

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

Somewhere on the Water

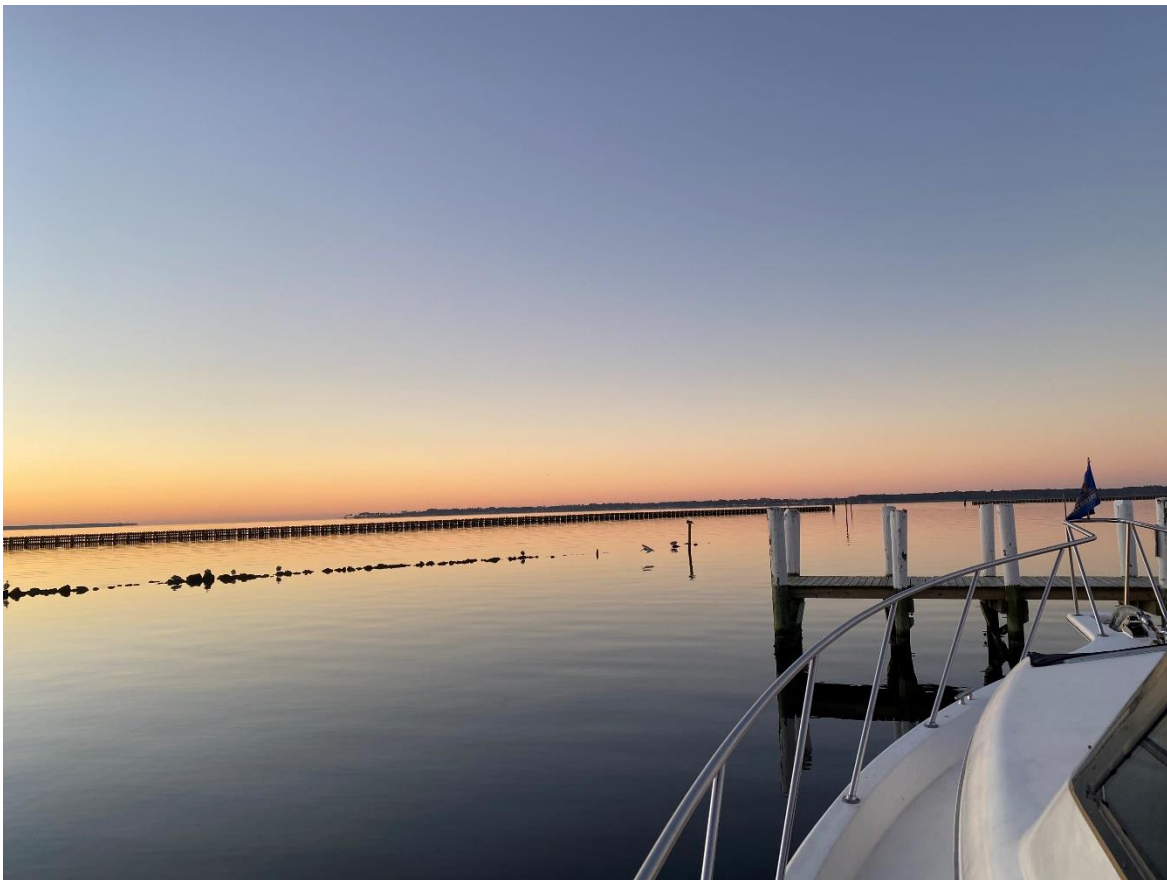
January 12, 2022 – (I misspelled Belhaven in yesterday's blog, sorry)

We are leaving Belhaven, NC and headed to Oriental, NC, or maybe Beaufort, NC...maybe, maybe not.

Day 36 **Let's see where we end up.**

This morning's sunrise was not going to be outdone by last night's sunset. We woke to glorious skies all aglow with a fiery orange delicate touch of rose and hues of purple.

<https://youtu.be/r5YNyaw-odQ> - enjoy a quick video of the sunrise 😊



At 7.5 knots Mark has the best fuel efficiency yet. The waters are smooth and the wind is negligible.

