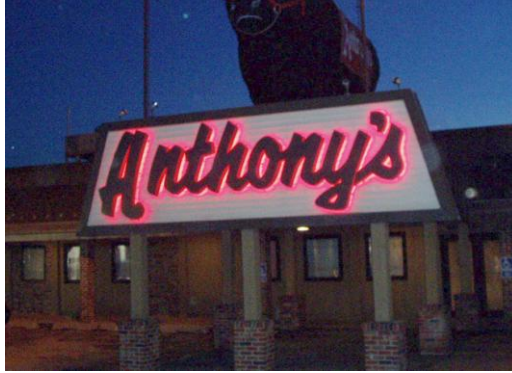


## THE ASSOCIATION HOSTS NEW 55<sup>TH</sup> WING COMMANDER

Keeping alive what is now an established tradition begun in 1997, members of the **Association** in the Offutt/Omaha community hosted **Colonel (BG-sel) John (Jack) Shanahan** on 19 May 2009, for dinner at Anthony's Steak House in south Omaha. He took command of the **55<sup>th</sup> Wing** at Offutt AFB, NE, on 24 April.



Seventeen gents met Col Shanahan for a social hour and the event opened with the ringing of the 55<sup>th</sup> Ceremonial Bell.



*LtCol Bill Jensen, John Tresmer, Col Shanahan*



*L to R: Robb Hoover, Col Shanahan, Arlen Howe, Harry Tull - ringy-dingy.*

President Jim Thomas welcomed Col Shanahan with some opening remarks that included noting that the assemblage represented nearly 250 accumulative years service with the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth*. Then the attendees did a round-robin of introductions of themselves.



*Seated, L to R: Larry Utley, Jim Thomas, Colonel Shanahan, Reg Urschler, Dennis Haun.  
Standing, L to R: LtCol Bill Jensen, Dick Purdum, Arlen Howe, LtCol Mike Kelly, Mike Cook, Don Kelly, Max Moore, Fred Schapker, Robb Hoover, Harry Tull, John Tresmer, Frank Hicks, Jim Maloney.*



Col Shanahan was presented with a copy of the book *We See All*, by Bruce Bailey, and Bill Burrow's book, *By Any Means Necessary* by Pres Thomas.

The colonel then wound up the convivial evening by expressing his appreciation for the service and dedication of the **55<sup>th</sup> SRW Association** and its members, the presentations, and for the hosted gathering. He said he was looking forward to a continued close relationship with the **Association** during his tenure as leader of the best wing in the Air Force.