

Betty Biellier & Family

Betty (Garbee) Bieller was born in Billings, Missouri, attended and graduated from Billings High School and attended Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, Missouri for two years.

Betty married Harold Biellier and had two children, Nancy and Wesley. Betty's children also worked in the NSSA Office for many years. The family's involvement with the office included being the "second check" in many of the registry steps. Betty held to the standard of excellence - when filing of the many, many cards that were a part of the registry process needed to be done, she insisted that the person who alphabetized or put the cards in numerical order NOT be the person who ultimately filed them. So, when the work was slow and especially when the office was busy, the family would be the 'other' worker.

Betty was hired as Secretary of the National Suffolk Sheep Association (NSSA) March 1, 1961 and served as Secretary until 1987. Prior to position with the NSSA, she had worked for the Yorkshire Hog Registry and was the office manager for the American Corriedale Association. She had also been Secretary of the National Society of Livestock Records

The NSSA office was located in Betty's home until to 1982. The office then moved to an office building in Columbia, Missouri in June of 1982.

Not only did Betty contribute to the supervision and organization of the NSSA Office, but was also active in sheep affiliated activities outside her day to day duties. Betty, along with NSSA President John Shonkwiler created and executed the first ever Ladies Lead Class at the International Livestock Exposition in Chicago. Today this event can be found from county fairs to national livestock expositions from coast to coast. Along with the Ladies Lead event, Betty was known to work with 4-H groups, particularly with sewing and wool apparel activities.

Betty was honored by the NSSA in 1999 for her distinguished service. Betty passed away in 2001 at the age of 79.