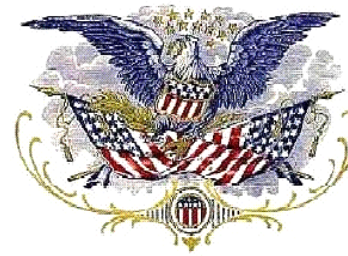


Fort McKavett State Historical Site
P. O. Box 68
Fort McKavett, Texas 76841



Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

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Fort McKavett Upcoming Events

Oct 4-5, TPWD EXPO/Buffalo Soldier Program
Oct 3-5, Frontier Texas, Abilene
Oct 10-12, Fort Griffin Days, Fort Griffin. Education Day on Friday the 10th
Oct 18, Fort Stockton
Oct 25, Friends of Fort McKavett Meeting and public Star Party
Dec 5-7, Christmas at Old Fort Concho, San Angelo. Education day on Friday the 5th
Feb 14-15 (2009), Battleship Texas Time Line (Remember the Maine), Houston
March 27-28, (2009), Fort McKavett, West Texas Heritage Days, Education Day on Friday
April 17-18 (2009), Fort Richardson Days, Education Day on Friday
April 25 (2009), Mission Tejas Folk Festival, Mission Tejas State Park
May 1-2 (2009), Fort Chadbourne Event, Education Day on Friday



TEXAS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
read, place, tell, visit

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

www.fortmckavett.org

A note from the President

This has been a very busy month and promises to be even more so in October. We have all felt the loss of our Treasurer, Bobby Mae and send our best to her family and friends.

The Staff is doing a bang up job at the Post. They have cleared more brush and opened up more of the ruins for visitors to see. We have had groups visiting Fort McKavett over the last month, including the Gen. Miles Marching and Chowder Society for a week.

This upcoming month looks to be quite busy with our public Star Party and Annual Friends Meeting on the 25th. We also have EXPO and Fort Griffin this month as well.

The Board Members of the Friends of Fort McKavett have a training seminar in Austin with THC on October 4th, where we will learn of all the new changes headed our way. If you have something for the silent auction, or can help with lunch on the 25th, contact Buddy at the Fort.

Hope to see you there...

John Cobb
President
Friends of Fort McKavett

Our McKavett Staff starts a new cleaning project



The ruins of the Quartersmaster Warehouses and the Commissary are being cleaned where visitors to the site can walk through the foundations and buildings. We had two Quartersmaster Warehouses, one Commissary Warehouse, plus quarters for the Quartersmaster Sgt. and the Commissary Sgt.



Work will continue on this project until all the ruins are safe for visitors to walk through.



WHEAT MUFFINS.

3 cups sifted flour. 2 cups milk.
1 egg, well beaten. 1 tablespoonful sugar.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoonful salt. 3 teaspoonfuls baking powder.

Into the sifted flour mix the baking powder, salt, and sugar; add the egg and milk enough to make a thick batter.

Drop the mixture into greased muffin rings and bake.

From the Army Cook's Manual

BOILED SOUP DUMPLING.

Make a light dough, or procure from the bakery, dough which is ready for the oven.

Flour the hands well and mold the dough into balls about the size of an egg. Drop them successively into boiling water. Boil in the soup about fifteen minutes.

Water in the Field

PUTRID WATER

should always be boiled with charcoal or charred sticks before drinking, as low fevers and dysenteries too often are the consequence of its being used indiscreetly, but the charcoal entirely disinfects it; bitter herbs, if steeped in it, or even rubbed well about the cup, are said to render it less unwholesome. The Indians plunge a hot iron into putrid and muddy water.

When carrying water in buckets, put a wreath of grass, or something floating on the top of the water, to prevent splashing; and also make a hoop, inside which the porter walks, while his laden hands rest on the rim, the office of the hoop being to keep the buckets from knocking against his legs.



