



Chesapeake City

October 2 to 8, 2016

Headed out from Cape May early, 4:20 a.m. It was pitch black once we were out of the harbour and a bit unnerving. Looking out the starboard door I saw a huge black something looming there. Woke me right up.... just our shadow.

It was a bit rough through Delaware Bay, plants on the floor again (have to remember to stow those things). The dinghy decided to loosen up and move around on the deck so Wallace had to brave the waves and go outside to tighten her up.

We broke our record for speed coming through the Bay just before the C&D Canal, 9.6 knots with the current behind us. That's pretty good for Dirtfree.



We arrived Chesapeake City at 1:00 p.m. Off for ice cream and then to town to pay for hydro.



Town Dock is free for dockage, \$10 if you want water and \$15 if you want hydro.
 Free wifi courtesy of the Chesapeake Inn.
 All on the honour system, just walk to town hall (below, yup that's it) to pay them.





Gouk Excellent Adventures

We are here for two nights and then off to Annapolis.



Fuel across the canal.



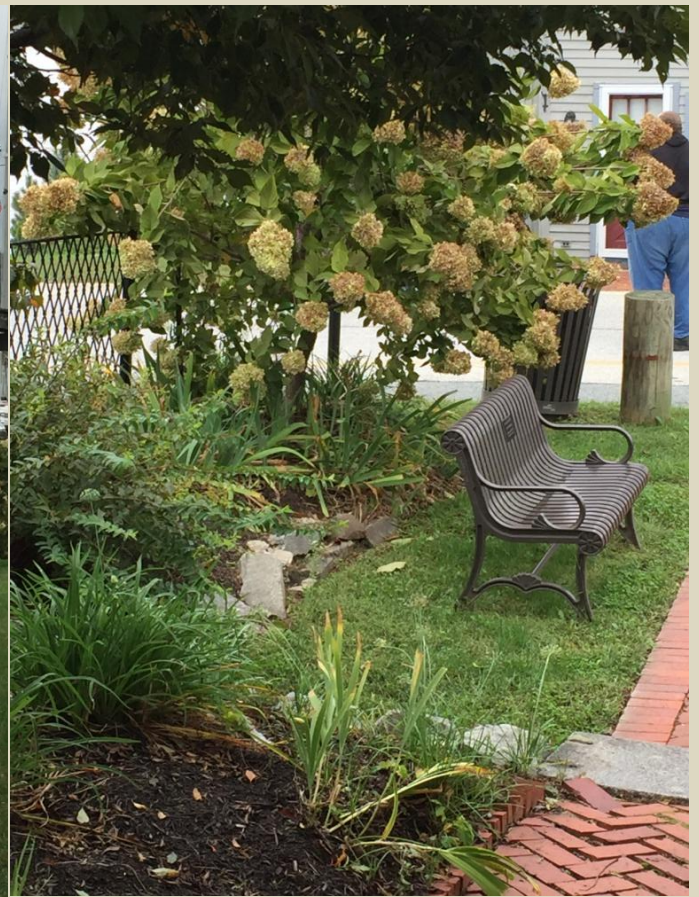


Gouk Excellent Adventures



Pell Gardens

Not much this time of year, but I love my gardens.





Change of Plans

We will spend a bit longer in Chesapeake City than originally planned with the threat of Matthew. We spoke to Town Hall and arranged to stay for three more days, along with two other boats from Montreal and Maine sharing the dock with us.

Wallace and I are grateful and send a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has messaged to check up on our safety and made offers of free docks and trips to town. We are lucky to count you all as friends. We are thinking of our friends and others who are already a lot further south than us in Florida and the Bahamas and saying a prayer for them.

Although it looks like we might miss the weather, I have been researching storm preparation. Wallace has been telling me how to prepare and I've been reading Boat US and other sites for information. We would set the anchor while tied to the dock; this dock is a floating dock with pilings about 8 feet high, and from what I've read that is a good thing, although higher pilings would be better. We would remove everything from the decks, including the canvas, stock up on groceries, gas for the generator and fill the water tanks. Basically, everything to make us self sufficient if everything goes kaput.

We have taken the time waiting to get some work done. Wallace finished the freezer and we rented a van with our dock neighbours to go grocery shopping.



Room for ice cubes now.

Our dinghy got a bit banged up in Nyack and we lost most of her name decal, so I had a chance to fix that as well. Hope the sharpie is really a *permanent* marker.





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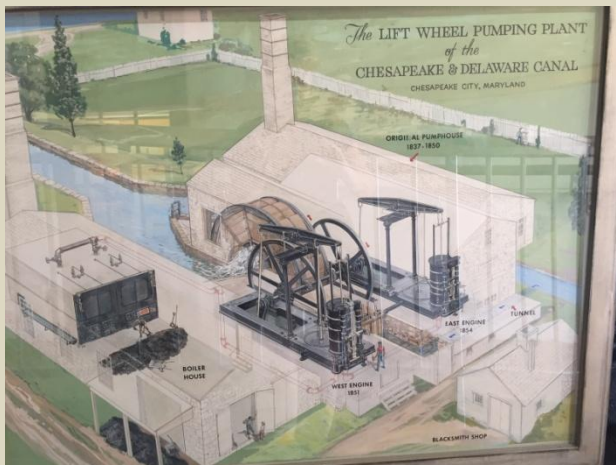
We enjoyed a prime rib dinner at the Chesapeake Inn with our dock neighbours, Robert and Sylvia from Montreal and Paula and Joe from Maine. Sylvia made bread that was delicious and gave me her recipe - so I'm going to try baking again...no promises though.

Wallace's friend, and now mine, Captain Tony drove down to visit us. He took us to Home Depot and Wallace got some much sought after fittings for the fuel line, more straps for the dinghy and other miscellaneous items for our never-ending project.



Thanks Tony

Friday Wallace fixed the leaky hatch (again) and we went out for ice cream and visited the Canal Museum.





Gouk Excellent Adventures

Now we are just going take a tip from this guy and soak up some sun.

We leave in the morning, heading towards Annapolis next.





Cape May

September 27, 2016

The ICW is very narrow and lots of shallow water along the way.



These birds just off the starboard side are standing on the bottom.

