



**PIPER MEMORIAL AIRPORT
353 PROCTOR STREET
LOCK HAVEN PA 17745**

For Immediate Release:

Lock Haven Flight Instructor Receives FAA Safety Award

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Lock Haven, PA, 22 June 2011 – In a surprise presentation at the Sentimental Journey fly-in this afternoon, Piper Memorial Airport's resident flight instructor was presented with an Aviation Safety Award from the Federal Aviation Administration.

H. Paul Shuch, who in 2010 founded AvSport of Lock Haven, the local sport aviation training center, was pleased to see his colleague Kathleen Martin of the FAA Harrisburg Flight Standards District Office, in the audience at one of his fly-in seminars. He didn't find anything unusual about her request to address the pilots and mechanics in attendance, since as the local FAA Safety Team program manager, she often avails herself of such opportunities to promote aviation safety. Shuch was surprised, however, when Martin began to recite his professional background, emphasizing his thirty years of experience as a flight instructor, and more than 25 years as an FAA safety volunteer.

After summarizing Shuch's accomplishments, Martin presented the retired aerospace engineering professor with a handsome plaque citing his "exemplary support to the FAA Safety Team's goals and objectives by participating in safety activities ... which attests to this individual's dedication to aviation safety."

Ms. Martin then read a letter to Dr. Shuch from Regional FAAS Team Manager John Gagliardi, which stated, "We wish to thank you for your service as an Aviation Safety Representative. You have volunteered many hours and personal resources to promote aviation safety. We especially commend you for your contributions to the Light Sport aircraft program, which has had a long-term effect toward safety. Your efforts, devotion, and achievements in aviation safety will inspire others."

In addition to running his sport aviation flight school, Shuch is the volunteer FAA Safety Team Lead Representative for Lock Haven. Piper Memorial Airport is the ancestral home to the legendary Piper Cub, arguably the world's first sport plane. Modern Light Sport aircraft allow Sport Pilots to recapture the bygone fly-for-fun Cub era, with increased reliability and improved safety.

The Sport Pilot license, in which Shuch and AvSport specialize, 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.

DOWNLOADABLE PHOTO: <http://avsport.org/photos/CFIs/FAAaward.jpg>

CAPTION: FAA Safety Team manager Kathleen Martin (left) presents the FAAS Team Aviation Safety Award to Prof. H. Paul Shuch at the Sentimental Journey fly-in on the Piper Memorial Airport.