



Prague Kolache Festival

1st Saturday in May- May 3, 2008
Prague, Oklahoma



PRESS RELEASE

48th Annual Kolache Festival Great Success

By: Sharon Maggard

A crowd estimated close to 30,000 was kept entertained all day at the 2007 Kolache Festival on Saturday, May 5.

The various venues of the festival, such as the grandstand, wine & gourmet tent, gospel stage, beer garden and food booths were packed for the festivities.

The 48th annual festival celebrated the community's Czech heritage and 105th birthday. Designated as an official Oklahoma Centennial event, it featured Judy Howard's OK Centennial Quilt Exhibit, the Oklahoma Centennial Calliope, as well as the theme *Celebrating 100 Years of Statehood*.

The overcast weather kept the temperature around 76 degrees with a high humidity in the 90% range. There were a few sprinkles before the parade, but the rain held off until 5:30 when a quick shower occurred.

A special opening ceremony at 10:35 a.m. featured the newly formed Prague Community Choir singing *Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'*, *My Country, 'tis of Thee*, and *America, the Beautiful*. The National Anthem was sung by Jerelyn Atchison, Lorene Cornelius and Becky Frost. The Czech National Anthem was sung by Joan Walters, Sandra Moore and Sharon Maggard. The Choir then concluded with *Oklahoma*, under the direction of Jerelyn Atchison and accompanied on piano by Trish Lenora. The Honor Guard for the opening ceremony was provided by Tinker Air Force Base and displayed the Oklahoma, Czech and American flags.

Royalty

A highlight of the day was the royalty crowning ceremony at 6:00 p.m. Paige Sullivan was crowned the 2007 Kolache Festival Queen, Sarah Snyder the Junior Queen, Kelsie Rohling Princess and Jacob Sestak Prince.

Paige is the 15-year-old daughter of Tracy and Jennifer Sullivan. First Runner-Up in the queen division is Cassidy Zimmerman, daughter of Pam Zimmerman and Rick Zimmerman. Second Runner-Up is Kaeley Wilson, 16-year-old daughter of Cindy and Jay Rogers and Scott and Miki Wilson. Paige also received the Best Talent and Costume awards as well as chosen the Crowd Pleaser winner by the audience at the pageant.

Jr. Queen Sarah Snyder is the daughter of Jesse and Gina Snyder. First Runner-Up is Madeline Hecker, 12-year-old daughter of Trey and Cecilia Hecker.



Prague Kolache Festival

1st Saturday in May- May 3, 2008
Prague, Oklahoma



PRESS RELEASE

Princess Kelsie Rohling is the 10-year-old daughter of Nicki Rohling and Kelly and Brenda Rohling. First Runner-Up is Krysta Brown, 10-year-old daughter of Carl and Paula Brown. Second Runner-Up is Samantha Pratkan, 9-year-old daughter of Josh and Carrie Pratkan.

Prince is Jacob Sestak, 9-year-old son of Ross and Krista Sestak.

Food & Wine Contest

The Food & Wine Contest was held at 9:30 a.m. at Park Pavilion #1. The Catholic Church won first place in the homemade Kolache contest. Second place went to Deloris Bradley and third place to Lavern Podest. There were eight entries.

Lavern Podest won first place in the homemade Bread contest with her light rye. Second place went to Deloris Bradley and third place to Carol Sedlacek.

Amber Holik Castle of Seminole won first place in the homemade Wine contest with her Concord grape wine. Second place went to Scott Reynolds of Meeker with his Vidol grape and Amber also won third place with her Merlot. There were 14 entries in the grape division.

In the wine contest for fruit or other ingredients, Amber Holik Castle won first place with her blackberry. Max Ricketts of Wellston took second place with his oak leaves wine and Amber won third place. There were 13 entries in this division.

Amber Holik Castle won Best of Show with her blackberry wine. She received a plaque and \$100.

Contest chairman Bob Marsh stated the wine entries this year were very unusual. "We want to give special recognition to Sandy Wood with her unique originality in wine making. She submitted a very good wine made from dried rose petals. Sandy also had wine made from dandelion and one from lavender." Amber Castle had a wine made from prickly pear cactus.

First place winners received a plaque and \$50 cash prize, with the other winners receiving plaques.

