

Happy
New Year!



Anchorline

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRADY LIFE



Luis and Melissa Riesco's *Express 370* passing the Harbor of Refuge Light on the ocean end of the outer Delaware Breakwater, Delaware Bay, just off Cape Henlopen. Read their story inside.



Dear Grady Friends:

We hope your holidays were full of joy and your New Year is off to a great start! In our part of the world, the days are shorter, and the temperatures are much cooler. It's terrific to look at photos and social media posts from warmer places, reminding us of summer's fun.

If you can get out for boating now, enjoy every minute. But, if you're inside waiting for warmer days, it's a good time to talk to your dealer about boat projects. Or, give yourself something to look forward to by planning new adventures for the boating season.

Take some cues from fellow Grady owners featured in this issue – like Bob Crosby, who started boating after he retired. Learn what inspired him to buy a Grady-White, and why he has owned seven over the past 29 years! And, meet Luis and Melissa Riesco, who say they've added a new dimension to their marriage, as they share their Grady journey beginning when they unexpectedly came upon the boat of Luis' dreams.

This time of year at Grady-White, we enjoy setting our goals, planning for a happy and successful year at home and at work. We're always looking for ways to continuously improve the boats we build, and hearing from you is a part of that process. The introduction of the all new *Adventure 218*, and several new enhancements to the 2023 lineup are more examples of our dedication to customer satisfaction and delivering the ultimate boating experience by listening to you. You can see the boats in this issue and online, but if you want to climb aboard and experience them first-hand, we hope you'll visit your dealer, see us at an upcoming boat show, or plan a visit to our factory. We especially love when our Grady-White Owners' Clubs come to visit and we can spend time listening to how they use their boats and ideas on how we can make them even better!

Until then, keep sharing your photos and Grady stories – YOU truly inspire us, every day!

Wishing you an amazing New Year and very happy boating,



Grady-White's all-new *Adventure 218*, a go-anywhere, do-it-all, reimagined version of the original walkaround cabin design. The new *218* is sleek and stylish, built on Grady's heritage of superior performance, exceptional quality, seaworthy-safety, and versatility. Designed for both the devoted angler and families that fish, play, and overnight, the *218*'s wider beam provides a more spacious walkaround and cabin. The addition of integrated swim platforms and pivoting aft seat backs affords more room for the angler to fight fish while also providing easy access for watersports. The curved windshield and signature sheer line yield an updated profile that adds to this boat's head-turning appeal. Get your new RV for the water today – the *Adventure 218*!

Eddie Smith, Jr., Chairman, CEO

Kris Carroll, President

BY GRADY OWNER BOB CROSBY

My Life with Grady-White Boats



Bob Crosby at the helm of his first Grady-White, a *Tournament 192* he named *Road Trip*.

When I first retired and built a house on the beach at Eastern Lake in Walton County, Florida, my wife felt I needed a hobby to keep me from being a constant bother to her. In 1995, she took action. She gave me the book *Along the Edge of America* by Peter Jenkins. It is a vivid story about a man and his boat, a Grady-White *Sailfish 25*, traveling the shorelines of America, spending time in many ports to learn about the people and write their story.

The book conveys how Peter Jenkins decided Grady-White was the best boat for his three-year adventure. After reading the book with an elevated level of enthusiasm, I bought my first Grady-White, a *Tournament 192*. I love road trips, and this was a road trip by water, thus the name of my first Grady-White, *Road Trip I*, which was followed by *Road Trip II, III, IV, V*, and

VI. I even bought an additional Grady-White *Tournament 192* we named *Never Land*, as a gift for my granddaughter.

When I got on the water with my first Grady, I felt like I was driving a bus and would wreck everything in my path. I kept it five months and with only a compass, a spyglass, and a chart, I navigated from Cannons Marina in Sarasota Beach, Florida, through the Intracoastal Waterway, across Lake Okeechobee, down the East Coast to Marathon, and cut back through Snake Creek into the Gulf of Mexico, and on to Key West. Part of the trip was 20 miles offshore. Not very smart, but I was learning. My son, Charles, and my daughter, Elizabeth, accompanied me on my journey.

