

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 6

June, 2011



**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**

**Dec 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

May is always a very busy month for the Friends of Fort McKavett. As you can see in this issue, this last month was no different.

Reminders, if you attend an event, please send us photographs and a write up. If you don't, it doesn't get covered.

Between the new Old Stories, New Voices camp and other events, summer will be filled with things going on as well.

We are monitoring the Legislature daily for changes to our Historic Sites. You will find an update in this month's edition of the Gazette and we will try to keep everyone up to date on new happenings.

**John Cobb
President
Friends of Fort McKavett**

Fort Chadbourne



Fort McKavett Regulars attended this year's successful Fort Chadbourne event. They had a very large turnout on Friday's Education day and on public day Saturday.



Photos thanks to King Walker

Fort McKavett was represented by Tommie Koepke, Richard Vaughn, John Schultz, Greg and Donna Hector, King Walker, Chuck and Ann Dixon and site staff members at this year's event.

Fort Lancaster



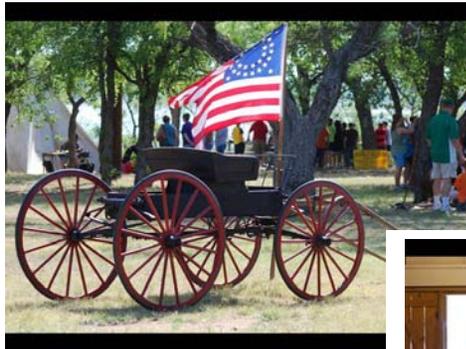
Fort McKavett was represented by Tommie Koepke, Russell Tipton and son Sam Tipton, Jay Wright, and Richard Vaughn at this year's Fort Lancaster Event. Friday we had about 300 school kids and staff. Saturday some of our visitors were the sixty-five kids with Texas Challenge Boot Camp.



Texas Forts Muster, Fort Worth

Cody Mobley, Greg and Donna Hector, Kim and Chris, and Richard Vaughn represented Fort McKavett at this year's Texas Forts Muster. Over 3,600 students attended on Friday's Education Day. Unfortunately, no photos were available for this event. If any are found, we will try to add them to next month's Gazette.

Lake Brownwood Open House



Lake Brownwood's Open House this year was a great success for visitors and students. Fort McKavett was represented by Ken Pollard and John Cobb. We had several hundred students on Friday and more visitors than normal on Saturday. A Texas Buffalo Soldiers (TPWD and THC) workshop was also held before the event.



Old Stories New Voices time again, with new campers to Fort McKavett and the program!

Once again, Fort McKavett and the Texas State Historical Association will host the Old Stories, New Voices program. This year, there will be new 5th graders for all over the State of Texas attending. The selection process is going on right now. This year's camp will be held June 25-July 1. Updates on the program will be in next month's Gazette!

Lake Arrowhead Open House



John Cobb, Tad Gose and Ken Pollard represented Fort McKavett at Lake Arrowhead's Open House this year. We had over 400 students on Thursday and Friday's education days and over that number in visitors to the site on Saturday. Joining us were the Texas Buffalo Soldiers and the Texas Longhorn Herd exhibits. Park Manager (former McKavett volunteer) John Ferguson was very happy with the turnout on their first Saturday event.

From the Army Cooks Manual

"FRIJOLES CON QUESO."

(Beans with cheese.)

1 quart red beans. 4 tablespoonfuls dripping.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ pound good cheese. Salt.
A little cayenne pepper.

Boil beans until soft, drain, and turn into a frying pan with dripping. Salt to taste. Add the pepper and cheese, grated. Stir until cheese dissolves and thoroughly blends. Serve very hot.

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MANUAL FOR ARMY COOKS.

FRIED ONIONS.

Peel, slice, and fry the onions brown in butter, beef dripping, or lard; season with pepper and salt. Stir constantly or they will burn.

