



# Anchorline

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE GRADY LIFE



Justin Nortlik and family end the day with a beautiful sunset cruise along the coast of Cleveland, Australia, on their *Express 370, The Kraken*.



# Dear Grady Friends:

Can we just say, "wow"! How exciting to see so many of our clubs having a super summer on their Grady-White boats. This embodies what The Grady Life is all about - the delight of spending time with friends and family on the water. We hear time and time again how friendly and nice Grady owners are, and this kindheartedness really shines when we bring both seasoned and new boaters together. From showing a simple docking technique or boat care tip, to leading the way to a new destination, you can learn a lot from other Grady owners and develop life-long friendships.

If you're a new Grady-White owner, we encourage you to ask your dealer about joining a Grady-White club. If you don't have one in your area, talk to your dealer and ask about starting one. Your dealer enjoys taking part in club activities, too. That's never been more evident than with the Grady Bunch out of Vero Beach, Florida, where Vero Marine co-owner, Brian Cunningham, takes a group to the Bahamas each year. You can read about the Grady Bunch, the Gulfstream Grady Club's trips to the Bahamas, and see more club activities on page 10 of this issue. We hope it energizes you to plan some excursions for your group.

Have you been dreaming about a new Grady-White boat? One of the many reasons Grady-White owners choose to purchase a new Grady is the technological advances and innovations found on today's newer models. Right now, our Grady Days Sales Event makes it a great time to buy. Visit your local dealer, climb aboard, and let them show you what all the excitement is about!

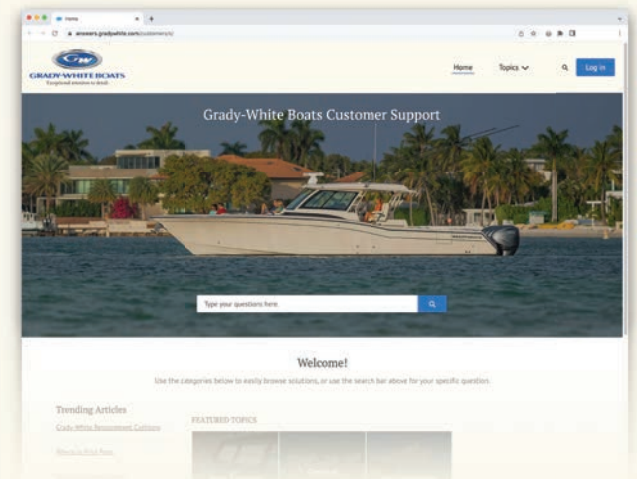
While autumn is around the corner in our part of the world, we still have many more boating days ahead. Keep sharing your Grady adventures with us - we love hearing from you!

*Eddie Smith, Jr.*  
Eddie Smith, Jr., Chairman, CEO

*Kris Carroll*  
Kris Carroll, President



**La Familia Grady-White Puerto Rico does it again!** Bringing 69 boats into Sun Bay and coming close to doubling their fundraising efforts from the previous year, these boaters recognize those who have made the island of Vieques a better place and bring awareness to breast cancer in a family atmosphere full of fun. Read about it on page 6.



