



## **Battleship Attendance Best in 18 Years**

**WILMINGTON, NC** – The Battleship NORTH CAROLINA announced today that attendance continues to increase with the best December in 18 years. Almost 6,800 paid visitors came to the ship in December 2011. Fiscal year visitation numbers are also up, reaching an increase of 13%.

"We are honored by the number of people who continue to visit and celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battleship coming to Wilmington and assuming duties as the State of North Carolina's Memorial to those who served during WWII," states Captain Terry Bragg, Executive Director of the Battleship North Carolina. "As the growth trend continues, it is special to all that so many still care about the crew and the history of this magnificent vessel."

The Ship's Store also had a 32% increase in sales in part due to the recent addition of the online store. An original piece of the teak deck was the biggest seller of the season increasing from 16 purchased in December 2010 to 54 in December 2011.

The Battleship NORTH CAROLINA is self-supporting, not tax supported and relies primarily upon admissions to tour the Ship, sales in the Ship's Store, donations and investments. No funds for its administration and operation come from appropriations from governmental entities at the local, state or federal levels. Located at the junction of Highways 17/74/76/421 on the Cape Fear River. Visit [www.battleshipnc.com](http://www.battleshipnc.com) or follow us on [Facebook.com/ncbb55](https://www.facebook.com/ncbb55) and [Twitter.com/battleshipnc](https://www.twitter.com/battleshipnc) for more information.

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