

"Bull Session"

News and comments for the El Toro Class
April 2009 #292

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This Sunday, Pinto Lake, Santa Cruz, May 3,,Paul Tara is the man,,

Shapiro wins BullShip, will he sail it again?

There have been a number of El Toro sailors who have won their 10th try at the BullShip race, never to return! Will Skip sail his 11th during the BullShip's 57th event on April 10, 2010? Let it also be known that this years race, a predominantly light air race was won by a 200 lb + sailor.

From Skip,

This was my 10th Bullship. I remember my first one in 1999 quite well. This was important and useful because there were some similarities in the conditions. Just past mid-span of the Golden Gate Bridge, this year, the ebb tide had me losing ground towards the Golden Gate. I decided I need to find the fastest path to relief along the San Francisco shore and found a little easterly wind just inside the South Tower. But this year I reached the current relief closer to the Bridge than in 1999. After this I had a reach and run to the finish instead of 1999's beat, although more ebb to overcome this time. Before the Westerly filled in, I was concerned my crossing might be for naught since I wasn't sure I'd finish in less than 3 hours. Thankfully, the wind did perk up.

Skip

You may not know that Skip went on to a winning weekend.

From Laura,

He had a fabulous weekend. Skip really was on fire! He won the Bullship, then he, Buzz Blackett & John Amen were shuttled across the bay in a whaler, plunked aboard Buzz's Express 27', went on to win his second race of the day. Skip drove the Express on Sunday with a score of 2nd and 1st in those two races.

An amazingly victorious winning combo for Skip! Laura, crew for Skip.



From Chris,

Thank you so much to Greg Morrill and John Fraser for the opportunity to finally participate in the Bullship Race. It was so great to see everybody I remember sailing with and against for so many years. Some of these El Toro sailor-guys I remember from 45 years ago!

What a treat to be able to sail Greg's Rocket Ship and not sail or drift under the Golden Gate Bridge.

Thanks again to all the CowShips,

Chris Boome

From Toni,

This year we had one of our best attended races in years. Thirty nine sailors entered and 38 raced. What sets this race apart from recent history is the 11 maiden voyage skippers. Congratulations! See you next year.

Skip Shapiro won first place by a stunning margin, John Pacholski placed second and then along came Fred Paxton.

Special thanks go to the committee: Duncan Carter keeps everyone honest from his perspective, Paul Flowerman takes on the thankless job of registrar and sees that everything is in order, Pat Nelson handles the Coast Guard permits, Gary Hartsock handles trophies, awards, safety checks, land based starting line, finishing line and etc.(what would we do with out you?) Vickie Gilmour and Peggy Darnall printed the sweatshirts and bags, Peggy also worked the safety check-in, and land based start line (if you want an Irish Coffee, see Peggy),

John Fraser is the Supreme Admiral of the Cowships and does a fabulous job of recruiting boats and keeping everyone safe, Greg Morrill and his crew of Dan, Mackenzie and Vince gave us a very clean and well organized start (they also towed in several boats from under the Golden Gate), Arnie Quan is our money man, John Amen set up the arrangements with the St. Francis Yacht Club catering and the Harbor Master. Sausalito Yacht Club has been our partner in crime for many years. This year it was Peter Thorne, Marge Bottari, and Gail Ward who gave us support and sustenance. Thank you!

We thank all of you for your participation and support. We look forward to a successful Bullship Race, the 57th on April 10, 2010.

Sincerely,
Toni Richardson

Dear Bullshippers,

I am very pleased to announce it is official! **John Amen** has agreed to accept the mantle of the new Bullship Race chairman. He is ready to go to work on next year's race. Heads up!

MAY REGATTAS,

Flight of the Bulls, Foster City, run by the famous Greg Morrell, May 9th



Fremont Relays, Fremont Lake Elisabeth, May 17th



Now that you all have survived the 2009 Bull Ship it is time to get your sailing partner and join the Fremont Sailing Club for its 6th annual **Fremont Relays** to be held on Sunday May 17th at Lake Elizabeth in Fremont. This is one week after Mothers Day and just 8 days after Greg's **Flight of the Bulls**.

This is the only El Toro race of its kind where two skippers sail in a relay race with one Toro. Each skipper will sail two legs of the course.

Vern Tucker.

It is official, Clear Lake Regional Regatta Headquarters will be the **LINGER LONGER RESORT**

2009 Calendar

Pinto Lake	May 3	Santa Cruz
Fremont	May 3	Spring 456
Flight of the Bulls	May 9	Foster City
Fremont Relays	May 17	Fremont
Fremont	May 31	Spring 789
Clear Lake	June 13-14	LINGER LONGER RESORT 707-994-6427
Fremont	June 21	Summer 234
Fremont	June 28	Summer 456
Lake Merritt	July 5	Oakland
Fremont	July 26	Summer 789
Nationals	August 3---6	Lake Tahoe
Worlds	August 15-16	Pincrest
Fremont	August 23	Fall 123

Fremont September 13 Fall 456
Fremont September 27 Fall 789
Total-Dinghy September 19-20 RYC
Moss Landing
Stampeede October 4 RYC
Cork Screw October 17 Redwood City
RYC MidWinters December 6 Richmond First of '09