



Anchorline

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRADY LIFE



The Cape Lookout Grady-White Club enjoyed a day trip to their namesake, Cape Lookout National Seashore. Pictured here are some of their boats anchored in front of the majestic Cape Lookout lighthouse.



Dear Grady Friends:

It is hard to believe how fast this year is flying by! While it has had its challenges, we want to recognize our great dealer network and the incredible people working here at Grady-White Boats. Through difficulties brought on by a pandemic and weather-related supply issues, our team has been resilient and creative – working tirelessly every day to continue delivering the ultimate boating experience to our customers.

As we look toward the coming year with optimism, we are pleased to present new model year updates, along with numerous features that have moved from optional to standard. Our engineering team has gone above and beyond to enhance the boats you already love through our continuous improvement mission. Thanks to their hard work, and that of our entire team, we've got an impressive line up of boats, and we know you're going to be as excited as we are!

Using the engineering that perfected the T-top on other boat models, a new design has been incorporated into the *Fisherman 216, 236, 257*, and the *251 Coastal Explorer*. New standard features not only improve the convenience aspect of your boating experience, but also enhance the highly desired comfort level – both perfectly matched to the ride you experience on our superior performing SeaV²® hull.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Anchorline*, and that it prompts you to explore new adventures on your Grady-White. Take a new route, go on an excursion, or start a Grady club for your area. While there are many unknowns in the months ahead, we are happy to know that boating continues to be the top choice for family fun. That's why we're here and we're looking forward to seeing where boating on your Grady-White takes you.

Thank you for the role you allow us to play in your lives as you live the Grady Life!

Eddie Smith, Jr.

Eddie Smith, Jr., Chairman, CEO

Kris Carroll

Kris Carroll, President



The Cape Lookout Grady-White Club held a beach-by-boat outing from Radio Island to Cape Lookout National Seashore, NC, with 19 boats, over 50 people, and nine Grady Buddies in tow. The club is a diverse group of boats ranging from 21 to 33 feet. Two of the boats had never gone to Cape Lookout before! The day was not only fun, but also provided a great opportunity for a few captains to travel a new route as there are two ways to get to Cape Lookout. One route goes out in the ocean, the other stays in the sound. You could say they attracted some attention from all the other boats at the Cape that day as all 19 Gradys anchored in front of the lighthouse together.

Family Ties, and Love of Place, Take this Grady Owner Back to His Midwest “Ocean”

By Bill Hayes, an avid Grady fan and an occasional contributor to *Anchorline*. Bill grew up boating on the Great Lakes, retired to Florida, and has now moved back to the Great Lakes area to be closer to family. In each move, there's been no doubt he was taking his Grady-White boat. He loves the opportunity to share his experiences with other Grady owners in hopes of inspiring them to go on new adventures of their own. Aside from his love for his boat, Bill is an entertainer! He and his son both play in a band called the “The Flying Toasters”.

“Look Daddy, I see the ocean!”

“No Son, that’s Lake Michigan.

It’s freshwater...and no sharks!”

“Wow, it sure looks like the ocean.”

Lake Michigan is an enigma. It certainly does not look like any lake we view in the traditional sense. It’s strangely compelling, immense in its influence, and sometimes tragically underestimated. Over 300 miles long and 118 miles wide, it can be so serene that time stands still on the beach one day, and the next it’s sending pleasure craft scurrying for the nearest safe harbor.

In 2012, Terri and I retired to Florida, and had no plans on leaving. However, family loomed large, grandchildren were growing fast, and by early 2021, we began preparations to return to our Midwest home. Even though well-meaning friends were scratching their heads in bewilderment at such a seemingly unorthodox move, we knew what we were doing. To avoid being blinded by the fog, missing the channel to safe haven, and foundering on the rocks, we knocked down every detail and question, including what to do with our prized possession before starting the trek.



Ellett and Oscar stand on the beach with their *Gulfstream 232* waiting to safely carry everyone home after another day on the lake!