**Our website** has expanded to provide you with 24/7 answers to many of your questions. Learn more on page 14.

CLUB EMBARKS ON THEIR FIRST MULTI DAY TRIP

# Exceptional Performance Capabilities Shine as Club Enjoys Travel Camaraderie

Daniel Strickland, Grady-White Boats Sales Team

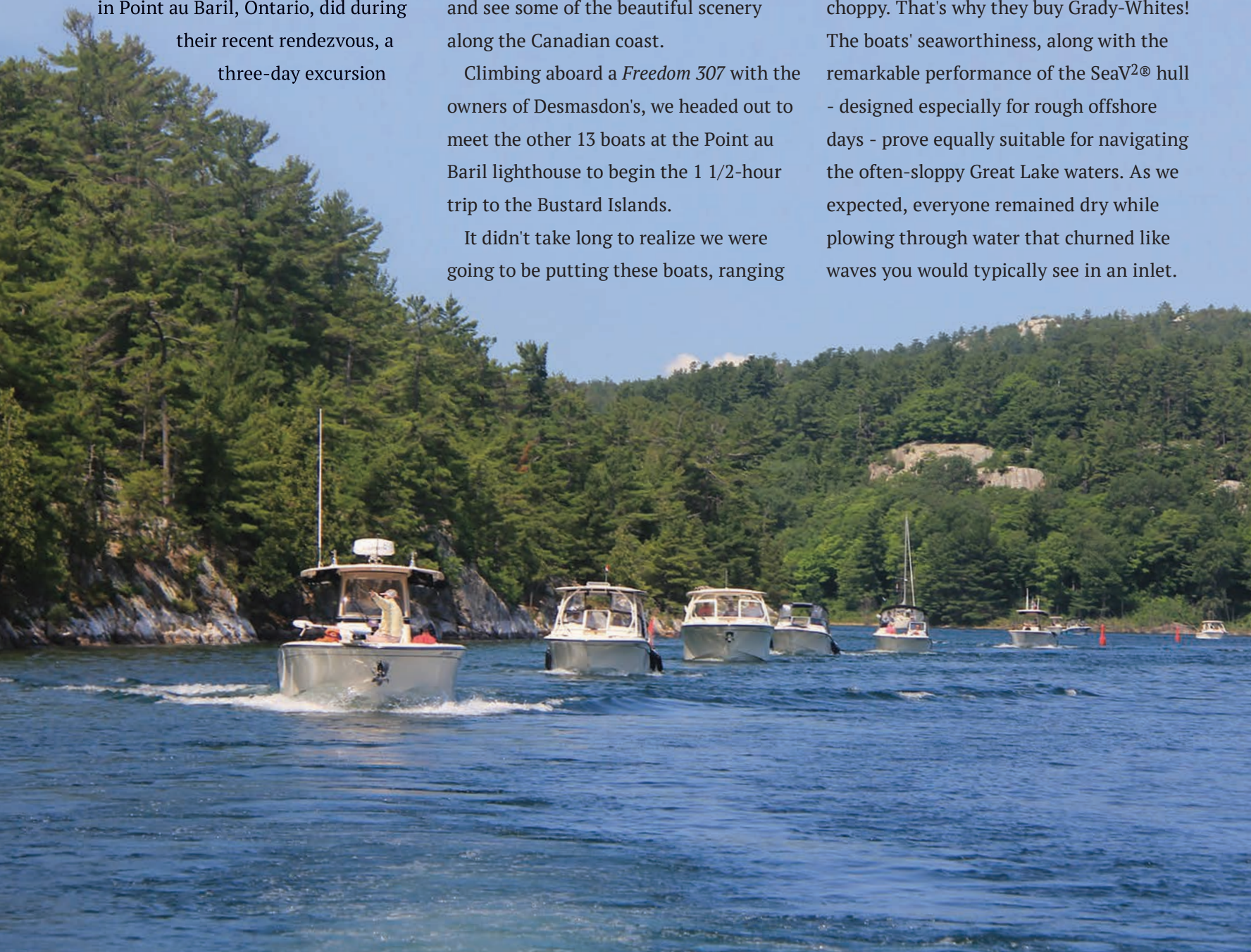
When your boating season is short, you make the most of every minute you have on the water. That's just what the Georgian Bay Grady-White Club, sponsored by Desmasdon's Boat Works in Point au Baril, Ontario, did during their recent rendezvous, a three-day excursion

around the Georgian Bay. While the club is not new, this was the first time they had organized a trip of this size, and Danny Davis, of Grady-White Customer Relations and I were excited to join them and see some of the beautiful scenery along the Canadian coast.

Climbing aboard a *Freedom 307* with the owners of Desmasdon's, we headed out to meet the other 13 boats at the Point au Baril lighthouse to begin the 1 1/2-hour trip to the Bustard Islands.

