



# FORT CLARK NEWS



JUST NORTH OF THE BORDER DOWN MEXICO WAY

FORT CLARK, TEXAS FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 6-7, 2009



## HARDTACK & COFFEE



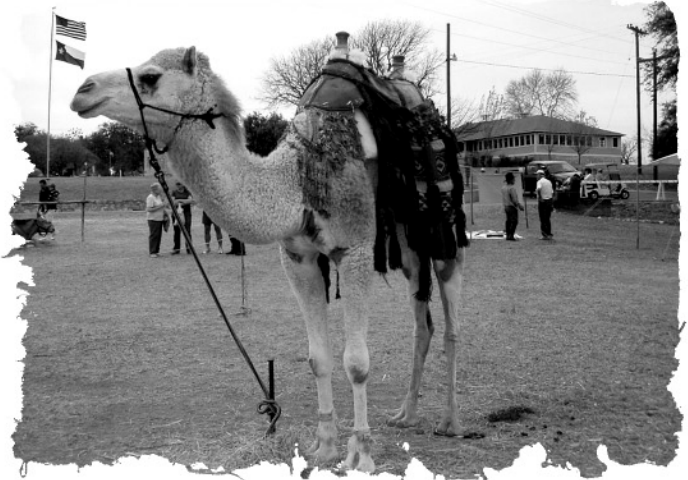
### FORT CLARK DAYS 2009



When Lipan Apaches Richard and Anita Gonzalez of Edinburg, Texas arrived to participate in *Fort Clark Days* they brought with them a very special gift for the Old Guardhouse Museum ... a fullsize Lipan Apache Indian Scout mannaquin. Lipan Apache Scouts served at Fort Clark from 1878 to 1881 alongside the Seminole-Negro Indian Scouts. Anita, pictured here with the new exhibit, and Richard spent countless hours reseaching authentic scout attire and then handmade every article of clothing from the buffalo mocassins to the linen cartridge belt.

All items received a ritual cleansing in a sweat lodge and traditional Apache blessings before being placed on the mannaquin. It is our exceptional good fortune to know this remarkable couple and to benefit from their knowledge and pride in their Native American heritage. All are invited to come and see our new treasure.

Nearly 400 elementary students from schools in Uvalde, Brackettville, Del Rio, and area home schools attended the living history education day on Friday, March 6<sup>th</sup> for *Fort Clark Days*. Each class spent about 15 minutes in the museum including these boy scouts who were confined to a cell by their scoutmaster and then released on good behavior. As the boys and girls entered the museum the universal reaction was ...WOW look at all this stuff!



The U.S. Camel Corps returned for *Fort Clark Days* again this year and provided a unique and memorable experience for young and old alike. The original Camel Corps visited Fort Clark on June 30, 1857.



A Gatling gun [in the foreground] joined a 3 in. Ordnance Rifle field artillery piece for a dramatic display of firepower ... in the spirit of the Alamo, *Burger n' Shake* made a gallant stand and withstood the bombardment admirably.

To be "*mentioned in dispatches*" was always a distinct honor for a soldier. So many folks make *Fort Clark Days* happen it is indeed difficult to "*mention*" them all. However, the Historical Society, if we could, would give a medal to our volunteers who gave an extra measure of effort to ensure the success of the event. Here cited for their commitment to excellence are Jerry and Kit Bertelsen, Patti and Russell Nowell, Mary and Dick Hahn, Joan and Bob Henry, Georgia and Roger Martin, Angela and Bill Haenn, and the lady who has been in the front lines under fire for many months ... Linda O'Brien. Thank you all for making a difference in our community. We salute you!

