

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

Somewhere on the Water

December 30, 2021 – Day 23, Thursday

We are still in Portsmouth, VA at the Ocean Yacht Marina located on the Elizabeth River.

While working on my blog, especially December 15 where I mentioned that the Navionics app was not working properly Mark wanted to take a few minutes to talk about the systems he has onboard Valkyrie to navigate our house.

So here it goes:

Like everything else, Valkyrie has multiple redundant systems including redundant navigation systems.

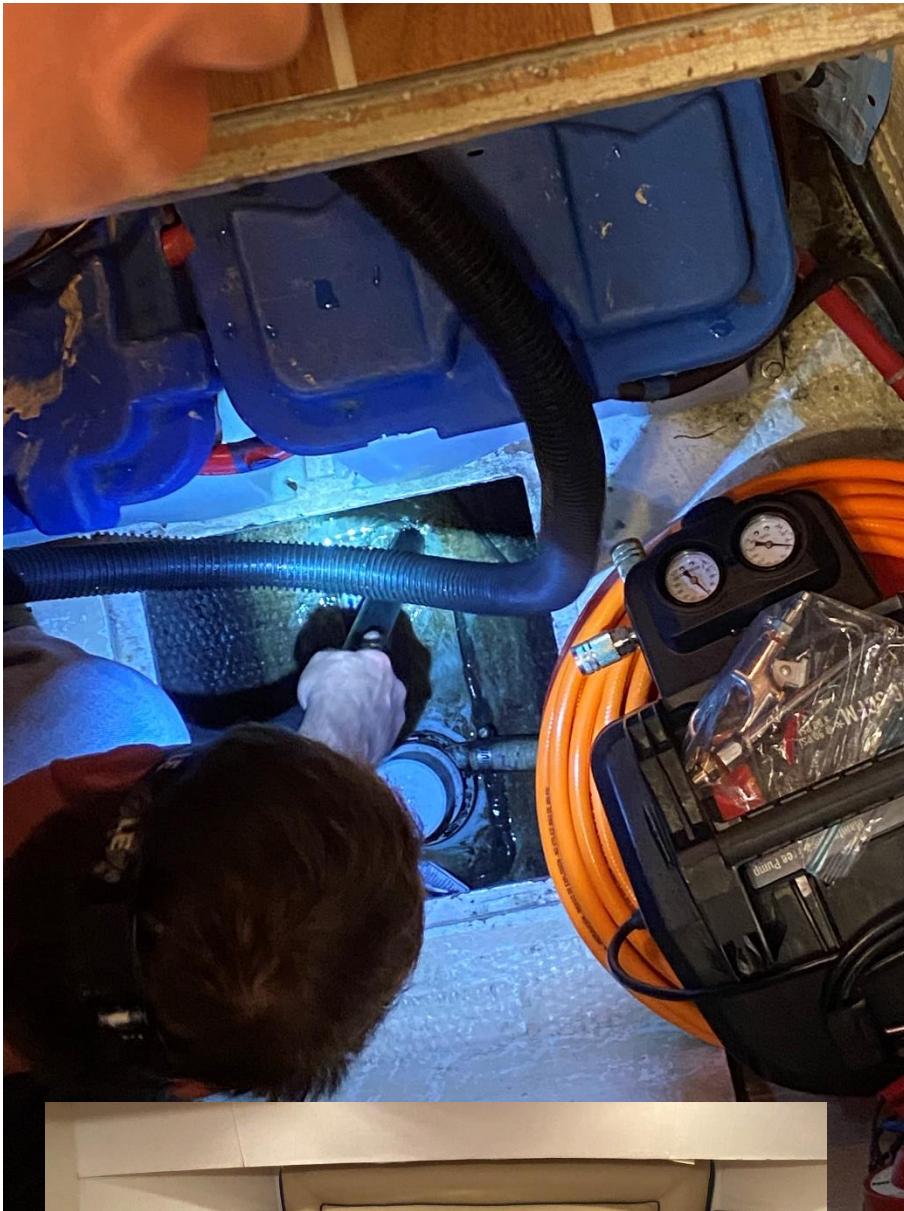
Valkyrie has its GPS navigation depth and a radar system onboard. Added to that is a separate GPS position unit that uploads precise location to Valkyrie's wifi network.

We use two iPads to supplement Valkyrie's navigational capabilities. One iPad uses an app called [Aquamap](#) for detailed depth and utilizes the latest US Army's USACE (ACoE) hydrographic depth surveys available.

The other iPad has an app called [Navionics](#) which is used for general plotting, navigation, and information. Information about marinas, shoaling, weather, sea state and so much more.

All of those chores I listed yesterday, yea, well, not all of them got done.

One of those that did not get done is vacuuming the bilges.



This is the bilge at the foot of Haleigh's bed. Mark calls it 'the hole.'



You have seen this scene before! This is the access to the bow's bilge.



Using a wet/dry vac to suck up all the water, it gets poured into this bucket.

I get to carry these very heavy buckets outside to empty them.

The water inside this bucket looks dirtier than it is. The bucket has a permanent black layer of grossness inside it that makes this water look nastier than it is.

I empty it appropriately and am not polluting our waterways.



This is the part that Mark needs to put in to eliminate the water coming in through the rope locker into Haleigh's forward most bilge. It is a check valve.

The piping and those grey plastic pieces are not ideal for installation so we have to wait for a delivery. That means this project is still on the 'to-do list' for now.

We still have not washed Valkyrie, which was also on our list from several days back. Today is almost over, tomorrow is New Year's Eve and then a couple of cold rainy days are in the forecast so washing the boat is not gonna happen too soon.

Ah shucks. What a bummer! Lol!

We made dinner reservations for tomorrow night, New Year's Eve and bought tickets to tour the USS Wisconsin.

We are looking forward to ringing in the new year and wishing everyone a safe and healthy 2022.