Anchored next to the Coast Guard Station and got the dinghy down. We headed down a little bay where we had taken a whale watching tour last year and found a free dock at the Lobster House and a lovely newly renovated marina. So up with the anchor and off to the free dock for one night.





Gouk Excellent Adventures

Enjoyed Mahi Mahi and shrimp dinners at the Lobster House and dessert. Way too much food.

The next morning we went to the Cape May Marina and booked for two nights.

Had a walk around and did some grocery shopping. This town is really special to us as we honeymooned here last November, it just feels like home.

Bought the obligatory two pounds of fudge and even got a seniors discount. Ha, there are advantages.



Reservations were made and we dined at our honeymoon spot the Blue Rose Inn. It was raining so we rode our bikes there and as you can see, we dressed for the occasion. Justin welcomed us at the door and asked about our travels. If you ever get to Cape May you have to eat here. The food is simply delicious and home made every day. The flavor combinations will blow you away and the service will not be surpassed.





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Again, we ate far too much. The blue rose napkin was given to us last year by Justin and Wallace brought it along with him (so thoughtful).



Homemade dark chocolate sorbet for dessert. I don't think Wallace cared for it!



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Bamboo blue roses, from Justin.





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There are gale force winds and driving rain. All these lovely amenities and we can't use them. We may be here for a while waiting out the storm.



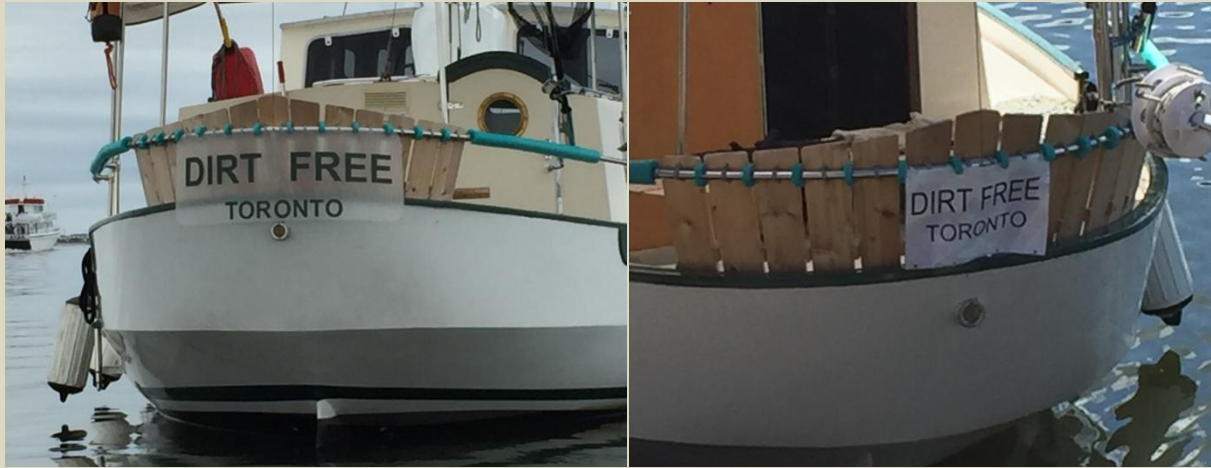


Gouk Excellent Adventures

Ocean City

September 26, 2016

Anchored for the night, rain and wakes



One of my projects along the way.



Atlantic City

September 22, 2016

Kammerman's Marina has fuel, small store, showers, water, power and laundry for \$120 per night.

Arrived at Beach Haven Anchorage where we stayed for one night. Stuck in the mud again here as the water is very shallow at low tide. Saw my first jellyfish (other than the aquarium), it was about 6 inches in diameter and was just wafting by our boat. We also saw dozens of turtles popping their heads out of the water. There was a dingy dock at the end of the bay so we were able to do some much needed shopping.

Next we stopped at Kammerman's Marina in Atlantic City for the night. We stayed here last year on our boat delivery. It's a bit more rickety looking than last year, but still standing! It will be so nice to have clean clothes.



But first, we went for a walk along the boardwalk and yes there was an Apple Store. So after about 3 hours of waiting around I now have a working phone again.

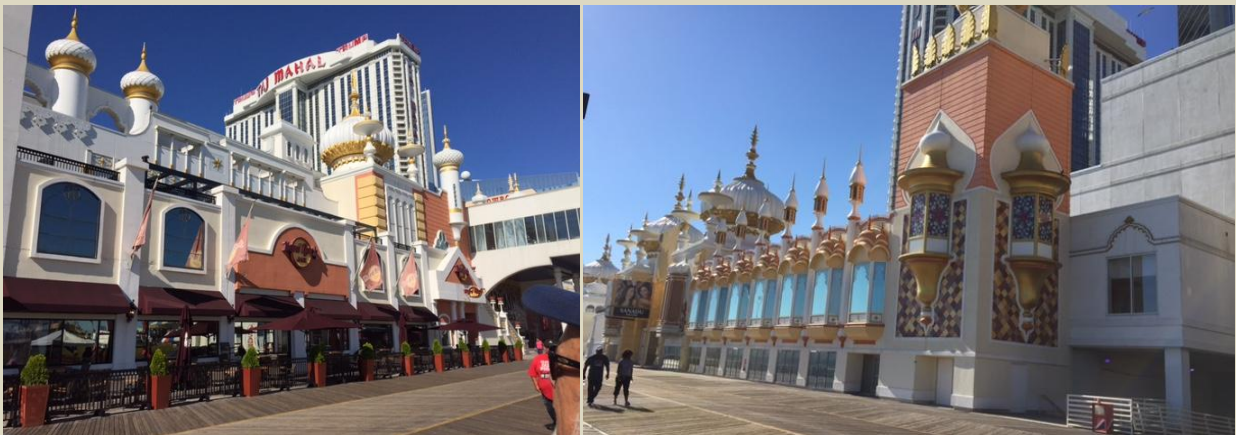




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Cool sand carving



Its hamburgers and cheesecake for dinner tonight. This year's selection was salted caramel and raspberry.

We will decide in the morning if we are going out into the ocean to Cape May, a good day's jaunt, or if we will stay inside. Fingers crossed for flat seas and good wind direction.



