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George David Bird, husband of deceased local historian and author, Leah Bird, has allowed McCloud Historical Society to reprint this compilation of personal history. Only Available from McCloud Historical Society. Only 100 printed, so don't wait to order!

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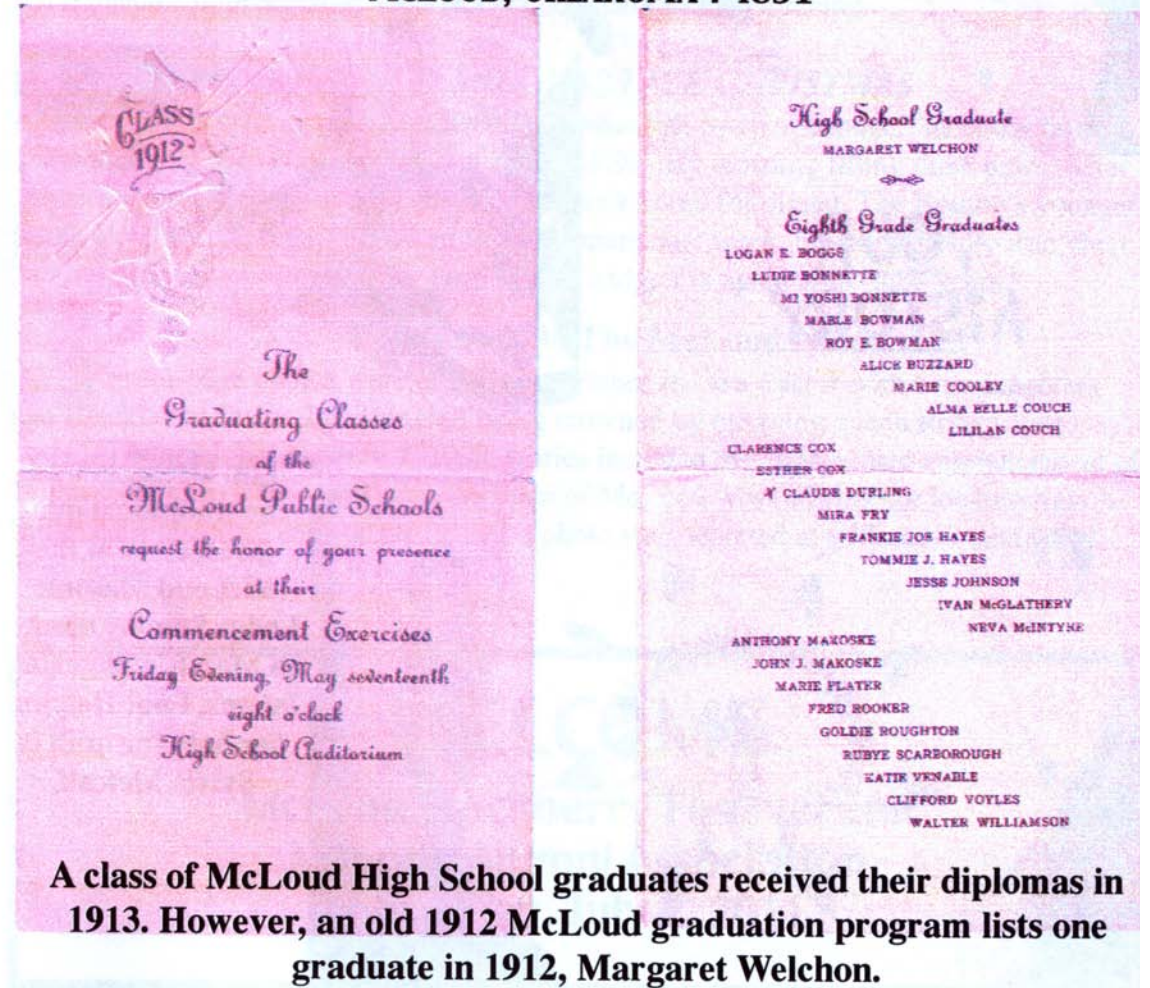
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421 W. BROADWAY
McLOUD, OKLAHOMA 74851

Summer 2011



A class of McCloud High School graduates received their diplomas in 1913. However, an old 1912 McCloud graduation program lists one graduate in 1912, Margaret Welchon.