It didn't take long to realize we were going to be putting these boats, ranging

from a *Fisherman 180* to a *Freedom 307*, to the test, as the trip started out on the rough side with three to four foot waves, three to four seconds apart. Like most of the great lakes, the water can get very choppy. That's why they buy Grady-Whites! The boats' seaworthiness, along with the remarkable performance of the SeaV<sup>2</sup>® hull - designed especially for rough offshore days - prove equally suitable for navigating the often-sloppy Great Lake waters. As we expected, everyone remained dry while plowing through water that churned like waves you would typically see in an inlet.



Fortunately, after stopping to raft up, enjoy lunch, and take a swim, the wind and waves calmed down for the rest of the day's journey to the Killarney Mountain Lodge. After all the boats were secure and everyone had checked into their rooms, we gathered for drinks and dinner at Big Willy's Bait Shop, a

deceiving name for a fantastic outdoor bar and restaurant that served a delicious meal of steamed shrimp, oysters, and jambalaya.

The next day we set out for Baie Fine, one of the largest freshwater fjords in the world, where we rafted up in a secluded area known as "the pool". Surrounding

this body of water is the La Cloche mountain range, with a crater lake called, Topaz Lake, at the summit. Because of the rocky shoreline, we used a *Fisherman 236* to shuttle people to the shore from the rafted boats to take the 30-minute hike up to the secluded lake, a perfect spot for swimming and diving off the



rocks. It was interesting to experience this unique rocky terrain and see the many vacation homes built on rock outcroppings that were only accessible by boat. We noticed that these boats have to traverse exceptionally narrow spaces in rough waters, which calls for smaller boats that can outperform their size - another reason

they buy Grady-Whites! The day ended on the front lawn of the lodge, where everyone gathered for a fish fry sponsored by Desmasdon's.

The next day the group eagerly talked about taking more trips together as they packed up for the return trip to Point au Baril. After such a magnificent trip,

who wouldn't want to do it again? The temperature was never hot, and the waters are a beautiful blue, just like the Caribbean. While their season is short compared to many other boating areas - usually starting in June and ending in late September - these owners are passionate about boating, and we could see why!



A GATHERING OF EXTRAORDINARY PROPORTIONS

# Having Fun While Providing Hope for Those in Need

In the summer of 2022, the Grady-White club in Puerto Rico, named "La Familia Grady-White Puerto Rico," hosted its inaugural raft up event, tipping the scales with 61 boats - the largest Grady-White raft up ever! The event was a huge success, shining a spotlight on the small Puerto Rican island of Vieques and raising more than \$25,000 to support a local non-profit organization, Fundación Vieques En Rescate, that helps cancer patients living on the island. As the 2022 raft up came to a close, the mayor of Vieques requested the group make the raft up an annual event, and they gladly accepted.

Grady-White owners Bill Burleson, a Vieques native, and David Soler, a local philanthropist, were the architects of the

first event and quickly went to work, alongside many dedicated volunteers, planning the 2023 raft up. Their first order of business was selecting a charity to support. While it was important to continue their initial mission of promoting the island while hosting a family-oriented event, the focus of helping residents in need and honoring those that committed themselves to changing the lives of people on the island became their most important goal. After selecting the Susan G. Komen Foundation of Puerto Rico as the charity, they named the event "Boating for the Cure" to further bring awareness to cancer and their work to join in the fight to find a cure. With the donations, the Foundation pledged to purchase a mammography

machine to be installed in the new hospital being constructed on the island.

Since they were focusing on women's health, the planning committee decided to add a wine and champagne tasting for all the women in attendance. At sunset on Friday evening, a wine expert took to the stage to share the background and tasting notes of each wine as the men of the group served the libations. "This turned out to be one of the big highlights of the weekend," said David. "You don't usually see wine tastings on the beach, so it was a unique setting, and the beautiful sunset made it that much more spectacular."