Gouk Excellent Adventures

Beach Haven New Jersey

Sept. 21st

Anchored for the night, we are just 25 miles north of Atlantic City and the best cheesecake on the planet. Water is very shallow in this part of the ICW, anywhere from 3 to 16 feet. Just watched some guy run aground, rather just heard him. Not to worry, he got free.

I'm collecting sunsets.





Metedeconk River

Sept. 20th

Arrived Metedeconk River from Sandy Hook at about noon. A rough day on the water for some, a sailboat was being towed in with engine problems, a fishing boat (named Chicken Pox) is missing and the Coast Guard announced that a 20 foot long, 6 foot deep metal container was loose in our waters. Good news is I spotted 3 dolphin fins.

Wallace tried his new fishing line with no luck, but dinners left over chicken bones caught us two cute (ha ha) crabs. Not big enough to eat though.



[..\sharons blog 2016 crab.MOV](#)

Beautiful sunsets everywhere.





Sandy Hook

Once the weather permitted we were off, but when we hit the ocean entrance it was just miserable so we tucked into Sandy Hook, Atlantic Highlands. Stayed there for four nights waiting for some calm seas. Good news is they had rye, real rye and not that horrible whiskey.

There is fuel at the marina, showers and a place to tie up the dinghy. Restaurants, grocery stores and laundry are all within walking distance. You can moor for \$30 or anchor for free.

Spent time painting greeting cards and had a lovely date day picnic at the ocean.



You see that seagull, he stole our bag of leftover sandwiches.



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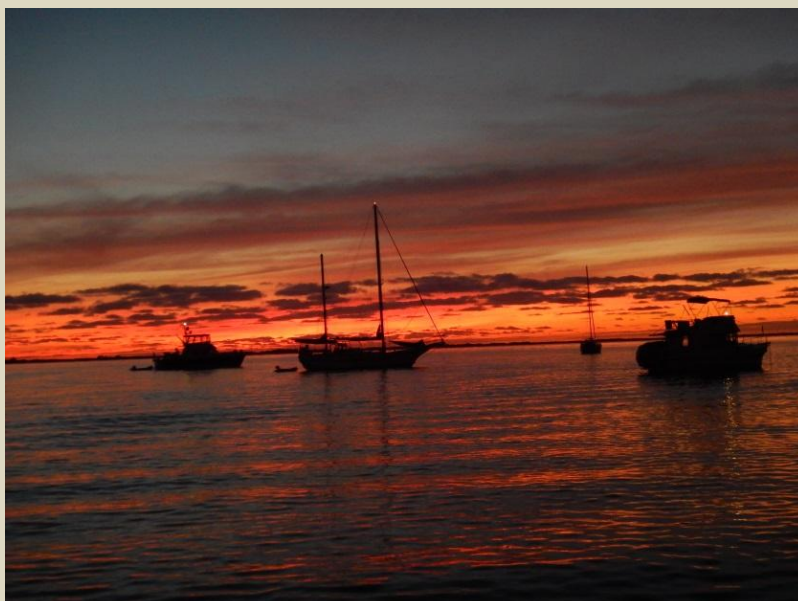


Horseshoe Crab



Flea Market Find: Cocks Comb

Beautiful Sunsets here





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Farewell NY Harbour, Hello Midget Squadron Yacht Club, Jamaica Bay

September 12 - 16, 2016

It was a rocky ride amongst the ferries and speed demon motor yachts leaving Manhattan Harbour. As we passed Coney Island we were met by Jerry Zingale in a SeaTow tow boat, one of Wallace's friends.



Jerry took some photos of Dirt Free - an "outstanding" idea - as we didn't have any of her underway.





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The tower below was used in WWII as a lookout tower for U Boats and the entire peninsula it stands on was underwater during Hurricane Sandy. The homes had to be rebuilt and/or raised.



Floyd Bennett Field, once used as a WWII Airfield is now used by the US Coast Guard.





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We were guided right to our slip, kindly introduced around, taken to the grocery store and set up to stay as long as we needed. Here we will wait for a weather window to venture into the ocean, which is looking like Friday 16th.

Jerry and Alla joined us for dinner, spicy stew and salmon prepared by Wallace, and we enjoyed a nice evening getting to know friends.

We were lucky enough to have a dog on board again, it's been a while. Lovely Stella, such a good girl.





Liberty Landing

At 5:30 pm there was still a heat advisory. It was 33 degrees, feels like 38; hotter than the Bahamas.

My Wallace grilled us ribs in whiskey sauce (delicious) and baked potatoes with leeks. I must be the luckiest woman on the planet. He can cook, cut hair and fix damn near anything I can break, awesome man.

Bought a huge bottle of really cheap rye, turns out it was whiskey and not rye. But it makes a great sauce.



This is the view from our slip



Slept in the cockpit facing the Manhattan night skyline. Beautiful.



Sunday Tourists

Went for a walk in the evening to find the ferry terminal and came across the 911 memorial and a fireworks display.

Can you describe fireworks as gentle and calming, these were just that. Beautiful soft tendrils dropping and moving slowly down the river, fans gently spreading across the waterfront, creeping balls of colour cascading from within each other, but no noise, just a sense of peacefulness. The display was quiet, the audience was quiet, it was mesmerizing. The display was alongside the cityscape of Manhattan with its own light display on the facades of the buildings and then two beams of white light representing the twin towers shining up overhead.

Ellis Island

September 11, 2016



We took the day to visit Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty. Started with a ferry ride to Ellis Island and journeyed through two of the three floors of the museum there. It was a sobering experience and not at all what either of us expected. To see the misery of those that emigrated one would understand why they left their lives behind, but to see what they went through on their voyage and upon arriving was horrible. Quite the learning experience, and one leaves with a whole new perspective on the families and their journey and the way that some were treated upon arrival.



Bob Hope immigrated through Ellis Island in 1908.

