

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

Somewhere on the Water

Update Winter Cruise 2023-2024

Day 64 – Friday, February 2, 2024 Anchorage in House Channel, NC to Ocracoke Island, NC

7:40 am – Hauled anchor and departed

7:15 am – Started generator & engines

40 degrees with winds expected to increase as the day goes on

1:25 pm – Docked & engines off at the National Park Service

53 degrees and partly cloudy

The anchor chain came up clean however the anchor itself had a lot of sand stuck to it so Mark dragged the anchor for a bit before hoisting it all the way up.



A straight and wide open Pimlico Sound is ahead of us today. We cruised far enough off shore that there was nothing to look at except the 3 – 4 foot waves that kept the windshield satly all morning. The wind kicked up as

predicted and so did the waves in the sound. We definitely had several 6 foot waves today that had our water bottles toppling over.

Strangely enough, we had a puddle of water at the foot of the stairs leading to the master cabin and on the floor of the mid cabin. We have no explanation. Later this same day we discovered that there was water on the floor of the front cabin as well.



We met a ferry in the channel as we were entering Ocracoke, the Silver Lake.

Ocracoke is an island and you can not drive to it but you can bring your vehicle, even your RV. There are three ferry routes with both vehicle and

passenger options that run from different points throughout the year. You can take a ferry from Swan Quarter, Cedar Island, or Hatteras over to Ocracoke. You could also come by boat like we did, or Fly.

As we were docking there was a ferry loading vehicles in preparation for departing, the Cedar Island Ferry.



Ocracoke is an unincorporated town on the southern end of Ocracoke Island, NC built along a small harbor named Silver Lake. Yes, it is part of NC's Outer

Banks. The 2020 the census was 797 residents. Its economy is dependent on tourism and fishing.

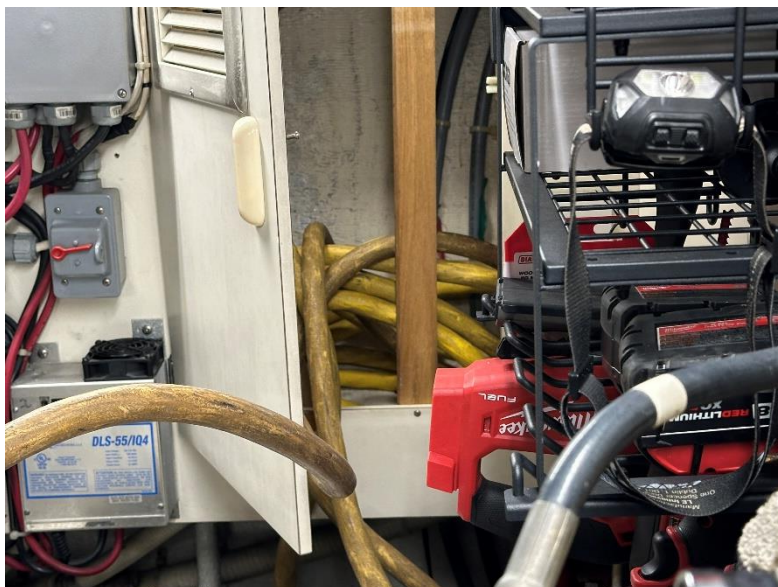


The channel coming into Ocracoke, NC

We tied to the National Parks Service dock which is just to the left as you enter the harbor. Smack dab next to



the ferry terminal. Did you know that the ferry will let out a loud blast to warn that they are leaving the dock? It does and yes, it did scare me the first time I heard it. Valkyrie has a portside tie-up to this dock which is unusual. All the lines had to be moved as well as the bumpers. The portside power cord was a tangled mess so Mark and I had to team up to get that straightened out. Literally.



Once we got the power cord plugged in, Mark was able to rinse Valkyrie off with fresh water from the dock. Next on the agenda is WIFI. This National Parks Marina is \$77 per day for our size boat.

Upon arrival here at the NPS dock, there is a small office building where the directions to check-in are hanging on the side of the building. You have to check in daily regardless of the length of your stay. Download the app. Sign up as a guest, scan the code on the flyer that is hanging on the building and then make a payment.

Explanation!! When Valkryie takes on water over the bow it seeps in through where the railing is screwed to the decking. If we take on enough water it eventually makes its way through the walls and floor. Well, for me, it sounds like we should not have watched the *Insidious* movies and perhaps we have mysteriously brought something in from the other side...lol

The pump for the front heat system is not coming on even though the thermostat is calling for heat. Coincidentally we were just yanking on the shore power cord which is in the same area as the wires for the heat system are. It wasn't long before Mark got that fixed.

Even though we arrived early we decided to wait to explore. We are here for a week giving us plenty of time to see everything. We had a Zataran's Jambalaya rice dinner and finished the last season of *Suits*.



Unfortunately, no wifi.

Stay
tuned



<https://youtu.be/70UE6Y5Yugg> last nights sunset
<https://youtu.be/SnkeaQTgnZc> today's journey

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

