## Rear Commodore North America

With the last World championship in Slovenia taking place after the end of our summer season, I will try to concentrate on some of our future plans for 2014 and 2015.

We have had the 49th annual NA Fireball Midwinters this month in Tampa with competitors from four of our widely distributed fleets attending. Thanks to Pat Crump for arranging this competition.  2015 will be the 50th Anniversary of this event and we are extending an invitation to Fireballs from North America and the rest of the world to join us for a combined week of US Nationals and Midwinter Championships during the March Spring Break. Look for information in September on the FI, North American, and Davis Island Yacht Club web sites.

Our 2014 schedule includes NA Championships in Alberta in July, US Nationals in Cascade Locks, Oregon, in early August, and Canadian Nationals in Montreal. Our season in Victoria will get under way in April, with later starts across Canada as the ice recedes. Clay Poulson has early season sailing in Arizona in between his world odyssey in search of indigenous art and Fireball regattas.

We are at the point of having good competitive boats distributed throughout North America and our main concern now is to overcome the logistics of getting a large number of us together in one place. There is some enthusiasm for the 2015 Championships in Wales, and I will do my best to promote a good attendance there.

Robert Thompson