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ACY Begins Construction on New 90' FREEDOM

Construction has commenced on ACY's largest sportfisherman to date – the new FREEDOM 90. Featuring six staterooms and five heads, this new company tournament vessel is designed to accommodate extra crew and extended ocean runs.



The keel and stringers for the new 90 are laid up and laminated on a special bending jig developed by ACY. The jig features a series of stations where tension can be adjusted to create the precise camber for the laminating process. The process is repeated in stages, using staggered butt joints and building up to as many as fifteen layers. While ACY vessels are considered incredibly lightweight, the keel and stringers are built beyond industry standards to provide maximum strength. The bending jig can be expanded to accommodate vessels up to 125 feet.



Get to Know ACY Yard Manager Dave Urbinati

With over 30 years in the boating industry, ACY Yard Manager Dave Urbinati knows what it takes to keep projects running smoothly and customers happy.

Urbinati got into the business at the age of 23 when he secured a job at Dadson's Boatyard in Stonington, Connecticut – a small yard specializing in classic sailboat restoration. Urbinati worked there for four years before venturing out on his own as a sailboat delivery captain. After making numerous contacts in the delivery business, he decided to set up his own marine carpentry business, offering boat repair and custom woodworking. One of his clients was Montauk Marine Basin on Long Island, New York – a company that had several established customers in Florida. Before long, Urbinati was traveling between Connecticut, New York and Florida on a seasonal basis.

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While the keel and stringers are being laminated, the fabrication of the 90-foot hull jig is underway. The jig was shipped to ACY in pieces from the Edison Chouest Offshore shipyard in Louisiana where it was cut out of steel with computerized plasma cutters, ensuring absolute accuracy.

ACY Vessels in



BLACK GOLD weighs their claim.

BLACK GOLD Strikes Success in Two Major Tournaments

The ACY 65 BLACK GOLD struck it rich in billfish this summer under the skilled guidance of Captain Keith Bokenhagen and mates Jeff Walls and Cory Burlew.

The gold rush began with the BBC Treasure Cay Tournament where owner/angler Harry Sargeant landed a 669-pound blue on the last day. It was the largest fish weighed in and the second largest fish in the entire circuit. Then, in the St. Thomas Boy Scout Tournament – regarded by many to be the Super Bowl of sportfishing – guest angler Mike McCarthy released four fish, earning third place in the individual angler division. (The top boat had one more fish.)



Another GOLD strike!

YELLOWBIRD Flies Far on Maiden Voyage



The crew of YELLOWBIRD cross the Panama Canal on their way home to Key Biscayne.

When most new vessels make their maiden voyage, it's usually a few weeks of fishing and fun to test out the vessel's performance. For the de la Cruz family, aboard the ACY72 YELLOWBIRD, their maiden voyage took 12 months and covered two oceans. It was much more than just fishing and fun, however. This journey was also one of sharing and good will.

The YELLOWBIRD left Key Biscayne on September 5, 2005, returning in August, 2006, almost a year later. Their travels took them through the Bahamas and Puerto Rico to La Guaira, Venezuela, where they caught and released a myriad of billfish including spearfish, swordfish, blues, whites and sails. They also landed a 200-

plus pound yellow fin tuna. They spent several days anchored out in the island chain of Los Roques off La Guaira. According to Carlos de la Cruz, the geography of islands reminded him of the out islands of the Bahamas, with no human development. The fishing there was no disappointment. One day they caught 26 wahoo in four hours, all in the 60 to 70-pound range.

From La Guaira, they ventured to Cartegena, Columbia, a city steeped in history and tradition. After several days of sightseeing and enjoying the rich Latin culture, they traveled to Colon on the Atlantic side of the Panama Canal, then waited until evening to make the canal journey. "It was an incredible experience running the canal under the stars," recalled de la Cruz.

It was late January when the YELLOWBIRD arrived at Pinas Bay, Panama, where they spent a few days exploring. Then it was on to Los Suenos, Costa Rica, to sample the area's world famous fishing and hopefully discover a few new hot spots. Their journey took them to Mal Pelo Island, a massive seamount 1,000 feet deep and extending 1,100 feet in the air. They spent two nights fishing around this amazing natural structure. De la Cruz released a blue marlin and boated a large tuna.

"The boat handled beautifully in all weather," said de la Cruz. "It's a very sturdy vessel and extremely comfortable."



Rosa de la Cruz and daughter Isabel Ernst enjoy a moment with children from Piñas Bay.