To fulfill their desire to honor the professional careers of women who demonstrated a strong sense of service and devoted themselves to improving the lives of







other in Vieques, the planning committee held a tribute on Saturday afternoon. To the surprise of Bill, one of those honored was his mother, Dr. Loyda Martínez Lopez, who was a very important figure on the island. Bill recalls, "As a child I remember several times a week people would come to our home in the middle of the night seeking care from my mother. She would always welcome them in, perform an examination, and prescribe the proper medication." Today, the location of Bill's childhood home is affectionately known as "the Doctor's hill" to the people of Vieques. During the recognition, they celebrated the remarkable life of Dr. Lopez, showing their appreciation and respect as they dedicated the event to her memory. In addition to honoring these women, they also honored all who tirelessly work to find a cure for cancer and the many patients who have had to fight cancer throughout the course of their lives.

Learning from the successes and challenges of the previous year, David and Bill worked hard to make the logistics of the raft up as seamless as possible. "Last

year we kind of improvised the raft up coordination," said Bill. "This year I verified each boat as they came in, and the raft up team led by David coordinated the positioning of the boats with the help of drones to provide an overhead view." Both Bill and David felt this resulted in a safe, structured, and organized process. They also made an effort to include not just Grady-White owners in the event, but also the community. "At one point I looked to the west, and the beach was filled with people who had come to see the boats at night with their lights glowing on the water," said Bill. In addition to working with the town to have police and medical providers on hand, they coordinated with the Department of Natural Resources who helped oversee the weekend's activities and the anchoring and rafting of boats. As a result of their detailed planning and coordination, La Familia Grady-White Puerto Rico has become a prime example of how to properly put on a nautical event, and they are raising the standard for similar events held throughout Puerto Rico.

Most importantly, the "Boating for the Cure" event, the first of its kind to support the Susan G. Komen Foundation, exceeded their fundraising goal for a second year, raising just under \$48,000 for the mammography machine. "It was so exciting to see the people get behind our efforts," said Bill. Not only did the Grady-White boat owners commit themselves to raising money, supporting the hospital, and spreading a message about breast cancer awareness, but the community did too. One shining example was the contribution of the event's bartenders who gave all of their tips to the cause.

Since last year's event, the online chat group that was the start of bringing the group together has grown to include more Grady-White owners. But more importantly, they don't call it a chat anymore, they call it a community - one where people who want to participate come together, form friendships, and help others.

Reflecting on the weekend, David said, "We did more than bring 69 boats together for a great weekend, we created a purpose-driven event that we can all be proud of."





# *Grady Days* **SALES EVENT**

*Live Your Dream Today!*



*Freedom 375*



**GRADY-WHITE BOATS**

Exceptional attention to detail.

Limited Time Only  
Learn more:  
[gradywhite.com](http://gradywhite.com)



GRADY-WHITE CLUBS CREATE LASTING FRIENDSHIPS

# Clubs Add Zest to The Grady Life

There are many benefits to participating in a Grady-White club. Our club members will tell you the best part is the camaraderie formed between fellow boat owners. In fact, a lot of club members, after boating together for many years, go on to describe their club as an extension of their family. Aside from the friendships formed, Grady clubs also provide

a way for new boaters to learn. Whether that's engaging with more seasoned boaters to learn new techniques, how to operate equipment, or finding out about new destinations to visit, there is generally a club member that will be happy to give you guidance. In addition, club trips offer you the opportunity to travel in a fleet, which not

only feels safer, but also brings the added fun of making the trip with good company. There's been a lot of club activity this summer and we hope the recounts of their trips and gatherings here will inspire you to engage in a club, encourage your club to take a trip, or reach out to your dealer to start a club in your area!



