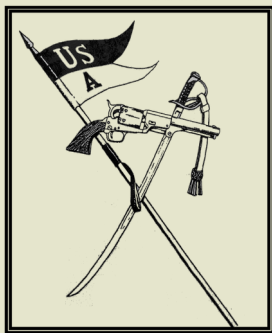


FORT TEJON
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Fort Tejon Historical Association

ADJUTANT'S JOURNAL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **May 7** -- Frontier Army Days / Dragoons Living History Parent/Teacher Training At Fort Tejon
- **May 15** -- Off Site Event: Topanga Banjo Fiddle and Folk Festival
- **June 4/5** -- FTHA Annual Civil War Reenactment Invitational At Fort Tejon
- **June 25th** -- Off Site Event: Drum Barracks Civil War Technology Fair
- **September 3-4** -- Off Site Event: Huntington Beach Civil War Days
- **October 1-2** -- Off Site Event: Battle of Dominguez Hill Reenactment

Other Events - TBD

For Latest Updates
Please Visit Our Web Site At
<http://FortTejonCa.org>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dearest FTHA Members and friends,

We are excited to announce that we will be holding our annual Civil War reenactment on June 3rd and 4th this year. It's been a long time coming and we are very excited for this year's event. If you have specific questions about this event, feel free to email info@forttejonca.org or contact me directly at karinaftha@gmail.com. I look forward to seeing you all at this year's spectacular event!

I remain yours,

Karina Dunbar
FTHA President And Chairman

WEB SITE

As events are starting to open up again, We've updated the FTHA events page.

FortTejonCa.org/events.html

Per FTHA tradition, this page contains both Fort Tejon events as well as other Southern California events which may be interesting to fans of living history. If you are aware of any we might have missed that might be a good addition to the page, please let us know at info@forttejonca.org.

SAVE THE DATE! 2022 CIVIL WAR EVENT JUNE 4TH AND 5TH



The 37th Annual American Civil War Reenactment

Hosted by the Fort Tejon Historical Association

FORT TEJON STATE HISTORIC PARK

June 4th & 5th, 2022

Watch volunteers present skirmishes and demonstrate the tactics used in the eastern United States during the American Civil War. See troops of the Union and Confederate Armies, all authentically uniformed and equipped. Meet the soldiers & civilians. Tour their camps and see how they lived.

Saturday program includes “Period” Base Ball game and an afternoon Battle.

Presidential PRESS CONFERENCE with President Lincoln on Sunday at 10:00 AM
Two Battles of approximately 30-45 minutes each on Sunday
Gettysburg Address & the Surrender of Appomattox

See how the civilians lived as you walk through the Civilian Encampment; and shop through the Sutlers’ row; Visit the Field Hospital, meet the Telegraph operator, town Librarian, Post Office and Seamstress .. and much much more ...

Ages 15 and over: \$20; Children 6-14: \$10; Children 5 and under: FREE; Active military with ID: FREE



OLD TIME RECIPES

Some things to enjoy at your next historical event.

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.

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 pudding-dish 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 piled 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.

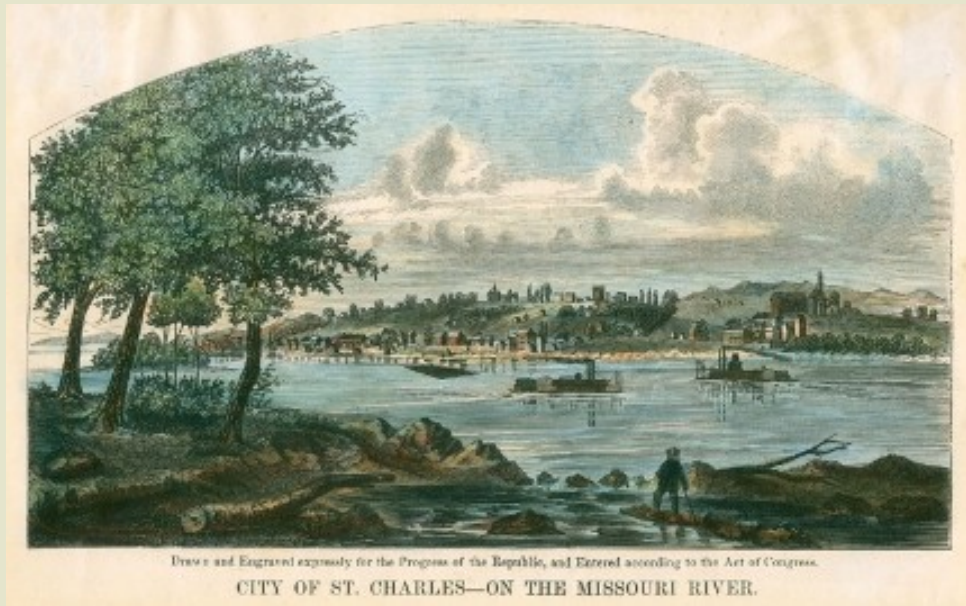
Potato Salad (Hot)

Godey's Lady's Book, 1861

Boil as many potatoes as will make a dish for your family; when done peel 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.

