

Nov. 22, 2018

Happy Thanksgiving to all my Facebook family and friends. Hope your day is filled with love and laughter. It is a day of remembering the blessings of today and the blessings of long ago. The picture shows a 14-year-old gal 61 years ago in a love-filled home near German Valley, Illinois. The Suess and Cornelius families helped us demolish that 22 pound bird that year. See the entries from Mom's 1957 diary.



WEDNESDAY - NOVEMBER 27

*it was today and muddy  
cooked the chicken etc  
got the turkey ready and  
table set etc all for  
the big day tomorrow*

THURSDAY - NOVEMBER 28

*Rosie & Family and Fant  
Family were the only ones  
who came  
We had a 22 lb turkey*

To the right of the electric range stood the old white cook stove, which was kept as a heat source in winter before the little white Siegler oil burner was purchased. See the curlicue handle sticking up? That was used to pull open one of the round lids so you could stoke it with more cobs and coal. The coil stayed cool and you never burned your hand. The opened area was also the BEST place to toast (with a mighty long-handled fork) cheese sandwiches over glowing coals. That old cook stove still baked goodies and was the perfect spot to simmer a big old pot of chili or Mom's veggie soup.

The electric range had a nifty feature called a deep well. See the glass lid at the rear left. It was sort of a forerunner of modern crock pots and Mom about wore out that little jewel. There was a cavity with a removable liner that could be lifted out. You could fill it with a roast and veggies and forget about it until mealtime...and the food smelled SO GOOD when we came home from church! She once baked a cake in it; it was not a culinary success, to say the least.

Note the clear plastic stretched across the outside of the window for insulation. The floor was original hardwood (with 9 million layers of Glo-Coat wax). Those curtains were pink and brown patterned feed sacks. The "tile" on the lower part of the walls was a large sheet of linoleum, glued to the wall.

You can see Mom's freezer in the utility room. Lots of wonderful food was preserved in that appliance.

May these pictures trigger memories of your own. But do remember to live in today, too, and make memories for tomorrow.