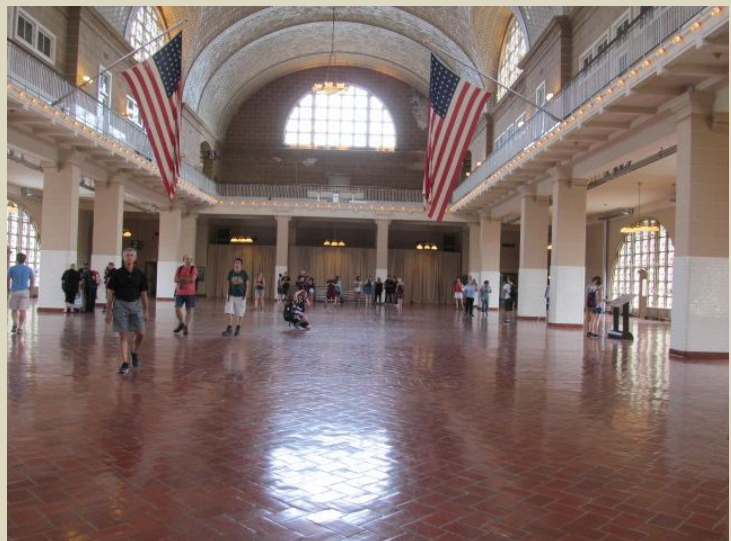


Constructed in 1900 after the original wooden building burnt down and then restored again in the 1980s



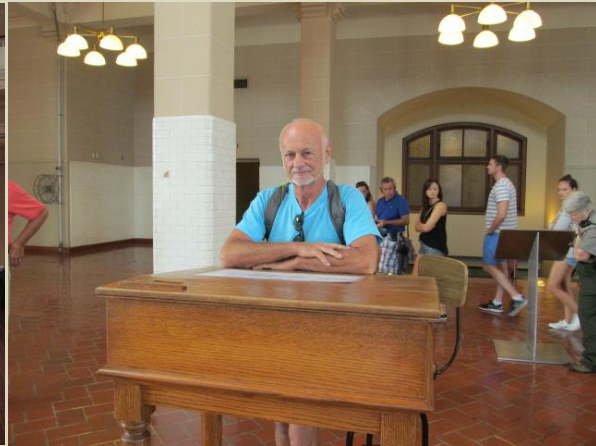
Registration Hall

All immigrants were passed through the great hall, some 12 million in all. Provided they had enough money with them and after successfully answering a list of 30 questions, passing the mental acuity testing and the medical screening were admitted. About a thousand poor souls each month were deported back home again.





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Had some lunch guests



Then to Bedlow Island, renamed in 1956 to Liberty Island





Lady Liberty, a gift from France to honour the United States freedom and democracy after the War of Independence. She is built on the remains of Fort Wood and is 93 metres from ground to torch. Quite the sight to see.





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October 28, 1886 official dedication ceremony for 1 million New Yorkers





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Yonkers

September 9th

Stopped at the free dock in Yonkers for the night





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The Clearwater steel sailing vessel, circa 1968, was docked here, just a huge boat taking people out, on an environmental educational voyage. She was funded by Arlo Guthry, Woody Guthry and Pete Seiger.



Walked around town and stocked up on groceries. Lots of Caribbean restaurants and ethic food available as well as delis and cafes. Yonkers is a busy, busy bustling town...reminding us that we no longer had to hustle anywhere. Back to the boat for a slow beer and lunch. AHHH, that's better.

PS Damn lips are still swollen, and he still loves me.



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Liberty Landing Bound

September 9th

Passed the Palisades, beautiful sight (not a great picture).



The bridge to nowhere!



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Now that's living on the edge.



Surely, once a lovely tour boat

Awesome quick trip to Liberty Landing.



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George Washington Bridge

Being a Saturday morning the harbour was not as busy as on weekdays, at least that was what Wallace said. Honestly, it was busy enough for me ferries going every which way, huge ships and barges barreling on by us.

And for Jillian Cairns, this is a photo of a (make her say it first) SCHOONER!





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Interesting architecture





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Freedom Tower



And Finally "The Lady"



So, now we are at the Marina for a few nights and will tour the statue and Elis Island on Sunday.



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Anchorage

Nyack Again

Winds changed again and we are back to Nyack. We have had enough rolling and pitching for a while.





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Reconstruction of the Tappan Zee Bridge at Nyack



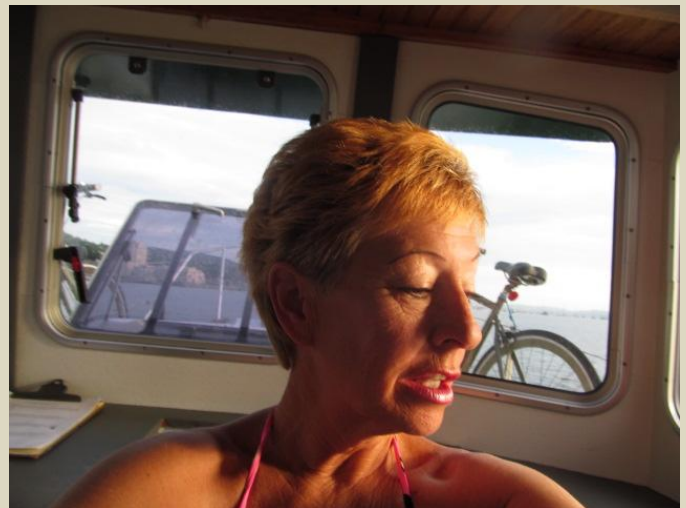


September 8th

Another lovely day at anchor. We caught up on some of those jobs that didn't get done before we left. Worked on the freezer door insulation, bilge pump, added door knobs to cabinets and organized so we know what goes where. It is amazing how many things go missing in just 38 feet.

Sharon made bread, and woke up with badly swollen lips. Note to self, no collagen injections for her - looked ridiculous. Not sure but probably an allergic reaction to something. She hopes it's not the beer.

Lots of swimming, it's been a hot couple of days. Visited the Gouk Salon and got this lovely hair cut from my Wallace. Please ignore the lips.





Croton Point

September 6, 2016

There is a Marina here (Westerly Marina) with fuel and a well equipped marine store. They do engine repair, have a travel lift and there is a canvas shop as well.