The longest-running Grady-White club, the **Grady Bunch**, sponsored by **Vero Marine Center in Vero Beach, Florida**, celebrated its 35th anniversary this year! This July they took an anniversary trip to one of their favorite destinations, the Green Turtle Club in the Bahamas. This is a trip they've been taking as long as the club has been in existence, and this trip was like all others - made up of a combination of seasoned Bahamas crossers and boats with members that hadn't made the trip before. In all, 10 boats, from a *Freedom 275* to a *Canyon 456*, made the crossing with 33 happy boaters along for the ride. Brian Cunningham of Vero Marine Center says, "There's no better way to become a more skilled boater than getting out there and traveling with a group. The friendship, shared experiences, and fun that we have are the icing on the cake of the boating lifestyle." Needless to say, after a great trip with mother nature on their side during both crossings, they're ready to go back again!



Four boats from the **Tarpon Coast Grady-White Club**, sponsored by **Ingman Marine in Port Charlotte, Florida**, embarked on a 12-day Bahama cruise in June. Other than it being a little rough on the crossing and the typical afternoon thundershowers, the group enjoyed perfect weather. Tony Vandenoever, owner of a *Canyon 306*, said it was an awesome boating adventure complete with beautiful sights. He also noted that he learned a lot from trip planner and leader, Rick Riordan. Just another great example of the benefits of club membership.



In June, the **Tidewater Grady-White Club**, sponsored by **Norfolk Marine in Norfolk, Virginia**, invited members of the Chesapeake Bay Grady-White Club to attend Tidewater's annual Smithfield Station Rendezvous in Smithfield, Virginia. Twenty-two boats and 60 people attended, making it their biggest event of the year. On Friday night they socialized around the pool and on floating docks. On Saturday many walked to the farmers' market, going through the scenic and historic town or along the boardwalks and through the woods of Windsor Castle Park. For lunch, they enjoyed a catered BBQ meal held poolside. Grady-White did not disappoint, sending great gifts for all the attendees and raffle prizes as well. While most left after enjoying brunch on Sunday, several extended their trip until Monday and continued relaxing and resting up, no doubt for their next excursion with the club.



The **Northwest Grady-White Club** sponsored by **Jacobsen's Marine in Edmonds, Washington**, enjoyed a mini fishing rendezvous to British Columbia for king salmon, silver salmon, lingcod, halibut, and sea bass. Rob Powers shows off one day's catch in front of Reed Dow's *Express 370, Gray D.*



The **Cape Lookout Grady-White Club**, sponsored by **Radio Island Marina in Beaufort, North Carolina**, has had an active year already. They traveled to Ocracoke Island in April and recently spent the day at Cape Lookout National Seashore.

The **Suncoast Grady-White Club** held a Sandbar Soiree with about 15 boats in attendance. Club sponsor, **Cannon's Marina in Longboat Key, Florida**, went above and beyond with people onsite to help with anchoring, putting up a tent for shade, and giving out koozies and raffle prizes to those in attendance. The temperature was warm, but the cool water, great food, and time together made it a terrific day!



HAVE AN INTERESTING STORY OR PHOTO?  
EMAIL US AT [ANCHORLINE@GRADYWHITE.COM](mailto:ANCHORLINE@GRADYWHITE.COM)

## Letters & Photos



**Tommy Feles** caught this 130-pound bluefin tuna on his *Fisherman 257* out of San Clemente Island, California.



**Mike and Meghan Phillips** have a blast with their family during lobster season in Key West, Florida, on their *251 Coastal Explorer*.



After picking up the kids from sailing camp, **Sam Trafton** heads out on his *Freedom 235* to set some lobster traps in the waters around Freeport, Maine.



**Justin Whedbee and family** were excited when they caught this amberjack during a day of fishing on their *Canyon 336* out of Destin, Florida.



**Kerri Wood** shows her king salmon haul after a day of fishing on her *Gulfstream 232*, "READY" at Cortes Island, British Columbia.



**Jack Devine**, Commodore of the Chesapeake Bay Grady-White Club, heads out of Ocean City Inlet, Maryland, to fish in the White Marlin Open on Curtis Hampshire's *Express 330*. He said the 330 took the four-to-nine-foot seas heading out each day of the tournament just as well as the 80-foot sportfishers.

