

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

Somewhere on the Water

January 16, 2022 – Sunday, Day 39

Osprey Marina, Myrtle Beach, SC

We arrived yesterday afternoon.

This morning Mark watched the New England Patriots game against the Buffalo Bills. The game was played last night but we could not get it on our tv so he watched a recorded playback this morning. It wasn't a good game if you are a Patriots fan.



Mark has a manual sprawled across his lap. It is for the Naiad Stabilizers. He found it this morning while looking for the generator information.

The generator has had an annoying fuel leak coming from the fuel transfer pump that is part of the engine. Anytime we run the generator for any length of time the screws on this fuel transfer pump loosen themselves and we develop a small fuel leak. So every time Mark runs the generator he ends up having to retighten these six screws and this has been a

repetitive problem. Yesterday Mark tightened the screws after running the generator most of the day and he says that they are either starting to strip or we are pulling the threads out of the fuel pump itself.

Mark is looking at parts lists to see if we can buy a replacement fuel pump.

Appears as though he will not be able to find a replacement and thinks people are replacing this mechanical fuel pump with an electric fuel pump and that is where he is at.

The only reason the stabilizer manual is out is that he found it and is just looking through it. The starboard stabilizer had been repaired, back on January 7 at the Atlantic Yacht Basin. During the entire time we were dealing with the stabilizer he could not find the stabilizer manual, which is no big deal really, but now that he does have it, he will, never, not know, where it is again.

Back to the fuel pump:

The fuel pumps for this boat are obsolete. He can get a refurbished one for \$998. What? Can you repeat that, please?

Or, get a \$40 electric pump.

So what he has to do is find a 12-volt circuit that is energized when the generator ignition is on and then hopefully wire the pump to that but first, he is going to probably replace the screws and put backing nuts on the screws so they cannot loosen up anymore.

Why are you buying a new pump if all you have to do is put nuts on some screws to fix the problem?

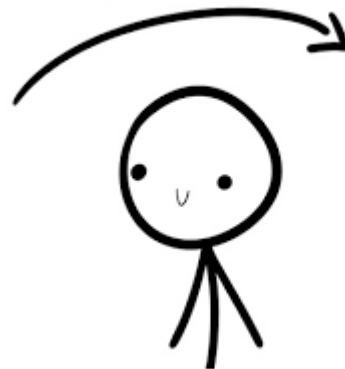
Apparently, that would only be a jerry-rig fix.

I cannot figure out how it is he is researching buying a new pump if it isn't broken because some screws get loose.

As part of one of many possible solutions to dealing with what could become a bigger issue if the screws say snap, or he breaks the fuel pump by over-tightening which could create and/or make the leak worse.

He does not have a full array of tools so he doesn't want to make it worse, he wants to **control the problem**.

This is why he is the captain and I am not...





For many people, 12:30 p.m. is lunchtime. For us here on Valkyrie on a rainy Sunday, it is breakfast time.

Blueberry pancakes with pure Vermont maple syrup and a dab of whipped cream. Thank you, Haleigh.



Possibly, maybe, or maybe not a dab or two of the whipped cream went right

from the can into my mouth, but I am, or am not suggesting that it happened. I am not, or maybe I am confessing to sneaking a small squirt of whipped cream.



Rain is falling today. Since we have been onboard Valkyrie we have been dealing with leaks. Mark has in the past 1 ½ years fixed almost all of them however when it rains hard we do have to have a few shammies in two of the salon windows.

Water does get into the bow bilge through the railing mounts where the bow rail is through-bolted to the fiberglass and the small leak at the front windshield is baffling because it only 'sometimes' leaks 'some of the times it rains'.



Towel tucked in the front window.

Blue shammy in the portside salon window.

There is also a shammy tucked into the starboard salon window behind the wet bar.



It is a huge relief to be hooked up to water. Laundry is going, we can shower onboard and clean. Haleigh is cleaning her room this morning, mopping, etc. The crockpot is plugged in cooking our dinner. Crack chicken, and we are boiling chicken for chicken salad.



As I read and re-read, and proofread I noticed that I talk about water, and doing laundry a lot. I wonder if I give the impression that we do more than the average family's worth of laundry? Our machine is smaller than a normal household's machine so it takes more loads to do the same amount. Plus we go through a lot of towels, rags, etc. Whatever, it is not worth the time to think about, it just feels like when I sit to type out the daily blog laundry and water are always a source of the topic.

You know what? We had some pretty grand illusions that we would be at anchor and doing all sorts of things outside in the warm air but instead, we are watching the rain come down, sitting at a dock reading about snow in the forecast for Charleston, SC (or next and last stop before heading home). We do not know what our reality will be once we reach Charleston, but since we both love this area we will make it a great visit. **At least we are not in -15 like my mom in VT.**

Valkyrie got a bath. After the rain stopped falling on us, the sun came out in full force. Mark and I grabbed our brushes and started washing.

I am so glad we did. She was a **dirty** girl.

It was nice to have a project to work on alongside Mark. Our focus while cruising is on completely different things. I work, write the blog, take videos, cook, and with Haleigh's help take care of the interior. He has to drive the boat, plan our itinerary and do all the maintenance. Planning our days takes a lot of time. I will have to give you the lowdown on what it takes for him to plan a successful day on the water...stay tuned for that.

Mark downloaded a new weather app called Predict Wind. Here is the story on that:

The boat, August 15th came by today while we were washing Valkyrie and said he was leaving tomorrow for Leland Oil Company. Another boater that walked by and stopped for a chat also said they were leaving tomorrow. Mark was sure that the weather predicted was not in a boater's favor to cruise. While double-checking the weather he was looking in the app store; found the app that August 15th recommended but did not get that one. Looking at the reviews of a few other apps he chose Predict Wind.

Weather sources Mark usually uses are;

- The Weather Channel app
- The Buoy Cast app
- Buoy Weather app

The two Buoy apps provide *actual* buoy observations. Sometimes including wave height and period. Sometimes includes wind speed, gusts, and trends. Sometimes sea temperatures. It all depends on the buoy that you choose to see its observed data.

It also provides an NOAA weather synopsis that you can read for that predicted area. The problem with the buoy apps is that we may not be anywhere near any of these buoys.

For example; The Albemarle Sound has no buoys. So in this case the Atlantic Ocean buoy closest to the sound is where he would have to get his weather information along with the weather channel app.

Unfortunately, the buoy data for the Atlantic Buoy which was nearest to us was irrelevant because it was an offshore wind.

Predict Wind provides data from multiple model sources. Including;

- Euro Model
- UK Model
- Global Forecast System which is used by most weather websites
- Other useful Models

He will still use the Buoy apps to see what the wave heights are he will still use the Weather Channel for a nice simple hourly and daily forecast. Predict Wind will be his new 'go-to' weather app. Once he has all this weather information he goes with the 'worse-case' scenario.