



THE VOICE



Back to School

Does anyone remember when we did not go back to school until after Labor Day? Seldom do I say I would prefer to go back to “the good old days,” but this is one time when I would. Summer is roughly June 20 to September 20. Summer is when the weather is nice and pools should be open. Summer is when you take family vacations.

I feel sorry for elementary teachers who send their students out to play in 95-degree weather and then spend the remainder of the day teaching hot, sweaty bodies! I know teachers like to end the semester before Christmas and start fresh in the new year. Honestly, people my age must have been brilliant to be able to remember all that we learned in the fall for two weeks after Christmas and survive college finals at the end of January. Okay, let me get off my soap box.

I have fond memories of returning to school after Labor Day, after the pools closed, after the Missouri State Fair ended and after I had put away my “white” shoes and clothes. Does anyone do that anymore?

I especially remember going back for my freshman year at Grain Valley High School. At least in 1960 we didn’t have to face going to a different building. (I started first grade in the same building in 1952). But I did face going to school with upperclassmen in some of my classes, a brother who was Student Council President and soon to graduate as valedictorian



Hours

Wednesday, 10 AM - 3 PM
Or by Appointment



Grain Valley Historical Society Meeting

September 23, 2021
6:00 PM

Join us for a potluck dinner followed by a program and meeting.

(no pressure to succeed there) and the dreaded freshmen initiation. Did every high school go through this rite of passage? Ridiculous clothing, senior books and crazy signs to carry around and bowing to every senior you met? I wish I could remember the words we repeated to the seniors...”Oh, Mighty Senior, etc., etc., etc.”

In August, just before the Ozark Empire Fair in Springfield, I broke my ankle. Four weeks and three casts later (I kept getting them wet washing cattle at the fairs), I had the cast removed on Friday before Labor Day. Needless to say, I was still limping around when school started. Some of my brothers friends actually felt sorry for me and I think they may have been easy on me. I recall I didn’t have to kneel when I saw them in the hallways. I also think the senior boys were much harder on the freshmen boys than the girls. I did, however, have shaving cream, whipped cream, peanut butter and honey in my hair by the ending of the day.

I don’t know how many of you have gone through an initiation, but I hope that you felt it was worth it! I wasn’t student council president and I didn’t graduate number one in my class, but I did love my four years at GVHS —after Labor Day!



Initiation, 1957. Nice Legs!
Superintendent G. E. Temple looks on.

History Panel Display



Pages in our new swinging document display are available. If you would be interested in filling a panel with your family history or some event related to Grain Valley’s history, please contact the Historical society for details. Cost \$25-\$50 per panel.

Building for Rent

The Historical Society is available for rent at reasonable rates - - The half-day rate is \$75 and a full-day rental is only \$100

A great location for birthdays, bridal or baby showers, parties and more!

For additional information call: (816) 867-5158 or (816) 392-4873

Visit our website

www.grainvalleyhistory.com

For information on museum hours, meetings, special events and building rental, check out our website. The website is provided and maintained courtesy of the

Valley News

Grain Valley’s Community Newspaper