The YELLOWBIRD's return trip took them back through the canal, this time in the daytime.

Evidenced by their ongoing charity functions at home, it was no surprise that the de la Cruzes' generosity wasn't left at the dock in Key Biscayne. While visiting Pinas Bay, Carlos and Rosa de la Cruz purchased three computers, three sewing machines and 26 bicycles for the villagers, along with sporting equipment and clothing for 200 children.

"The actual village of Pinas Bay is very isolated and only accessible by small boat or dugout canoe," explained Carlos. "Because of their remoteness, the people do not have the trade opportunities enjoyed by other villages in the region. We saw an opportunity to provide them with some necessities, and they treated us with great kindness in return."

the NEWS

STEPHANIE LEE Racks Up Incredible Catches in Costa

The ACY63 STEPHANIE LEE has called Los Suenos, Costa Rica "casa" for the last three years. It's no wonder, because the fishing has been just incredible, reported Captain Tony Carrizosa. Booked for charters on most days during the prime winter months, Carrizosa and mate John LaGrone have experienced days that many can only dream of. In January, out of 21 days fishing, they caught 191 sails, five blue marlin and five striped marlin. Fishing 21 days in February, STEPHANIE LEE released 62 sails, nine blues and 12 stripers. In March, the marlin bite had waned, but the crew still managed to release 59 sails in nine days.

In September, STEPHANIE LEE left for the abundant waters of Cabo San Lucas. Look for a recap of their fishing adventures in a future issue of American Patriot Press. For more information about charters aboard STEPHANIE LEE, contact ACY at 772-221-9100 or e-mail acy@gate.net.



ACY 72 DON TEO

DON TEO and FLOW CONTROL Go All Out in the Bahamas and Exumas

The ACY72 DONTEO and the ACY58 FLOW CONTROL stayed relatively close to home geographically this spring and summer, but still found some beautifully remote backdrops for billfishing among the out islands of the Bahamas and Exumas. While visiting Emerald Bay in the Great Exumas, the FLOW CONTROL released several blue and white marlin and boated some very big dolphin, reported Captain Joe Stanskey. The crew then traveled to Marsh Harbour in the Abacos where they set up shop for a month and a half. Over that time, they released two blues, four whites and more large dolphin than they could count. During DON TEO's travels through the Bahamas, the crew stopped at Rum Cay for three days and released four out of eleven blues.

Get to Know Dave Urbinati... *continued from front page*

In 1986, Urbinati decided to make his permanent base in Florida. He started a family and established a business that specialized in interior yacht fabrication. Around that time, he also established a relationship with ACY President Dominick LaCombe, who was running the operation at Monterey Marine. Over the next several years, Urbinati worked as a subcontractor for Monterey.

When ACY was established in 1992, Urbinati continued his relationship with LaCombe. As the service business expanded rapidly over the following years, Urbinati was asked to join the American team. In 2005, Urbinati accepted the offer and took over as Yard Manager.

"I decided to come to American because I always felt the quality of the people running the company were top notch in the industry," said Urbinati. The company holds an exciting future and I felt I could be an asset.

"My first contact with customers is to find out what their needs are and inspect the vessel. The next step is to suggest some different options, gather quotes and prepare a proposal. Once approved, I then set up a schedule that will both accommodate the customer and fit into our job flow.

"One of the challenges with my job is to work vessels into a schedule that is constantly changing. It's important to coordinate things closely with all the different departments and work together to make sure everything moves ahead as quickly as possible. Part of my job is also to oversee the boat painting schedule. That job has expanded recently with the opening of a second paint prep facility. Now jobs have to be scheduled in both bays simultaneously with the same strict quality control standards.

"My main objective is to see that every customer leaves fully satisfied," added Urbinati. "Quality control is the most important part of my job. We have to demand the best from our employees so that we stay at the top of the industry.

"Over my years working for Dominick as a subcontractor, I became very familiar with the high level of performance that is required at American. Now it is my responsibility to ensure that every job is performed to that standard."

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Oswaldo Molina



Oswaldo Molina takes his responsibilities at ACY very seriously. In his first year at ACY, Molina has already mastered every aspect of haul-out and bottom maintenance. Recently, he has also taken responsibility for another very important job at ACY. Every morning,

Oswaldo checks each vessel in the yard to make sure the power lines are plugged in, and that every vessel is receiving full voltage.

"This is a critical part of the service program at ACY, as any loss of power can have a detrimental effect on many marine systems," explained Service Manager Bob Jenkins.

