

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

Somewhere on the Water

Update Winter Cruise 2023-2024

Day 41 – Wednesday January 10, 2024

Sunny & windy this morning. We are still waiting for the word that it is our turn to get hauled out here at the marina.

About Last night:

The winds gusted up to 54 mph. We had massive downpours. The electricity went off 3-times. More than a flicker, but lasting no longer than a minute or so. After the third time we just left the main electric breaker off and ran on battery so not to have a power surge on our electronics.

Mark is thinking we have been through 7 – hurricane strength wind storms since moving onboard Valkyrie.

Dinner was left over chili. We watched a few episodes of *Suits* on Netflix and were in bed by 10:30 pm.

This morning we have a lot of leaves, pineneedles and small debris from the storm. One of our boat neighbors must have lost a tender because there is a tender across the channel which appears to be deflated. Mark was sure he saw it on the bow of the sail boat in front of us.

There is also a boat cushion that blew off someone's boat and is on the other side of the canal.

Day 42 – Thursday, January 11, 2024

Sunny morning. The wind has died down. It is cool in the 30's but expected to warm into the high 40's.

I did laundry this morning. 9 am I went to put the first 2 loads in. The laundry here at Atlantic Yacht Basin Marina is \$1.00 per load. Last time we did laundry we brought the wets back to dry here onboard but decided that was just not worth it. The \$1.00 dryer works great in more than ½ the time it takes onboard. By noon, I had 3-loads done and folded.

Mark spied a pelican on the canal this morning. It flew away after a boat departed the docks. We have not seen pelicans here before. There have been 2 boats in the basin on the travel lift this morning. Still waiting for our turn. What we don't want to happen is for Friday to be our haul out and then get stuck on the hard for the weekend. We are anxious to get moving and continue with our cruising. As I am sure you, our followers are as well.

Mark started the Marvel series Echo yesterday and is continuing with that this morning. I am working in between trips to the laundromat.

We have a crack in our fresh water tank. We have known this. There was a repair done when we bought the boat. Mark has repaired it twice since then. The crack is at the very top of the tank. It doesn't give us an issue unless the tank is overfilled. When Mark made water the other day he overfilled the tank, so now it's an issue.

The crack goes between 2 fittings. He filled around one fitting and then followed the crack as far as he could. The leak was reduced but was still enough that he had to clean around the second fitting and cake Silaflex 291 on it. This silicone adhesive adheres to plastic well.

Bordeum does funny things for Mark. If he is not on his iPad researching something (usually something to buy) he is watching TV (which there is usually never anything good on during the day) or he finds things to do; putter is a good way to describe it. So in addition to the water tank repair, he decided to wash the front bow window. The bow window has three

panes. One of which is over the galley stove. The inside of this window pane has collected a lot of grease and grime from cooking. Tackling that was on my to-do list but today he did it. Yay for me and yay for the window. It looks much better after 3 applications of 2-different cleaners.

I left the boat around 2:30 for a walk and then a trip to Kroger. Kroger is a grocery store. 2.5 hours later I am back. I walked the trails across the street. 2 loops around is 2.5 miles. I then made my way to the shopping plaza, stopped at the Hallmark store, and then Kroger. I am not familiar with the layout so I decided to just walk every aisle. I bought shrimp for an appetizer, cod, and asparagus for dinner, and for a treat, I bought cookies for dessert.



This was floating in the canal. As a boater, you would not want to hit this. Even at slow speeds something this size could cause damage.



Day 43 – Friday, January 12, 2024 – Chesapeake, VA

I have been hearing planes all day. But with the clouds, we couldn't see any. The clouds started clearing as the afternoon passed and around 3:30 Mark could see fighter jets. We think they are running touch-and-go drills.

Little bit of Trivia

Naval Auxiliary Landing Field Fentress is a military use airport located in Chesapeake, Virginia. This military airport is owned by the U.S. Navy and is under the operational control of Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia. The airfield primarily supports day and night Field Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP) operations by US Navy and US Marine Corps F/A-18 Hornet, and US Navy F/A-18 Super Hornet, E-2 Hawkeye and C-2 Greyhound aircraft based in Virginia and the Carolinas. (from FaceBook: [Pagehttps://www.facebook.com/pages/Naval-Auxiliary-Landing-Field-Fentress/119204344792413](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Naval-Auxiliary-Landing-Field-Fentress/119204344792413))

We had 2 Flemings come into the marina today. One with a hailing port of Newport RI and one from FL. This is our dream boat, the Fleming. We would love to cruise Alaska on our own Fleming.

