

“So, Jack, tell us a little about yourself.” When there is so much to say about the years that have been put into a lifetime, what are the important things to share? And thus begins the story of Jack Cooper, Phd, our member since 2017. We were given an interesting journey of the spider web of his life. It is important to note that Jack always found a pathway to a new door and was willing to do the work to get where he wanted to be. Some of those places were not even originally in his thoughts! And like some others that we have heard from in our club, the quest became the purpose. Briefly then, his recap looks like this. He joins the army at 17 years of age. He leaves at 19 and takes on an apprenticeship in the building trade, working his way up the ladder(figuratively). With this skillset, he ventures into railroad work where he encounters a US Army Railroad Battalion. (Side step here to intermix his military with building and railroad.) Next, (insert life change here) a major heartache happens at 35 years of age. (Reinvention needed) – so, he decides to get a degree in healthcare management. He graduates and gets a job in a psychiatric facility for 12 months to become the director of operations. Now, he needs a Masters, which he gets, along with open-heart surgery. (Insert new career here) – Now, Jack becomes an adjunct teacher at a local college. A job he thought he wouldn’t like becomes his new passion. So, what does he need next? Why, a PhD, of course. And six years later, he has it. This leads him to the next part of his life. Jack creates and teaches curriculum on nursing home healthcare for Alzheimer’s patients. His students are everything from professionals in related healthcare industries to ministers of education and healthcare in other countries. He even has an opportunity to work with Jane Goodall !!! Who knew that our quiet, free-spirited Jack had so much to share with us and the world around him? And, as a side note, Jack also told us that because he sold a rooster to a woman in a town near Atlanta, he became a Rotarian. I know it sounds crazy, but then, nothing Jack ever did seemed like a normal pathway. A rooster, a Rotarian, an RI convention in Atlanta, and finding a home in Inverness and in our club. Glad we have you!

Other News:

March 29- Six Club Social

April 5- Medical Sorting for Relief Share

April 17 – Connors Gives Back “Fun”draiser

April 26 – Founders Day Picnic

April 29 – Upward Bound

News of Note:

\*John Murphy indicated that the Brewfest will net @\$30,000. Special thanks to Lace, Lisa, Bonnie, Bruce and John for all their efforts to make this event a success.

\*Shirley Perregeux(Paul’s wife) was our guest of honor. She received a Paul Harris and flowers from the club. She also made a donation to the club foundation and brought the CART money collected at Grand Living (\$39.23). It was a pleasure to see her again.

\*Sisters Pat and Mary have completed their Fireside Chat and are moving closer to membership.

50/50 – Eddie Levin \$35

Happy/sad - \$214 (thanks to the donation from Lace for her 70th birthday celebration)

Here is a parting thought from a 7-year-old – “Love is what’s in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and just listen”.