We'd had enough after last night at anchor in Nyack. Finally gave up on picking things up as they crashed to the floor, just looked at each other and laughed, 'we'll get that later'. What a mess, bookcase was emptied onto the bed, no matter we were not sleeping in there as the rolling was at its worst up front. Charts on the floor, dish drainer, photos; but that one lone empty plastic glass didn't even budge. Wallace kept taking me to shore to ease my stomach and head, I did not do well in the motion. Winds up to 40 knots, it was uncomfortable to say the least so we high tailed it to hide behind Tellers Point at Croton Point to avoid some of that north wind.

Ah, much nicer here, should have escaped earlier. Got a swim in and cleaned the bottom of the boat and enjoyed a great pot roast dinner. Our view - Sing Sing.





Third Night at Anchor - Nyack

OMG, although setting the anchor was no problem the waves and whitecaps were terrible. Felt ill for most of the first day until the tide turned. The next morning, same thing....we were rolling and the cupboard contents just shifted back and forth to each side...something like my stomach.

Looks like, with the hurricane warning (Hermine) that we will be here for a few more days (oh wonderful). Had to postpone our reservation at Liberty Landing. Looking forward to climbing Lady Liberty and visiting Elis Island if we get there.

Wallace was right, it is not always fun and sunshine. And to top it off the Rockford Sheriff decided to pay us a visit. They were nice enough, although we now have to call in at every port of entry in each region. They were kind enough to make the call for us for this region, so we are good for a while.

Second Night at Anchor - Haverstraw

Anchored off the beach at Haverstraw. Again it was easy and a lovely night. I have to get used to being so close to other boats, although Wallace says we are hundreds of feet apart, it certainly does not look like it.

First Night at Anchor - Kingston

We are now anchoring whenever we can, first time for me was at Lynch's Marina in Kingston. Me: huh that was easy and fast. Wallace: they won't all be like that. Spent the night with the hatch open enjoying a cool breeze and looking at a vast array of stars. I haven't seen stars like that in years. At this point I am convinced that I will like anchoring.



Gouk Excellent Adventures

Hudson on the Hudson

September 4, 1026

My phone died with a lot of my photos, grrr

Stayed at Hudson Boat Club dock. We got a reciprocal rate of \$30. Power available as well as fuel.



Shopping in Hudson is very chic and as you can see, not much to choose from.





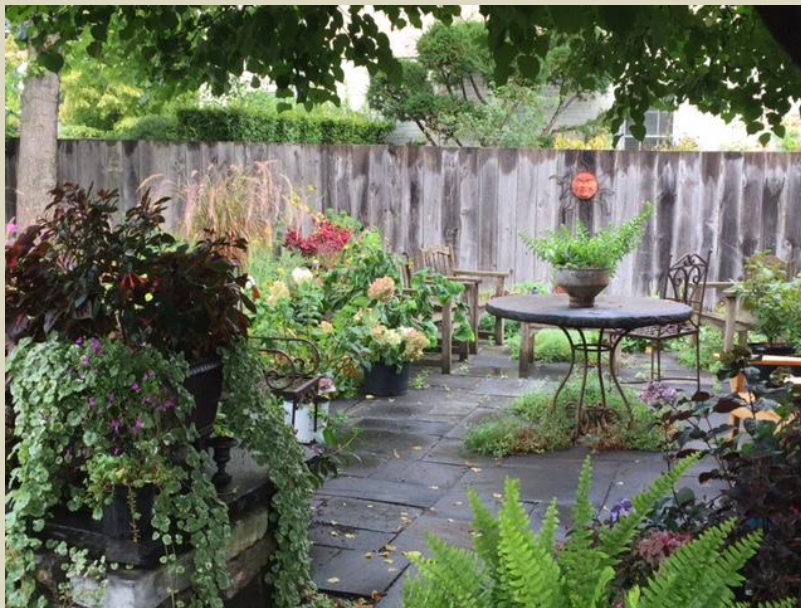
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Found this wonderful garden shop, I do miss the yard but we have a small garden that helps.





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Peppers, chives, parsley, basil and a hydrangea just for colour, if it blooms again that is..



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Waterford

August 28, 2016

Power on the docks (\$10 flat rate), no extra dockage fee, showers and hose bibs.
Laundromat within walking distance (laundry done).
Grocery store within walking distance that lets you take the cart back to the boat,
so a good place to stock up on the heavy items (done!)

Arrived Waterford this afternoon, after many, many locks, one of which I had a bit of trouble in. Went for the wrong rope with the boat pole and tried to hang on, wrenching my arm trying not to lose the pole (lost it anyway). Ouch, but Wallace was able to maneuver so I could retrieve it.





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Around Waterford





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Our chuckle for the day



Shortly after we arrived a catamaran was being towed in. It was Malama Honua on its worldwide voyage from Hawaii. This boat is equipped with sails only, no power and no nav. equipment. Its mission is to "bring attention to climate and ecology to inspire a global movement to care for the earth". They are on their way to Ontario next and then returning to Hawaii in June after being gone for a year. A crew of about a dozen men and woman are on board with crew changes about every 30 to 60 days. They all sleep in the gunnels under the canvas tent like structure.



More excitement, Violet an old Scottish fishing boat built in Fraserburgh pulled in next to us. She is now a sail boat and no longer has the pilot house, however Wallace was thrilled to have a look on board and share stories of his grandfather's fishing boat built at the same time and place as Violet. Unfortunately we didn't get a picture, they left too early. Maybe we will see them again as they are headed the same way and move pretty slowly.





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Also housed at this dock is Onrust, a replica of Captain Adriaen Block's 17th century Dutch trading ship built with authentic Dutch shipbuilding methods. It serves as a museum and hosts tours for students.





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Amsterdam

Saturday Aug 27th.

Power, showers, restaurant (\$1 per foot per night).

Brand new park at Amsterdam, Rivers Edge Park. Two live bands this evening. Everything from folk to Clapton and Cocker. Didn't venture into town this time.