MASONIC LODGE SUNDAY DINNER SUCCESSFUL

\$1,000 was raised during the fifth annual McCloud Masonic Lodge fundraiser on March 27 and \$1,000 donated as matching by McCloud Masonic Lodge #126. Thanks to all who brought food, helped with serving and attended! Masonic Lodge #126, you're the greatest!



Community families gather for old fashioned Sunday Dinner



YOUR HISTORY

Lou Michaels won the traditional quilt given away at the McCloud Masonic Lodge Sunday dinner in March. Congratulations, Lou! Helping her hold the quilt is Sylvia Metcalf.



LG ELECTRONICS DONATES 42" TELEVISION

LG Electronics has donated a 42" flat screen television to your museum. This gift will allow the showing of several donated DVD's of family and town events. Among those donated includes the 1949 Blackberry Festival donated by the Seikel family, a power point of the Batt Family, and others. Thank you, LG Electronics for this donation estimated at \$899.99. A plaque will denote this gift. McCloud graduate James Palmer currently works for LG Electronics in Ft. Worth, Texas, and assisted with the grant process.

JEAN'S DAIRY BOY CASH REGISTER NOW ON DISPLAY

Jean Boggess, who owned and operated Jean's Dairy Boy for many years, has donated the cash register she used to ring up a lot of hamburgers, hot dogs, shakes and Cokes for many who lived in McCloud or who drove through on their way to other places. Thanks, Jean, for the years you gave and for the register to help us keep the memory alive.

Achievement Archives

It is a new feature at McCloud Historical Society Museum and Heritage Center. A large case donated by Ava Keene and Doc Schomp will be used to feature McCloud residents or graduates who have made state, national and international contributions. The first featured person will be Jon Barrett. Barrett is an Eagle Scout, has marketed his hot rod engines around the world while based in McCloud, and is a noted race car driver and writer for hot rod magazines. He currently serves as Mayor of McCloud.

MORE INFORMATION SOUGHT

According to Santa Fe Depot Museum in Shawnee, B.E. Walters was the first druggist in McCloud. He arrived in 1905. He moved to Henryetta in 1910. Anyone with information, please contact the McCloud Historical Society Museum, open Tuesday and Friday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

VISITOR SHARES HISTORY

Gerald Cook, Newalla, visited the McCloud Historical Society Museum in April. He is the son of Hugh Cook, a mechanic who worked at the Ford Dealership in the 1930s and 40s. Hugh Cook was in the building when the 1942 tornado lifted the roof as it passed over.

Gerald's uncle was Jess Smith. Jess's wife ran a cream station in McCloud. He had a harness shop. When horseless carriages made most harness shops obsolete, Jess Smith used his leather working ability to repair shoes. His shoe shop was on South Main Street. Mrs. Smith's cream station was located on the southwest corner of Main and Broadway.

Gerald says he is looking for photos to share with the McCloud Historical Society. Thank you for stopping in.

Thank you, Robert Clinard

Bob Clinard has donated a plate that was hand-painted by former McCloud business woman, Lucille Lisle (Mrs. A.C. Lisle). Thank you, Robert

Presidential Notes

It seems your museum takes two steps forward and one back. But, that is still progress. Last month a house mover hit one of our beautiful awnings. Inquiries have been made for estimates on repairs and have been submitted to the house mover for payment. Hopefully, it can be repaired soon.

