By Nancy Whitaker

AM I AN ANTIQUE?

Isn't it funny when we look back at the past and say, "Those were the best times of my life." Without telling my age, I will say when I go back to the late '50s and early '60s, I think of that era as the best times of my life and they are my "good old days."

Life seemed like it moved at a much slower pace or did it seem that way because I was younger?

I remember playing with books which had cut-out paper dolls and clothes in them. I would cut out the clothes and fold the tabs around the neck and dress the paper doll. I made doll houses out of cardboard boxes and lived in a world of "pretend."

I remember sitting for hours reading "Little House on the Prairie," "Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates and "Grimm's Fairy Tales."

The long lazy days of summer would find me lying on the ground chewing on a clover blossom or picking a milk weed and blowing the silk from them.

As a teenager, I loved the poodle skirts, rock and roll, the old 45s, and yes, even our black and white TV.

I recall my grandparents had a crank style telephone in the 1950s. In order to talk on it, I had to stand on a chair. To the younger people, these items are unheard of and are considered

antiques. It is strange how many young people have never seen a telephone with a dial, let alone a crank.

Most kids and even young adults would probably not know an 8-track tape player, a TV without a remote or a wringer-type washer. To the younger generation our mementoes from the ’50s are now their historical items and it looks like I must have lived in the dark ages.

My own kids look back at the ’70s and ’60s calling them their “good old days.” Yikes. Although, I still liked the ’70s and ’80s, my best memories occurred during my “good old days.”

My mama used to look back at the 1930s and ’40s and call them her “good old days,” while my grandparents looked at the 1920s and called them their “the good old days.”

It just depends on our age and what things we had available to us which makes up all of our good old days.

Today’s younger generation are very technical minded and are adept at playing with an iPad or a smart phone. They are experts at electronic games, computers and remote controlled toys.

However, looking ahead to the future those iPads, iPods and smart phones may be setting in a store or on eBay and be classifed as an “antique.”

Everything changes and as the commericial used to say, “we’ve come a long ways baby.”

What do you determine to be an antique? What do you think of as the “good old days?” Let me know and I’ll give you a Penny for Your Thoughts.