

# Bull Session

News and comment for the El Toro Class

October #349

[www.eltoroyra.org](http://www.eltoroyra.org)

So much good stuff about this year's Corkscrew Race, I don't know where to start. Our PRO, Larry Mayne of Sequoia Yacht Club, ran a tight ship with a true start line and on-time start at noon. Thank you Larry and the other SYC members that supported the race this year. A flood moved the fleet quickly up Redwood Creek to the San Carlos airport. Aside from the brisk flood that continued well past the scheduled 2pm high tide that called for some short tacking through the corkscrew, this year's race was a total pleasure. The high tide stopped just short of spilling over the edges of the channel, although the high water did tempt many to seek refuge from the flood on the fringes only to go bump in the mud. No one got really stuck since the flood pushed you right off the bottom as soon as you got your centerboard up. Gentle, steady breezes kept the fleet bubbling along during the entire race. The lead boat finished in just two and half hours - which might be a record (if we kept such.) And not sure if any others of you saw it, but true to my promise, I saw a gigantic blue heron take off in front of us in the middle of the slough - very cool and a seal.

Thanks to a tremendous showing of Juniors and Seniors from the local fleet this was the biggest Corkscrew in recent memory - 25 sailors, 17 seniors and 8 juniors completed the course. And we ran a green event this year...the trophies for this year's event were handsomely recycled from the collection of long time Toro sailor and builder, Terry Schmidt - thanks Terry. There were a lot of smiles and stories as we chomped on the snacks at SYC after the racing. The many first timers had a great time and vowed to return next year.

Top finishers: The trophy for the first junior to finish went to SYC's Peter Anderson. Third place for the seniors was well earned by Bruce Bradfute. Second place went to the consistently fast Chris Straub. And 1st place for the 2010 Corkscrew went to the venerable Gordie Nash. Funny though, seemed like Gordie was not in the mood to sail with anyone yesterday. Gordie got a terrific start, wisely chose the left side, got to the windward mark first and exited stage left up Redwood Creek to lead the entire race BY A LOT (or perhaps better put, HORIZON JOB!) Nice sailing you four!

SYC has set the date for next year's event for **Saturday, October 15, 2011**. Mark your calendars!

Gordie Nash	11500
Chris Straub	11760
Bruce Bradfute	11746
Art Lange	11783
Walt Andrews	11745
Dennis Silva	11800

Skip Shapiro	11767	
John Pacholski	11815	
Paul Zander	11868	
John Liebenberg	11816	
Art Lewis	11458	
Terry Schmidt	11687	
Ed Patterson	11371	
James Savattono	11918	
Mark Miller	11791	
Peter McCormick		
John Russell	10072	
Peter Anderson		SYC Jr
Brenden		
Owczarek	11011	SYC Jr
Chris Owczarek		SYC Jr
Kate Robertson		SYC Jr
Grant Hallee		SYC Jr
Max Wu		SYC Jr
Finn Anderson		SYC Jr
James Phelps		SYC Jr