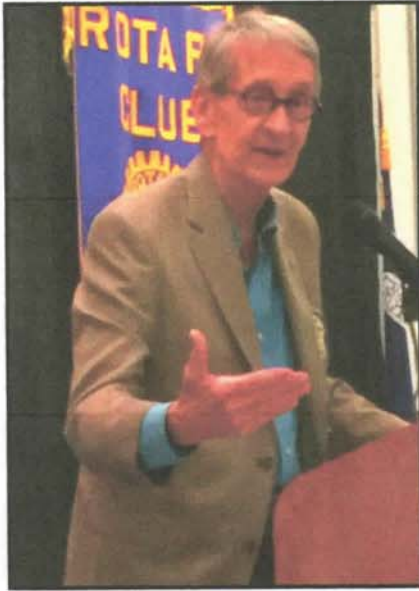


Membership Moment — Rotary Club of Shreveport



On Tuesday, October 20th, Club Director Jim Graves gave tribute to 55-year club member Rotarian **Joe Cooper**. Joe has been providing orientation training for our Red Badge members for so long that he has forgotten when he started. It has been since at least the 1980's because Joe remembers giving orientation to the first women to join the club, Virginia Shehee and Judy Williams. He says that being a teacher, mentor and guide to new members is his "most enjoyable role in Rotary." When Jim asked for a show of hands from those in the meeting who had received their orientation from Joe, most of the club members raised their hands.

Joe is a veteran of the U.S. Air Force, having flown WB-29s with the Typhoon Tamers out of Japan during the Korean War. He joined our club in December 1960 and was sponsored by Bob Manesco. At the time Joe was with White's Cleaners. He was Club President during the observance of the club's 60th anniversary, presiding over the award of our club's first Paul Harris Fellowship. He went on to serve as District Governor in 1979-1980.

Joe related the story that he was lamenting to Harold Denny (another Past District Governor) that no one would remember him after his District Governor year and people would just say "what's his name" when referring to him. Not long after that, Harold presented him with a paper weight name plate "Whatshisname" that Joe continues to use to this day.

After retiring from White's Cleaners, Joe began working for Goodwill Industries where he retired once again in 2015. Joe also retired from the Shreveport Symphony this year as he has played the violin with the Symphony for many years. He is not sitting idly by though; he is now tutoring for Literacy Volunteers at Centenary College.

Thank you for sharing Rotary with so many Rotarians, Joe!



Judy Bellew reporting.