



DriftWords

The Newsletter of the Big Rideau Lake Association (BRLA)
Serving the Rideau Since 1911 Poonamalie to Narrows Lock
Summer 2011

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From the Editor - Sue Van Slooten

Boating season is in full swing, with our flotilla fully launched and it's just a matter of which boat to use! It's also a good time to sharpen one's skills, and while many feel they already know how to handle a boat, some of our boaters may be new to the sport. Let me illustrate. I came from a powerboat background, but with the addition of a beautiful 7.5 meter Tanzer sloop to the fleet, it was, "uh oh time." I can heartily recommend the Canadian Yachting Association's Basic Keelboat Cruising Course, taught by the same folks who bring us our Sailing Camp every year. They do a really great job, you learn a lot, and yes, I did extremely well on the week long course. If sailing isn't for you there is always Power Squadron. If you haven't gotten your Boater's Card, I can assure you, you missed the boat. The new one is much, much harder, after having seen my fellow shipmates try to pass their exams. Another suggestion is take some First Aid courses, be it standard,

CPR, always good training to have. The Red Cross or St. John Ambulance offer a variety of courses.

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Canada Day Fireworks Photo by Christine Stinson

President's Pen - Toby Spry

I want to thank those who attended the Annual General Meeting on the 2nd July 2011. I appreciate the confidence the members showed in electing me as President and the slate of Directors of the Board. We will, together, work for the

betterment of the Association and the Big Rideau Lake. I and the Board committees will follow up on the suggestions from the floor and will have the Rideau Lakes Environmental Foundation look at the Fish Spawning project up at the Narrows Lock.

There are a number of upcoming events which I hope as many as possible of you will attend. The Annual Dinner dance on the 23rd July, Sailing Races at Cow Island, and the Annual Regatta in August to name a few. Please consult the website for details.

Please remember that the Lake belongs to everyone, whether a cottager, boater or weekend visitor. Let's all try to respect the lake, the shoreline and property.

Have a great summer and email me or the board with any concerns or suggestions.

Daniel (Toby) Spry
President
The Big Rideau Lake Association.

Save the Date!

2011 BRLA Events Calendar:

- BRLA Social Nights- Thursday nights in July @ 7PM on Cow Island.
- 2nd Annual Lake Dinner & Dance- Saturday July 23rd, 2011. Portland Community Hall- Tickets available for \$50/person call 613-272-3629 or see website.
- *Lecture on the History of the Rideau System- August 2011- Date TBA.
- Sailing School- Boom Sailing Camp- Dates TBA- See website for registration details.

- Sailing Races- Cow Island (Every 2nd Sunday in July & August) @ 11AM.
- Annual Family Aquatic Regatta- July 30th Cow Island- swimming and canoe races, BBQ.
- Shoreline Planting Seminar Hosted by the RLEF- Saturday, August 27th, Narrows Locks- see website for time.
- Volunteer Appreciation- Saturday, August 20th, Cow Island- see website for time.

Marine Safety Report - Toby Spry

Rideau Canal National Historic Site of Canada

Watch Your Wake

The Rideau Canal is one of the world's premiere waterways and an angler's paradise. It invites and attracts a wide variety of recreational users, from power boaters to sailors, canoeists, kayakers, swimmers and varied shoreline users.

We all wish to enjoy the Rideau in our own way and we all have a responsibility to ensure that others enjoy the waterway to its fullest. To accomplish this, we need your support.

Every person in charge of a vessel should operate the vessel and control its wake in a manner that does not endanger the safety of themselves or other boaters. Special consideration should be given to small vessels such as canoes and kayaks.

Our waterway is fragile, with wildlife and shoreline habitat exposed to the elements and man-made hazards. It is at risk without proper use and management by everyone, including property owners and boaters.

This brochure provides some information and tips to help us all gain the maximum enjoyment possible from the Rideau Canal.

Careless Operation - An offense under the Small Vessel Regulations that reads:

"No person shall operate a small vessel in a careless manner without due care and without reasonable consideration for other persons."

