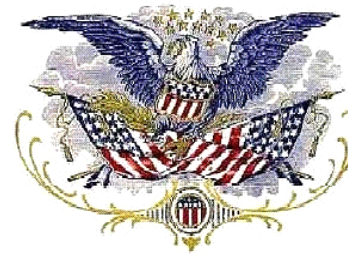


Fort McKavett State Historical Site  
P. O. Box 68  
Fort McKavett, Texas 76841



# Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

Volume 10, Number 11

November, 2011



Nov 18-20, Imprisoned on the Frontier (Civil War 150th Commemoration Event)\*

Nov 19, Menard, Presidio San Sabá dedication and grand opening

Dec 2-4, Christmas at Old Fort Concho, Education Day on Friday

Mar 2-3, Fort Clark Living History, Education Day on Friday

Mar 17, Fort McKavett Spring Star Party\*

Mar 23-24, West Texas Heritage Days, Fort McKavett\*

\*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*

Fort McKavett is preparing for their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary event of the Civil War, the rededication of Presidio San Sabá, and the Christmas at Old Fort Concho event.

The Board of Directors of the Friends of Fort McKavett has also voted to support a new bike trail between the boy scout camp and the post. We are also paying for the mattress ticking for the new beds Cody and his volunteers have built for the barracks.

Make plans to attend these events!

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

John Cobb

President

Friends of Fort McKavett





## Presidio de San Sabá Rededication

Presidio de San Sabá Rededication Program  
Date/Time: 11/19/2011 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM  
Location: Menard, Texas...

Join Menard County, the Texas Historical Commission and the Presidio de San Sabá Restoration Association on November 19<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. The Presidio de San Sabá will be featured during this rededication program. There will be tours of the 1757 Presidio, Texas' largest Spanish fort, before and after the program. There will also be a Spanish Soldados interpretation. The Presidio is located west of Menard--about 1 mile west of highway 83 on highway 190.

There will be a reception after the rededication.

Some other historical sites that will also be available for touring or viewing are the Menardville Museum, Fort McKavett, Mission Santa Cruz de San Sabá (site only), Mission Theater, Ditch Walk, and the historical churches around Menard. For more information, call 325-396-2365 or 325-396-2424.



*Union Prisoners During the Civil War*

## November 18- 20, 2011 *Fort McKavett, Texas*

A semi-immersion event in the Texas Hill Country commemorating the six months during the winter of 1861 and spring of 1862 that Fort McKavett was a prisoner-of-war camp.

for more information:

<https://sites.google.com/site/imprisonedonthefrontier/home>



### ***Barracks #4.***

Constructed by Co. B, 8th Infantry in 1853, this barracks will be used to house the prisoners of war during the event.



## Preparing the post for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Civil War Event



*Part of the letters and post office equipment for the event*



*Volunteers assisted in building new 1850 type beds for the barracks. These will be in the middle room and after the event will be used for display, living history, boy scouts, and overnight programs at the post. The Friends of Fort McKavett are helping with this project by purchasing mattress ticking. These bunks will sleep two up and two down, for a total of four people to a bed. Thanks to Cody Mobley for heading up this entire project!*



*The month of October found the annual migration of Monarch butterflies coming through Fort McKavett. This photo was taken by the Fort McKavett staff at Government Springs.*

## Christmas at Old Fort Concho *December 2011*

Friday, December 2 ~ 3:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.  
Saturday, December 3 ~ 9:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.  
Sunday, December 4 ~ 11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.



*Come out and support our Fort McKavett volunteers and staff at this year's Christmas at Old Fort Concho event!*

## Bakery Storage of Bread, US Army Manual for Cooks

65. **Keeping.**—Where a bread room is provided, the loaded bread racks may be wheeled directly into it. Good ventilation should be provided, and an effort made to regulate the amount of bread on hand so that none need be issued until twenty-four hours old, and generally none should be stored at the bakery more than about forty-eight hours. If bread boxes are provided for the storage of bread, the following method should be followed: After four or five hours the bread may be removed to the cupboards or bread boxes—provision being made for a small amount of ventilation during the first twenty-four hours, after which all chemical changes will have ceased within the loaf. The bread should then be placed in a closed box or closet to prevent further drying out. If kept for several days, it may be necessary to provide bowls or pans of water to prevent further evaporation.

