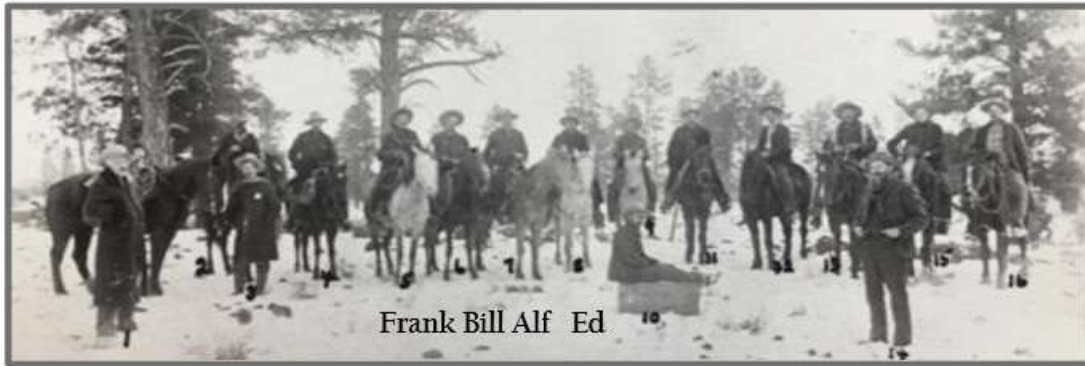


# History of the Verde Valley

By Bill Cowan

Posted Facebook

*Bill Cowan is an author and Verde Valley historian who regularly posts on Facebook along with contributing to newspaper articles and writing books.*



From Eugene Waldroup photos via Dan Derrick, (pre-1910): Dick Richardson, Bill Clift, Bill Dick, Jim Relly, Frank, Bill, Alf & Ed Dickinson, Chancy Townson, Clarence Marshall, Merrit Fisher, John Fain, Tack Gaddis, William Schroeder, Les Hart & John Lee

Mogollon Cowboys in the high country including from left, Dick Richardson, Bill Clift, Bill Dick, Jim Relly, **Frank, Bill, Alf, and Ed Dickinson**, Chancy Townson, Clarence Marshall (on box), Merrit Fisher, John Fain, Tack Gaddis, Wm Schroeder (standing), Les Hart and J. H. Lee. ©Margaret Ron Derrick

Caption for Photo #1 from my book Verde Valley.

Tough and capable men with an extreme sense of community working together. Wm Schroeder was among the very first people to homestead along Beaver Creek in what is now the lower end of Lake Montezuma. The **Dickinson brothers were representing their own brands** but also were representing Bill Back who was married to their sister **Margie Dickinson-Back** and the couple owned the Montezuma Well Ranch. John Fain would be representing the Fains including Dan who was married to Bill *and Margie Dickinson Back's* oldest daughter **Mildred**. Tack Gaddis came from Missouri with the original **1875 Missouri Wagon train** and would later be the foreman on the Babbitts CO Bar. Les Hart's family was among the very first to settle in Oak Creek in 1883 and was later married Lelah Reid. John H. Lee's family were among the very first to settle near Prescott. He was a great roper and cattleman. Lee Mountain near the Village of Oak Creek is named for him as well is Lee Butte along the Mogollon Rim south of Munds Park.

This group was to form the backbone of a Small Cattlemen's Association here in the Verde. The Apache Maid operation had got so large that they felt that they were doing more work rounding up Apache Maid cattle than they were for their own and the association was the answer to that. They would send one man to represent the group on the Apache Maid roundup but would concentrate most of their efforts on the cattle of their members. There was also a "Rep" from the Apache Maid along on the Small Cattlemen's roundup.

Notes and links for additional information about Dickinson family members.

Frank Lee Dickinson for a time was foreman of the Apache Maid Ranch.

Montezuma Well National Monument

In 1888, William Back and his wife Marjorie Ann Dickinson Back traded two horses for the ranch.

Frank Dickinson

<https://dickinsonfamily.us/william-g-dickinson/>

William (Bill) Dickinson

<https://dickinsonfamily.us/william-g-dickinson/>

Alfred Dickinson

<https://dickinsonfamily.us/alfred-dickinson/>

Edward Dickinson

<https://dickinsonfamily.us/edward-virgil-dickinson/>

Margie Dickinson-Back

<https://dickinsonfamily.us/marjorie-dickinson-back/>

Mildred Back-Fain

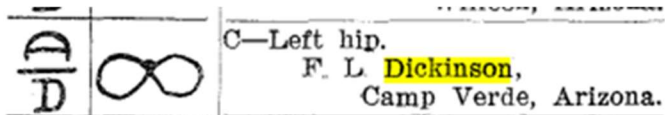
<https://dickinsonfamily.us/mildred-back-fain/>

1875 Wagon Train

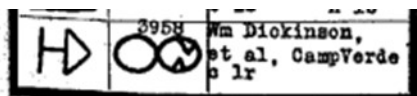
<https://dickinsonfamily.us/images/document/13632990/1875FIRSTFAMILIESSamuelC.DickinsonFamily.pdf>

Photos of Dickinson Brands

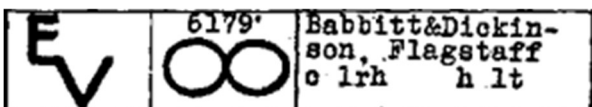
Frank Lee Dickinson



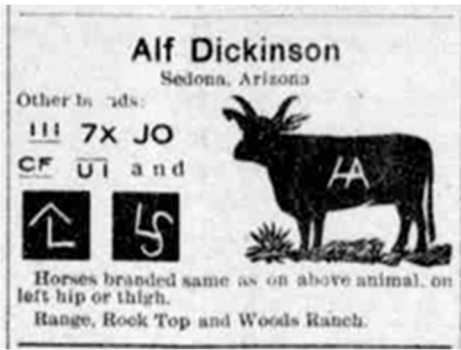
William G Dickinson



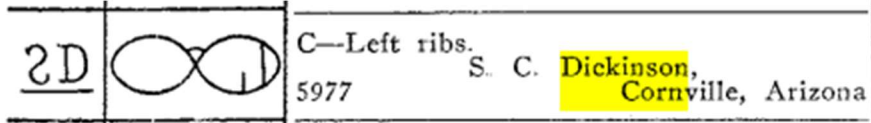
Babbitt & Dickinson



Alf Dickinson



Samual Cotton Dickinson



Fan & Back

