

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

Somewhere on the Water

January 10, 2022 – Today is Monday. We are leaving Coinjock Marina, Coinjock, NC & cruising south on the Intracoastal Waterway.

Day 34

8:18 a.m. Engines Start.

Cruising into the North River through the Albemarle Sound which is a 17-mile wide body of water that with the predicted winds coming up our tail could cause for a bumpy ride.

Short-run today 35 miles to Columbia, NC

8:32 a.m. The electricity is cut, fenders pulled in, and Mark is handling the lines all by himself. It is 32° and expected to warm up to 40°

8:43 a.m. We are off.

I took a few more pics of the marina including the new office and store combo building that is under construction. According to Candice who we met last night, the existing structure gets flooded twice per year.





8:46 a.m. We just went under highway 168- Caratoke Hwy.

8:56 a.m. Mark saw 2 bald eagles flying along the water's edge as I am getting ready to start my workday.

9:08 a.m. It did not take long for us to cross over into the North River portion of our journey this morning. It is cloudy this morning so I would not say the scenery is stunning. We have marshland along both sides of us.



Last night, Brian mentioned he had done this trip 30 or more times. The wind coming up from behind across the sound will cause you to pitch and roll. Get up on top and stay on top, and stay in the middle of the channel.

We will just have to assess the situation as we go and make the proper adjustments needed to keep up with the conditions.

10:15 a.m. We are passing Powells Point, NC, coming into Albemarle Sound.



We won't be cruising by the Outer Banks today, but it is a very popular beach destination for locals and tourists alike. So close but yet so far and definitely too cold to consider visiting a beach today.

What is considered the Outer Banks in North Carolina?

The Outer Banks consist of a collection of barrier islands along the North Carolina coast. The area is split into three regions, according to the Visitors Bureau: **the Northern Beaches, Roanoke Island and Hatteras Island**. You'll also find Ocracoke Island farther south, but it's not as accessible and less visited.



<https://www.outerbanks.org/plan-your-trip/towns-and-villages/>

10:40 a.m. Mark has checked on the engine room a couple of times this morning. Now that we are in the sound we are being reminded that we are on the water. We aren't getting rolled too much but figuring out how to use our 'sea-legs' again is a must.

The Albemarle Sound is the **largest majorly brackish or freshwater sound** in North America. It was a mostly saltwater sound until 1830 when a storm closed the Currituck inlet and limited the flow of ocean water into the sound. -google/Wikipedia.

11:06 a.m.

I lied. Everything that has never fallen before is falling now we are pitching and rolling like crazy. Just do not look out the back window. The wind has created rolling waves that appear, well, big, huge actually.



11:37 a.m. we are still getting clobbered by these waves pushing us. I told Mark that people could surf off the waves I am seeing behind this boat. He thinks they are about 7' but I think bigger. How big do waves need to be to surf? Winds were gusting at 35 mph with a constant of 25mph.

He said it was going to get a little bit worse because we have to turn to stay in the channel and we will be taking these waves sideways for a little while.

I have already gritted my teeth to the point of a headache and nausea so I am not looking forward to anything worse.

Watch the videos. Pictures do not capture the trough & crest of a wave.

<https://youtu.be/Nzx8Fi9enB0> - everything is falling...gotta go!!!

<https://youtu.be/ZX-eS6nKLkU> -yup, we are definitely rolling!

12:21 p.m. We are at Alligator River Marina
lan, the dock hand was very nice. The water is well water - not so great so
we are not filling up. Only a 3" tide to be expected.

The diesel price here is \$3.65. We did not take on fuel today.
We are on a face dock so \$1.85 per foot is the cost for that. The slips are
\$1.75 but we did not want to take the chance of the running gear hitting
up against the rocks and we only have 4.5' of water under us.

Sailboat Discover is here. We went through the lock with this vessel back
in Chesapeake, VA.

The sailboat that is in this photo was
abandoned here according to Ian.



The bilge pump counter indicated
that the bow pump engaged 6
times.

Mark looked under Haleigh's bed
and it is not dry but nothing
significant to make the pump go off. The switch may have just been
activated due to the rolling and pitching of the boat.

