

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



Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

Volume 7, Number 3

March, 2008



March 7&8, Fort Clark Living History Event

Mar 28 & 29, *Fort McKavett Education day and West Texas Heritage Days*

April 5, Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society Star Party

April 11-12, Fort Richardson Days, Friday is Education Day.

April 12, "Living History Days", Mission Tejas State Historic Site

April 26-26, Lake Brownwood State Park School Day and Open House

May 2-3, Fort Chadbourne Days Living History Event, Student Day is the 2nd

May 10, Fort Mason 150th anniversary

May 8-10, Fort Worth Stockyards

June 28-29, Texas' Last Frontier Heritage Celebration, Morton

Color Copies of all the Fort McKavett Gazette's can be found at:

www.fortmckavett.org



TEXAS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION

The State Agency for Historic Preservation

www.thc.state.tx.us

Our March Event is Here

Once again, it's time for our annual "West Texas Heritage Days" event. We are expecting a lot of Living Historians and exhibits this year, special visitors, and some special presentations.

This will be our first event since the transfer to the Texas Historical Commission and this looks to be a big one.

We expect to see a lot of our old friends that we haven't got visited with in quite a while. Make your plans to come and we will see you there.

In the meantime, we are starting to get our new equipment and vehicles at the site. Our new Staff members are on board and we will have a photo and background on each one over the next few months. Welcome to Russell, Jay, Nancy and Chris!

Make sure you take time to meet our new staff members at this year's event.

Goodbye to Gennie...



Genevieve "Gennie" Hough has been our Administrator since 2007 and is moving on to work for the U.S. Postal Service in Menard. This is a good career opportunity for Gennie and we wish her the best of luck in her new job. The Staff gave her a going away luncheon February 27th. She had time to train our new acting Administrator before she left. We will miss her smile.

Welcome to Nancy...

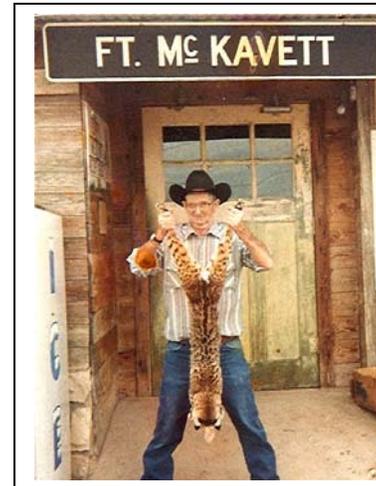
Nancy Jacoby is one of our new employees at Fort McKavett. She was hired as an Administrative Assistant and with the departure of Gennie becomes our Office Manager.



Nancy is a Menard County native, the daughter of Ann and Roy Jacoby and has many family members in the area. She is a graduate of Tarleton State University and is moving back to Menard County after spending the last 25 years in Kimble County. She is a member of the Junction Lions Club and the Junction Backstreet Players. She enjoys reading and kayaking in the local rivers. Welcome aboard, Nancy!



In Memory, Sam R. Stockton



Life long resident of Fort McKavett, Sam "Sambo" Stockton passed away on February 25th. He had been the caretaker at the Fort McKavett Cemetery for many years. He had helped us locate our Soldiers and Families at the Cemetery. He was buried in the Fort McKavett Cemetery on February 27th after a service held at St. James Episcopal Church at Fort McKavett.



New Equipment on Site



We now have a second "Grasshopper" mower for the site. This should cut our mowing time down quite a bit along with our new Staff members. We have a new tractor with an Air Conditioned-Heated Cab on the way as well as new trucks for the Site. More on our new Staff and equipment to come.

Special Announcement

West Texas Heritage Days

There will be some special presentations at this year's event. Colonel Richard McTaggart will be honored for his many years of service to our site.

There will be several presentations from Texas Parks and Wildlife, the Buffalo Soldier Program, The Friends of Fort McKavett, Menard County, the Texas House of Representatives, Texas Historical Commission and several more "surprises".

If the Colonel has ever touched your life, this is the time to come out to honor and meet him.

The presentations will begin at 11:00 AM on March 29th. After the presentations, a noon barbeque meal will be sponsored by the Friends of Fort McKavett.

Please make plans to meet us there!!!



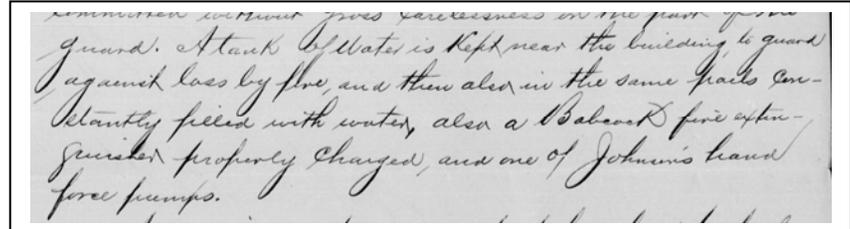
Also, we need deserts, salads, and vegetables for the noon meal. If you can help, call Buddy or Alfredo at the site and let them know.

