



## EPHING FOREST CELEBRATES 35TH CHANGE OF COMMAND



Will and Kristen Inman

Grant and Carly Bledsoe

The riverfront marina, fountains and backyard beauty of Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club set the tone and provided an unbeatable backdrop for a big day in Club history. On Friday, May 19, the 35th Annual Change of Command Ceremony and Dinner welcomed members and guests to join club leadership for the occasion, where cannon fire and the raising of the next Commodore’s flag took place on the banks of the St. Johns River.

Past Commodore George Henley presided over the function by welcoming the board of governors and executive officers, while taking time to thank outstanding staff members. Leadership bestowed honors and gifts to those shifting out of the Flag Officer duties.

The executive officers were announced as Jody Brandenburg took the helm as the 35th Commodore, Ryan Rafferty as Vice Commodore, Nathan Adams as Rear Commodore and H. Phil Littlefield as Immediate Past Commodore. The board of governors was also invited to join leadership for the official swearing-in as retired Lt. Col. Scott Taylor II joined Allen Jones Sr., Danny Falero, Meghan Congro, Kristen Inman, Grant Bledsoe, Laura Phillips Edgecombe and C.R. “Chad” Munsey III as they raised their right hand in honor of club tradition and history.

Jody Brandenburg, following his flag hoist and cannon blast, closed out the ceremony by thanking Herb Peyton, chairman and founder of Epping Forest Yacht and Country Club. “Herb, we know your mission, we know what your thoughts are on the success of the club, and we promise not to disappoint you.”



Michael and Morgan Roberts with Michael and Michaela Schmidt

## ROOT BALL RETURNS FOR DERBY DAY

Frosty mint juleps flavored Greenscape of Jacksonville’s 16th annual Root Ball fundraiser on May 6, aptly named “Ante Up for Derby Day” for its Kentucky Derby-themed watch party, complete with casino games, hat and bowtie contests and silent auction. Funds raised will assist in providing education, advocacy and tree-planting here in the River City.

“We had record attendance this year and it was such a fun crowd,” said Lisa Grubba, Greenscape’s executive director. “We’re so grateful to our supporters, many of whom have been with us since our founding in 1975.”

The event was co-hosted by Late Bloomers Garden Club. Club members Debbie Early and Sally Ragsdale, along with Greenscape board member Tiffany Davis co-chaired while Ann Hicks served as Honorary Chair.

Greenscape of Jacksonville is one of the nation’s longest-running tree groups, serving Jacksonville for 48 years.



Tiffany Davis and Cathie Robinson



Ann Kelley, Ryan Coppens, Lesley Stocker and Gabriele Dempsey



Mike Munsch and Rebecca Black



Bruce and Kyle Musser



Matt and Kristen Courtney



Pattie Houlihan and Terry Boulos

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