Bidding the Future

Largest silent auction ever raises thousands for Angus youth.

Story & photos by Garrett Wilkerson

► Potential buyers survey the items offered at the 2003 Angus Foundation Silent Auction. Angus collectables and art pieces were displayed throughout the show.



▶ Bidders make offers on items donated by Angus supporters and 24 state junior associations. Buyers contributed more than \$7,000 to the Angus Foundation at this year's auction.

ore than \$7,000 was raised at the 2003 Angus Foundation Silent Auction, making it the most successful silent auction to date. Items for the auction were generously donated by many Angus supporters and 24 state junior Angus associations. The auction was conducted at the 2003 National Junior Angus Show (NJAS) July 13-19 in Louisville, Ky.

"We were overwhelmed with the large number of quality items we received for this year's auction," says Susan Rhode, director of communications and public relations for the American Angus Association and coordinator of the event. "Because all of the items in the auction are donated, every dollar we raise through this event directly benefits Angus youth, education and research."

Eighty-four items were donated this year. They varied in size from a hand-painted clock cabinet to Angus salt and pepper shakers. The bidding became competitive and intense in the closing stages of the auction, as crowds gathered to place their final bids.

The "Mists of Autumn" print, donated by Keith Evans, Saint Joseph, Mo., was the highest-selling item, going for \$440. Michael Terry, Sheridan, Ill., bought the signed Frank Murphy print.

The Illinois Junior Angus Association donated a "Grazing in the Grove" print, the highest-selling item donated by a state junior Angus association. John Grimes, Hillsboro, Ohio, purchased the print for \$390. The state association will receive \$100 from the Angus Foundation for donating the high-selling item.

The second-highest-selling item donated by a state junior association was a John Deere 4020 model toy tractor, which sold for \$360 to Kim Walters, Jonesborough, Tenn. The tractor was donated by the Oklahoma Junior Angus Association.

"In the past few years, state junior Angus associations have started to take a great deal of pride in the items they donate, making them specific to their state. These are the one-of-a-kind treasures that silent auction shoppers just love to buy," Rhode says.

The Angus Foundation was established in 1981 as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization to support Angus youth, education and research. To learn more about the Angus Foundation and the programs it supports, call the American Angus Association at (816) 383-5100 or visit www.angusfoundation.org.



Successful bidders pull out their checkbooks to "settle up" with Junior Activities Assistant Monica Jordan (right) after final bids are made.

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A special thanks to the following donors and buyers.

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