

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

# *Somewhere on the Water*

Update Winter Cruise 2023-2024

Day 54 – Tuesday, January 23, 2024 – Free dock @ Great Bridge Battlefield Museum, Chesapeake, VA to Anchorage, North River, NC

Cold morning. It was 52 in the salon this morning when Mark got up to start the generator.

## *About last night*

Last night we were docked at the free dock at the Great Bridge Battlefield Museum & Visitor Center. No facilities are available here. We were able to use WiFi from the Atlantic Yacht Basin across the canal. Mark napped while I watched *How to get away with murder*.

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The ice did not melt off until late in the afternoon, too late for us to leave yesterday so this morning we are going to make a second attempt to leave Chesapeake, VA and cruise south. There is a thin layer of ice this morning. The weather is expected to warm to 50 but it is very cloudy so patiently we wait.

I was at the helm this morning! I got Valkyrie off the dock and turned her around for our voyage south today! Woohoo! It was my first time. The conditions were no existent meaning there was no wind, no current and we had a lot of space to work with. Mark did not record it unfortunately.

9:47 am – Engines started

10:00 am - Depart

3:00 pm - Engines off

5 Hours of cruising

36 degrees when we left Chesapeake; 50 degrees at 3:00 pm

10.5 knots average speed with minimal winds and no current

As we cruise south today we will encounter two swing bridges that we will have to time just right for their scheduled openings. If we don't, we will have to wait for their next opening. They are the Centerville Turnpike Swing Bridge & the North Landing Swing Bridge. The next two bridges on today's route are fixed bridges so no time constraints.

## Centerville Turnpike (SR 170) Bridge

- **Mile Marker:** 15.2
- **Lat / Lon:** N 36° 43.417' / W 076° 11.183'
- **Bridge Type:** Swing
- **Vertical Clearance (Closed):** 4.00 ft.
- **Horizontal Clearance:** 80.00 ft.

The Centerville Turnpike Swing Bridge opening schedule:

From 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays: Need not open for the passage of recreational or commercial vessels. From 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for Federal holidays, the draw need only be opened on the hour and half hour.

## SR 165 (North Landing) Bridge

- **Mile Marker:** 20.2
- **Lat / Lon:** N 36° 43.067' / W 076° 06.017'
- **Bridge Type:** Swing
- **Vertical Clearance (Closed):** 6.00 ft.
- **Horizontal Clearance:** 80.00 ft.
- **Schedule:**

The draw shall open on signal; except that, from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., the draw need be opened only on the hour and half hour for the passage of pleasure craft. Public vessels of the United States, commercial vessels, and vessels in an emergency endangering life or property shall be passed at any time. <https://www.waterwayguide.com/>

The Centerville Turnpike Bridge is a single-span swing bridge built in 1955.

The North Landing Swing Bridge is a double-span swing bridge also built in 1955 according to the [cityofchesapeake.net](http://cityofchesapeake.net) website.

### *Little bit of Trivia:*

A swing bridge is a movable bridge that has as its primary structural support a vertical locating pin and support ring, usually at or near to its center of gravity, about which the swing span can then pivot horizontally. Wikipedia.



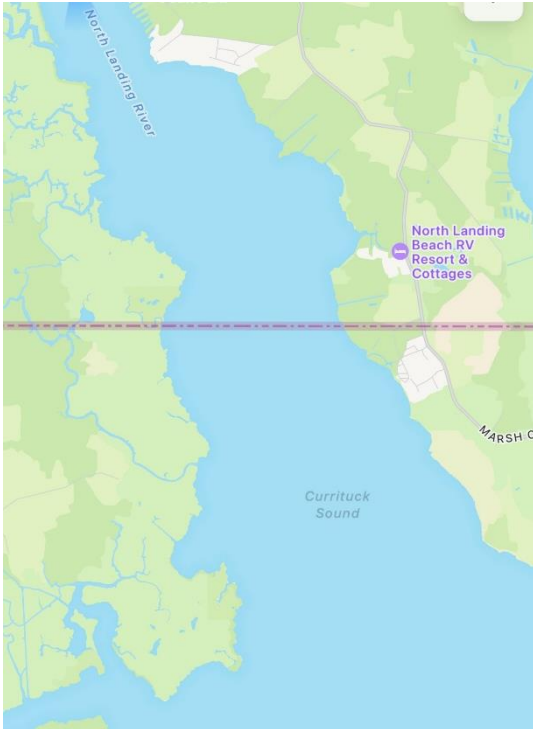
Mark is running the engines hard today because....

.....We typically run our 2-stroke Detroit Diesels at too low of an RPM. They get clogged up with oil & soot, this is called 'wet stacking'. To clean them out they need to run at a high enough RPM so that the turbo-charged air is hot and fast enough to clean it out.

We had fresh oil & filters, fresh fuel filters, fresh bottom paint, and new propellers, Mark felt it was time to give Valkyrie a decent 'sea trial' test and clean out the oil & soot.

Today we had the shallow water effect, which basically means that the column of water that we were in moves with us, we are not moving through it therefore the boat sinks deeper into the water increasing drag and reducing the ability to steer. At 10 – 11 knots of speed and burning

over 30 gallons of diesel an hour (1 gallon per 3<sup>rd</sup> of a mile) this is NOT what you want to do if you are trying to be fuel efficient.



Virginia & North Carolina border. Cruising the North Landing River into the Currituck Sound. We are in North Carolina!

We passed Coinjock Marina, known by the boating world as the “must-stop” for their prime rib. Order your prime ribe when you make your dock reservation because they will sell out. I like their crab cakes.



2:00 pm – a cup of hot cocoa to warm the soul and the addition of a hat and fleece, as it is down to 58 degrees in the salon.



The vibration of the boat while cruising at this speed has caused one or two – otherwise stable items- to shimmy themselves onto the floor. Thankfully nothing broke.

3:00 pm and the anchor has been set. We are where the North River meets the Albemarle Sound (Camden Bay) in North Carolina. Mark is checking the transmission oil level which has to be done while the engines are running and warm.

Mark started the generator right away to get things warmed up in here.

Tomorrow we plan to cruise 4 hours to Buzzard Bay, near Kill Devil Hills, Bodie Island, and take the tender to go see the Wright Brothers Memorial.

### *Little bit of Trivia:*

Bodie Island is a long, narrow-barrier peninsula that forms the northernmost portion of the Outer Banks. The land that is most commonly referred to as Bodie Island was at one time a true island, but in 1811 Roanoke Inlet, which had separated it from the Currituck Banks in the north, closed.-Wikipedia

### Fun Facts about Kill Devil Hills:

- ✓ Kill Devil Hills is the most populated OBX town
- ✓ No one knows how it got its name  
Legend has it that shipwrecked pirates came ashore and had barrels of rum that were strong enough to “Kill a Devil”
- ✓ The Wright Brothers had their first successful flight here

OBX = Outer Banks

Thursdays' plan, Manteo, NC



Stay  
tuned



<https://youtu.be/KU1AB7WK4fo>

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