Fort McKavett Gazette

“News of our Volunteers and Friends”

Volume 5, Number 11

November, 2006

Fort McKavett Fall Event a Hit!

Fort McKavett played host to the Friends of Fort McKavett annual meeting, the Town Reunion (Fort McKavett) and the Johnson Space Center Amateur Astronomical Society Fall Star Party in October.

Marylyn Wheless was elected Vice President of the Friends Group. She will be an added asset to all of us.

From the Friends of Fort McKavett

Color Copies of all the Fort McKavett Gazette’s can be found at: www.fortmckavett.org

Have a safe Thanksgiving

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December 1 - 3 ~ 25th Annual Christmas at Old Fort Concho
Feb 10-11, “Remember the Maine” SpanAm event Battleship Texas

Fort McKavett State Historic Site

P. O. Box 68
Fort McKavett, Texas 76841

Fort McKavett State Historical Site
Sights from Our Fall Event…

Above: Richard Vaughn and Greg Hector helped provide Living History for our event. Upper right: The Colonel himself. Right: Buddy Garza, our Manager at Fort McKavett speaking to the crowd. Bottom: New Picnic area was enjoyed by all. Buddy was able to acquire ten new picnic tables for the site.

JSCAS Star Party

The Johnson Space Center Astronomical Society held their fall star party at the fort from Thursday, October 18th through Saturday October 21st. The weather cooperated this year with 3 clear nights of star gazing.

Most repeat astronomer attendees mentioned that this was the best Fort McKavett Star Party ever. They praised Buddy and his staff for the quality of the BBQ, how nice the fort looked, and all the little extras that made their stay more comfortable.

Friday afternoon, representatives of JSCAS traveled to Menard Elementary School to talk to the students about Astronomy. They covered topics that supported the new state testing standards.

Friday night, the 5th grade science class from Menard was bussed to the fort to look through the telescopes.
Fund Raising!!!

This year’s silent auction, and donations to the Post Fund, and Membership Dues brought in over $2,000.00 to our Friends fund.

Membership Dues for the Friends of Fort McKavett Need to be sent to the Friends Group as soon as possible.

Individual: $ 15.00
Family: $ 25.00
P.O. Box 68
Fort McKavett, Texas 76841

From the Archives

On June 21st, 1881, the Overseer of the Fort McKavett School (for Army and Civilian children) asked permission to use a wagon, the Post Band, a Yellow Ambulance, the Doughty Wagon, and an Escort Wagon for a school picnic to be held on the river on June 25th, 1881.

Curiosity got the better of us and we have been looking for a “Yellow Ambulance” for quite a while.

This is a photograph of the “Yellow Ambulance” at Fort Rucker. Note the lack of springs for the driver. The wheels do have springs.
Events Last Month

John Schultz, Andrew Schultz, John Cobb and Daniel Newsom represented Fort McKavett at the Battleship Texas Living History Timeline October 14th-15th on board the ship. Left: the McKavett Exhibit. Below: John Schultz in 1870’s Dress uniform.

Over 600 visitors paid to come on board the ship to view the displays. Saturday, the weather was great, but on Sunday, severe flooding caused everyone to leave Houston early before the site opened.

Fort Lancaster

Alfredo Muñoz represented Fort McKavett at Fort Lancaster October 14th. Soldiers and Camels enjoyed the damp weather and cool temperatures.

To the right, you can see the 1860’s-mid 1870’s Fort McKavett Hospital. After the new Hospital was built, this became the Surgeon’s Quarters. This comes from the “Final Inventory of Government Buildings, Fort McKavett, Texas 1883”. There are actually two buildings shown on the plat (below the schoolhouse). One of these buildings was bought and moved to a local ranch.

This is the back of the Old Hospital from Fort McKavett as it looks today. It is still being used as a ranch building between Fort McKavett and Menard.

Meet us at Fort Concho December 1st – 3rd. We will have a large Living History Camp complete with wagon, tents, displays and our Docents. Contact John Cobb at cobbfarm@airmail.net if you are coming. We need to let the folks at Fort Concho know how many to expect!