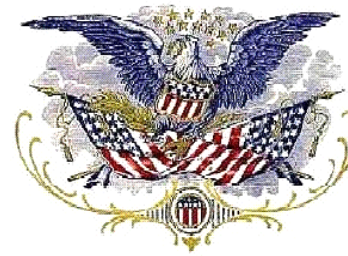


Fort McKavett State Historical Site
P. O. Box 68
Fort McKavett, Texas 76841



Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

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March 4-5, Fort Clark, Education Day on Friday

March 25-26, West Texas Heritage Days, Education Day on Friday. Fort McKavett*

April 2, Fort McKavett Spring Star Party*

April 8-10, Fort Richardson Days

May 6-7, Lake Brownwood State Park Open House, Education Day on Friday

May 13,14, Lake Arrowhead State Park Open House, Education Day on Friday

May 20,21, Fort Lancaster, Western Frontier Days*

*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

10 years of the Gazette

2010 marks our 10th anniversary of the Gazette. We hope everyone has enjoyed this last 10 years and will be pleased with the upcoming editions.

We strive to improve each edition, showing current projects for Fort McKavett, along with historical items, such as dealing with food for the troops (this has been the most requested subject in our history), the history of Fort McKavett, and general history of the Indian Wars army.

Just a reminder, we need your support of the Friends of Fort McKavett to keep the Gazette and all our projects going. If you would like to join the Friends or need to renew your membership, go to our website, www.fortmckavett.org, for an application.

John Cobb
President
Friends of Fort McKavett

Christmas at Old Fort Concho



*Fort McKavett volunteers at this year's Christmas at Fort Concho.
Photo by Don Bredthauer*



Left: Fort McKavett living history exhibits at this year's Fort Concho event. Attending this year was Lee Ragan, John Schultz, Don Bredthauer, Joe Gonzalez, Tim Phillips, Richard Vaughn, Dale Werner, Darcy Maloney, Lisa Lester and others. There was a great turnout of our volunteers.

*Fort McKavett staff was also represented by just about everyone from the site over the three days of the event.
Photos by Darcy Maloney*



Frontier Ladies Tea Hosted by Fort McKavett



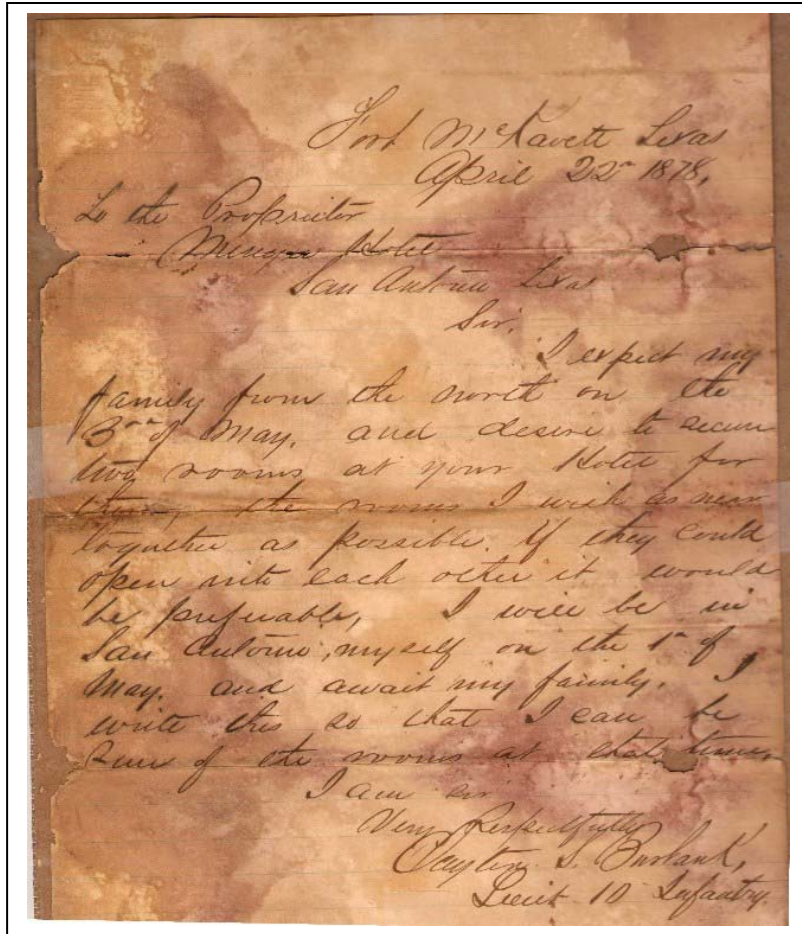
Submitted by Darcy Maloney

The ladies of Fort McKavett hosted an afternoon tea for ladies from various forts and encampments. All in attendance enjoyed catching up on old times and meeting new friends. James (last name unknown), was particularly enjoyable as he took the part of a striker pouring hot water from the fire for the ladies as they needed it. The weather was perfect for the afternoon tea. We all hope to turn this into an annual event.

