



PHOTO PROVIDED

Newly licensed pilot Jason Brown, left, shakes hands with designated pilot examiner Art Tarola upon completion of his Sport Pilot flight test. Brown is the first AvSport of Lock Haven graduate to begin training toward his private pilot rating.

Flight School adds private pilot training

LOCK HAVEN — 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 articu-

lated 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.

Recent legislation now permits veterans of military service to apply their GI Bill funding toward such flight training.