

2011 Spring Celebration Llama Sale – Highlights and Awards

This year the high selling female (\$7,800) was lot # 66, WLK PANERA, a bred female, out of GNLC Starbucks, born 28 Jan 2007. Panera was consigned by Mike & Janet Wilkins of Wilkins Livestock Ranch and purchased by Courtnee Benson of Sapaveco Ranches.

The high selling male (\$23,000) was lot # 10, GNLC STARBUCKS, sold by Mike & Janet Wilkins of Wilkins Livestock Ranch and purchased by Holly Russell of Happy Hiker Llamas. Male prices were soft irrespective of the quality of the males. Of the 6 males in the sale 4 sold and 2 were buy backs.

The “top 10” llamas averaged \$7,310. The 6 People’s Choice llamas averaged \$5,667. The overall sale average was \$2,805 (up 5 ½ % from the 2010 sale).

In 2011 there were 71 lots. Two were scratched (lot 52 and lot 60) and there were two substitutes (lot 13 and lot 50). There were 6 “no-sale” lots and 14 “buy backs”. Of these, 3 sold on a private-treaty basis after the sale.

All Celebration Sale purchasers received an engraved Kirschler knife with a rosewood handle as a thank you for their purchase. All female buyers were eligible to win an American Eagle 1 oz gold coin and all male buyers were eligible to win an American Eagle ½ oz. gold coin. Courtnee Benson won the 1 oz. gold coin and Holly Russell won the ½ oz. gold coin. Gary Nickel was the lucky winner of the hand-made quilt. Many door prizes were given away during the sale.

The “People’s Choice Awards” went to the following lots:

- *Lot 8 – Tapa’s Victory (owned by Dan & Marilyn Milton)—suri female under one year*
- *Lot 9 – Bitter Creek’s Black Eye Sue (owned by Dick & Kim Murphy)—silky/non-suri female over one year*
- *Lot 10 – GNLC Starbucks (owned by Mike & Janet Wilkins)—Male*
- *Lot 27 – Tapa’s Galaxy (owned by Dan & Marilyn Milton)—silky/non-suri female under one year*
- *Lot 40 – GNLC Ashia (owned by Steve & Sue Roling)—suri female over one year*
- *Lot 41 – Tapa’s Be Dazzled (owned by Dan & Marilyn Milton)—mother with cria by side*

The buyers of a people’s choice llama were awarded a ribbon and dinner for two (each also had a one-in-six chance of winning \$500). The drawing was held at the end of the sale and the lucky winners of the \$500 were Jim & Mary Nell Doyle (purchased lot # 40). The People’s Choice Awards were a hit--many thanks to Bob & Monte Houseman for sponsoring the People’s Choice Awards.

Premiums for the World Futurity were not as high as last year. \$40,950 was paid out to the “top-5” in 9 classes with first-place receiving \$1,650. The “top-10” in each class received an engraved curved glass picture frame. Thanks again to all of our futurity sponsors including a great pizza party during the World Futurity lunch break on Sunday.

This year’s small breeder award, the one who accumulated the highest point score in the World Futurity, went to Steve & Sandy Auld of Auld’s Luminous Llamas in Van Horne, Iowa.

On Friday, April 1st, in the Celebration Classic national level halter show there were 210 llamas entered. In the Walking Fleece/Fleece-On portion of the show there were 42 llamas entered. This show was sanctioned by both ALSA and the ILR-SD. For the price of a double show, an exhibitor could earn double-points and Grand/Reserve awards for ALSA as well as double-points and Grand/Reserve awards for the ILR-SD. This year the show finished on time so that everyone could get to the party at the Embassy Suites.

The Best of Show in the Gold Celebration Classic show was # 405, Fabiola, owned by Mark and Susan Smith. The Best of Show in the Silver Celebration Classic show was # 422, Notorius, owned by Margaret Fowler. The Best of Show in ILR-SD Fleece-On and the ALSA Walking Fleece was # 877 PVL Chilean Liquid Nitrogen owned by Larry & Barb Laux.

The best ranch display competition was won by Wil and Sherri Tallmon. They received a gift certificate for \$250 to be spent at Stevens Llama Tique.

Everyone enjoyed the party on Friday night with fun and great music by Mike Black and the Sting Rays. Thanks to all the sponsors that helped put the party on.