

## **Digital Marketing In The Yachting Industry**

For Brokers and Brokerage Firms



## **About the Presenter**



- 2004-2011: MarineMax eBusiness Manager
   & Marketing Director
- 2011 2014: Top Sales Manager for Yachtworld, BoatTrader.com
- 2014 2015: VP of Sales MarineMax
- 2015 2017: Dir. Of Marketing, HMY
- 2017 Present: Bowman Marketing



# Dealers, Brokers, & Builders I've Worked With In Last 5 Years

UNITED YACHT























## **Learning Objectives**

- A Look Into The Current Marketing Landscape In Yachting
- Your Own Website And Available Tools
- What To Know About SEO
- Advice On Social Media
- Other Available Tools To Create Or Use



## What Are You Up Against?

- Mega Dealer/Brokers have million dollar+ marketing budgets
- Over 1,000 yacht brokers listed on Yachtworld in the U.S. alone.
- Pre-Covid listing numbers have not yet returned. (But are improving)
- Most brokers are offering the same exact thing to the same owners.
- The number of places users can look for boats is exploding.
- Good possibility major yacht sales websites start offering FSBO options.

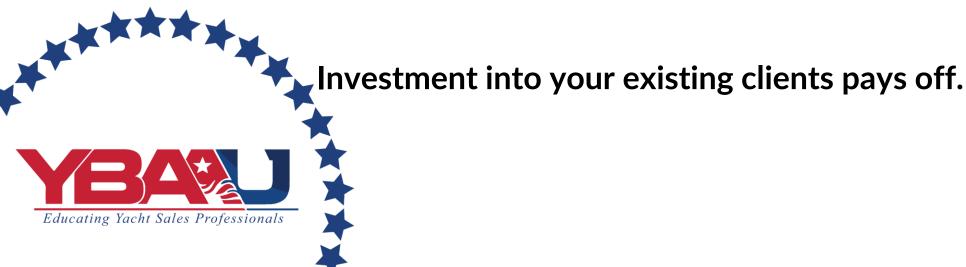


## There is No Silver Bullet.

Never has the relationship with your clients been so important.

There is no amount of marketing that is stronger than a relationship with your client or their referrals.

Always put your best foot forward with the listings you do get.

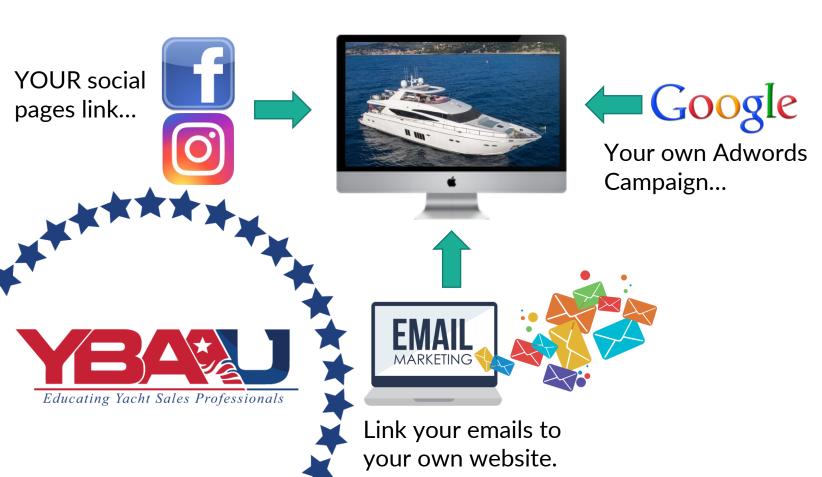


# As a Broker, What Should Your Marketing Goals Be?

- Generate Your Own Leads
- Separate Yourself From The Pack
- Add Legitimacy To Yourself And Business
  - Showcase Your Sold Boats
- **Keep Yourself Front Of Mind With Boat Owners** 
  - Expand Your Circle

Educating Yacht Sales Professionals

# For Brokers, Having Your Own Website Makes Sense.



- There are very affordable website options for brokers.
- You capture the leads from your efforts.
- The IYBA MLS offers an inexpensive way to have thousands of boats on your site.
- Some firms have programs for broker websites.

# IYBA Is Closing The Gap With Boats Group. If You Can, Combine The Feeds.

### BREAKDOWN OF LISTINGS IN MLS THE FEED

Builder	Boats Group + IYBA	IYBA
Azimut	142	66
Bertram	58	41
Boston Whaler	53	42
Cruisers Yachts	58	33
Ferretti Yachts	31	15
Hatteras Yachts	164	107
Lazzara Yachts	23	15
Ocean Yachts	45	30
Prestige Yachts	40	42
Princess Yachts	45	28
Sea Ray	271	211
Sunseeker Yachts	118	121
Viking Yachts	191	115

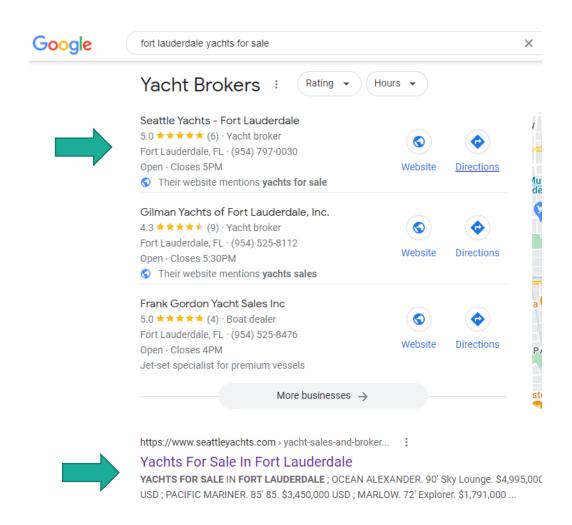


# Your Website Domain Does Not Have To Be Specific To A Boat Or Area

You can rank on Google for boat-related or geography-related terms without those phrases being in your domain name.

