

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

Somewhere on the Water

February 4, 2022, Day 59

Anchored South Myrtle Beach last night – headed North today

Coincidentally enough I am recreating this day, much like I had to recreate January 15 when we did this leg of the trip going south.

It must be some sort of cosmic, magnetic, Bermuda Triangle for computer memory because I cannot believe I have to do this again.

Lucky for me the photos that I took did not get deleted so that will help the storytelling go smoothly.

We did survive last night. It was a nice morning. Mark took a quick video.

Luckily we did better than this guy! <https://youtu.be/JDYzuVCB5Jw>



We are just south of Osprey Marina, where we docked for a few days to avoid bad weather back in January.

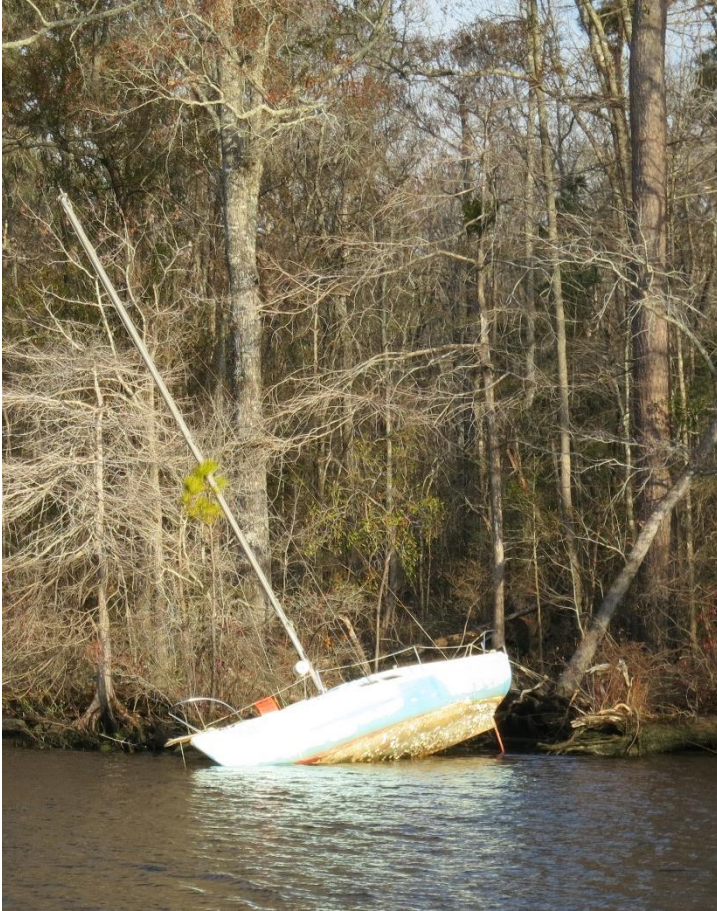
We took off this morning back on the AICW (aka; ICW, Intracoastal Waterway, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway).



We are cruising at a low tide this morning. The tree's roots are exposed and we seem to be the only ones on the water disturbing mother nature.



We went through the first swing bridge of the day without incident.
The Socastee Swing Bridge.



This abandoned sailboat is still here, and probably will be the next time we cruise this area 😞

Much of today was the same combination of my working, typing, Mark navigating and Haleigh bouncing between outback soaking up the sun or in her room.

I did notice a lot of things this trip that I did not see previously. Must have had my head down working hard. Friday afternoons can be busy, especially if Cape Cod is having a cold spell or snow.

Myrtle Beach is a huge draw for tourists, retirees, and golfers. Mark and I are not retired, nor do we golf. We enjoyed the cruise through it, minus the infamous Rock Pile, but we did that at high tide today so it went by without much notice on my part. I even missed him doing the **Sécurité** call on the VHF.

I knew we were going through it at the time, but it did not occur to me until after we went through it that I did not hear him call it.

We did have fog today which kept the sightseeing (if you can call it that from our small window of the world) to a minimum.

We passed under the Grande Dunes Bridge. Grande Dunes is a golf resort. It looks pretty grand.



According to the website:

The spectacular Resort Club at Grande Dunes, with its seven holes that play along the Intracoastal Waterway, represents Myrtle Beach golf at its very best. It's no wonder PGA Magazine called Grande Dunes "one of the great golf clubs in the world."





This is a landmark on the Grand Strand dating back to 1986.

Calabash Seafood Restaurant.

What is the Grand Strand?

