



# Feature Story

## VALENTINE'S DAY POTLUCK PARTIES

**The Dallas, TX (DFW area) Valentine's Potluck Party was a delightful gathering** of new friends, wonderful food, and great stories. We all met at Evergreen members Sherry & Dan's lovely home in McKinney, TX for this evening of food and fun. When standing in their spacious kitchen, you can see out onto the pastoral golf course setting behind their house. It was warm and inviting and we all immediately felt at home.

It was such a fun, festive occasion - and an excellent excuse to get together and bond with local Evergreeners in your area! **A big THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the Valentine's Day Potluck Parties!** The photos in this article are from the parties all across the nation! **There were parties in Orlando, FL, Dallas & Spring, TX, Atlanta, GA, Gordonsville, VA, and Boiling Springs, PN. What fun!**

This party / get-together was a great opportunity to build that sense of community between nearby Evergreen members. It's interesting to think that you might get to know Evergreeners way across the country, but you might not get to know the ones in your own town / city because you never need to stay with them!

And yet, **you really should get to know the Evergreeners in your area** because they already have some key things in common with you: they love travel, love meeting new people, and are friendly. With major qualities like that in common, you'll be fast friends.

At the Valentine's party in Dallas, Everyone talked like they were old friends, even though this was our first time meeting. The conversation flowed naturally, and it wasn't long before we were sharing stories of our travels and our favorite Evergreen stays.



**The group had such a good time, that we** started coming up with more activities that we could all do together locally. Maybe we should go check out the Fort Worth Stockyards, or go tour the Perot Museum in Downtown Dallas, or even something simple like meet up for dinner and a movie at one of those fun new theaters that serves dinner during your show. None of these things were all that fancy or elaborate, and would be easy enough to just plan and enjoy!

**One suggestion was** to go see/do the tourist things that no local ever sees or does in their town until someone visits. The responsible thing would be to go check out that attraction before dragging your visitor through uncharted territory. That way, when an out-of-towner does come to visit, you'll have a good sense of which activity would suit them and the occasion.

So with "learning the inside scoop" and a fun outing as the motives for visiting these places, the DFW Evergreen members aim to do some sightseeing in their own city. Hopefully that sort of thing came up at your local party. If not, start up an email chain with your local area Evergreeners and **start brainstorming fun activities you could do as an Evergreen group.** Evergreeners in any region could start doing this and are sure to have a lot of fun!

So if you've not had many requests from people across the country wanting to stay with you, maybe all you need to do is look right in your own backyard. **If there's not already an occasion, MAKE an occasion! Find a reason to get together.** Or maybe there's no reason at all, other than you'd like to swap travel stories over dinner! Sounds like fun, doesn't it?

**We'd love to hear feedback from the parties.**

If there was something that you learned, found you had in common with another member, a story that "wow-ed" you, or other fun memories from the party, we'd love to hear them. Email your stories to [kayleigh@evergreenclub.com](mailto:kayleigh@evergreenclub.com) and we'll aggregate them into another Feature Story and blog post, accessible on our website.

You can also see an expanded version of this Feature Story on our blog: [evergreenclub.com/blog](http://evergreenclub.com/blog).

It's fun to see how the Evergreen Bed & Breakfast Club has differentiated itself from other travel clubs. The Evergreen Club is more of a network of social seniors who happen to have their interactions while traveling at an unbelievably affordable rate. But that doesn't mean that you need to be on a big out-of-town trip to have these wonderful interactions. **Your new best friends could be right in your own backyard.** ▲ **Happy Travels, the Evergreen Club**