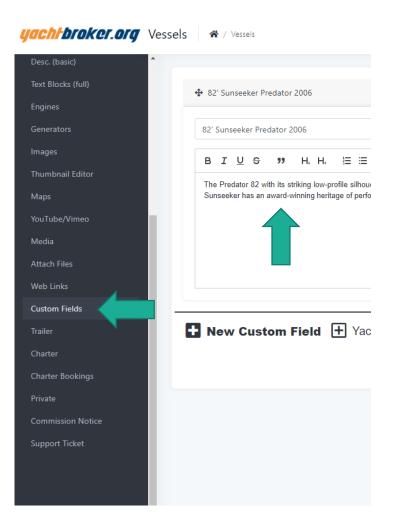
Rule of thumb: If you want to rank for a phrase, you need a page devoted to that phrase.

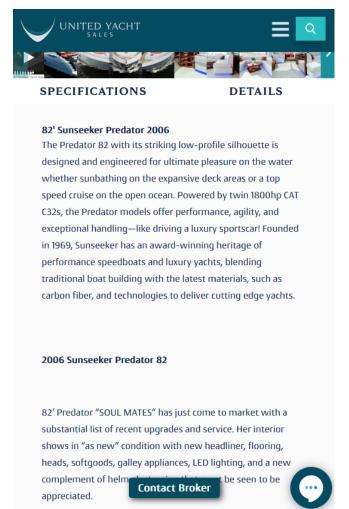
Create pages that combine both boatrelated and geography-related content.

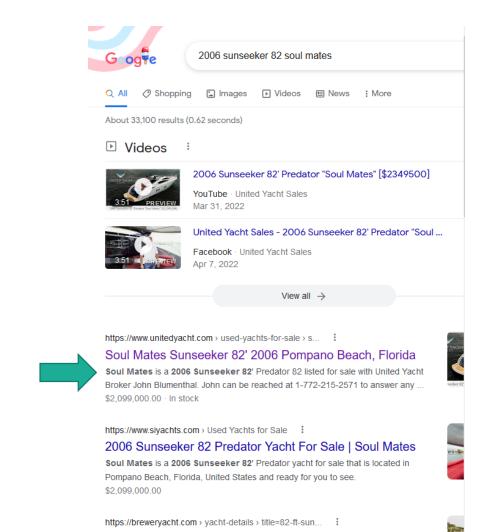


## **Great Feature: IYBA Custom Fields**

Rank 1<sup>st</sup> for your own listings on Google when you use YachtBroker.org's feed on your own website and utilize the custom fields.







## **Build Ways To Get To Your Website**

A website without marketing is like a deserted island. Pretty to look at, but no way to get there to enjoy it. Don't waste your time building a broker website if you aren't prepared to spend a little time on it.



## **Understanding What Google Wants**



The days of tricking Google by purchasing domain names that match specific keywords is over.

Google is a business. They want repeat customers.

The top ranking websites are the ones that are:

- ✓ Quick To Load
- ✓ Have Relevant, Thorough, Useful Information
- ✓ Are Trustworthy
- ✓ Are Popular
- **✓** Are Frequently Updated

## **Things Changed Last Year**

"QUICK TO LOAD"

### **Core Web Vitals** (Loading) (Interactivity) (Visual Stability) **Largest Contentful Paint** First Input Delay **Cumulative Layout Shift** NEEDS IMPROVEMENT NEEDS POOR GOOD **POOR** POOR IMPROVEMENT MPROVEMENT 0.1 0.25 2.5 sec 4.0 sec 100 ms 300 ms

- If you want to rank on page 1, you'll need to make sure you meet the CWV's.
- Sign up for Google Search Console if you haven't already.
- High ranking and high performing websites aren't always the prettiest.
- Ask your web team to utilize WEBP images.

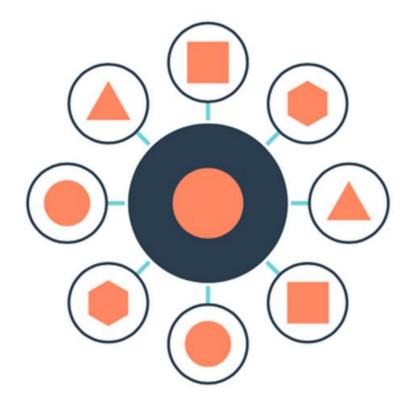
Useful article: <a href="https://www.searchenginejournal.com/core-web-vitals/how-to-measure/">https://www.searchenginejournal.com/core-web-vitals/how-to-measure/</a>

Check Your Scores: https://search.google.com/search-console

## **Uniquely Written Content**

"Have Relevant, Useful Information"





- Content must be unique.
- Create supporting blog posts that link to your core page and vice versa.
- Create both informational and commerce content.
- Match the title of your blog post to questions on Google.
- Push traffic to the blog post.