You are responsible for the cost of repair or restitution for damage and discomfort your boat causes to people, objects, wildlife and shoreline. Under the Contraventions Act, enforcement authorities can ticket offenders on the spot, instead of requiring them to appear in court. The fine for operating a vessel in a manner that endangers the safety of persons or property and

for failure to control wake resulting in danger to the safety of persons or property is \$200.

Speed Limits

There are two types of signs - the boundary markers (arrow signs) which identify the beginning and end of a speed zone, and speed limit signs (circles), which remind boaters to obey the speed limit while they are in the zone. Both types of signs are either posted on the shoreline, on structures, or are attached to floating white buoys adjacent to the navigation channel. Where posted, the speed limit is 10 km/hr (6 mph).

Financial Report Ending May 31, 2011 - Barb Keays

				2011-01
ASSETS	Current Assets			
	Chequing/Savings			
		Cash on hand	7,194	
		Manulife Saving	30,166	
	Total Chequing/Savings			37,360
	Other Current Assets			
		Inventory	1,257	
		Prepaid expense	2,428	
	Total Other Current Assets			3,685
	Total Current Assets			41,045
	Fixed Assets			
		Furniture & equipment	21,505	
	Total Fixed Assets			21,505
TOTAL ASSETS				62,550
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	Liabilities			

				2011-01
Current Liabilities				
Other Current Liabilities				
		Accrued	1,600	
		Deposit	905.76	
	Total Other Curr			2,506
	Total Current Liabilities			2,506
Total Liabilities				2,506
Equity				
	Opening Bal Equity			9,201
Reserves				
Restricted reserves				
		Cow Isl:	2,500	
		Environi	2,709	
		Special	14,700	
	Total Restricted			19,909
	Unrestricted res			8,275
	Total Reserves			28,184
	Retained Earnings			8,454
	Net Income			14,205
	Total Equity			60,044
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY				62,550

**From Grieg Bannerman:
Coast to Coast Walk, Part I**

This would have been an impressive feat in Canada, England is not quite so wide!

What has this got to do with the BRLA, I hear you all cry. Nothing, except our journey started in Frant, where Colonel By lived, and is buried.

We were a group of six, my wife Anne, her cousin-in-law Dan, our friends Dave, Lesley and Ann and myself. All except Ann have stayed with us on the Rideau, so that is another connection. This walk was pioneered by Alfred Wainwright, who lived in our Lake District.

I shall now give you a day by day account of our walk.

DAY 1- 19th May 2011.

We travelled from the beautiful village of Frant, by train, to Robin Hood's Bay, in Yorkshire, where we stayed prior to the walk. Dinner in the pub, with a few drinks to fortify ourselves. We slept in 'The Boathouse' B&B, we had the "Houdini" suite, and you had to be a contortionist to use the bathroom!

DAY 2- 20th May 2011.

Big fried breakfast, eggs, bacon, sausages, black pudding, fried bread etc., We needed it for the 16.9 miles to Glaisdale. But firstly to the beach where, traditionally, we all collected a pebble to carry with us. We only got lost once which was a bonus and it was a nice dry day. Coffee stop at Falling Foss Waterfall, very scenic. Arncliffe Arms very comfortable, good dinner and even more drinks. Games of pool and more drinks.

DAY3- 21st May 2011.

Not such a good breakfast, cold and greasy, and a long 19.5 miles to do today. But easy walking, a lot on a disused railway line. This is across moorland, very bleak and a strong wind in our faces. Stopped for lunch at The Lion Inn, which was a very welcome break. Tonight's B&B is off the beaten track and so the proprietor collected us. Very comfortable accommodation, with a bath for our aching limbs. Stuart drove us to the Buck Inn, for dinner, rack of lamb for me, washed down by several bottles of red wine.

DAY 4- 22nd May 2011.

Up for a really delicious breakfast, cooked in front of us by Judy, porridge too. Squally rain as Stuart dropped us back where we had stopped yesterday. 12.5 miles to Osmotherley with the first 3 being a steep climb, with a howling wind. Coffee and cake

in an isolated cafe, lots of stops to change in and out of wet weather gear. Made good time so had extra time for pre-dinner drinks in the charming village of Osmotherley. Great dinner in Golden Lion and back to the pub for a jazz evening.