A stubborn leak in the front bay roof has continue despite several attempts to repair it. An estimate indicates it will cost approximately \$11,000 to put on a new roof. That is being planned for this fall, if funds are available. The roof and landscaping in front are the last major phase one projects to complete. Landscaping is on hold until the City begins its downtown sidewalk project. Meanwhile bricks are being sold for placement in the plaza. Currently bricks are \$35 each or 3 for \$100, but that cost may increase once the plaza has been completed. It's a good time to get your brick!

On that note, a used product sale (yard sale inside the building) will be held on July 2. Donated items can be contributed at the museum on Tuesdays and Fridays, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or by appointment.

Most of the cases donated by Ava Keene and Dale "Doc" Schomp have been repaired, cleaned and have been placed in the front foyer. Thanks, Jim, Sylvia, Loydia and Donnie for your work.

McCloud Historical Society has set aside a case for family files and is currently asking for families to submit their family tree and/or stories about family members who lived in McCloud, Dale or Newalla. A form is being made to assist with submission. Please be the one in your family to gather the information.

People from as far away as Pennsylvania and Maryland have recently inquired about relatives who lived in McCloud. One is a Civil War Medal of Honor recipient. One never knows who will be looking for them in the future.

It is very exciting to begin collecting our Archival Achievement information. This is an archive of those who have accomplished notable achievements in their field - medicine, law, sports, education, research and so on, both living and deceased. To nominate someone for this honor, please contact me by e-mail, glendakuhn@yahoo.com. Officers are currently developing qualifications for this honor.

Your membership renewals help keep the monthly utility bills paid. Any membership funds not used for monthly maintenance is applied to continue with building projects. All donations are applied to building funds and special needs.

A fund to provide perpetual financing for the museum is being kept in an interest bearing account until a maximized matching grant program is offered with Communities Foundation of Oklahoma. It is hoped the account can be officially started at that time. You can designate your donation to this perpetuating account by indicating on your check that it is for that purpose.

MASONIC BLOOD DRIVE
WILL BE HELD SEPTEMBER 17, BEGINNING AT 11 A.M., AT THE MCLLOUD MASONIC
LODGE ON WEST BROADWAY IN MCLLOUD.

OLD NEWS

March 1, 1973 The McCloud Journal

PATROL NABS ILLEGALS

McCloud Chief of Police Charlie Underwood was on patrol at 2:30 a.m. when two autos with four sets of headlights met him on the curve west of McCloud on 270. The cars were side by side on a curve and pulling up a hill. Underwood put his car in the ditch to avoid a crash, turned around and followed the cars. Occupants of one car were illegals from Mexico. The second car occupants were from Seminole. Underwood arrested all 12 occupants from both cars taking them to the police station where he contacted Pottawatomie County Sheriff for assistance in processing his prisoners. The cars had been racing.

BOURNE FAMILY HAS LATE CHRISTMAS

"The Loyd Bourne famiy celebrated Christmas late by two months. The entire family attended the Frist Baptist church of McCloud Sunday morning filling three pews. After church everyone went to Mr and Mrs. Bourne's home for dinner. The Bourne's younger son, Roy, and his family returned from Germany last week. mr. and Mrs. Bourne, their five children adn their families were together again after three years."

July 9, 1998 The McCloud News

Front-page photos were of Billy Joe Fisher Jr. on a tractor with twin daughters and Blackberry Queen Jennifer Hall being crowned by outgoing queen Robyn Jones.

The week before, July 2, 1998, stories included the engagement announcement of Tatum Rooker to Ryan Gallagher, the town of McCloud was refining the job description for its administrator, and Austin Palmer's photo was depicted at a Masonic Centennial open house.

WELCOME

**McCloud Blackberry Festival and
McCloud Alumni Association
Saturday, July 2, 2011**



PAGES OF OUR LIVES
McCloud Historical Society has a collection of old newspapers and books for research and remembering. Inventory of all documents is needed. Members may be asked to assist with this inventory.

