

After lunch the porpoise were back. Carol was in the Bow Head and heard their squealing. We ran to the Bow rail and enjoyed their frolicing antics. As written in the waterway guide - the Bridge tender at the Vera Beach Bascule Bridge is a "Buster". He played games by telling us we had 8 minutes till bridge opening and then padding the time - Tricky area to tide. Arrived at Melbourne Harbour Marina at about 5:00 P.M. (actually at Buoy 6 at 4:50^{P.M.}). Richard & his friend Jan were waiting to catch our lines. He was very excited - We had steak aboard while the kids left to have dinner. Then Rich came back with 2 friends and Mort, Jimmy & the Bay used Rich's Car to shop in some staples (Beer-soda, etc.) We crashed about 9:00 P.M.

Thursday, December 4th. Problematic generator.

UPON STARTUP, RELEASE OF START SWITCH (AT ALL POSITIONS) ENGINE STOPPED! CAUSE FOUND TO BE 10A FUSE (BLOWN) IN PANEL BOX UNDER DC HOUSING. We left at 7:19 A.M.

and hope to make New Smyrna tonight (Please God) It's partly cloudy today - partly sunny. We are experiencing a light chop. - The Indian River (ICW) south of Cocoa Beach reminds us of parts of the Chesapeake Bay. Most of the Channel today was very very shallow, making for slow going. Sometimes as little as 2.5 ft. on our depthfinder. Arrived in a brisk wind at Sea Harvest marina at 4:14 P.M. Paul the burly, port

[watched launch of an Atlas Centaur Rocket - from the Cape]
[Conover Air Force Station pad at 9:30 P.M.] (22)

Spoken Dock master let us stay on the gas dock. He gave us a courtesy Card that allowed for free drinks with dinner at the restaurant called Review-Charlie's - This is in New Smyrna Beach. Very fine dinner. Weather very cool - a blanket night. Some change from 70° nights in Lauderdale.
Friday Dec. 5, 1986

~~Monday~~ Skies gray, very windy - Small craft warnings on ocean, but I C W - ok to traverse. Weather man says 30% chance of rain. Pilot house of this lovely craft is very comfortable, however, and we have used her to pilot, all but one day so far. The dolphins came to greet us at Force De Leon Inlet and I watched them for 2 miles. There were 4 of them swimming at our bow, they played with each other leaping on each others backs, came to the surface on their sides to look at me. Truly exciting. We plan to try for ~~Florida Bay~~ ^{Florida Bay}. All was happily uneventful until we reached Palm Coast - at which point this T-rawler became a Sail Boat. The zipper on our bimini was broken when we left and we thought we had compensated for it - well, the zipper let go in 20 knot winds causing a chain reaction which led to the bimini cover flapping loose after a stanchion broke loose. We heard the noise and Carl, Mort + I battled the bimini in high winds until we secured it. Jimmy kept "Shugah" firmly into the wind for us. When we were almost at our destination (St.

Augustine) We had to pass under The Bridge Of
 Lions - We could see it for 20 minutes and it had
 not opened - It was scheduled to open at 3:30 P.M.
 and we would arrive at 3:32 P.M. We called ahead
 to the bridge tender to request that he hold the
 opening until we arrived - The arrogant bastard
 wouldn't respond and wouldn't open until
 4:00 P.M. He made Mort battle the wind, waves,
 and the currents around the bridge for a half hour.
 It was a very difficult job at the end of a hard
 day. Jimmy took over after the bridge and
 brought "Shugah" into Comanche Cove Marina.
 His battle was a tough one too since the
 currents at the Marina entrance are always
 difficult I'm told, but they were made
 worse by the 20-25 knot winds. We got
 "Shugah" all tied up and settled in and then
 went to the Marina Restaurant, The Con Shell.
 Very good, but Mort + I are very tired (These
 last weeks are catching up with us) and
 we were not in the best of moods with each
 other. ~~When~~ We got over it before bedtime,
 however; The winds howled all night.

Saturday, Dec. 6, 1986

When we awake we found the winds had not
 diminished so after getting organized we rented
 a wreck (12 day + 129 mile) and drove into St.
 Augustine. First we visited the Fountain
 of Youth and then went to the Alligator
 Farm. (It was great. The last time Mort + I
 were there was 31 years ago on our honeymoon)
 We touched snakes + alligators and saw two
 animal shows. Some great birds too. - Then

after dropping Jimmy off at the boat (he is suffering from Carter's syndrome) Carol, Mort + I went to lunch and then into Old (Revitalized) St. Augustine - shops - men + women in old time dress - music. It was very interesting. Then home at about 4:00 P.M. to recuperate. We plan to eat aboard tonight and hopefully take off for Fernandina Beach tomorrow. Just before dinner we developed a problem with the forward head-ergo - there went our evening. We did not fix the problem, but the guys isolated it by 11:00 P.M. Another ~~terse~~ ~~short~~ evening. Winds were gusting to 38 knots at 11:00 P.M. Some doubt as to whether we will be able to leave for Fernandina Beach tomorrow.

Sunday, Dec. 7, 1986

It is pouring rain, - but the winds have diminished, so we are going to attempt our run. Departure wet, but uneventful except that I lost one of our lines overboard on take off. We left at ~~at~~ 7:30 A.M. Trip uneventful except some wind on arrival at Fernandina Beach. Arrived at 3:30 and while Jim + Carol shavered for dinner we found Shaver pump pump bug. Now we have 2 things to fix at St. Simons - The Heads + the showers. Had dinner at only restaurant in Fernandina Beach - The Mariner. This is a shrimp + fishing community that has just put in a new set of floating docks. This will bring the boats and will probably change the ~~the~~ community. Very quaint now. We bedded down at 9:00 P.M.

Monday, Dec. 8, 1986 Fernandina to

We awoke after a good rest to Fog, but no wind. Entrance & Exit from marina very tricky. But Mort handled boat very well. We no sooner got away from the pier, however, when the generator kicked out. - unknown cause, but now we have another problem to contend with in Georgia. On top of this Mort lost his Bifocals overboard ~~while~~ while pulling in a bumper. Not a very auspicious beginning for our days run to St. Simons Island.

If all goes well from here on in, Jimmy & Carol will leave for their home from St. Simons as soon as we arrive in Golden Isles Marina.

We pulled in at 1:15 P.M. - John the Dock Man was waiting to take our lines. This place is as pretty as we remembered and it's good to get here. We are lucky it was a calm day, because even at that St. Andrews sound was a job to cross. It would be very scary in wind or weather. We had dinner aboard after a chat with our new neighbor Paul Taylor - Paul, who lives with his friend Sam, has invited us for cocktails to their condo later this week. They are houseboaters and this is not houseboat country, for good reason. Also met nice young man. Two boats down. He gave me a ride in the Golf Cart to the phone since the shore situation here is very crazy now. Crossed wires etc. It looks like we will not be able to have a phone on the boat. Inconvenient but if they work the problems out - we have a phone on the pier at our bow.