



Holiday Memories from the 1950s

Presented by the Saratoga Historical Foundation

Holiday Memories in the 1950s

- Do you remember celebrating Christmas in the 1950's? Perhaps you'll find some of your memories here.



Holiday Memories in the 1950s

- Halloween was celebrated
- November brought Thanksgiving
- Christmas decorations followed— unlike today when they might precede Halloween decorations!



Christmas cards were sent
to friends and family



Children wrote letters to
Santa asking for Barbie dolls,
Tonka trucks, trains and more



Families bought Christmas trees, live and aluminum



Fresh trees were decorated with tinsel, lights that would bubble as they heated, and large globe lights. Popcorn garlands roped around the tree— or sometimes families would eat the popcorn instead!



Aluminum trees would be decorated with all one color balls. The tree would rotate and various colors were cast on the tree making it look very festive.



Families and friends sang Christmas carols at night strolling through the neighborhood. Popular songs included Sleigh Ride, I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus, All I Want for Christmas is My Two Front Teeth, Frosty the Snowman, Silver Bells, O Come All Ye Faithful, Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, Santa Baby, Blue Christmas.....



The next morning was
Christmas and Santa came
whether you had a
chimney or not!

Families opened presents
on Christmas Eve or on
Christmas day.



Some families handed out all the packages and then took turns opening the package... careful to admire the package and save the paper and bow.

O' what torture. Others ripped the packages open immediately to see the gift. Boys got typical boy toys, i.e. trucks, cars, bikes. Girls received dolls, doll houses, etc.





Everyone would get
dressed up for lunch.



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Lunch

- Was either turkey or ham
- The ham was served with pineapple slices with a maraschino cherry on top
- Green beans were swimming in Campbell mushroom soup
- A hush would arise when the Jello salad was gently released from the mold....ahhhh it didn't fall apart!







Children sat at the children's table. I always wanted
to sit with the big kids.

All too soon the day is done,
the dishes washed, the
wrapping paper and bows
carefully saved for next year.

Merry Christmas to all and
to all a good night.

