Volume 3, Issue 6/7 June/July 2014



# Fort Tejon Historical Association

### ADJUNTANT'S JOURNAL

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Old Fashioned
   July 4th at fort
   10am-3pm
- July 12-13—Old
   Fort Mac Arthur
   Days, San Pedro
- July 19—FTHA board meeting at fort—11am
- August 2—
   Dragoons Living
   History at fort
- August 16-17—
   Civil War Program

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dearest Friends and Members,

WOW! What a great
"Invitational" we had this year.
The turnout we had, both in
re-enactors and spectators,
was phenomenal. Thank you
for all you support in **every**capacity.

It's time to dust off our gear and prepare for our next endeavors.

Despite minor obstacles, the FTHA Victorian Tea is now set for June 28<sup>th</sup> with the utmost support and understanding

from the attendees.

Please note that FTHA will proudly represent Fort Tejon SHP at the annual Old Fort MacArthur Days ("OFMD") event on July 12th and 13th at Fort MacArthur in San Pedro, California. Fort Tejon has not only been participating in OFMD for decades but is the primary group that performs the period artillery demonstration. Fort Tejon SHP has always been a welcomed, accepted and expected group at OFMD. As a matter of fact, last year we were the proud

recipients of the Espirit de Corps award as our encampment was one of the busiest and most sought after and talked about by spectators.

In closing, I thank you again for your unceasing support and dedication to the Fort.

I remain yours, Karina Mooradian President



### LETTER FROM FTHA MEMBER

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2014 Invitational

July 4th at Fort Tejon

From a long time member,

Three cheers for the resurrection of Fort Tejon! My hats off to Larry, Bob, Karina, and the others who worked so hard to put dome life back into the Civil War Program. Moving the Invitational to the spring time was a great idea and, for the first one, it was a great success. Re-enactor turnout was the best in years, with large public attendance on Sunday. The participants enjoyed the activities for them: a good swap meet, a paycall (where the pay had actual purchasing power), and the "soiree" on Saturday evening, with a bar, a Faro table, free pie and goobers all accompanied by music from the "Rusty Mucket Boys". A rare battle on Saturday added even more to the event. I am sure we will see an even bigger Invitational next year.

But, let us not forget our smaller Civil War Program events that will continue to be held. Check the schedule for dates. The one just held on June 21st and 22nd is an example. It was small. But all visitors got an up close and personal



education from those re-enactors that attended. In particular, a group from Daughters of the American Revolution, who came to understand the cause of the Confederacy, as it was compared to the cause of the Union. Those of us in the Civil War Program would like to come to the Fort more than once a year. So I urge the Board to continue with smaller events. See you at the Fort in August!

Respectfully Submitted -

Tom Atkins

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### CIVIL WAR LETTER

On board Steamer "D. A. January" Missouri River

June 16th, 1861

My Dear Molly

We are at present near St. Charles & en route for Jefferson City. I shall write you again from there at present I have only time to say how much I love you. All my hopes of Heaven & earth depend on you - I have tried to act through life so that neither my own, or my adopted country need be ashamed of me - I have a double incentive now!, & with a little advice from you, I will try to never give you cause to Blush for me -

I hope & pray to return safe & soon - believe me ever truly yours in thought, word & deed -

James E. Love

### 8003

On May 11, 1861, James E. Love enlisted for three months of service with the 5th Regiment, United States Reserve Corps. The regiment was part of four infantry regiments and five regiments of the United State Reserve Corps, or "Home Guards," that Captain Nathaniel Lyon enrolled to protect the U.S. Arsenal in St. Louis. At the time, tensions were high between Missouri citizens who supported the Union, and Missouri's pro-Confederate governor, Claiborne Fox Jackson, and other Southern sympathizers. Governor Jackson supported secession by the state of Missouri, but a recent state convention had voted against secession. Both sides realized the importance of the military resources in



St. Louis. James and the other members of his regiment remained in the city until mid-June 1861. As tensions between the two sides rose, Governor Jackson asked for 50,000 volunteers for the state militia. Lyon was determined to prevent Jackson from forcing Missouri to secede. Lyon loaded a detachment of his troops onto two steamboats, with artillery aboard, and headed for Jefferson City. James and his regiment were on one of the steamboats, the D.A. January, which left St. Louis on June 15, 1861. James wrote this letter to Molly on June 16.

### FORT TEJON INSIGHTS BY MIKE DEAGON

Regardless of the army in which they serve or the era in which they exist, soldiers are still human beings. The "hijinks", "doin's", and "shinanigans" of today's soldiers might, in some way, be familiar to even the common Roman legionnaire of ages past. The men who served at Ft. Tejon were no exception. Shown below, is a recently unearthed, 1st person—account by William Antes on his year and one-half at Tejon with Company A. One our long time volunteers, William Gorenfield (aka Lt. Col. Beale) discovered it and is working with our former State Historian II George Stammerjohn on making it available for publishing soon. Antes, a Bavarian immigrant, came overland to Tejon with Lt. Mowrey's group. Below is a brief excerpt from his journal:

"[Daniel] O'Connell was a Shoemaker, as we had no Saddler he was put in the shop. He would repair our Boots and Shoes at odd times using the Quartermaster's leather – and always had one uniform Charge for his work, which was two dollars and a half. I was in his shop one day when a Spaniard came in for a pair of Boots that had been left for Repairs. He held a two dollar and one-half Gold Piece in his hand to pay for them, when O'Connell purposely ran against him knocking the money out of his hand. Both began to look for the Gold Piece which O'Connell soon found, and unperceived by the Spaniard Slipped it between the Soles of his shoes which were loose. he then continued with Spaniard in the search until the latter got tired, and O'Connell convincing him that it rolled through the cracks of the floor and could not be recovered, the deceived Spaniard gave him another one. "

## Ladies' Corner

### Chicken Baked In Rice

Godey's Lady's Book, 1861

Cut a chicken into joints as for a fricassee (parboiled), season it well with pepper and salt, lay it into a puddingdish lined with slices of ham or bacon, add a pint of veal gravy and an onion finely minced; fill up the dish with boiled rice well pressed and pled high as the dish will hold; cover it with a paste of flour and water (make a regular pot-pie pastry) and bake one hour in a slow oven. If you have no veal gravy, use water instead, adding a little more ham and seasoning.

