

Equality for all in high school night courses



Ladies, could you replace your own muffler? Grease your ball joints, balance your wheels or replace your valve cover? Here in Georgetown women are learning that blowing a gasket is more than just losing their temper. They are being introduced to the parts of their own automobile at a Tuesday evening course in Auto Mechanics for Women, one of the many adult education classes offered at Georgetown District High School.

And since equality has found its way into the courses, men have crashed the female-oriented art of typing. Housewives and doctor, career women and factory workers, students and businessmen, are following the trend for more knowledge and registering in general interest and credit courses at the high school.

Enthusiased about her new interest, Math teacher Mary Carroll said she signed up for the auto mechanic's class because "I didn't want to sound dumb when I take my car to a garage. I want to sound like I know what I'm talking about." She says she finds it exciting learning what all the parts are for and how to fix them, but she adds, "I am beginning to feel like a doctor. I can sense when something's wrong even when it doesn't require attention. I'm constantly looking for things."

Mrs. Peggy Douglas, who lives in rural Georgetown, is dependant on her car. "It's good to know what's wrong with your car even if you can't fix it yourself. If you have an idea what's wrong before you go into a garage you know if certain repairs are necessary. You save the garage a lot of time, plus which you save yourself a lot of time and money."

She said the instructor, Bob Webster, gives them tips of all kinds on how to test. "But here they have all the equipment; voltage meters, wheel balancing equipment and a hydraulic hoist, and you couldn't do that at home, so you would still have to go to a garage."

NOT RESTRICTED

The mechanics course is not restricted to women. Several men are learning to doctor their cars along with the girls.

Time was when a beginner's typing class attracted aspiring female secretaries. And a woman taught the course. But Reg Harris, a Grade Nine typing instructor at DHS has found more and more boys and men enrolling in this popular course. "Machines are a part of our life now," he explained. "People find so many uses for typing other than secretarial. The students and businessmen find it handy for personal use, typing essays and reports."

Right up in the front row, amidst the ladies, an Air Canada employee, Don Scrase of Georgetown, is striving for a typing speed of 35 words a minute. "If I want to get anywhere in my job, I need the skill, because all the promotions such as Telex machines and reservation machines require typing."

Georgetown's new lady doctor, Dr. Harwant Wirk, is learning the fine art of furniture refinishing to add to her long line of outside interests and hobbies.

Mathematics instructor, John Moore, spends his Tuesday evenings teaching housewives, students career women and factory workers how to make beautiful music on the guitar for personal enjoyment and relaxation. There are other courses in dressmaking, designing, crocheting, welding, upholstery, art, oil painting, sports, french and yoga. The courses are all open to both sexes.

Whether you are looking for an outlet for your frustrations, seeking a promotion at work, or just looking for a new interest, the adult education classes has something for you.



EVEN THE TEACHERS don't know everything. Math teacher Mary Carroll signed up for the course so she wouldn't sound dumb when she took her car into the garage. She says "I'm beginning to feel like a doctor, I can sense when something's wrong and I'm always looking for things."

RYAN MARSHALL, Glen Williams, has joined the throngs who have returned to the classroom to pursue their creative interests. Oil painting is his latest but he says he prefers working with pencil, specially cartooning because he likes to create quickly. Oil painting takes too long, he says. Helping him is Penny Ridley, teacher of art and pottery.



TEACHER MARIA ADEMA assists Daisy Joseph in pattern drafting and dress design during the Tuesday evening adult education class.

DOROTHY CARLETON, of RR5 Georgetown applies stripper to the legs of a gate-leg table, in the furniture refinishing class at GDHS. Students participating in the class must provide their own stripper, sandpaper, brush and burlap.



MABEL AND CAROL Brownlow share an interest in popular class of furniture refinishing. Carol is repairing the corner of a coffee table while her mother works on an antique rocker.



ARC WELDING at night school is a credit course or a general interest course, depending on the student. Don Cascone, owner of Cliffview Contractors hopes to save money repairing his own machines, after he completes the course. The Herald's Celia Saxon gets a few hints while interviewing Mr. Cascone.