

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRADY LIFE



1959-2019

Anchorline

IN THIS ISSUE:

The Grady Life for the
Young and Young-at-Heart

Winter Sales Event

Owners' Club News

Letters & Photos

Grady Buddies

SOUTH FLORIDA GRADY-WHITE CLUB AT BIMINI ISLAND

Gulfstream Group Showcases The Grady Life for the Young and Young-at-Heart

Just one of the reasons Grady White clubs are so enjoyable is the opportunity they provide to introduce you to new boating experiences and gain confidence, whether learning fishing techniques or travelling afar from home port. Ask any of the 30 folks among the Gulfstream Grady Group who made the 70-mile crossing on ten Gradys this summer to the Old Bahama Bay Resort at West End—the tenth year the club has made this trip: From the youngest to the oldest, it was a grand family time for fishing, swimming with dolphins, learning about sea life, sight-seeing, pool parties, and having fun gatherings on the beach.

The youngest included Gia (seven) and Izzy (nine) Valencis, who made their first crossing with parents Stan and Angela, on the family's new *Freedom 375, Click Bait*. The Valencis crew got their sea legs following trip leader Bill and Betty Mahoney on *Canyon 336, Our Time*, and Frank and Liz Manafort on *Freedom 335, Bella Vita*, out of Jupiter Beach, FL. Gia and Izzy learned about nurse sharks (sand sharks) in the shallows of Wood Cay, and were awarded the "Young Angler" participation plaque for the week.

Among the more mature was Gene Waller, now 87, a Korean War Navy vet

and the official "fishing expert" for the group. He was joined aboard his *Express 265, Seven Grand + 1*, by one his eight grandchildren, Josh, and Josh's fiancée Sarah. As Gene's daughter, Cheri Perry, tells it, she and her three sisters grew up clamming and fishing on weekends, while camping in a beach buggy. When it became illegal to camp on the

beach, Gene got interested in boating. Cheri remembers her dad pointing out a Grady-White on one of her fishing trips with him. "See that boat? It's the best. Someday I will own a Grady myself." After her mother died at age 55, Gene bought his first Grady. Retired, and with his girls grown, there was nothing to stop him from fishing all the time—and he does!

The Gulfstream Grady Group, sponsored by Mariner Marine of Riviera Beach, FL, has a full calendar of events, from raft-ups to the Bahamas cruises (there's an Abacos trip in addition to West End), impromptu get-togethers, and watching the annual Palm Beach Christmas flotilla. The club has an active Facebook page. You can see more about this year's Old Bahama Bay trip at https://youtu.be/VxqEdpIgf_w.



GENE WALLER WAS JOINED BY GRANDSON JOSH AND JOSH'S FIANCEE SARAH, on his *Express 265*.



THE VALENCIS FAMILY made their first Bahamas crossing in their new *Freedom 375*.

GULFSTREAM GRADY GROUP, OLD BAHAMA BAY



Dealer News & Events

Grady-White dealers sponsor hundreds of events every year—seminars, tournaments, trips, cookouts, sightseeing voyages and much more. See www.gradywhite.com for events in your area.



BOATS INCORPORATED, NIAN TIC, CT, celebrated its 30th Annual One Tide Challenge—the largest single-location fishing tournament in the state. This year's theme was "Headin' Home for the Miracle League." In addition to being awarding thousands in cash prizes, the participants raised nearly \$11,000 towards a baseball field for physically/developmentally challenged children. Overall winner and new King of the Dock, David Warwick, fished his Canyon 336, *Albie Damned!*, and his 39.37 lb. striped bass coupled with wife Mary Beth's 9.92 lb. bluefish brought in just enough points to clinch the title. Eric Telke and Brian Delena rounded out their crew.



SOUTH SHORE MARINE, HURON, OH, saw a record turnout for its fall fishing seminar. Mike Definbaugh, a national walleye tournament pro, discussed the finer details of Lake Erie walleye fishing. Captains and guests were treated to a breakfast buffet, and were very generous in their participation in the traditional raffle for their sponsored Lake Erie Grady-White Club.