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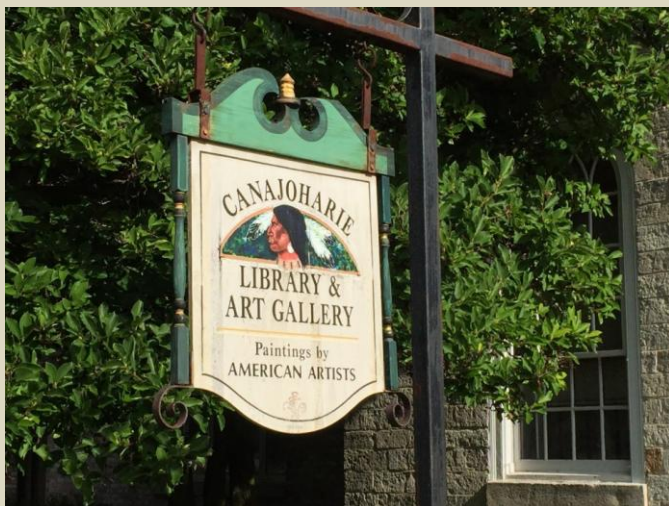
Canajoharie

August 25th, 26th

The Village of Canajoharie, Riverfront Park

Lovely park side setting with free power (no other amenities at the dock).

Stopped here for a few days to visit the museum, art gallery and see the pot holes and waterfall. Our first night and morning brought rain but then it cleared up nicely. We heard there was a frame shop, so we had our picture glass replaced and it is back in its rightful spot. Wallace also installed an outlet to charge our phones, camera and tablets with while enroute.



The museum exhibit this summer was Circus Circus, being the Beechnut Gum travelling circus. Canajoharie was the home of Beechnut until recently. They had tiny travelling mechanical circus vans that travelled the states marketing their products. Although the exhibit depicts Beechnut as a contributor to the commerce and well being of the village, local residents remember the owner, Arkell, as swindling his business partner to the point where he committed suicide and as someone who did what he determined was good for the community. However, a very innovative way to sell his product and very generous with his employees.

Beechnut factory today.





Westhill School, built 1891-1893. Susan B. Anthony was the head of the girls division here in 1846.

Met Grant and Angela of Rumblefish, what a lovely friendly couple, we are glad to have met them. Perhaps we will meet again on future journeys.

Canajoharie is a town of hills, and they all seem to be uphill, especially when you are on bicycles. Found the most lovely spot - a boiling pot cut out by tiny rocks in a whirlpool formed millions of years ago.

Canajoharie Boiling Pot, settled 1730 by Dutch Palatines.





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Wallace: Sharon, get in the little car. Me: Oh no, not again?



Oh Wallace - gotcha



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Little Falls



Craving a really good burger. The chap at the lumber store suggested the Copper Moose.



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They were the best burgers. I have to say my Old Porter burger was amazing. And the Copper Moose was also a Micro Brewery so we tried a few odd beers



Wallace: Get up in the coach. Me: I don't think so, it looks pretty rickety. Wallace: Come on, get in it!! Take the shot quick, I don't want to break the thing.



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Little Falls City Hall





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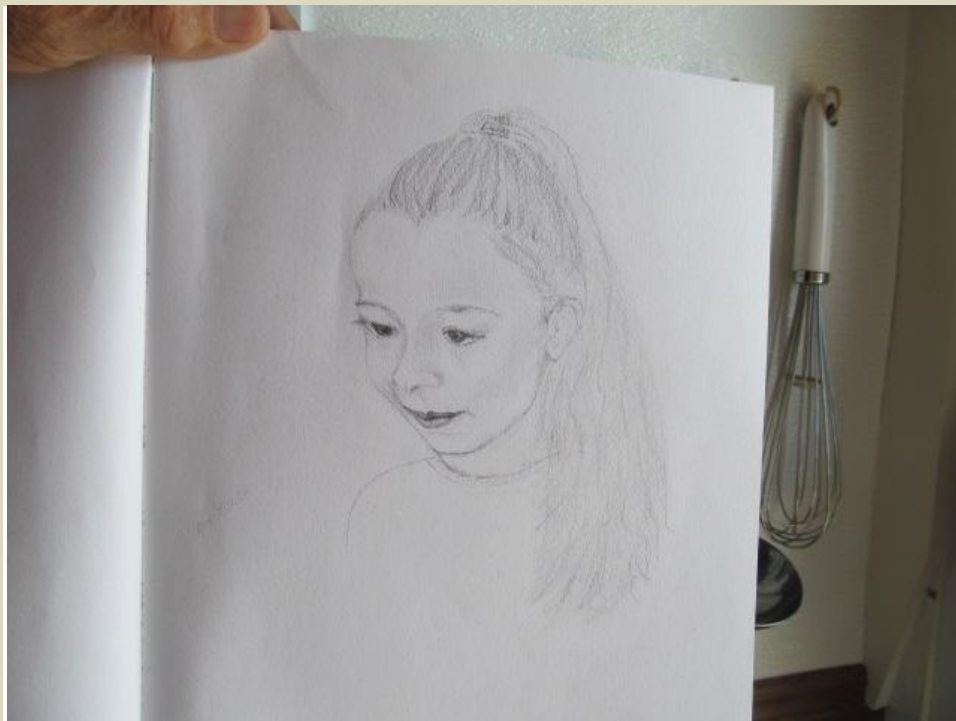


Cool bench for our bench picture collection.\



Gouk Excellent Adventures

Headed to Utica, as Wallace has never stopped there before



Yes, I am a bit obsessive and can't stop drawing. This is my granddaughter, Jorja just in case she is not recognizable to those who know here. Working on Jillie next.



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So, did not stop in Utica as there was not much there, a restaurant, wall to dock at and presumably a washroom. No power, etc.



Heading into the Alleghany Mountains



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Boat Problems

The battery for the bow thruster is not getting a charge.. Wallace is making a jumper cable to do, well I'm not really sure what he is doing. He seems to have determined that one of the wires may need replacing and he will do that. Not too worried about the bow thruster but the same battery is for the Windlass....that's a problem. Again, for my land lubber friends, we can't anchor unless we do it manually without the Windlass. Also, lots of weeds to contend with.





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Sylvan Beach

August 24, 2016

No power at Sylvan beach, washrooms and showers at the beach, but you would rather not use them.

Went for a bike ride around town as it happened to be bikers night here.