7:50 a.m. my heart starts racing when we heard two consecutive thumps, bumps, thuds? I do not care how you describe it you do not want to hear such noises when you are underway.

I did a quick search; dryer doors, bathroom doors, shower door, nothing.



Mark did a quick search in the engine room. Nothing. Perhaps we hit something small in the water he did not see.

6-minutes later with confidence restored we are cruising along and increasing the speed to 8.5knots.

I was trying to enjoy a hot cup of coffee this morning and take the time to reflect on how much I liked Belhaven. It was one of my favorite marinas yet. Small, very clean, and in a beautiful neighborhood that has sleepy, cozy southern vibes written all over it. In the summer this community must be bustling with tourists and summertime residents, but last night, with the weather unseasonably cold, by 5:15 p.m. when I went for a walk I was walking a ghost town. One traffic light a few cars, no other pedestrians, 5 churches lined the main street side by side, and only one store open. I did not go in, nor did I go off Main Street and Water Street. I know there is a Food Lion and other stores a street or two away from Main Street but it was getting dark and I did not want to be walking in an unfamiliar area by myself. Besides, I enjoyed walking the sidewalk soaking in all the different style homes and of course that amazing sunset that reminds me as to why we are living the life we have chosen.

8:08 a.m. We passed by Flowers Landing at Woodstock Point.

Flowers Landing is a beautiful estate dating back to 1738. 50-acres with a private gated road, you can rent rooms, there are 14 throughout the property. Mainhouse, guest house, dock house, marine outpost. Oh my, it has it all. Fishing, relaxing, boating. My photo does not do it justice. It is gorgeous. Flowerslanding.com



9:27 a.m. I took a picture of our water tank indicator. We filled up yesterday. Being well water, even with 2 different filter points, I have put our previously purchased bottled water in the fridge for drinking.



I did 5 loads of laundry. Starting at the full marker, this is where the level is after all that. I placed all those loads of laundry on Jordan's bed and they need to be taken care of. I hung delicates on hangers and put them in the bathroom doorways; they all had to come down this morning dry or not. So today's chore for Haleigh and I will be to take care of folding and putting away laundry.

It is our laundry, Mark did his at Coinjock in their laundry facilities.

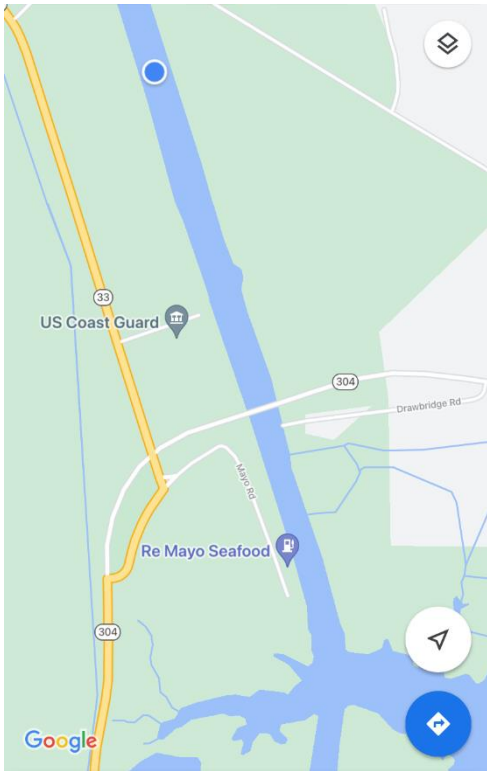
9:33 a.m. We entered the canal, back into the Pamlico River. We passed some hunters with their decoys out. I finally have a charged battery in the Canon camera. I took a few photos. Our windows are dirty. Even though Mark washed them back at Alligator River Marina they got dirty almost immediately the next day.

Unfortunately, it doesn't make for good photos but it is a cold 24 degrees and opening the doors to go outside to take pictures is not within my realm of desires this morning.

