

CZECH HERITAGE SOCIETY OF TEXAS
State Membership Meeting
Chapter Report

Chapter Name: Brazos Valley

Report Given By: Andrew Juranek, Reporter

Date Prepared: May 29, 2015

Please record below your Chapter's past accomplishments, events, and activities since the last State Membership Meeting (i.e., from Spring meeting to Summer meeting; Summer meeting to Fall meeting; and Fall meeting to Spring meeting):

Spring 2015 Czech Language Class

The weekly spring Czech Language Class began on Monday, February 2, 2015 at the St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Activity Center [PAC]. The class meets from 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM each Monday and the course is taught by Tomas Pansky, originally from the Czech Republic.

The class is structured to accommodate both beginners and more advanced speakers of Czech. The class cost was \$35 for the semester and the classes concentrated on conversational Czech.

LISTOPAD

On February 26, 2015, The BVCHS, TAMU Libraries and Aggie Cinema presented LISTOPAD. LISTOPAD is a Czech film about 3 friends and the velvet revolution in the Czech Republic. Admission was free and the showing took place at the Memorial Student Center on the Texas A&M University campus. Jeffrey Brown, the film's producer, was on hand to offer commentary and answer questions about the film.

2015 Easter Baking Class

The class occurred on March 21, 2015 at the St. Joseph Catholic Church Parish Activity Center. The class provided a wonderful opportunity to learn how to make genuine Czech Kolache and Easter Bread. The class was taught by Mr. Stanislav Vitha.

April 2015 Chapter Meeting

On April 2, 2015 a chapter meeting took place at Cracker Barrel in Bryan. The focus of the meeting was the upcoming CHS Spring State Meeting and Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Pageant which will be hosted by the BVCHS.

BVCHS hosts 2015 CHS Spring State Meeting & Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Pageant

On April 25, 2015 the BVCHS hosted the CHS Spring State Meeting & 13th Annual Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant. The festivities occurred at the St. Joseph Parish Activity Center in Bryan, Texas. The day began with coffee and kolaches and the Opening Ceremonies occurred at 9:15 AM. There were multiple vendor booths and displays as well as the traveling library and approximately 80 items for bid in the silent action. A catered meal featuring baked pork chops, baked chicken, chicken noodle soup and all the trimmings was served. Entertainment was provided by Henry Machichek. The State Business Meeting took place highlighting the many events that took place since the Fall State Meeting and featured reports from all the state chapters. Jean and Waymond Davis were honored during the meeting for their many contributions to the society. In addition, two special donations were made during the meeting. Wharton County donated \$1,000 to the TCHCC Cultural Center. And Jo Ann Zaeske donated \$500 in total, \$250 to the traveling library and \$250 to the State Queen Pageant.

The highlight of the day was the 13th Annual Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen Pageant. It featured introductions and on-stage interviews, Kroj modeling and a talent competition. Christiana Gentry gave her farewell as the 2014 CHS Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen. Allison Sexton from McLennan-Hill County was named the 2015 Miss Texas Czech-Slovak Queen. Kate Kubacak was her Little Czech Sister. The first runner-up was Katie Lebman from Harris County. Rachel Morfey was her Little Czech Sister. And second runner-up was Kaylee Vargo from Lavaca County. Annika Brooks was her Little Czech Sister.

Over 160 people attended the event and a good time were had by all. The day adjourned at approximately 4:00 PM with the next State meeting allotted for July 2015 in Victoria, Texas.

May 2015 Chapter Meeting

The meeting occurred on May 21 at IHOP in Bryan, Texas. It included a wrap up of the April State meeting & Queen Pageant hosted by the BVCHS as well as other events that occurred this spring. In addition, the next meeting was moved up a couple of weeks and is now scheduled for Thursday, September 3.

Upcoming Events

- The next Chapter Meeting will take place on September 3, 2015
- The BVCHS Polka, Mass, Dinner and Dance will occur on October 11, 2015

For more information and to stay up to date on Chapter events, please visit the chapter web-site at bvchs.webnode.com.