

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



Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

Volume 10, Number 8

August, 2011

Fort McKavett Upcoming Events

September 16-17, Bison Release
Special Event, Caprock Canyons State
Park. Education Day on Friday.

October 15, Fort Day at Fort Stockton

October 29, Fort McKavett Fall Star
Party*

November 18-20, Imprisoned on the
Frontier, Fort McKavett *

December 2-4, Christmas at Old Fort
Concho, Education Day on Friday.

*THC Historic Sites Event

*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 Fort

In this issue of the Gazette, we have several photos and articles on Colonel McTaggart who passed away this month. The Colonel was our first President of the Friends of Fort McKavett and was instrumental in our post restoration, transfer to the Texas Historical Commission and the Presidio project in Menard.

He was a friend to all of us and was my mentor. He will be missed, but his vision will live on as long as Fort McKavett and the Presidio remain.

I would like to thank everyone who helped out with the lunch after his funeral. It was a great tribute to the Colonel how everyone came together.

John Cobb
President
Friends of Fort McKavett

Friend, Leader, Great American



Gone but his dream lives on...

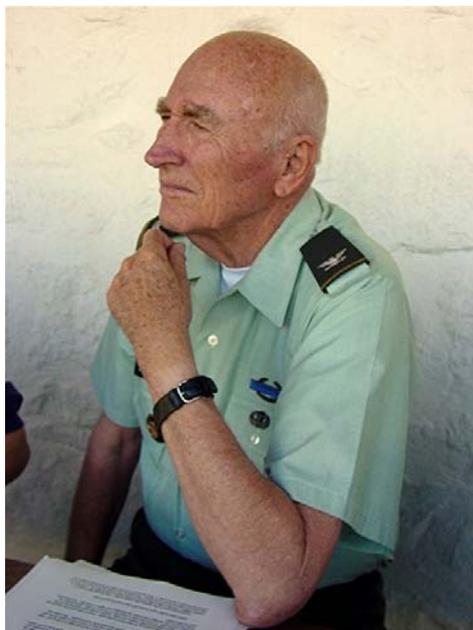
***Colonel Richard
R. McTaggart***

02/25/1923

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07/16/2011

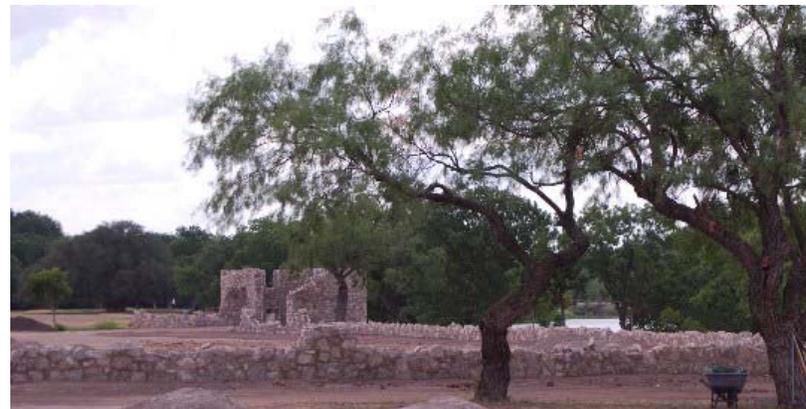
First President, Friends of Fort McKavett. Supporter of Presidio de San Saba, Texas Forts Trail, and Menard County. All following a full 31 year career in the U.S. Army. Our thoughts go out to his wife, Verla and son Timothy who shared him with us over the years



Presidio Update



The restoration project by Menard County with oversight from the Texas Historical Commission of the Presidio in Menard is coming along at a fast clip now. The walls have been established and work has been completed on the turret on the front of the Presidio.



The project is being overseen by Buddy Garza. New walls and the restored square blockhouse can be seen in this photograph



New pavillion nearly complete

From the Army Cooks Manual

ICE CREAM.