## **Uniquely Written Content**

### What Does This Look Like In Real Life?







TEXT US X cople. That box is checked: We













**HOW MUCH DOES A 92 VIKING COST?** 

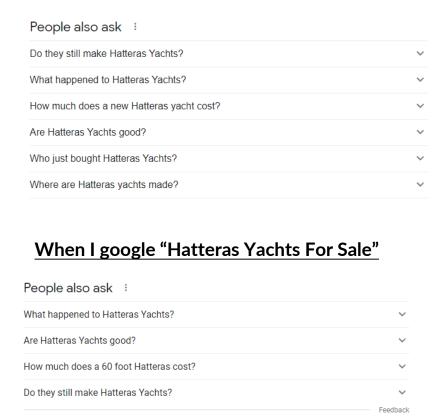
### THE HEAVYWEIGHT SPORTFISHING YACHT IS A LEGEND ON THE TOURNAMENT CIRCUIT, BUT EXACTLY HOW MUCH IS A VIKING 92?

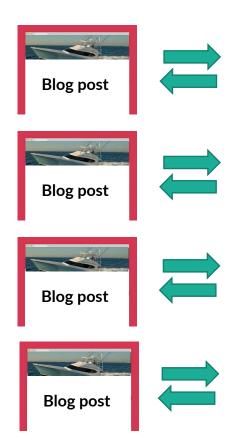
It has been called "The Titan". It is known as Viking's flagship and most prestigious model. Some owners have even become famous in their adventures on it with tens of thousands of people following them online. (See the 92 Viking called "The Fa La Me" TEXTUS X

## **Unique Written Content**

I Want To Rank For 'Hatteras Yachts'

### When I google "Hatteras Yachts"



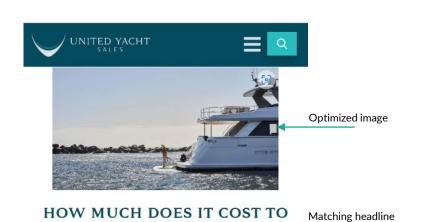




Note: AI Content can be recognized by Google and is not valued.

## **Anatomy Of A Good Blog Page**

**Example: "How Much Does It Cost To Own A Yacht?"** 



OWN A YACHT? Name of author linked to bio page By Rob Bowman Posted On Oct 28, 2019

Periodically updated Updated On Mar 23, 2022

Since we opened our doors in 2002, United Yacht Sales has worked with thousands of boaters who hold aspirations of owning a yacht. A yacht can mean different things to different people, 700+ words total especially when discussing the difference between intended use such as fishing, day boating, entertaining, and long-distance cruising. Just as there are many applications for how yo plan to use your boat, there are also many boa



though and other factors need to be considered.

What does it cost to own a yacht? "The cost of ownership for a 60-foot, \$1 million yacht is going to be about 10% of its value, or \$100,000 per year," said **Peter Schmidt**, Founder of United Yacht Sales. "You can pretty well estimate that for a later model boat of this size, in the Florida market, your general costs are going to be in that range. This would include things like routine maintenance, repairs, dockage, additional supplies, and the cost of either a professional captain or a vacht

If you're new to boating and this is your first yacht purchase, it makes sense to discuss these questions with your yacht broker:

· Where do you plan to keep your yacht?

manager."

- · Are you going to run the boat yourself or will you need
- How much does it cost to maintain a yacht?
- How much does it cost to fuel your yacht?
- · Is buying a yacht a good investment?
- · Read: https://www.unitedvacht.com/vachtnews/buving-a-vacht-advice-on-what-to-look



State question, answer it. Bold!

Inter-site links are great



concierge, as well as being right next to the best restaurants and nightlife in Palm Beach.

(Seen below: A yacht is welcomed by the professional staff that includes golf cart service. Photo credit: Palm Harbor Marina website.)



Pics & Videos Embedded

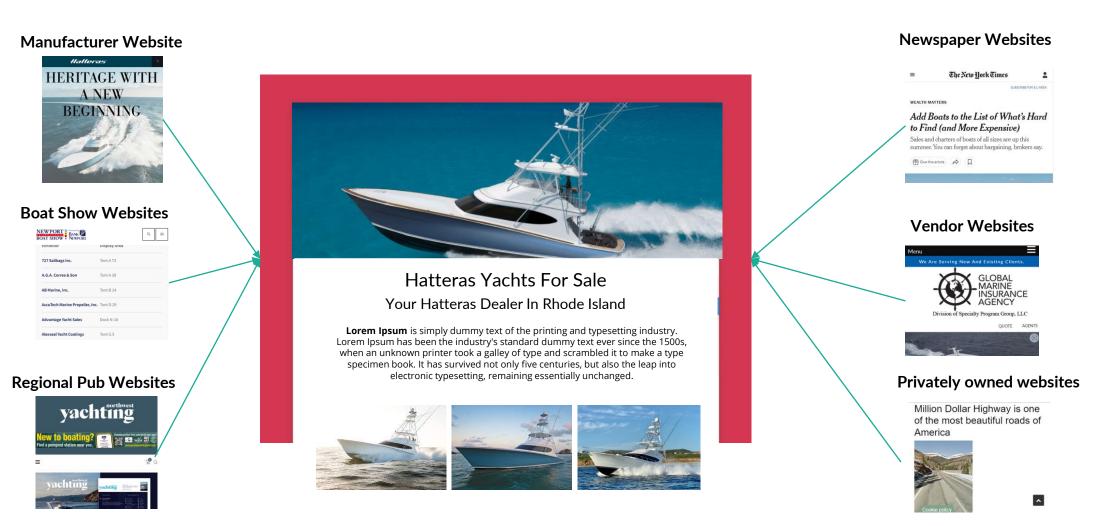
#### How much does it cost to maintain a yacht?

with average usage, you can expect to pay \$30,000 per year in preventative maintenance costs," said Cooke. "And by average use I mean 150-200 hours per year. But that's assuming nothing goes wrong and has to be replaced.

