

Get to know OCW Area Vice President Ruth Straus!

I was born in Temple, Texas. My home town was Killeen, Texas. It is located in the hill country of central Texas, where the blue bonnets bloom. I went to school in a two room country school through the eighth grade. After that, I attended Avenue "D" School in Killeen and graduated from there. I grew up on a family cotton farm outside of Killeen. After high school I attended business school.

Finishing that, I went to work for Civil Service at Fort Hood, Texas as an office clerk in the Post Transportation Office. A very good job and very educational also.

I met my husband Dalton Straus while he was stationed at Fort Hood. We met on Valentine's Day 1953. We were married on August 29th, 1953. In February of 1954 his time in the service was up. He decided to go back home to the ranch in Oregon. We moved back to Oregon and he went to work on the ranch. He joined the Army Reserve. This is what he did in his spare time. He retired from the Army Reserve after serving 32 years of service. He retired as a full Colonel.

Our two children grew up on the ranch working cattle, horses and all the exciting ranch life activities. It was a good place to spend the growing up years.

I went back to work after both children were in school. I was an elementary school secretary for 30 years. I really enjoyed all of the children and working with educators at the same time.

I joined CattleWomen in 1972 and became President in Jackson County in 1973. I have held all offices during the years. I was State Secretary while Doreen Bradshaw was State President. I also served on a National Cattlemen's Board for two years which met at the National Cattlemen's Convention.

My husband and I are still running the ranch. We have enjoyed this life style and all the great people that we have met during the years in the Cattle Industry.