

The first meeting of the new year was opened by President Bob Berry at 9:55 am with 48 members in attendance. Following welcoming all to the new year he introduced today's guests in attendance: Klaus Dorig and Tom Goettler. He also welcomed a new member who has joined the Club, Alan Bodin. There are currently 73 members in the Club.

Announcements

Activities – Ken Marchant

- Valentine's Day Dinner is scheduled for February 14, 2024 at Symposium Restaurant and the signup sheet is on the welcome table;
- The Christmas dinner was a great social event and dinner and was well attended;
- The performance of Jersey Boys is scheduled for April 13th at Drayton's Hamilton Theatre.

Warren Gregg:

- Announced that there is a brochure for a petition on "Do you want a national urban park, a Guelph?" The brochure is on the welcome table with QR Code directing you on how to vote.

President Bob Berry introduced today's presenter, member Dr. Ed Herold, on *My Career as a Professor of Human Sexuality*

Bio:

Dr. Ed Herold received his BA and MA at the University of Manitoba and his PhD in Sociology at Iowa State University. He broke the record in his department for receiving his PhD in less time than anyone else--two years.

In 1970 Ed was hired to join the Sociology Dept. at the University of Guelph. The following year he moved to the Department of Family Studies. He was at the UofG for 32 years.

In 1971 he introduced a course in Human Sexuality. This was one of the first courses in Human Sexuality to be taught at any university in Canada.

In 1976 he received a 3-year fellowship from the Canadian Government. This allowed him to introduce the only Conference on Human Sexuality in Canada. Ed was chair of this Conference for 15 years. The Conference continued for 42 years. His research leaves were spent at different Universities in Hawaii and Australia.

Ed has 80 articles and two books published. He has presented talks in several different countries. Because of his many research publications, Ed was named a Fellow of the Society for the Scientific Study of Human Sexuality.

Presentation

- In the 1970's people were still uncomfortable talking about sex including married couples who had difficulty in discussing sex with their children;
- There was one book being used at the time titled: *Everything I Always Wanted to Know About Sex* by David Reuben which represented what the times were like;
- A radio station announcer did an article titled: *The Day I Invented Sex* which got a lot of playback;
- Boys often talked about sex in a joking, non-serious manner;
- For professors in that time period there was much freedom to teach whatever they were interest in;

- Ed spent a year as a sociology professor and eventually he became the liaison between the Sociology Department and the Family Studies Department;
- He was encouraged to start a course on human sexuality by his department chair, who was to be a woman. As a result, this changed the outlook of the Home Economics Department;
- Sexuality is a lot more than comprehensive than just sex;
- The CTV was interested in this new approach being taught and did a segment on W5 on the topic of a human sexuality course being at the University of Guelph;
- Along the way Ed received a lot of teasing from his colleagues;
- At that time there were no texts on this subject and Ed had to take on developing one;
- At one point in his teaching the course he had the celebrity author, Xaviera Hollander, who wrote the book "The Happy Hooker" come to the university to address his students;
- In terms of Ed's teaching, he was not self-conscious and treated the subject seriously;
- About 90% of the students taking his course were female which he thought was unusual but he distanced himself from being taken advantage of in his grading;
- Students became comfortable about the topic and thought the course very relevant to their lives and careers. Some students radically changed their lives as result of taking this course. One student in particular after many years of graduation and having reached a point in her mid-life told him the course had profusely changed her life.

(As an aside, a member of the Club identified himself and said he was one of Ed's former students and how much he enjoyed Ed's course)

- Ed explained how his course was not taken seriously enough at first by one of his department chairs and he was denied tenure but the very next year with a change of department chairs he was immediately granted tenure;
- Times changed during Ed's time as a professor. At first professors were supposed to challenge their students but over time they were later encouraged to protect their students;
- Over the years accepted terminology changed in how genders and terms like "marriage" were changed to be less biased;
- Through contact with an announcer from the CBC, Ed initiated production of a 30-minute film on sexuality titled "*It couldn't Happen to Me*" on getting pregnant.
- He received a fellowship from the Government of Canada;
- The course he developed went on for 42 years.
- Ed's teaching resulted in him travelling all over the world doing conferences.
- Ed talked about how teaching methods changed over the years such as going from chalkboards to computers.
- Ed concluded that he always loved his job.

Ed responded to some questions from the membership before being thanked by President Bob Berry for his presentation which was well received.

Next Meeting: January 18th with Ed Mizzi on *Astronomy: Way Out There*
Adjournment @11:03 am

Recording Secretary: Kerry Gennings