



Happy
New Year!



Anchorline

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRADY LIFE

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to Incredible Beauty

Unusual Journey Leads to
Career of a Lifetime

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Carina Ecclefield's *Canyon 306*
in the Cayman Islands



Dear Grady Friends:

We began 2020 excited about the start of a new year and the opportunities to connect with many of you at boat shows and Grady Club events. Luckily, we were able to attend some shows early, before COVID-19 became a household word. That quickly came to an end in March, when most of the remaining shows and gatherings were cancelled.

Although we didn't get the chance to visit as many of you in person this year, everyone here at Grady-White is thankful to have been a part of a different kind of opportunity—bringing families and friends closer together through the joy of boating.

Putting smiles on faces through boating is always our goal, but this year it was even more important! In the midst of all the uncertainty, it was truly rewarding to see the happy moments you've experienced on your Grady-White boats. With the change of routine thrust upon us, life's pace shifted for many, allowing more time on the water. It's been wonderful to see past owners joyfully get back into boating. Just as heart-warming, is how many people became first-time boat owners! We've enjoyed watching you all share in our love of the boating lifestyle and the Grady Life.

While challenging, this change suddenly provided a rare opportunity to experience boating in new ways with our families. From leisure days on the water and learning a new hobby like fishing or skiing, to exploring new destinations; boating helps us to keep mentally afloat as we navigate through uncharted waters. We are very thankful for news that a vaccine is on the horizon, and as we patiently await the day we can move about freely again, we all can remember this year's boating fun and be thankful. We hope you enjoy these Anchorline stories, and that these adventures will be as inspiring to you as they were to us.

Keep sending us your photos and messages through social media, email or the web, and let's continue to navigate this uncertain time together as one big happy Grady-White family.

Eddie Smith, Jr.

Eddie Smith, Jr., chairman, ceo

Kris Carroll

Kris Carroll, president

Every month we feature a Grady owner in our electronic newsletter *Docklines*. If you missed these two great stories, or any others, you can find them at gradywhite.com/docklines-newsletter/



(Top) **July Docklines** Dan Parks puts his new *Freedom 325* to the test on delivery day.

(Bottom) **September Docklines** Trish O'Carroll encourages other women to stop waiting on the dock!

ON THE COVER

Carina Ecclefield captured this photo of Rares-Alexandru Danes diving off her *Canyon 306*, named *Ecks-Change*, when they were enjoying an afternoon at Stingray City in the Cayman Islands. She says, to her this depicts "The Joy of Living the #GradyLife"!

Grady Introduces Family to Incredible Scenic Beauty and Adventure

Longing to explore beyond Vancouver, British Columbia, Malcolm and Tonya Earle knew they would need to replace their existing boat with something more durable. Luckily, they found a Grady-White *Marlin 300* that fit the bill perfectly. “We’d spent the previous years taking our old boat about 25 miles from Vancouver to the South Gulf Islands; that’s about as far as we felt comfortable,” he said. “But the scenery and wildlife we wanted to see, and show our boys, was up north. We knew if we wanted to visit by water we’d need a safer, sturdier and more comfortable boat.” Malcolm goes on to explain that once you travel north from Vancouver the weather really starts to change. “You can go from warm water and 85°F air temperatures to a cold rain forest in about 60 miles.” After they purchased the *Marlin* they were free to go north, traveling further each summer.

When their boys were six and eight years old, they started taking longer trips. “The max we’d usually be gone was about seven nights, after that we’d start getting a little tired of each other,” Malcolm said laughingly. Sometimes their excursion would be a round trip and other times they would leave the boat in a location, fly home for a short while, then head back and continue their trek north. What they loved most about traveling this way was getting “off the grid.” With no cell service they were free to fish, watch the whales, see glaciers and waterfalls, and meet new, interesting people along the way. Malcolm says they can find a place to stop for fuel and get supplies about every 100 miles. He prefers not to have their trips all planned out. “Just go and stop when you want to,” he says. “I’m always in awe of the people in these remote areas and the further north you go the more interesting people you meet.” He goes on to say that people



(Top) **Tonya and Malcolm** at Duncanby Lodge in Rivers Inlet, British Columbia.

