

Then and Now

By Tommy Hayes and Ruth Reader

Our next participant in this youth group project is Mrs. Ruth Reader. She is well known throughout the church as is very talented and crafty. She has taken the time to answer the following questions about how things were when she was younger.

1) What is the most memorable event your parents experienced and told you about?

Mrs. Reader: "Probably their immigration from Canada to the United States of America."

Tommy: "When my dad had told me that when he was 16 years old, he was working the night shift at a supermarket. He said that his boss gave him the job as night manager and he was to close up and lock up everything for the night. Crazy thing is that he was only 16 years old!"

2) What were some cool things you like to do with your friends when growing up/what did you and your friends do for fun?

Mrs. Reader: "Well, I grew up in central New York so it was very cold there. The three main things that my friends and I did was to go ice skating, bowling, and play basketball."

Tommy: "Probably go outside and play basketball, soccer, or baseball. We also hang out inside and play video games at times or go to the mall and walk around."

3) Did you go to high school football games?

Mrs. Reader: "Yes, I did go to the high school football games. There was always a band, cheerleaders, and much cheering from the crowd. I don't think that much has changed from then to now with high school football games."

Tommy: "I agree, not much has changed. There is still a band, cheerleaders, and much cheering, especially from our student section that we call the 'Pack' at Somerville High School."

4) What were movies like?

Mrs. Reader: "Movies were very different. They were black and white, most of the acting was poor compared to today, not as violent, and the language was more acceptable. There were also drive in movie theaters that we went to."

Tommy: "Movies today are very different in my opinion. They are in color, much more violent, greater amount of dirty language, and better acting. I don't know of a drive in movie theater around here and never been to one, as I usually go to a movie cinema or even watch a movie at home from Netflix."

5) What would you do on a typical date?

Mrs. Reader: "Usually, we would go to the movies, often in a group of friends. We would get something to eat afterwards. Then, we would all go back to one of our houses for a get together and to chat."

Tommy: "Today, it's typically a 1 on 1 date, double date, or a bunch of friends going together. Usually the movies, the mall, or to someone's house. Sometimes we get food and then go somewhere or hang at each other's houses."

I enjoyed our conversation together and learned interesting facts about Mrs. Reader. I hope this continues to encourage more people to interact with others throughout the church. I would like to thank Mrs. Reader for her participation. Stay tuned for next month's interview on "Then and Now".