

Newsletter208

Keith's Corner/McGill News

May 5, 2023

McGill Heritage Center

I plan to get started on the old hospital here in McGill in a few days. I think it best to call it the McGill Heritage Center instead of a museum, as that will give us more latitude and less regulations in preserving our heritage. With the terrible loss of the Kennecott Mill and Smelter, all we have as a resource for our town, is our colorful history. We need to save every bit of it from 1906.

I am getting together a group of local folks to manage different areas of our history.

Here are some of the areas.

1-Information on the planning and building of McGill such as why it was built here. Was it because of the tailings or maybe the water supply. When was the mill and smelter started. Who were the engineers that managed to plan the construction so it could be started in different areas and end up being pieced together as one workable unit. The remarkable achievement of building 135 miles and more of railroad tracking with horses and men. The construction of all the houses and roads, sewer and water systems. These are all interesting parts of our history,

2-Who lived here and when did they. We need to build a huge reference library of people that lived here, so that future generations can find grandparents and other relations.

3-Schools. I would like to see a lineup of all the teachers that ever taught here in McGill. Would be great to have photos of them. I have photos of my 2nd and 5th grade teachers and I am sure many others have photos of their teachers. How about all the kids that played in the bands, took shop or home economics, etc. A file that has personal stories of what it was like to be a student over the years.

4-Who were the doctors and nurses? I remember Dr. Hovenden, Dr. Smernoff, Dr. Ririe and Nurses like Miss Bruce, Stella Schroeder and many others.

5-Sports. Baseball, football, basketball and track teams. I have a photo of my track team in 1949. I have several photos of teams from 1906 and various programs of tournaments. I also have a plaque that the Las Vegas semi-pro team gave our Jr. League Champs of 1947. They gave them the plaque in 1997 to celebrate 50 years. Also, have the Governor of Nevada's Proclamation that proclaims a day in August of 1997 as McGill Baseball Day. I will hope to get some uniforms, photos and other stuff to be displayed. Gus Proutsos just sent me some programs from the 1950s.

6-Churches, social groups, Clubs. Other activities that folks got together and enjoyed.

7-Buildings. When was the Club House built? How about the McGill Club, the Post Office, the bank, hospital and many others. When, how and who built them.

8-What was the McGill Community League and what did it do? Why don't we have something like that now?

So, all in all I am hoping to start collecting photos, stories and items that can be displayed. If you have any or any ideas, please let me know. My box number here is 1315. Email is barbqr35@gmail.com

Let's work together and build a great Heritage Center that showcases our history.

Old Photo



This is for those folks that asked if I had a photo of the old grandstand. This is the best one I could find.. Notice the 'community League' on the top.