(Bottom) **The family** (l-r), Malcolm, Taylor, Tonya, Kieran, and Haida the dog.



The Earle family on *THOR II* in front of a waterfall at Kynoch Inlet in British Columbia.

today are planners, but you can't really do that in this instance. "The weather changes fast, there's no cell service and without the knowledge of the local people it's going to be hard to manage," he says. "Half of our memorable experiences come from recommendations from the guys at the gas barge," Malcolm continues. "They make suggestions about where to go and what to see. At every stop, I get great information. You just have to be willing to ask and to listen," he says. He goes on to advise that these are the people that know the area, so not only do they know the sites, they also know what you need to be on the lookout for. "It just makes the trip a lot easier," he expounds.

Eventually the boys grew up and they realized a bigger boat was in order. "My

kids were over 6 feet tall – they were bigger than me and the trips weren't as pleasant," he said. Before they embarked

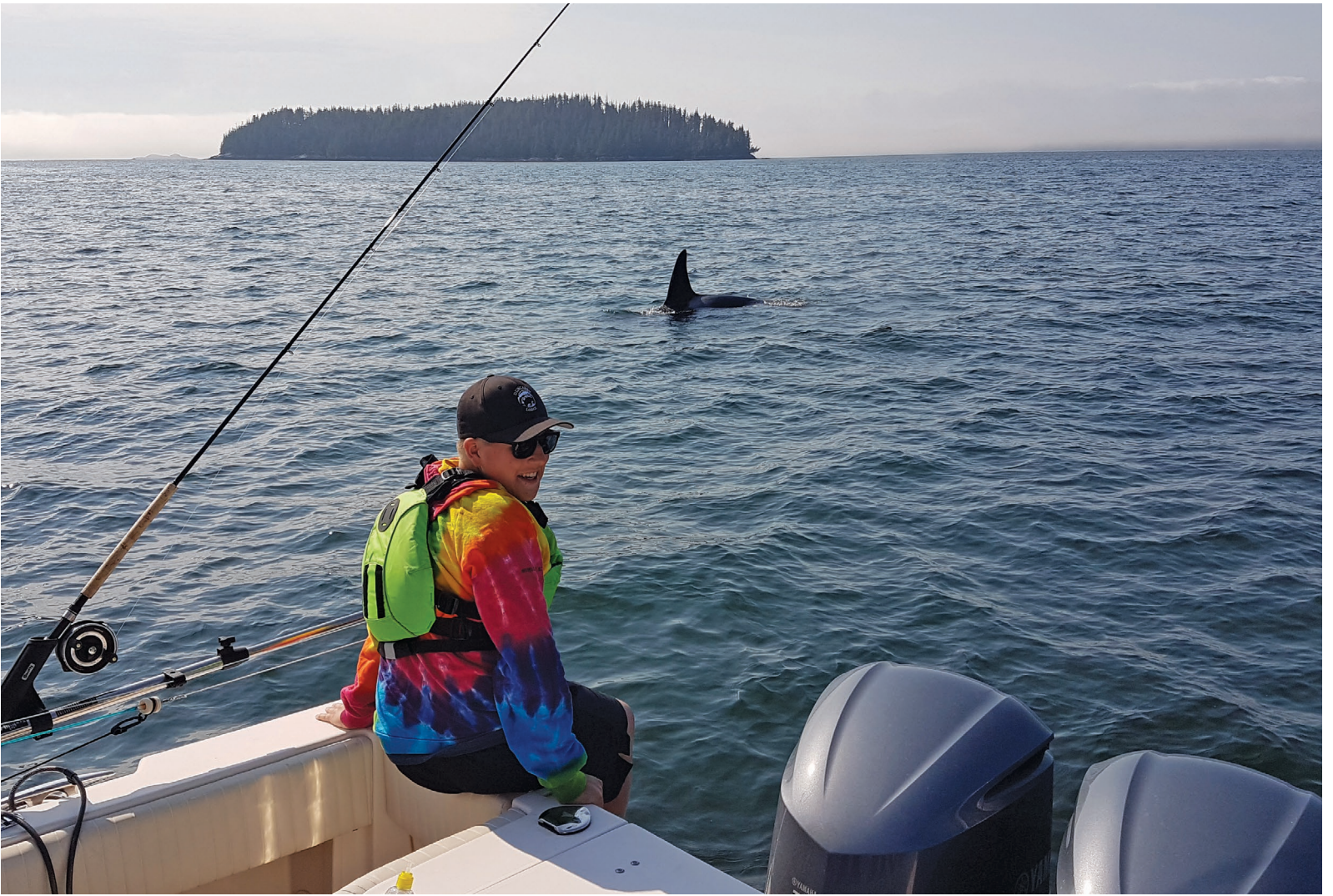
"WHEN YOU'RE IN A REMOTE LOCATION LIKE THAT, YOU'D BETTER LEAVE YOUR ATTITUDE AT THE DOOR."

