kitchen, food preparation, food serving, and just about every other task that needed to be done. Combined they contributed about 600 man hours in March alone. Prior to our event, this group of hosts helped repaint our benches, repair and paint porch columns and trim, restripe a section of the parking lot, install cabinets, scrub walls, paint walls, install a shower, sink and clean out our hot water heater at the warehouse. They also sewed new curtains for the Headquarters building using materials donated by the Friends of Fort McKavett. They helped with the cleanup of the buildings following the recent electrical work and to prepare for our event. In fact, we just don't have enough room in this article to highlight all that they did. The management and staff are indebted to this group of site hosts.

We feel that we have made some lasting friendships with them and hope they return for another visit next year.

More improvements at Fort McKavett



The staff at Fort McKavett has been busy making improvements at the site over the last few months. The white wash of the buildings has been completed. Upper left to bottom: Curtains in the Headquarters building add to the rooms. The Cavalry Barracks displays have been updated to provide a more accurate look and feel of how it would have been. Below, two views of the old work shop, now a multiuse kitchen and dining hall. New signs have been put up on the buildings to identify them for our visitors.

