

Aviation-themed cafe, event center 'moving forward'

By Heidi Fehring

Staff Writer

Craig Schiller's future aviation-inspired restaurant and event center is flying forward, with plans to be open by late fall.

Schiller's company, Flight Line Enterprise Ltd., is hoping to open the Flight Line Cafe and Event Center at the Anoka County Airport in Blaine with some financial help from a venture called SCOR, or small company offering registration. The company is able to sell shares of its common stock for a dollar each to anyone interested in participating.

"It's heading in the right direction," he said. "We're receiving more and more share purchases."

Schiller, who lives in Mounds View, is using SCOR as a means of financing because it's set up to help small companies raise working capital. Flight Line received a bank proposal to finance the facility, but the company cannot close on the proposal until about 25 percent of the budget, or \$925,000, is raised.

In comes SCOR, which allows the company to sell securities directly to the public without having to rely on

middlemen like brokerage firms. Schiller said the company has sold just under 10 percent of the goal amount, but they continue to receive requests for share purchases.

"We hope to finish fundraising by early April," he said. "Then we'll be able to move forward with construction."

Schiller, who has been working on the concept for two years, is now offering participants membership into the Prop Club, a sort of "VIP club" for those who make investments of at least \$5,000 (5,000 shares of stock).

"It's an incentive to purchase more shares of stock," he said. "They'll have the sort of benefits you might find at a VIP club."

Only 100 memberships will be offered because of design, space and logistics. Prop Club investors will receive such benefits as:

- The investor's name inscribed on a propeller displayed outside the center's main entrance.

- A 15 percent discount club membership card to receive discounts at the Flight Line Gift Shop and Cafe.

- VIP club table reservations with maximum seating of four at the restaurant.

- A desk set propeller-shaped letter opener inscribed "Prop Club Member."

The entire center, which will sit on the southwest corner of the airport, will be housed in a 50,000-square-foot building, accompanied by a 200,000-square-foot parking lot. It will include an aviation-themed restaurant seating up to 500 people with a possible outside deck and atrium.

An event center for up to 800 people is part of the concept, which can be used for corporate events, receptions and private banquets. A gift shop will offer more than 500 aviation-themed products, such as books, videos, models, toys and clothing.

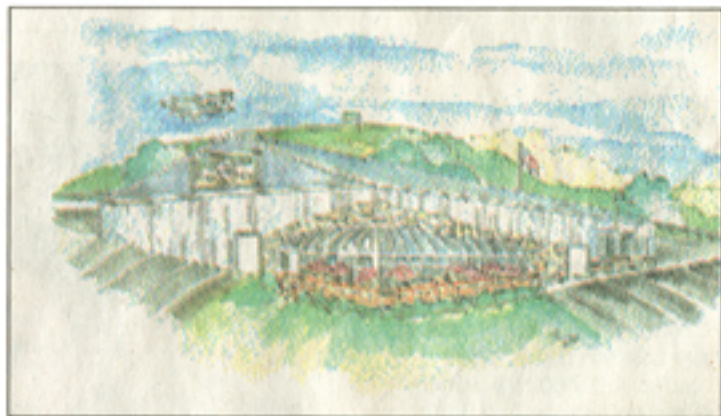
Schiller said Blaine's recent and future growth makes the area perfect for such a venture. Airplane devotees will now have a place to browse, eat and watch aircraft take off and land, he said. He has seven years of experience in the special events industry, as well as six years working at Greg Herrick's Golden Wings Museum in Anoka County Airport. He is also a licensed pilot who has been flying out of Anoka County Airport for 16 years.

Flight Line Cafe & Event Center

Flight Line's board of directors include former Lino Lakes mayor and longtime resident Harvey Karth, who serves as a consultant for the company. Karth served in the Aviation Battalion of the U.S. Army in the early 1960s, and has worked for Northwest Airlines, Anoka County Airport, the Polar Aviation Museum and the Golden Wings Museum.

The vision for the concept's site and layout have not changed, said Schiller. The company encourages interested parties to purchase shares by April so that construction may begin as soon as possible. A new Web site and updated artist's renderings will soon be available for viewing.

"Each day, we're continuing to get more requests," he said. "We're continuing to move forward, and hoping to finish fundraising by spring."



— Submitted art

Artist renderings of the proposed cafe at Flight Line Enterprises Ltd.

For more information on share purchasing, call Flight Line at 763-784-6400, or visit www.flightlineltd.com.

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