General Miles Marching and Chowder Society

spends a week at Fort McKavett

The General Miles Marching and Chowder Society, formed in 1979, is a group of military historians with a deep interest in the lives of the enlisted infantrymen of the regular army in the west, 1867-1890. Many members are affiliated with the National Park Service, state parks, or other government agencies. Others come from the ranks of re-enactors and living history enthusiasts. The group believes that in "learning by doing" we become better students of this important historic period.

The society meets for one week each year, and encampments have taken place at National Park Service areas including Fort Larned, Fort Union, Fort Davis, Fort Laramie, Big Hole Battlefield, and Golden Spike national historic sites. Encampments have also been held at State managed sites such as Forts Hartsuff and Robinson, NE; Rosebud Battlefield, MT; and Fort Sissiton, SD. Other encampments have been held at BLM managed sites such as Big Dry Wash, AZ; and Mills Canyon, NM.

This year, Interpretive Specialist Chris Fischer spent the week with our guests.



Members of the Gen. Miles Marching and Chowder Society were treated to a supper by the Friends of Fort McKavett on the night they finished. After hard tack all week, they were thankful!



Friends of Fort McKavett

Annual Meeting, Saturday, October 25th, 2008
Brisket and "fixings" at Noon followed by the
Meeting at 1:30 PM



From the Archives

Meteorological:
Monthly mean temperature 65.05° Fahrenheit.
Maximum temperature during the month 88° Fahrenheit.
Minimum temperature during the month 10° Fahrenheit.
Prevailing winds - South.
No. of days of rain 6. Quantity of rain fall 2.08 inches.
Average cloudiness 2.67.

From Fort McKavett's Medical Journal for October, 1877, this is the Meteorological report for that month

97. Pork should be examined at once on receipt, and if the meat is a little turned it may be from want of brine, in which case it may be saved by hard rubbing with salt and rebrining. If any leakage is discovered, additional brine should be added. Pork is never safe without undissolved salt in the barrel. Barrels of pork should be kept on the side, rolled weekly, the reverse side at each rolling being left uppermost, and should never be exposed to the sun. Additional salt or brine should be added whenever necessary.

The Commissary Manual (Subsistence Department) had rules governing the storage of Pork for the Post. Remember, this is in a time where refrigeration was not available and food poisoning was an everyday occurrence.



Bobby Mae Huss
1929-2008

**Treasurer and
Founding Member
Friends of Fort
McKavett**

This photograph was provided by the family of Bobby Mae.

Bobby Mae was a founding member of the Friends of Fort McKavett and was elected the organization's first and only treasurer.

Bobby Mae, 79, passed away Sunday, September 21, 2008, in Menard, after a long, hard-fought battle with cancer. Bobby Mae was born August 24, 1929, in Menard to Robert Henry Kidd, Jr. and Ida Mae Watson Kidd. She graduated Menard High School and attended Stephens College in Missouri and the University of Texas at Austin. Her professional career was in finance and accounting. Bobby Mae married Donald Lee Huss, also of Menard. Their married life was spent in College Station and later, in countries around the world with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

Bobby Mae was actively involved in her community until the time of her death, including memberships in the Friends of Fort McKavett, Calvary Episcopal Church, the Library Club of Menard, Inc., the Menard Historical Society, the Menard Garden Club and the Menard Country Club.

A memorial service was held at Calvary Episcopal Church, Menard, on Friday, September 26. Fort McKavett was represented by Buddy Garza, Ken and Lisa Lester, Alfredo Munoz, and John Cobb. Buddy spoke for all of us at the Memorial Service.

The Friends of Fort McKavett made a \$100.00 donation in Bobby Mae's memory to the Menard County Museum.



**Saturday
October 25th**

*Johnson Space Center
Astronomical Society
Public Star Party
Starting at Dusk*



**Friends of Fort McKavett Annual
Meeting and Silent Auction
1:30 PM**

**Astronomy Presentation
at the School House, 4:30 PM
Public Welcome**