**Captain Tom Yengo** says, "I truly love my boat," after catching this marlin on his *Fisherman 180*.

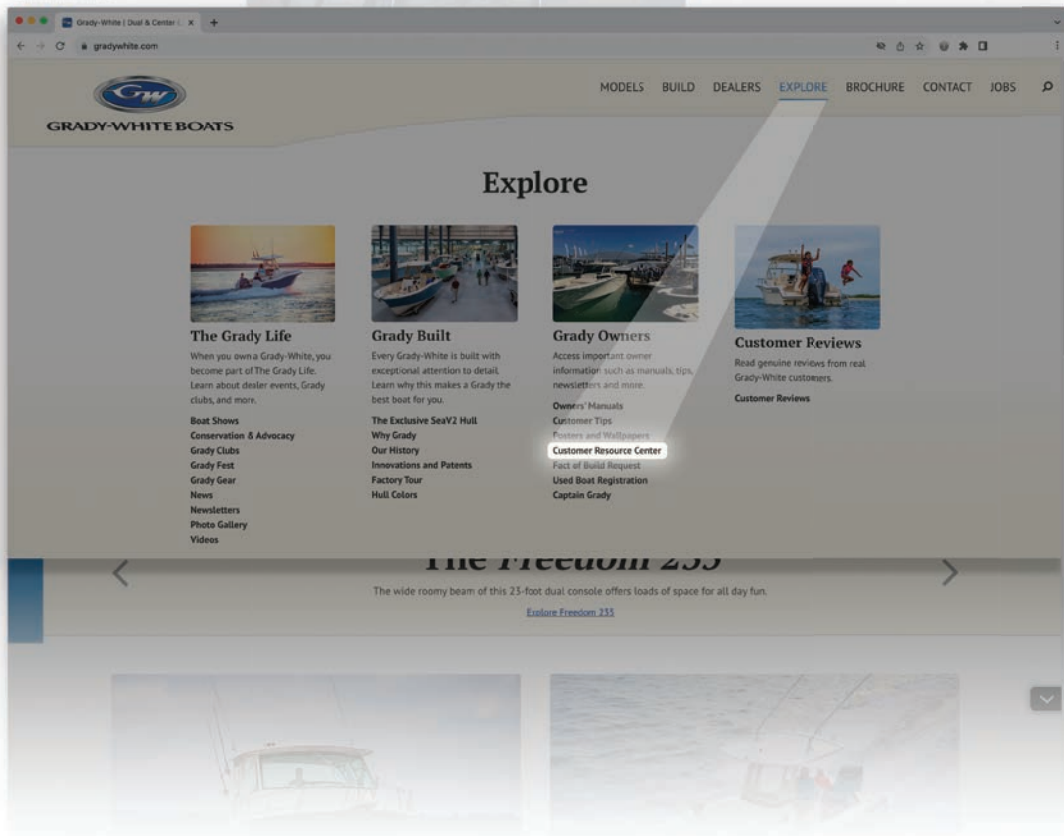
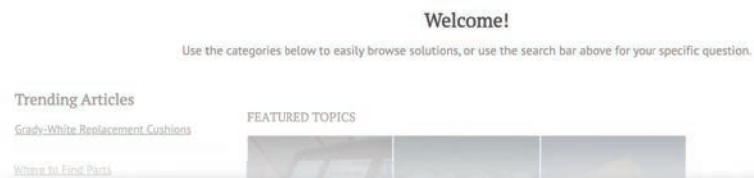
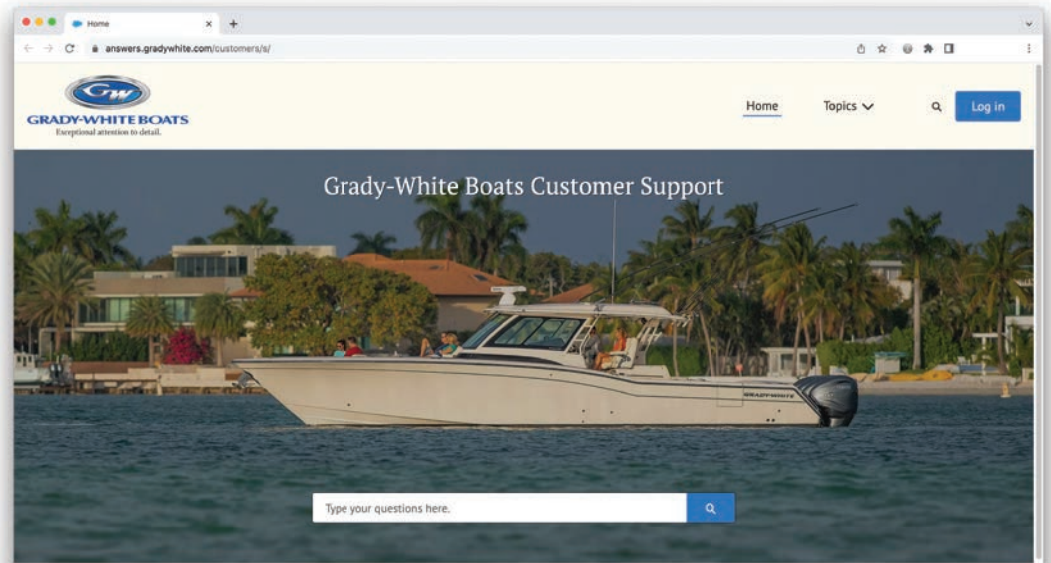


