

# Students share an apartment in the city

By MARY LOU OLSON  
ml.olson@nwkansas.com

"High school was a big adventure for this country girl and I loved it! I graduated as a class of one from Lund Grade School and was thrilled to have so many classmates and new friends," said Karen (Anderson) Thompson, a member of the 1960 class.

"Added to that was the freedom of living in town in an apartment with three other girls all week. My parents brought me to town after church on Sunday evenings and I went home with them after ball games on Friday night.

"The week was spent with my ready-made friends going to school and hanging out together in the evenings. None of us had a car, but we lived only a block from school and walked wherever we went unless some cute boy offered us a ride. The girls I shared that apartment with for four years are still close friends. We were responsible for our meals, getting to school and other events on time and getting our homework done. We were known as "Hall's Girls," since Hall was the name of our landlords.

"Although I didn't pursue a higher education, I came out of school with skills that allowed me to join the workforce. We had good teachers who kept our noses to the grindstone and a great balance of classroom and extra-curricular activities. My thing was music and cheerleading which didn't always mix that well.

"Every five years we have made a special effort to gather and celebrate with each other and friends from other classes. I hope this tradition continues for DCHS alums for many years."

Audrey (Lemman) Pavlicek said, "As part of the class of 1960 I was glad when graduation came. I was ready to move on, because I had a goal in mind. I wanted to become a teacher, a good teacher, like the many good teachers I had been privileged to have during the 12 years I went to school in Oberlin. My eighth grade teacher, Mrs. Ruth Hayes, gave me confidence in my own abilities. I wasn't a straight A student, but I tried. I studied, didn't miss much school, did my homework and still had fun along the way. The fun things included hanging out with my friends, Halloween clean-up, prom, and cheering for our football, basketball and wrestling teams.

Another member of the class, Jeanette (Cook) Miller, said she has vivid memories of the year that she and Karen (Anderson) Thompson and their home ec teacher, Mrs. Dorothy Dahl, got caught in the big hail storm that hit Selden when they were coming home from State FHA Camp.

"After the water started filling up under the overpass, there was a trucker who told us if we would follow close to his truck as the tires threw out the water, he thought we could make it. But it didn't work. Water was starting to come in our car windows so we had to jump out the windows in the cold, icy water.

"It was a Sunday afternoon and we had worn dresses home from camp. What a horrible



**'BABIES OF THE YEAR'** in the class of 1960, who were initiated into high school as freshmen included: front row, (from left) Karen Anderson, Ruth Brainard, Steve Reist and Curtis Higgins. Back row, Nancy Nemeth, Peggy Huff, Mary Reeves, Jolene Miller.

ordeal! Cars were lined up along the top of the underpass on Highway 383 and people were watching us jump. We rode back to Oberlin with the trucker and his truck had only a driver's seat so we sat on five-gallon buckets. That was a high school experience that we will never forget.

"When I was in freshman speech class, they dressed me up to look like Abraham Lincoln. This was in February and during basketball season, so the Gettysburg Address was rewritten to correspond with the game and I read it to the group. It was a neat presentation and one that I will always remember.

"The FHA and FFA had a box supper each year, followed by a dance, which we called a 'mixer.' We didn't have high school buses, so we batched during the week. We learned a lot of responsibility from that. Hardly anyone had a car at that time and I remember when \$1 of gas would run all week."

Mary Reeves was valedictorian of the Class of 1960 and Harold Cochran, salutatorian. There were 43 members of the class when they graduated during commencement exercises. The class will meet at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the

home of Karen and Larry Thompson; for a breakfast Saturday morning with John and Hank Juennemann, and at the Golden Age Center from 2 to 4 p.m.

*See us for your electric  
needs and repair!*

Griff and Cindy both graduated from  
Decatur Community High School in 1975.

**CIRCUITECH ELECTRIC**

*Griff & Cindy Lincoln, Owners*

111 N. Ingalls

785-475-2930