

Where I Am From

A simpler time

bereft of identity theft

No instant messaging

No google, No texting No

iPhone beside us

No GPS to guide us

No blog on line

Or algorithm design

No high tech tools

Just calculators

and slide rules

When darning a sock

was a skill much admired or

winding a clock

once a day was required

When a once a week soak with

sponge baths between

and a change of underwear

to stay clean

With less cash, fewer sweets frugal

habits, fewer treats

less chance to indulge

less belt-line bulge

With cheap entertainment

card games galore

puzzles and popcorn

penny candy and more

Fountain penned letters

writer's cramp

first class mail

a three cent stamp

give it to a mail man

you know by name

then greet a milkman

or iceman the same

A long hike to school

in all kinds of weather

no schoolbus for us

our transport- shoe leather

After school came
Jack Armstrong of radio fame the
all American boy
brought to you by Wheaties
the cereal to enjoy

Next in memory is
Little Orphan Annie
the Ovaltine promoter of
a secret decoder

Saturday movies for
a dime or a quarter
serial installments
shown as starters
cliff hangers they were
to this lure we defer

Why do we yearn for this slower pace?
If life is a race is our nostalgia misplaced?
Was life really better before jet setter?
Let us ponder the question this poses
Which way allows more time
to smell the roses?

Margaret Fissinger

Poetry

Laurel Lake Retirement Community

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