

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

# *Somewhere on the Water*

February 11, 2022 – Friday, our 66<sup>th</sup> day!  
Alligator River anchorage to Coinjock anchorage.

Yesterday we originally planned to overnight in Belhaven and pushed on to the anchorage at Alligator River. I wonder if we will end up at our originally planned Coinjock anchorage for tonight?

<https://youtu.be/oBFFS9wK5FQ> - Everyone should be able to wake to a morning like this morning! [Watch!](#)

This morning I woke to calm waters, bright sunshine, and warm weather. By warm I mean not freezing. The cool breeze off the water does give it a different feel than what the temperature reading on the weather app tells me but inside the salon, it is 70 degrees.



We are underway by 7:30 a.m. Leaving the anchorage at the end of the Alligator River-Pungo River Canal we cruise into the Alligator River towards the Albemarle Sound.

Coming up to 8:30 a.m. and still no cell service. This is the one leg of the trip going south that we had multiple hours of no cell phone service. Going north we have anticipated falling into range within the hour.

<https://youtu.be/a4SrzFWLoGo> - Lots of talking and conversation about what is going on with us while we go through the bridge.



The Alligator River Swing Bridge is coming into view. It is 8:55 a.m. and we are still without a cell signal.

I spend the last ½ hour double-checking my photos from February 3 & February 4. Mark & I created a couple of new folders and I just went through them to double-check for duplicates and resave everything on the computer.

I opened the blog for February 4 knowing that it had been lost to cyberspace. Yes, again, I lose a document. My fault. Autosave does not work when I am not connected to wifi so forgetting to hit that save button is my problem.

Anyway.....guess what?!

February 4 is the day we traveled north through Myrtle Beach, passing the Big M casinos, the Rock Pile, etc. We traveled this leg of the trip south on January 15. That is the same day that I lost to cyberspace previously. It took me 3-days to recreate it!

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9:36 a.m. We are through the Alligator River Swing Bridge. Mark got a VHF call from the Coast Guard. They are working on a buoy and would like a no-wake pass.

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Since leaving Beaufort and traveling north there is a significant number of hunting blinds, camouflaged boats, and today off Long Shoal Point at the tip of Palmetto-Peartree Preserve there are many decoys in the water and half-a-dozen or more hunting blinds and a large cabin.

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9:51 a.m. Mark announces we are in Albemarle Sound and going straight for a very long time. Check out our crossing! It was smooth sailing today! <https://youtu.be/iKF8PIUkzw4>

11:45 a.m. We checked out a possible anchorage in the sound for tonight into tomorrow but we have southwest winds coming so although there is plenty of space in case of dragging our anchor, we could get rocked around. Less than ideal, so we are continuing north out of the Albemarle Sound into the North River towards more protected waters.

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A much better crossing today than last time. Thank goodness the winds were in our favor today to cross the Albemarle Sound.  
<https://youtu.be/ZX-eS6nKLkU> - click here to see us crossing the sound going south.

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1 o'clock. We passed Coinjock Marina at a snail's pace and we are heading into the Currituck Sound. It is a wider body of water, but rather shallow.

**All that red means "low water alarm"**







We are the blue dot on this map.



Can anyone guess what these white birds are? An enormous flock of white birds. Click the video link:

<https://youtu.be/GBDq9R-hWuI> - shorebirds galore!

It is a bird that we have not encountered before. Mark is ruling out swans, seagulls, and white pelicans.

We had been following a boat for a while now. It was anchored at the spot that we were possibly going to be staying at. As he neared this flock of birds they swooned up into the sky in an amazing sea of white. – (watch the video it is all there)



Eventually, we pass the boat in the Currituck Sound.

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Although Mark suggested that I come up here; I am feeling a little guilty enjoying today's ride from the flybridge. Work has been slow this afternoon but I am getting a lot of typing done. I uploaded a few more days to the website, texted with my mother-in-law, stared out the window at the endless miles of water, trees, water, trees, marsh grass, a few houses



here and there, and I only went downstairs to take over the wheel during Mark's hourly engine room checks.



