



Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

Volume 8, Number 8

August, 2009

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



October 9-10, Fort Griffin Days
October 10-17, Fort Lancaster to Fort Stockton Trail Ride
October 17, Fort Stockton 150th Anniversary
October 17, Star Party at Fort McKavett
October 17, Friends of Fort McKavett Annual Meeting
December 4-6, Christmas at Old Fort Concho

Color Copies of all the Fort McKavett Gazettes can be found at:

www.fortmckavett.org



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
real places telling real stories

Notes from the Post...

Our 2009 Old Stories, New Voices has come and passed now and it was a great success for the campers this year.

Special thanks need to go to the Rocking Chair Ranch for allowing us to stay on their lands for three days. Randy Woods, the foreman was an excellent host along with his wife. Also, we need to mention Deane and Jacody Sealy of the Sealy Ranch for their help and allowing us to use their ranch as well.

We will be having our annual meeting in October and need to let everyone know we are looking at amending our By-Laws, changing the name from TPWD to the Texas Historical Commission. We will also vote on removing the card requirement for members. This will be posted in upcoming Gazettes as well as on emails.

John Cobb
President
Friends of Fort McKavett

Quartermasters in the Field

Quartermaster sergeants went with the troops in the field. When they were with the column, they were expected to take care of all equipment and order replacements. They would carry their work desk with them and had regulations of the minimum supplies they carried in their desks.

244 ARTICLES TO BE CARRIED IN FIELD DESK.

Army Regulations.
Quartermasters' Manual.
Telegram book.
Letter-press book and brush.
Transportation requests.
Railroad guide.
Mucilage.
Envelopes.
Rubber eraser.
Pins.
Tape.
Blank books.
Blank forms.
Important orders and decisions.
Ink, pens, penholders, and pencils.
Sealing wax.
Paper.
Ink eraser.



The Quartermaster Field Desk was slightly smaller than the Officer's Desk and had more "pigeon holes" for filing forms

Tips from the Army Manuals

FIREWOOD

should be cut into lengths of 1 foot and about 2 inches square. When nothing but brushwood is to be had, the trench should be deepened where the fire is lit. Damp or very sappy wood should be avoided. Bones can be used when other fuel is not to be had. During a march, it is well to pick up and throw into the wagons all the dry wood that may be found along the road.

One small coffee mill, and coffee roaster. (Plate No. 19.)

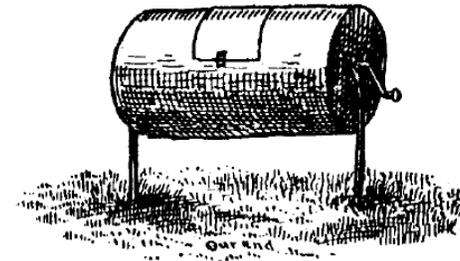


PLATE 19.

A Army Coffee Roaster for use in the Field by a Company or Companies on the move.

Men should never eat heartily just before a great undertaking, because the nervous power is irresistibly drawn to the stomach to manage the food eaten, thus draining off that supply which the brain and muscles so much need.

Interesting observation from the Army Cook Manual on the amount of food the men should eat before undergoing strenuous activities



Artist Dane Ellsworth is working on a project on the Red River Wars and using information from our research library at Fort McKavett. Left: Friends of Fort McKavett member Greg Hector is caught by Dane. We are looking forward to his new works.



Buffalo Soldier Program member David Boevers is shown learning how to drive a team on the wagon train during this year's Old Stories, New Voices camp. David and Luis Padilla are taking over the day to day operations of the program for Texas Parks and Wildlife. Ken Pollard is overseeing the transition and will be in an advisory capacity for a few months. We have been working with these guys for quite a while and see no changes in the way we do business. David portrays a 2nd Lt. while Luis is a Sgt. on the trail.



Before the Storm...

During this year's Old Stories, New Voices Camp, several storms came up to change our scheduling. This one hit on Monday about noon and lasted for two hours. We received about 1.25 inches of rain from this one. On Wednesday, after the campers were gone, we had another rain storm with severe wind. Several shutters were broken off the buildings and our school house bell was broken. We are looking at options to either repair or replace the bell at this time.



There is no news about the possible high lines in the Fort McKavett area. As soon as we hear anything, we will let everyone know as soon as possible. We will need your support in keeping our site pristine!

Old Stories, New Voices 2009



Left: Buddy Garza, Site Manager for Fort McKavett is shown welcoming this year's campers to our site. Buddy and the entire McKavett staff worked hard for several weeks, before, during and after the event to pull this camp off.

Right: Luis Padilla with the Buffalo Soldier presentation for the campers. Horace Williams is shown with his horsemanship training. In the background, the Staff is setting up for a Dutch oven presentation.



Left: Cody Mobley showing the campers how to use vintage wood working tools. Hammering square nails went over real big with the campers. Cody built boxes they used on the trail in the wagons. Everyone had a hand in

Right: Campers learned how to take care of livestock, milk cows, and even how to churn butter in this year's camp.



More from Old Stories, New Voices...

Right: Campers on horseback are shown on the trail. Campers got to ride horses, ride in wagons and as seen below, got to march on the trail from Fort McKavett to Fort Concho. The end of the trail was a parade through San Angelo ending on the parade grounds at Fort Concho.



The Fort McKavett staff did yeomen's duties in keeping the logistics and food going for the entire week of the camp. They deserve a big tip of the hat for their efforts for Fort McKavett!

Right: Each camper received a certificate on the completion of the camp. Below: Our campers and staff members are shown on the porch of the Hospital at Fort McKavett.