I call myself a "Repeat Offender" when it comes to Grady-White boats. I’ve owned three: a *Seafarer 228*, a *Gulfstream 232*, and our current *Marlin 300*, *Starship II*. We purchased her in 2018 while still in Florida, and my son Jason and family inherited our *Gulfstream 232* and trailered it to their Indiana home. Bolstered by the finest experience I’ve ever had from Ingman Marine in Placida, we motored up and down the Florida Suncoast, basking in the euphoria of owning and

piloting a truly incredible vessel. There was no doubt she must come with us. Our *Marlin* was chocked with safety and comfort features, and we were certain of the good times ahead. Therefore, we decided we would ship her to Northern Lake Michigan where I spent summers growing up.

The Great Lakes lie in the middle of a climatological battlefield. Low pressure systems traverse the region dragging strong cold fronts over the waters, some accompanied by a line of strong to severe storms ahead of them. Once the fronts pass, high pressure fills in behind them, bringing northerly winds that sweep the length of Lake Michigan, potentially causing seas of heroic proportions. The lake bottom is littered with shipwrecks, tragic reminders of the power of this inland sea.

Devoid of the long-period swell, common in oceans, freshwater seas make up quickly and calm down just as fast. Summer months bring long periods of benign conditions, perfect for port-hopping, beaching, and viewing the scenic shoreline. Rig your Grady with downriggers to find the salmon that abound in the offshore waters and fix ‘em fresh that night!

Lake Michigan also has the ability to stir your soul in ways that cannot be depicted

with the printed word. Countless people pay hotel rates triple that of winter months to stand on the shore, lean down and touch the water, and otherwise connect with the Lake in their own personal way. Spectacular sunsets are free, however, and a beach campfire on a star-studded night has the potential to fix anything.

Our *Marlin* is a perfect fit. With her cabin and canvas enclosure, she is a three-season boat. The incredible SeaV²[®] hull, unique to Grady, knocks down the tight surface chop common to freshwater lakes. Did I mention Grady's just plain look great anchored in front of a picturesque sand dune?

Memorable times? We've had more than we can count. Jason takes the family to the beach regularly in their *Gulfstream*, utilizing the wide 9' 3" beam to pack the whole



Soon they won't all fit on one seat, in fact it may take two boats to get the whole crew to the beach.



Move over Bill, it looks like this little lady will be the boat captain one day!

family as well as the obligatory ancillary gear. Once the troops are safely on the beach, the party starts in earnest. Within minutes, Oscar and Ellett, the two oldest boys, are in a debate over who gets to play

with which beach toys. At the same time, my daughter-in-law Alissa, (who was born with motherly 360° vision) sees 5-year-old Vera running down the beach to pet a golden retriever playing in the sand nearby.



The *Gulfstream 232* that Jason, Bill's son, inherited after the *Marlin 300* arrived, gets everyone to the beach!



Bill and Terri love their *Marlin 300*. They wouldn't have dreamed of leaving it behind when they moved from Florida back to the Great Lakes area.

Jason has long since mastered the art of parental multi-tasking. After creating an acceptable compromise on the beach toy dispute, Daddy runs down the shore to get Vera, explaining to her on the return trip that the family Suburban cannot hold another dog. Fortunately, a 5-year-old's priorities change with astonishing swiftness; within minutes she has forgotten the dog, and was engrossed in building the sand castle that the boys had begun in her absence. All the while, the *Gulfstream* rides patiently in the shallows on bow and stern anchors, a sentinel standing watch over her people, swim ladder deployed, ready to take them all back in safely to do it all over again another day.

To have our *Marlin* on Lake Michigan has been in a word, fabulous. Given reasonable conditions, her 350 V8

Yamahs can take us to Door County, WI, Sleeping Bear Dunes, or Mackinac Island in a day. We love overnighting aboard. The cabin is laid out perfectly, and even though it's captain is somewhat less-than-limber, accessing the mid-berth is easy. My better half, Terri, serves up meals in the galley worthy of inclusion on *The Food Network*, and our nights lying at anchor with the luminous underwater lights border on surreal.

