

Chapter 1 Introduction

We are the proud owners of a 2003 American Tug 34 (hull #48). With five years of ownership including a little over three years of full-time cruising and living aboard, we have learned quite a lot about our boat.

The purpose of this document is to provide a basic overview of the major systems and equipment on an American Tug 34, together with our experiences on maintaining and improving these systems. We have included contributions from other owners, which are clearly attributed, mostly taken from the American Tug Owners Association website, ATUGOA www.atugoa.com, as well as from a previous version of the website which was on Yahoo Groups.

This document is intended to supplement the Tomco Owner's Manual that was shipped with the vessel, together with the manuals from the various equipment manufacturers. Since things change over time, the information contained within this document should be considered superseded by any information contained within your Tomco Owner's Manual, or manuals from equipment manufacturers.

Intended Audience

While we hope this information will be useful for other owners of American Tug 34s, there are probably some items that will carry-over to an AT41 or even the new AT49.

If someone will kindly lend us one of those for a few years, we'd be happy to write that book as well....

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Disclaimer

AKA "Weasel Words"

This document was not prepared by, nor is it endorsed by Tomco, the builder of the American Tug. The information provided is based on the authors' experiences derived from owning American Tug 34 hull number 48. In addition, we have included notes from other owners based on their experiences.

While we believe that the information contained in this document is factual, neither we nor any other contributor accept any responsibility for any loss or damage that may occur as a result of the information contained in this document.

There is no implied warranty or fitness - it's at your own risk.

As my Mother used to say to me: "Don't come running to me if you break your leg"...

Revisions

We plan to update this book bi-annually with our experiences as well as input from other owners for as long as we own our AT34. A summary of all revisions will be included in the following table.

Revision History

Version	Date	Contents
1.0	03/23/08	First version released for comments
1.1	04/05/08	Rewrote intro and added copyright note Inserted chapter numbers into footers Ensured that AC refers only to alternating current and not air conditioner. Merged old Chap 12 Water Heater into Chap 8 Plumbing. Added info on water heater. Reordered chapters 10-19.
1.2	07/22/08	Fixed misc typos throughout. Added picture of exhaust temp sensor in Chapter 3 Added info on wiring conduits in Chapter 6 Added fresh water plumbing diagram and info in Chapter 8 Added information on electric stoves in Chapter 10 Added part numbers for hydraulic steering in Chapter 11. Added info about thru-bolting foot rails in Chapter 15 Added photos of bug screen removal in Chapter 16 Minor additions to Winterizing checklist in Chapter 17
1.3	11/13/08	Revised aftercooler zinc section and Sherwood water pump impellor replacement for QSB engines in Chapter 3. Added 'QSB only' symbol throughout chapter 3 Added section on Snake River tank level gauge in Chapter 6. Added Vacuflush maintenance and repair kit info to Chapter 9.
1.4	03/01/09	Added Scheduled Maintenance tasks and hyperlinks in Chapter 2. Renamed Chapter 2. Added Northern Lights part numbers in Chapter 5. Added hot water heater info in Chapter 8 Added info on changing the rudder shaft seal and bearing in Chapter 11. Updated Bow Thruster info in Chapter 12. Added info on the new Bow Thruster Q-Prop in Chapter 12. Added info on anchor swivel anchor connector in Chapter 13. Added our experiences with compounding the hull in Chapter 16. Added info on bronze rudder bearing bolts in Chapter 18. Added new chapter containing manufacturer and supplier contact info (20).
1.5	07/23/09	Added 'AT41 only' symbol where appropriate. Changed Title to AT34/41. Added info on Fuel Water and Waste Deck Fills and vents to Chapters 3, 8 and 9. Updated diagnostics and repair of holding tank sensor in Chapter 6. Added a section on after-market teak flooring in Chapter 15. Added a section on sun shades and Bimini tops in Chapter 16.

American Tug 34 Owner Experiences

Contributors

Following is a list of all of the AT34 owners who have contributed material for this book.

Owners name	Boat type and hull number	Boat name
Russ Zink	AT34 #010	"Forever"
Bill Cleworth	AT34 #17 (?)	"Mulligan"
Pete Balkus	AT34 #021	"Braveheart"
Dave Scott	AT34 #024 (AT41 #002)	"Primetime", ("Primetime II")
Don Gordon	AT34 #028	"Annie"
Bob Miller	AT34 #036	"Strega"
Roy Kupkowski	AT34 #039	"Mer Sea"
Jim Shates	AT34 #047	"Annie's Song"
Jeremy Bell, Janet Crane	AT34 #048	"Tardis"
Bill Pyszka	AT34 #058	"Muddy Paws"
Doug Lindal	AT34 #059	"Sea Bear"
Charles Pope	AT34 #070	"Oops"
Bob Hunt	AT34 #072	"Hummingbird"
Hal Farley	AT34 #073	"Good Vibrations"
Richard Gray	AT34 #087	"Gray Dawn"
Randy Guzar	AT34 #095	"Heart Tug"
Kevin Kirkman	AT34 #???	"Queen Bee"
Len Gullickson	AT34 #101	"Proud Mary"
Bill Schultz	AT34 #105	"Thunder III"
Mike Thould	AT34 #109	"Zummerzet"
Donald Kull	AT41 #008	"Over Indulgence"
Al Skiber	AT41 #026	"Raven"
Jim Minozzi	AT41	"Peregrine"

We would especially like to thank Charles Pope, Jim Shates, Pete Balkus, and Don Gordon for their contributions.

Sidebars

Especially critical information is embedded in boxes within this document with the following symbols:



Helpful 'tips' from us or other owners. Usually gleaned the hard way...



Major 'gotchas' or important things to do, or not do.



Warnings. Minor 'gotchas' or things to watch for.



QSB only Information for the QSB Electronic Injection engine only.
i.e. **not** applicable to the 330/370 Cummins 'B' series, or the Volvo engine.

AT41 AT41/49 only Information that applies to the AT41 and/or AT49 only.
Only used where information is specifically **not** applicable to the AT34.