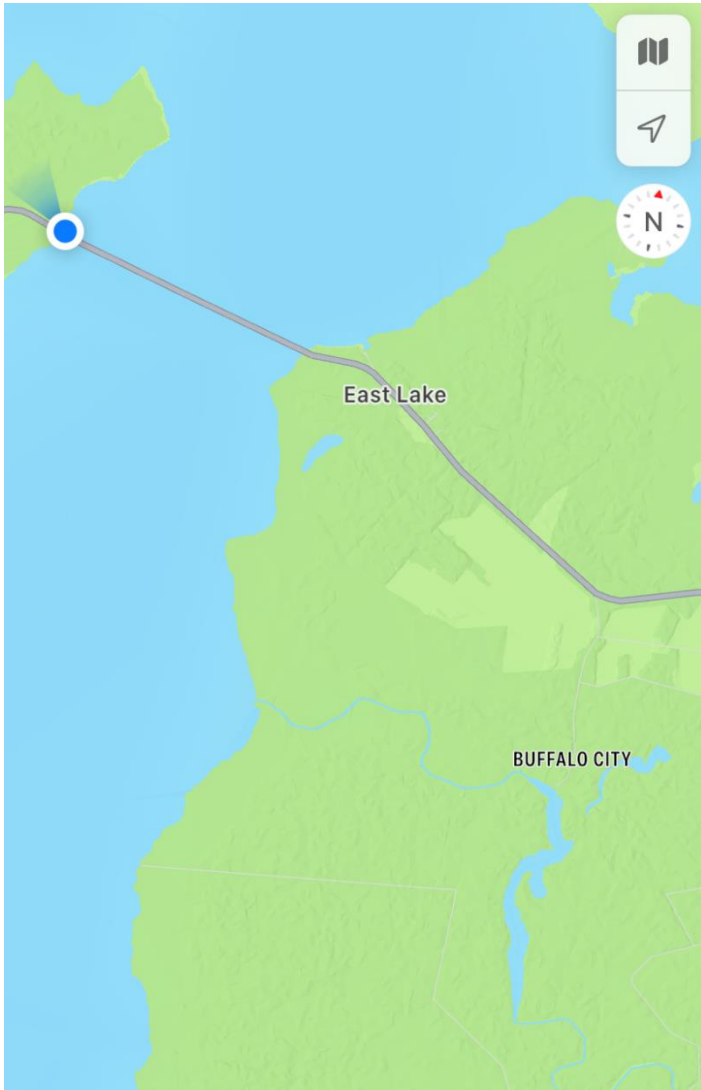
Mark is not sure why the new heat system looks to be low on freon, and
just now at 2:34 p.m. he is announcing that it is broken.

We talked about today's cruise and Mark explains why we rolled as much
as we did. It is a lengthy video that actually covers a lot of topics.

Free-surface effect. Watch the video, Mark explains it.
<https://youtu.be/Dk5UMcKDZfA>

On our way in we passed by Fort Landing on the boats starboard side.
The first settlement here dates back to 1700.
On the port side, we passed by East Lake.

History lesson of the day: (The blue dot is us)



Buffalo City was a logging and moonshine town in East Lake Township. What once was a city built on marshland is now part of the Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge. The town's history lasted approximately 80 years from the 1870s to the 1950s. Homes, a schoolhouse, a store, and 100-miles of railroad once stood on this now-abandoned area. Logging was the primary industry here until prohibition when people turned to moonshine as a source of income. After prohibition, many tried to return to logging but most of the good timber had already been felled. Outbreaks of cholera, typhoid, smallpox, the flu swept through the community in the '40s leaving a population of 100 people. Eventually, they abandoned the area. Today, the

only remnants of this ghost town include a road sign, rusted rails, and building debris. — I got all that from Wikipedia.

Mark was talking to the bridge operator of the bridge we need to go through tomorrow morning. They do not open if the winds are over 35mph.

Right now the winds are 9 but her top speed was recorded at 44 mph today.

Sometimes when the bridge is really cold it does not always want to cooperate. Predicted 39 degrees tomorrow morning, hopefully, it does.



5:19 p.m. I am obsessing over the colors that the sun is casting during the sunset hour. The water is so calm now and the winds have subsided. Mark and I went to check out the bathhouse and lounge. Along with the last two marinas; the iron in the well water turns the sinks, showers, etc. a rusty color, and although I am sure they are clean I cannot help but turn my nose a little bit because judging a book by its cover is something I do when it comes to the cleanliness of my shower.



After a day like today, windows get washed!

Haleigh is making avocado fries to go with her leftover prime rib from the Coinjock Restaurant. Mark is having his leftovers as well.

Early get up and out tomorrow. 7:15 a.m. sunrise.

I'm just gonna leave this here.