– MALCOLM EARLE

on buying a larger boat, Malcolm wanted to sell the boat he had. "I called a colleague of mine and told him I was going to sell my *Marlin 300*, but he didn't have long to decide," he went on to explain, "I loved that boat, so if he hesitated I might have decided not to sell." It took about 5 minutes for the guy

to say yes! Without a boat, Malcolm went in search of a Grady-White *Express 360* (now the *Express 370*).

Since buying the *Express*, Malcolm has taken one trip to Alaska and numerous trips north to the central coast area of British Columbia in and around the Great Bear Rainforest, the last intact temperate rainforest on the planet. The first part of the trip was primarily with family. "They were on the boat about two-thirds of the trip and then I had some friends join me for the trip north to Alaska," said Malcolm. One of the most captivating places they visited was Meyers Chuck, Alaska. "It's in the middle of nowhere," Malcolm explains. "When you're in a remote location like that, you'd better leave your attitude at the door. This is another



Taylor watching Orca whales in Rivers Inlet, British Columbia.



Malcolm Earle with sons **Taylor** (left) and **Kieran** (right) Kingcome Inlet with First Nations native art behind them.

experience where relying on the guidance of the locals made all the difference. It was an amazing trip where we saw glaciers, grizzly bears, deer, and countless whales,” he recalls. Malcolm goes on to explain that you can cruise pretty close to the land. Even when you’re thirty feet offshore you’re in 100 feet of very cold water.

This past September, Malcolm made a last minute trip up the central British Columbia coast, this time traveling with

two friends. “We had all been cooped up in the house working from home during the pandemic and we decided it was the perfect time to take a guys trip,” he said. On



Kieran winter fishing in January near Vancouver, British Columbia.



THOR II at the dock while the Earle's tour the Nimmo Bay Resort.

this trip not only did he see amazing scenery and meet incredible people again, he also learned a few lessons; like not to rely on only one set of electronics. "I had three charts going and luckily one showed a huge sand bar," he said. "We saw it and

were able to stop just in time to turn and go around it."

Only once has Malcolm gotten into a really dicey weather situation on the boat. "We were heading south to go home. My family had already flown back home and a

conditions with the waves crashing all around us. No other boat could have done it." He goes on to say that he was very lucky, and though the boat performed great, he's unlikely to ever make that trip again.

Malcolm said his wife really enjoys the *Express*. "She feels safe on this boat – more so than any other boat we've owned." He goes on to note, "We've gone through some rough water, but the boat has always been reliable, dependable and consistent. It allows us to explore and see new things every summer – something we couldn't do without the Grady!"