1857 Regulations (continued from last month)

95. . . . Where conveniences for bathing are to be had, the men should bathe once a week. The feet to be washed at least twice a week. The hair *kept short*, and beard neatly trimmed.

96. . . . Non-commissioned officers, in command of squads, will be held more immediately responsible that their men observe what is prescribed above ; that they wash their hands and faces daily ; that they brush or comb their heads ; that those who are to go on duty put their arms, accoutrements, dress, &c., in the best order, and that such as have permission to pass the chain of sentinels are in the dress that may be ordered.

97. . . . Commanders of companies and squads will see that the arms and accoutrements in possession of the men are always kept in good order, and that proper care be taken in cleaning them.

98. . . . When belts are given to a soldier, the captain will see that they are properly fitted to the body ; and it is forbidden to cut any belt without his sanction.

99. . . . Cartridge-boxes and bayonet-scarbards will be polished with blacking ; varnish is injurious to the leather, and will not be used.

100. . . . All arms in the hands of the troops, whether browned or bright, will be kept in the state in which they are issued by the Ordnance Department. Arms will not be taken to pieces without permis-

sion of a commissioned officer. Bright barrels will be kept clean and free from rust without polishing them ; care should be taken in rubbing not to bruise or bend the barrel. After firing, wash out the bore ; wipe it dry, and then pass a bit of cloth, slightly greased, to the bottom. In these operations, a rod of wood with a loop in one end is to be used instead of the rammer. The barrel, when not in use, will be closed with a stopper. For exercise, each soldier should keep himself provided with a piece of sole leather to fit the cup or countersink of the hammer.

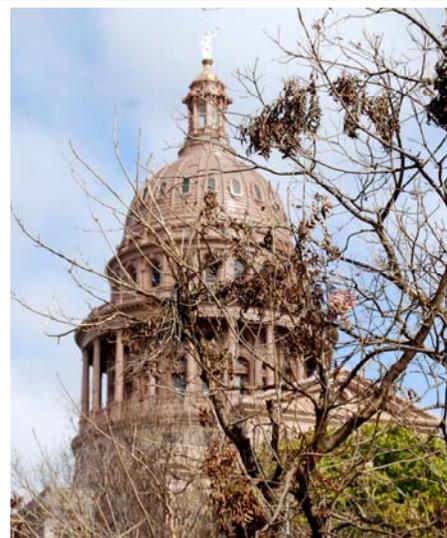
(For care of arms in service, see Ordnance Manual, page 185, &c.)

101. . . . Arms shall not be left loaded in quarters or tents, or when the men are off duty, except by special orders.

102. . . . Ammunition issued will be inspected frequently. Each man will be made to pay for the rounds expended without orders, or not in the way of duty, or which may be damaged or lost by his neglect.

103. . . . Ammunition will be frequently exposed to the dry air, or sunned.

104. . . . Special care shall be taken to ascertain that no ball-cartridges are mixed with the blank cartridges issued to the men.



2011 Legislative Update

The Legislature has adjourned from their regular session with cuts to the Texas Historical Commission. Our Historic Sites have been cut, but not nearly as deep as other programs. The Legislature has gone into special session now and we will keep an eye on what is happening over the next few weeks.

We will have to monitor the changes, but right now, it looks as though most of the cuts to Fort McKavett will be in the long term maintenance areas. Day to day operations will not be cut very much. Until September 1st, it will be “business as usual”. We will post any changes we find.

John Cobb, President
Friends of Fort McKavett

One more Cook Manual Recipe

“SALZA” (Sauce).

3 large ripe tomatoes.	1 small onion.
5 hot green peppers.	2 tablespoonfuls vinegar.
	Salt.

Lay peppers on coals, turning them until blistered ; throw them into cold water, and then remove seeds

and skins. Skin tomatoes and chop all together until quite fine. Strain off juice and add salt and vinegar.

To be served with soup or meat as a relish.

Have a write up or a photograph for the Gazette? Make sure you send it to John Cobb at cobbfarm@airmail.net before the 25th of each month.