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“Euphemistically Speaking”

by  
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Think about it...going into February and playing golf like it was April or May... only in Florida. Just got a weather report from folks at home up north and it's in the sub-teens with flurries filling the air. Wednesday my regular foursome spent a fantastic afternoon at Nancy Lopez and the weather was absolutely beautiful. Unbelievable that we had already forgotten the coldest night in over four years... actually got down to the high 20's. All of us had dressed for a cold day but ended up looking like a traveling strip show, shedding jackets, then windbreakers and then the final layer of sweaters. A gorgeous day and I shot the best I had in 3 months.

We followed the round by asking our wives to join us for dinner at the N. Lopez Country Club. Wonderful facility with great food and, like the Glenview Country Club, Lopez has that old, elegant Country Club feel. Everyone's food was delicious and the wait staff so well trained it truly was an enjoyable experience for us all. What made it even more special was I asked our waiter his name and he told me he was "Todd from West Virginia." I asked him what part and he named a little town named Craigsville. I then asked him if he had knows the Veterinarian there and he replied, "He's my father." I had been the family insurance man back in my former life of insurance and financial planning. Todd's mom, Bev, now lives in the Villages and enjoys it very much. By the way, Bev, he gave me what was supposed to be your e-mail which didn't work when I sent something to you. Please e-mail me something so that I might have your e-mail in my records. Todd took great care of us... very professional and pleasant, you should be proud.

We hurried home after dinner and quickly dressed for the Lettermen show at Savannah Center. What a time that was... shades of the past. All those great songs made famous by this trio of super singers back in the 60s and 70s really brought back a bunch of sweet memories for Judy and I and the couple who was with us, John and Jean. They just don't write music like that anymore. It was a great show and if they should have a repeat appearance in the future you would be well served to attend. A full 1 ½ hours of great harmony and comedy await those who venture out to see them. Just in case your wondering only one of the gentlemen was part of the original three Lettermen but the sound is still the same. He and those who have joined him from time to time have been performing every year for the last 47 years.

How many out there are in the habit of using euphemisms on a regular basis? For those who have no clue, the definition for "Euphemism" is = "A word substituted for another word which is deemed less offensive than the word for which it is substituted." For instance, instead of calling me fat a better, less offensive word might be "portly." You get the point, right? Okay, I want to give

you an insight just how widespread the practice of using euphemisms is becoming. Everyone is doing it and most of you reading this article are most often referred to with a euphemism.... We're called seniors instead of Old People. WWII Germany was the expert of propaganda and euphemistic phrases calling the Holocaust the "Final Solution." Propaganda is now known as the "struggle for hearts and minds." Please allow me to share some more with you.

With all the political correctness in the world today the Government is probably one of the largest initiators of euphemistic phrases and words around. Did you know that "suicide" is now referred to as "self-injurious behavior incidents?" "Interrogations" of terrorist suspects are now known as "debriefings," and did you know that they no longer refer to those suffering from hunger any more as the "hungry" they are now participants in "food insecurity."

Of course, I've got some other euphemisms dealing with governmental areas of concern, but the following are equally as important to know so we won't offend anyone, especially my friends from WV. Us folk from West Virginia must no longer be referred to as "hillbillies" because to some it's demeaning... I would prefer to be known in the future as an "Appalachian American." And I'm getting darn tired of all you insensitive guys and gals out there who are constantly maligning ladies with blonde hair. Henceforth, understand this... no blonde shall anymore be categorized as a "dumb blonde," instead you shall refer to them as "a light-haired detour off the information superhighway."

If you have a mate guys that you say "nags" you all the time... you must change that phrase to say she is "verbally repetitive." Even ladies of the evening, a euphemism in and of itself, should no longer be called "two-bit hookers" but rather "low cost providers." And remember how you use to refer to some girl as having "been around?" Well, now when you speak of her you must say she is a "previously enjoyed companion."

Guys, don't think you get off the hook that easily... I've got three euphemistic phrases that will be applied to you who fit these categories. If someone tells you that you have a "beer gut" advise them you have just developed a tremendous "liquid grain storage facility." And to my dear wife and others who have accused me of getting lost while driving, please understand this... I was not lost I was "investigating alternative destination routes." For all you bald men, or women, out there take heart, there's one for you as well. You are not balding... you are in "follicle regression."

See you next week.