



## GALAXY D23 NEWSLETTER



From the District Bridge  
D/C Timothy Henke, JN

**W**ell, Wasn't that a PARTY? The United States Power Squadrons brought down the Jacksonville waterfront at the Annual Meeting. Even though it was a bit cool everyone spent some time on the multiple decks taking in both the Lighted boat parade and the fireworks that concluded the event. During the transition intermission well over 1400 members and guest crowded the hospitality venues for a grand assortment of appetizers and libations. Everything turned out to be quite wonderful.

The event was such a hit I received a transmittal that is attached from our new Chief Commander that specifically thanks District 23 and the members of Jacksonville for the obvious tireless efforts that made it GREAT! Please see the enclosed copy of the letter that was forwarded to me as your District Commander.

I am proud of Jacksonville and the balance of the District 23 membership for everything that they did. From working in the ticket booth, to helping fellow members with travel or logistical problems, to selling raffle tickets, I saw D23 members working their tails off. I want to thank everyone for their efforts as the "big day" is over. On a District basis, we have another big day forthcoming. At the end of March we will have our Spring Conference in Gainesville. Gainesville switched with Jacksonville for this year's Spring Conference assignment. Please join us in Gainesville on March 28 for a Centennial Kick-off Party. The next day we will have our Spring Council and Conference Meetings. This will be important as the 2014 – 15 District Bridge will be elected and installed that evening at the banquet. The Next Morning the St Johns N club will send you home with a great breakfast and insight from their guest speaker.

I mentioned previously that there will be a change of watch during this weekend. My Tour of duty as District Commander will come to a close. In the Past year plus the time I was serving the members we accomplished many tasks: I defended the online barrage of educational efforts. At this time several classes are on online with minimal success. We eliminated an extra council meeting from our busy schedules. The District Spring Picnic was reformatted and simplified for the host squadron. This coming year we will be back at the waterfront in Titusville with our cardboard boat race event. On the business side of the district we presented an intense educational Council meeting this January that showcased District online collaboration for education. Even tougher, was the subject of reducing our District budget and expenses. Still on the table is reformatting Council and Conference weekends to extract the maximum effectiveness versus cost, to benefit all members.

In closing, I would like to thank all of those that assisted District 23 during my tenure and offer my best to those that follow in the channel that I have charted for them.