



THE NEWSLETTER

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

CHICKEN FARM FIELD TRIP

Note special day and time!

THURSDAY, Sept. 5

Tom Vandertuin farm,
1157 Concession 13, Townsend,
East of Cockshutt Road.

Meet at St. James Church at 9:30 a.m to convoy to farm.

Tour at 10 a.m.

Directions from St. James Church:

1. Turn right on Stanley Street, going east.
 2. Cross Norfolk Street; go up the hill and continue east out of town.
 3. Cross Blueline Road; continue east to Cockshutt Road at Eising's garden centre.
 4. Turn left on Cockshutt Road; go north through Renton.
 5. Turn right on Concession 13 at Tyrell Baptist Church.
 5. Go to 1157 Concession 13 on the left.
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MEETING NOTICE

TUESDAY, Sept. 10

Guest speaker:

Const. Ed Sanchuk,
More scams for seniors.

Who Am I?

Tom Christiansen.

Lunch, 12:15

At Boston Pizza, Simcoe,
for PROBUS members, spouses and guests.
Order from the menu. Individual bills.

Review of July 9, 2019, meeting

President Murray Uren welcomed everyone. Guest **Scott Morris** is a former member. His father brought PROBUS to North America. President Murray congratulated member **Bruce Bowyer** and his wife, **Beatrice**, on their 50th wedding anniversary. **Keith Simpson** led us in our national anthem.

PROBUS business

- Program:** **Dan Pearson** has speakers arranged until the end of the year.
- Finances:** **Dave Montross** forecast a balance of \$300 to \$400 at the end of 2018-19. Dues of \$45 for 2019-20 are due in September.
- Special events:** **Dick Pearson** said a proposal to tour a county water treatment plant has been cancelled. **Dick** is seeking ideas for future events.
- Who Am I:** Gus Takacs said Tom Christiansen will speak on Sept. 10. **Frank Brock** will update his talk about the CFL in November.
- House:** **Rick Middaugh** reported all is well.
- Wellness:** **Gerald Sheppard** reported all are well.

President Murray said our June lunch at the Blue Elephant was a success with 13 attending. Members supported having lunch four times a year. Next lunch will be at Boston Pizza in Simcoe on Sept. 10, 12:15 p.m.

Guest speaker: David Judd on the 1979 tornado

Aug. 7, 1979, was truly a night to remember. A tornado made a path of destruction for more than 30 miles, killing two people and causing more than \$100 million in damage. The tornado, which swept from Woodstock to Vanessa and Waterford, was one of the worst in Canadian history.

David Judd presented 120 slides. He covered the 1979 tornado as a cub reporter at the weekly Nanticoke Times newspaper in Waterford. **David** recalled the hot, humid day and the cold front that passed through around supper time. Then the ominous, green-purple clouds that swirled across the sky north of Simcoe around 7:30 p.m.

David soon got a tip that a tornado had hit



House blown against a tree in Vanessa.



Alice Street in downtown Waterford is strewn

Waterford. At first skeptical, he found Waterford streets choked with downed trees and utility lines. People surveyed damaged buildings on downtown Alice and Main streets. A Camaro parked in front of stores had been crushed by falling bricks. Lumber had pierced the windshields of a pickup truck and a car.

The small farming community of Vanessa resembled a First World War battlefield with trees stripped of their branches by flying debris. The village church was seriously damaged. Hymn books were found three miles away. The **Dierick** family lost two houses, 50 new bulk kilns, barns, greenhouses and most of their 200 acres of tobacco. More than 300 structures were damaged or destroyed in Woodstock, Oxford County, Brant and Norfolk.



1974 Camaro was crushed by falling bricks.

The cleanup began next day. In Waterford, utilities were back on in a week and the downtown was soon tidied up. Fundraising and provincial grants generated \$12 million to help pay for uninsured claims. Dan Pearson introduced David and Murray Uren thanked him.

Farewell: Harold Shantz

Our condolences to the family of **Harold Shantz**. **Harold** passed away on Aug. 14 at Brantford General Hospital. He was 80 years old.

Harold is survived by his wife **Pamela**, son **Jesse Slade Shantz** and family.

Here is **Harold's** Who-Am-I from October 2013:

“**Harold Shantz** is a retired executive director of Norfolk General Hospital.

“The 74-year-old native of Waterloo Region is of Mennonite stock. His family's farm is now occupied by the University of Waterloo and the Laurel Creek Conservation Area.

“**Harold** attended a one-room school. He graduated from high school in 1957 and took a job with the Bank of Montreal.

“In 1961, he began three years as treasurer and financial officer at a hospital in the mountains of northern India.

“In 1967, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in economics from Wilfrid Laurier University. He then studied hospital administration at the University of Toronto.

“In 1977, he was appointed CEO of Norfolk General Hospital. He retired in 2000.

“His goal throughout more than two decades was maintaining NGH as a full-service hospital.

“He and his wife, **Pam**, have a son and two grandchildren.

“**Harold** was introduced to Rotary in India and has been a member for 40 years.

“He enjoys gardening, golf and travel and is famous for his homemade ice cream.”



Harold Shantz with canes from India and Burma.