

## The Two Brothers History

The current "Hazelwood" Farm originated four generations ago when our Grandmother inherited the primary tract of land from her Mother's family (The Clarks).

When our Grandparents passed, they left the farm to Dad, his sister and four brothers. In 1953, Dad found agreement with his sister and brothers to purchase their shares of the farm. We then moved into the old farmhouse later that same year.

From 1953 until today, the farm has been the family and social center of both the Hazelwood family and Mom's, Humphrey's family. Weddings, social and family gatherings (big oyster suppers), vacations and church events have all had a home there. 2017 marked the 60<sup>th</sup> consecutive year of the Hazelwood/Clark Reunion held the fourth Sunday each June.

Our 1953 version of the old farmhouse (originally built in 1901) had basic electricity, no plumbing and no insulation. What heat we had was generated from wood and coal stoves and a wood burning cook-stove in the kitchen. Indoor plumbing and our bathroom were added in 1963.

In 1968, we completely rebuilt the "back side" of the farmhouse and added the expanded kitchen and updated utility room. Hemlock from the farm provided the wood structure and was logged and milled by Dad's brothers who were in the sawmill business. Since that time, the expanded dining room became the epi-center for all card games with relatives (Rook mostly), social and political discussions and mealtimes. This same dining room table was also the setting for our 2002 discussion with Dad and Mom about it being time to leave the farm and move into an Assisted Living Facility.

Dad retired in 1981 and he and Mom transitioned from work to community and church service becoming the "people to call" when the community needed help with anything from care-giving to plowing snow for their church. They also found time for gardening and, each Spring, making maple syrup. Dad's younger brother Donnie, "Red", and his wife Lizzie became companions in helping with maintaining the farm. The 1953 International D9 sitting by the barn became the "toy" to be used from road-building to repair of the creek running through the farm.

When Dad and Mom agreed to leave for their new home at an Assisted Living Facility, farm maintenance transitioned from Dad and Donnie to my brother Mick and I. Hence, the name on the road Two Brothers Road. When the state of WV began transition to 911 addresses, there was an opportunity to name our drive and after brainstorming, my wife, Shirley, suggested Two Brothers would represent the passing of responsibility from two brothers to two brothers and it just felt right.