

Keith's Corner/McGill News

December 20, 2019

Christmas In McGill-2019

We are only a few days away from Christmas Day. Seems like it rolls around quicker each passing year. Did someone shorten the year or is it old age setting in?

The Christmas Parade was last Sat. the 14th. Some photos are in the McGill News section. The yearly memorial decorating of the light poles in honor of Mrs. Rose Papez is in full gear. Rose's daughter Margie started it and she is the one to contact. So, have some fun and decorate a pole. A great tradition for McGill. Lots of ingenuity at play. Let's see what you can do.



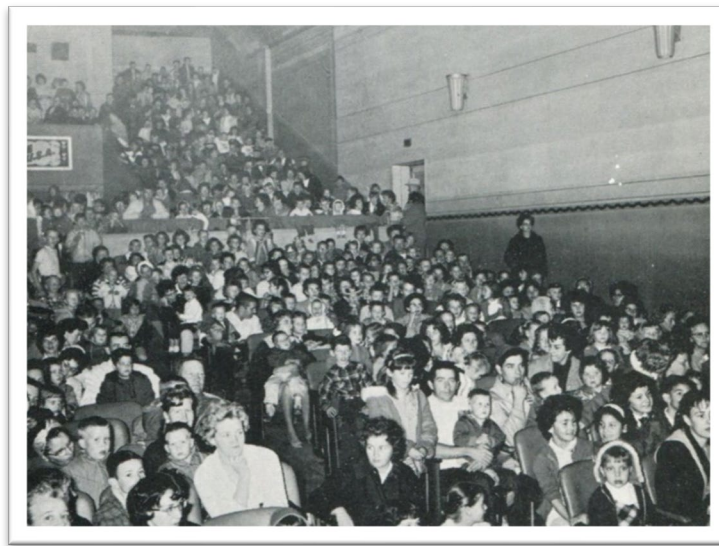
There are lights and other decorations sprouting up on houses and in yards all over town. During my youth in the 30s and 40s I don't remember any lights on

houses. Maybe KCC didn't allow it or better yet, maybe it was too expensive. I do remember a lot of windows that had a string of lights around it on the inside.

During the WWII years, toys were hard to come by and so many parents made things for the kiddies. My Dad made my brother and me, each a small work bench with home made vise. Mom always managed to find some sort of small toy truck or car for us. It became a tradition into our adult years.

Family traditions were big in those days. A friend of mine who was a successful oral surgeon told me that his family still had a tradition of cutting out a picture of something they wanted to give each other and wrapping it up for Christmas. He said in his youth that they were so poor that was all they could do.

There of course was the Christmas party for the kids at the IOOF Hall or later in the theater. Here is a photo of a party in the theater. I don't know what year it was. Possibly 1963 ?



Maybe in a few years the theater will be back in shape and there can be such parties again.

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The roof on the theater is done. Just in time for some snow and below zero temps. So glad that Rudy has taken over the place. He has the ambition and money to do the job the right way. He has an architect that specializes in

restoring old buildings. Rudy plans to hold music concerts, live plays and actually show old movies. His target date is 2021. He plans to have the IOOF Hall done the spring of 2020. So much progress for McGill to spring back to life.

The annual Christmas parade was held Dec. 14. Here are some of the floats.



2nd street was lined from the grade school to K street with towns folk. The party at the Senior Center was great. There were lots of fresh baked goodies for sale.

Here is a very **Merry Christmas** to you all from the staff and family at the KC Newsletter.

Old Picture



The 4th player from the left standing with arms folded and hands bare is Suzie Symes. I think the first player in front on the left is John Kinnear Jr. This was taken in 1927. Maybe someone can identify some of the others. How about the kids peeking from behind? Notice the rocks on the field. My class was the last to play on this rocky field in 1949 and we had the same uniforms. The next year the field was turned around to like it is now and leveled and grass planted.