



Chesapeake Tartan 30 Association

STOWAGE PLAN

Brad Armendt, *Emprise*, #282, October 1996*

Someone said that, on a cruising sailboat, to get to a cookie you must first move three things, including one sleeping body. But ... you have to know where the cookies are stowed. I couldn't count the number of times we've said something like "I know I've got a blivet *someplace* on this boat, but I can't remember where I put it." It seldom matters much on weekend cruises, but it assumes more importance on an extended cruise, if for no other reason than you simply have a whole lot more *things* aboard, many of them tucked into stowage spaces you probably never use on short cruises or races.

In preparing for an extended cruise we found it necessary to use every nook and cranny to stow *something* we thought we needed. I even cut a 16 inch square opening through the bulkhead at the rear of the space under the cockpit, so I could gain access to the center portion of the lazarette. I covered the hole with a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch plywood door, held in place by turn-button latches. The space inside is awkward in shape, but usable. It now holds a plastic crate containing the rode for the 20-pound Danforth storm anchor.

But eventually you start *filling* all the spaces, and it will be helpful later if you keep track of everything you stow that's out of sight. Some sort of stowage plan and/or list is an essential part of this. The included figure shows a plan view of an aft-galley model of the Tartan 30, with all of the stowage spaces labeled. A separate list of items stowed is then keyed to this figure.

Setting up and maintaining a stowage index list is made much easier by using a computer. We used a spreadsheet program, but others might prefer a database or word processing program. The essential feature of whatever program you use is that it should be capable of sorting entries alphabetically. The most convenient approach is to be able to enter each item stowed (together with its location key) into a Master List in *random* order (as you stow it), then later to sort that list to make it easy to use. If you sort it alphabetically by *item* stowed, you build an index much like that in the back of a reference book (i.e., instead of subject & page number, yours will be item and location key). Sometimes, such as for inventory purposes, it's handy to run a "sort" by *location* key, which builds a list showing everything that is in each locker. Note that the location keys shown on the figure are tagged alphabetically, "A" through "Z" (but omitting the letter "I"), plus "xA" through "xD" (because we had 29 stowage spaces to account for). This makes a "sort by location key" come out in more useful form. By the way, this illustrates another reason that the Tartan 30 is such a great boat — there is so *much* usable storage space on her.

As mentioned, the stowage plan shown is for a 1975 aft-galley T-30 (our *Emprise*). As you know, not all T-30s are alike. Not only are there two basic floorplans (forward- and aft-galley), but even for one floorplan Tartan used various locations for things like fuel tanks and water tanks, and hence, storage spaces. So a number of stowage plan drawings would be required to cover the needs of all owners.

If you have an aft-galley model that differs only slightly from the one shown here, you may be able to edit this drawing enough to use it. If you need substantial changes, or if you have a forward-galley model, you may have to start from scratch. The plan view in this figure was produced by scanning and enlarging a plan view from a circa-1975 Tartan advertising brochure. The scan was opened in a "paint" program (e.g., Adobe PhotoShop, but numerous other, simpler programs would do as well) and edited to approximate my boat. Obviously, this is not a detailed production drawing, and neatness doesn't count. All that matters is that the drawing show the stowage areas approximately.

* Adapted from an item originally published in *The Hook*, newsletter of the Chesapeake Tartan 30

Stowage Plan for Aft-Galley Model