LETTERS FROM THE PAST

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 States 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.

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

WE MOURN THE PASSING

It is with a heavy heart and deep sorrow that we share the news of the passing of our beloved, long-time, and award winning volunteer "Blacksmith Bill" Landis. His departure will truly be a loss for our park and programs, especially Fort Tejon's Student Living History Program. Bill has been a volunteer at the park since the mid-1980s when his interest was piqued by a visit to the post's blacksmith shop where he made his first handmade, blacksmithed souvenir. Ever since then, blacksmithing became his forum for engaging in hilarious and great historic interpretation at Fort Tejon.

The lives of thousands of students and visiting public were wonderfully touched and inspired by Bill through the park's programs over the decades. He loved to greet the public and explain the blacksmith craft to all who visited. Bill was one of the sweetest, nicest, funniest friends. It will be very "big shoes to fill" for Fort Tejon to find a volunteer like Bill Landis who could masterfully offer enjoyable historic interpretation to all sorts of audiences through the medium of mid-19th century blacksmithing. He will be missed, but remains loved, by many.

If you would like to make a donation to Fort Tejon's Student Living History Program in lieu of sending flowers, please visit the FTHA web site at:

<http://forttejonca.org/landis.html>

2021 / 2022 MEMBERSHIP

Thank you to everyone who has been a supporter of Fort Tejon. We rely on our membership to help maintain a strong voice in protecting and conserving the fort. Please note that we have lowered the dues rate:

\$20 - individual membership

\$30 - family membership

You can join at the following link : <http://FortTejonCa.org/join.html>

We want to thank all that have joined! We really appreciate your support!

2ND CALIFORNIA INFANTRY

Fort Tejon hosted the 2nd Infantry Regiment of the California Volunteers on January 29th and 30th. Here are some photos from the event. Thanks to Andrew Engel for these photos!



2ND CALIFORNIA INFANTRY



2ND CALIFORNIA INFANTRY - CONTINUED

Matt Schnittker brought his Telegraph, Tintype photo darkroom and 1800s Magic Lantern show. This was the first time having a Magic Lantern Show at the 2nd California Infantry event. The group really enjoyed the show! Also attending was a special guest to help with getting Tintypes made - Catherine Segura from CAS Photography! (<http://www.catherinesegura.com/>) Enjoy a few photos of the Magic Lantern show and some landscape tintypes from Catherine Segura.



SUPPORT FTHA BY SHOPPING!

You can now use your Amazon shopping to support FTHA! All you need to do is visit the web site <https://smile.amazon.com> and choose **Fort Tejon Historical Association** as your Amazon Smile charity. That's it! The FTHA will receive 0.5% of your eligible purchases. This money will go to helping pay for wardrobe, and supplies for events at the fort.

SOME NOTES FROM OUR READERS

Here are some notes that have come in to the web site over the last few months. We respond to every request and try to help these folks. However, if you have specific responses for any of these folks that you'd like to add, please reach out to info@forttejonca.org and we will put you in touch with them.

Hello,

I'm contacting you today at the suggestion of living historians who present at Historic Fort Steilacoom, Wash. I am a veteran of the modern 9IN and researching my unit's heritage with a goal of creating an accurate impression of a 19th Infantry soldier during the 1855/56 Treaty War, the 1858 Wright Campaign in the Coeur D'Alene War, and the regiment's Provost Guard Duty in California during the Civil War.

Mostly, I'm in need of help sourcing accurate uniform/accoutrement items from sutlers for the 1855/56 era, and some visual information on the correct canteen, field headgear, and flannel shirts for campaign duty of the time.

D Company is of particular interest, as this company became what is now 4BN, 9IN; the unit I went to Iraq with. Army history articles puts D Company at Fort Steilacoom in 1856-61. My curiosity is piqued in regards to the company's service in California. Information I've read suggests they were posted on the Presidio but I've not found anything to specifically confirm it.

My ultimate goal here, is to create an impression of the 9th in the pre-civil war era, and make myself available for presentations here in Washington and maybe in California as well.

Thank you

-Bianca

I was wondering how to get in touch with the 2nd California infantry group at Fort Tejon. I have lived in the area for two years, and since the covid 19, haven't been able to get started to make connections.