After that trip, I felt like I was ready for a larger boat. That's where Pompano Beach Marine Center enters the story as

they sold me five more Grady-White boats, starting with a *Tournament 225*. Again, I felt like I was driving a bus, but I made a comfortable transition in about two weeks. Sixty days later, I traded that boat for a twin engine *Sailfish 272*. But after 30 days, I traded again for a twin engine *Marlin 300*, the largest boat Grady-White built at that time. Four years later, Grady came out with the *Express 330* and I traded the *300* for one of the first *330s* produced, powered by one of the first pair of Yamaha 225 four stroke engines.

During those nine years, I met Eddie Smith, CEO of Grady-White. We were both members of YPO (Young Presidents Organization) thus our friendship. Eddie told me I was the first person to ever buy four brand new Grady-Whites in a 12-month period. He said I used a Grady differently

continued from previous page...



Bob enjoys the water with his daughter and grandchildren after captaining his *Express 330*, *Road Trip V*, to Highborne Cay, Exuma Islands.

from many of his customers. In the early years, I fished and cruised. The last six years I mainly cruised four or five months out of the year with ventures in Key West, Abacos, Exumas, Eleuthera Island (Pink Beaches), Paradise Island/Atlantis Marina, Camden Main, Boothbay, Kennebunkport, Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket, Block Island, Long Island, New York Harbor, Hudson River, Erie Canal, Lake Champaign, Biloxi, Mississippi, Pensacola, Florida, Destin, and Panama City Beach (home base). I crossed the Gulf Stream in ten-foot seas and got caught in a white out

in the Abacos. I always felt safe in my Grady-White.

When I bought the *Express 330*, I had plans to take it from Key West to Cancun, which would require a bladder with extra fuel, and then travel down the coast through the Panama Canal and up the Western Coast to the Inside Passage to Alaska. I also wanted to do the Great Loop which I never did. But a new opportunity came up that would take a lot of my time, so I decided to sell the boat.

Today, I am back in a Grady *Freedom 285* still taking long cruising trips, but I have

to get a hotel room when I stop. When I had the *Marlin* I loved sleeping on my boat, even though I had a residence right there on the beach. Lately, that has me thinking about going back to the *Marlin*, which is, in my opinion the best overall in the Grady lineup for how I use my boat.

I would never have a boat I could not handle, dock, and cast off by myself. In case you are wondering about my age, I am 84 years old and can still do all of the above and see no end.

Whether I keep the 285, or go back to the 300, I can say with assurance, I've had a great boating life thanks to Grady-White.



At age 84, Bob still enjoys all that The Grady Life has to offer, including entertaining friends. Pictured: James and Libby Rowell, and Ronnie and Dayna Sawyer.



Fishing and cruising with friends and family has always been a favorite way for Bob to spend his time.



After purchasing a *Tournament 225*, Bob briefly owned a *Sailfish 272* before trading again for a twin engine *Marlin 300*, the largest boat Grady-White built at that time.



Road Trip VI

GRADY-WHITE

YAMAHA

MAKING THE GRADY LIFE EVEN MORE ENJOYABLE

New Features for Model Year 2023!



CANYON 271

New Cockpit Side Door and Dockside Power



MARLIN 300

New Cockpit Side Door



FREEDOM 325

New AV²® Hardtop

COMFORT, CAPABILITY, AND AWARD-WINNING PERFORMANCE

Luis and Melissa Riesco Find New Adventure on the Water

"That is the boat I want!" Luis Riesco told his wife, Melissa, as they entered a local marina's boat yard. They'd recently purchased a condo along the Delaware shore and though they were not planning to purchase a boat at the time, they had decided to walk over to the local marina just for fun.

This was a pivotal moment for Luis as he saw a boat in a hoist being power washed. He recalls, "It had outriggers, two motors, and beautiful lines. I knew at that moment it was exactly the boat I wanted to own." Luis and Melissa walked into the marina, and he asked about the boat. As fate would have it, they told him the owner planned to sell at the end of the summer and they gave Luis his number. Luis called



Melissa and Luis Riesco

and the deal was struck to purchase their first boat, a Grady-White *Gulfstream 232*.

Having spent a lot of time as a kid and young adult fishing, Luis was familiar with boats but had never captained one. When the summer came to an end, the boat's previous owner took Luis out to get familiar with the boat. "The swells that day were two to two-and-a-half feet, and my heart was hammering like it never had before," said Luis.