"For a yacht that's 60-feet, later model year, and Typically you're looking at \$3 per foot to have

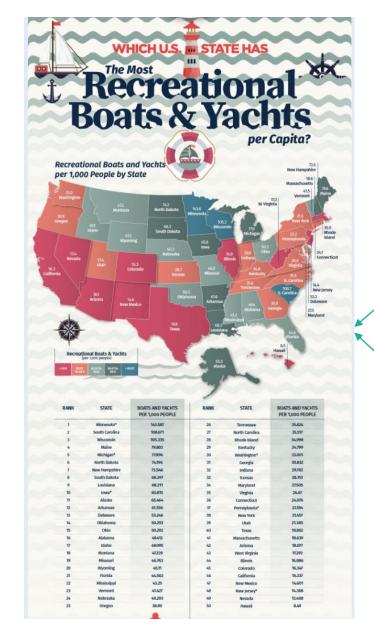
## **Link Juice**

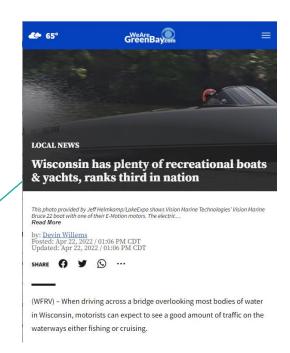
Is Your Website Trustworthy? Is It An Authority On Your Topic?

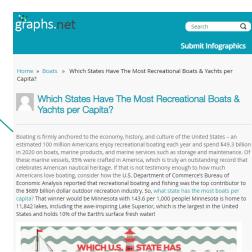


Note: The page on your website receiving the link matters. So does the words that are linked on the linking site.

## **High Quality Link Examples**

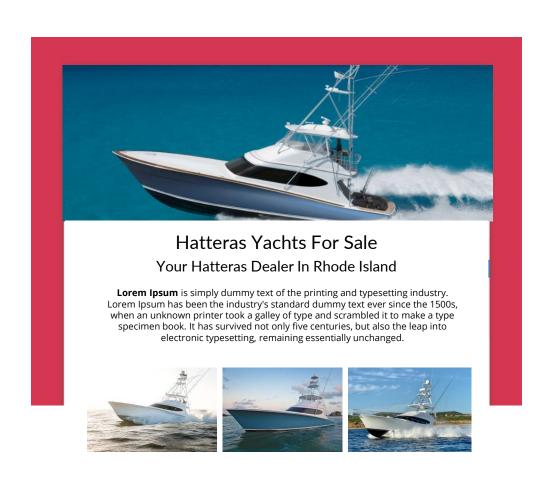






## **Traffic From Multiple Social Platforms**

**Google Likes Popular Websites** 

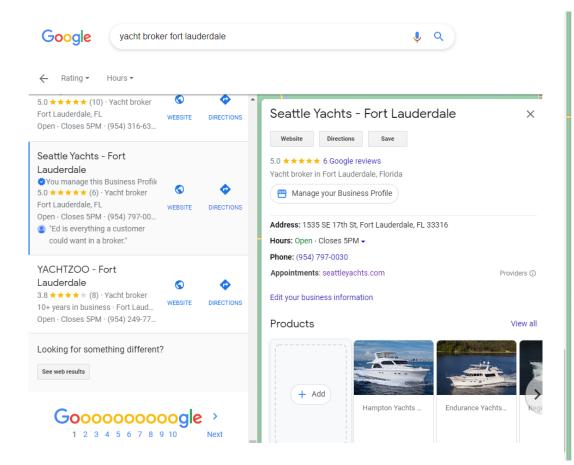


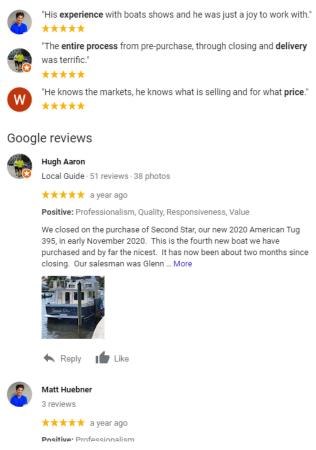


## **SEO Checklist For Ranking**

- √ Have you set up your security certificate? HTTPS vs HTTP
- √ Is my URL optimized with right keywords?
- ✓ Is my meta-title descriptive and enticing?
- ✓ Does my meta-description make someone want to click?
- ✓ Do I have a clear headline (H1 tag)
- ✓ Are your images named appropriately?
- ✓ Do your images have descriptive alt-tags?
- ✓ Do you have adequate content on the page?
- ✓ Does your page have a mix of text, video, and photos?
- ✓ Does the content of your page offer value to the visitor more than your competition?
- ✓ Does your page meet the Core Web Vital thresholds?
- ✓ Does your page have a way for the user to interact with it?
- ✓ Don't be afraid to list and link trusted resources.
- ✓ Try and get other sites to link to you.
- ✓ Send social media traffic to the page.
- ✓ Periodically update your content.

