

People for Prairies 2022 Speaker

Working Lands



MARY E. DEL OLMO

President, Bartush Land and Cattle Co.

Mary has served her family's business, Bartush Land and Cattle Co. (BLCC), as president since 2017, overseeing operations on the 3,000-acre ranch. Focused on learning from the past but looking toward the future, BLCC has thrived since 1962. The company's mission is "To sustain the diversity of our natural resources while providing a unique enterprise for current and future generations." Over the years, operations moved from only agriculture to a three-enterprise business model of agriculture (cattle/pecans), recreation (hunt club), and hospitality (lodging/events).

In 2018, a fourth enterprise was added – conservation. Through an easement held by The Nature Conservancy and funded by programs of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Mary and her team solidified a solvent future for BLCC. The easement provides protection of the working lands and secures the land from development or division. Remaining focused on solvency and long-term sustainability, the company is exploring additional conservation easements and new enterprises.

Mary earned a clinical doctorate of physical therapy from Boston University in 2005. When she is not serving at BLCC, Mary works as a home health physical therapist, giving her the flexibility she needs to oversee the operations at the ranch. She spends her free time serving her local parish, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, volunteering as a medical missionary in Guatemala and Haiti, and riding horses.

From Mary E. Del Olmo