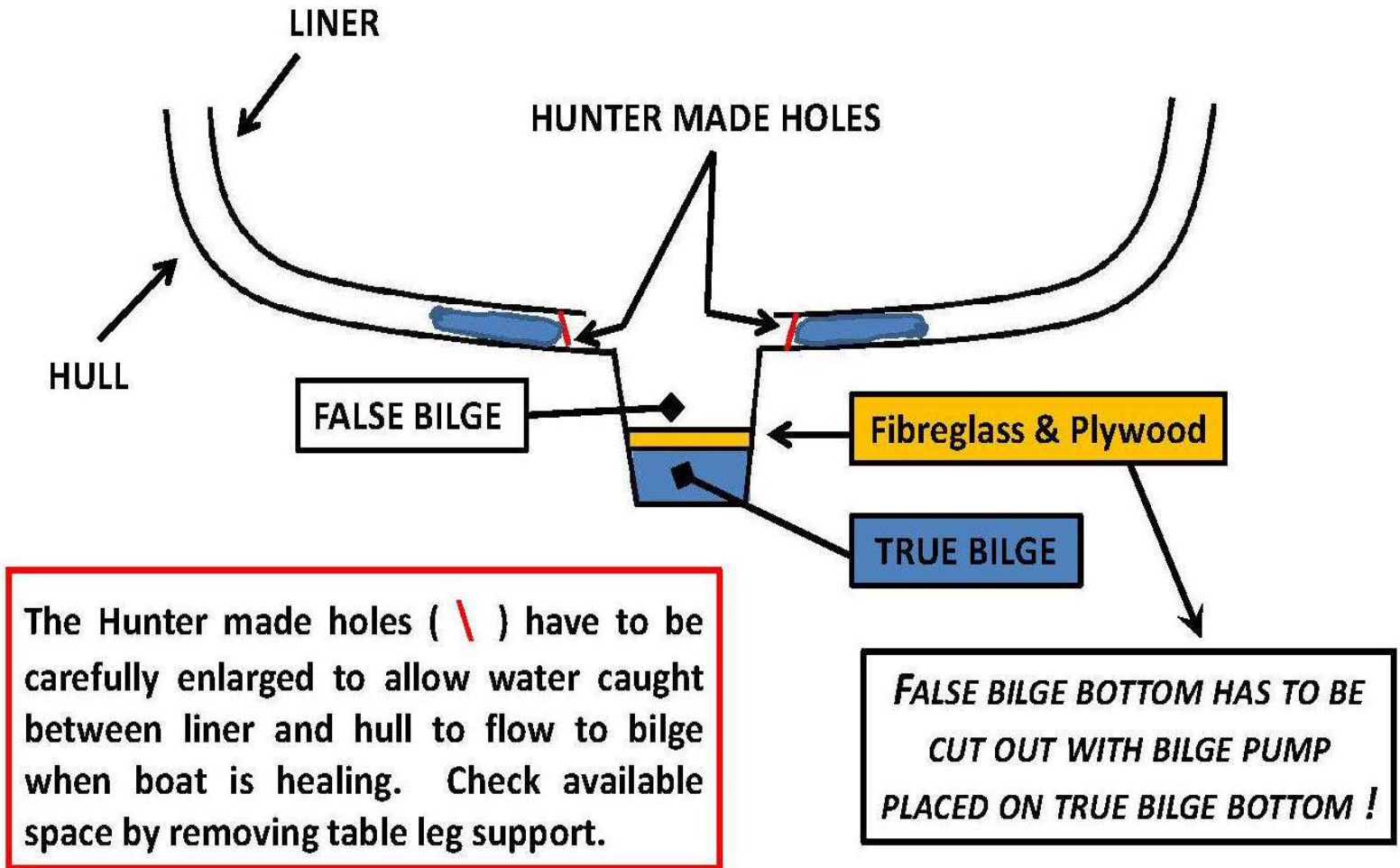


## HUNTER 34 FALSE BILGE PROBLEM



The Hunter made holes ( \ ) have to be carefully enlarged to allow water caught between liner and hull to flow to bilge when boat is heeling. Check available space by removing table leg support.

