

January 2021



DRY ROT

A composite image for a maritime radio course. The top half shows a close-up of a Raymarine electronic display on the left, showing speed (16), course (225), and other data. On the right, a woman in a red and black jacket is at the helm of a boat, looking at a handheld device. The background is a solid blue color with a large, faint compass rose graphic. At the bottom center, the CPS • ECP logo is displayed.

Maritime Radio Course

VHF RADIO COURSE

Thanks to Pat Faux, one of Hamilton's instructors, Hamilton Power and Sail Squadron is now offering the online Maritime Radio Self-Study course aka vhf radio course.

Go to www.cps-ecp.ca and highlight Courses and Seminars and click on Maritime Radio Self-Study. Scroll all the way down to Hamilton.

Tell your friends and family!

HOPE

The dictionary defines hope as a feeling of expectation and desire for a particular thing to happen.

Oh, how your education department has hope that we will be able to teach classroom courses sometime in 2021.

HISTORIC ONTARIO “OLD UPPER CANADA”

This, Upper Canada, sounds ancient to all of us, I believe. However, this free brochure by The Department of Travel and Publicity was distributed when The Honourable John P. Robarts was the Prime Minister of Ontario from 1961 to 1971. Its purpose was to add interest to the travels of Ontarians visiting our historical sites. This booklet brought a series of memories of boating trips Ron and I experienced; I hope you enjoy these facts.

What I came to realize, is we barely think of old historical events! But here we have the results of the past. We can, should, or may have experienced these truly boating havens in our lifetime. Better yet, perhaps one can in the future travel by vehicle or boat to witness the amazing series of locks and canals and enjoy the scenery and check out the towns, historical plaques and museums. My grade nine history teacher embedded these words into my memory, “The present is the result of the past. To understand the present, one must understand the past”.

The Trent Waterway Region

The Indians travelled from Lake Ontario near current day Trenton to Georgian Bay via the Trent and Severn Rivers and the chain of lakes in between those bodies of water. Explorer Samuel Champlain crossed Lake Simcoe in 1615. In 1833 attempts were made to construct a navigable canal linking Lake Ontario to Georgian Bay. The Trent and Otonabee Rivers had a few small locks before 1860. Log slides were constructed to aid in the boom of the lumber trade and the timber barons’ era. Early in the 20th century a canal was completed for small boats by means of locks from Trenton to the Severn. Did you know that two marine railways on the Severn completed navigation to Georgian Bay back then?

This 381 kilometer system of locks and canals in our era is a marvelous navigation wonder to be enjoyed by boaters from everywhere. The 45 locks and marine railway are a result of the foresight of our predecessors. Check out the Parks Canada website for all details including a photo of the current marine railway, amazing to traverse it! Remember, as well, the lock stations mostly have parking spaces to view from your own vehicle or picnic table. A National Historical Site, you may wish to add this to your vacation travels.

We have enjoyed many trips transiting the locks and have been the entire route a number of times.

The Rideau Canal Region

The British government financed the construction as a means of transportation between Upper and Lower Canada so as not to be as vulnerable to an attack by invaders to our country on the St. Lawrence River. The 126 miles of mostly wilderness took its toll on human life on the early Irish settlers due to a form of malaria in the swampy regions. Lieutenant-Colonel John By, for whom Bytown was named, oversaw the construction. Later the town was renamed Ottawa in 1855 and chosen as the capitol instead of Kingston, which was the capitol of Ontario from 1841 to 1844. Queen Victoria selected Ottawa as the capitol of Canada in 1857.

The 47 locks include 8 step locks in downtown Ottawa which you can see from the street; the famous skating rink in the frigid winters of Ontario is the world’s largest outdoor skating rink just steps away from the same 8 locks. Total distance is 202 kilometers with a series of dams and more step locks. Another National Historical treasure, this is worth exploring.

Once again, our boating adventures included this canal and waterway a number of times from end to end.

I hope you enjoyed this summary of our famous two canals and waterways. “The present is the result of the Past”.

P/R/C Marney Warby, [AP](#)

Halls Harbour Nova Scotia Winter Wonderland



Dry Rot Assembled by Ronald Warby, [AP](#)

Dry Rot Distributed by Peter Boothroyd, [AP](#)