

Founding & Early History of DFW-Singapore Club

DFW-Singapore Club was conceived in the fall of 1989, and was officially launched with the election of EXCO in the spring of 1990, at an inauguration dinner held at the (then) Jade Palace Chinese restaurant at the junction of Walnut and Plano road.

Ken Liew was the first President and EXCO members include Susie Fan, Alan Koh, and Francis Ngoh. There were other members who have since either left Dallas or USA. Ping Wong, Alex Chan, Kam Chong and Henry Su are the first non-Singaporean club members.

The DFW-Singapore Club would not have been successful without the strong support of EDB Director Chek-Meng Tan who was then managing the EDB Dallas Regional office. He was instrumental in funding and supporting the filing of the club as a non-profit organization.

The first government cabinet minister the Club received in a semi-formal ceremony was the late Dr Tay Eng Soon of the Minister of State, Education. Dr Tay used to be the MC of the popular S&I (Science & Industry) Quiz competition among the various secondary schools in Singapore.

The first National Day lunch in 1990 was celebrated at the Ar Ciencel Chinese restaurant at Jupiter/Walnut. The current members still in the club who attended this event are Susie Fan, Henry Su, and Neil and July Croager. There may be others not listed.

The next National Day lunch in 1991 was held at the Kebab and Curry Indian restaurant on Walnut Hill Lane in Dallas.

The first Christmas party in 1991 was at Michelle and Wah Kit Lo's home. This was the first event that John and Linda Overrees attended.

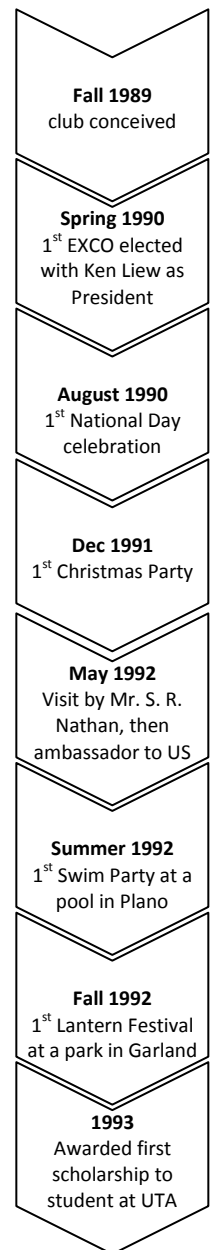
In 1992 The National Day lunch was in Wonton Restaurant in Irving.

In May of 1992, DFW-Singapore Club EXCO members were invited to an afternoon tea by the then Singapore Ambassador to the US, later President of the Republic, Mr Nathan when he visited Dallas. At this event, the Overrees, Chans, Croagers, Susie and the Executive Committee members were present.

The first summer swim party was at the Plano pool, with a BYOM BBQ before the pool party at the park.

The first autumn moon festival celebration by the Club was held at a park in Garland.

The first scholarship program was made possible by issuing raffle tickets at \$5 a piece donation. It was awarded to an UT-Arlington student in 1993.



-- written by July Croager

Do you have stories about the early days of the club to share? Please contact the Club's secretary.