Receiving its nickname back in 1945 by a columnist; The Grand Strand refers to **a large stretch of beaches on the coast of South Carolina**, extending all the way from the fishing village of Little River to historic Georgetown. The area goes on for 60+ miles and is home to two of the most popular tourist cities in the nation – Myrtle Beach and North Myrtle Beach.- <https://www.seasidevacations.com/blog/north-myrtle-beach-grand-strand/>



We came into fog around 10:30 a.m. We were in and out of it for a while. It put a damper on Haleigh's outdoor time but it did not hinder Mark's navigating.

The Little River Swing Bridge opened. As you can see we are a distance away and it will take us a good 5 minutes to reach it. It is 11:25 a.m. and it is fully opened.





We are through it at 11:30 a.m.
Curiously, it is not closing. There is a line of traffic on the roadway on both sides of the shore. But, yet, it remains open.



Brightly colored house 😊

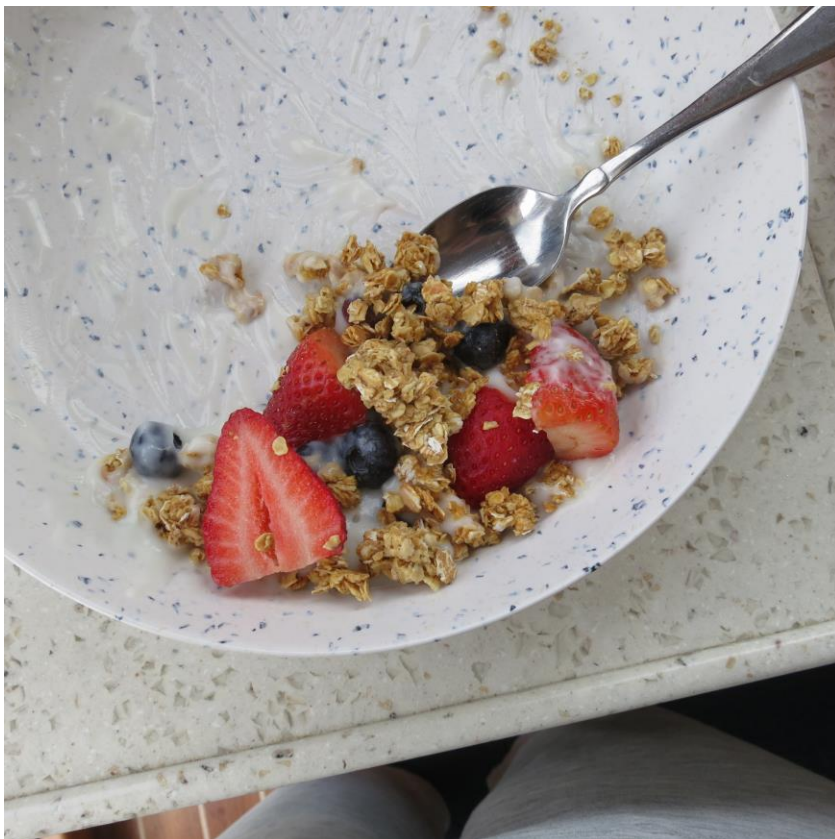
Danger, Rocks!



Bait buckets.

Hey, look there is a sailboat.

The bridge operator is going to hold the bridge open until he gets through it. He is $\frac{1}{2}$ mile away, and the bridge has been opened for over 10 minutes now. So, according to the sailboater, the bridge operator is very accomodating and nice. I wonder what the people in their cars waiting to cross are thinking? If they are locals, they are probably used to it.



I love when Haleigh plops food in front of me and says *Eat this!*
Ok, if I have to!

Yogurt, granola, blueberries & strawberries. Yes, please!

We had several hours of cruising. I enjoy this part of the trip. There is a lot to look at and the scenery changes often. I get a call from my brother who helps pass my time. Vermont and much of New England are getting snow, and or a wintery mix today.

We had dolphins swim with us! For a hot minute; then we have to slow down for a sail boater. Once we slow down that is it for the dolphins.

We plan to overnight at St. James Marina, Southport, NC. We stayed in Southport going south, just a different marina. Haleigh said it reminds her of Hampstead. We are surrounded by houses and condos. There is a golf course across the street. The marina's restaurant was closed for renovation. The bathhouse is fine. One stall, one shower. We will be able to fill up with water while we are here.

The entrance is a little narrow and at low tide, the low water alarm did go off. It is a nice protected marina that will keep us out of the high winds and rain predicted for this afternoon and early evening.



The marina dockhand recommended Dominos if we wanted delivery. Of course, it is Friday, and Friday night is pizza night.

I took a 2-mile walk which brought me along the marina and the ICW. It did not start raining until after Haleigh and I met the pizza delivery person. Lucky us.

We had a very comfortable night, I do not recall the wind and rain getting as bad as they predicted which is fine by me!