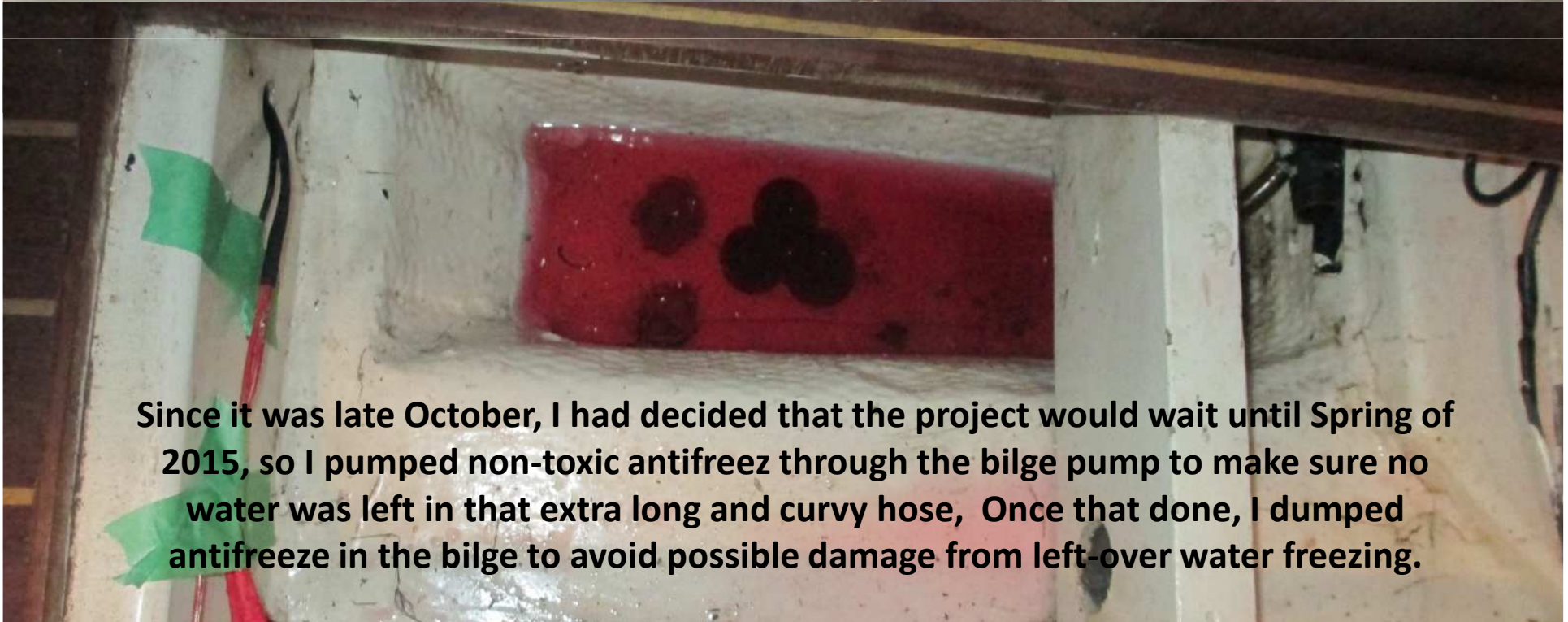
FALSE BILGE BOTTOM HAS TO BE CUT OUT WITH BILGE PUMP PLACED ON TRUE BILGE BOTTOM !



**Fall of 2014, after many years of trying to ignore or hide it with various products, I decided to take a look at the false bilge issue. I already knew about water being trapped there and had plugged up the 2 or 3 screw holes where it was seeping from. That's the pinkish spots you see on the false bottom.**

**After haul-out for the winter, armed with my hole-saw, I cut 3 holes in that false bottom. Reeking from the smell, I pumped more than 2 gallons of fouled water with my shop-vac.**





Since it was late October, I had decided that the project would wait until Spring of 2015, so I pumped non-toxic antifreez through the bilge pump to make sure no water was left in that extra long and curvy hose, Once that done, I dumped antifreeze in the bilge to avoid possible damage from left-over water freezing.



**SPRING 2015, I pumped out the antifreeze, then used a hole-saw to get a radius in the corners.**



**Lots of dust created so wearing a mask is a safe bet.**

**Also using a 4 1/2" cut-off wheel and a multi-tool, I cut alongside the walls.**



**Front of bilge is about 1" wider than rear portion and thickness varies.**



**FRONT**



**REAR**



**After cutting was done, I smoothed-out the walls with a small orbital sander, then cleaned and patched with several layers of fibreglass to reinforce the corners.**

I left the reinforced rear section opened after checking that water seeping from the packing gland was getting to the true bilge through that opening.



**FRONT**

**3 coats of white glossy Rustoleum paint later !  
( I know it's not made for that but I have  
had success with it in the bilge before )**

Bottom is over 1" thick so  
I could have used screws  
but decided to try sinking  
the bilge pump strainer  
and float-switch in  
Sikaflex to set them.



Pump re-installed and working fine !

**FINALLY NO MORE ODORS !!!**