Lake Michigan is set up for pure fun. Top-tier marinas, restaurants, and cool towns dot the coastline; many filled with shops and dockside eateries where credit cards can be abused on a regular basis. Armed with your Grady, a dose of seaman-ship, and maybe most important of all, common sense, you can avoid becoming the subject of the next Gordon Lightfoot

ballad as you experience a remarkable destination. If given the opportunity to take your Grady and family to Lake Michigan, take it!



Photo Credit: Lisa Sauce of Blonde Entertainment

The most obvious reason for Bill and Terri's move back home is Jason, Alissa, and the four (soon to be five) Hayes grandchildren!

GRADY CREW STORIES

It's An Inside Job

By Gwen Edwards, Grady-White team member and boat owner

My love for Grady-White boats started 40 years ago when I was hired in the human resources department. I couldn't have known at the time, but it was the beginning of a lifetime of adventures and a wonderful career – one that I am not ready to give up yet!

It didn't take long for me to realize that Grady-White wasn't your typical company. I had become part of a very special team of people who take great pride in their work. Here, there was a real family feeling. After 10 years working in human resources, I moved to the marketing department, then later to the sales department, and from there into my current position as a Sales Representative. I have always been proud to work at Grady-White, and I love seeing the expressions on people's faces when I tell them I have happily worked here for over 40 years!

My husband, David, daughters, Lauren and Kaylen, and I have boated on a variety of Grady-White boats for more than 30 years. In fact, at a young age my daughters thought all boats were Grady-Whites. Well of course they did, we never boated on anything else! Working at Grady-White, getting to know the people who build the boats, and seeing first-hand everything that goes into the quality of the build, it was clear to us that there is "no other boat" – at least, not for my family!

When we decided to buy our first boat, we chose the *Freedom 205* dual console model and named her "*Inside Job*," a suggestion from my good friend, Brian Cunningham. The *205* was perfect for our trips along North Carolina's Pamlico River and it served us



When Gwen's not working at Grady-White, she and her husband, David, relax on their Grady-White *Freedom 235*.

well for many years. As our family grew to include our daughters' husbands and now four grandchildren, we saw the need for a larger boat. Having loved the dual console versatility of the *205*, we moved up to the *Freedom 235*, again naming her "*Inside Job*."

Inside Job is the perfect boat for our "little" family of ten and brings us so much joy! Being fortunate to have both our daughters and their families living close by, we are on the boat just about every weekend. Having fun and making memories is what we do! We are truly living the Grady Life!

Did I mention how versatile this boat is? The time we spend on *Inside Job* is filled with a diverse mix of fun for all ages.

Pulling the grandkids on the tube, grilling out on a river beach, and scouring the shore for shark's teeth and driftwood are some of the activities we enjoy. Day trips are spent visiting our small NC river towns: cruising to Belhaven for brunch, stopping in Bath for a shrimp burger, or grabbing a bite to eat at Backwater Jack's in our hometown, Washington, we do it all! Occasionally, we even drop a fishing line or two.

It's always a real adventure as we're constantly scouting out new locations to spend the day. The grandchildren love it when we raft up with friends or anchor out so they can jump off the boat and swim. For David and me, it's a real joy to see them having so much fun on our boat. We often comment that those big smiles and screams of excitement bring back great memories of seeing our daughters and their friends doing the same when they were that age.



Gwen soon realized just how difficult it is to reel up a fish from a depth of 300+ feet while bottom fishing off the coast of Vancouver, BC.

When we have a little grown-up time, we enjoy sunset cruises with friends along the Washington waterfront. After a long day of work, there is nothing more relaxing than a sunset cruise.

We also enjoy weekend excursions with our daughters, their husbands, and some of our Grady-White family. A group of about eight of us love taking off on our Gradys for a destination weekend. We've been to Ocracoke Island, NC, several times and to River Dunes Resort in Oriental, NC. It says a lot about the people I work with when, after working together all week, we still enjoy each other's company into the weekend – further proof that Grady people are great people!