Mark's phone takes the best pictures. Mine is ok but I use it for work and looking at my map apps to tell me where I am and to research areas of interest. The Cannon, which is 21 years old has been for the last few days my go-to camera. It sits on a tripod in the galley pointing out the front window.

For \$20 I got a package of 4 crab cakes and a 1lb of shrimp and cocktail sauce during a very quick stop at R.E. Mayo Seafood.





ABOUT RE MAYO SEAFOOD

[HTTPS://WWW.REMAYOSEAFOODINC.COM/ABOUT](https://www.remayoseafoodinc.com/about)

RE Mayo Seafood brings a century of tradition to sailors, seafood lovers and to anyone that loves the coast. Located on the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) in Hobucken, NC, RE Mayo Seafood is ideally situated for the boater. Our facilities, service and dockage are geared towards the transient, sail and power vessel alike. As the name implies, RE Mayo Seafood specializes in seafood. We have long been known as the hub for locally caught fish, crabs, scallops and shrimp. You can buy a wide variety in just about any quantity you like. We'll pack it for you fresh or fresh frozen!

Mark says he doesn't care what people think of us but I was wearing my light purple LSU fleece with pink cropped length PJ bottoms, white socks, and Haleigh's black crocks with uncombed, braided hair. It was a sight to be seen. Clownish for sure. Typically Mark does care what we look like. Probably more than me on most occasions but he left the engines running and Haleigh was by herself on the boat so we had to be quick!

10:00 a.m.

<https://youtu.be/cph41DLebPc> - a quick video of us leaving the dock.

When we were leaving the dock two boats were coming up behind us. There was also a boat in front of us which must have gone by while we were shopping. In no time at all, he was out of sight.

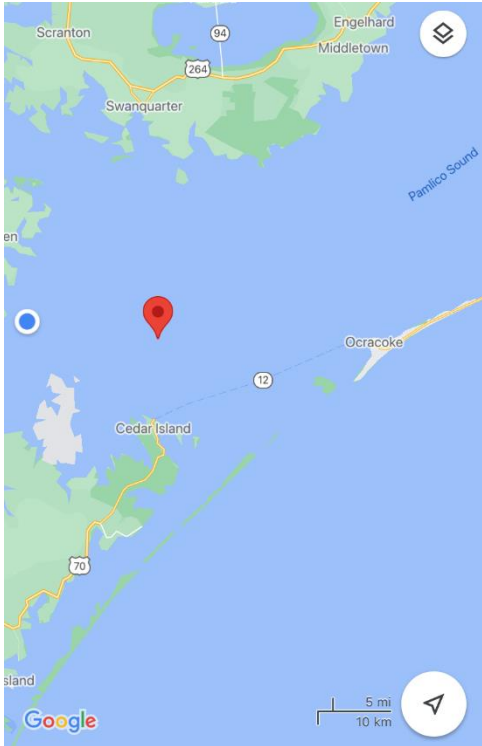
We got passed on our right by this guy but the other boat was still behind us.



Mark asked if we were matched, gaining or falling with the other boat behind us. My best guess at the moment is matched.

A few minutes later we look back and Mark has decided it's falling.

We are coming out of Pamlico River into Bay River and will follow that past Maw Point and River Dunes Harbor Club & Marina into the Neuse River. It is a wide river and it is a good day to do it Mark says because we have low winds.



10:59 a.m. I am trying to take pictures of 2 structures that I am seeing a way out in the distance. It is in restricted space that boaters are not allowed.

We are cruising toward West Bay and Cedar Island is way out in the distance in front of us.

Perhaps one of those is Bluff Shoal Light? I don't know what is out there, and perhaps I never will...

(you can ignore the red pin it isn't relevant)

Whatever I was trying to capture with my camera is just too far away and the photos did not come out.

1:00 p.m. we are cruising in Adams Creek, just passing the mouth of Back Creek. I just came back from taking a short break for myself to enjoy a few chapters of the book I am reading. Not much to look at so I was enjoying the warmth of the sun and the quiet of the flybridge by myself for about an hour.

