

# Local flight instructor receives FAA Safety Team honor

LOCK HAVEN — Prof. H. Paul Shuch, the Federal Aviation Administration's volunteer Safety Team lead representative for Piper Memorial Airport, has been named FAA Safety Team Representative of the Year by the FAA Harrisburg district office.

The award was announced in a surprise presentation by Larry Dieffenbach, FAASTeam representative for Williamsport, at the October meeting of the Williamsport Regional Pilot's Association.

The General Aviation Award program, a cooperative effort between the FAA and aviation industry sponsors, recognizes outstanding individuals serving the FAASTeam as representatives. The awards highlight the important roles these individuals play in promoting aviation safety, education, and professionalism.

"Professor H. Paul Shuch is currently serving as the chief flight instructor for AvSport of Lock Haven," states the award citation. "His contributions to the safety program earned him the FAA Safety Team Representative of the Year... He has developed and delivered safety seminars in Williamsport, Lock Haven, Wellsboro, Lancaster, and Sebring, Fla. He has also presented online EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) Webinars. In addition to his many qualifications, he is qualified as a light sport repairman, Rotax certified engine technician, and flight instructor."

AvSport of Lock Haven was founded by Shuch in 2010 as a Sport Aviation



GEOFF KNAUTH PHOTO  
**Larry Dieffenbach, left, FAA Safety Team representative for Williamsport, presents H. Paul Shuch with the FAASTeam Representative of the Year plaque.**

flight school and maintenance shop. Shuch is 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.

"This unexpected award is a tribute not just to me," he said, "but to the fine pilots at Piper Memorial Airport, and their exceptional commitment to aviation safety."

Piper Memorial Airport is the ancestral home of the legendary Piper Cub, arguably the world's first sport plane.

AvSport trains future pilots in modern Light Sport aircraft, enabling its students to recapture the bygone fly-for-fun Cub era, with increased reliability and improved safety.