Malcolm at LeConte Glacier in Alaska.

friend had joined me," he said. "I wanted to take the boat on the rugged west coast of Vancouver Island where the land is sparsely inhabited with people. We ended up in terrible

An Uncommon Journey Leads to Passionate Leadership

What makes Grady-White so different? There are many reasons, from the vision of our owner Eddie Smith, to the production process foundations built in the '60s and '70s, to our passionate President, Kris Carroll. Our *Docklines* e-newsletter recently announced Kris' induction into the National Marine Manufacturer's Association's (NMMA) Hall of Fame!* As the first woman ever to receive this very prestigious

recognition, it acknowledges her leadership in the marine industry, in marine conservation, and at our company. You may know that our owner, Eddie Smith, was also inducted into the NMMA Hall of Fame in 2002 – having two Hall of Fame Award winners is quite rare.

We thought you might find it interesting to learn a little detail about how Kris' unusual journey and perspective have contributed to Grady-White's uniqueness over the years. First, she isn't what you would expect. She is an unconventional and unlikely character who, by chance and providence, got a job at Grady-White Boats in 1975, and the rest as they say, is history.



Kris Carroll, President of Grady-White Boats

Raised in a small suburb of Boston, Massachusetts, middle child of three, Kris' youth was full of significant challenges, where she learned early on how to be a



Kris and her brother on the deck of their father's boat.

problem solver. Those tough circumstances, taught Kris one of her basic life beliefs: "If you don't work, you don't eat."

In the summers, she spent time with her dad, an avid boater, who lived in coastal Marblehead, MA. She helped ready his old lobster boat for the summer season– where all the scraping, painting and engine repair sometimes left only a few weeks for fun offshore adventures.

Again, she learned, you have to work hard for what you want to enjoy in life.

By junior high, Kris was pretty self-sufficient, earning what she could to pay for her personal needs. By 15, she had a steady part-time job and even contributed to household expenses. Toughened by the school of hard-knocks, the small and scrappy Kris learned how to work her way through many situations.

Because college wasn't proposed as an option, Kris concentrated on the business classes offered at her high school. She immediately put her new skills to work, graduating on a Friday and starting her first full-time job the next Monday

morning as a clerk at a small insurance agency. She spent the next six years learning all the aspects of managing a small business, doing the books, getting her broker's license, and becoming the manager of that small five-person agency.

In 1975, Kris "ran away from home," leaving her job and the only life she knew, following a friend to the foreign land of Greenville, NC. The day she arrived, Kris knew if she was going to eat, she needed a job. Applying to a blind ad landed her in the lobby of Grady-White Boats. Hired as a production control clerk, she began her incredible 45 year (and counting) professional journey which included becoming the President of one of the most successful boat companies in the world.

Early on, working closely with Executive Vice President and General Manager, Wiley Corbett, she began learning a lot about manufacturing, which earned her the opportunity to take on additional responsibility in Engineering. When Corbett was promoted to President in 1986, after working her way up through



Carroll with King Mackerel catch, November 1988.

the Engineering ranks, Kris was promoted to Vice President of Engineering (which included responsibility for Accounting and IT). In 1990, her role expanded to include manufacturing. Her strategies brought more unity and synergy between the critical engineering and manufacturing teams so they were able to build even better boats together.

At the time of Corbett's retirement in 1993, CEO/Owner, Eddie Smith, promoted Kris to President. Being the very first female president of a boat company, at the age of 42 and not quite 5 ft. tall, she definitely was not what people pictured as the typical boat company President.

She soon became closely involved with many industry and marine conserva-

tion initiatives. Kris was the first female on the NMMA boards. She smiles as she remembers her first day as Chairman of the Boat Division Board; the chair was not tall enough ... she could barely be seen at the table. "This isn't going to work ... I'm going to need some help" she chuckled. Someone found a nice fluffy couch cushion to help raise her up ... and then it was back

to work! She never really felt that being short, or a woman, was ever much of a distracting issue, "We all just needed to focus on the work, together, and get the important projects done." Committed to helping the industry prosper, she continues to enthusiastically encourage others, men and women, to get personally involved, supporting and improving the entire marine industry and our fisheries for the benefit of all.