*Right: Darcy at the ladies tea.
Photographs by Darcy and Dale.*



New Acquisition for the Fort McKavett Archives



The Friends of Fort McKavett has obtained a letter written by Lt. Clayton S. Burbank, 10th Infantry posted at Fort McKavett in 1878 to the Menger Hotel in San Antonio reserving rooms for his family. Lt Burbank had married Ida Dodd Burbank the sister-in-law of post trader Sam Wallick. This is a great addition to our post archives.

A Loss of one of our Own

Dr. Billy Dippel passed away December 15th after a long illness. His services were held in Brownwood at the First United Methodist Church.

He was a great supporter of the site and our Friends Group. He was instrumental in raising funds for our school house bell in the spring of 2007.



Dr. Billy Dippel at our 2010 Event



Right: Dale Werner carrying a load at Fort Concho



Left: Richard Vaughn, John Schultz, and Lee Ragan taking a break.

Photographs provided by Darcy Maloney

A Soup from the Army Cook's Manual

ST. PATRICK'S SOUP.

(Sufficient for 22 men.)

6 pounds meat and fat.	1 large cabbage.
6 pounds potatoes.	1 pound flour.
1 pound onions.	6 ounces salt.
1 pound celery.	6 ounces sugar.
1 pound turnip.	6 tablespoonfuls vinegar.
1 pound carrot.	3½ gallons water.

Cut the meat into pieces one inch square, the fat into smaller pieces; place them in the boiler; when

warm add the vegetables (except the potatoes) cut very small, stir them round so that they do not burn; when they are on the point of doing so add the water by degrees; peel the potatoes, put them in a net, and place them in the boiler; when done take them out and mash them; after the soup has been boiling two hours add the potatoes, with the seasoning and flour mixed, and the vinegar; boil slowly for thirty minutes, keep stirring it, and serve.

St. Patrick's soup wasn't just for St. Patrick's Day, but was part of the staple diet of the army. Basically, it's leftovers. The army seldom disposed of leftovers or stale foods. See below:



Add this for the Soup...

FRIED BREAD FOR SOUPS.

Cut stale bread into dice, and fry in boiling fat until brown. It will take about half a minute.

From the Archives...

The habits of the men generally, are good,

some cases of drunkenness being the only exceptions.

The main problem at the post according to Assistant Surgeon Horton in January 1876 was the enlisted men's drinking habits.

Meteorology¹⁰ January 1876. Monthly mean temperature 50.99°. The warmest day was July 22, 7 a.m. 62°, 2. P.M. 70°, 9. P.M. 62°; daily mean 64.66°. The coldest day was July 10th, 7. A.M. 34°, 2. P.M. 37°, 9. P.M. 32°; daily mean 34.53°. The lowest temperature during the month was during the night of July 18th - at which time the thermometer indicated 36° Fahrenheit. The prevailing winds were from the south west, their number 27, sum of force 45. Rainfall during the month 1.02 inches. Average cloudiness 6.02.

Also from the Medical Journal of Fort McKavett for January, 1876 was this weather report. The warmest day was 70F, the coldest temperature recorded was 30F. There was 1.02 inches of rain for the month.

Several questions have come up about the makeup of the infantry companies. These are the regulations covering those companies stationed at Fort McKavett.

INFANTRY COMPANY.

SEC. 1107. Each company of infantry shall consist of one captain, one first lieutenant, one second lieutenant, one first sergeant, one quartermaster-sergeant, four sergeants, four corporals, two artificers, two musicians, one wagoner, and fifty privates, and the number of privates may be increased at the discretion of the President not to exceed one hundred, whenever the exigencies of the service require such increase.

28 July, 1866, c. 299, s. 6, v. 14, p. 333.

15 July, 1870. c. 294, ss. 2, 10, v. 16, pp. 317, 318.

COLORED INFANTRY REGIMENTS.

SEC. 1108. The enlisted men of two regiments of infantry shall be colored men.

28 July, 1866, c. 299, s. 4, v. 14, p. 332.

3 Mar., 1869, c. 124, s. 2, v. 15, p. 318.