Molina is proud to take on this important duty. Over time, he hopes to move ahead in the company and take on even more responsibility. A native of Guerrero, Mexico, Molina has lived in the U.S. for thirteen years.

Florida Notes



Horizon 82



IMS recently completed a state-of-the-art electronics package aboard the new **82' Horizon** motoryacht MY WAY for **Gilman Yachts** of North Palm Beach. The salon package includes a Pioneer Elite® audio-video system including a 43-inch plasma TV on a motorized lift, tuner, amp and DVD player. Completing the salon system is an AudioReQuest® CD hard drive. Components are mounted on two Mid Atlantic® racks. The master stateroom offers a 32-inch Sharp® LCD TV with Pioneer Elite® components and a Sunfire® subwoofer. The galley, VIP stateroom, guest stateroom, captain's quarters and aft port stateroom feature 50-inch Sharp® LCD TVs and integrated Denon® systems recessed into cabinets each with receiver / DVD / AM-FM and DSS receiver. On the aft deck, a 20-inch Sharp® LCD TV drops down cleverly out of a concealed hatch with the push of a button. All components are remote-controlled by Crestron®.

Custom 50 Express



A unique 50' express yacht, designed by **Applied Concepts** and finished at ACY, just received the final touches by IMS with the installation of a specialized electronics and entertainment package. The helm navigation system includes a NavNet® VX2 color radar/plotter with a 10.4-inch LCD screen; a Simrad® AP-25 autopilot system; a Furuno® RD-30 multi-function NEMA display (with a redundant display in the tower); and an Icom® M-602 VHF Radio. The entertainment system is equally impressive. In the salon, a Sharp® 37-inch LCD TV swings out from a storage cabinet on a customized swing-arm wall bracket operated by an electronic solenoid switch. Rounding out the salon package is an XM® satellite radio system, Sony® receiver and amplifier and 5.25-inch overhead speakers by Niles®.

Bertram 57



Two factory-fresh **Bertram** sportfishermen just arrived at IMS – a 57-footer (pictured above) and a 51-footer. Each vessel will be outfitted with a cutting edge navigation system, including twin 15-inch Northstar® 6100i color WAAS/GPS plotter combo; a 6.5-inch/12 kW open array with a 72-mile range; and a Northstar® 491 1,000-watt bottom sounder.

North Carolina Notes

Grady White 33



Thanks to **Morehead Marine**, IMS has been busy outfitting a steady stream of **Grady White** 33 and 36-footers, reported Mike Garrett, North Carolina operations manager. IMS is also performing an extensive installation on the first 77-foot **Hatteras** sportfisherman. This comprehensive package includes complete electronics at three helm stations (pilot house, aft mezzanine and tower), as well as an integrated computer system and wireless networking. IMS also recently completed work on a 50' **Heritage**, built locally by Heritage Boatworks, along with a 47' **Buddy Davis** named FINATIC.

FOX Sales Team Dedicated to Customer Service



McIntyre



Randazzo



Ashton

The success of any business relies on expert product knowledge and outstanding customer service. You'll find both at FOX Audio-Video.

Heading the operation at FOX is Sales Manager **Greg McIntyre**. McIntyre brings over 20 years of experience in the installation and service of custom audio-video systems for both home and marine. McIntyre worked for several years under the guidance of Mark Levinson, founder of Cello, Inc, and considered by many experts to be the guru of high-end audio systems. McIntyre has also worked extensively overseas with some of the premier yacht manufacturers like Perini Navi Yachts and Benetti Yachts in Italy and Luursen Yachts in Germany. Prior to taking over at FOX, McIntyre was the operations manager at IMS American, and helped establish the company as a leader in marine electronics and entertainment.

Joining McIntyre at FOX is Sales Consultant **Rich Randazzo**. An expert in acoustic engineering, Randazzo's extensive background includes designing and operating professional sound systems for the entertainment industry, including popular venues like West Palm Beach's "Clematis by Night," Lake Worth's "Friday Fest," and Delray Beach's "Delray Affair." He has also built and engineered several professional recording studios.

Offering sales support and assistance is **Cindy Ashton**. An integral member of the sales team, Ashton often makes the initial contact with customers. Her responsibilities include conducting showroom tours and routing all phone inquiries. Ashton is also in charge of scheduling home installations and executing work orders. She has worked with IMS and FOX for two years, coordinating sales and installations for the two affiliates.