She has worked side-by-side, for over 30 years, with a very passionate, experienced and dedicated executive leadership team, who have led the company to exceptional levels of satisfaction and success on all fronts. Building on Eddie Smith's core principles for Sales and Branding, and Wiley Corbett's values and principles for



Grady-White founder Eddie Smith gives Carroll her five-year certificate in 1980.



Wiley Corbett, Eddie Smith and Kris Carroll, 1994.

Manufacturing and Engineering, have led to world class partnerships with our dealers and suppliers to deliver an exceptional experience for our very valued customers.

Under Kris' distinctive leadership, the team has developed many unique initiatives to reach exceptional levels of satisfaction. A clear example of this is our dedicated and highly experienced, Customer Care Team, who call every customer at one month of ownership, and then again after one year, to learn more about their personal boating experiences, and how we can build even better boats and provide more delightful experiences. No other boat company does this!

When folks come here for a tour, they are often "blown away" at the depth of individual and team development that happens regularly at the plant. The mandatory and optional reading programs,

that are financially rewarded, are 100% uniquely Grady-White. Employees can earn thousands of dollars from our "Books for Money" reading program!

Kris personally leads all employees through a process to develop their own vision for personal growth in all domains of their lives.

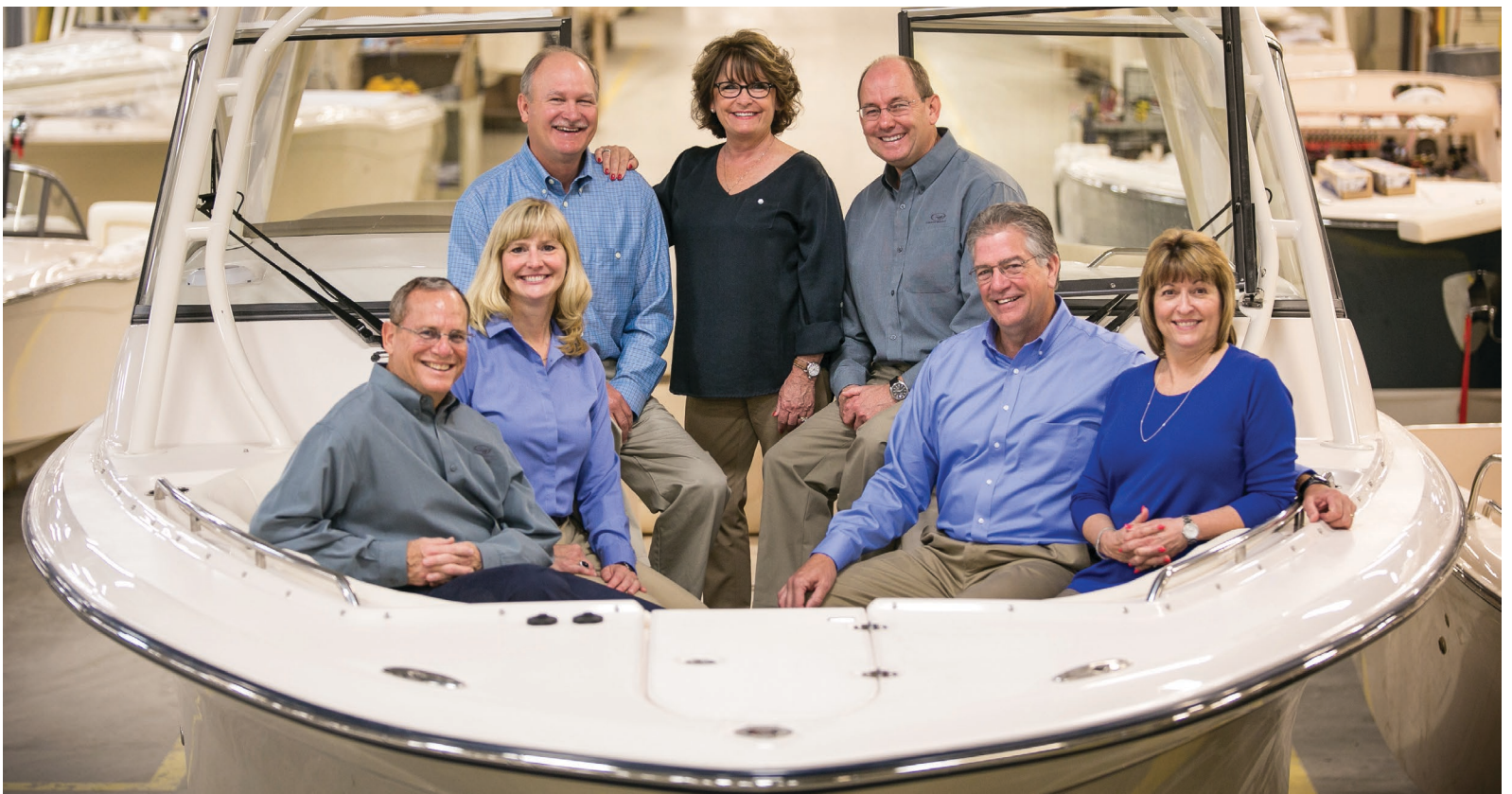
"WE ALL JUST NEEDED TO FOCUS ON THE WORK, TOGETHER, AND GET THE IMPORTANT PROJECTS DONE."

