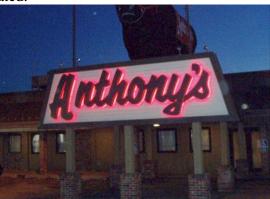# THE ASSOCIATION HOSTS NEW 55TH WING COMMANDER

Keeping alive what is now an established tradition begun in 1997, members of the **Association** in the Offutt/Omaha community hosted **Brigadier General Donald Bacon** on 22 March 2011, for dinner at Anthony's Steak House in south Omaha. He took command of the **55th Wing** at Offutt AFB, NE, on 9 March. He is the ninth new wing commander to be so treated.

Sixteen gents met BGen Bacon for a social hour and the event opened with the ringing of the 55th Ceremonial Bell, Robb Hoover assisting

Treasurer Michael Cook *(sitting in for an ailing Pres Jim Thomas)* welcomed BG Bacon with opening remarks that included noting that the assemblage represented over 250 accumulative years service with the *Fightin' Fifty-Fifth.* Then the attendees did a round-robin of introductions of themselves.

BG Bacon was presented with a copy of the book We See All, by Bruce Bailey.

After dining, the general then wound up the convivial evening by expressing his appreciation for the service and dedication of the **55th Wing 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. Having been assigned to the 55th for three previous tours, he said he was well aware of the **Association**'s contributions and fervor for supporting the Wing.

Lodge meeting pose: L to R, Front Row: Max Moore, Dick Purdum, Robb Hoover, Bill Ernst, Fred Schapker, BGen Bacon, Dennis Haun, Michael Cook, Frank Hicks.
Back Row, L to R: LtCol John Cooper, Dan Peterson, Don Kelly, Jim Maloney, Ham Kennedy, Dave "Tiny" Wolfe, John Tresmer, Major Andy Burroughs.

Major Andy Burroughs, chairman of the 55th Wing Birthday Ball committee attended and was presented with a check for $1000 from the Association to help pay for Ball seats for the lower ranking airmen of the Wing.