## Don't Forget To Set Up Google & Bing Business Listings





Link For Google: <a href="https://business.google.com/">https://business.google.com/</a>

Link For Bing: https://www.bingplaces.com/

# What Social Media Platforms Should We Use For Boating?

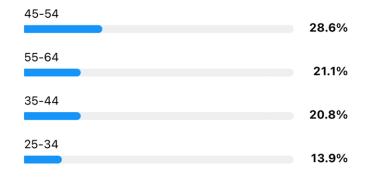
- 1.) YouTube
- 2.) Facebook
- 3.) Instagram
- 4.) LinkedIn
- 5.) TikTok
- 6.) Snapchat (Don't bother)

Typical Breakdown Of Facebook Ad Demographic



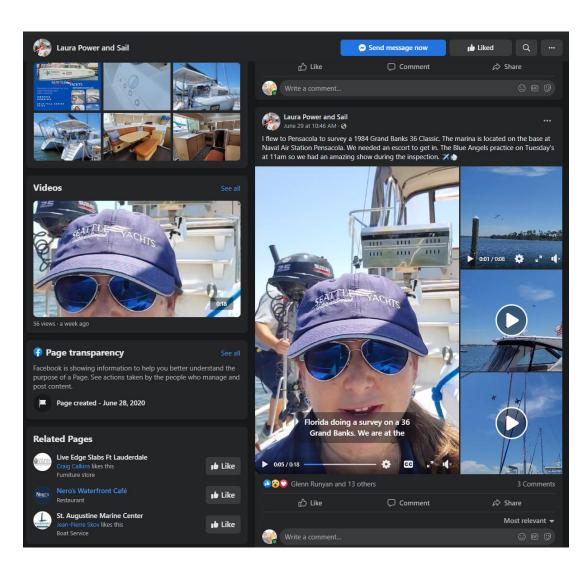
Typical Breakdown Of Instagram Ad Demographic

Top age ranges



## **Facebook Recommendations**

- For a broker, having both a personal page and a business page can be beneficial. Post to your business page, share it to your personal.
- Don't be afraid to take pictures or videos of yourself showing boats, on a sea trial, at a survey, at a boat show, etc.
- Definitely post pictures when you sell a boat.
- Don't make it all business, let potential clients get to know you. It's a relationship business.
- Nothing wrong with imitating other successful pages.



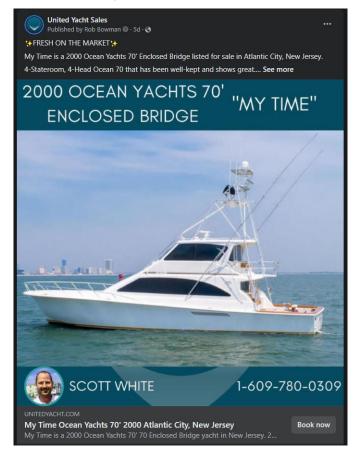
# Boosting A Facebook Post Vs. Running A Facebook Ad

### **Post With Multiple Photos**



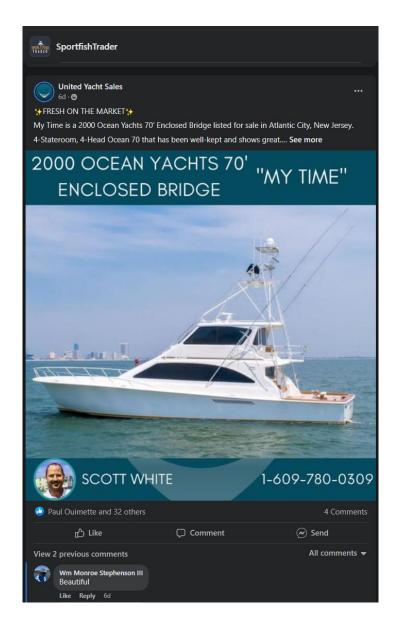
Results: 26
Shares, Over
250 Likes,
but only 117
clicks to the
listing page.

### **Post Using Learn More Button**



Results: 49 Likes, but over 2,000 clicks to listing page.