### THE LONELY HEART

By: Sarah Strickney

They tell me I am happy – and I try to think it true; They say I have no cause to weep,

My sorrows are so few; That in the wilderness we tread,

Mine is a favour'd lot My petty griefs all fantasies, Would I but heed them not.

It may be so; the cup of life
Has many a butter draught,
Which those who drink with
silent lips

Have smiled on while they quaff'd.

It may be so; I cannot tell
What others have to bear,
But sorry should I be to give
Another heart my share.

They bid me to the festive board,

I go a smiling guest, Their laughter and their revelry

### Potato Salad (Hot)

Godey's Lady's Book, 1861

Boil as many potatoes as will make a dish for your family; when done peal them carefully and slice while hot into a deep dish; cut in very small pieces young onions or shives (chives) and mix them among the slices, distributing a little pepper and salt; pour over the whole, good vinegar, scalding hot, and send it to the table immediately. A wholesome and pleasant dish for spring and early summer.



Are torture to my breast, They call for music, and there comes

Some old familiar strain;
A dash away the starting tear,
Then turn and smile again.

But oh! My heart is wandering Back to my father's home, Back to my sisters at their play, The meadows in their bloom, The blackbird on the scented thorn.

The murmuring of the stream, The sounds up the evening breeze, Like voices in a dream;

The watchful eyes that never more Shall gaze upon my brow
The smiles, oh! Cease that melody,
I cannot bear it now!
And heed not when the stranger sighs,

Nor mark the tears that start, There can be no companionship For loneliness of heart!

### Mississippi Punch

Bon-Vivant's Companion by Jerry Thomas, 1862

1 wine glass brandy

1/2 wine glass Jamaica rum

1/2 wine glass bourbon whiskey

1/2 wine glass water

1/4 large lemon

1 and 1/2 tbs. powdered white sugar Place the above in a large tumbler filled with shaved ice. Shake well, and to those who like their draughts "like linked sweetness long drawn out," let them use a glass tube or a straw to sip the nectar through. The top of this punch should be ornamented with small pieces of orange, and berries in season. For a large party, multiply the above by the number of imbibers and mix in a punch bowl.



## 2014 INVITATIONAL

They say a picture is worth a thousand words.......



Thanks Kelsey!

The Saloon Girls—Karina, Jennifer, Linda, Dee and Judy





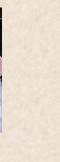
Shelley Peters enjoys dinner with friends

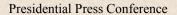






Steve Mata mans the Faro table







The Rusty Mucket Boys played Saturday Night



Pay Call—what to buy?



Dee Bosley and John Billinger serve a thirsty guest







Todd and Linda share a laugh at the Casino







### FORT TEJON HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

FTHA P.O. Box 630586 Simi Valley, CA 93063

### <u>Acknowledgements</u>

- Tom Atkins letter
- Mike Deagon Fort Tejon article
- Invitational photos Karina Mooradian, Maegen Hensley, Linda Bosley
- Ladies Corner Karina Mooradian

### **Adjutant's Journal**

Kind Readers,

What a special treat this month to have two guest writers. We want to thank Tom Atkins for sharing his insights on the Invitational. Additionally, another long time FTHA member, Mike Deagon, will be sharing his knowledge of Fort Tejon periodically through short articles in the AJ. The Victorian Tea Party was a huge success. Look for a write up with photographs in the August edition.

\*

We are combining two months of the AJ this time around for a very simple reason - we have been so, so busy at the fort. Linda has spent at least one night each week since the middle of May at Motel 6 in lovely Frazier Park so she can roll out of bed, push up her sleeves and

get to work at the fort. It has been a labor of love and well worth every minute!

Your humble servants.

Linda and Dee Bosley

Email. - lindabosley66@gmail.com -

numbrsurfr@yahoo.com



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## OLD FASHIONED FOURTH OF JULY AT FORT TEJON

Come out to Fort Tejon on Friday, July 4th to celebrate our nation's independence in 1856 style.

Gates will open at 10 am with ticket prices as follows:

Adults-\$5.00

Children-\$3.00

The FTHA is working in conjunction with Department of Parks and Recreation staff to bring these exciting sights and games to our guests.

- Pie eating contest
- Sack races
- Egg Toss
- Tug of War
- Game of Rounders

The program will begin at noon with a 31 cannon salute and recitation of the U.S. states that were part of the Union in 1856. Games and activities will follow the cannon salute.

Bring your picnic lunch and enjoy the day under the centuries old



oak trees or your own canopy.

There will be no food concessions available at this event.

The Post Store will be open featuring cool drinks, souvenirs, toys, books and other curiosities. All historic buildings will be open to the public for tours. Stop by the Blacksmith shop and Officer's House to chat with Living History volunteers. The celebration will conclude around 3pm giving families plenty of time to head home to watch fireworks.

**SPECIAL NOTE**: Fireworks are not permitted at Fort Tejon SHP.