

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

# *Somewhere on the Water*

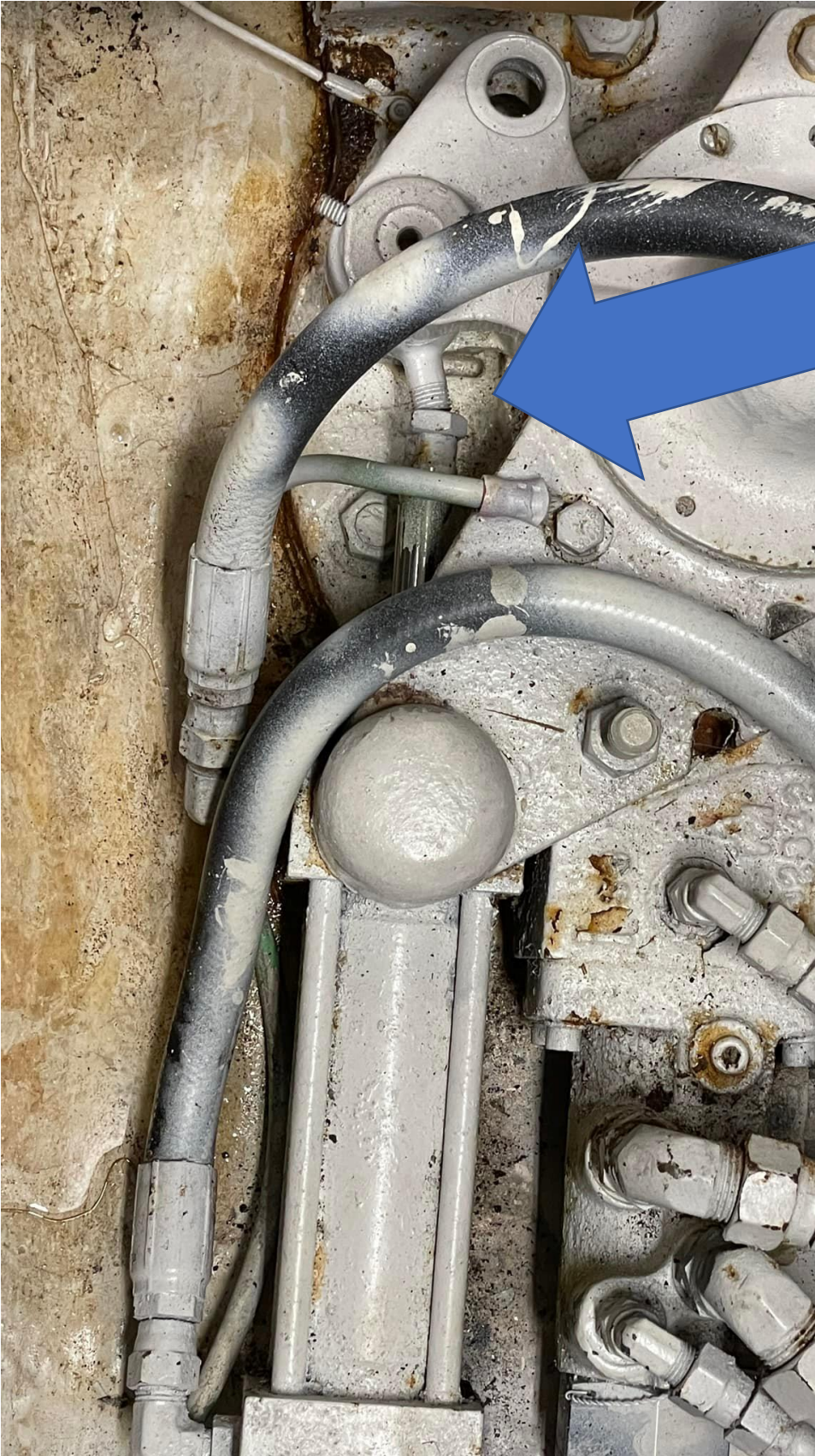
January 3, 2022 – Monday, Day 27. Still in Portsmouth, VA

What a lousy night's sleep. We had wind and rain come into Portsmouth which started rocking us just enough so that the lines creaked, doors were rattling and the rain sounded like large water balloons hitting the deck. It was 4:00 a.m. so perhaps being a little cranky about being awake at this hour exaggerated the sounds but we were rolling enough that Mark had to get up and take the gangway down. As you may remember we do not fit into this slip perfectly so our gangway ladder is in line with the pump-out station and with the right amount of pitch our ladder hits up against it. Not wanting to cause damage to either, Mark took it down.



There are plenty of schools that have either canceled, delayed openings, or are closing early all along the east coast up through and including Massachusetts. We are expecting snow later this afternoon.

Yesterday at 4:00 p.m. I went for a walk on the riverfront in a t-shirt and today I am bundled up in long sleeves and sweatpants. Awww mother nature, you keep things interesting!



Mark is making calls this morning to find a boatyard that can pull our boat and work on the stabilizer.



I am working and between calls, I am updating December 18, 2021 blog and baking cranberry muffins. The movies I took of us cruising the James River passing the Naval Station are long so it is taking quite a bit of time to upload.

12:30 p.m. The temperature is only 39 and the rain sounds like it has turned to sleet. Expecting snow this afternoon. The wind has died down a little bit. Today is the first day in a long time that I felt as though I have needed my 'sea legs.' We do have a few gusts that can knock you off your balance a little bit. Check out my Facebook page for today, January 3. I posted a video of a neighbor boat rocking in the wind!



Today Mark installed the chain locker drain check valve:

We had a plastic check valve for the chain locker drain line when we bought the boat. On our way to Atlantic City, NJ, in rough seas, Mark noticed bilge pumps kept activating. Upon investigation, he found the plastic check valve was cracked and leaking heavily every time we hit a wave. Mark used emergency repair tape to stem the leak until we had a chance to repair it properly. Today is that chance. Here is a video of us replacing the chain locker drain hose & check valve and installing a new check valve which took care of the flooding problem.

<https://youtu.be/Rsnzp36YgV0>



## BIG NEWS!

We are moving tomorrow! We are finally back on the water cruising south. Albeit just a short distance to the Atlantic Yacht Basin. They will be able to pull Valkyrie out of the water and fix the stabilizer. Then we can make plans to continue down the Atlantic Intercoastal Waterway towards Florida.

Thanks for hanging in there with us. We will be on the move tomorrow, January 4, 2021. Goodbye Portsmouth, VA, you have been good to us and we shall see you on our way back through!