Parade

The parade was very entertaining and people lined Main Street as well as Jim Thorpe Boulevard to take in the sights. Owen Davis of Prague was Grand Marshall, honored for his thousands of kolaches he has made over the years at Prague Bakery. The many India Temple Shrine units are a great delight to the youngsters. Kelsey's Purpose group against child abuse and BACA (Bikers Against Child Abuse) were in the parade. Travis Burdine came back to his hometown with arena football team members



Prague Kolache Festival

1st Saturday in May- May 3, 2008
Prague, Oklahoma



PRESS RELEASE

the San Angelo Stampede Express. There was an 1888 bicycle ridden by Kyle Williams, car clubs, Blue Star Mothers thanking America's Veterans, and Girl Scout Daisy Troop #302 riding inside a pink and purple birthday cake decorated with white candles and the theme *Celebrating 100 Years of Statehood*. Closing out the parade were the Straka's Longhorn Steers.

All About Irish group won the first place and \$100 in the amateur class for Drill Teams.

Round-Up Club winners: 1st place- \$150, Wellston; 2nd place-\$100, Shawnee Veterans of Foreign Wars; 3rd place-\$75, Meeker.

Animal, miscellaneous winners, 1st place-\$100, Gene & Effie Walker of Meeker with their covered wagon pulled by mules Jack & Jill; 2nd place-\$75, Roger Straka of Harrah with his longhorn steers Oreo & T-Bone; 3rd place-\$50, Sam Hodges of Prague with his homemade horse-drawn buckboard.

Float Winners

Youth Division: 1st- \$250, Girl Scout Daisy group; 2nd- \$200, Irish Performers #54; 3rd place- \$150, Prague 4-H; 4th place- \$100, Prague Round-Up Club; 5th place- \$50, Paden Girl Scouts.

Adult Division: 1st place- \$250, Prague Lions Club; 2nd place- \$200, WFLA Lodge.

Commercial Division: 1st place- Trophy, Parkland Manor Care Center; 2nd place- Trophy, Vision Bank; 3rd place- Trophy, Prague Hospital.

Winning the Float Sweepstakes Trophy was Girl Scout Daisy troop.

Costume Winners

American Division

Infant to 24 months:

Boys- 1st Anthony Long, 2nd Jayden Mlynek.

Girls- 1st Natalie Opela, 2nd Kaylee Navrath, 3rd Kayla Auld.

2-3 year old Girls: 1st Lacey Moody, 2nd Kaylynn Heath, 3rd Mary Grace Lytle.

4-year-old Girls: 1st Julie Brydon, 2nd Sydney Winchester.

Traditional Division

Infant to 24 months:

Girls- 1st Jadyn Hightower, 2nd Erica Collins, 3rd Hayden Hobbs.

2-3 yrs. Girls- 1st Madison Terrell, 2nd Courtney Brydon, 3rd Courtney Ross.

4-year-old Girls- 1st Lilyana Sestak, 2nd Bailey Cindle.

American Division



Prague Kolache Festival

1st Saturday in May- May 3, 2008
Prague, Oklahoma



PRESS RELEASE

5-10 yr. old Boys- 1st Gavin Winchester.

5-7 yr. old Girls- 1st Abby Russell, 2nd Addison Auld.

8-10 yr. old Girls- 1st Courtney Lyon, 2nd Laura Newport.

19 & over Men- 1st Bryan Benson, 2nd Doug Brydon, 3rd Mike Matlock.

19 & over Women- 1st Tam Lankford, 2nd Collene Cleveland.

Traditional Division

5-10 yr. Boys- 1st Nathan Stastney, 2nd Trevor Ratcliff.

5-7 yr. Girls- 1st Mallori Reno, 2nd Britney Long, 3rd Emma Foster.

8-10 yr. Girls- 1st Morgan Dunsmore, 2nd Paige Baldrige, 3rd Nikki Murphy.

19 & over Women- 1st Marria Brydon, 2nd Becky Martin, 3rd Jennifer Sullivan.

Kolache Eating Contest

The Kolache Eating Contest was held after the queen crowning and right before the Polka Street Dance. Daniel Manning and Preston Fredrich won first place in the 9 and under division, Brandon McGinnis won the 10-13 year old division, Rayland Dozier won the 14-18 year old vision and Jeff Wiseman won the 19 and over age division.

Rules: Each contestant picked their favorite flavor kolache and the first one to eat the kolache then whistle into the microphone was the winner. Each winner got their choice of a t-shirt or cap at the souvenir booth.

Several hundred people enjoyed the Polka Street Dance with live music provided by Masopust Band. The various folk dances such as Annie in the Cabbage Patch, Flying Dutchman, schottische, 10-step polka, polkas and waltzes were enjoyed by the crowd. The fireworks at 10 p.m. were thrilling and concluded the full-day of celebration for the Prague community.