

OVER 230 GATHER AT *HOPE FOR HAITI*

By Tracy Bernhardt

The historic Wisconsin Club in Milwaukee, Wisconsin was the scene of ***Hope for Haiti***, the first-ever fundraising banquet to benefit Friends for Health in Haiti on Saturday, April 4th. Over 230 guests joined Founder and Director Dr. Catherine Wolf and members of the Board of Directors to celebrate the mission of Friends for Health in Haiti to improve health and change lives in Haiti.

Dr. Wolf addressed guests by first sharing a motivation behind her ministry in Haiti, "If you love the Lord, you love His people." She then described the firm foundation in medical work that the organization has already established in Gattineau, Haiti, and her hope to expand those efforts. The goal is to build an outpatient clinic building and a small staff house, followed by a maternity center as funds become available. Providing high quality primary health care and maternity services will significantly impact infant, child and maternal mortality in this area of Haiti.

The goal of the event was to raise awareness and financial support for the work of Friends for Health in Haiti. A committee of eight members came together last August and volunteered their time over several months to coordinate the first-ever banquet. All involved with the planning were thrilled at the outpouring of support for the event, resulting in attendance beyond expectation and net dollars raised of over \$33,000 for the organization.

Committee member Carla Von Roenn's comments reflected the excitement of the evening, "After months of planning and organizing it was very rewarding to have such great attendance at our first-time event and receive such positive feedback. It was a gratifying experience to know that I could help the people of Haiti in some way."



Dr. Wolf addresses guests



Committee member Jeanine Heuer, Board of Directors President Dr. Dale Heuer, speaker Dr. Mildred Olivier and Dr. Oswald Olivier



Members of the Rodrian Family getting ready to enjoy dinner

Hope for Haiti, continued...



Musicians from Ko-Thi Dance Company

The event featured the music of the Ko-Thi Dance Company, as well as a live and silent auction. The unique "Haitian Market" allowed guests to purchase a wide variety of original arts, crafts, and products straight from the markets of Port-au-Prince.

The event was a great success for the organization thanks in large part to the generous sponsorship of Dale and Jeanine Heuer, firstedge Solutions, Greg and Carla Von Roenn, the Blackwell Family, and Rogers Memorial Hospital, along with 13 table sponsors, 11 table captains, and many individuals who donated their time, talent, and treasure.

Arriving from rural Haiti only days before the event, Wolf later commented about the event "It was amazing to see all those people there and their excitement was humbling to me."

Check out www.FriendsForHealthInHaiti.org to view photos from the banquet and a PowerPoint presentation illustrating the needs of Haiti that preceded Dr. Wolf's talk. If you are interested in hosting a fundraiser for Friends For Health in Haiti in your area, please contact us at FriendsForHealth@gmail.com or (262) 227-9581.



Guests browse the Silent Auction and Haitian Market



The Mahn family and their guests enjoying the evening. Read Becca Mahn's article about her experience in Haiti on Page 4 of this newsletter.