It didn't take long for him to get comfortable with the boat and soon he invited his niece's boyfriend to go offshore. This was his first time going offshore in his own boat and luckily it was a beautiful day. "Like a pond," Luis remembered, when recalling one of his best memories on the 232. It took a few tries for them to get it right, but by the end of the day, he and his mate had landed Luis' first tuna as the captain of his own boat. "I didn't really know what to do once the fish was on the line," Luis remembers. "So, the first one we couldn't reel in – it was just too hard. Now I know I needed to slow the speed of the boat." A second tuna hit the line, and once again they had a hard time reeling it in. Before they could boat the



continued from previous page...



When Luis saw this Grady-White *Gulfstream 232* during a trip to a local marina, he knew it was exactly the boat he wanted to own.

fish, it broke off. The third time the line went down Luis said, “We’re getting this fish on the boat!” And they did!

After that first exciting trip to the Canyons, Luis embarked on many other trips. A pivotal moment came three years later, during a trip with an experienced boater, when a storm blew in with large swells. While he was never afraid, the fatigue of maneuvering the boat in such big seas did get to him. After a more than



One of Luis’ best memories of the *232* was his first trip offshore. It took a few tries, but by the end of the day, he and his mate had landed Luis’ first tuna as the captain of his own boat.

three-hour return trip – with a nice wahoo – Luis walked through the door and said to Melissa, “I want a bigger boat.” He knew he wanted to continue offshore fishing and that a larger boat would allow him more time on the water and added comfort when the seas decided to kick it up a notch.

Melissa, who had seen how much Luis loved going out on the boat and enjoying time on the water herself, wholeheartedly



Luis quickly gained confidence at the helm and was soon making many offshore fishing trips to the Canyons.

supported his new boat venture. From there, he started researching and analyzing the benefits of a number of different boats in various size ranges. It was during this evaluation stage that he and Melissa traveled to North Carolina to the Grady-White factory – a trip that would prove to be a deciding factor in their purchase of another Grady-White. “I finally narrowed it down to two boats, one being a Grady-White *Express 370*, and Melissa said,



'You've loved the one you have, just get the Grady,'" Luis said. "And we did!"

Both have enjoyed fishing, cruising, and making new memories on the 370. One of Luis' most memorable moments on the new boat involves another trip to the Canyons – this time traveling 80 miles offshore with four other seasoned fishermen. They left in the afternoon and arrived in time to troll a little before dark. With the new high-tech equipment, they were able to park the boat in one location and set a two-mile radius around the boat so they would be notified if another boat came too close. Then, three men slept while two fished for swordfish. "I was amazed," Luis said. "It was so comfortable



After thorough research and a trip to the Grady-White factory, Luis and Melissa decided the *Express 370* was the boat they wanted.

in the heated cabin and at the helm that I actually got four hours of solid sleep." The next morning Luis grilled fresh mahi for the crew – all whom were really impressed

with the boat. "This crew had a lot of different boating experiences from large to small boats, and were amazed at the stability the 13-foot beam and standard Seakeeper® provided.

Luis and Melissa give a lot of credit for their great Grady experiences to their dealer, Taylor Marine, and Grady-White. "They are all just good, genuine people," they note. "Unlike other boat manufacturers, Grady-White sees their boats as more than just a product. Most importantly, they are more interested in making the customer happy than they are focused on the sale itself. There's

just a night and day difference in their customer care."

To see a video of the Riesco's story in their own words, visit gradywhite.com.



GRADY-WHITE CLUBS CREATE LASTING FRIENDSHIPS

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.



The Cape Lookout Grady-White Club visited the factory in November to participate in a Friday morning plant update. After the update, they enjoyed a tour and lunch followed by a round table discussion with Grady-White team members including engineering.



Twenty-four Low Country Grady-White Club members came out for its annual fish fry and picnic. In addition to Grady gifts, a raffle, and giveaways, everyone enjoyed fried Walleye that Mike Tyson caught this summer on Lake Erie, along with a brisket, sides, and desserts! A fun time was had by all!



The 2022 Grady Palooza was a fun, casual event which ended up spanning five days at Knapps Narrows Inn and Marina on Tilghman Island, Maryland. Ten boats and 21 members of the Chesapeake Bay Grady-White Club came for the weekend along with five couples from the Tidewater Grady-White Club. Altogether, 31 people and 12 boats celebrated Grady-White and the boating lifestyle at this year's Palooza.



The Delmarva Grady-White Club held its annual end of season dinner and fishing tournament awards ceremony at the Cottage Cafe in Bethany Beach, Delaware.



