

# Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

**Volume 11, Number 2**

**February, 2012**

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

## Fort McKavett Upcoming Events

March 2-3, Fort Clark Living History,  
School Day on Friday  
March 17, Fort McKavett Spring Star  
Party\*  
March 23-24, Fort McKavett West  
Texas Heritage Days, school day on  
Friday\*  
April 20-22, Confederate Reunion  
Grounds, school day on Friday\*  
May 4-5, Fort Chadbourne Living  
History event, school day on Friday  
May 4-5, Lake Brownwood State Park  
Open House, school day on Friday  
May 18-19, Lake Arrowhead State Park  
Buffalo Soldiers Day, school day on  
Friday  
October 13, Fort McKavett Fall Star  
Party\*  
December 7-9, Christmas at Old Fort  
Concho, school day on Friday  
\*THC Historic Sites Event

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

[www.fortmckavett.org](http://www.fortmckavett.org)



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
*real places telling real stories*

**Our Friends of Fort McKavett need your support. If you are receiving this newsletter, we need you to join or renew your membership! We have several projects we work on during the year and need these dues to help pay for all we do. You will find a form inside this edition of the Gazette.**

**We have a busy schedule again this year, as you can see on the left. Super thanks to our volunteers on covering these events and spreading the word about Fort McKavett! It is greatly appreciated.**

**If you are going to be an exhibitor at this year's West Texas Heritage Days at Fort McKavett, please take time to register so we can have an idea about food and accommodations.**

**Hope to see you at the Fort and on the trail!**

**John Cobb  
President  
Friends of Fort McKavett**

# West Texas Heritage Days

Fort McKavett - March 23-24, 2012



Make plans to attend this year. We will have education day on Friday and public day on Saturday.

There will be a silent auction benefiting the Friends of Fort McKavett, western heritage displays, military displays, the Sahawe Indian Dancers perform on Saturday, a BBQ lunch will be provided by the Friends on Saturday. The Ice House Brass Band will play during the BBQ Lunch.

For more information, see our website at:

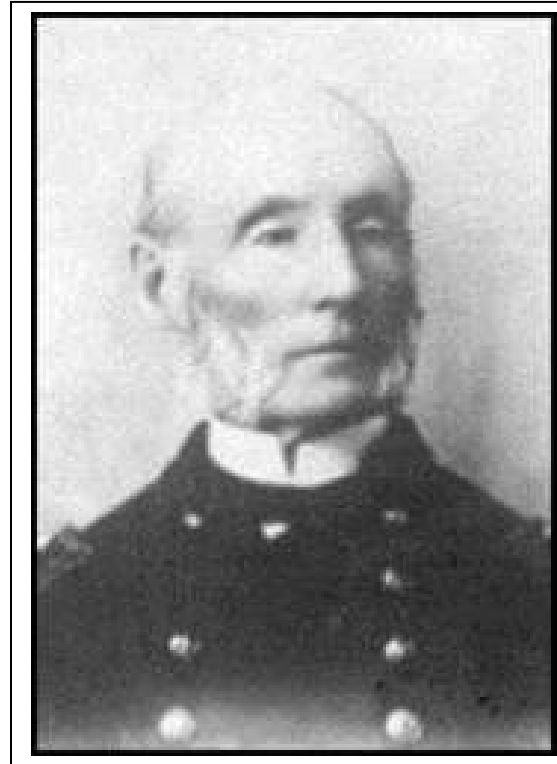
[www.fortmckavett.org](http://www.fortmckavett.org)

If you are attending as a living historian, please register so we can have an accurate count for our meals and accommodations.

*Cannon fire signals the flag raising ceremony at 2011's West Texas Heritage Days*



## Meet the People of Fort McKavett



James V. Bomford was a Captain with Company "H", 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. Infantry Regiment at Fort McKavett from March, 1852 until January, 1854. He was brevetted Brigadier General at the end of the Civil War. He retired in 1874 with 46 years as a U.S. Officer.

