

All-American Evening September 25, 2004

WE'RE BACK!! After a few years of "regrouping" the Fisher-Nightingale Houses, Inc. returned with an outstanding evening of fun, food, auctions, and entertainment. This successful event hosted over 150 people at the National Museum of the United States Air Force all to help raise funds for the day-to-day operations of the Fisher and Nightingale Houses.

The fun began with a silent auction chocked full of a great selection of art, jewelry, theater tickets, sporting items and much more. Quite a few bidding wars began over items such as a Patriotic Build-A-Bear and a stunning flag pin donated by Ann Hand. An exciting, fast-paced live auction followed featuring a gourmet dinner for eight by Wright-Patterson's Chef David, various collections of wines, and a Jack Daniels Oak Barrel made specially for Wright-Patterson AFB.

The highlight of the evening was a performance by Rhythm In Shoes. This outstanding troupe worked with our theme "All-American Evening" and produced a USO song and dance show that made you feel like you were a soldier during World War II. Everything from their costumes (which were very authentic) to their song and comedy routines gave you a sense of what it was like to be watching an old Vaudeville act. The troop was made up of a three-piece band, singers, dancers, jugglers and comedians. The small troupe entertained for 1-1/2 hours and left the crowd wishing for more.

Throughout the evening, guests were able to sample the marvelous food carefully prepared by Wright-Patterson's Club and Banquet Center. Served "bistro-style," this delicious gourmet meal allowed people to walk from station to station without losing sight of the close bidding that was going on nearby. Guests feasted on fresh seafood, lamb chops, wurst, carved meats, fruits and cheeses, and mouth-watering desserts. No one left hungry. To further their enjoyment, wine tasting was ongoing, made possible by the generosity of local wine distributors.

The planning committee of FNHI, headed by Kay Fryman, began working on a concept and date in early 2004. The committee was rounded out by Melissa Weaver, auction chair; Joani Reynold, menu chair; Diana Dickinson, entertainment chair; Chris Stanley, finance chair; Becky Feehan, publicity chair; Donna Rosenbaum, registration chair; and Lisette Clemmons, historian. Patty Roberts and Judy Watson co-chaired decorations and Margaret Pridotkas chaired correspondence. With all the dedicated volunteers, the work became fun as everyone worked together to make this a spectacular evening.

