***Calling all Desert Shores Boat Owners…***

Desert Shores is planning the 2nd annual Winter Wonderland event on Saturday December 14th from 3-6 PM and the grand finale is to have a lighted boat parade soon after sunset. The parade will be on South Lake Jacqueline and will emerge from the bridge tunnel, pass by the commercial center and on towards the Desert Shores Lagoon and park area where all our neighbors will be gathered to watch.

We just can’t do it without you. **We need you and your boat in the parade to make this part of the event a success!**

Each boat and its passengers will be announced to the crowd as it passes by, and if your boat is decorated, you just might win a beautiful prize. Awards given out for the following categories: Most Decorated, Best use of Lights, Most Colorful, Best Theme and Best Overall.

***Fill out the attached entry form and get it to the Desert Shores office as soon as possible…by mail, on foot, by car or email, the choice is yours. Don’t delay, do it now!***

After you’ve sent in your entry form you’ll be receiving information on things like: what to expect, where the boats will gather before the parade, the parade route, boat safety and etiquette. Be sure to include your email address on the entry form so that you can get all the information promptly.

All boats will gather just North of the Breakwater Bridge for instruction and setup on December 14th, however, each boat participant will be given more details as to when the parade will begin and when the boats need to be put in place closer to the day of the event as the DSCA staff are still planning all the details.

***Boaters… you’re the stars of the show!***

**Tips for Decorating Your Boat**

 What makes the Desert Shores Holiday Boat Parade fun?  Decorations… especially lighted decorations… because of course it will be dark out!

Here are some suggestions for you to consider as you plan your boat décor.

**Use only low wattage LED lights** - they use much less power than older incandescent bulbs and they actually are usually brighter with bolder colors.

**If your boat has a canopy**, stringing lights along the edge of the canopy makes a great effect (little spring-loaded clamps (like those used to clamp pages of a document together - alligator clips) are a great way to attach the lights securely to the canvas edges.

**If you have a pontoon boat like an Electra Craft you have lots of options -**the vertical sides, front and back are places to display: lit decorations, signs, animated lights, etc.  Note that the right (starboard for you seaman) side will be facing the shore line, the audience and most importantly… the judges, so put your best decorations there.  The front of your boat will be visible as the boat approaches so it's a great place for exhibits - but keep them low.

Drive by the judges slowly so they have time to really see your boat and complete your judging sheet.

Securely attach large objects like blow up characters on top of the canopy.

**Warning:**  Because it will be dark out, **do not allow lights or objects at the front of the boat to interfere with the boat captain's forward field of view**.

***Let’s make the 2019 Desert Shores Winter Wonderland the best yet!***