

Fort McKavett State Historical Site
P. O. Box 68
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Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

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Fort McKavett Upcoming Events

November 29, “Feeding the Troops”, Fort McKavett SHS*
December 5-7, “Christmas at Fort Concho”, Education Day on Friday, Fort Concho
December 12-14, “Winter, 1852”, Fort McKavett SHS*
January 17, “Frontier Economy: The Sutler’s Store”, Fort McKavett SHS*
February 7, “A Stitch in Time”, Fort McKavett SHS*
March 27-28, “West Texas Heritage Days”, Education Day on Friday, Fort McKavett SHS*

*THC Historic Sites Event



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

President’s Message...

This October has been a very busy one for Fort McKavett and our living history volunteers. With events at Fort Griffin, Fort Stockton and topping off the month at Fort McKavett, it’s been quite the full schedule. Retiring Manager Buddy Garza was honored by the Johnson Space Center and Greg Hector was recognized for his volunteer work over the last 30 years by the Friends of Fort McKavett. Keep this March Event in mind when Buddy will be returning to the Post to be honored for his 25 ½ years of service to the site. Saturday of the event will be “Buddy Garza Appreciation Day” and we will keep you updated on the plans for that. We also had our Fall Board of Directors Meeting where we find out we are well ahead of our finances. See you on the trail...

John Cobb
President
Friends of Fort McKavett

Fort Griffin Living History Day



Fort McKavett volunteers and staff took part in Fort Griffin State Historic Site's Living History Days and the opening of the new visitor's center and museum on site. They had a great turnout of students on education day and visitors on Saturday when the public attended the event. Thanks to Joe and Stella Gonzales for these photos.



Fort Stockton

Fort Stockton's event this year had an education day for the first time in several years. It was well attended with over 1,000 students. Fort McKavett was well represented by volunteers and staff. Thanks to everyone for helping Fort McKavett spread the word about our Post. Joe and Stella provided us with photos of the event.



Buddy Garza Honored by Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society



Buddy Garza, Manager of Fort McKavett State Historic Site is retiring at the first of the year and the Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society presented him with a very nice award and cake on Saturday during our Archeology and Star Party day. Buddy has been with the site for 25 ½ years and is going to get a well-deserved rest for a while. Keep in mind, during our March Event on Saturday, it is going to be “Buddy Garza Appreciation Day” and he is going to return to the site for that day. More information on this in future Gazette editions.



Buddy's Cake and him making the first cut!

Archeology Day at Fort McKavett 2014

Dinosaur Bones and Tools showing 1890's Paleontology provided by John Cobb were on display.



Fort McKavett's Archeology Day drew a steady stream of visitors to the site to see 1890's Paleontology, Shoe Making, and vintage Wood Working. The people who came out were not disappointed.



Cody Mobley showed off his shoe making skills working with leather during the event.

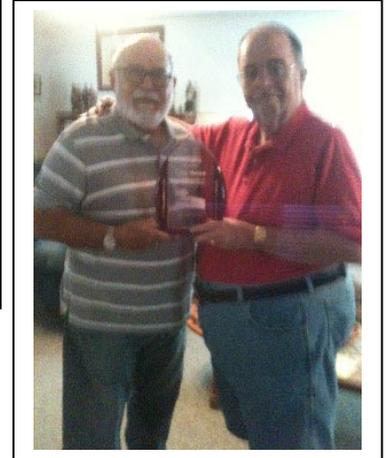
Larry Trimble provided wood working skills using vintage tools and techniques for visitors to the site.



Greg Hector Honored



Above: Friends President John Cobb makes the Presentation of the Award to Joe and Stella Gonzales who took it to Greg (right)



Although Greg was unable to attend, Joe and Stella hand carried his award for 30 years representing Fort McKavett to him. Greg has had to retire from Living History and Education Programs because of illness and we want to express our appreciation of his hard work and dedication over the years from all of us.

Restoration Work at the Site



Work continues on restoring the window and door frames at Fort McKavett and they are working from first light to after dark every day to see the job is done right!

Fall Star Party at Fort McKavett



Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society had excellent weather for this year's Star Party. We had lots of visitors to the site to see it and we really appreciate the volunteer and outreach programs they provide for Fort McKavett.



If you missed this year's Star Party, the weather was perfect and we had over 30 large scopes on the parade ground.

Visitors were treated to several different views and types of telescopes.



From the Army Cooks Manual

DRIED PEAS AND OATMEAL.

1 quart peas. 4 onions, sliced.
¼ pound bacon or fat salt pork. 2 tablespoonfuls sugar.
6 quarts cold water. Pepper and salt.
6 or 8 ounces, or enough oatmeal mush to thicken the mixture.

Cleanse and cut the meat into half-inch pieces; put it into a dry pot over the fire with the sliced onions and fry brown, stirring constantly. Exercise care that it does not burn; put in the pepper, salt, and sugar, then add the water and peas, the latter previously soaked and drained. Cover, and boil gently until the peas become quite soft, stirring frequently; then stir in gradually the oatmeal, simmer for twenty minutes, and serve hot.

BAKED DRIED PEAS.

3 pints dried peas. 7 quarts cold water.
3 pounds bacon or salt pork.

Pick over the peas; wash and soak them over night in cold water; drain and put them into a pot with the meat, the latter previously cleansed; cover and boil gently. Remove the scum as it rises. When the peas become soft, drain, mash, and put them into a baking dish, smooth the top, place the meat on top, put the dish into the oven, and bake brown.

The liquor from the peas may be strained, and thickened with Indian meal (about four or five tablespoonfuls to a pint), and boiled gently about an hour. When cold it may be sliced and fried.

FRIED RICE.

Boil sufficient rice and let it stand until cold, then cut into slices of proper thickness and fry to a nice brown, turning it carefully so as not to break the slices. This is an excellent breakfast dish.