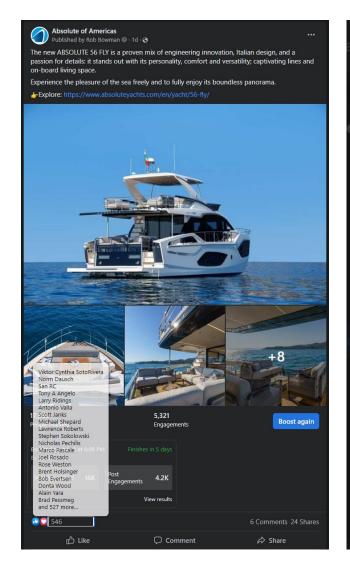
## **Utilizing Facebook Groups**

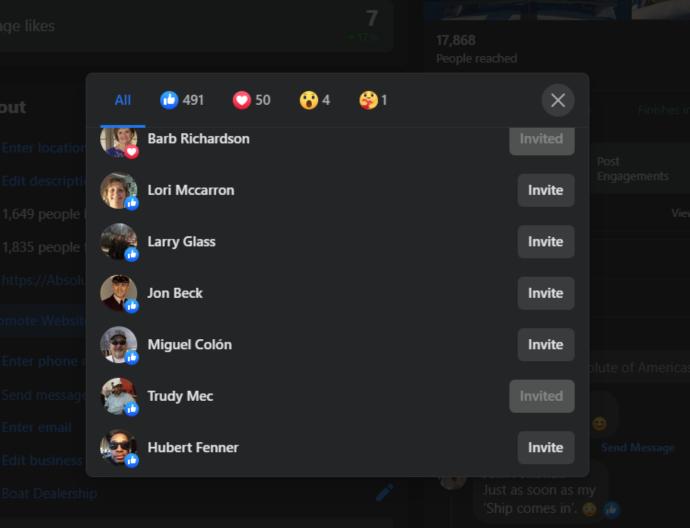




- Sportfish Trader
- Sportfisherman Only
- Sportfishing Classifieds
- Daily Sportfish
- Express Cruisers & Yachts
- Yachts For Sale Worldwide
- Hatteras Owners
- Prestige Owners
- Viking Owners Forum
- Yacht & Boat Brokers
- The Great Loop
- Boat Owners United
- Jersey Shore Boaters
- Vessels 30'+ For Sale

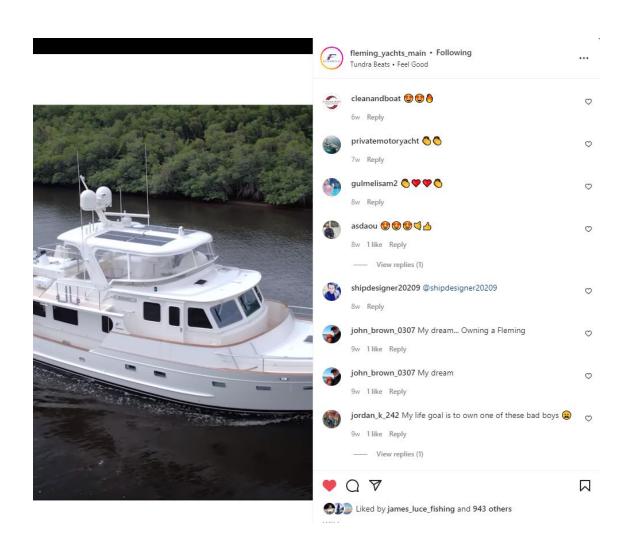
## **Don't Forget The Invitations!**

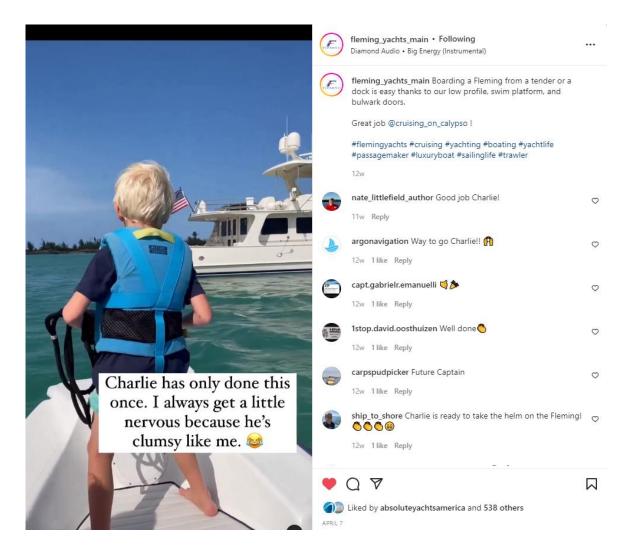




## **Instagram Reels Still Trending**

### Vertical Video, Under 60 Seconds





## Follow Your Hashtags, Use The Content

### #FlemingYachts











Tag Us On Instagram And We Might Feature You!

You never know what you might find on Fleming's Instagram page. From your favorite boating pets to unbelievable sights while cruising, our owners are living their best life on the water in a Fleming.

Seen Here: The family on @Cruising\_On\_Calypso enjoying a year-long cruise from the Northeast U.S. down to the Florida Keys and Bahamas.



The Ultimate Cruising Yacht

Fleming Yachts represent the point at which adventure and luxury converge. From the performance that offers unmatched range, to the durability of the construction, to the i comfort found throughout our interiors, Fleming is the Ultimate Cruising Yach

Learn why at FlemingYachts.com/Research

## **How Should We Be Email Marketing?**



United Yacht Sales strives to be your number one resource for all things boating. From helping you find the right yacht for sale, to selling your existing one, to financing a boat, and now to helping you with storage and service.

"We are excited to announce that we have partnered with River Forest Yachting Centers to bring special discounts to United Yacht Sales clients," said Jeff Palmer, President of UYS. "RFYC are the best in the business at what they do and their state-of-the-art storage facilities are top notch. I even have my own boat there for service!"



United Yacht Sales is pleased to announced the sale of CLOUD 9, a 2021 Sanlorenzo 62m (201-feet) Steel Motor Yacht. The 62 Steel is the second largest model offered by Sanlorenzo Yachts which made its debut at last year's Monaco Yacht Show. "CLOUD 9 is a spectacular superyacht that has long-range capabilities," said Juan Morillo, who represented the buying party in the sale. Asking price was \$64 Million.