– KRIS CARROLL

A tremendous amount of time and effort is put into creating our highly effective and engaging, full team, "Friday Morning Focus". Normally everyone comes together (although COVID-19 has cramped our style a bit...for now) to learn lessons, be inspired and have a little fun together.

Kris' passion is to inspire all people she encounters to be their very best. This goal, and the vision for Grady-White, 'Together, Delivering the Ultimate Boating Experience...while enjoying coming to work' are hallmarks of her remarkable career. She truly has enjoyed coming to work, every day, for 45 years, and wants everyone at Grady-White to have that same experience. Even after all these years, she challenges herself, and the team—everyday—to strive for even greater levels of mastery in all we do.

*If you would like to learn more about Kris' NMMA Hall of Fame Award, visit our website and watch the video <https://bit.ly/2KssILh>



Grady-White's management team (from left): Doug Gomes, Marketing and Sales Senior Advisor; Shelley Tubaugh, Vice President of Marketing; Joey Weller, Vice President of Sales; Kris Carroll, President; Mark Doggett, Executive Vice President; David Neese, Vice President of Engineering (retired); and Jill Carraway, Vice President of Finance.

THIS GRADY FAMILY KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES ON THEIR *MARLIN 300*

It's the Grady Life for this Massachusetts Family

Picking names was the hardest part for Brian and Joanne Walsh, who ordered a *Marlin 300* scheduled to deliver in the spring of 2004, about the same time as their first child. The Walsh's had already been living the Grady Life on a 24' Grady-White boat that Brian's dad had purchased 20 years earlier. They knew they would have to name the new Grady-White and the baby. What they didn't know was the gender of their baby. They wanted it to be a surprise! "But, that meant we had to pick out three names, a girl's name, a boy's name and a boat name," Brian recalls.

Since they were going to be boating with an infant, Joanne was sold on the fact that the Grady was unsinkable. "The Grady-White is just so solid," said Joanne, "you always feel safe no matter what the conditions." When asked if they could recount

any rough conditions and how the boat performed Brian said, "We've never hit weather too bad for the *Marlin 300* to handle, it takes the waves so well you just don't notice." This says a lot after 16 years of boating up and down the northeastern coast from Maine to Rhode Island.

By the time their son was born they had a name for both. Conor would grow up boating on *Beyond the Bridge*. The Grady's name came from Brian's early boating days he explains. "When I was a boy, my family had a 16-foot 6-horsepower runabout. My four siblings and I spent lots of time on that boat going out of the cove by our house in Squantum, Massachusetts, to a

*"THE GRADY-WHITE IS
JUST SO SOLID, YOU ALWAYS
FEEL SAFE NO MATTER WHAT
THE CONDITIONS."*

– JOANNE WALSH

sandbar that was about a half-a-mile away. Just past the sand bar was a bridge. Our mother was always warning, 'Don't go beyond the bridge!' hence the name." Through the years, including the addition of their daughter, Quinn, they've had many adventures beyond the bridge, and

that time on the water has forged a strong family of boaters.

