

Can you believe it? It's that time again. The holiday season seems to come so quickly. At the shop we are in full swing, Christmas, glitter and all. The crew still won't let me play Christmas music though. I guess it may be a little early. With open house around the corner, we are all busy getting prepared. I do hope we all have an awesome holiday season.

As the year comes to a close, I look back over this year and what a year GSFA has had. Convention, Summer Symposium and the GMF program. In addition, three regional education programs. Wow! We've been busy working hard for the betterment of our industry and for our survival! We should all be proud of GSFA and our efforts. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been working really hard to make these events happen. Giving of their time, energy and their funds without hesitation. In my opinion, this is an example of true dedication and love of GSFA and our industry.

The regional education programs were awesome! The designers did an amazing job and they didn't hold back. The programs were of the same caliber of those presented at convention. Thanks to Jeff Lott AIFD, CFD, GMF and Sherry Moon, AIFD, CFD, GMF for all their hard work and their support of GSFA! If you didn't make the programs, you missed a wonderful opportunity. We have included some highlights from each program in this issue of the News Flash.

Convention 2010 is just around the corner and I am so excited about the educational programs that we have slated for that weekend. You need to mark your calendar and make plans to be a part of convention 2010. This year we are offering 5 main stage programs, two hands-on workshops and a business seminar. Complete details can be found in this issue of the News Flash as well as online at www.georgiastateflorist.com. I am also looking for volunteers to help at convention so if you are interested in pitching in, please contact me at wooten2594@windstream.net.

I would like to announce that GSFA has an Evaluation/Judging Class scheduled for January 17th. Complete details are included in the News Flash as well as on the web site. The fee for the class is \$75 and you can register for the class on the web site. The link can be found on the home page. For those interested, I suggest that you register as soon as possible so I can send you the resource guide needed to prepare for the written exam. We are excited to be able to offer this much needed program. As always thanks to everyone for their support and words of encouragement. I wish everyone the very best holiday season. Take care and be safe!

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GSFA President