Thanks

- Steve

AN UPDATE FROM STATE PARKS

A Hardy HOWDY to Everyone,

It has been a little while since I've been able to visit the telegraph station to let everyone know how things are doin' at Ol' Fort Tejon. Alas, "cracklin' over the lines," comes news from the frontier and a call to action! It is good to be back at the fort after having spent a couple of weeks with our National Parks Service colleagues undergoing their historic weapons training in Alabama and attending my brother's memorial in Maryland. We also had to say goodbye to our beloved and award winning blacksmith, Bill Landis, who was lost to the COVID-19 outbreak. Many of you were at the 2nd California Volunteers Event in late January. Considering the "back-&-forth" over COVID-19 and permitting issues, we were lucky to be able to hold the event. But, thanks to concerted advocacy on behalf of our interpretive and cultural resources chiefs, and with help from our partners at the Fort Tejon Historical Association, it happened. We were particularly delighted to welcome our out-of-state participants from Oregon and Washington! The portrayals and activities were well in accordance with the regulations and historic record of the time.. "Kudos," too, to commissary sergeant Harmon for overseeing the mess hall operations that truly fulfilled that Napoleonic rule of war that "an Army marches on its stomach." Hopefully, more folks from around the country can join us for future Winter garrison events.

We also finished the fort's "virtual" PORTS (Parks Online for Parents & Teachers) season last month. This new, COVID-19 induced form of interpretation was a "hit" with school groups throughout California and is likely here to stay as one of the many forms of interpretation that we will be able to offer from the park . . . especially for those who wouldn't otherwise be able to visit the park. It also turned out that it helped to "sell" the park and "wet" the appetites of teachers and students who are possibly able to travel to Fort Tejon.

Now, moving forward, Fort Tejon needs you! We must hold a Frontier Army Days program on Saturday, May 7th to train the parents and teachers who will be helping to run the immersive overnight "living history" programs in May for their students. The stations available are listed below. Every one of them needs a at least one park host/trainer. The tack & saddlery shop can have a host, but won't require a trainer, though. Please let me know if you can help us. Other impressions that fit our time period are allowed, but please check with me first before bringing them to the event.

A scout group will be camping out in the park for the weekend and will attend the event. They have arranged to meet us at 9a.m. to undergo some basic drill and then use it to help raise the national colors over the garrison before the parent/teacher training starts at 10a.m. We will need the help of the dragoons present in this matter, so please arrive early and be ready to go.. We're looking forward to great event and seeing everyone! Thanks!

FRONTIER ARMY DAYS STATIONS - "Living History" stations should be open and available to the public by 10a.m. and until 3p.m.

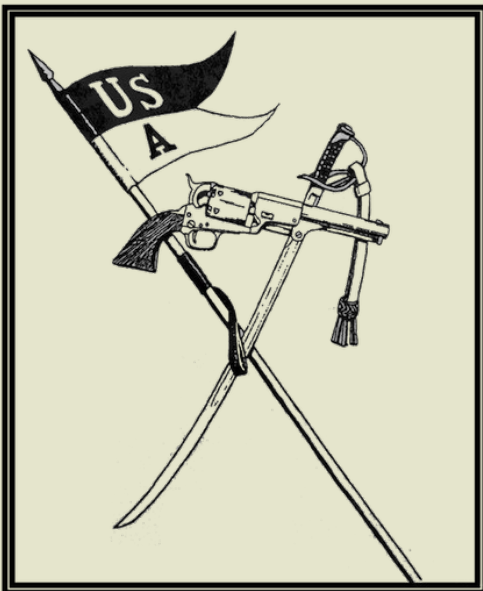
FARRIER & BLACKSMITH'S SHOP
TACK & SADDLERY SHOP
POST LAUNDRESSES
KITCHEN

TIN TYPE PHOTOGRAPHY: Matt Schnittker & Co.
BARRACKS & SOLDIERS' DUTY DAY: Cpl. Deagon

CARPENTRY SHOP
ADOBE BRICK MAKING
POST STORE
OFFICER'S QUARTERS

FORT TEJON**HISTORICAL****ASSOCIATION**

FTHA
P.O. Box 1424
SIMI VALLEY, CA 93062

ADJUTANT'S JOURNAL**INFO@FORTTEJONCA.ORG****FORT TEJON
HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION****EDITOR'S NOTE**

Kind Readers,

I hope you enjoyed this installment of the Adjutant's journal as much as I enjoyed putting it together. Things are starting to open up so keep an eye on the events page on the web site. I will be at Columbia State Historic Park in mid May with the Magic Lantern, Telegraph, and Tintype studio. I know it's a long drive from SoCal, but if you enjoy living history, I highly recommend you attend this event on May 21st!

We continue to have details on how to use Amazon Smile to support Fort Tejon. I hope this is something you all can take advantage of to help bring much needed funds to our programs.

Also, for folks that missed it last time, notice that we updated the FTHA logo to represent the Dragoons that were stationed at the fort. It represents our increased focus on California history and events specific to the fort. Of course, Civil War History is still an important part of our events and the FTHA is very much looking forward to this year's reenactment!

Kind regards,

Matt Schnittker
mschnitt@FortTejonCa.org

