



Lock Haven Express

Clinton County Economic Partnership

Earn your wings at Piper Memorial Airport

PARTNERS - APRIL - MAY 2010 EDITION

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LOCK HAVEN – Earning your wings can be easier and faster than ever with the newly established AV Sport Flight School at Piper Memorial Airport.

On March 27, AV Sport Flight School officially opened for business.

The Federal Aviation Administration's new Sport Pilot to General Aviation has encouraged more and more flight enthusiasts to get into the air with half the training hours and half the cost of obtaining a traditional Private Pilot license.

Chief Flight Instructor of AV Sport, Professor H. Paul Shuch is excited for the opportunity to teach at a flight school.

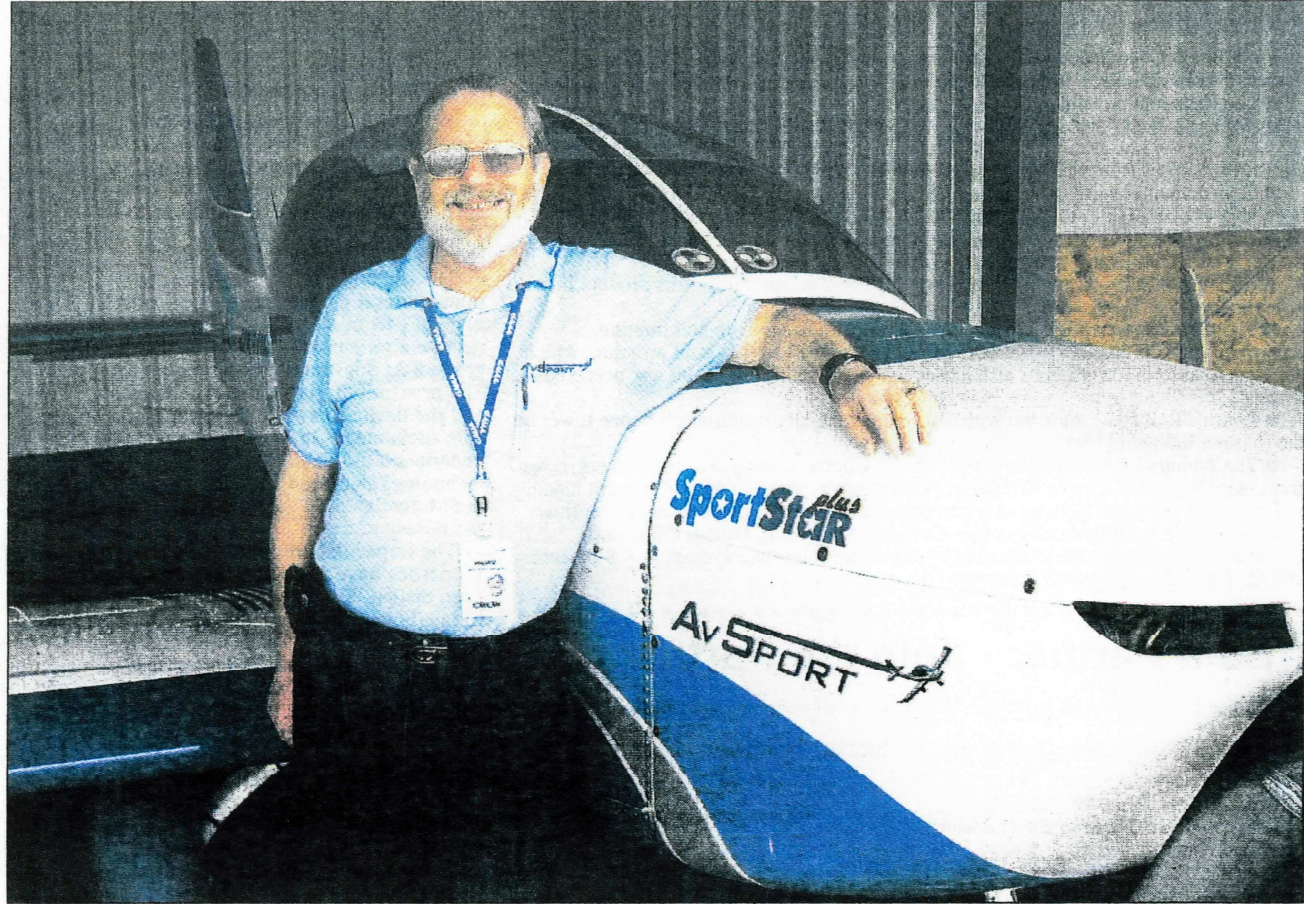
"Piper is really the perfect location to learn how to fly. It's not in an area where there is a lot of other air traffic and the size of the airport is perfect," Shuch said.

Shuch is an Air Force veteran, a former commercial pilot and a retired college professor. He has been flying planes of all sizes since 1961 and has over 37 years of teaching experience.

"I love flying, really it is my life. I've started a business before in California where I used to live and I'm really hopeful that this (AV Sport) will take off in the next year or so. There hasn't been a flight school in this area for a long time and there is a demand for it," he said.

Shuch is offering a "Rain or Shine" Pre-Solo Intensive flight course beginning April 26, which he has designed for people who would love to learn how to fly.

"It's a very intense course. Students will sign up and pay for three lessons a week. I only take four students at a time, so I can give them the personal attention needed. My priority is getting them to fly," Shuch said. "I really enjoy creating something out of nothing and I'm looking for-



RACHEL MAZZA/THE EXPRESS

Paul Schuch is the chief flight instructor at AV Sport Flight School at Piper Memorial Airport.

ward to meeting and working with the students."

According to the AV Sport Web site, lesson scheduling is firm – no cancellations, refunds, or rescheduling permitted. Each student is expected to show up for every scheduled lesson.

Each class will include an average of one hour of flight experience and two hours of individual ground tutorial instruction. Extensive study material will be provided. Students agree to attend every session, and to complete

homework assignments on all non-flying days.

"Dedication is required. It is something you have to be really serious about but after those three weeks students can enjoy their first solo flight," Shuch said.

For Graduates of the Rain or Shine course, Shuch offers an additional "Three More Weeks of Heaven" instruction for those interested in completing the requirements to obtain their Sport Pilot licence.

Sport Pilots fly simple, low-

cost Light Sport aircraft for personal recreation. According to FAA regulations, no medical exam is required but participants in the class, and licence hopefuls, must be at least 16 years old and possess a valid US driver's license along with other requirements available on the AV Sport website.

"If you can drive, you can fly," Shuch said.

For those interested in flight but who are not certain if the intensive three week lessons are

right for them, Shuch offers a "Taste of Freedom" introductory flight and "Gateway to the Sky" introductory lesson.

For more information on AV Sport Flight School, visit www.avsport.org or contact Paul Shuch at (570) 748-3725.

Shuch encourages anyone with a serious interest to give it a try. "Aviation enriches the soul and a Sport Pilot licence is an affordable way to experience that. AV Sport is trying to take people back to the days of the Piper Cub," he said.