1:25 p.m. I am enjoying this river cruise. There are a lot of houses along the side of the river, each one unique. Several with docks, one with a helicopter and I missed my photo opportunity of capturing a beautiful gray heron.

Mark just said he sees an old Chris Craft. Our boat for 15 years, *Second Nature*, was a 1981 Chris Craft. Just gotta point them out to each other every time we see one.

We are about an hour out from the Town Creek Marina, Beaufort, NC.

Mark thinks there will be a lot to see and possibly want to walk around so I am going to make a few calls for work and try to free up my afternoon to enjoy Beaufort.



2:47 p.m. we arrived and Mark is hooking up the electricity.

It is 48 degrees and we got palm trees, sunshine, a busy bridge, airport noise, and nearby construction happening.

The marina dockhand, Chase is running hoses so we can get water. We are on a floating dock and we are not the only boaters in town.

Last night at Belhaven, we were the only boat on the docks!



The boat that has been following us all these hours is The Four Knotts. We met them at Coinjock. They are not staying at this marina. I am a bit curious why they did not radio us and let us know it was them. I know the owner was from Maine and his hired captain was his friend's nephew who was a member of the coast guard. They told us they were coming here to Beaufort so it is not necessarily a coincidence to see them. They had a few repairs to make back in Coinjock so it must be that they got done because here they are!

\$1.50/ft charge here plus \$10 electric because we are in a slip. A face-dock would have been more but we wanted to get water so we chose a slip close to the marina office.

Mark is anticipating a 3' tide. 3-foot tide compared to the 3-inch tide at our stop in Alligator River Marina.

4:48 p.m. Mark is washing the windows. Vinegar & water with a shammy and squeegee.



5:19 p.m. Talking about the day over a cocktail, we were talking about the water's depth in Adams Creek.

Pre-empt to today; the last few days we have had a fairly steady depth of approximately 11 feet of water under us. Following the channel markers have been extremely important; case in point today, Adams Creek.

The entire creek dept fluctuated repeatedly from 15 – 10 feet up and down.

The creek is somewhere around 100' wide bank to bank. However the navigational width of our boat that draws 4' is probably 50-60' wide. Our vessel is 16.5' wide so we were zig-zagging our way from side to side to remain in the deepest water to avoid running aground on the shoals.

This photo shows the depths. Adams Creek becomes Core Creek as we cruise into Beaufort.

I have said Valkyrie's draw is 4.5' several times. Mark has just clarified that he measured while we were pulled out back in Chesapeake, VA. We draw 4', no less.

A couple of cheaters

1. Mark follows Bob 423 who annually locates and provides deep water transit routes through the Atlantic Intracoastal waterway.
2. Mark also uses aquamaps which utilizes the latest US Army's USACE (ACoE) hydrographic depth surveys available.

So today through Adams creek he would use a combination of both.

So our final destination did end up being Beaufort, NC. We were having a good run so we skipped Oriental. We had dinner on board, red beans & rice and salad. We did not take on fuel here at Town Creek Marina.

The marina is very nice. The bathhouse was clean. If you don't place the shower curtain just right, you WILL flood the bathroom. The dressing room wasn't very private. Much like the shower room at the health club that we were members of in Hyannis, there were private shower stalls but a communal changing room. When I was in there, I was the only one in there so it did not bother me.

Mark says of all our stops, the men's is never as nice as the women's!

We did not get off the boat and walk around. The Town Creek Marina is not too close to anything and it was sunset by the time we settled in.



Our friend Carolyn texted us and said she could see us on the marina's live cam! We looked it up on the marina's site and yes sirree, she could. We had a laugh about it and waved to ourselves on the camera, then closed the blinds!! Hahaha.

Tomorrow we are going to make a 7-hour run to Hampstead, NC to Harbor Village Marina. We may need to stay here over the weekend due to the predicted [shitty](#) weather.