I walked to Kroger (again) to get dinner.

Appetizer: Boursin garlic cheese spread on French bread

Dinner: salmon burgers with green beans and salad

Dessert: I bought chocolate chip cookies but the salmon burgers were very thick and filling so we did not eat the cookies. I only ate ½ my burger because it was so filling.

Day 44 – Saturday, January 13, 2024 – Chesapeake, VA

It is Saturday and we are still stuck in Chesapeake, VA. On one hand, it is a blessing that we have access to electricity and are protected from the high winds. But on the other hand, we have been waiting for a long time to get our boat hauled and worked on. There is not a lot to do in the area (when you do not have a car), we've biked, walked, and shopped at the local stores; this is getting ridiculous. I am getting impatient.

What would I be doing if we were not on a boat in Chesapeake, VA? I have no idea but the highlight of my weekend should not be walking to the store to go grocery shopping which is what we did. It is not normal for Mark and I to grocery shop together. He doesn't like how I shop, and he likes it even less when I ask him what he wants. This trip was a planned provision trip. We now know that we will have electricity while we are on the hard which translates to me stocking up on the perishable items that we did not buy at Walmart. We used our wagon to haul the groceries back to the marina.



We are not sure why the fire trucks were here but there were two of them and there were hoses dumping water into the canal.

It turned out that the trip to the grocery store was not the highlight of my weekend. We went to Woody's Raw Bar & Grill after having dinner onboard the boat. Woody's is within walking distance. There was live music, dancing, and drinking. The band was great. We started with a Crush. After that I had wine, and Mark had his typical rum & ginger ale. As the night progressed we did a few shots of Skrewball Peanutbutter Whiskey.



Day 45 – Sunday, January 14, 2024 – Chesapeake, VA

It is a sunny, windy day here. We are resting today after a super fun, long night. We got to sleep about 4 a.m. this morning and did not get out of bed until 10:30-11:00 a.m.

Mark did one load of laundry and I did one load of laundry and showered.

Now that there is more confidence in making water we were not very conservative with this last tank. I am showering onboard because the marina's shower room is not clean. I realize that the water is the culprit to the rust stains but that is not why the bathroom is not clean and I am so happy to not have to continue to use it.

The marina laundry room is clean and the machines as I have mentioned are a bargain at \$1.00 per load but for today we decided to just do laundry onboard since we were going to make water today anyway.

We watched FailArmy Best of the Year on YouTube. Super funny! Sunday's 1:00 p.m. NFL game got postponed due to weather.

The weather up and down the coast of New England has been crazy. Super high tides and winds are causing significant flooding. The Sandwich Marina which is the last marina we stayed at before departure for our cruise flooded, the road and sidewalks.

I went through the grocery list and recipes that I have on my spreadsheet and created this week's menu.

There have been a couple of boats going by. One boat came by around 1:30 p.m. headed to the fuel dock and then was waiting for the 2 o'clock bridge opening. When the bridge opened a sailboat came through and headed south but the power boat that had been waiting on this side never went through the bridge and then sat there for an hour and went through the 3 o'clock bridge. Mark and I wished we were privy to the conversation that happened on that boat as to why they did not go through the open 2 o'clock bridge. An answer we will never get.

I went for a walk today in the marsh trails across the canal. The tree that fell across the main walking trail during last week's wind and rain storm has been cleared along with any other debris. There were a lot of people walking their dogs. All are well behaved and no sign of anyone leaving any dog poop in the trails which is wonderful.

Dinner was salmon, asparagus, and salad. For dessert chocolate chip cookies. We watched *Leave the World Behind* on Netflix.

Stay
tuned



https://youtu.be/_55HJtTNd5w Day 42

<https://youtu.be/93fA6jtQYeg> Days 43-44