Today, Brian, his four siblings, and their 19 children, all live in Squantum, Massachusetts, a small peninsula island community with about 2,000 homes. They all love to boat, and in fact at one time between them all, they owned four Grady-White boats. One memorable trip occurred when two of Brian's sisters were in the market for a boat and both found Gradys in Portland, Maine. Ironically, they were taking possession of the boats on the same day. On a foggy morning, the three siblings and Brian's dad boarded *Beyond the Bridge* and headed to Portland where his sisters and their families got on their new boats for the return trip. "It was perfect. A family with three Grady-Whites all traveling together on a beautiful clear day," he recalls. Today, the siblings still



Joanne and "Beyond the Bridge" on splash day.



Then: Baby Conor takes a bath his first summer on the Walsh's *Marlin 300*, *Beyond the Bridge*.



The Walsh grandchildren, who all grew up on the Squantum, Massachusetts peninsula, pose in front of three family owned Grady-White Boats during the summer of 2018.



Conor has loved to fish since he was young, even if it meant he and mom had to spend a little time in the rain.



Quinn shows off her catch!

enjoy traveling by boat together, often rafting up and relaxing.

Each fall, the Walsh family puts their boat in storage. Joanne and Brian note, “It really makes us appreciate it even more. We miss boating during the winter, so as soon as it starts to warm up, we’re ready to get back on the water!”. Generally, they go out every weekend – sometimes traveling a few hours away for overnight trips, sometimes just anchoring out while the kids swim and sail around the cove. In fact, “We get a little bummed if we have to miss a weekend or two,” they say. The family, and their friends, enjoy a variety of boating activities, from overnight trips, anchoring out and swimming, to fishing. Brian notes, “This boat is great for going from family mode to hard core fishing!” He keeps a dock box full of the needed supplies to easily transition the boat for

the activity they are about to enjoy. They like to fish for bluefin tuna, stripped bass, cod, haddock and flounder.

While Brian is the primary captain, Conor (16), Quinn (12) and mom, Joanne, can also drive the boat. Though Joanne and Quinn admit docking isn’t their thing. Brian notes that lots of people are enjoying the Grady Life in nearby Duxbury Bay. “It’s a sea of Grady-Whites,” he notes, as he goes on to talk about his great dealer experience with Bayside Marine. He also tells us that the *Marlin* still looks spectacular. “I keep it looking new by putting it in storage during the winter and I replaced the curtains with the new style a few years ago,” he notes. Brian also says he likes looking at customer tips on Grady’s website, the *Docklines* newsletter and a popular Grady Facebook forum. “There are always great tips that help me keep my boat in top condition,”



Brian, Joanne, Conor and Quinn Walsh enjoy their annual overnight boat trip to Gloucester, Massachusetts.



Now: at 16, Conor likes to captain the boat.

he notes. He goes on to offer a tip of his own. “When using your curtains, be sure to tether the strap so it doesn’t flap around and scratch the clear vinyl. And, be sure to wipe them down before you roll them up,” he notes.

This year the Walsh’s are disappointed they probably won’t get to visit the Grady-White team at the New England Boat Show due to the pandemic. “We always enjoy seeing the new Grady’s and talking with Jack and JR Kent, the local Grady-White

dealer,” they note. But more than ever they are thankful for the time they will have on the boat this summer together, as they take more trips “beyond the bridge”!



The Walsh family returns from Portland, Maine, where they picked up two, new to them, Grady-White Boats.

HAVE AN INTERESTING STORY OR PHOTO?
EMAIL US AT ANCHORLINE@GRADYWHITE.COM

Letters & Photos



Captain Jack Murnane shares this picture of his family (**Mark, Ashley, Erik and Jake**) after a successful offshore trip west of Anna Maria Island, Florida, on his *Express 330*.



