

Newsletter329

Keith's Corner/McGill News

August 15, 2025

School Buses

The White Pine County school system is widely scattered. There are grade schools in Baker, Lund, Ruth, Ely, East Ely, Lane City, Cherry Creek and McGill at various times over the past 125 years. Many of the ranching areas had one room schools. My Father Earl Gibson, told me that in 1929 when he got his first job with Nevada Con Copper, he was put on a labor gang (Bull Gang) and trucked to Duck Creek to tear down an old, one room school house. There were some small high schools, but the main one, was the White Pine County High School in Ely.

The students living outside of Ely had to commute. This was done in various ways, such as car pools, trains , buses or living in Ely, during school days.

During the summer of 1953, I worked at the Coke bottling plant In Ely with Lou Drakolich (sp). She and her husband owned the D-Bar-X bar south of Ely. Lou rented a house in Ely so she could work and the girls could attend high school.

The McGill high school students in the early days, up to about 1938, rode the Nevada Northern school train. I think the Ruth and Lane City kids did the same thing.



McGill school train, 1935. I think it was parked in the Y turnaround near the lime Quarry. Probably waiting for an ore train from Ruth to go by. Notice all the air vents on the roof.

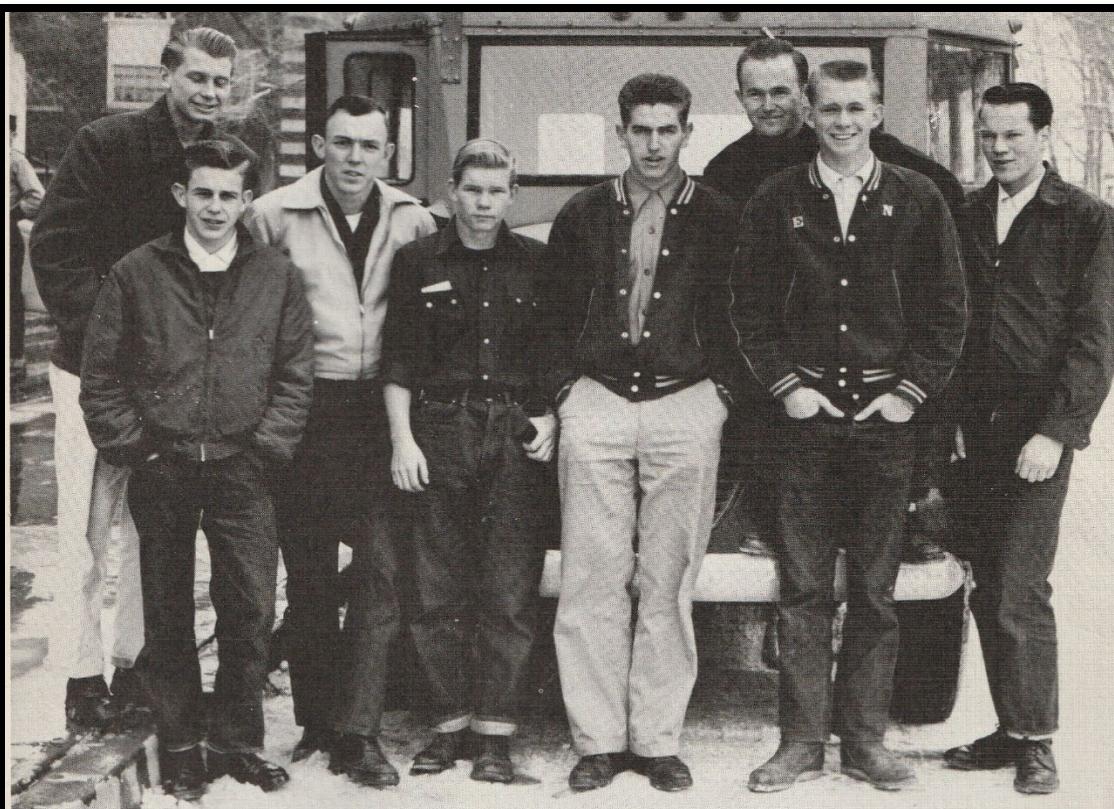
The school trains were replaced by buses. When I was in high school in the 1950s, McGill had 4 buses, Ruth had one and Lund also had one.

The buses were driven by junior and senior students.

The McGill buses in 1954, were as follows-the freshmen and sophomore boys rode in an old International bus driven by Oscar Seigal (sp), who was the supervisor of all the buses. The junior and senior boys rode in a bus driven by Jim Bell.

The freshman and sophomore girls were in an old GMC driven by Keith Gibson. The junior and senior girls were in a new travel bus driven by Bill Spane.

The 1953 McGill drivers were Jim Bell, Clark Varney and Joe Anderson Milt Judd drove the Lund bus and George Jutila and Wesley Lewis drove the Ruth bus.



GEORGE JUTILA, KIETH GIBSON, JIM BELL, WESLEY LEWIS, CLARK VARNEY, JOE ANDERSON, MILT JUDD, BILL SPANE.

The 1953 and 1954 bus drivers.

McGill News

This past Wed., August 13, 2025 the McGill Drugstore Museum had some special visitors. Nevada's United States Senator, Cortez-Masto and her staff



Old Photo



The trestle before the mill burned down in 1922. The ore cars were pushed from the trestle over to the top of the mill and dumped directly into the large wooden bins. It was those wooden bins that burned and destroyed the mill in 1922. Most of the mill structure was corrugated metal