

The Wells Gazette

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THE COCHISE COUNTY BUNCH

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2007 Wells Family Reunion September 1—3, 2007 Bisbee, Arizona

2005's reunion was great fun with more than 80 people attending. All the different lines of Hilary and Sarah's descendents had a great time catching up with each other. But we had a number of people who wished they had more opportunity to mingle with relatives from the other lines of the family. This time we're planning some activities and mixers for the sole purpose of being sure everyone who attends meets all their cousins, no matter how distant. We've had good response for this year's reunion from kin planning to attend from all over the US, with those traveling the furthest so far, Marsha and Larry Rogers, from Canton, Georgia.

The Wells—Hopkins Homestead is the site this year for the Sunday picnic. The Chaudoins have done a great deal of work on the old place: replacing and fixing old wells; new electrical and water systems—all underground; old buildings demolished, new trees planted; an old structure converted to an arbor; and a new large shop

already visited regularly by Great Horned Owls trying to nest in the rafters. Most dramatic is a small stream flowing into a pond with great old pilings and wood deck extending out over the water and surrounded with well-established cottonwood trees.

Festive Labor Day activities are planned in Bisbee and Tombstone. Bisbee is hosting BREWERY GULCH DAZE: events such as the "Mis Old Biz contest and the "Water Ball Tourney" make up this unique event celebrating Bisbee's past. Once

home to more than 20 bars and brothels, Brewery Gulch was one of Bisbee's liveliest avenues. For the holiday it is the site of a carnival atmosphere featuring a pancake breakfast, pet parade, chili cook-off, art show, children's carnival games and a skateboard competition.

In Tombstone, they are having their annual RENDEZVOUS OF GUNFIGHTERS. Gunfighter groups from throughout the US gather in Tombstone to perform. Activities include a "Most-Authentic-Costume" Contest and a Parade.



President's Corner: February 14—17, 2007 President's Day Weekend Clean-Up

The work party was a great success. A big thanks to everyone who helped, especially Lee Tolzin and Becky Griswold, who so skillfully headed up the cement crew. Also Brett and Shannon Wells drove 11 hours from Visalia CA to help! Mike Sutherland and Hilary McMahon made up the rest of the first day's crew. Betty Logan had the flowers looking great. We appreciate her faithful work. [I asked, again, to reimburse her, but she again refused, said it is her contribution to the family. Les Stimac's ongoing efforts in coordinating

work at the cemetery is really a very big help. He's to be commended for his contributions to the family cemetery. Also, we must thank Mar Chaudoin for providing our delicious lunch. Other attendees over the 4 day weekend: Pete Wells, Henry and Alberta Wells, Sheri and Taylor Eaves [grandchildren of] Tom and Louise Clark, Sheila Cottrell, Carole Thomas, Charlene Tolzin, Myrna Alexandria and Rob Sutherland.

We accomplished a lot: three grave tops were poured, everything was weeded, including around the flag pole, the whole fence and gate painted white [gate posts are 2 old Model T axles]; and the shed completely cleaned out. Les took on that chore but got a shock when the dead rat's tail he reached for took off! After lunch Lee and Becky proved to be the best at playing Cornhole, a game similar to Horseshoes but much more fun!

