

PHOTO PROVIDED

AvSport of Lock Haven students, graduates, and instructors will be on hand during International Learn To Fly Day, to discuss their experiences with interested prospective pilots.

Touch the Sky on International Learn to Fly Day

LOCK HAVEN — The public is invited to learn how to fly during an International Learn to Fly Day event in Hangar One at Lock Haven's Piper Memorial Airport on May 19.

The event is sponsored by AvSport of Lock Haven.

International Learn to Fly Day was created by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) to invite people interested in the world of flight to discover more, by meeting local aviators, and discovering the initial steps toward living the dream of personal flight. Nearly 600,000 people from all walks of life in the U.S. are licensed pilots and millions more have dreamed of joining that group.

During AvSport's International Learn to Fly Day event, guests will discover more about how learning to fly is not as time-consuming or expensive as one might think. Pilots, students, flight instructors and aircraft owners will be available to discuss the possibilities and enjoyment available in aviation.

Free "Learn to Fly" booklets will be provided to all interested parties.

Festivities are scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. with a free public lecture, titled, "If You Can Drive, You Can Fly," by AvSport's Chief Flight Instructor Prof. H. Paul Shuch. This seminar will be followed by an opportunity to examine AvSport's primary Light Sport Trainer, a modern Evektor SportStar manufactured in the Czech Republic.

Throughout the afternoon, participants will have an opportunity to experience half-hour Discovery Flights for a modest fee. Food items will be on sale to benefit the

Sentimental Journey to Cub Haven fly-in.

AvSport was founded in January 2010 by Shuch, an Air Force veteran and retired aeronautical engineering professor who started flying in 1961, and has been a flight instructor for more than 30 years.

"I chose to start my flight school at Lock Haven," he explains, "because of the city's proud aviation tradition, the area's lovely terrain, and the airport's enthusiastic support of sport aviation."

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.