

**Follow along with us as we cruise onboard our
56' Ocean Yacht.**

Somewhere on the Water

Our Great Loop

Anchorage in Martini Bay, Pigeon Lake to Lock 34, Fenelon Falls

Friday, July 11, 2025

Welcome! Glad to have you here!

Mark did laundry this morning. I vacuumed, dusted, and prepared a list for the grocery store. The plan was to stop in Bobcaygeon to walk around and get provisions.

Kawartha Lakes is a rural area located northeast of the Greater Toronto Area and directly west of Peterborough. The region encompasses several communities, such as Fenelon Falls, and a chain of connected rivers, lakes, and channels, including the Trent-Severn Waterway. The City of Kawartha Lakes is comprised of a number of small communities, including Bobcaygeon, Fenelon Falls, Omemee, Woodville, and Lindsay, which is the largest town in the region.



We anchored in a small bay in Pigeon Lake, one of the lakes that make up the Kawartha Lakes.

Pigeon Lake is 13,205 acres in size, with an average depth of 9.8 feet. The deepest area on the lake located on the north end of the lake has the depths of 57 feet. Pigeon holds many species of fish, including large and smallmouth bass, Muskie, Crappie, Walleye.

We weighed anchor at 10:00 am and started cruising towards Bobcaygeon. Over the last few days, many people, including lock attendants and curious onlookers along the Trent, have asked if we are going to be stopping in Bobcaygeon. Apparently, it is a very popular town and tourist destination.

Bobcaygeon is famous for being the "Hub of the Kawarthas" and its connection to the Trent-Severn Waterway. It's also known for Kawartha Dairy ice cream, Bigley's Shoes and Clothing, and its vibrant arts and culture scene. Additionally, the town is recognized for its beautiful natural scenery, including Pigeon and Sturgeon Lakes, and various recreational opportunities.

Bobcaygeon is home to Lock 32, the first and most visited lock on the Trent-Severn Waterway.

We were told there was a song written about it! The most famous song written about Bobcaygeon is by the Canadian band The Tragically Hip.

While the song is named after the town, it was chosen by lyricist [Gord Downie](#) for its phonetic quality to rhyme with "constellation," rather than for any specific connection to the town itself. Despite this, the song has become closely associated with the community, which has embraced the connection.

Upon arrival in Bobcaygeon, we saw many signs along the wall that it was reserved after 2:30 pm, so no tying up after that. We arrived in plenty of time to tie up and get groceries, and walk around before then.

It was a hot day, and walking around a crowded town was not in the cards for me (I don't do well in these high 80/90 degree days), so we decided to lock through lock # 32 after putting away our groceries.



Lock 32, built more than 160 years ago, was the first lock constructed on the Waterway. The lock was rebuilt again in the 20th century just west of the original location. A metal truss swing bridge provides access to the island created by the canal cut and is a very popular lock station to this day.

The waterway opens up to Sturgeon Lake. It was 15 miles to the next lock, and about 14 (estimated) of it was on the lake. Sturgeon Lake is also part of the Kawartha Lakes Region and is Y-shaped.

Common belief is that it got its name from the Sturgeon Cree Indians of Nipigon who were encountered on the lake by French traders in the early 1700's. The Cree used Sturgeon Lake to reach Fort Albany where they sold their furs.

Funny thing happened when we arrived at lock 34, Fenelon Falls. We planned to go through the lock and either tie to the upper wall where there are electric pedestals or cruise to the next lock, Rosedale. However, after tying up to the blue wall to indicate we wanted to lock through, Mark spoke with the lock attendant. There is no room on the high here, and after calling the next lock, there is no room at lock 35 either. We decided to tie Valkyrie to the left side of the lower wall closest to the falls.



Did you notice that we went from lock 32 Bobcaygeon to lock 34 Fenelon Falls with no mention of a lock 33? Lock 33 is not included in the main TSW route. It is located on an alternate route:

The Lindsay Lock allows access from the main navigation channel to Lake Scugog. The lock station is located centrally in the Town of Lindsay. Boaters who wish to navigate beyond Lindsay should note that there is a fixed bridge with a 3.7 metre (12ft) clearance and that the channel depths vary greatly throughout the season.

2:10 pm engines off.

There are a lot of people fishing. Mark went swimming up to and under the falls. (Not encouraging anyone to do this.) I went swimming as well, but not as far up as the falls. It is 90 degrees inside the salon, so a swim felt great.



We had chicken, asparagus, and salad for dinner. Mark's grilling skills have improved tremendously on this trip. After dinner, we walked through town, stopped at Fenelon Falls Brewery for a drink. Funny enough, the bar area wasn't really conducive to customers. We went in because we heard a live band. The band was good. We did not want to sit at a dinner table, so we plopped ourselves down at what looked like a bar; it had stools, and there was a bartender. We ordered a flight after a long wait. There were a lot of waitstaff who came in with drink orders; however, we must have been insignificant, apparently. We enjoyed our flight and left. Too bad because the band was good.



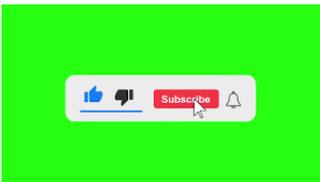


Daily Summary:

Departed from Anchorage, Martini Bay, Pigeon Lake @ 10:03 am
Arrived at Fenelon Falls lower wall @ 2:10 pm
Days cruised: 32 Days on the loop: 45
Hours traveled: 4 hrs 7 mins total for the day
Nautical Miles Traveled: 16.3 for the day (814.75 total miles)
Average Speed 4 knots
Weather: Sunny in the 80's
Anchorage/mooring/marina review: Amazing! Swim, relax, peaceful
#of locks we went through: 1 (62 total locks)



<https://youtu.be/5RGVB7eTUw>



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