

Winners Announced in 33rd Annual North Carolina Holiday Flotilla

North Carolina Holiday Flotilla, Zambelli Fireworks, and Airlie Gardens Launch the Carolina Holidays

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[/EINPresswire.com/](http://EINPresswire.com/) -- Thanksgiving week, known as flotilla week in Wrightsville Beach, launched the Carolina holiday season with the 33rd

annual North Carolina Holiday Flotilla, including a 4,000-round Zambelli Fireworks display, and the season opening for Airlie Gardens' 12th annual Enchanted Airlie.

"We had perfect weather Saturday evening for the flotilla and Enchanted Airlie," said Karen Pennington of Blockade Runner Beach Resort, host hotel for the flotilla. "The sky was clear; temperatures were seasonally warm at 55 to 60 degrees with a light breeze."



NC Holiday Flotilla People's Choice Award – Photo courtesy of Beth W. Hedgepeth

Winning flotilla entries were announced on Sunday at the Captain's Luncheon. For the second consecutive year, Brent Jernigan of Lake Waccamaw, North Carolina, captured the Best of Show trophy, which passes from winner to winner each year.



NC Holiday Flotilla Panoramic – by Ned Leary Photography

33rd Annual North Carolina Holiday Flotilla Winners:

Category: Best of Show
Captain: Brent Jernigan
Vessel: Craig Cat #11
Theme: White Water Christmas

Category: Peoples Choice
Captain: Mark and Leslie Armstrong
Vessel: Come on Cletus #2
Theme: Hang Claws

Category: Crowd Favorite
Captain: Jordan Messick
Vessel: Tall Tail #8
Theme: The Jolly Jellyfish

Category: Best Powerboat 31ft. and over
Captain: Jewell Jessup and Carlos Ferrario
Vessel: Endless Summer #1
Theme: Rock the Boat - A Floating Studio 54

Category: Best Powerboat 23ft. - 31ft.
Captain: Patrick, Christina, and Charlie Hudson
Vessel: Charlie #5
Theme: The Pirates of Wrightsville

Category: Best Powerboat 22ft. and under
Captain: Tim Morrison
Vessel: Wake Zone #16
Theme: Train

Category: Best Sailboat
Captain: Kevin Snyder
Vessel: Why Knot? #17
Theme: Coastal Christmas

Category: Best Costumes & Crew Spirit
Captain: Michael and Chris Spivey
Vessel: Angler Management #7
Theme: The Christmas Kraken

[Click here for winner photos](#)

Airlie Gardens' Enchanted Airlie, with an estimated one million colorful lights, holiday displays, and seasonal music spread over 35-acres of walking trails, continues through December 22.

Remaining dates for Enchanted Airlie in 2016 include Dec. 2-4, Dec. 9-11, and Dec. 15-22. There are two reservation times each evening, 5-7 and 7-9 p.m. Enchanted Airlie tickets are available on the Airlie Gardens website, or Blockade Runner guests can call the hotel to make arrangements.

Airlie visitors should plan ahead. "We will sell out all dates and times," said Janine Powell, Airlie Gardens Director of Donor Relations.

Proceeds from Enchanted Airlie benefit the preservation and improvement of New Hanover County's historic Airlie Gardens.

[Click here for Accommodations](#)

[Click here for Airlie Gardens' Reservations](#)

Contacts:

Janine Powell, Director of Donor Relations
Enchanted Airlie, Airlie Gardens
Office: 910-798-7700
Cell: 910-612-7854
jpowell@nhcgov.com

Linda Brown
North Carolina Holiday Flotilla
910-256-2120
info@NCHolidayFlotilla.org



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Robert B Butler

Butler Communications | PR

9194558345

[email us here](#)

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