

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

Somewhere on the Water

Update March 1, 2023 to April 30, 2023

Welcome aboard Valkyrie! March & April was a good time to get some boat projects done but otherwise we enjoyed the quiet time because soon enough we will need to concentrate on getting ready to move to a transient slip and then to our summer home all the while getting ready for some huge events in May.

In case you missed our last update you can find it here:

<https://alongsidedcreations.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/somewhere-on-the-water-Fiddlers-Cove-Feb-1-28-2023.pdf>

Some of the things you will find in the last update:

- Project Soft Floor
- Remarked the anchor chain
- We fried our electric cord plug

Here is what to expect in this



- Walked out to The Knob
 - YouTube Videos
 - Friends, family and fun
 - Easter
 - Anchored at Bassetts Island
 - Projects and chores
 - Signs of Spring
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➤ Walked out to The Knob

Whether or not this will become a regular segment is yet to be determined. When the weekend comes around and we don't have any plans I try to get off the boat; I may go exploring, I may run errands, or just simply go for a drive. Working from home can be isolating so for my mental health this is important.

I am brainstorming the idea of creating a *"Beyond the Boat"* video series for our YouTube channel featuring these explorations.

Let me know what you think. Your feedback is always appreciated.

On this particular day in March, I walked to the Knob, stopped at Nobska Light, drove through Woods Hole, and stopped by Stony Beach before meeting up with a dear friend at Mashpee Commons.



This is an easy walk that leads you to an amazing view of Buzzards Bay. There is a link below to an informative brochure.

This is easy enough for almost all abilities of walking. Just stick to the path that goes to the right.

https://www.savebuzzardsbay.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/map_the-knob.pdf

Next stop: Nobska Light. Plans to build a Maritime Museum are underway and you can learn about that and about visiting the lighthouse here:

<https://friendsofnobska.org/>

Since it is "off-season" I could not walk the grounds but I did cross the street and take in the view of Vineyard Sound, Woods Hole Passage including the Elizabeth Islands and Martha's Vineyard.



After a nice drive through Woods Hole, I stopped here at Stony Beach.

Stony Beach is owned by the Marine Biology Laboratory—but it is open to the public. It is managed by the Town of Falmouth.

Check out our YouTube Channel to see my video:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRoO6w8JLnITrWcZdPDJY0Q>

Keep checking the channel. The video of my walk to the Knob is not up as of 5/30 but I am working on it – I promise!

➤ YouTube Videos

One of the longest projects that we have done since moving onboard Valkyrie is Project Soft Floor. It was a multi-day project that once completed turned into a 4-part video series. Along with filming that project, there were also other projects, chores, and of course that below-zero weather event we had in February; all-in-all I edited 9 videos for February's update. These videos are time-consuming. I guess a labor of love is a better way of putting it. Being self-taught and still learning the Kdenlive video program means that I am not the most efficient movie producer. However, I am also our videographer and blogger plus working a "paying job," I think it's okay to be a little slow in production. Hence the reason March and April's update is not coming out until May.



Thanks for your patience. Please keep checking in on our YouTube channel for videos. Like and Subscribe. We appreciate all of you for following along. We are super thrilled that we are over 100 subscribers. It means a lot! Thanks!

➤ Friends, family, and fun

Jordan came home for spring break. A much-needed week away from school, and work and a chance to recharge her batteries for the long-awaited home stretch to graduation!

We enjoyed having her at home. There is nothing like a girls' day out shopping, a movie, and dinner.

Went to lunch at Fireside Grille in Middleborough with boat friends. You know it is a good time when your lunch date lasts until 7 pm.

I went to a pie party on Sunday, March 12. (Pi Day) A very good representation of pies to be shared and tasted: chicken pot pie, shepherd's pie, raspberry pie, key lime, and butterscotch. Wearing elastic-waisted, comfy pants is a must at this kinda party!!

Typically Mark and I do not go out to eat often. This winter while docked in Falmouth we were able to step out of our norm thanks to our friends encouraging us to get off the boat in the cold weather. We also attended trivia night at the Lanes Bowl & Bistro and the Ninety Nine, both in Mashpee. What a fantastic way to encourage a weeknight out and engage with friends.

If you are on the Upper Cape here are our restaurant critiques:

Silver Beach Pizza – they do not always get your order correct, but whatever surprise you end up with is tasty!

Pizza Guys – we love pizza guys! They always get it right! Especially their onion rings.

Estia – there are two locations; Falmouth and Mashpee. We have been to both and love them both. Of course, we are biased, Haleigh works here. Even if she didn't, we would rate Estia very high. The food, the service their fun cocktails, all worth the try. Mark's favorite is the *Alessandra Pizza*. It has calamari on it. I have tried several items on the menu and was delighted with everything.

The Courtyard – The clam chowder is a must-have. The lobster ravioli was perfect and their thin-crust pizza is good. In season, the Pumpkin Martini is good and Mark would recommend the White Russian. (not all bartenders do a strong, even flavored White Russian, these were consistently tasty.)

Epic Oyster – our young waiter, from Jamaica was adorable and tried very hard. The décor is fun and eclectic. Otherwise, don't bother. This restaurant came very highly recommended, but for us, it did not live up to its hype.

The Lobster Trap – I am in love with this place. It is too busy to try to go here in the height of summer, however, in the off-season it is the best! We were a party of four that day we went and every one of us loved, loved, loved the food and drinks. Clam chowder is a must!

➤ Easter

When the adult kids ask for an egg hunt, you give them an egg hunt! That was fun! Vinny won with Haleigh coming in second and Jordan a weak third, lol.



We hosted dinner onboard Valkyrie. Covid remains a thorn in our side so we missed a couple of anticipated guests but still enjoyed the day!



Their facial expressions say it all! 😂

- Anchored at Bassetts Island

Valkyrie leaves the Dock!

What we hope to be one of many weekend adventures at anchor, we left Fiddlers Cove Marina and cruised to Bassetts Island. It was also our first time hosting friends for an overnight. Our first boating trip of 2023 was a huge success!

- Projects and chores

Out with the old, in with the new!

Bosters, that is! Mark had the cockpit bolsters redone!

That is not all...

While the bolsters were getting a facelift so wasn't the rest of the cockpit: A little sanding, and a couple of coats of teak oil and Valkyrie is looking young again!



Old bolsters

Sanded the rails & steps





Applying teak oil

Finished project!



The privacy curtain on the mezzanine level had some repairs as well as the rail cover. We are going to try and enjoy the cockpit with this new facelift rather than put the black rail cover back on.



I apologize now to our boat neighbors; I can't control him, I am sorry! Guess who bought new speakers?! Yup, new speakers for the flybridge went in!



Which one does not look like the other? Can you tell in the photo?

Mark had to replace the battery tachometer on the flybridge panel.



➤ Signs of Spring

A sure sign that spring is here for Valkyrie; we removed the electric heaters. The ocean is warm enough (above 40 degrees) to turn the boat's heat on and ditch these electric heaters. Thanks for keeping us toasty this winter!



Jellyfish are here! Obsessed with watching these graceful creatures. Last year when we were at Sandwich Marina we were surrounded by jellies this time of year. Here is the video link from last year:

<https://youtu.be/GevVljDzO44>





But please....



OUR journey onboard Valkyrie continues...

Coming up:

- Valkyrie moves to a transient slip
- West Island, here we come!
- Jordan graduates college!

Time is unrenewable and tomorrow is never promised so do it before you can't!