## Army Stew from Leftover Turkey

### A GOOD STEW.

Use meats, game especially, of any or various kinds—prairie chicken, quail, duck, rabbit, turkey—or if you have no fresh meats or game, use fried bacon or pork.

Into a kettle put a layer of bacon, meats, etc., and season; dredge with flour, then add a layer of potatoes, onions, etc.; repeating this until the kettle is nearly full, as desired. Over all pour sufficient broth or water (the former preferable) to cover, and stew slowly from one to three hours, according to size. During the last hour stir in a quart of batter to thicken; season to taste and serve hot.

## Cornbread Cakes

### CORN-MEAL BATTER CAKES.

1 quart sour milk. 2 eggs, beaten. 2 teaspoonfuls salt.  
1 teaspoonful soda in sufficient hot water to dissolve it.  
Mix in enough sifted meal to make a thin batter.

Cook on a griddle, over a quick, clear fire. Each cake should be buttered as soon as cooked, and kept hot until served.

## From the 1870 Quartermaster Generals' Report

### FIRE EXTINGUISHERS.

In order to provide the best and most economical means of guarding against the ravages of fire, the Quartermaster General, in April last, asked of the Secretary of War, and was granted, authority to supply the several military posts, upon requisition approved by the proper commanding officer, with such number of fire extinguishers, of the most approved pattern, as might be deemed prudent and necessary.

Samples of several extinguishers of different patterns were sent to this office for inspection and trial, viz:

1. The Babcock patent fire extinguisher, of Chicago, Illinois;
2. The American Consolidated fire extinguisher, of Boston, Massachusetts;
3. The St. Louis fire extinguisher, (Sander's patent,) of St. Louis, Missouri;
4. The United States fire extinguisher, of New York City; and
5. The Excelsior fire extinguisher, of Chicago, Illinois.

Circulars relative to Boynton's fire extinguisher and Van Dyne's Cartridge fire extinguisher were also received, without specimens of the machines.

After careful examination and test of the several machines sent, the No. 2 copper machine of the American Consolidated Fire Extinguisher Company, of Boston, and the No. 1 copper machine of the Northwestern Fire Extinguisher Company, of Chicago, (Babcock patent,) were found to be the most efficient and best adapted to the uses of the Quartermaster's Department. These machines are designed, not as a means of extinguishing large conflagrations, but of preventing them, and, being portable and self-acting, are always available for immediate action. The extinguishers of the Boston and Chicago companies above designated are of the same pattern, and the two companies are working together under the same patent by mutual agreement. The machines ordered by this Department for the eastern and southern posts have been supplied by the Boston company; those for the western posts by the Chicago company.

The following posts have been thus far supplied with fire extinguishers:

Fort McKavett, Texas.....

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Left: The type of pump fire extinguisher sent to Fort McKavett in 1870. Fort McKavett was sent two of these according to Quartermaster records.

### 1852 Weather at Fort McKavett

| STATIONS.            | MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1852. |         |         |         |       |        |      |             |                     |    |       |    |   |   |    |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|-------|--------|------|-------------|---------------------|----|-------|----|---|---|----|
|                      | THERMOMETER.             |         |         |         |       |        |      |             | WINDS.              |    |       |    |   |   |    |
|                      | Mean Temperature.        |         |         |         |       | Range. |      |             | No. of Observations |    |       |    |   |   |    |
|                      | 8 P. M.                  | 9 A. M. | 3 P. M. | 9 P. M. | Mean. | Max.   | Min. | Above mean. | Below mean.         | N. | N. E. | E. |   |   |    |
| Fort McKavett, ..... | 43.76                    | 56.06   | 64.00   | 46.66   | 53.09 | 79     | 26   | 25.9        | 27.1                | 8  | 29    | 4  | 4 | 7 | 16 |