

# Keith's Corner/McGill News

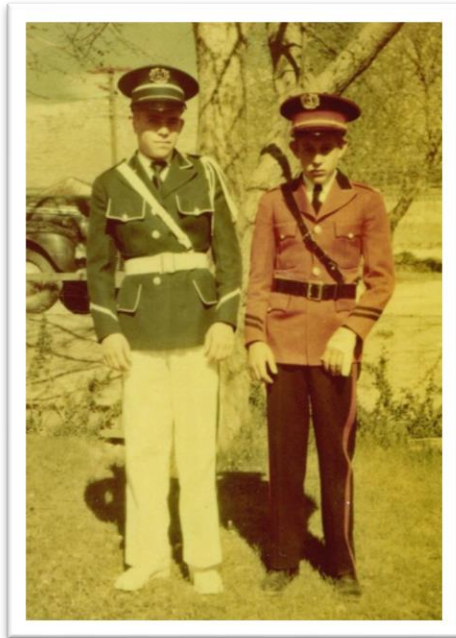
June 28,2019

This month has shot by very fast. It started out rainy and cold and with only a few good warm days, it pretty much stayed that way. June 19 and 20 saw nighttime temps of around 30 degrees. Tough time for flowers and veggies.

Well the 4<sup>th</sup> of July is here again and it falls on a Thursday, which makes it hard for out of towners, as many work on Wed. and Fri.. I plan to be at the annual breakfast at the Convention Center and hope to see a lot of old timers. Not too many of us left. I still am planning to get a thing started for next year, 2020, to have an all class re-union for McGill Grade and hopefully the idea will spread to the other schools. Juist a small get together at the park by the pool, with some hot dogs etc.

## *Keith's Corner*

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July brings back a lot of memories. Times have changed so much and sometimes not for the better. The last few years I have been very dismayed at the parade. Seems like it is mostly fire trucks, etc. which is fine to honor those that serve. Maybe it is because there aren't the bands we used to have, from the many grade schools and of course the White Pine High School. Bands, floats, horses, scouts and other clubs marching , are my idea of a parade. I remember marching in parades on Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup> and Labor Day in full uniform and a full band. The community was proud of us. We felt good doing it. I remember when we changed uniforms in McGill in 1948-49. We had been wearing a black sweater and white pants and a white band hat and then we were measured for the new orange and black uniform. The coat was orange and had a black belt and shoulder strap. The pants were black with an orange stripe up the leg. Then it was a thrill to get the blue and white uniform of the WPHS band.



The McGill Band starting in 1948 was under the direction of John Mulvehill who had served in the Army during WWII. He is in the above photo.

During my first year in the band in 1947, it was under the direction of Ray Anderson, a KCC carpenter. He was also director of the McGill Community Band. They had a different uniform.. The Community Band was disbanded (no pun intended) about that time. The following photo is of the combined bands of the McGill Community and the McGill and Ruth Grade Schools. It was a concert at the K Street park I believe in 1946-7, celebrating the end of WWII. I had the honor of playing. It was a grand time.



The grade school bands were a tremendous training ground for the high school band. WPHS had the pick of the best from several grade schools. The high school director was able to have new band members that had several years of playing and marching under their belt and they also had the desire to be in that band. All of the communities in the county benefited. I just don't know what happened in the meantime. Kinda sad. I would hope these programs could come back again. The youngsters could use their fingers and thumbs to make music instead of texting. Gee, what an idea!!!!



There was no date on this photo, but the Goodman-Tidball store is turned so the small side is on the street. That is why there is a vacant spot between the Antique store and Bradley's now. This was turned in 1926 according to a recording of Dale Cottrell, who was a kid at the time. The copper company charged so much a front foot for a lease and so it was cheaper to turn the bldg. Dale said he remembered watching the move. It was made with greased ties and horse teams. The two gas pumps are in front of the LC Store. Can't make out the sheriffs office as it is behind the pump. Note the high curb.

Sometime in the near future I hope to have some short videos on various things around town.