

Bull Session

News and comment for the El Toro Class

June #373

www.eltoroyra.org

An innovative idea from Kame Richards from Pineapple Sails.

I am a member of an organization called GoSailingSF (GoSailingSF.org). Its goal is to promote sailing, particularly in the Bay Area. I am involved in the Youth Sailing Initiative as a sub-group. Our focus is to try to introduce sailing to children in the Elementary/Middle School age. The big picture is to take sailing to the school, literally. We are looking for donations of non-seaworthy El Toros that we can convert to land-sailers. We will need hulls, masts, booms and rudders, but we do not need centerboards. We will bolt on two wheels forward, outboard of the mast. We will have to modify the rudder so we can bolt on two wheels on each side. The regular tiller will be used to steer the boat. With a Toro mast, boom and sail, the plan is to let the kids sail the Toros around the school yard.

A spontaneous list of what the kids can learn on the very first day:

- * you can move something using only the wind for fuel
- * you can only sail in directions the wind will let you go
- * you have to tack and gybe to get to different destinations
- * you can't see the wind, so you have to figure out which way it is blowing
- * changing the trim of the sail changes how fast the El Toro goes
- * the boat steers just like a real boat (from the back)
- * it matters where you sit
- * you can do it all by yourself
- * you are responsible for everything that happens to the boat because you are the only one there
- * you don't want to fall out of the boat on asphalt, just like you don't want to fall out of the boat in the water, but if you have to, the water would be better...
- * in a real boat, there is no fence around the school yard

Related subjects:

- * wind is energy: turbines make electricity from the wind; Eagles and hawks can fly without flapping their wings; Kites can fly and lift the weight of the kite and the string; sailboats can sail around the world
- * start to learn about the shape of foils that use the wind: wind turbine blades; bird's wings; different styles of kites; different types of sails
- * start to learn about what happens when the wind blows hard, and when there is no wind

So this is the plan. Hopefully some of the kids will be so excited they will pester their parents into getting them into a Junior Program

somewhere. I know of more than one parent who felt so left out standing on the dock, they started sailing too...

Please contact me with any questions you may have.

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The Fremont Relay Curse showed up again on May 15th.

The lead team at the first mark, all marks and the first change did not win. Last year the father-son team of the Pacholski's led all the way to the last rounding mark, just to finish second.

This year Art Lange and Mark Marlett where awarded first place.

Fremont Spring Series report from Fred Paxton

May 22, 2011

The El Toro fleet returned to Lake Elizabeth last Sunday for the Fremont Sailing Club's Spring Series. This was a counter for both the Junior and Senior Championship Series and 9 Juniors and 10 Seniors turned out for three well run races. The weather while cool and bit breezy was nice compared to the weather we had for the relays.

The race committee gave the toro fleets separate starts and all windward leeward courses... The wind did not disappoint.. you know it is going to be kinda windy at Lake Liz when you see seniors hiking out on the first beat of first race.. Wind was up and down all day with the classic 30 degree shifts.. that were wonderful if they went your way and frustrating if the rest of your competitors' lifted over you... The Junior fleet had very tight racing with only 4 points between 1st and 5th place.. in fact a three way tie for third. Seniors had the lead changing every leg of the first two races, making for very tight racing.. The exception is the third race where Art won the start and kept on going.. oh I suppose he was helped by a certain boat with two red chevrons death rolling right next to him on first run..

Fremont Sailing Club has a great venue and is very toro friendly, and their spring and summer series at Lake Elizabeth make a nice place for the north and south bay fleets to race together..

<u>Place</u>	<u>El Toro</u>			<u>Race 1</u>	<u>Race 2</u>	<u>Race 3</u>	<u>Points</u>
1	Michael Levy	11223	Jr	3	3	2	8
2	David Halman	11914	Jr	1	2	6	9
3	Robert Englehart	11424	Jr	DNF	1	1	12
3	Luke McCartney	11711	Jr	4	4	4	12
3	Nicholas Unz	11793	Jr	2	7	3	12
6	Little Bear	8	Jr	5	5	5	15
7	Michael Marlett	11765	Jr	6	6	DNS	19
8	Charlotte Unz	11740	Jr	8	8	DNS	23

9	Josselyn Verutti	11854	Jr	7	DNS	DNS	23
Place	El Toro			Race 1	Race 2	Race 3	Points
1	Fred Paxton	11649	Sr	2	1	2	5
2	Art Lange	11783	Sr	1	4	1	6
3	Otris Straub	11760	Sr	4	3	3	10
3	John Pacholski	11815	Sr	3	2	5	10
5	Walt Andrews	11745	Sr	5	5	4	14
6	James Savattonne	11918	Sr	8	6	6	20
7	Mark Marlett	10590	Sr	7	7	DNF	23
8	Pete Blasberg	11401	Sr	6	DNS	DNS	25
9	Vern Tucker	11792	Sr	9	8	DNS	26
10	Chris Caron	11792-	Sr	10	DNF	7	27

June 18th and 19th we are headquartered at the Clear Lake Cottages and Marina for the Regional championship series. The winner can display a chevron on their sail!

2011 El Toro Racing Season

- June 18-19, Clear Lake Regional Championship Series**
- June 26, Lake Merritt Mayors Cup LMSC
- August 12-13-14, National Championship, Santa Cruz YC
- August 6-7, Pinecrest Worlds
- September 17-18, Total Dinghy RYC (Saturday counter)
- October 2, Stampede, RYC
- October 15, Cork Screw, Redwood City
- November tbd, Running of the Bulls, Moss Landing
