

# Bradley to be Inducted Into Portrait Gallery

Minnie Lou Bradley to be honored for impact on the livestock industry.

**M**innie Lou Bradley of Childress County, Texas, will be inducted into the Saddle & Sirloin Portrait Gallery Nov. 16 at the 41st annual North American International Livestock Exposition (NAILE) in Louisville, Ky. As part of the honor, her portrait will be painted and hung with others who have been similarly recognized.

Housed at the Kentucky Exposition Center, the portrait gallery serves as the livestock industry's hall of fame. The honor is bestowed by the Saddle & Sirloin Award Committee based on service to and impact on the livestock industry.

Minnie Lou Bradley is a rancher, a progressive land steward, a master breeder of purebred-Angus cattle, and a renowned livestock industry leader. She and her husband, Bill, purchased 3,300 acres in the Texas Panhandle in 1955 and began the Bradley 3 Ranch. Today the expanded 10,000-acre Bradley 3 Ranch continues under the management of daughter Mary Lou and son-in-law James Henderson.

Beginning in 1997, Bradley embarked on a land improvement program that began with brush and weed control and water management. Eventually, analysis of herd grazing habits using GPS information was implemented. The program of adding water sources, rotational grazing, and brush and weed reduction has resulted in significant ranch resiliency in the face of recent record droughts. Her ranch has been recognized as a model of stewardship by Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service and by Dow AgroSciences, among others.

Bradley has been honored as a Master Breeder by Oklahoma State University (OSU) and is one of the nation's Top 50 U.S. Beef Industry Leaders, according to *BEEF* magazine. Her Bradley 3 Ranch's DNA identification program, began in 1994, has made their Angus bulls highly sought

after by commercial producers looking for superior genetics with proven carcass merit. In 2013 the ranch was recognized by the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) as its Seedstock Producer of the Year.

Her lifelong habit of leadership began at



► Minnie Lou Bradley, former American Angus Association president, will be inducted into the Saddle & Sirloin Portrait Gallery Nov. 16 at the North American International Livestock Exposition in Louisville, Ky. The honor is bestowed by the Saddle & Sirloin Award Committee based on service to and impact on the livestock industry.

an early age. In 1949, she was the first woman to major in animal husbandry at Oklahoma A&M, and she earned her degree. She was the first woman to win high individual at the National Collegiate Livestock Judging Contest.

Bradley served as a board member of the American Angus Association from 1997 to 2003. She was elected vice president in November 2003 and became the first female president of the Association in November 2004.

## Presentation details

The Saddle & Sirloin Portrait Gallery is curated by the Kentucky State Fair Board and is displayed throughout the Kentucky Exposition Center in Louisville. The collection includes 350-plus oil paintings and dates back to the turn of the last century.

Noted artist Richard Halstead has been commissioned to paint Bradley's portrait. The presentation banquet is scheduled for 6 p.m. Nov. 16 in the South Wing Conference Center of the Kentucky Exposition Center. Banquet tickets may be purchased for \$60.

The Minnie Lou Bradley Nominating Committee has set a goal of raising \$80,000 to fund the expenses of the portrait and presentation festivities, and to establish the Minnie Lou Bradley Endowment Fund to provide scholarships for students at OSU.

For information on how to donate, visit the website or contact Clint Rusk, OSU Department of Animal Science, 101B Animal Science Building, Stillwater, OK 74078; [clint.rusk@okstate.edu](mailto:clint.rusk@okstate.edu); or 405-744-6062.

A room block for the nights of Nov. 14-17 has been reserved at the Crowne Plaza Louisville Airport Hotel in Louisville for guests attending the banquet. The room rate is \$133 per night, plus tax. Call 1-877-270-1303

for reservations and ask for the "Saddle and Sirloin" block.

The NAILE, hosted annually at the Kentucky Exposition Center, is scheduled for Nov. 9-21 in 2014. The Super-Point Roll of Victory (ROV) Angus Show will begin at 8 a.m. Nov. 18. The Junior Angus Heifer Show will be Sunday, Nov. 16. For more information on this year's NAILE, visit [www.livestockexpo.org](http://www.livestockexpo.org).