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Lining up with our biker friends





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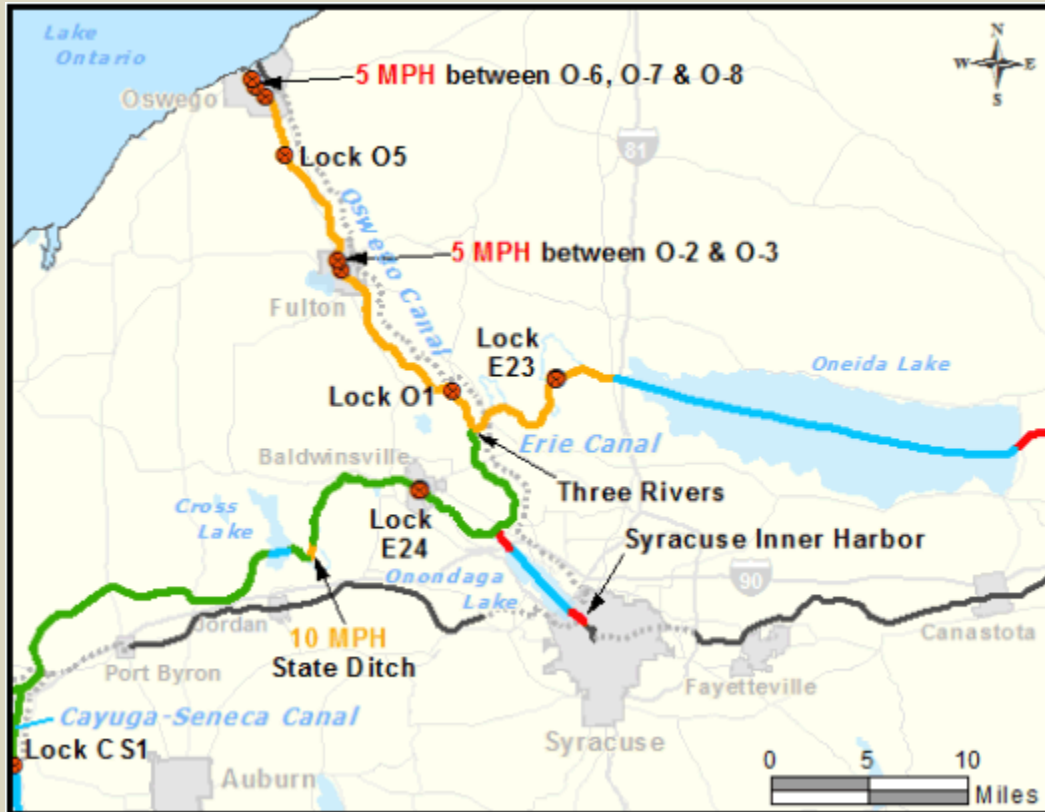
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Moving Along

The temperature is dropping and fall is in the air. Time to get moving and beat the chill. Headed from Lock 01 in Phoenix to Sylvan Beach at the far end of Lake Oneida. Tried to approach the wall in Lock 23 but blew it. Didn't crack up the boat though.





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Phoenix

Free pump out, free wifi, shower, 15 amp service and free docking.
Oh and also a Laundromat within walking distance.

Love it here. Home of the Bridgehouse Brats, a group of kids who look after the park and historical museum and they will take you on a guided tour. They work all summer long and bring you coffee to the dock, or tell you about the town and its amenities. Lots of tables, umbrellas and chairs for boaters to enjoy.



What we believe was a golden eagle in the canal.



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A walk around Phoenix downtown:





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Not sure what kind of flag this was, and either nobody was home, or they looked out the window to see me snapping a photo and Wallace at the door and decided to hide.

Dinner on the dock, pulled pork, sausage and salt potatoes, dancing on the back porch (cockpit) to the Fab Cats, Beatles and Beach Boys style, drinking our home made wine. Such a perfect evening.





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Gouk Excellent Adventures





Fulton

Entering Lock 3, not sure what happened to Lock 4.

The grimy rope you have to hang on to.



Doors closed behind us.

Did some driving but haven't attempted a lock yet. Still getting used to our new steering system.





Gouk Excellent Adventures

Arrived in Fulton and tied up to the wall and I mean wall. Time for a spiced rum for Wallace and a beer for me.

This was the view out the window.



Including the fence on top, it was an 8 foot climb off the boat. I made it to the top of the wall but the fence had no footholds so I had to have Wallace (who by the way just box horsed over the top, show off) hold me as I climbed it...that fiasco was followed by an ovation from the men fishing off the dock..that's right the old lady made it over.



Went for a walk to the town. **Fulton was closed** which led to the conversation that we quite often of what day is this? Oh well, found ice cream and came back to the air conditioning.

A Mainship 34 called Mazurka pulled in beside us and Wallace went to lend a hand. The Captain says hi Dirt Free how are you doing Boatpoker. Jeff had been following us on the website. He brought over some beers and when he walked in he said hi Sharon. Wow what are the odds. Even more coincidental was that Wallace and I had won a canal pass for the Rideau at the boat show which we weren't going to use so Wallace offered it to the first comer on this web site...it was Jeff.



Ask me if I'm having fun!!





Minetto

Left Oswego at 8:15 a.m. after fueling up. Lock 8, Lock 7, 6, 5 and we arrive in Minetto. Tied up to the wall, but all three power posts were dead, so no air and it was blazing hot. Met a young girl and her Chihuahua who had single handed her way in a Hughes 26 ft. to the Bahamas and was returning after a year to Belleville with her last 10 dollars. Said the whole thing cost her \$4000. Wow, brave young lady (or crazy).

Walked into town...**there wasn't one.** We did find a really good fishing rod for \$10 at a garage sale though, now we both have one, hah hah. I promised I would try fish if it was caught, cleaned and cooked while I wasn't looking, and now I have my own rod, hmmm.

Off to somewhere with power.

Canal Life

Aug. 20 2016

Today we enter the Oswego Canal, heading for Lock 6 and counting down to Lock 1. Then we enter the Erie Canal.





Oswego

August 19, 2016



On our way we saw a Sea Turtle, no way, turn around and see what that is. Awe dead duck.

Logging in my new official log book, thanks Howard I love it.