DAY 5- 23rd May 2011.

All got up late, too much drink and jazz, all very quiet over our second rate breakfast. Weather forecast is really bad, 70/80MPH winds forecast.

Part II of Greig's adventure will be in the Fall edition of Driftwords, so stay tuned.

2nd Annual **Admiral Kingsmill Sailpast & Salute**

Sponsored by the Portland on the Rideau Historical Society, Rideau Lakes Legion Branch 231, the **Big Rideau Lake Association**, Portland Community Hall, Portland Outdoors and the Township of Rideau Lakes, the second annual Sailpast and Salute honoring Admiral Kingsmill will take place on Saturday, July 30, 2 pm at Hanna Park on the Big Rideau Lake shoreline of Portland village. Other demonstrations and events also from 11 am to 4 pm on site.

The BRLA and the public is invited to participate either with their boat in the afternoon's sailpast event or by coming to Hanna Park before the event to enjoy the historical display, live music by the Grindstone Cowboys, artisan displays/demonstrations, and corn on the cob and soft drinks supplied by the Girl Guides. It is a great place to bring a picnic lunch or to follow up the boat parade on the lake with a chicken barbecue (eat in or take out) from the nearby Portland Community Hall. Barbecue begins at 4:30 pm sharp. Be early as they may sell out fast.

The sailpast event will focus on:

- Recognizing Admiral Kingsmill's achievements

in founding the Royal Canadian Navy in 1910, his naval leadership for many years resulting in the installation of his historic plaque near Portland during the naval centennial celebrations last year, and his summer residency on Big Rideau Lake;

- Recognizing Portland's great local history;
- Recognizing Big Rideau Lake's fabulous opportunities for boating;
- Encouraging family fun ashore and on Big Rideau Lake.

Admiral Kingsmill was the founder of the Royal Canadian Navy in 1910 and his family summer residence was on Grindstone Island near Portland. Last year as part of the Canadian Navy centennial celebrations, a historic plaque commemorating his deeds was unveiled at his gravesite in the Anglican Cemetery near Portland where he was honored with much fanfare and recognition of his achievements by the site being made an official Ontario Heritage Site. A naval cadet squadron at Dows Lake, Ottawa, is also named after him.

The Admiral Kingsmill Sailpast and Salute will consist of a long line of a variety of local boats sailing past a dock at Hanna Park in Portland village where a stand-in and costumed Admiral Kingsmill will take the salute from the "Big Rideau Lake Fleet" as it passes. It is expected that many interesting antique, classic, power boats and sailboats from the area will take part in the sailpast. They will each dip their Canadian flag or salute in passing to commemorate Admiral Kingsmill's efforts for Canada, the Royal Canadian Navy and his local link with Portland.

The Admiral Kingsmill Sailpast and Salute on July 30 will take place starting at 2pm from the green channel buoy off Tower Island in Big Rideau Lake led by a designated boat and proceeding together in a line to Hanna Park in Portland Village. This

is a great opportunity for family fun on and off the water and to learn more about the exciting history of Admiral Kingsmill and Portland. All aspects of the sailpast on the lake are FREE (just bring your own boat!). The salute will be taken by Admiral Kingsmill from a dock at Hanna Park provided by Eastern Ontario Docks and Marine in Crosby.

Please note: the day's events [except for the chicken barbecue] are on a weather permitting basis.

The public may contact Buzz Boles at (613) 349-5435 or prhs@live.ca with any inquiries prior to the event. Also BRLA's Doug Good at dgood@xplornet.ca

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Admiral Kingsmill
Photographer Unknown

“We have a family cottage, so why should we send our child to Summer Camp?”

By Jeff Brown

July is fast approaching and decisions need to be made about how your child will spend their summer. Some parents want continued learning over the summer and others just want their kids to have fun!

