

Marianne Beran named 2007 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen



Miss Marianne Beran, representing the Burleson County Czech Heritage Society, was crowned the 2007 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen at the Texas pageant during the spring meeting of the Czech Heritage Society of Texas. Along with her Little Czech Sister Kellie Beran, they will proudly carry the title throughout the state.

The fifth annual Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant was hosted by the Burleson County Czech Heritage Society on April 21, 2007 at the Civic Center in

Caldwell, Texas. The contestants competed in four categories: Personal Interview by the Judges, Introduction and On-Stage Interview by the Pageant Master of Ceremonies, Kroj Modeling and Talent Competition.

The new Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen, Miss Marianne Beran, received the Talent Award and was named Miss Congeniality by the other contestants. Miss Beran performed a vocal solo in Czech to Ceska Pisnicka. The queen wore a traditional Moravian kroj that was handmade in Prague over 25 years ago. The newly crowned queen was awarded a tiara, bouquet of flowers, Czech crystal and various other prizes donated from the Czech Heritage Society of Texas and chapters across the state, and other individuals. The Czech Heritage Society of Texas awards a \$500 savings bond to the queen and the entry fee to compete in the national pageant. The new queen will represent Texas at the 21st Annual Miss Czech-Slovak USA Queen Pageant in Wilber, Nebraska on August 3-5, 2007 during the 46th Annual National Czech Festival Days.

Miss Marianne Beran is the daughter of Edward and Bernadette Beran of Caldwell, Texas and is a student at Texas A & M University. The 2007 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Little Czech Sister for the queen is Miss Kellie Beran, the daughter of Stephen and Susan Beran. Miss Beran received several gifts and Czech crystal items. Kellie wore a Czech kroj and participated in the events throughout the day with the queen.

Miss Lauren Wright, representing the Wharton County Czech Heritage Society, was named as the first runner-up. She was also presented with the Award for 'Personal Interview' and 'On-stage Introduction and Interview.' Lauren is a student at Texas A&M University and the daughter of Craig and Karen Wright of Rosenberg, Texas. Lauren's Little Czech Sister is Miss Maci Rubesh and she is the daughter of Bradley and Nikki Rubesh of Academy.

Miss Allison Sulak, the Miss McLennan-Hill Czech Heritage Society Queen, was named as the second runner-up and won the 'Kroj' competition. Allison is the daughter of Richard and Debbie Sulak of West, Texas. Allison was joined by her Little Czech Sister, Miss Rynda Maddox. Rynda is the daughter of Rick and Linda Maddox of West.

Miss Courtney Bates, representing the Harris County Czech Heritage Society, was named as the third runner-up. Courtney is a senior at Clearbrook High School and is the daughter of Laura and Roderick Bates. Her Little Czech Sister is Miss Sarah Wood and is the daughter of Randy and Crystal Wood.

Miss Marianne Beran, the 2007 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen was crowned by Miss Czech-Slovak USA Queen, Miss Sarah Middlebrook of West, Texas. Miss Middlebrook was awarded the 2006 McLennan-Hill Czech Heritage Society Queen title and was named the Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen in April 2006. She then went on to win the national title of Miss Czech-Slovak USA Queen in Wilber,

Nebraska in August of 2006. The Czech Heritage Society of Texas presented Miss Middlebrook with a lovely Bohemian Crystal Vase in appreciation of her outstanding service during the last year.

Master of Ceremonies for the queen pageant was Mr. Joe Janecka, President of the McLennan-Hill Czech Heritage Society. The pageant was opened with a traditional ceremony of the queens entering the room under a replica of Moravian lace canopy adorned with ribbons and flowers. The canopy was held by Miss Jana Vaculik, 2001 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak USA Queen, and Mrs. Kathy Podsednik, Texas Pageant Director.

The 2007 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Pageant Committee includes: Kathy Podsednik, Director; Janis Hrcir; Marjorie Matula; Helen Mikus and Evelyn Skopik. Pageant judges were Lee Colwell, Dorothy Bujnoch and Thaddeus Polasek. Pageant scores were audited by Tom and Joyce Krenek.

The Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Pageant is a non-profit pageant established to preserve the pride, culture and heritage traditions of Texas Czechs. The purpose of the queen pageant is to encourage youth involvement and to represent The Czech Heritage Society of Texas at various events throughout the state.

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