



Can't Get Going

Thursday July 28th – We've been planning our big summer boat trip for the last few months. Having a new boat to deal with has been a lot of work figuring everything out. We planned to make our first stop Oro Bay on Anderson Island to do some crabbing for a couple days before heading to Julie's family reunion in the South Sound. Our mission every year is to stock up on as much crab as we can for a good family feast. Most years we do pretty good but this year our poor planning was going to cost the family a feeding frenzy. Our plan was to leave Wednesday morning but we just couldn't get the boat all stocked and ready. Thursday morning came and went as we packed up the car for our final load to the boat.

5:25pm we were finally able to shove off. We decided to tow our 18' center console boat behind the big boat this trip so we had a fast boat for extended exploration and fishing. In order to get the little boat hooked up someone has to drive it to open water to meet the big boat so we can hook up the tow line. Skylar is skipping this leg of the trip because he was with a friend at Suncadia. Julie suddenly realized Skylar wasn't there to Capitan the little boat like he usually does. "I can't do it! I can't do it!" She said over and over. "I've haven't even driven the boat yet". Once she was done freaking

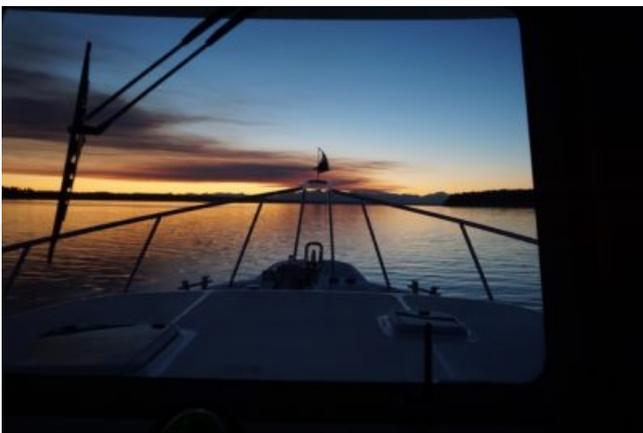
out she gathered the courage and jumped in the boat to make her way through the yacht club and past the ferry to open water. She did a fantastic job but not without a couple heart racing moments. As we pulled out she passed the Coast Guard and then she passed the Police boat. She doesn't have her boaters license and she was sure they knew it!

After all the hustle to get going, we couldn't get free yet. First, we needed to go down the Foss Waterway to get fuel in the boat. 1 hour and 498 gallons later our 640 gallon fuel tanks were full. 7:25pm we actually started our trip heading south. Our plan was to make it to the Pirates Cove where we always anchor for the family reunion but that was almost 4 hours away. Boating in the dark is never fun but we decided to just keep going. The sun set over the Olympics giving us an amazing sunset as we just kept motoring into the night. Radar and GPS position showing on our charts we cruised with limited visibility until about 10pm when it truly went black. No moon light, nothing. We were totally piloting by interments but even that doesn't help you with logs in the water. We crept along at 4 knots while Julie sat out on the bow looking for anything in the water. We made it into Pirates Cove at 11:10pm and for the first time ever, anchored the boat in total darkness but the water was dead calm. It was a fun adventure but not something we want to repeat.



Coming into the Foss
Waterway for fuel





Beautiful sunset, but its getting dark and we are still a long way from our anchorage!

