Windrush to host Rural Life benefit

The Friends of the LSU Rural Life Museum will host "An Evening at Windrush," a progressive Southern supper, at 6:30 p.m. Friday.

An added attraction to this year's gala will be a tour of the home of John and Frances Monroe.

Open to the public for touring for the first time, the house, designed by noted architect Richard Koch in 1940, is an early copy of Louisiana French vernacular architecture.

The event will begin at Windrush, the Burden house, where guests will be welcomed by Southern-style music and enjoy "Miss Ollie's" champagne punch, cocktails and light hors d'oeuvres.

Carriage rides and 19th-century music will also be a part of the cocktail hour.

Traditional Southern fare, provided by White Oak Plantation, Chef John Folse & Company, will be served in the Museum Barn. Following dinner, guests will be invited to the plantation quarters, which will be lit with candles and flambeaux.

The LSU Gospel Choir will perform on the porch of the Overseer's house while desserts, coffee and cordials will be served in the old plantation kitchen.

Cost of the evening is $100 per person. All proceeds will be used for the newly formed children's Rural Life Apprentice Program and the ongoing Museum Building Fund.

For more information, call 765-2437.

Co-chairs for the event are Judy Garland and Noy McConnell.

From left, Noy McConnell, Frances and John Monroe, Melanie Boyce and Melanie Rabenhorst gather on the grounds of the Monroe's house. The home will be open for public touring for the first time in conjunction with 'An Evening at Windrush.'