

# The Wells Gazette

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THE COCHISE COUNTY BUNCH

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## Planning 2007 Wells Family Reunion!

**WHEN: SEPTEMBER 1 - 3, 2007 LABOR DAY WEEKEND**

**WHERE: BISBEE, ARIZONA**

**WHO: WELLS FAMILY: RELATIVES & FRIENDS**

Setting a time for next year's reunion has been complicated! For families with children in school, they need to attend during the summer vacation, preferably over a long holiday weekend. July 4th, which usually is the only long holiday weekend of the summer, falls on a Wednesday next year so there is no long holiday weekend next summer. The next consideration is heat. Bisbee's elevation at 6000' above sea level helps abate the heat somewhat. While in other areas of the country, rain is not particularly welcome but rain in the summer here can mean a 20 degree drop in the temperature. According to Bisbee's Chamber of Commerce, they get about 60% of their yearly rainfall during the summer monsoon, which runs from July through the middle of September. The national weather service shows that since records were kept starting in 1895, rainfall has occurred as follows: Memorial Day = 6 times; Labor Day = 32 times; July 4th = 35 times. But the difference in average high temperatures favors Labor Day: high = 85 and low = 59. After summer rains, it is also the greenest, prettiest time of year here, too!

Bisbee, founded in 1880, proved a great Old West venue for renewing family ties and an opportunity to step back in time. The picturesque town has been charmingly restored, with most of its notorious 47 saloons now antique stores, shops, art galleries and restaurants. The town is planning many festivities over the weekend, as is Tombstone, only 20 minutes away. Many families came back from watching shoot-outs in Tombstone, with the kids sporting cowboy hats, play gun belts and maps of old Ghost Towns.

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER:

I had the privilege of attending the funerals of both Rex Cason and his mother-in-law, Roseamae Garcia. I knew Rex from our numerous cemetery work parties. Rex was always there to help and everyone enjoyed his great sense of humor. The church was packed and I was impressed that 20 policemen and women from San Diego drove hundreds of miles to pay their respects to Rex. I'll miss seeing Rex at every family event from now on.

I didn't know Rosamae previously, but I know her brother, Pete Wells, and his family. My Dad, Lonnie B. Wells, Sr., told me on numerous occasions that Pete was one of his favorite cousins. I was impressed that her Christian life had such a major impact on her daughters and all their respective families. My condolences go out to both of these families. These two fine people led exemplary lives and will be missed.

### CEMETERY MAINTENANCE WEEKEND

**FEBRUARY 16 & 17, 2007**  
**President's Day National Holiday**

NOTE: Put this Holiday on your calendar as the annual weekend for work on our cemetery.

### MEMORIES:

## ORION LINDEN WELLS

**October 29, 1895 - February 6, 1985**

Orion was born October 29, 1895 in San Angelo, Texas. His best recollection, related in 1983, was that the family left San Angelo about 1898 and spent 2 years along the road. About the only thing he remembers from the trip was crossing the Rio Grande River: he was frightened when the wagon floated with the current. They had about 15 horses and 15 or so cows. They moved slowly grazing as they came. The party stopped to work as they needed money. Sam, the oldest son, went ahead to New Mexico. He married a Gardner girl. They had no children and she died of pneumonia.

The Wells family traveled with the Reed family. They had two wagons, the Reeds had one. At first, he thought they had traveled over the Chiricahua Mountains coming out at Leslie Canyon and Rucker, then moved to White Water and then on to Gleason. But he changed his mind, saying that they first landed at Black Diamond where his father, with Earl and Ed, freighted out of Pearce, and then moved to Gleason. It was after that when they moved to White Water which was about three miles southwest of Elfrida, where they lived about three years. Granddad raised chickens. He had about 800 Blue Andalusians and about 700 White Leghorns. He sold chickens and eggs in Gleason.

Orion's version of the 'famous' gunfight between Uncle Will Terry and Rube Baker that took place near Gleason: they worked for different cattle outfits as cowboys and for some reason had bad feelings for one another. They met outside Gleason as one group of cowboys was coming to town, the other group leaving. Baker drew his gun and shot Terry's horse which had apparently thrown his head up just as Baker shot. Baker fired again hitting Terry in the forehead, where it left a 4" to 5" furrow in his forehead and scalp. Terry drew his gun after Baker's first shot and as his horse was going down he shot Baker in the stomach. The bullet went through his body and out without hitting a vital organ. Both men lived and though it went to trial, Terry was acquitted because there were witnesses that Baker pulled a gun first.

Orion and his brothers alternated staying home from church to tend the chickens. Coyotes were numerous and would steal the chickens. The brothers amused themselves by taking roosters from different pens to engage them in good rooster fights. See MEMORIES/2