Product Profile

Pioneer Elite® Pro FHP1 Plasma Television

FOX Audio-Video is proud to introduce the new Pioneer Elite® PRO-FHD1, offering the highest definition image of any plasma TV in the world. This amazing 50-inch monitor offers over two million total pixels – double the count of traditional high-definition plasma TVs. Additional features include Pioneer's Pure Drive II Signal Processing, delivering the most natural color image on the market, and ISFcc Calibration, allowing for professional adjustments of the picture to accommodate personal preferences and day or night viewing. Once you go PRO, you'll never go back!



BAT Florida Highlights



BAT puts the finishing touches on a full tower for a 42' **Gamefisherman** walkaround.



Allied Richard Bertram Yachts sent two new yachts to the yard to be outfitted with half towers and electronics. This 51-footer displays a new BAT half-tower.



An eye-catching custom full tower highlights the new 70' **Tribute ALICAN**.

BAT North Carolina Highlights



The second vessel BAT has outfitted for NASCAR great Terry LaBonte, this 40' **Cabo** sports a full tower package.



BAT installed a half-tower with custom rod locker on this 54-footer by **Sculley Boatbuilders**.



KEMOSABE, a 68' **Hatteras** shows off a beautiful new full tower.

ACY Work In Progress

A SAMPLING OF PROJECTS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY



Aptly named, since it was the 20th vessel built by **Rybovich Yachts** in 1955, **TWENTY**, a 43-footer, is visiting ACY for a variety of upgrades. ACY is installing new engine controls and steering, as well as new mufflers, running gear and shafts. The drive line will also be re-targeted. Interior modifications include new carpet, wall covering and headliner. Topping off the project is a new custom tower by BAT.



ACY is installing a new teal cockpit sole on the **KATHY JO**, a 60' **Bertram**. The vessel will also receive a complete bottom job and minor gel coat repairs.



ACY's primary tournament vessel, the 65' **FREEDOM** suffered major hull damage in Brazil after being battered by a sailboat that broke loose during a severe squall. Immediately after the accident, the crew cut away as much damaged wood as possible.



The structural wood was reinforced as much as possible, then covered with plywood and laid up with several layers of fiberglass, allowing the vessel to return to ACY for permanent repairs.



Upon arrival at ACY, the temporary repair was cut away and all damaged wood was completely removed. Once the structural elements were permanently repaired, the hull and deck were re-fitted, then prepared for glassing and fairing to bring back the original integrity.

FREEDOM Undergoes Major Repairs from Squall Damage



ACY completes the fairing process, making ready for the paint booth.



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COMING IN OUR NEXT ISSUE *ACY REVEALS PLANS FOR NEW EXPRESS BOAT*

New Construction UPDATE

The hull and foredeck have been glassed and faired on the new ACY68 MORNING DANCE. All forward tanks, plumbing and electrical elements are installed below the accommodation sole. The windshield and gunwales are in place on the deckhouse, and its exterior is being prepared for fiberglass application. The bridge seating, console and bridge freezer cabinets are being fabricated on a template.



ASK THE YACHT DOCTORS[®]

This feature answers commonly asked questions posed to ACY regarding boat construction, maintenance and repair. Please fax your question to 772-288-4993, or e-mail it to acy@gate.net, in care of the "Yacht Doctors[®]." If your question is selected, we'll send you an ACY T-shirt. (To protect your privacy, your name will not be used.) The doctors are always in!



A coat of new varnish is being applied to the ACY65 QUE MAS.

Q: How often should I re-coat varnish, and how do I know when it is time to be stripped and reapplied?

YD: Time between coats depends on sun and climate. Traditional marine varnish requires constant maintenance with fresh coats needed as often as every three to four months. After years of build up, you will start to see discoloration or cloudiness; or the varnish will start to crack or flake. It may also look dark or burnt in areas. Those are signs that it is time to be stripped.

Clear urethane-based varnish, such as AWL-BRITE[®] will give a longer life between coats – up to eight to ten months if properly applied. A good hair brush for urethane is recommended, or it can be applied with a sprayer. Use lacquer thinner for clean up. For traditional varnish, use mineral spirits. Between coats, it is wise to prep the surface with a ScotchBrite[®] pad and wipe with a tack cloth.

On new or fully stripped wood, apply a thin sealer coat reduced to 50%, then build up eight to ten coats. For traditional varnish, wait 24 hours between coats. With AWL-BRITE[®], coat every two hours wet-on-wet, then sand before the final coat.