

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



# Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

Volume 8, Number 11

November, 2009

## Fort McKavett Upcoming Events

December 4-6, Christmas at Old Fort Concho  
March 5-6, Fort Clark Living History Event  
March 13, Fort McKavett Public Spring Star Party  
\*March 26 - 27, Fort McKavett "West Texas Heritage Days"; Education Day on Friday  
March 27, Fort McKavett, Annual Friends of Fort McKavett Meeting  
April 16-18, Fort Richardson Living History Days; Education Day on Friday  
April 30-May 1, Fort Chadbourne; Education day on Friday  
May 11, Lake Arrowhead State Park, Education Day  
May 15-16, Battleship Texas, Armed Forces Day Event  
\*May 21-22, Fort Lancaster Living History Days; Education Day on Friday  
October 2, Texas Forts Trail, Frontier Texas, Abilene  
\*October 8-9, Fort Griffin Living History Event  
October 9, Fort McKavett Public Fall Star Party

*\*THC Historic Sites Event*

## Notes from the Post...

This has been a very busy year for the Friends of Fort McKavett. We end it with a bang at Fort Concho again this year. Inside this edition of the Gazette, we have given you some idea of the items covered at this year's annual meeting.

At the left, you will note the schedule of events for this next year. In an effort to make sure we don't schedule on top of other events, we have posted all the 2010 events we have been able to identify so far.

See you at Fort Concho...

**John Cobb**  
**President**  
**Friends of Fort McKavett**



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
*real places telling real stories*

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

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

## *Donation for the Friends*

Ms. Susan Buchholz has given the Friends a generous donation in memory of her father, Mr. William Tole. Mr. Tole, from El Paso, passed away several years ago and was a supporter of the Friends as well as a member of the Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society.



## **Travels with Fort McKavett**



*Richard Vaughn (left), John Schultz (2<sup>nd</sup> right), and Don Bredthauer (right) represented Fort McKavett at the Texas Fort's Trail's Frontier Texas Event held in Abilene in October*



*Boy Scout Troop 346 from San Antonio attended the star party and camped out at Fort McKavett and gave us a hand serving drinks during our Friends lunch and meeting. Thanks to Scoutmaster James Causey and Senior Patrol Leader Colton Spahn for their troop's help!*

## *McKavett at Fort Griffin*



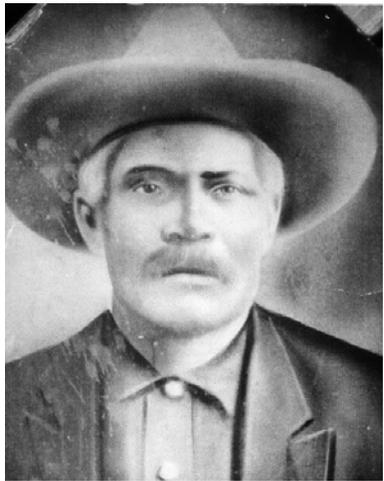
*"Lake McKavett" at Fort Griffin this year. We found all the low places on the parade ground during a 2.2 inch rain on Thursday night. However, the staff at Fort Griffin came to the rescue with several bales of hay to give us dry footing.*



*In spite of the rain, Friday and Saturday were good days with around 700 school students and lots of visitors to the site. We were represented by staff members Cody Mobley and Jay Wright along with volunteers John Schultz, Don Bredthauer, Richard Vaughn, and John Cobb at this year's THC event.*

*Mitch Baird and his staff have our congratulations for the tremendous amount of work and improvements made at Fort Griffin State Historic Site. We are all looking forward to see what they will be able to do by this next year's event!*

## Meet the Soldiers at Fort McKavett



Private Alexander Winfield was initially assigned to the 41st Infantry, Company I. Later, this company was consolidated into the 24<sup>th</sup> Infantry as Company D. He was discharged from Fort McKavett Texas in July of 1870. He married his wife Mattie after he left the Army. He died in October of 1915 and Mattie was awarded a pension for his service.

Right, Private Alexander's widow filing for his pension as an Indian War Veteran.