The Grady-White team enjoys spending time together away from the office. They often visit destinations for the weekend together, traveling by boat.

In addition to taking trips with fellow Grady co-workers, my job affords me many opportunities to travel with some of our Grady-White Owners' Clubs. Sometimes my husband, David, gets to join me on these trips. As the Grady-White Owners' Club coordinator, I hold

the official title of "The Queen of Clubs." These travels are sometimes close to home, like Masonboro Island near Wilmington, NC, or down south to places like Palm Island Resort, Useppa Island, and Sarasota, FL. Other times, my travels take me to more distant places like the San



Going out for a day on the water with the grandchildren reminds Gwen and David of the good times they shared as a family when their daughters were young.



An evening cruise is the perfect ending to any day.



As much as they enjoy playing on the water with the grandchildren, a trip with just their girls and sons-in-law is equally special.



Gwen and Shelley show off their catch!

Juan Islands in the Pacific Northwest, or Vancouver Island, British Columbia. Really, I hop all over the place – going north to Knapps Narrows in Maryland, Smithfield Station in Virginia, Put-in-Bay on Lake Erie, or way down south to the beautiful waters of the Bahamas at Green Turtle Cay and the Abacos. No matter where I go, I've found that like my co-workers, Grady owners are terrific people, and they know how to have a good time together on their Grady-White boats! It's always a real pleasure to be with them and hear them talk about their boating adventures and memory-making activities with friends and family – a similar Grady Life to the one I live here in North Carolina.

One especially memorable trip took me fishing in the Pacific Northwest, which is so different from fishing on the East Coast. There I caught my first lingcod and an octopus in the Puget Sound. Another



When they're not boating with family, Gwen and David have just as much fun on the water with friends.

trip led me and Shelley Tubaugh, Grady-White Vice President of Marketing, to Kyuquot on Vancouver Island where we caught our first king salmon. Whew! We didn't realize how hard it would be to reel up a fish from that depth (300+ ft.). We thought our arms were going to fall off reeling them in! I remember being asked if we needed help and we quickly replied, "Absolutely not!" We were determined to get our fish in by ourselves... and we did! We still talk about it, and plan to hold on to those bragging rights forever.

Experiencing the Grady Life personally, both with my family, and with other

Grady owners, has been so exciting and rewarding. Traveling to such varied locations and seeing how our customers use their boats in a wide range of applications has given me a deeper appreciation for the quality and reliability of our boats. The fact that our customers are all such wonderful people makes the experience even more outstanding. I've seen firsthand how they love their boats and the fun they have living the Grady Life, and the best part of that has been the great new friends I've made all over the world. It really is a wonderful life – The Grady Life!



Anchoring out with friends is a favorite pastime of the Edwards' grandchildren!

Oldest Grady Club Continues Tradition as Members and Families Expand



The Grady Bunch gathers for a scrapbook worthy photo during their most recent Bahamas trip.

Since 1988, the Vero Beach Grady-White Club has taken an annual boat trip to the Bahamas. That changed last year. The combination of Hurricane Dorian clean-up and the COVID-19 pandemic led the club, known as the Grady Bunch, to skip what would have been their 33rd annual trip. That made this year's excursion all the more exciting as 10 boats with 32 adults and nine kids headed out for the 10-day trip. Eight of the boats were what they refer to as "repeat offenders," having gone on previous

trips. Two of the boats were new members, with one having never been out of sight of land before.

Brian Cunningham, co-owner of Vero Marine Center, calls this trip a "reunion of friends," as many participants have been going since they were children. He says, "This is just a real family-oriented trip. Everyone looks out for one another as we make both memories and lifelong friendships!" Like many of the other member families, Brian's children were young (five, seven, and



Grady Bunch members visit one of many beautiful Bahama coves.



You don't even have to leave the dock to enjoy a beautiful Bahama day.