Fortunately, there is a single destination that gets kids **outside** having fun in nature, while

teaching them lifelong skills: It is called Summer Camp! A bond with nature – par for the course for many youth a generation ago – is missing in the lives of many children today. Children need nature for the healthy development of their senses, and therefore, for learning and creativity. Summer camp puts technology to rest for a couple of weeks, “unplugging” kids and providing an outdoor playground without TV, computers, iPads, Game Boys, X-Box and other electronic past-times, many of which are available “at the cottage”.

Think about your child’s daily life: the hockey practices or ballet classes, soccer or gymnastics, piano or an after-school tutor to keep their grades up. Perhaps they head straight for the TV or computer when they return home each afternoon to unwind after a hard day of school.

Camp offers a break from that, and more, as experts say. “A kid-centric environment in which kids are encouraged to try new things and meet new people, camp also helps kids build social skills, explore their independence and improve their self-esteem,” says Dr. Stephen Fine, research chair for the Ontario Camps Association. “Teamwork, co-operation and negotiation are inherent to the camp experience,” Fine says. “Kids’ confidence levels and their ability to be in social situations increase.”

“Children today are often too sheltered, and camp offers an opportunity to escape that”, says Dr. Troy Glover. “There’s a fairly widespread recognition that parents today – and I’m one of them – tend to bubble-wrap their kids. Camp is an opportunity to elude that bubble-wrap and to let them explore who they are and what they can do”, Glover says.

Kids at camp learn to make their own decisions. Doing so without mom or dad’s help can add to their self-esteem and self-confidence, as well as help them develop risk-taking and conflict-resolution skills.

Since most camps involve an outdoor component and integrate physical activity, children may also benefit on a physical as well as a social level. “Those kids that participate in camp during the summer end up being more physically active throughout the year,” states Kelly Murumets, chief executive of ParticipAction. “It’s all-around physical literacy-kids learn skills and they have confidence in those skills that allows them to adopt more physically active lives.”

So, why overnight camp instead of the cottage? While cottages may give families a chance to spend time together, camp gives kids the opportunity to be around other children their age in a parent-free environment, often allowing

them to experience and master new things. Those skills – like swimming, tennis, water-skiing, canoeing or kayaking – may then make family outings to cottage more fulfilling.

For campers new to the shared group experience of cabin-life, strong friendships are often formed. These friendships can last a lifetime. Being around a campfire, being on a beach or at a lake, it allows for meaningful, deep discussions to emerge. Children return year after year to see their “camp friends.”

Kids are traditionally ready for overnight camp when they start to get involved in activities outside the home- playing baseball, basketball or attending Scouts or Guides and are starting to generate interest away from the family unit and seek some independence. Parental support of the camp experience is important as kids will pick up on parent’s fears and concerns about sending the child away for perhaps the first time.

Please see our website at www.campotterdale.com and/or come on over for a visit and see what all the fuss and fun is about!

NEWS FLASH!!

The Portland on the Rideau Historical Society [PRHS] has been leading an effort to have an Admiral Kingsmill commemorative plaque placed within the village of Portland, preferably on the Hanna Park property. The plaque would commemorate the Admiral's important service to Canada and his long time summer residence on Grindstone Island in Big Rideau Lake. The Kingsmill monument will consist of a naval mast-styled flagpole set into a granite boulder base. The boulder will have placed on it a commemorative all weather plaque containing the Admiral Kingsmill history. The flagpole will bear the Canadian flag.

The Township of Rideau Lakes, through a recommendation from the Municipal Heritage Advisory Committee responding to an application by the PRHS, has recently granted \$500 as seed money for the Kingsmill commemorative plaque. The PRHS has recently contributed another \$200 towards a targeted \$5000.

The PRHS is soliciting additional donations towards the Portland village Admiral Kingsmill monument. If you would like to make a donation to help in funding this effort please contact the

PRHS at prhs@live.ca or 613-349-5435 OR you may contribute at the Admiral Kingsmill Sailpast and Salute on July 30 at Hanna Park in Portland.

More Notes from your Editor: Sue Van Slooten

I've been asked by our board to pass on the info that boats without licenses are subject to a \$250.00 fine, and they are checking.