\* **Bomford, James Voty.** N Y. D.C. Cadet **M A** 1 Sept 1828 (**34**); bvt 2 lt 2 inf 1 July 1832; 2 lt 6 Oct 1834; 1 lt 8 inf 7 July 1838; r adjt 1 Oct 1838 to 12 Dec 1839; capt 4 Mar 1845; maj 6 inf 17 Oct 1860; lt col 16 inf 10 Jan 1862; col 8 inf 18 May 1864; retd 8 June 1874; bvt maj 20 Aug 1847 for gal and mer con in the battles of Contreras and Churubusco; lt col 8 Sept 1847 for gal and mer con in the battle of Molino del Rey; col 8 Oct 1862 for gal and mer ser in the battle of Perryville Ky and brig gen 13 Mar 1865 for fai and eff ser; died 6 Jan 1892.

## From the Fort McKavett Archives

A detachment of 80 recruits for the 25th Infantry passed through this post for Fort Concho, Texas, from San Antonio, Texas, Oct. 14, 79. A. A. Combs, W. S. A., accompanied them.

A detachment of 14 enlisted men of Co. 4th 22nd Inf. left the post for Post Clark, Texas, Oct. 27, 79, as escort to a wagon train.

Births: To the wife of 1st Sergt. Temple, Co. 6th 22nd Inf. morning of Oct. 4, 79, of a son.  
To the wife of Ordnance Sergt. P. Spearman, U. S. A. Oct. 6, 79 - of a son.

From the October, 1879 Medical Journal of Fort McKavett, TX

Meteorological:  
Maximum temperature during the month 91° F. at 10 P.M.  
Minimum temperature during the month 28° F. at 10 P.M.  
Monthly mean temperature 66.95° F. at 10 P.M.  
Prevailing winds - South. No. of days rain 3.  
Quantity of rain fall 0.84 inch. Average Cloudiness 3.04  
Hosp. Fund on hand Oct. 31, 79, \$ 77.18 cts.  
Hosp. Servs - P. N. O. W. U. S. A., on duty at the Post Hosp. during the month.  
G. C. Goddard  
Surgeon U. S. A. Post Surg.

Also the meteorological information from the month of October was kept by Surgeon Goddard. There is a world of knowledge to be gained from the Medical Journals. Troop movements, weather, anything unusual on the post, astronomical events, and of course, the medical reports of the troops were noted monthly. We have these in our Post Research Library.



## We Need Your Help!!!

Changing our annual meeting of the Friends of Fort McKavett from October to March has thrown off our membership dues collections. If you would take the time and fill out the following and mail it with your check in to our post office box, you would be helping us out greatly. Our memberships and donations are down quite a bit.

### Friends of Fort McKavett Membership/Renewal Application

Fill in the information, and mail the application, along with your check or money order, to:

The Friends of Fort McKavett  
P.O. Box 57  
Fort McKavett, Texas 76941

#### Type of Membership:

- Single Annual Membership (\$15.00)  
 Family Annual Membership (\$25.00)  
 Corporate Annual Membership (\$100.00)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (Area Code \_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Also, plan on being part of our yearly membership meeting on Saturday afternoon during our "West Texas Heritage Days" event, we need your input!

# 1881 Army Regulations

## SWORD AND SCABBARD.

**2691.** *General Officers.*—Straight sword, gilt hilt, silver grip; brass or steel scabbard, same as now worn.

**2692.** *For Officers of Light Artillery and Cavalry.*—Sabre and scabbard as now worn, and according to pattern in Ordnance Department.

**2693.** *For Mounted Officers of Infantry.*—Sword and scabbard of the pattern prescribed for Cavalry Officers.

**2694.** *For Officers of the Pay and Medical Departments.*—Small sword and scabbard, according to pattern in the Surgeon General's Office, as now worn.

**2695.** *For all other Officers.*—Same as the small, straight sword now worn by the officers of the General Staff, and according to pattern in the Ordnance Department.