You can't miss swimming with the stingrays if you're going to travel to the Bahama islands.

nine years old) the first time he and his wife, Karen, took them along. Now they're usually joined by some, or all three of their children, and their four grandchildren!

Determined not to miss out this year, the Cunningham's daughter and son-in-law flew from Los Angeles, CA, with their four-month-old son. Traveling long distances to be part of the trip is not uncommon for those that grew up taking this annual trip. It's that much of a family tradition!

All the boats make the trek together – "inline, single file with the bigger boats first, 10 boat lengths apart and following

the wake in front of them" – but once they arrive, everyone does their own thing during the day. Some are hardcore fishing enthusiasts, some like to beach hop, and others don't move around much at all, preferring to relax and take in the beautiful surroundings. Almost everyone, though, pays a visit to Gillam Bay during the trip – a favorite of the group that's come to be known as "Cunningham Cove."

"Everyone always remembers their first trip over," notes Brian. "I love playing tour guide to the new people – there's just an energy from them that makes it as exciting for me as it is for them." In 1988, when Vero Marine Center first adopted the club



Back at the dock, club members relax after a fun day of exploring!

idea, they knew they were onto something special. Bruce MacIntyre, Brian's partner at the time, called Eddie Smith to get permission to name the club The Grady Bunch, and when he gave his blessing, it became the first of many clubs that exist today. Thanks, Vero Marine Center, for helping start this trend that delights Grady-White customers around the globe.



Another beautiful day at another picturesque location!

GRADY-WHITE CLUBS FIND WAYS TO COME TOGETHER SAFELY

Club News

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



Nineteen boats from the **Cape Fear Grady Club** traveled to Beaufort, NC. If there's one thing the club members have learned on these overnight trips, it's to bring friends – and they did! Highlights of the trip included a pool party, cocktails on the dock, shopping, and a day trip to Shackleford Banks to anchor with the wild horses. Some of the club members also ventured to Oriental or New Bern, NC, for the day.



The **Lake Erie Grady-White Club** held its Spring Walleye Tournament where 37 Gradys battled it out over five weeks. During that time, there were four lead changes, and only half an inch separated 6th through 10th places. Dave Nelson won the coveted Club Championship Burgee on his *Express 305, 30 to Life*, with a 30" beast of a walleye. The Club used the FishDonkey app which adds a lot of fun to the mix with more communication among participants, keeping up with standings, exchanging information and generally sharing the excitement!



The newest Grady owners' club, the **Pensacola Grady-White Club**, has had several meetings and trips over the past few months. They kicked off the club at Pirate's Cove restaurant in Elberta, AL, for "Cheeseburger in Paradise," sponsored by MarineMax Pensacola. Since then, they've had several other fun-filled meetups on the water.

Grady Family's Love for Hockey and Boating Creates an Unforgettable Moment

Growing up in Canada, Mike Doyle has always been a huge hockey fan. Twenty years ago, when he moved to Tampa, FL, he was excited it was home to the Tampa Bay Lightning, allowing him to continue watching hockey games in person. Fast forward to 2021, and you can just imagine the excitement he and his family were feeling as the Lightning were headed to the playoffs for what could be their second consecutive Stanley Cup win. In fact, they were so excited they eagerly cut short their family vacation in Montana to return to Tampa for the big game. While being in the stands when the Lightning won the Cup was thrilling, they had no idea what fun was in store a few days later.

When the Tampa Bay Lightning won the Stanley Cup in 2020, it was during the height of the pandemic. Organizers looking for a way to celebrate in a manner more conducive to social distancing came upon the idea of a "Boat Parade" down the Hillsborough River along the downtown waterfront. It was a huge success!

