

National Angus Bull Sale excels in new location.

Story & photo by Katy Holdener, American Angus Association

he 82nd Annual National Angus Bull Sale overcame the challenges of 2020 to bring an excited crowd to Oklahoma City. The renewed event commanded the attention of hundreds of visitors, both in-person and online, from across the nation.

Convened in conjunction with the inaugural Cattlemen's Congress due to cancellation of the 2021 National Western Stock Show, the change of scenery proved valuable for both buyers and sellers.

As the final bid rang through the sale arena, a total of 34 registered bulls grossed \$551,750 for an average of \$16,227, an increase from years prior.

The high-selling lot, Conley Verified 0853, sold for \$77,500. Consigned by Conley Cattle, Sulphur, Okla., the March 2020 bull was sired by Mill Brae Identified 4031. He was purchased by a group of breeders, including Ron Ferris, Greenfield, Ind.; Mark Dollar, Fort Collins, Colo.; Moriondo Farms, Mount Vernon, Mo.; McCurry Angus Ranch, Burrton, Kan.; Kevin Newman, Greenfield, Ind.; and Wheeler Farms, Paris, Mo.

The second high-selling lot, Wilks Guru 2035, was consigned by Wilks Ranch of Eastland, Texas. The January 2020 son of EXAR Guru 8719B was purchased for \$75,000 by Grimmius Cattle of Hanford, Calif.

Frey Angus Ranch of Granville, N.D., consigned the third highselling lot, FAR Cowboy Logic 0105. Genex Cooperative Inc., Shawano, Wis., purchased the January 2020 son of Frey's Cowboy Logic for \$55,000.

Grimmius purchased the fourth high-selling lot for \$38,000. EXAR Congress 9897B, an October 2019 son of Bar R Jet Black 5063, was consigned by Express Angus Ranches of Yukon, Okla.

The Angus Foundation Heifer Package donated by Benoit Angus led off the sale, garnering a \$35,000 donation to further the Angus Foundation's mission of youth, education and research (see page 162 for more details).

"We can't thank the folks here at the Cattlemen's Congress enough for what they've done, giving us an avenue and a location for us to have our sale," said Alex Tolbert, sale manager and Association regional manager.

"The breeders stepped up in a year of change, and they brought us quality cattle and bulls with broad market appeal."

The bulls consigned offered a

high caliber of both phenotype and genotype. Bulls were required to have a genomic profile and sold with enhanced genetic predictions.

Hosting the sale in a central part of the country attracted several new consignors and an influx of bidders and supporters at the inaugural Cattlemen's Congress.

"We saw a great turnout this year, and we hope to continue to build on the excitement for next year," said Tolbert. "The Angus breed has positioned itself to be a leader in the industry, and the bulls brought forth reinforced that last week in Oklahoma City."

The National Angus Bull Sale, the only sale managed by the American Angus Association, typically sets the tone for an optimistic year of Angus sales, and this year was no different. To view the full sale report and learn more about the National Angus Bull Sale, visit http://bit.ly/21bulls. l

Editor's note: Katy Holdener is digital communications manager for the American Angus Association.