

Newsletter323

Keith's Corner/McGill News

July 4, 2025

July 4th

Today is the 249th Birthday of the Greatest Nation that has ever existed on this old mud ball called Earth.

There are 3 main reasons, in my opinion, that contributed the most to the founding and growth of the United States.

The first was the breaking away from the feudal and monarch system of Europe.

The second and probably the most important was the U. S. Constitution, which gives the control of government to the people. It is the most important document ever written in the history of the world.

Two parts of it stand out above all the rest. The First Amendment guarantees free speech, giving us the right to say what we think and to criticize the government if we feel it is necessary.

The second amendment, 'the right to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed' protects the 1st amendment.

It also protects ‘we’ the people from an oppressive government.

As long as we have these two amendments, no government can ever enslave us against our will, i.e. we are in control of our destiny, not a bunch of elite bureaucrats.

The third reason was the westward expansion of the nation. The original 13 states broke us away from Europe, but not completely. The so called elites were still in control of many facets of daily life.

Many people had a belly full of that nonsense and headed west to find and build a better life. They were free thinkers and wanted to make their own way.

In time they did form town, city and state governments to have the rule of law and order, but not to enslave the people.

This westward free thinking attitude lead to the greatest influx of new inventions and ideas in history.

So, celebrate America’s Birthday and our Constitution and remember that the 1st and 2nd Amendments keep us from ever being subjugated by a rogue government that we don’t approve of.

My recollections of July 4th festivities from the 1940s, 50s are very vivid. Those were exciting times.

The great World War II was finally over and there was peace around the world for a few years.

There was a lot of joy that the war was over, but there was also a lot of sadness about the tremendous loss of life.

Here in McGill there was a large concert at the park on Avenue K. There was a large sound reflector at the park and the bands from McGill and Ruth Grade Schools and members of the McGill Town Band, all under the direction of Mr. Ray Anderson. Ray was a carpenter at KCC. He played the coronet and was the director of the McGill Town Band and the McGill Grade School Band.

Kennecott had the carpenter shop build a large V to signify Victory over Japan and Germany and all the other axis powers.

I think this was in 1946, could be wrong..



Old Photo

This is a Goodman-Tidball float from back in the 40s. It has old Dragline Miller and his burro riding on it.

Local business' used to contribute to the community via parades and other sponsorships.

I hope several business' can see their way to have a float in the parade next year for the 250th birthday of the US.

I am making plans to have one for the Drugstore Museum, using local donations and labor.

How about each town in White Pine having a float that represents them. McGill, Ruth, Lund, Ely, Cherry Creek.

That would be a great tribute to this Great United States.