Obviously, after the Tampa Bay Buccaneers won the Super Bowl there was another historic boat parade. Shortly after the Stanley Cup win, Mike received a call from the Lightning asking if he would participate in the parade with his Grady-White *Canyon 456*. If he agreed, they would put a few players and their families on the boat. A longtime fan, Mike said, "Yes!" and



The Doyle family pose on their *Canyon 456*, with the players holding the Stanley Cup! Pictured: Mason Doyle, Michael Doyle, Makayla Doyle, Myra Doyle, and Mike Doyle. Behind the Doyle family stand Tampa Bay Lightning players Ryan McDonagh and Pat Maroon with the Cup.

later said, "This was the third boat parade in Tampa over the past 18 months and I wasn't going to miss this one!"

Lightning staff placed Ryan McDonagh and Pat "Big Rig" Maroon, a three-time Stanley Cup winner, and their families, along with the Doyle family on the *456*. Being huge fans, it was a monumental moment for the Doyle family as the cup

was passed from boat to boat, ultimately landing safely on their Grady-White for an unforgettable photo op with the players and the Cup.

When summing up the day, Mike noted, "We absolutely love our *Canyon 456* from Quality Boats and it provided us an amazing opportunity – something I would never imagine happening to our family!"

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

Letters & Photos



The Phillips family caught lots of lobster in Key West, FL, on their 251 Coastal Explorer!



Al Guarino's son, Rob, shows off a big red snapper they caught on the 3rd day of the Atlantic snapper season on his Marlin 300.



Jeff Veyser enjoys Sunday boating on Lake Michigan outside Charlevoix on his Fisherman 216, Oh, Suzannah.



Ferrell Blount and his grandsons, third generation anglers Leighton and Wren, recently caught a sailfish and this wahoo out of Atlantic Beach, NC, on his 2020 Canyon 271.



Art Padilla's four-year-old granddaughter, Marcela Jenkins, loves boating on his 2021 *Fisherman 236* around Charleston, SC.



JT Stacy's Canyon 336 looks absolutely stunning in this photo taken in the Florida Keys.



Kaipo Robello and his family are making memories on their new *Freedom 235* in Pensacola, FL. They absolutely love the boat and recently took her out snapper fishing. As you can see, they had a successful trip.



Michael T. Keough took his *Fisherman 257* from Florida to the Exumas, a 747-mile round trip. He said the boat did fantastic! Much to everyone's surprise, it was not a tender from one of the large yachts at the dock.



What an exciting day for Captain Kevin Gibson! He and his crew, Greg Lawrence, Dylan Lawrence, and Todd Herman, landed this 197 lb. bigeye tuna on Kevin's 2004 *Express 265, Fare Cut*, while fishing in a Pacific Ocean canyon offshore of Washington State.

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

Grady Buddies



Louie, a Brittany spaniel, and his cousin Lola, a golden retriever, enjoy boating around Longboat Key, FL, on Al and Gigi Daniel's *Fisherman 257*. Swimming and birdwatching are Louie's favorite things to do.



Duke, a wire-haired pointing griffon, will not allow the Grady to leave the dock without him! Brian and Lisa Rathke currently own a *Fisherman 236* and enjoy boating on Torch Lake in northern Michigan.



Skip Radel and Kathy Stevens' English bulldog, Esther, loves her Grady White *Freedom 255*. When Skip yells "let's go get bait," she knows it's a boat trip and stares at her life jacket until they put it on her.



Ron Cubara and Rosie enjoy the sunset aboard their 2005 *Gulfstream 232* on Moriches Bay in Suffolk County, Long Island, NY.



Hannah pretends to be a "bowsprit" on Steward Peterson's *Freedom 192* as they boat around Monterey Bay, CA.



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Grady Buddies *continued...*



Captain Jack Farley's first mate, Snow, shows off her new life jacket on their new *Fisherman 236* on the South River near the Chesapeake Bay.



Jordy, John Darien's labradoodle, loves to be aboard their *Tournament 275* around Midland, Ontario, Southern Georgian Bay.



Eli and Izzy love taking their dog, Banks, boating with them as they venture around Topsail and other barrier islands off the NC coast on dad, Nate Anderson's, *Freedom 215*.



Libby takes the front seat aboard Sue Boers' *Fisherman 236*.