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Haynes 50 Year Family Tree Farm

John Jolliff, ODNR Division of Forestry

Tree farming sometimes runs in the blood from one generation to another. That is the case for a Medina County tree farm. Tree Farm #577 was originally signed up by John Hayne back in January 1961 and is still an active tree farm managed by the Hayne family. John senior, the father of John, Virginia, & Jim, started a long-term management system that has turned into a family affair. The next generation now currently owns and operates the tree farm.

During the Ohio Forestry Association's annual meeting in 2011, the Hayne's tree farm was recognized for being in the American Tree Farm System for 50 years. Since the family members were unable to attend the meeting to receive a 50-year Tree Farm recognition sign for their property, I offered to facilitate that effort. When Jim and I completed their required re-inspection in the fall of 2011, we discussed the importance of installing the new tree farm sign to recognize this property and the owners for 50 years of good stewardship management.

During our discussion on the tree farm, Jim mentioned that an article had appeared in the local Wadsworth newspaper back in 1961. It quoted his father about the techniques he used in managing his tree farm. The article also has a picture and caption of the children – John, Virginia, & Jimmy – at that time behind the original tree farm sign. And as they say, “Time Never Stops.” As the generations change, trees continue to grow and they need to be properly managed; contact your local forester for assistance.

Editor's note: Jim Hayne graduated from Ohio State University with a bachelor's degree in natural resources - forest resources. In addition to doing the family farming, he grows two acres of white pine Christmas trees.