



## **WICKENBURG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

### **HISTORICAL FACTS ON THE DROVER CAR**

The 1900 Series Southern Pacific Drover Caboose was purchased from the State of Nevada Historical Railroad Museum in Boulder, Nevada, by the Wellik Foundation in June 2003.

Volunteers from the Nevada Historical Railroad Museum and University of Las Vegas Students working nights and weekends completed the reconditioned caboose interior and exterior. The caboose was at one time painted a bright yellow. Its interior paint is original.

Historically "The Drover" Car was set behind the cattle car, and cowboys stayed in the caboose and managed the herd. This particular Drover Car ran the route from Montana to California.

Vi Wellik, owner of the Flying E Ranch, and principal in saving and restoring the Santa Fe Depot in 1987, felt the completed to Historic Frontier Street would be to relocate the Santa Fe locomotive #761 & Tender and find a caboose as a final compliment.

The late George and Vi Wellik made generous contributions for the betterment of our community for over 45 years.

The Wellik Foundation approved and financed the relocation expenses and purchase of the Drover Car. The Town of Wickenburg was presented the Locomotive & Tender by The Round-Up Club/Wickenburg Chamber of Commerce in 1953, after the Santa Fe Railroad gifted it to the organization. The Wellik Foundation presented the Drover Car to the Town in October 2003.