Fifteen teams participated in the Lake Erie Grady-White Club's first "Double Duel" Walleye Tournament. The event was named "Double Duel" because teams were judged in two categories. If a team wins both portions of the duel, they are rewarded with the Gold Star Burgee. Greg and Mariann Chapman's team rallied to become our first Gold Star Burgee Champions.



The Tidewater Grady-White Club brought a group of 33 people from Norfolk, Virginia, for their annual plant update and factory tour visit. They also got to share information and ideas with the Grady-White staff including engineering and customer relations.



The Pamlico Grady-White Club enjoyed its annual fall trip to Beaufort, North Carolina. Seven boats and 17 members were excited to get together, make new friends, explore new places, and enjoy the many features of their Grady-White boats. Nature really put on a show this trip as they were greeted by wild horses on Carrot Island and along Core Banks at Cape Lookout and caught sight of dolphin breaking the water in various locations.

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

Letters & Photos



Sean Driscoll poses with the first fish he caught, a 35lb yellowfin tuna, on his first boat, a *Release 283*. He has a tradition that emphasizes "Safety First". If it's your first-time fishing on his boat, "*Free Spool*," you have to fight and land the fish with your vest on.



It was an exciting 2022 for Stuart Ford who caught his first marlin on his new *Canyon 336* off the coast of Sydney, Australia.



George Gillis, a lifelong sailor from Cataumet, Massachusetts, is now the proud owner of a *Seafarer 228* and excited to be a part of the Grady-White family.



Team Probable Cause fished the Flounder Pounder Open in Delaware on Ira Brittingham's *Canyon 257*. They had a great day, catching 14 keepers. The biggest was 5.6 pounds and 24.5 inches long.



Livvy and Ashby enjoying hanging out with dad, Jon Plexico, on his 251 *Coastal Explorer* in Ryder's Cover Marina, North Chatham, Massachusetts.



Joseph DellaFave hoists up a yellow fin tuna he caught out in the Hudson Canyon on his *Canyon 326*.



Jim Ducey said his *Freedom 307*'s performance was awesome during the more than five-hour fight it took to boat this 113-inch blue fin tuna weighing over 800 pounds. He fishes off the coast of Boston, Massachusetts, for mostly striped bass, and occasionally tuna.



Paul Huish's family loves their *Adventure 208*. They have a cabin on Fremont Lake in Wyoming on national forest service land that they have leased dating all the way back to Paul's great grandfather. His son, Hayden, will be the fifth-generation of Huishes to enjoy the cabin, and a second-generation Grady-White lover. Seems he's passing that down to his son as well!

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

Grady Buddies



Mele Tong says **Dexter** likes to fish with his family out of Brooklyn, New York, on their *Gulfstream 232, Noa Makai III*.



Nessie has her spot all picked out on Bob Shaffer's *Freedom 255*.



Snickers and **Cookie**, take a break from swimming off Honeymoon Island, just across from Ozona and Palm Harbor, Florida, on Bob and Sharon Wright's *Freedom 235*.



Blue, Valerie Shaw's Chihuahua, seems to have found his spot on the family's *Freedom 307* in Bass River, Massachusetts.



Sutton took his first of many boat rides with pups **Sullivan** and **Sonny** on the Barkstrom's *Canyon 236* in the Chesapeake Bay out of Reedville, Virginia.



Grady loves riding on the *Tre' C*, a *Canyon 271* named after Craig Phillip's two sons, Charles and Connor, and himself. Their family boats out of Queen's Harbour in Jacksonville, Florida.



Marley is all smiles on Doreen Unterwald's *Adventure 208*. The Unterwalds enjoy fishing along the coast of New Jersey and Massachusetts.



Elayna Kaplan from Peconic Bay in Southold, New York, takes her two-year old pup, **Archie**, riding on the family's *Freedom 215*.



Scout loves feeling the wind in her hair on Michelle Young's *Fisherman 236*.



Grady-White Boats, P.O. Box 1527
Greenville, NC 27835
252-752-2111 • www.gradywhite.com



Volume 42 No. 1



This is your newsletter. Please tell us what you want to see in *Anchorline*.

Send us an email at anchorline@gradywhite.com

GRADY-WHITE



CHART YOUR COURSE

SALES EVENT

Exclusive Pricing for a Limited Time



Canyon 336

POWERED BY
 YAMAHA



GRADY-WHITE BOATS

Exceptional attention to detail.

gradywhite.com

Find your dealer:

