

From Your President



Hello to every one! I hope this edition finds everyone doing well. For us in the southern part of the state it has been so HOT!!! We have been in triple digits for days. I'm not sure what July and August are going to be. The funny thing is that we can never be satisfied. Whether it's hot or cold. I just thank the good Lord that he has allowed me a job that I can work inside most of the time. My hat is off to those who have to work out in the heat!

Summer Symposium is just around the corner!!! Wow, time is really flying by. I am really excited about this year's programs. Working with the designers and feeling their excitement and passion has really fueled me about what we do. It has really carried me back to my first program and the emotions that I felt at that time. Reminds me of why I love what I do and I know their passion will spill over to everyone who attends. So make plans. You can register online and also we have included lunch at no additional cost. You don't want to miss this!

We have three amazing designers scheduled for the day. First we have Mr Wilton Hardy AIFD, PFCI, who will be presenting a sympathy program. Wilton is sponsored by Teleflora. We are so thankful for the support of Teleflora. Teleflora is truly education driven. I ask that everyone please take the time to thank Teleflora for their support.

Angie Head GMF is our 2011 Designer of the Year. Angie will be presenting a program entitled Opulence. Sharon Ivey CFD is our 2011 Burton Cup winner. Sharon will be presenting a program entitled Designs in Motion. I am so proud of both of these ladies. Both are very talented and some of the hardest working members of GSFA.

I do have some exciting news!!!! GSFA's Certification program is now recognized by the National Alliance of Floral Associations (NAFA) as one of their states listed as their Certified Florists states. GSFA is one of only 8 states to be recognized. NAFA promotes these Certification programs through their website www.certifiedflorist.com. This is a big thing for GSFA and we should all be proud of our state raising the bar for our industry.

Also, we have a lot of exciting things in the works for GSFA this year!!! We will be conducting an Evaluators Class in August. Look for details in the News Flash. It is a wonderful class even if you're not interested in becoming an evaluator. After this class you will never look at a design the same. It's really great for those doing competitions.

I am working on something BIG for GSFA in October. That is all I can say at this time. But BIG! Details are being finalized and as soon as they are, we will be rolling out a marketing campaign. Stay Tuned.

As always, thanks for all you do for GSFA and our industry!!! Look forward to seeing everyone in Macon!

Randy Wooten AIFD, PFCI, CFD, GMF
GSFA President