

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

# Somewhere on the Water

February 17, 2022 – Another day in Portsmouth, VA  
Thursday, Day 72 of our trip.

What a gorgeous day. We have sunshine and a light breeze. It is only 60 degrees. We were hoping for 70 today but 60 is just fine for a winter day in February.

There has been a lot of *air* activity today. Helicopters flying so low they are shaking my home. We have had some ships pass by as I work and look out the back of the boat at the Elizabeth River. Navy police dock here frequently to get fuel, and every so often I hear a police siren in the background.

Mark is situated on the flybridge enjoying this gorgeous day. He has a window open up there. While I am sitting with him for a few minutes to read the February 8th blog before posting it I am bombarded with noises. A consistent beep that is out of Mark's hearing range that I can hear, a car alarm, a low flying helicopter, a crane horn, a backup alarm on another vehicle, boats passing, and large vehicles operating somewhere out of view behind the navy vessel docked across the water. I feel like I am shouting over it all for him to hear me read.



Mark and I took a walk to a **not so nearby** 7 - 11 store. We bought some lottery tickets. (Got to play to win!) On our way there we walked through a small park that displayed the history of the Norfolk & Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

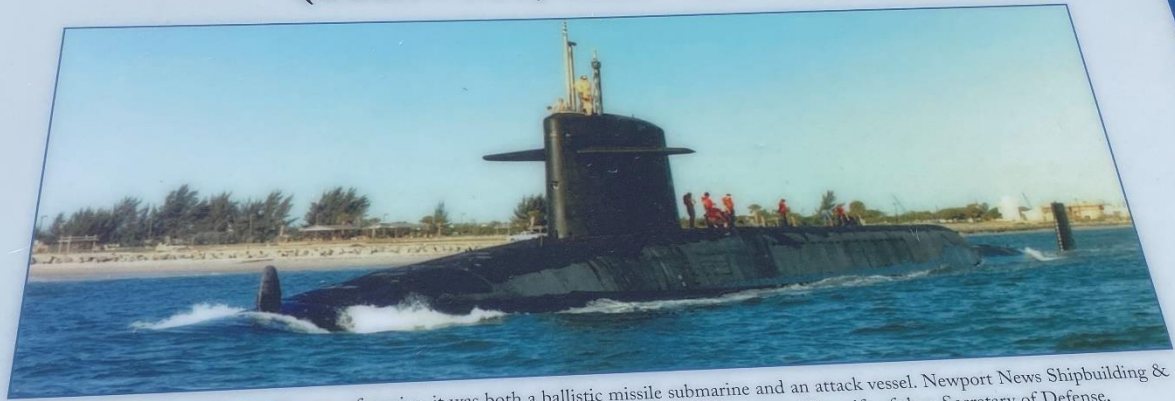
Plus, we walked by the Railroad Museum of Virginia.  
The Railroad Museum is only open on Fridays & Saturdays.



<http://www.railroadmuseumofvirginia.com/visit.html>



## Sail portion of USS *Thomas Jefferson* (SSBN 618) later SSN 618

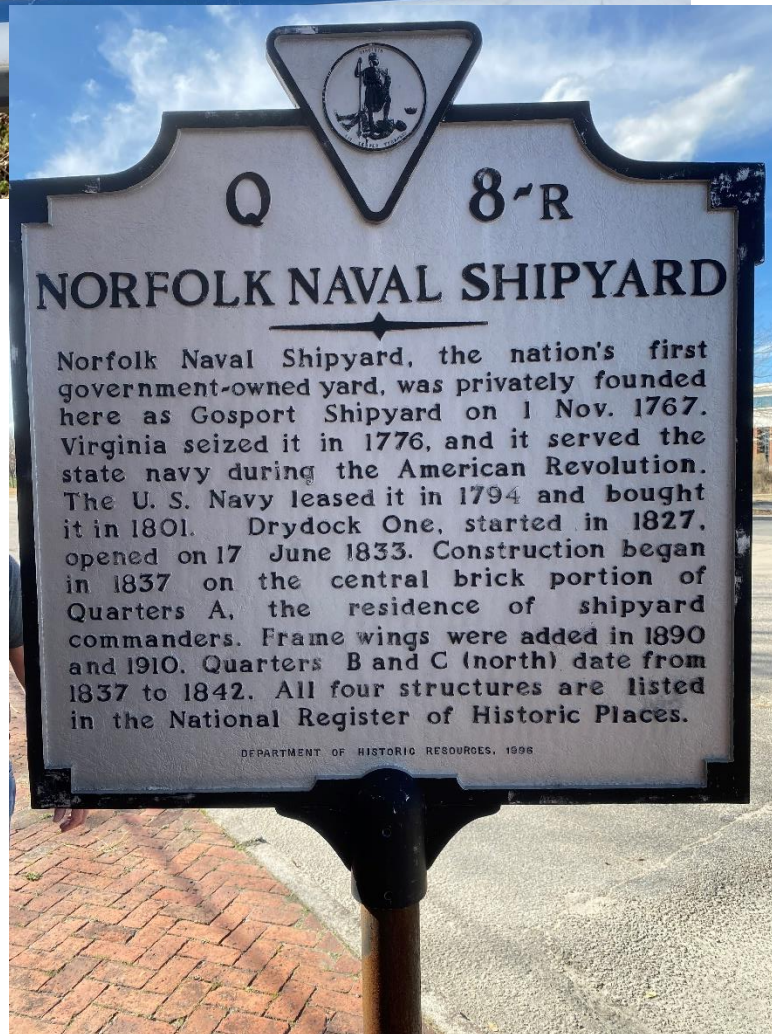


During USS *Thomas Jefferson's* 22 years of service, it was both a ballistic missile submarine and an attack vessel. Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Company built USS *Thomas Jefferson*, which was commissioned on January 4th, 1963. The wife of then Secretary of Defense, Robert S. McNamara, was the ship's sponsor.

General Characteristics:

Length: 410 feet • Beam: 33 feet • Crew: 12 officers, 128 enlisted • Propulsion: Nuclear powered • Decommissioned: January 24, 1985

***Path of History***  
PORTSMOUTH, VA



## Path of History Tour

A self-guided walking tour that links Fort Nelson Park at the Naval Medical Center to Gosport Park at the Naval Shipyard.

<https://portsvacation.com/places/path-of-history-tour/>

On the way back, we walked a different route; **heads down mind your own business kinda neighborhood.**

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At 8:00 a.m., and every evening at sunset. It is part of a time-honored Navy tradition known as morning and evening colors.

The U.S. Navy adopted this practice and made it part of the Rules and Regulations in 1843. Today you can find instructions detailing the procedures for Colors in the Navy Regulations, Chapter 12: "The ceremonial hoisting and lowering of the national ensign [American Flag] at 0800 and sunset at a naval command ashore or aboard a ship of the Navy not underway shall be known as morning and evening colors, respectively, and shall be carried out as prescribed in this article. -info from several google searches combined.

We can hear the sunset Colors sounding off in the distance. We were reading and editing Feb. 9 blog, but stopped and listened. For me, it is hard to describe the feeling hearing this invokes. Here in Portsmouth, it has become a welcomed part of the day.

The wind has been crazy today which is why we are still here in Portsmouth, VA. We are patiently waiting for a 3-day window of clear weather to get to NY via the open Atlantic Ocean.

By open, I mean a couple of miles offshore. We are hoping to skip the Chesapeake Bay and the C&D Canal.

Another gorgeous Moon watching over us this evening!

