# 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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Nov 3-4, Fort McKavett 1853
Event\*
Dec 7-9, Fort Concho,
Christmas at Old Fort Concho,
School Day on Friday
March 22-23, Fort McKavett
,West Texas Heritage Day,
Education Day on Friday\*
April 13, Fort McKavett, Spring
Star Party with Johnson Space
Center Astronomical Society\*

\*THC Historic Sites Event



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### President's Message...

We have had another busy month with Fort Griffin, our own Archeology Day and the Star Party going on. This coming month, we have the 1853 event at the Post and then December brings on Fort Concho's Christmas event. There are plenty of things going on around West Texas for you to attend.



If you are traveling this Thanksgiving, stay safe and we will be seeing you back at the Post after the Holidays!

See y'all on the trail...

John Cobb President Friends of Fort McKavett



Archeology Day at Fort McKavett





Tours were given of the Indian grinding holes and campgrounds at Fort McKavett this year on Archeology Day. Complex **Manager Buddy** Garza led the tours which included seeing the campgrounds and how they were used. Thanks to the staff and Lynn Dippel for these photographs!

Fort McKavett lost a living link to the site's military history: Robert Gustav Flutsch, aged 102, passed away on Monday October 22, 2012.



Mr. Flutsch is shown here with some of our Buffalo Soldiers
Robert's father, as a child, was employed at the fort during the
last years of its military occupation as an errand boy to Surgeon
Goddard (Fort McKavett Hospital). An oral history of his
remembrances was recorded in 1956 and we have a copy
available in our research library for any patron interested in
reading about the fort through the eyes of young child.

# **Ken Lester Retires**



A "tip of the hat" and congratulations are in order for Ken Lester on his retirement from Fort McKavett. We will continue to see him volunteering at the Fort in the years to come!

## Fort McKavett at Fort Griffin





Above - Flag raising. The Shultz's; Old Rip (Richard Vaughn); and Cody Mobley (staff member) are some of the folks who represented Fort McKavett at this year's Fort Griffin event. Close to 1,100 students attended on education day and public day was a success as well. Our Fort McKavett folks deserve a big Thank You from us all!





# A Special Thank You!



Terry Trotti has made a gift of his Living History uniforms and equipment to Fort McKavett. Because of travel and health restrictions, he is leaving the hobby and needed to find a good home for his collection. The Friends of Fort McKavett thank him for this effort.

## A Last Look at Fort Griffin this year...



Part of the Fort McKavett displays at Fort Griffin at sunup. Fort Griffin will close to the public in December or January for 8-12 months while major restoration and building work is being performed. It should look a lot different by next year!

## From the Indian Wars Army Regulations

2315. An important part of the duty of a Medical officer of the Army is the supervision of the hygiene of the post or command to which he is attached, and the recommendation of such measures as he may deem necessary to prevent or diminish disease among the troops.

For this purpose he shall at least once a month examine and note in the medical history of the post the sanitary condition of the quarters, including all buildings belonging to the post, the character and cooking of the rations, the amount and quality of the water supply, the drainage, and the clothing and habits of the men, and make a report thereon in writing to the commanding officer, with such recommendations as he may deem proper. If the recommendations be approved and carried out, the Medical officer shall note the fact in the medical history of the post. If the action recommended be deemed impracticable or undesirable, the commanding officer shall indorse his objections on the report and forward it to the Department Commander. A copy of such indorsement shall be furnished to the Medical officer, who shall record it in the medical history of the post.—[G. O. 125, 1874.]

The Research Library at Fort McKavett has copies of the hygiene reports in the post medical journals from when it was active. It makes very interesting reading.

#### SURGEON'S CALL.

1610. At surgeon's call the sick of the companies will be conducted to the hospital by the first sergeants; each first sergeant will give to the surgeon the company Sick Report Book, in which there shall have been previously written the names of the company sick. The surgeon, after examination, will indicate in the book, opposite the names, the men who are to be admitted to hospital, and those who are to be taken to quarters; what duties the latter are capable of, together with any other information in regard to the sick which he may have to communicate to the company commander.

First Sergeants were the person in charge of Surgeon's Call daily.

762. The law forbids the enlistment of boys under sixteen years; of all insane or intoxicated persons; of deserters from the military or naval service of the United States; and of all persons who have been convicted of felony. Minors under eighteen years will not be enlisted except for musicians, or to learn music, and then only under authority from the Superintendent.—[R. S., §§ 1116, 1118.]

763. In every case of a recruit rejected, or discharged as a minor, when it shall appear that the enlistment was carelessly made in violation of these Regulations, recommendation will be made that the expenses incurred by the Government in consequence thereof shall be stopped against the pay of the recruiting officer.—
[Circ. A. G. O., Jan. 31, 1867.]

It could be expensive to a Recruiting Officer if there were problems with someone's enlistment.

# From the Army Cooks Manual

#### SPECIAL BILLS OF FARE.

THANKSGIVING DINNER. Oyster Soup and Crackers. Roast Turkey and Dressing. Green Peas. Roast Pork and Gravy. Mashed Potatoes. Fish, Spanish Style. Asparagus and Cream Sauce. Cranberry Sauce. Cauliflower and Cream Sauce. Apple Pie. Apricot Pie. Jelly Roll and Marble Cake. Mixed Candies and Assorted Nuts. Ice Cream. Bread and Coffee.

#### Roast Turkey.

183. Allow % of a pound of dressed fowl to a man. Pick and clean the turkey well-saving the heart, liver, and gizzard for the stuffing. To prepare the stuffing, take 1-3 bread and soak well in water and squeeze out with the hands. Add 1-3 minced potatoes and 1-5 brown minced onions, Season with pepper, salt and a little sage, thyme or other flavor. Mix well and stuff into the turkey filling the space vacated by the entrails and craw. Sew up the turkey with a strong thread, and hend the wings under the back and tie down to the body. Make a batter, with flour and fat, seasoning it with pepper and salt and rub over the turkey with hand, before placing in the oven. Place in the oven. In about 20 minutes add a little hot water and baste frequently until done. This will generally take about 21/2 hours, but depends greatly upon the particular fowl roasted, as some are small and tender and others large and tough. Turkeys, as a rule, have a dry skin. and it is for that reason that the batter is rubbed on: if the turkey is very fat it may be omitted, but it will do no harm to use it under any circumstances. The above stuffing is the one generally used, but as an alternative the bread may be soaked in oyster juice and the oysters (proportion 1-3) may be used in the preparation. Again the sliced onions may be replaced by chopped celery; or, the bread may be cut into 14-inch cubes, toasted and used as bread. A little lemon

juice may well be added. Sometimes in Spanish countries, the onions or celery are replaced by currants or raisins. This stuffing may be used at any time when stuffing is required. It is equally good for fowl or fish.