# Grady-White Website and New Customer Resource Center Provide Quick Answers

Grady-White's dedication to customer satisfaction is a trait that has long set us apart from other boat manufacturers. Being able to assist and answer your questions is part of that satisfaction. However, we also recognize that sometimes you have questions after hours, on weekends, and over the holidays. That's why we recently launched the Grady-White Customer Resource Center. This library of information includes a robust search feature that is capable of quickly answering almost any question you have.

To locate the page, go to [gradywhite.com](http://gradywhite.com), click Explore in the navigation bar and you'll find the Customer Resource Center tab under Grady Owners.

While you're on our website in the Explore tab, take a quick look around. You may find a few other resources you'd like to review, such as Grady-White Clubs and Videos under the Grady Life Section and Customer Tips under The Grady Life. As always, if you can't find what you are looking for, please contact us, we're always happy to help!



TO SHARE A PHOTO OF YOUR FURRY GRADY FRIENDS,  
EMAIL US AT [ANCHORLINE@GRADYWHITE.COM](mailto:ANCHORLINE@GRADYWHITE.COM)

## Grady Buddies



**Toby** enjoys a sunset cruise on his *Fisherman 209* out of Virginia Beach, Virginia.



**Spinner** guides Ron and Heather Lufkin on their *Advance 257* out of Pleasant Bay in Chatham, Massachusetts.



**Kona** enjoys the Pensacola, Florida, summer breeze with family on Perry and Kimberly Palmer's *Fisherman 257*.



**Samantha** is smiling from ear to ear on Dan and Anna Kambic's *Freedom 307* out of Ocean City, Maryland.



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



Volume 42 No. 4



This is your newsletter. Please tell us what you want to see in *Anchorline*.  
 Send us an email at [anchorline@gradywhite.com](mailto:anchorline@gradywhite.com)

## Grady Buddies



**Grady** loves to boat and swim around Douglas Lake, Michigan, on Debbie Brillati's *Fisherman 180*.



**Higgins** is on flounder watch on Lou and Monica Keeler's *Fisherman 216* out of Avalon, New Jersey.



**Charlie and Magnolia** are off to fish in Gardiners Bay, New York, on David and Katrine Wolfgang's *Express 330*.