WINTER SALES EVENT

Limited Time Only



Freedom 325
32' dual console

YAMAHA

Grady-White boats are factory rigged with reliable Yamaha outboard power.



GRADY-WHITE BOATS

Exceptional attention to detail.

gradywhite.com

See your dealer or visit a show!

The Grady Life: Owners' Clubs

Here are highlights from recent Grady Owners' Clubs events and outings. If you have Grady club information to share or are interested in information about Grady clubs in your area, email anchorline@gradywhite.com. Go to www.gradywhite.com for links to club websites.



The **CAPE FEAR GRADY-WHITE CLUB** enjoyed a great trip to Bald Head Island with 26 Gradys and 88 club members.

The **Cape Fear Grady-White Club** enjoyed a great day trip to Bald Head Island, July 14. The fleet of 26 Gradys with 88 club members left from Wrightsville Beach, NC, and traveled south to the Cape Fear River and across to Bald Head Island Marina. The crews explored the island by golf carts, and lunched at the Bald Head Island Club. Some made a weekend out of the excursion! Atlantic Marine sponsors this club.

They say the **Chesapeake Bay Grady-White Club** has stories! Many were made during the roaring great time held at

their annual summer signature event, Grady Palooza, a four-day, three-night extravaganza at Knapps Narrows, Tilghman Island, featuring poolside fun, dock parties, catered meals and live DJ music. Tri-State Marine, Deale, MD, sponsors this club.

A group of members and guests of the **Lake Erie Grady-White Club** enjoyed a Cuyahoga River cruise July 22, and were joined by land cruisers to tour the Steamship *William G. Mather* at the Great Lakes Science Center in downtown Cleveland, OH. They had an



The **CHESAPEAKE BAY GRADY-WHITE CLUB** held their annual Grady Palooza at Knapps Narrows, Tilghman Island.

appropriately styled tailgate feast on the dock at the Rock and Dock Marina, right in the shadow of the Cleveland Browns stadium. The club's annual fall Perch Tournament was cancelled due to a small craft advisory, but that did not put a damper on the chicken and rib dinner and raffle, enjoyed by a crowd of over 80 folks. South Shore Marine, Huron, OH, sponsors this club.

A group of **Low Country Grady Club** members and guests visited the Grady factory this fall, and participated in a Friday Morning Focus along with all

plant employees. They lunched with the Grady management team, and shared feedback about their boats and overall Grady experience. Hilton Head Boathouse, SC, sponsors this club.

The **South Florida Grady-White Club** had an active, exciting summer, starting off with a long weekend cruise in June with 11 boats traveling from Hillsboro Inlet to the Bimini Sands Resort. Docktail parties featured Goombay Smash delights, and the crowd chilled with the sting rays and nurse sharks at an all-day raft up beach party at Honeymoon Harbor. In July, ten Gradys



The **SOUTH FLORIDA GRADY-WHITE CLUB** held a toga party/bonfire dinner on the beach at Eleuthera, Bahamas in July.

Beyond the Rock

By Larry Post



In 2016 the **Northwest Grady-White Club** organized a trip around Vancouver Island called “Round the Rock.” For 2018, the club organized a “Beyond the Rock” adventure to travel through Rivers Inlet, an area known for record-setting Chinook salmon, and spent five days fishing out of Hakai Pass, British Columbia—some of the West Coast’s most isolated wilderness.

A group of seven Grady-Whites ranging in size from 22’ to 36’ left the Seattle area late July with a plan to meet at Hakai Lodge, about 400 miles to the north. Two boats came by trailer crossing from Port Angeles to Victoria, and one trailered from Vancouver to Nanaimo, BC. The three met up in Nanaimo and towed the remaining distance to Port Hardy at the northern tip of Vancouver Island. The other four boats made the 300-mile+ trip on their own bottoms up the Inside Passage, with all converging in Port Hardy to make the 75-mile open ocean crossing to Hakai.

Weather experienced was described as “nautical,” “foggy,” but always “doable in a Grady-White!” Our group included Mike Gore, who brought his young son, and Tom Schadt, Wes Dawson and myself each had the company of our most significant others. Skippers Nick Hoffman, Don Ross, Tom Schadt and Reed Dow each brought a boat load of friends to enjoy the fun of fishing, crabbing, shrimping, eating, and sharing each day’s adventures.

Most people who come to Hakai fish from a small open boat provided by the lodge, with some instruction from the staff on where and how to fish. Most guests will use motor-mooched plug-cut herring for bait. The Grady-White group with our fast boats, downriggers, electronics, artificial lures, and radio communications could share in real times where to fish, what bait to use, and how deep to fish so that we collectively caught so many that the lodge staff was convinced a record run had just arrived! All of us caught silver (coho) salmon in abundance. A few larger Tye (Chinook greater than 30#) and springs (Chinook less than 30#) were also caught. Some caught halibut. Those targeting bottom fish caught lingcod as well.

This was another trip of a lifetime for all of us who made the journey and many of us hope to return again!



LOW COUNTRY GRADY CLUB members and guests visited the Grady factory this fall and participated in a Friday Morning Focus along with all plant employees. They lunched with the Grady management team, and shared feedback about their overall Grady experience.

ranging from 26’ to 37’ made a ten-hour, 262-mile crossing for a week in Eleuthera, Bahamas. There was so much to do, exploring this island! Spectacular sights included Ocean Hole, the hot springs of Queens Bath, Glass Window Bridge, and the caves at Hatchet Bay. A big highlight was toga party/bonfire dinner on the beach! The final summer get-together was relaxing raft-up at Boca Lake. Pompano Beach Marine Center sponsors this club.

The **Tampa Bay Grady-White Club** set a club record with the turnout for its lunch cruise to the Hula Bay Club in July: 31 members and guests. Norm Englert offered his famous Bloody Marys—a signature brunch drink for this crew! September’s monthly meeting featured member Jerry Knight’s presentation on the wreck of the Coast Guard Cutter *Blackthorn*; October’s program speaker was Captain Brent Gaskill—a local TV and radio

personality and one of the most successful fishing guides in the Bay area and near-shore waters of the Gulf. Due to the continued red tide conditions, the club regretfully cancelled their fall Palm Island Resort excursion but have tentatively rescheduled for May 2019. Mark your calendars! Quality Boats sponsors this group.

The **Tidewater Grady-White Club** got together for its Annual Fall Picnic in October at Great Neck Park, Virginia Beach, VA. Twenty-one members enjoyed a chicken and barbecue buffet, a cornhole tournament, and sharing fishing and cruising tales. Thanks to Joe and Carol Miller for the cornhole set-up! Norfolk Marine is the club sponsor.



The **TIDEWATER GRADY-WHITE CLUB** enjoyed its Annual Fall Picnic at Great Neck Park, Virginia Beach, VA in October.

Letters & Photos

What's happening? Have an interesting story or photo? Email us at anchorline@gradywhite.com or write to *Anchorline*, P.O. Box 1527, Greenville, NC 27835.



DAN DAPPER RUNS HIS 2014 FISHERMAN 209 back to his place on Useless Bay, Whidbey Island, Washington, Labor Day weekend.



CHUCK AND JAN STONE share a congratulatory kiss on delivery day in Wisconsin aboard their brand-new Freedom 275.



JOSE CEDAÑO MALDONADO shares this photo of Team Pielago-Grady who recently entered the Cangrejos Yacht Club 62nd Annual Blue Marlin Tournament in Puerto Rico, fishing a Canyon 336.



YOUNG CHARLIE CURE WAS HANGING OUT WITH A BABY SEAL and a cooler of fresh Dungeness crabs, off Blake Island in the Puget Sound, on Chai Kanithanon's Freedom 225.

LAWRIE AND PAM HUCK WERE VISITED BY FIVE-YEAR-OLD TWIN GRANDDAUGHTERS JANE AND KATE, who enjoyed their first boat ride on the family's Adventure 208, to Sidney Spit off Victoria, British Columbia. Each took a turn steering, with the instructions "Faster, Grampa, faster!" The Hucks made a trip to North Carolina this summer to visit relatives, and toured the Grady-White plant in Greenville. "Very impressive!"



Who's Your Grady Buddy?

To share a photo of your furry Grady friends, email us at anchorline@gradywhite.com or write to Anchorline, P.O. Box 1527, Greenville, NC 27835.



CAPTAIN MICKEY takes command of Paul and Chris Tew's new 251 CE, *Someday Lady*, out of Wrightsville Beach, NC. Let the great times begin!



INDIE the Aussiepoo at nine months, relaxing on Barnegut Bay, Toms River, NJ, aboard Jennifer and Mark Grusso's *Freedom 275*.



French bulldogs **PETE AND SHORTY** of Clearwater, FL, are on the lookout, riding Ed and Marsha Droste's *Freedom 235*.

Take Some Seat Time to Master Those Electronics



Freedom 325 helm shown



Selfie time! Bill Hayes and Terri Merkli

Navigation electronics are so darned advanced these days, even seasoned boaters can feel somewhat daunted by all the features. While at first it may seem that you need a techie on hand to figure it all out—and of course your Grady dealer delivery captain can provide a great tutorial—rest assured that spending some running time on your Grady is the best way to learn, and soon you'll be setting up split screens to monitor your entire environment—especially handy for scoping out area weather conditions.

Bill Hayes and Terri Merkli recently “upGrady’ed” from a *Gulfstream 232* to a *Marlin 300*, and even visited the factory in Greenville to inspect the build progress. The two are active with the Tarpon Coast Grady-White Club, sponsored by Ingman Marine, Port Charlotte, FL, and have enjoyed many excursions with fellow club members. This past fall they ventured about 200 miles aboard their 300, *Starship1*, on a solo trip from Charlotte Harbor to Boot Key Harbor in the Keys. As Bill can attest, there’s a universe of options integrating charts/maps, radar, sonar, weather, VHF and other sensors, and the way to master them is to “just do it!”

“With the extra helm time required on a trip of this duration, I had scope to look at my Garmins a little more closely. (I get confused easily trying to read user manuals. I find I work best when I discover things by osmosis.) For example, I noticed for the first time between Vaca Cut and Cape Romano on the way home that when you are ‘navigating’ to a destination, there is a side display that gives you arrival time and miles to go. After that discovery, I’m sure Terri got tired of me announcing every few minutes how far it was to the Cape Romano light!”

There were a couple isolated thunderstorms roughly ten miles north of the island chain in Florida Bay, homeward bound. “I had an ‘A-ha’ moment here. I remember you can run one scenario on one screen and one on another. With a

bit of fiddling I was able to run my magenta course line at 800 feet on one screen, and a radar display out to ten miles on the other with my course line as well. The radar clearly depicted clear sky so we steered between the two cells as neat as you please.”

Bill commented, “Back in the ‘70s, we just put our finger in the air and guessed!”



Bill and Terri's *Marlin 300, Starship1*



Anchorline

THE GRADY-WHITE OWNERS' NEWSLETTER

252-752-2111 www.gradywhite.com

Grady-White Boats, P.O. Box 1527, Greenville, NC 27835



The Hounsells christened their *Freedom 235* with a toast. Their lake home in New Hampshire is accessible only by boat, so the Grady is a must!

Dear Grady-White Owners and Enthusiasts:



EDDIE SMITH AND KRIS CARROLL

We are thrilled about the upcoming winter boats shows, for lots of reasons. We get to show off the exciting innovations and updates on each and every one of our 2019 models! Ruggedly elegant, full of style and multi-functionality, each Grady is rich with the features you want for your family's boating pleasure. And every Grady-White is a SeaV²® hull delivering the ultimate performance and ride, built to give many, many years of value.

Showtime is also a celebration of relationships—with you our customers, with our dealers (the best in the business!) and with the recreational marine industry associates who work hard to ensure a great environment for

all to continue discovering boating. Every new year reminds us of just how dear these relationships are, and we are thankful for them.

So please, when you visit a show, introduce yourself to our representatives and tell us about your boating experiences. Let us tell you all about our Winter Sales Event now in progress!

Happy New Year, and Happy Boating!

Kris Carroll, PRESIDENT

Eddie Smith, Jr., CHAIRMAN, CEO