Pete Krainik loves watching his wife, Gina, and their granddaughter, Elle, have fun out on Tampa Bay, Florida, in their new *Fisherman 216*. They said the boat has exceeded their expectations!



David Serianni shows off a big blackfish he caught off Captains Island, in New York's Long Island Sound, on his *Tournament 225*.



Rob Williams and his friend, Roger Lemke, caught this dolphin on his *Release 283* off Islamorada, Florida. This is Rob's third Grady-White boat.

TO SHARE A PHOTO OF YOUR FURRY GRADY FRIENDS,
EMAIL US AT ANCHORLINE@GRADYWHITE.COM

Grady Buddies



Rich O'Brien shares this photo of his new grand-puppies **Grady (R)** and **Wrigley (L)** who both enjoyed the ride on his *Express 330*.



Wicket, John Bussey's goldendoodle, boats with the family on their third Grady, an *Express 330* named *Drink On*, in Fort Pierce, Florida.



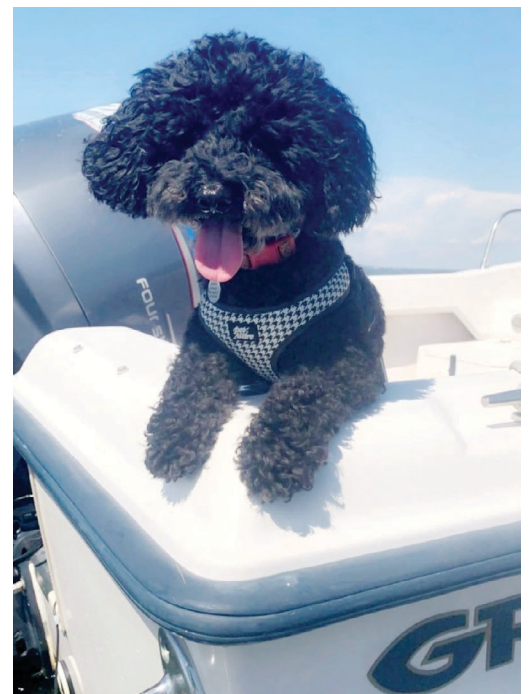
The O'Connor family introduced their new yellow lab, **Leo**, to boating on their *Fisherman 216* in Pt. Pleasant, New Jersey.



Christine McLaughlin sends us this photo of **Ace**, a four-month old black lab, taking his last ride of the 2020 season on their *Freedom 275* in Duxbury Bay, Massachusetts.



Dick and Laura Murphy cruise with their new cavalier king charles spaniel, **Winslow**, along the waters of Buzzards Bay and Vineyard Sound, Massachusetts, in their *Freedom 285*.



Jackson loves riding on **David O'Connell's Adventure 208** in Fire Island, New York.



Peggy and Ralph Edwards say **Louie** is a good boy that loves a good romp on the beach and riding on their *Escape 209* near Wrightsville Beach, North Carolina.



Tico, loves fishing with his family on **Brandon Bailey's Freedom 192** in Puget Sound, Washington.



Rocco on his first boat ride with veteran boater, **Lucca**, on **David and Cathy Orlando's Fisherman 216** on Clear Lake, Texas.



Monty, a miniature goldendoodle, loves to join his family tubing, fishing or on a sunset dinner cruise aboard their *Fisherman 236*. Owner, **Tracy Shepard**, says this boat made the summer months an incredible experience out on the Long Island Sound in New York.



Sadie, **Kirk and Margarette Carter's** yellow lab, loves to ride on their *Escape 209* on Lake Hartwell, South Carolina.



Max VIII begs dad, **Michael Broussard**, to take him for a ride on their *Tournament 225, Reel Blessed*.



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Send us an email at anchorline@gradywhite.com



Nimmo Bay, British Columbia For more photos and the story of the Earle family's travels in Canada and Alaska turn to page 3. To see videos from their travels visit gradywhite.com/explore/the-grady-life/videos/.