THANKS BANCFIRST for a gift to purchase acrylic sleeves that will preserve original copies of the April 6, 1933 newspapers that record how McCloud citizens and individuals came together to support the bank in its crisis. Then Bank of Commerce reopened with No Restrictions due to that support.

BACK THEN

July 7, 1949 The McCloud Monitor

TRUMAN EXTENDS THANKS

“President Truman enjoyed the McCloud blackberries, which were sent to Washington by the 300 members of the McCloud Blackberry co-operative, with McCloud and Shawnee businessmen paying the air freight bill, and presented by Congressman Tom Steed, last week.”

President Truman wrote, “I can’t tell you how very much I appreciated those wonderful blackberries which you brought me yesterday. I had a dish of them for breakfast this morning and they are just as good as I thought they would be. Please express my thanks to the people in your district who were responsible for growing and picking them. Sincerely yours, Harry Truman”

June 30, 1983 The McCloud News

After the blackberry crops were replaced by more lucrative agriculture ventures, the annual Independence Day celebration took a new name, Old Timer’s Reunion. But, The McCloud News reports on June 30, 1983, that the Blackberry Festival was revived. Judy Pennanen wrote, “Blackberries came into their full right as a McCloud major crop in the 1930s. The McCloud Blackberry Association was formed in 1939 by the largest local growers, and migrant pickers hit McCloud every June and July to make their summer livelihood here. Local youngsters made their “Saturday-in-town spending-money” by picking the berries. Growers would send their trucks out over the country roads and stop at each house to pick up the kids headed for the patches.”

Pennanen also writes of the city park, “In 1948 Mr. and Mrs. John Seikel donated a 13 acre tract of land to the town of McCloud, and it was dedicated to the memory of the men and women who were killed or injured in the fight for our country’s freedom. The area has since been known as McCloud Memorial Park, and has always been the site of our annual July 4, celebration.”

Blackberry queen in 1983 was Edna Mae Page. Runners-up were Essie Barrett and Nettie Basinger. The Blackberry princess was Shelli Mosier. Runners-up were Gina Austin, Anita Mauldin and Cari Starkey.

Judy (Winkler) Pennanen coordinated the festival and was commended for reviving the blackberry theme.

McCloud Alumni Association in 1983 reports that out-of-town alumni attending the annual alumni reunion included: Clarence and Lorraine Varey of Edmond, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Varey of Moore, Margaret Baade Stettler of Ada and Edna Baade Wolf of Oklahoma City, Inez Miller and daughter, Freda (Fehrle) Huddleston. That year, artist Margaret Bird donated a painted picture of the old McCloud School building for auction at the Association meeting. (Now on display at the McCloud HS museum, a donation from the family of Evelyn Ellsworth.)

In the same newspaper, the new Dale Bridge dedication also made news.

July 4, 1985

A mule rodeo kicked off the annual McCloud Blackberry Festival.

In other news the McCloud American Legion Post installed newly elected officers with Commander Ted E. Hale, first Vice Commander G. Wallis and second V. Commander Ivenhoe T Richey.

The previous week the McCloud Alumni met on June 29 for their reunion and banquet. Gen Redding of Odessa, Texas attended as well as others.

T-ball was up and running with featured teams that participated in the Bethel Tournament, The McCloud Saints, coached by Frank Robinson, Rex Conley and Jim Beeson, The McCloud Mavericks, coached by John Geissler, Harley Duncan and Ray VanBuskirk, and The McCloud Short Stacks, coached by Diane Teel.

From an ‘older’ McCloud resident, Jackie Crosser

He recalls playing with the Ferrel boys, Gary and Bruce. He also remembers playing with Skip Stover with whom he spent many hours crawdad fishing.

Jackie remembers tormenting a female classmate in elementary school by taking away her candy. “It was only a couple of times,” he writes. But, he thinks the girl may have been Kathy Palmer Harris, now secretary of McCloud Historical Society. Thanks for the memories, Jack. Jackie currently resides in Washington State.