NAME OF SOLDIER: <i>Winfield, Alexander</i>				
NAME OF DEPENDENT: <i>Widow Winfield, Mattie</i>				
SERVICE: <i>24<sup>th</sup> Inf. 16. 11. 1870</i>				
DATE OF FILING: <i>1/10/1915</i>	CLASS: <i>Invalid</i>	APPLICATION NO.: <i>1392 P 9 R</i>	CERTIFICATE NO.:	STATE FROM WHICH FILED: <i>Texas</i>
APPROVED BY: <i>Geo. H. Spalding</i>				
REMARKS: <i>See Serial 12110</i>				



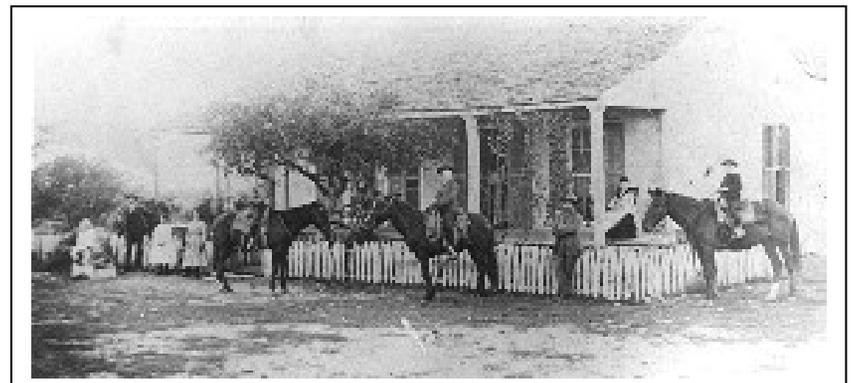
*None of the wagon wheels with metallic hubs have been received at this post.*

10<sup>th</sup> Infantryman 1st Lt. Gregory Barrett, acting Quartermaster for Fort McKavett in 1874 reported in his annual Quartermasters Report: "none of the wagon wheels with metallic hubs had been received at this post". It would be another 3 years before they arrived and then soldiers would complain they broke down worse than the wooden wheels.

## New Photograph of the Fort



Above: Photographs of Fort McKavett are rare when the Army was still in Garrison. Thanks to one of our new members, Darla Eason who is a Great-Great Grand Daughter of Post Trader Sam Wallick, we now have a photograph of the Wallick Store at Fort McKavett. This will let everyone see what a few of us have known before, that the Trader's Store on post was a large building. The Friends of Fort McKavett thank her and her family for this thoughtful gift. They are also going through other photographs the family has to see what they can find. Below: A photograph of the Wallick house (the Post Trader's House) at Fort McKavett.





**Welcome our new Site Hosts**  
*We have our new Site Hosts, Bob and Joan Shauchunas from Irvin who will be working at Fort McKavett for a few months. They were a great help with this year's Friends of Fort McKavett annual meeting. We welcome them to our family.*

## Friends of Fort McKavett Annual Meeting

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, we had our 2009 Annual Meeting and several items were discussed and voted on by the membership. We had a good turnout of our members and we are thankful for all their support.

Officers were elected to serve for 2009-2010. They are: President: John Cobb (Bastrop), Vice President: Marylyn Wheless (Menard), Secretary: Lisa Lester (Fort McKavett), Treasurer: Heather Treadwell (Fort McKavett), Living History Director: Richard Vaughn (Fort Worth), Members at Large: Jean Wright (Menard County) and Mark Stein (Austin). Also, President Emeritus: Col. Richard McTaggart (Menard County).

Several items were changed in our By-Laws and a new set will be posted on the website soon.

We have moved our Annual Meeting to the Saturday of our Living History Event (West Texas Heritage Days) effective this coming March.

Buddy Garza, our Site Manager, brought us up to date on plans for the new shop and some of the improvements we will be seeing over the next year. This includes new exhibits and restoration work on existing buildings. We will post these in the Gazette as they are being done.

We have also dropped the plans for rebuilding the Bandstand at this time and are looking at several other projects for the site. As soon as we have more information, we will let everyone know.

## 2009 Friends of Fort McKavett Meeting



*Left: Members serving the noon meal at Fort McKavett. Friends brought in salads, vegetable dishes, deserts and many other foods for all our visitors and staff members. We had several different meat dishes as well.*

*Right: Friends of Fort McKavett meeting in the school house. We had a couple of PowerPoint presentations after the regular meeting.*



*Colonel McTaggart made it to our meeting and helped with the blessing of the noon meal. As soon as our meeting with the Friends was over, there was a presentation given by Ken and Lisa Lester on "The Moon" that was well attended. The astronomers had also gone to Junction Elementary on Friday and made presentations.*

*Right: Visitors enjoy the star party and looking through the telescopes of the Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society*

