



THE NEWSLETTER

The PROBUS Club of Simcoe & District
Meets second Tuesday of each month at St. James United Church hall



MEETING NOTICE

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

10 a.m., Muriel Bridge Room, St. James United Church, Simcoe.

9:30 a.m., Book Exchange, Socializing and Coffee.

Guest Speaker

Lisa Geoffrey

Senior Support Services.

Review of March 12, 2019, meeting

President **Murray Uren** called the meeting to order at 10 a.m. and welcomed guests **Jim Daw**, **Tom Christianson** and **Dave Stone**. **Brian Cook** led us in our national anthem.

PROBUS business

President: **President Murray** reported that our financial situation is fine. In place of Who-Am-I talks, he encouraged members to speak about their hobbies, travels or other interesting topics.

Wellness: No reports of illness.

House: **Rick Middaugh** reported all is well.

Interested in a field trip?

Dick Pearson has tentatively arranged a tour of the brand new sewage treatment plant in Delhi. The date would be in late May.

At our April meeting, Dick will ask how many members and guests would be interested in taking part. He also will ask how many of the people going would have safety shoes. Safety shoes are not required.

areas. Regional police were disbanded in 1998. Since then, the OPP has policed all of the county.

Dave briefly recounted some highlights of crime, including:

- The Darling Jewelry Store robbery in Simcoe in 1883. A Pinkerton detective rounded up four robbers and recovered \$10,000 in stolen merchandise.
- The “Italian Riots” of 1884 in Port Rowan in which 150 workers threatened to burn the town if they weren’t paid their wages for helping to build a railway from Simcoe. The military was called in to maintain the peace. One military man was accidentally shot and killed by one of his own men.
- The mysterious 1893 death of **Benedict Boone Allen** on Long Point.
- The sensational 1908 shooting of a Simcoe constables by his own police chief. The chief shot the constable at night in Lynnwood Park in a failed attempt to prevent the constable from confessing that he and the chief had been breaking into town stores, stealing stuff and setting fires to cover their tracks.
- The wreck of the City of Dresden, a rum-running ship that broke up at Long Point in November 1922.
- And the Langton bank robberies of 1945 and 1950. The citizens who chased the 1950 robber were shot and killed. The robber was hanged at the Norfolk jail in what is now the children’s section of the Simcoe public library.

Dave paid tribute to several individual officers, who carried out tough jobs in small departments with few resources. They won respect with tact and physical strength.

For example, Simcoe police chief George Ashby could lift a coal shovel with a man standing on it.

Our thanks to Dave for filling in as our speaker at the last minute. **Dan Pearson** introduced Dave and **Murray Uren** thanked him.

Health advice challenged

PROBUS members **Nestor Rosa** and **Brian Cook** challenged some of the things said by our February speaker, Naturopathic Dr. **Stephen Maltais**. Nestor worked many years as a scientist at the tobacco research station in Delhi. Brian was the longtime head of the lab department at Norfolk General Hospital.

Nestor said genetically modified tomatoes don’t taste fishy. Tomatoes that contained flounder protein were withdrawn from the market in 1997.

Nestor said there is no difference in nutritional value between organic and inorganic food. Local fruits and vegetables have the advantage of being riper and tastier than products shipped from far away but there is no difference in nutrition.

Brian said studies show statins that fight cholesterol are valuable. He said studies also show vaccinations are valuable in preventing flu epidemics. Here is what Brian said: “Much of the logic used was flawed and obscure studies were used to try to prove a point. An example of faulty logic was used to show that cholesterol lowering statins have no value. While questions have been raised about the overuse of statins, they do appear to be useful in high risk populations. Studies also show vaccinations are valuable in preventing flu epidemics. People who say they have not taken the flu vaccine, but have not had the flu for 30 years, can thank those of us who taken the vaccine every year.”