

Spring Tri-Club History

In 1950, FM 1960 or Jack Rabbit Road as it was known then, was a two-lane paved asphalt street with open ditches. Interstate 45 had only two lanes and Aldine Westfield from FM 1960 to Spring was merely a dirt road. At that time Spring ISD consisted of one High School, one Jr. High and one Elementary School. All three were located on Spring Cypress Road and are now Salyers Elementary and The Wunsche School. There were only two buses for the entire district.

Being a small district the Ag Department did not have an adequate number of students to have a project show. Mr. L.C. Nagy, a local Dairy farmer, had an idea of combining the FFA, 4-H and FHA organizations together would provide enough participation to have a project show.

Mr. Nagy then called Avalt Meyer, John Nagy Jr., W.E. Murphy, Cliff Dozier, W.R. Booth, Bud Dueitt, Henry Theiss and many more community members and asked if they would be interested in helping. From that day forward, history was made.

The name Tri-Club was given to the organization to symbolize the merging of the three clubs to form one show for the Spring ISD known as the Tri-Club Show.

In April of 1951 the first Tri-Club Show was held on the L.C. Nagy farm located on Interstate 45. Mr. Nagy along with Mr. John Winship - Superintendent of SISD, Mr. L. E. Smith - Principal, Mr. Jacobson - Ag Teacher, Mr. Don Clinton - County Agent, Mr. Jewel Little - Assistant County Agent, Mr. Mason Briscoe - Assistant County Agent and Mrs. Doris Hartman - Homemaking Teacher organized the festivities. They included a Talent Show, Pet Show, Hay Ride, Queens Contest, Barbecue and the Project Show. The majority of the animals shown at the first show were donated to the students by Mr. Nagy and other local farmers. Mr. Nagy's vision for the calves was for the students to take an ol doggie calf and raise it to the very best of their ability. Therefore, the quality of animals did not compare to our current show today. However, the main purpose was to teach the students how to raise an animal, learn responsibility and showmanship.

Each year the show grew larger and an Ag/Show Barn was then built behind the Spring High School gym (now the Wunsche School). The yearly shows were held here until the football field was built. The show was then moved to the Bus Barn on Wunsche Loop (next to Salyers Elementary) and remained at this location until March 1982. On March 10, 1983 the first show was held at the L.C. Nagy Exhibition Pavilion located on Lemm Road I. The Tri-Club Show is still held at this location.

In 1958, the first Showbook was printed for the Show. Hieden Feed & Farm Supply and Bayer Lumber Company were two of the many Ad solicitors in the book and both still support the Show today.

In 1974 a logo was designed for the Tri-Club Show which consisted of a large Triangle with the emblem for each organization in each point. The triangle was green and the emblems were black and white. This logo was used on the cover of the Showbook each year. Dr. R. J. Hoyland III redesigned the logo in 1982 by adding the colors of the respected organizations behind their emblem and made triangles around each emblem inside the larger triangle. This logo remained until 1998 when it was changed back to a large triangle with the colored emblems at each point.

As time passed and the rural area began to change, the Tri-Club Show also began to change. The Talent Show, Pet Show, Queens Contest, Hayride and all night Barbecuing were discontinued. The girls and boys 4-H Club merged into the Spring 4-H Club. FFA and 4-H Club members were allowed to enter in the FHA Homemaking Division of the show, which has since become the Arts, Crafts, Visual Arts, Photography, Horticulture and Food Show. The Future Homemakers of America (FHA) organization became FHA Hero and in 1999 the name changed again to Family Careers and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA). The Tri-Club organization began awarding scholarships to those deserving graduating Seniors. A Silent Auction started for the Arts, Crafts, Visual Arts, Photography, Horticulture and Food Divisions. The Buyers luncheon is now catered on the show grounds before the Live Auction. The name of the show has changed from the Tri- Club Show to The Spring Tri-Club Show in 1974 and in May 2000, the name changed again to The Spring Tri-Club Livestock Show & Fair. Today the show is called the Spring Livestock Show & Fair.

Since the first show, the Spring Tri-Club organization has reached many levels and has maintained a quality of excellence in leadership. The success and growth of this organization and Show can only be attributed to dedicated Parents, Leaders, Community Support and students with a love for Agriculture and homemaking as it is today.