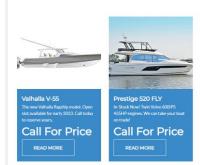




WHAT'S YOUR BOAT WORTH IN THIS MARKET? TAP OR CLICK TO RECEIVE A MARKET & PRICE EVALUATION



NEW MODELS FROM TOP BUILDERS IN-STOCK OR ARRIVING SOON





#### Let's Go On The Great Loop!

I will spend the next seven months following the adventures of Sidonia and Fred St. Germaine. The couple is doing the Great Loop, at least a large portion of it, and will share their travels with us. It should be entertaining and inspiring for those who dream of doing the Loop

READ: LET'S GO ON THE GREAT LOOP



It's All About Balance While Living Aboard A Boat

#### By: Bill Parlatore

My recent article on what is the right size sailboat to live on got me thinking. There are some other aspects of living on a boat that I didn't



















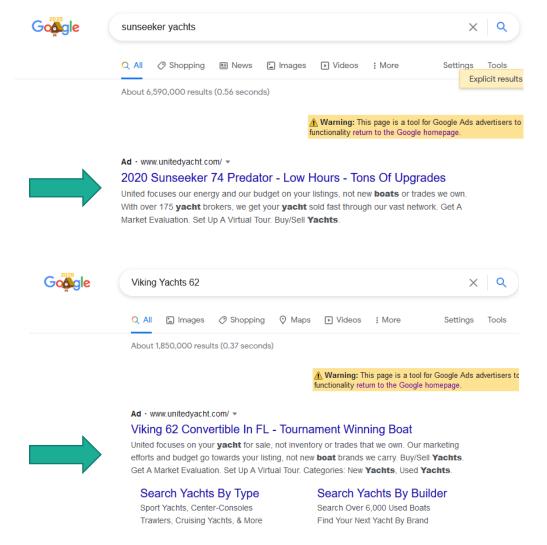


 Save the Boat-Only emails for broker lists and select customers.

 1-2 emails per month from company to clients

 Always mix of news, events, interesting pics/vids, and boats for sale.

# Benefits Of Google Adwords Campaign On Your Listings



- Go to ADS.GOOGLE.COM –
   Very easy set up
- Easy to set a daily budget and set up your locations
- Other owners see your campaign and it gives you something to show potential listing clients.
- Lead generation

## Other Suggestions & Tools



# Create A Customized Digital Listing Presentation



Your yacht will be entered into all 3 industry MLS systems. This will then feed your boat to UnitedYacht.com, Yachtworld, BoatTrader, and all other major brokerage firm websites for unprecedented exposure.











Your hoat is automatically fed to all other major brokerage firm websites





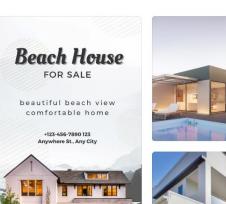




- How do you set yourself apart?
- What process do you go through when pricing a boat?
- What are some examples of past sales? Include testimonials.
- What will you do to market your customer's listings?
- What kind of communication and reporting will be provided?

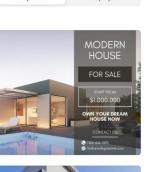
## **Have You Tried Canva.com Yet?**











× ② ③



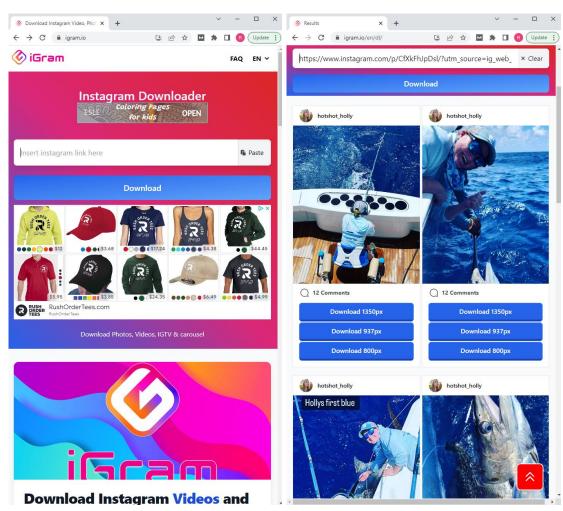


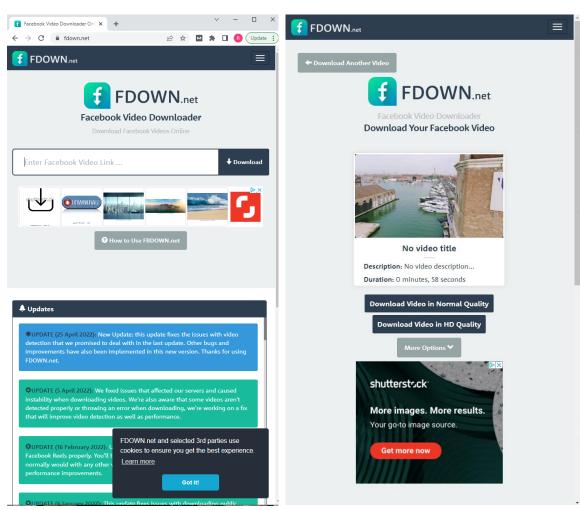




- Make Listing Presentations
- Create Social Media Graphics
- Easy Click, Paste, Drag, Re-Size
- Customize video clips

# Two Free, Easy-To-Use Tools For Downloading Social Media Content





## Algolia To Power Your Listings Page





- Greatly speed up your search page.
- No need to press update to change the boats on the page.
- Easy keyword search
- Combine MLS Feeds easily

## **BOATCHAT**

#### Summary

Date: 12/20/2020 09:26:26 AM Sales Phone Lead Seattle Yachts

Name: Matt Monson

Phone: **509-71**Phone 2:
Appt. Time:
Interested In: **Buy**Trade-In:

Payment Type: Subject:

Email: Globa

Notes:

Chat Origination Page Url: <a href="https://www.seattleyachts.com/new-yachts-for-sale/Northern-Marine-80-Tri-Deck-Yacht">https://www.seattleyachts.com/new-yachts-for-sale/Northern-Marine-80-Tri-Deck-Yacht</a>

#### Pre Chat Survey

NAME: Matt monson

Visitor Question: I'm looking for information on the northern marine 64. Including base price, range and brochure

#### Chat Transcript

[09:20:08] System: You initiated a Live Chat.

