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# The Korea Herald

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## Culinary ambassadors promote local delicacies



Members of Club Symposia and the diplomatic circuit enjoy a luncheon of fine Korean dining. Yoav Cerrato/The Korea Herald



There is no better way to start the New Year than to start it with the right food.

Club Symposia, or the ambassadors of Korean cuisine, held a special luncheon for foreign ambassadors to not only thank them for their participation last year but to also give them a taste of Korean dishes with the hopes they will help promote it back in their country.

Every couple of months the club gets together to listen to an ambassador explain his country's culinary treats, travel destinations and history.

In the process, the group of restaurateurs and food service professionals look to find ways to incorporate those dishes to their menus either permanently or through a food festival.

The results are generally very good. For some of the restaurants, introducing dishes from around the world has helped internationalize their menus.

Club members have also taken advantage of the information provided by ambassadors to spend their vacations in those countries. The result is they would come back with wonderful stories and cooking ideas that help the club's overall curiosity.

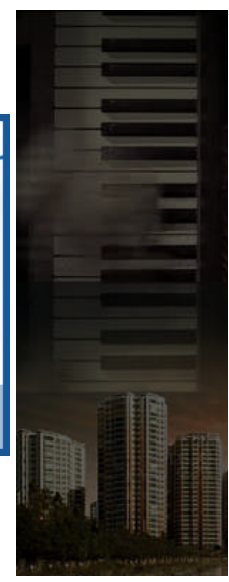
This time around Club Symposia wanted to offer the ambassadors a chance to taste some of the best Korean dishes found in Seoul.

Hosted at Hanilkwan in Apgujeong-dong, lunch consisted of Korean galbi that left everyone wanting more.

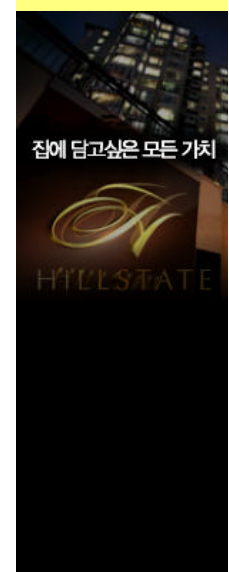
The Hanilkwan franchise has been treating guests to an authentic Korean meal since 1939 and has welcomed former presidents Lee Seung-man, Park Jung-hee and Roh Moo-hyun.

While the Apgujeong-dong location is one of the newer restaurants in the chain, the taste, smell and recipes have remained as famous as it was since the good ol' days.

To accompany the meal, not just any wine was chosen. With diplomats from South Africa, Peru and Guatemala, only a local wine would make the meal truly authentic and representative of Korean cuisine.



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During the pervious year the club has expanded its activities to include events for expats, English teachers and migrant workers – giving them a taste of real home cooked Korean country style meals made from the freshest ingredients.



This year will be no different from last year the organizers said. They plan to continue to learn about different countries' cuisines while at the same time promote Korean delicacies abroad.

By Yoav Cerralbo

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U.S. 'Green Code' signals opportunity for Korea

Similarities in Obama's environmental policies and Korea's 'Green New Deal' reflect changes in the global economy

The following is the 10th in a series of articles analyzing the political, security, economic and other aspects of Korea-U.S. relations under the Obama administration. – Ed.

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