

The 70th National Red Poll Sale was one for the record books. After a short delay while the auctioneer made his way to the event, a large crowd gathered and bid vigorously on the great set of cattle on offer. There were many new breeders and local cattlemen in attendance, many looking to buy their first Red Polls and to join in on this growing breed.

The Sale topper in the bull division was easily, Parkstyle Rocky Scotty. This September 2013 son of Parkstyle Rocky and a cow from the powerful Parkstyle Linda cow family found many friends. This powerful herdsire prospect from Mike Parks and Family will headline the bull battery for the new Womelsdorf Red Poll herd of Dan and Rene Womelsdorf in Kansas. It took \$5000 for Dan and Rene to get him on their trailer that day. Other top bulls included Shuter's Amazon, a Feb 2013 bull consigned by Shuter Sunset Farms, selling to Gail Spegal and Family for \$3000, and WBH Omar L325 a Nov 2013 bull consigned by Wiese Farms, selling to Larry Creech for \$2900. 8 bulls sold for an average of \$2287.

The top female lot was a cow-calf pair consigned by Shuter Sunset Farms. The cow was a 2005 model cow that originated in the Nine West Oak Canyon herd. Her powerful May bull calf sired by Shuter's Fuzz and the fact that she was bred back the same way enticed Jeff Doll and Doll's Red Polls to bid \$2500 a piece, giving the pair a \$5000 valuation. The lone other cow in the sale was a 2011 born cow, originating in the Simpson Calhoun herd and consigned by Good Life Ranch and Geoff McPherson and was purchased for \$1900 by Dan and Rene Womelsdorf.

Womelsdorf swept the bred heifer offering to add to his growing herd in Kansas. Both the bred heifer offerings came from Stieber's Red Polls. Jackie's heifers were multiple generation Stieber breeding on the bottom side of the pedigree and were bred to his powerful herdsire, WBH Rocky BR123, whom he purchased from Wiese Farms. The breds brought \$2800 and \$3000 respectively to the volume buyers of the sale. The Womelsdorf Family is putting together quite a set of cows from across the country.

The bidding was very active on the open heifers. Robert Carson added another foundation animal to his growing herd in North Carolina with his purchase of the high selling open heifer, a January 2014 heifer calf consigned by Hill Top Farm. John Rager's calf was a Shuter's Thunderstruck out of his foundation Starletta cow family. She should mate well with Robert's high selling herdsire from last year's sale. Donald Fast grabbed the next two high selling haifer calves from Wiese Farms. Both of Bill and Brian's heifers were November 2014 heifers, sired by GS Bellringer and tracing to Jill's Daffie GR24, one of their great, proven cow lines. The Jackson Farms crew were involved in the other 3 notable open heifer's selling. They bid \$2900 to own one of the other Hill Top Farms offerings and their two open heifers sold for \$2800 and \$2600, selling to Larry Earls and Greg and Brian Fairchild, respectively. In total, 16 open heifers averaged \$2568.

Overall, the 2014 National Red Poll Sale was quite a success. Many new breeders were able to get involved and add new genetics to their herds. Some of the newest members of the Association came out and made quite a statement about where they think the future of the breed is headed. It's been a long time coming but maybe the word is starting to get out about how much this great breed of cattle has to offer the beef industry.