

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

Somewhere on the Water

Update Winter Cruise 2023-2024

Day 7 – December 7, 2023 – Cape May, NJ to Chincoteague, VA

Departure time: 6:15 am

Arrival time: 3:00 pm

Total hours cruised: 8hrs 45 minutes

Average speed: 9 knots

Weather: 43 degrees

It was 38 degrees this morning. The anchorage was quiet and secure. A fishing vessel waked us about 5 am. Mark was up before his 6am alarm, generator and engines by 6:15 am and shortly after he raised the anchor and took off out of Cape May.



We are getting tossed around a little bit this morning NW winds 12 mph gusting 19 mph. Slightly less than yesterday.

About last night:

We had leftovers for dinner that we reheated in the microwave. Had a great funny conversation at dinner with Family Feud on the TV in the background. Most importantly; we face-timed with our oldest, Jordan. It was her 23rd birthday. The girl who made us parents spent her day in training for her new job. Three days in and it is going great. The first step in what she hopes is a long career in Marine Science. Let's put that degree to good use girl. We are so proud of her. Haleigh, our second and youngest child is working hard at 2 (or maybe 3) jobs. She is a hard worker and likes what she does. She is renting a house on her own and is doing all the adulting things at 20 that I could never have done. She also makes us very proud. What makes Mark and I proud parents is that both our girls are proud of themselves and are happy with their lives. We have been empty nesters since October 1 and it is nice to know that Mark and I still have fun, even when it is just the two of us.

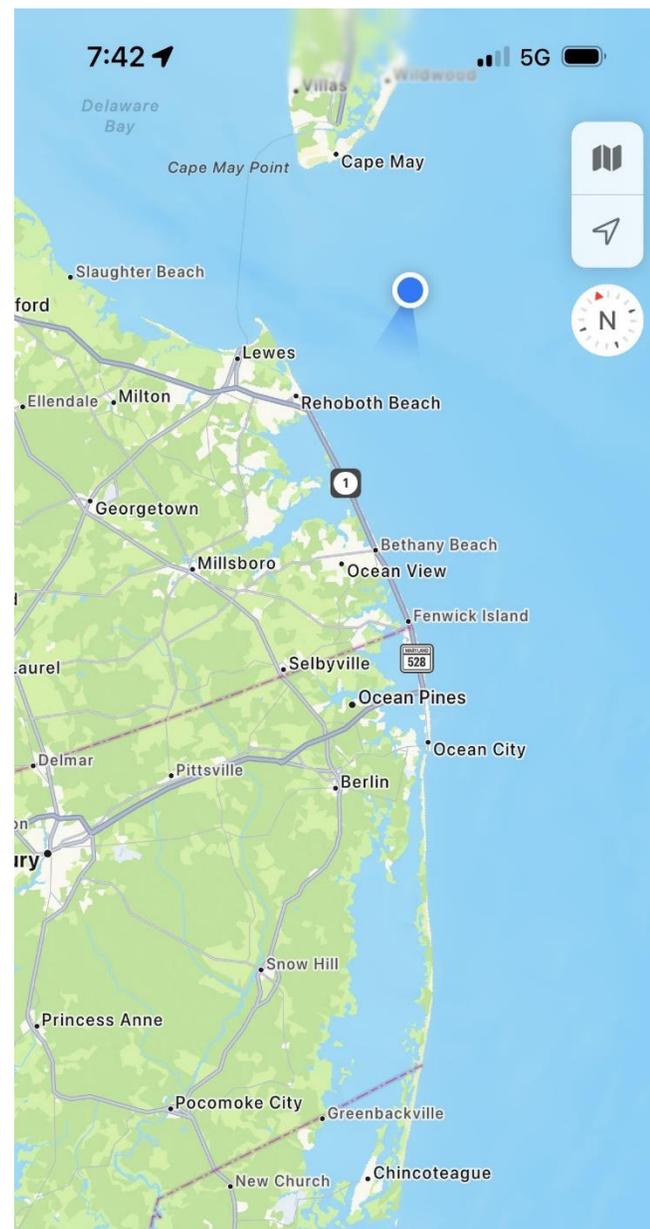
What has me so sappy this morning? Back to cruising....

7:30 am – we are taking some good-sized waves on the beam as we cross the mouth of the Delaware River. The wind carries those waves all along the river out into the bay which creates some chop for us.

There are shipping lanes that lead up to the Delaware River. There are a few container ships in our sights and a car carrier.

The green running light did not come on this morning. Once we arrive at Chincoteague Mark will fix that.

With all the swells & waves that have caused all this rolling & pitching we have been doing it is obvious to us (because it is where we spend all our time) how all the stuff we have in the



salon and bedrooms is doing, but what about the stuff up above us? The Flybridge. The tender hasn't moved, thank goodness. The grill is good because that is secure in a stand that is bolted to the boat, but how about the large cooler and the propane tank?

Little bit of trivia:

More than 17 million people get their drinking water from the Delaware River basin, including two of the five largest cities in the U.S.—New York City and Philadelphia.

George Washington's army crossed the Delaware on the night of Dec. 25-26, 1776, for a successful surprise attack on the Hessian troops occupying Trenton, NJ, during the American Revolution. <https://www.americanrivers.org/river/delaware-river/>

In 2015, the ports of Philadelphia, Camden, and Wilmington handled 100 million tons of cargo from 2,243 ship arrivals and supported 135,000 direct or indirect jobs. The biggest category of imports was fruit, carried by 490 ships, followed by petroleum, and containers, with 410 and 381 ships, respectively. The biggest category of exports was of shipping was containers, with 470 ships
<https://rcnwt.com/delaware-river-shipment/>



Note to the Captain:

- Fix the running lights
- Check out the top deck and make sure we still have a cooler & propane tank.
- The spotlight still doesn't work

9:12 am – things have really calmed down a lot since we are now south of the mouth of the river. We are just outside Bethany Beach and I can see Ocean City, MD in front of us. We will only be “in” Maryland for a short time today.

ETA to Chincoteague is 3:00 pm

10:47 am Mark saw a whale. It looked to be feeding. I did not.

While cruising along Assateague Island we spot ponies (horses) on the beach. That was way cool!

Mark turned the generator on around 1 pm. The wind coming from the west is cold.

There is a small starboard transmission oil leak that Mark has been chasing ever since we got Valkyrie. It isn't serious but it drips on a spinning fan which makes it fly everywhere. It needs a cleaning from time to time which he did today while I was at the helm.

By 2 pm we were in the Chincoteague Channel. It does get a bit tight in the channel. We want maximum depth so Mark uses Aquamaps and Navionics to keep him centered and on track. It is a long trek up the channel to Robert Reed Downtown Waterfront Park. This is where we will dock until the weather allows us to leave. We will be tied starboard side along the pier.

Wallops Island is across the channel from Chincoteague.



Thankfully no space vessels were being launched into space today!



Our home for the next several days!

We had dinner onboard. We were both tired from a long day on the ocean.

Dinner was a skillet meal: Mexican Beef & Rice Casserole
So yummy but we will have leftovers for days. Too much food, I should have cut the recipe in half.



Stay
tuned



Today's video link: <https://youtu.be/d5HkCFYPwss>

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