

Touch the sky in May at the International Learn to Fly Day

LOCK HAVEN — Have you always dreamed of becoming a pilot? Do you wonder what it takes, what it costs, and whether you have the Right Stuff? Find out on Saturday, May 21 at AvSport of Lock Haven, the Sport Pilot flight school operating on Lock Haven's Piper Memorial Airport, as it celebrates the sixth annual International Learn to Fly Day.

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 open house, guests will discover more about how learning to fly is not as time-consuming or expensive as you might think. Pilots, students, flight instructors, and aircraft owners will be on hand to discuss the possibilities and enjoyment available in aviation. Free "Learn to Fly" booklets will be provided to all interested parties.

The May 21 event in Lock Haven will be held at Hangar One on the North side of the historic Piper Memorial Airport, accessed via Water Street. Festivities are scheduled to begin at 10 AM with informal tours of the AvSport office and maintenance hangar, conducted by AvSport's chief flight instructor, Prof. H. Paul Shuch. Don't miss this opportunity to examine AvSport's new 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. Participants will also have a chance to try their hand at flying the school's Redbird Flight Simulator.

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