[09:20:18] Monica (Operator): Welcome to our live chat!

[09:20:35] Monica (Operator): I am here to provide live assistance. How may I help you?

[09:21:28] Matt monson (Visitor): I'm looking for information on the northern marine 64. Including base price, range and brochure

[09:22:34] Monica (Operator): Thank you for holding.

[09:22:48] Monica (Operator): I'm not sure of the details. May I have the appropriate person check and contact you with that specific information via Email, text or phone?

[09:23:08] Matt monson (Visitor): Yes. Thanks

[09:23:36] Monica (Operator): Just to be sure, your name is Matt Monson?

[09:23:43] Matt monson (Visitor): Correct

[09:23:47] Monica (Operator): Thank you. May I know your Email address or Phone Number so I can route your request to the appropriate person?

[09:24:17] Matt monson (Visitor): Matt. Globa

[09:24:43] Monica (Operator): May I know your phone number to contact you via Text, as an alternate form of contact?

[09:25:01] Matt monson (Visitor): 509

[09:25:10] Monica (Operator): Thank you, I will forward your information and let them know your preference.

[09:25:18] Monica (Operator): On behalf of our sales and management team, "Thank You for visiting our website"!

[09:25:24] Monica (Operator): Please enjoy your stay on our website.

[09:25:25] Matt monson (Visitor): Thank you.

#### Visited Pages

https://www.seattleyachts.com/new-yachts-for-sale/Northern-Marine-64-Raised-Pilothouse https://www.seattleyachts.com/used-yachts-for-sale/nordhavn-68-2007-hokulani/2773298 1 https://www.seattleyachts.com/Used-Yachts-For-Sale/Nordhavn-Yachts https://www.seattleyachts.com/news/the-case-for-the-semi-displacement-hull-shape https://www.seattleyachts.com/new-yachts-for-sale/Northern-Marine-80-Tri-Deck-Yacht https://www.seattleyachts.com/Used-Yachts-For-Sale/Northern-Marine-80-Tri-Deck-Yacht https://www.seattleyachts.com/new-yachts-for-sale/Northern-Marine-80-Tri-Deck-Yacht

#### Visitor's Traffic Details

IP: 73.63.124.76 Browser: Chrome 87 Operating System: Android City:

City: State:

Country: United States ISP: Comcast Cable

Organization Name: Comcast Cable

Search engine: Google

Referrer: https://www.google.com/

## **DON'T FORGET THE REPORT**

 Our December Facebook ad for OHANA reached over 18,000 unique people and had over 3,000 engagements featured again in January.





Yachtworld.com when someone searches for a relevant competitive boat in the U.S. and Canada. If someone clicks the ad, it goes directly to our OHANA listing on our website. This certainly contributed to the big increase in visitors the last 30 days.

2.) From December 6<sup>th</sup> through today, we have been running an ad on Google (commonly called a Pay-per-Click ad). Our ad has been seen 7,598 times and clicked on 503 times. The cost-per-click varies by geography, but we are paying an average of just under \$2 per click. We are attacking "Absolute Yachts" keywords, but also some competitive brands. Here are just a few of the searches people have done that resulted in our OHANA ad being clicked.

Search term	Clicks	Impressions	CTR
lazzara yachts	18	300	6.00%
absolute yachts	11	135	8.15%
absolute navetta	9	55	16.36%
navetta 52	8	40	20.00%
uniesse yachts	7	46	15.22%
50 ft yacht	7	73	9.59%
horizon yachts	7	278	2.52%
60 ft yacht	6	56	10.71%
navetta 48	4	14	28.57%
carver yachts	4	13	30.77%
45 ft yacht	4	12	33.33%
60 foot yacht	4	20	20.00%
absolute boats for sale	4	12	33.33%
absolute navetta 68	4	35	11.43%
65 foot yacht	3	27	11.11%
absolute boats	3	7	42.86%
navetta 52 for sale	3	8	37.50%
absolute yachts for sale usa	3	4	75.00%

Occasionally brokers need a report for their client on what has been done to market their boat.

Brokers use these report to keep clients happy as other brokers are actively trying to steal listings.

Ideally, these reports would be done monthly. YachtBroker.org has incredible analytics.

#### It features:

- -Hits on your website, YW, and analysis of the traffic.
- -Any metrics from social media ads
- -Links to any email blasts sent out
- -Data from any Google campaigns on their listing
- -Screenshots of print ads
- -Any other ads ie BoatTest email Newsletter
- -YouTube data from video that was done
- -(NEW!) Hits to your listing on other broker websites

# Questions?



### Join the Conversation







@yacht-brokersassociation-of-america