1 pint milk. 1 cupful sugar.
1 scant cupful flour. 2 eggs.
1 quart cream. 1 tablespoonful flavoring extract.

Boil the milk; mix together the sugar, flour, and eggs and stir into the boiling milk. Cook twenty minutes, stirring often. When cool add another cupful of sugar, the flavoring, and cream. Freeze in ice and salt.

Fruit of all kinds, chocolate, coffee, etc., can be used as flavoring.

When cream is expensive and can not be procured, a good substitute is obtained by using cornstarch or condensed milk and following the recipes upon the packages.

Some Treats for Hot Weather (when ice could be had)

LEMONADE, No. 1.

Good lemonade is of high dietetic value. Few know how to make it properly, being too economical in the use of lemons and sugar, and too generous with the water. One who enjoys a reputation for making a superior lemonade always uses boiled water. The recipe is as follows:

“For a quart, take the juice of three lemons, using the rind of one of them. Peel the rind very thin, getting just the yellow outside; cut into pieces, and put with the juice and powdered sugar, of which use two ounces to the quart, in a jug or jar with a cover. When the water is just at the tea point pour it over the lemon and sugar, cover at once, and let it get cold.”

1881 Army Regulations

1804. After a battle, or taking of a post, all captured arms, accoutrements, and ammunition are accounted for on a detailed inventory or invoice, which is filed as a voucher, together with the date when, and the circumstances under which, the stores came into the officer's possession.—[*Regs. Ord. Dept.*]

Ever wonder what happened to Arms captured by the Army?

RESPONSIBILITY FOR COMPANY CLOTHING, ARMS, ETC.

1738. Officers either temporarily or permanently in command of a company or detachment are held responsible for all public property in the possession of their command, whether they receipt for it or not.—[*Regs. 1863, ¶ 1420.*]

This includes keeping the equipment clean and presentable



Left: Cavalrymen cleaning and repairing their saddles and equipment

258. Ordnance and Commissary Sergeants are selected by the Secretary of War from the Sergeants of the line of the Army.—[*Regs. 1863, ¶ 131; R. S., §§ 1110, 1142.*]

Ordnance and Commissary Sgts were the highest paid enlisted men in the Army

A few more notes on Col. McTaggart



The Colonel sent me this photo and message before he posted it on his facebook page last year. "I was 22 years old, Germany had just surrendered, and I was setting up a facility to interrogate bad guys. This big barn worked real good. It was sited on the Inn River just across from Braunau, Adolf's home town".



Fort McKavett's Flag at Half Staff for Col. McTaggart

A Special Note from the Friends of Fort McKavett

We need to give a special Thank You to our Friends of Fort McKavett who provided a lunch for everyone following Colonel McTaggart's funeral. The Fort McKavett Fire Department let us use their station to feed everyone. We fed somewhere between 125-150 people. Our volunteers provided food and served the meal. Everyone did a great job of putting this together on a very short notice and deserves to be recognized for their efforts and hard work. It was greatly appreciated by the family and all who attended.

Masonic Installation



On July 9th, area Masonic officers were installed under the West Texas Masonic Oak at Fort McKavett SHS. Over 40 Masons and guests followed a decade long tradition of a BBQ supper preceding the installation ceremony, presided over by T. E. (Gene) Carnes, Grandmaster of Texas. Area lodges in attendance included: Fort McKavett, Menard, Junction, Eldorado, Sonora, and Leakey.

Imprisoned on the Frontier: The 8th US Infantry at Fort McKavett, Winter 1861

Fort McKavett SHS will be holding a living history event the weekend of November 18-20, 2011 commemorating the six month period during the American Civil War that the site was a POW camp. This will be a first person/semi-immersion event. Registrations have been coming in from all over the United States and it is shaping up to be a good event.

Guidelines and information can be found on the event website:

<https://sites.google.com/site/imprisonedonthefrontier/home>

Contact Cody Mobley for more info:

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