

PIPER MEMORIAL AIRPORT 353 PROCTOR STREET LOCK HAVEN PA 17745

For Immediate Release:

Flight School Adds Private Pilot Training

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Lock Haven, PA, 1 January 2011 – The Sport Pilot flight school opened one year ago on the Piper Memorial Airport has expanded its offerings. Prof. H. Paul Shuch, chief flight instructor at AvSport of Lock Haven, recently developed a follow-on curriculum, allowing his graduates to continue their flight training toward the Private Pilot license. His "Next Step Up" add-on training module is designed along "two plus two" educational lines, ensuring that students continuing for higher ratings receive full credit for their previous Sport Pilot training.

Shuch, a retired college professor, worked for several decades at the interface between community colleges and state universities. "My specialty was designing curriculum to provide seamless transition from Associate degree to Baccalaureate level higher education," says Shuch. "It seemed logical to design AvSport's flight training curriculum along similar lines, with all training to meet Sport Pilot requirements articulated toward continuing on for higher ratings. Although not all Sport Pilots will choose to pursue Private Pilot skills and privileges, those who do so should not be penalized by having to duplicate prior training."

The Sport Pilot license is the newest portal of entry into the world of aviation, allowing prospective pilots to become licensed in half the time, and at half the cost, of the traditional Private Pilot license. Sport pilots fly for fun, and are restricted to flying simple, low performance aircraft that comply with the Light Sport rule. They are allowed to fly in uncongested airspace, during daylight hours, and only in good weather conditions. Sport Pilots desiring to expand those privileges can now receive additional training in electronic navigation, night flying, and instrument flight, to qualify for their Private Pilot licenses.

AvSport's program allows students to achieve their Sport Pilot rating for under \$3800 in aircraft rental and instructional costs. The additional training required for Private Pilot skills and privileges is priced at under \$3700. Recent legislation now permits veterans of military service to apply their GI Bill funding toward such flight training.

Piper Memorial Airport is the ancestral home to the legendary Piper Cub, arguably the world's first sport plane. Modern Light Sport aircraft allow pilots to recapture the bygone fly-for-fun Cub era, with increased reliability and improved safety.

DOWNLOADABLE PHOTO: http://www.avsport.org/photos/students/Jason+Art.jpg CAPTION: Newly licensed pilot Jason Brown (left, seen with designated pilot examiner Art Tarola upon completion of his Sport Pilot flight test) has become the first AvSport graduate to begin training toward his Private Pilot rating.