Also, don't forget about our 2nd Annual Dinner Dance on July 23. It's a great event, lots of fun, and a wonderful chance to meet your neighbours and other BRLA members. Tickets are available online.

HELPFUL NEW HANDBOOK TO PROTECT ERODING SHORES

A new handbook is available to help landowners protect their shorelines. The *Solutions for Shoreline Erosion Handbook* goes beyond the traditional approaches to reduce erosion such as riprap or seawalls; it highlights options that use natural materials. Great for lakes, rivers, streams, creeks and drains across Eastern Ontario, the booklet shows different methods for different sites based on slopes, soils and space. It outlines the advantages and disadvantages of each method and includes contact information for agencies where permits and/or approvals might be necessary before starting a project. Erosion is a natural process, but it can be accelerated by human activity like the removal of shoreline vegetation or excessive boat wake. Natural vegetation along our shorelines plays a crucial role in preventing soil erosion, protecting water quality and preserving the ecological balance of aquatic environments. Without a healthy vegetated buffer, shorelines have reduced resistance against erosion. This handbook guides people on how to bring buffers back to their shore and fight erosion — naturally!

Hats off to the conservation team that pulled this handbook together: Cataraqui Conservation Authority, Mississippi Valley Conservation, Ontario Ministry of Natural

Resources (Kemptville District), Quinte Conservation, Raisin Region Conservation Authority, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority and South Nation Conservation.

To get your free copy and other resource management information, contact the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority's Resource Specialists at 613-692-3571 or 1-800-267-3504 ext. 1128 or 1132. You can also visit our office at 3889 Rideau Valley Drive in Manotick or download a copy from the RVCA's website at www.rvca.ca — look under "What's New."

For more information, contact:
Jennifer Lamoureux
RVCA Aquatic and Fish Habitat Biologist
613-692-3571 ext. 1108
jennifer.lamoureux@rvca.ca



Photo Courtesy of Conrad Watters

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We have space available if you wish to purchase 1/8, 1/4, 1/2, or whole page advertisements. We also now offer line ads. Please call Sue Van Slooten at 613-284-1053 for rates.

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Camp Otterdale ENJOYMENT • 2011
Celebrating our 50th year of Camping 1951-2011

NEW! Day Camp for Children 6 to 12 Years

SESSION DATES:	
☐ AUGUST 15 - 19 Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:30 Daily Cost: \$200 + GST = \$226.00	☐ AUGUST 22 - 26 Monday - Friday 9:00 am - 4:30 Daily Cost: \$200 + GST = \$226.00

2011 Day camp for children 6 to 12 years at Camp Otterdale

WHEN: Monday to Friday 15 to 19 August & Monday to Friday 22 to 26 August

TIME: 9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Lunch and a snack included

COST: \$200.00 plus GST \$26.00 for total of \$226.00

This program will be facilitated by Camp Otterdale counselling staff and will be run on-site with Red Cross swimming lessons and a dozen land and water activities.

Lunch will be a fun-filled experience eating with the general camp population in our beautiful Dining Hall, complete with sing-songs.

Activities

- Archery
- Tennis
- Kayaking
- Canoeing
- Climbing
- Arts and Crafts
- Floor hockey
- Swimming lessons
- Basketball
- Nature Field Games
- The Farm
- Garden Biking

The 2011 Day Camp Registration form is now available
Or, please contact Sue Brown at Camp Otterdale : Phone 613 284-2700
or by email at campotterdale@sympatico.ca
Parents will be required to drop off and pick up their children at Camp Otterdale.

LEN'S COVE MARINA'S
WAKEBOARD & WATERSKI
DAY CAMP July 25th - August 11th
9 am - 2pm

\$100 per Day!
OR :

\$270 Three day pass (plus free LCM Wake Dept. Tank Top!)

\$450 Five day pass (plus free Tank & \$25 LCM Gift Certificate!)

\$600 Seven day pass (plus free Tank & \$50 Gift Certificate!)

* 6 Spots Available per day (first come, first serve!)

* Two 20 minute sots guaranteed minimum + dry land training.

Open to all ages, beginner to advanced levels!
visit www.lenscove.com for registration
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