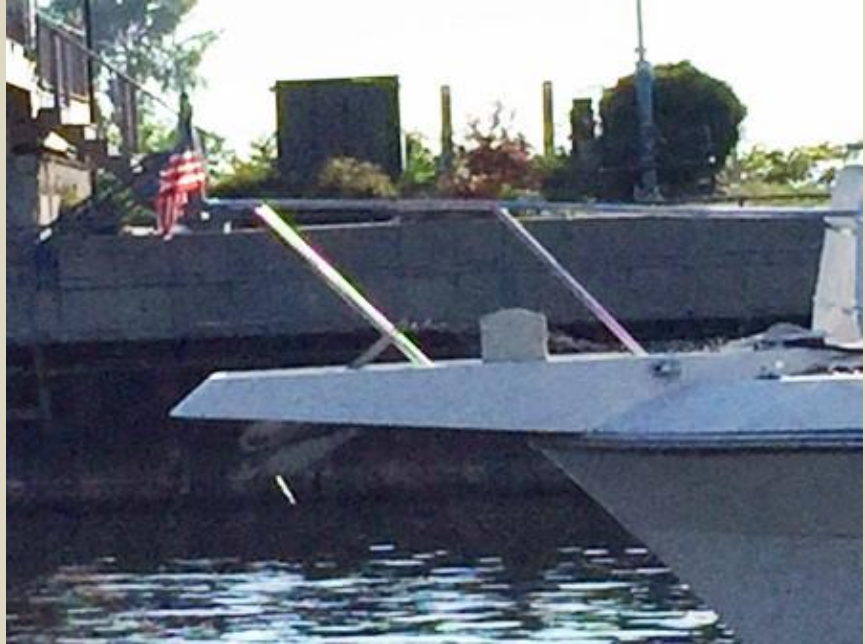


Arrived, another really peaceful ride on the lake, until the river into the docks.

I look out the starboard door and a fishing boat is 10 feet from us, cuts us off and speeds away. My plants, books and vase...on the floor. Crap everywhere. We saw where he went and we are going to hunt him down, jerk.



That was our last full day of cruising, now things slow down and we will take the time to explore all the little towns along the way. Went to town to buy that American flag, bought booze instead. But, look what the boat next door has; we could ply them with rum and abscond with it!



Our First Injury

Wallace jumped on a metal dock that flew up at him and landed him in a hole. Oh no, those gorgeous legs.





Gouk Excellent Adventures



You're in the army now.



Rochester Yacht Club:

First night free as a reciprocal, Pool, Restaurant, Tennis, free Wifi ,Showers, no Fuel

Left Tuscarora in Wilson at 8:30 a.m.

10:30 am: I smell bacon and eggs, I love my Wallace.

11:20 am: Increasing waves on the beam. (For my land lubber friends that's the side of the boat, and for Dirt Free that means a lot of roly polly stuff). May not go for Rochester if this keeps up.

11:30: US Coast Guard Patrol pulls up alongside. Just a smile and a thumbs up and they turn to leave. 4 x 300 hp motors on the back, woah.

4:00: Another Coast Guard Patrol and the same thing, just a smile and a wave. We must look trustworthy.

Apparently they dropped by twice more, but I was too busy being thrilled to be sweeping and doing dishes. Not kidding here, I actually spent time downstairs and did not succumb to motion sickness this trip!!

Anyways, we made it. Arrived about 4:30





Gouk Excellent Adventures

Wine time



Here at Rochester Yacht Club they are hosting the North American Lightning (19 ft.) sailing Dinghy championship. Waiting to see 80 boats compete tomorrow. They then go on to the world championship next year in Sydney AU.

Rode the bikes into town to buy an American flag, bought 5 bags of candy instead.

All in all, another great day in paradise.



Wilson NY

August 17, 2016

Wilson offers a \$10 reciprocal rate, has showers and fuel, no laundry

Spent the evening with Jeff and Sandy and grandchildren Noah and Juliette. Noah took us for a Boston Whaler ride around the bay. Enjoyed a lovely dinner with them.

Left Tuscarora Yacht Club in Wilson, NY at 8:30 a.m. Weather forecast looks good, low winds and waves. Good thing we did not arrive a day earlier or we would have been looking at this! (Hurray for dental emergencies).

We need to find a US Courtesy flag to fly.





And So It Begins

Dinghy placed, pumped out, deck washed and our song on the radio.

Farewell PCYC, hello world



Left PCYC this morning at 7:50 and arrived in Wilson NY at 1:00. The lake, as you can see, was perfectly calm all the way. There were a number of trees in the water but we only bumped one log.

A perfect lake crossing and now looking forward to dining with our Wilson friends Jeff and Sandy.

Delayed

Can't believe our luck, cracked a molar and delayed the voyage (Sharon being the culprit). Being a weekend the dental office was unreachable. New plan, show up on his doorstep first thing this morning and beg for a same day appointment.... one small problem though, we just stored our vehicles and have no wheels.



Gouk Excellent Adventures

Thank you, and thank you to Blake who came to drive us in this morning and to our dentist who came in on his morning off and fixed me up with a filling that should last the 9 months we are gone.

So now we are looking at a Wednesday early morning departure as Tuesday is to be 29 km winds and 100% chance of rain, and that's no way to start this adventure.

Dinghy aboard.



September 25, 2016



Bon Voyage

The Countdown is on. We are down to last minute items, shower is operational, freezer is being built and we have a theory on how to rig our boom to hoist the dingy aboard; minor detail; Wallace has a plan. So in about one week, we will be leaving PCYC for the Bahamas. It's a slow boat and we anticipate being in the Bahamas for Christmas.

We had a lovely celebration bon voyage last night with friends and family..ate and drank too much. We are truly blessed to have such people in our lives and they will be missed.

But, I get to spend the next nine months exploring small towns, museums, and nature with My Wallace. We plan on anchoring most of the way, and I'm picturing a surreal existence with warm evenings floating in solitude, sitting in the cockpit painting and reading and learning the guitar and eating home cooked meals that we have concocted with whatever is in the galley. However, having been regaled with the experiences of those who have done this the plan could include dragging anchor and waking up god knows where, shark infested waters and jumping crocodiles and oh right can't forget George's wisdom that I will either turn a golden bronze or shrivel up like an old prune in the sun. We will just have to wait and see what the adventure will really bring. I know I am with the most competent Captain there is so I'm going with Plan A.