**2696.** Whenever the full dress coat is worn on armed duty and not in the field, by officers below the grade of Brigadier General, the nickel-plated sword scabbards will be worn by those officers for whom it is prescribed.—[*G. O. 67, 1873.*]

**2697.** Whenever the sack coat is worn on armed duty, the dark sword scabbard will be worn by those officers for whom it is prescribed.—[*G. O. 67, 1873.*]

**2698.** The sword and sword-belt will be worn upon all occasions of duty, except stable and fatigue.

**2699.** When not on military duty, officers may wear swords of honor, or the prescribed sword, with a scabbard, gilt, or of leather, with gilt mountings.

## Condemned Equipment and Property

### INSPECTION OF PROPERTY FOR CONDEMNATION.

**1381.** Inspectors are the only officers authorized to inspect public property with a view to condemnation. The final disposition of condemned property, except it be worthless, can only be ordered by Commanding Generals of Departments.—[*Circ. War Dept., Nov. 2, 1868.*]

**1382.** All surveys and reports having in view the condemnation of public property, for whatever cause, will be made by Inspector Generals, or Inspectors specially designated by the Commander of a Department or an army in the field, or by higher authority. Such surveys and reports having a different object from those of Boards of Survey, will be required independently of any preliminary action of a board on the same matter.—[*Regs. 1863, ¶ 1021.*]

**1383.** Public property must not be reported as unserviceable, or condemned by an Inspector, merely because of its shabby appearance, when it is really strong and serviceable.—[*G. O. 5, 1866; Circ. War Dept., Nov. 2, 1868; G. O. 55, 1875.*]

**1384.** Generally inventories of unserviceable property should be forwarded to the Department, or superior headquarters, in anticipation of the visit of an Inspector. But Inspectors, during their tours, will inspect all property presented to them for condemnation, on proper inventories and inspection reports.—[*Circ. War Dept., Nov. 2, 1868.*]

# From the Army Cooks Manual

## Pot Roast.

**179.** For 50 men, take about 18 pounds of meat and cut in chunks weighing from 4 to 8 pounds. Place in a large camp-kettle with a cover and season well; add a little chopped onions, and about  $\frac{1}{2}$  a pint of vinegar. Place in a medium oven and let cook slowly until well done, turning the meat over about three times while cooking. When done remove from the kettle and slice. Make a thick gravy in the same pot. Place the meat on platters and pour the thick gravy over it. Meat left over from this recipe may be used in making hash, potpies, or fritters, for a stew or cold roast.

## Roast Turkey.

**183.** Allow  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a pound of dressed fowl to a man. Pick and clean the turkey well—saving the heart, liver, and gizzard for the stuffing. To prepare the stuffing, take 1-3 bread and soak well in water and squeeze out with the hands. Add 1-3 minced potatoes and 1-5 brown minced onions. Season with pepper, salt and a little sage, thyme or other flavor. Mix well and stuff into the turkey filling the space vacated by the entrails and craw. Sew up the turkey with a strong thread, and bend the wings under the back and tie down to the body. Make a batter, with flour and fat, seasoning it with pepper and salt and rub over the turkey with hand, before placing in the oven. Place in the oven. In about 20 minutes add a little hot water and baste frequently until done. This will generally take about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  hours, but depends greatly upon the particular fowl roasted, as some are small and tender and others large and tough. Turkeys, as a rule, have a dry skin, and it is for that reason that the batter is rubbed on; if the turkey is very fat it may be omitted, but it will do no harm to use it under any circumstances. The above stuffing is the one generally used, but as an alternative the bread may be soaked in oyster juice and the oysters (proportion 1-3) may be used in the preparation. Again the sliced onions may be replaced by chopped celery; or, the bread may be cut into  $1\frac{1}{4}$ -inch cubes, toasted and used as bread. A little lemon

juice may well be added. Sometimes in Spanish countries, the onions or celery are replaced by currants or raisins. This stuffing may be used at any time when stuffing is required. It is equally good for fowl or fish.

