



THE NEWSLETTER

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



Financial update, September 2020:

Simcoe and District Probus Club has enough money on hand to pay its national dues to Probus Canada for 2020-21.

A look back:

While our club takes a break from meetings, we have a chance to look back at an earlier meeting and a Who Am I. This month we look back at our meeting of September 2014.

Guest Speaker: George Araujo

George Araujo is the fifth general manager of the Norfolk County Fair. He took over the job from Karen Matthews in January this year. Previously, he had been facilities manager since 2003.

George and his family live in Port Dover. He is a former board member of the Lighthouse Festival Theatre. He is a business owner and professional singer. Before moving to Norfolk County, he was president of sports organizations in Mississauga.

His daughters were counting down the days to the fair, which this year was Oct. 7 to 13.

The fair started in 1840. At first, the fair moved around. In 1853 it rented land at South Drive and John Street in Simcoe. It bought the property in 1869. The fair has always focused on agriculture. Entertainment was added in 1915. In 1990, the fair added a new grandstand.

The fair averages 120,000 visitors a year. It is the fourth largest fair in Ontario and the largest outdoor horse show in Canada. The fair no longer has horse racing.

This year's fair will have 14,000 entries competing for \$120,000 in prizes. New this year was a Saturday party on the track at the grandstand.

The Norfolk County Agricultural Society owns the fairgrounds. Norfolk County owns the recreation centre. Planning is underway for the fair's 175th anniversary next year.

Bob Whitside introduced George. Dennis Banning thanked him.



**George Araujo, General Manager
of the Norfolk County Fair.**

Who-Am-I: Gerald Sheppard

Gerald Sheppard was born on April 10, 1947, at Norfolk General Hospital. He attended Potash Public School at Hay Creek, three kilometres from his home.

His father and uncle farmed 200 acres of corn, strawberries, flowers and other crops. Their specialty was Sheppard's peppers.

Gerald liked working in the greenhouse. At age 16, he was trucking produce to markets in Simcoe, Woodstock and Toronto.

His father was a reeve and deputy reeve in local politics. He became ill and gradually sold off the farm. Gerald left school and at age 17 worked briefly in Windsor. He returned home and worked for the Delhi Sanitary Dairy.

He married Judy Deming. They had a son in 1968 and a daughter in 1974.

Gerald worked many years for Caswell Dairy in Simcoe. He drove a truck for 14 hours a day delivering ice cream. Over the years, Caswell's was owned by international companies Beatrice Foods and Unilever Good Humor. These companies also owned the former J.B. Jackson company, which was — and still is — the largest ice cream factory in Canada.

Gerald helped close Caswell's on Norfolk Street North. After he fell off a roof, he became a data input person in charge of inventories.

He retired at age 61. He likes to golf. Gerald is a member of Trinity Anglican Church. He helps at the monthly lunches (first Thursday of each month, except October) at the Junior Farmers' building at the fairgrounds. His wife, Judy, was on the Norfolk County Fair board for 30 years. The Sheppards have four grandchildren.

Thank you, Gerald, for telling us your story.



Gerald Sheppard



Quality Cherd products at Caswell's included homogenized milk, 3% skim milk, chocolate milk, buttermilk, cottage cheese, sour cream, fruit juices and orange juice.

Some above average puns:

An invisible man married an invisible woman. The kids were nothing to look at either.

I didn't think the chiropractor would improve my posture. But I stand corrected.

I took my new girlfriend out on our first date to the ice rink, and entry was half price. She called me a cheap skate.

Studies show cows produce more milk when the farmer talks to them. It's a case of in one ear and out the udder.

I used to know a man with one leg who worked at a brewery. He was in charge of the hops.

My cross-eyed wife and I just got a divorce. I found out she was seeing someone on the side.

My wife claims I'm the cheapest person she's ever met. I'm not buying it.

Did you know that a raven has 17 rigid feathers called pinions, while a crow has only 16? The difference between a raven and a crow is just a matter of a pinion.

I told my carpenter I didn't want carpeted steps. He gave me a blank stair.

What did the surgeon say to the patient who insisted on closing up his own incision? Suture self.