It is very warm sitting on the port side with the sun beaming in, I have switched over to sitting on the starboard side of the flybridge out of the sun, and now that we have slightly turned the breeze is coming in the open window.

I am not the only one enjoying this beautiful day 😊



It is about 3:30 p.m. and I just heard a jet take-off. Possibly from the Joint Expeditionary Base? I am not sure.

I took a video because I thought I could get the jet plane on it but instead, I talked a bunch of nonsense...check it out!

<https://youtu.be/9kz6KXcJb0k> - unedited video of me chatting away while trying to capture the jet on camera.





We passed through the Mt. Pleasant swing bridge with ease at their 4:00 p.m. opening, and we had already crossed into Virginia back around 2:30 p.m.

We are on the southern branch of the Elizabeth River. Or are we in the North Landing River?

We are on both. It becomes the Elizabeth River after we go through the Centerville Turnpike Bridge.

We are approaching the Centerville Turnpike Swing Bridge. It is 4:30 p.m. and they do not have to open until 6:00 p.m.

Monday – Friday for two hours in the morning and afternoon they do not open. Otherwise, they open on the hour and ½ hour. I am sure it is a rush-hour traffic situation.

We are waiting for the bridge. It is now 4:45 p.m. and I am seeing a white dot way out there...coming towards us. Is that the boat we passed? They will probably get here just in time for the Centerville Bridge to open and laugh at us for mistiming this bridge.

Oh well. Let them have their chuckle. We won't know either way.

We have a long wait for this bridge but as far as I am concerned if this is the worst of our inconveniences as we continue to travel I will gladly take it.



Mark and Haleigh are complaining about how horrible the wait is. I am saying to them the same thing I just typed, if this is the worst of our inconveniences I will take it. The white dot was the boat that we passed and they are now waiting for the bridge too.

With a little bit of frustration building while waiting for this bridge it is time to count our blessings

1. It is warm enough to have the door open
2. We are not predicted to get snow like Nana who is in MA

3. It is after 5 o'clock, I'm done work and I can have wine!

Haleigh laughed and said if that is the way I live my life then....hahaha, she starts to laugh.

I said it is not the way I live my life (only for 5 o'clock cocktail hour) but, to say silly things to get you to laugh and have a smile on your face is.

Then I offered to wait to drink my wine until we get docked because Mark cannot drink while driving the boat. He said it was ok to go ahead and have my wine.

Well, it is 5:30 p.m. and I haven't had that drink yet. I am typing, helping Haleigh figure out an address for the free city dock we are tying up to, and chatting away with no drink.

I just asked Mark if he needs to call this bridge operator to remind him that we and another boat are here for an opening in 10 minutes. He said no because he called them on the phone.

He then told me it was the previous bridge operator that informed him that this bridge does not open until 6 o'clock.

[https://youtu.be/yrSesdky\\_Gs](https://youtu.be/yrSesdky_Gs) - forgive us. We know not what we say or do after almost 12-hours of cruising.

Once we got through the bridge, we had a 20-minute trek to the Chesapeake free city dock. The boat that had been following us tied up in front of us. We helped him with his lines, had a quick chat, and climbed back on board our boat.

Papa John's delivery is 37 minutes away thank you, Haleigh!

I started the generator all by myself!

At some point during the evening, we noticed that the boat that we helped tie up is gone. Maybe he caught the next opening of the Great Bridge Bridge. He did mention that he had a long way to go tomorrow. The dock we are tied up to for tonight is across from the Atlantic Yacht Basin. This is where we had Valkyrie pulled out of the water for work to be done on the stabilizer.

This is a free city-owned dock with an allowed time frame of up to 48 hours tie-up.



Papa John's delivery was successful. The pizza was good but not as good as the last time we ordered from there. The crust was a bit too crispy for my liking.

Tomorrow is a late morning start and warm weather is predicted! We are all looking forward to a nice warm day!

