



## OREGON CATTLEWOMEN

It is with a saddened heart that we say farewell to our fellow cattle woman, Tracy Hill of Burns, Oregon. Tracy passed away on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>. Tracy was President of the Harney County CattleWomen, Budget Officer for the Oregon CattleWomen and a friend to us all. We will remember her laughter and all that she brought to our organization. She will be dearly missed. Our prayers are with her family.



Tracy wrote her auto-biography for OCW a few year's ago. Let us take a moment to reflect on her words in honor of her memory.



I am from Harney County in Southeast Oregon. I moved to Harney County in 2006 along with my 11-year-old son and "significant other", Shaun Martin. I had spent the previous 15 years working in the Securities industry. I traded my suits and high heels for jeans and boots and joined Shaun in co-managing a 2,000 acre hay ranch. I learned what a wrench was, how to service pivots, drive tractor etc. and maintained the books. We purchased some land and moved Shaun's cattle here. In 2010 the owner of the ranch passed away and we had to move and find new jobs. We purchased a ranch which Shaun has developed into hay production and we run our cattle. In 2011 I purchased my current business, Payroll & Temp Services, Inc., which provides temporary employees as well as payroll and bookkeeping services. Shaun manages our ranch and works for the school district. We put up and sell alfalfa hay and feed the rest. Although my life has changed dramatically, and the stock market I watch now is a little different, it has been a journey I have enjoyed.

In 2010, I joined the Harney County Cattlewomen and currently serve as the Harney County Cattlewomen President. I became a member of the OCW in 2014 and served as the Budget Officer and Chair for the Beef Certificates, which I was recently re-elected to for 2015. I have really enjoyed working with both of these organizations. I have met a lot of wonderful people and had the opportunity to work on a number of events sponsored by our local organization. I am very excited about the focus and direction of the OCW in 2015. I look forward to working with a great group of Officers that are all committed to expanding communication and gaining support for the OCW.

Tracy, you will be missed. God bless you and your family.

### OREGON CATTLEWOMEN NEWS

Over the past several years I have met ranchers who are working through the various stages of estate and succession planning for their family ranch. Their hope is to have the ranch pass smoothly to the next generation when the time comes. They have told me of challenges and successes they've had and voiced their concerns about how this transition could potentially change their way of life. The beauty of family ranch succession plans is that all generations could potentially remain on the ranch. Succession doesn't equal life altering change but, it does help us prepare, plan and ensure that our ranch remains in our family. Our daily ranch work fills our time, builds our strength, and grows our hope for future generations. How then do we ensure that our estate planning will succeed? How do we know when our planning is done? Many of us think that we are ready. We believe that we have taken all of the steps necessary to pass our family's ranching legacy on to the next generation. My hope is that that we are right! I do ask myself what would happen to my family ranch if my generation were asked to take the reins tomorrow. That is when I realize we have much more to do. For ranches to successfully transition the family business to future generations, there needs to be a plan that everyone agrees to, stating each person's role in the succession. We need to know what is expected of us and be prepared to perform those duties. This is the touchy feely part that many of us take for granted. I encourage you to ask the hard questions, have the conversations and ensure that your family's plan is in place and ready to go. Thanksgiving is right around the corner! What a great time to sit the family down for a chat and a turkey (or roastbeef as we often have in our home)! You have a month to plan for a family meeting. Let's keep Oregon ranches growing!





The Beef Tent at the Oregon State Fair on August 26-27 was a huge success! Thank you to volunteers who talked to fairgoers about the importance of protein in a well-balanced diet, BBQ'd and handed out beef sliders, had bouncy cow round up races, and taught kids how to rope! Great job John O'Keeffe for getting a vegetarian to eat a beef slider! A special thanks to Country Natural Beef for donating 1,248 slider patties and to the Oregon Beef Council for the buns. We'll see YOU next year at the Beef Tent!



### OCW COMMITTEE NEWS

The *Oregon Collegiate CattleWomen* are gearing up for school, fall, football game tailgates and beef promotions. Our next **5k run/walk** will be held in conjunction with the Oregon Collegiate CattleWomen Saturday November 5<sup>th</sup>. To register, visit our webpage at [www.orcattlewomen.org](http://www.orcattlewomen.org).

**Membership** of OCW is growing. Is your son or daughter interested in advocating for beef? A junior membership to OCW is a great way to get them started! Register your young cattlemen with us today! Young consumers listen and learn a lot about beef from our ranch kids! Visit [www.orcattlewomen.org](http://www.orcattlewomen.org) to join today. Boys and girls are welcome!!

### STATEWIDE COUNTY CATTLEWOMEN NEWS

Since the beginning of the schoolyear, over \$12,000 in scholarships have been awarded by County CattleWomen to students majoring in agriculture. If you or someone you know is seeking a scholarship for college, keep the cattlemen in mind! County cattlemen organizations throughout Oregon raise funds each year to pass on to college bound students who are seeking degrees in agriculture! For more information, contact us today at [orcattlewomen@gmail.com](mailto:orcattlewomen@gmail.com).

### ***Upcoming Statewide Events***

- 5K Run **POWERED BY BEEF!!** Hosted by OCW and the Oregon Collegiate CattleWomen in Corvallis, November 5th.
- OCA/ OCW Annual Convention will be November 10-12 at the Riverhouse Bend Convention Center.

*Katharine Jackson, OCW President*

