

New building donations near goal for additional funding

Anchorage, Alaska-(March 15, 2010)--Donations for a new building to replace the current Alaska Airmen's Association headquarters at Lake Hood are nearing a goal set by the groups board of directors.

"The board set a goal of \$200, 000 because that is the level that we would like to go for grant funding," said Dee Hanson, executive director of the Alaska Airmen's Association." We are close and have now raised \$192,000."

The new building will be 2,000 square foot single story building that will accommodate 100 people for meetings and events and its estimated cost is \$500,000.

The campaign for a new building was set in place after the Alaska Airmen's Association purchased property on Lake Hood (PALH) in 2006.

Currently the Airmen's headquarters is a 1,100 square foot building with no bathrooms or running water. Located on the southernmost tip of the commercial finger located right in the heart of Lake Hood Seaplane Base.

The new building will replace the old office headquarters which will be auctioned off before being removed from the property.

"We have the money in the bank and we also have commitments for in-kind contributions for services," Hanson said. "Although we are close to the goal we still need contributions."

While the campaign has been ongoing since 2006, Hanson said that she believes that donors have been waiting for the economy to return before committing to a cash donation, however, despite economic conditions members have come forward to offer their services. Generous offers of custom cabinets from Kodiak Cabinets, electrical services from Diamond Electric and hot-water heating units from Susitna Energy are a couple of examples of how members can contribute.

The Alaska Airmen's Association is a non-profit statewide organization with 2,000 members that serves aviators and aircraft owners from Ketchikan to Barrow.