If you have any items for the silent auction, let them know you are bringing something.



Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society
Spring Star Party
Fort McKavett State Historic Site
April 5th, 2008

1879 Inspector General's Report



The 1879 Inspector General's Report on Fort McKavett shows fire equipment on hand at the Commissary and Quartermaster warehouses. Listed are a Babcock fire extinguisher and Johnson's Hand fire pumps.



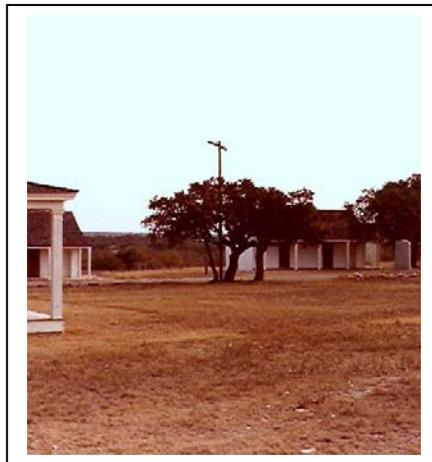
Left: a Babcock fire extinguisher model 2, the type used in the 1870's by the U.S. Army. Below: a Johnson hand fire pump. These were mounted on a hand cart and held a tub of water. It took two men to pump the handles and one man to aim the hose (mounted on the side of the cart). There was also a water tank beside the warehouses where a "bucket brigade" could be formed.



Take a look back to see how far we have come!



Left: Lt.'s Row about 1979 showing OQ 10 (the center building) in ruins before being restored. Below: Barracks with town buildings behind it.



For those of you who do not remember what has been done to restore Fort McKavett by the State of Texas, these photographs show how the Fort looked about 1978. We have come a long way towards having the premier Texas Fort Site. We are now going to the next step under the direction and partnership with the Texas Historical Commission.

Above: you can see the Highway running through the middle of Captains Row as well as the old Hwy Marker and telephone poles.

Gunshots at 4th July, 1870

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REPORT OF SURGICAL CASES IN THE ARMY.

LXIII.—*Note of a Case of Recovery after a Penetrating Gunshot Wound of the Thorax.* By A. C. GIRARD, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

Sergeant James Naylor, Co. M, 9th United States Cavalry, aged 26 years, was wounded on July 4, 1870, in a fight, by a fellow-soldier. A conoidal ball entered the right breast, striking the fifth rib, and penetrating the thoracic cavity, producing severe constitutional shock. The ball was not extracted or found. He was admitted to the post hospital at Fort McKavett, Texas, on July 4, 1870, and was treated by Acting Assistant Surgeon R. Sharpe. Simple dressings were applied. He was returned to duty on September 20, 1870.

CLXXXVIII.—*Mention of a Case of Gunshot Wound of the Scapula.* By A. C. GIRARD, Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

Private William H. Goldsborough, Co. D, 24th Infantry, aged 24 years, was wounded on July 4, 1870, by a sentinel on duty. A conoidal bullet passed obliquely through a panel-door, entering the soldier's right shoulder at the upper portion of the deltoid, and passing backward, and slightly upward, fracturing in its progress the acromion process, lodging against the scapula. Ball not found. He was admitted to the post hospital at Fort McKavett, Texas, on July 4, 1870. Simple dressings were applied. He was returned to duty on September 22, 1870. He was treated by R. Sharpe, Acting Assistant Surgeon. This man when returned to duty was detailed on daily duty in the post library. So far he has no use of his right arm.

July 4th, 1870 must have been quite the party at Fort McKavett. Above, you will find two cases of gunshot injuries to Soldiers at the Post. One was shot in a fight (the Sgt. in the upper box), and one shot by the Guard at the Post. Both were treated with the basic treatments by Dr. Girard. The Sgt. was returned to duty on September 30th, and the Private was returned to duty at the Post Library on September 22nd. He did not have use of his right arm.

There are no mention of either after these medical reports in Fort McKavett's Post Returns or Medical Journals.



From the Army Bakers Manual:

BREAD.

73. There are two general classes of bread:

Fermented bread.—This includes all bread made *with yeast*, such as issue bread, graham bread, rye bread, and all rolls made with yeast.

Unfermented bread.—This includes all breads made *without yeast*, such as aerated bread, hard bread, crackers, baking powder biscuits, etc.

Yummy!!!