Greetings from the Chair-Elect

As we get settled in for the New Year, 2008 promises to be a most exciting year for the Gulf Coast IFT. First, our next program will be a tour of the post-Katrina renovated Southern Regional Research Center in New Orleans on February 26th. The visit will provide an opportunity to see the major renovations in the laboratories, learn about the vibrant research programs going on at the laboratory, and explore new opportunities for collaborations. The tour will be followed by dinner at Acme Oyster House. Attendance at our last meeting at Pontchartrain Vineyards was rather disappointing. Those that attended had a delightful tour and a lesson in winemaking 101. The tour was followed by a tasting of wine in combination with various foods, exploring the interactions and how food can exert a major impact on our perception of the taste of the wine.

Our annual crawfish boil and awards ceremony will be held on the LSU campus April 23. As most of you are aware, the annual IFT meeting will be held in New Orleans June 28 to July 1, 2008. It will provide an opportunity for all of our membership to attend the annual meeting and visit the Expo.

Sincerely,
John W. Finley
Chair-Elect

Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are the opinions of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the official position of IFT, nor the Regional Section and should not be interpreted as such.

IFT accepts and adopts the concept of diversity which views society as a mixture of all backgrounds each with a unique contribution. IFT seeks to retain and celebrate individual differences and therefore will not discriminate based on race, color, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, disability or veteran status.
Join IFT to Give Back to New Orleans

IFT and Second Harvest of New Orleans and Acadia-na have part-nered together to help fight hunger in South Louisiana. A variety of volunteer opportunities (Saturday, June 28, or Wednesday, July 2) are planned that will benefit the New Orleans area.

If you are interested in volunteering, please select from three time slots throughout the week. Activities include:

- Sort grocery items such as close code dates; dented cans or damaged boxed food; mislabeled product; and fruits and vegetables not harvested by farmers
- Repack donated food product into cases for distribution
- Deliver food directly to needy families in the area
- Stuff back packs with ready-to-eat meals and snacks for school children at-risk of hunger

Please join IFT and Second Harvest in helping to improve the lives of underserved New Orleans residents.

The LSU Food Science Students Compete in RCA Student Competition

Congratulations to the LSU Department of Food Science Culinary team who will be competing in the finals of the Research Chefs of America Student competition in Seattle on March 6, 2008. The team consists of Madalyn Thibodeaux, Amy Jones, and Lyndsey White (pictured left to right).

Madalyn Thibodeaux also received a $1500 scholarship from the Research Chefs Association.

Future Meeting Notice

Wednesday April 23rd

5:00 p.m.

LSU Campus

Crawfish boil and Student Presentations

Nominations due for Chair-Elect, Treasurer, and Secretary of Gulf Coast IFT
**Meeting Notice**

February 26, 2008  
4:00—7:30 p.m.  
Tour & Presentation by  
Dr. James Seiber  
Southern Regional Research Center  
1100 Robert E. Lee Blvd  
New Orleans, LA 70124  
Followed by Dinner at  

**Acme Oyster House**  
3000 Veterans Boulevard  
New Orleans, LA 70005  
(order off menu)  

Meeting Registration  
Name________________________________  
Address________________________________  
City__________________________________  
State________________________________  
Zip__________________________________  
Phone_______________________________  
Email________________________________

Ashley Bond  
111 Food Science Building  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
Or email it to abond@agcenter.lsu.edu

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(2007/2008)  

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DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Directions from Baton Rouge to Southern Regional Research Center

1. Turn **RIGHT** to take ramp onto I-10 E toward HAMMOND/NEW ORLEANS go 73 mi 75.2 mi
2. Take **LEFT** fork onto I-610 E toward SLIDELL go 0.4 mi 75.6 mi
3. Take exit #1A/WEST END BLVD/CANAL BLVD/CITY PARK/DELGADO UNIVERSITY toward CANAL BLVD go 0.6 mi 76.2 mi
4. Turn **LEFT** on CANAL BLVD go 0.7 mi 76.9 mi
5. Turn **RIGHT** on HARRISON AVE go 0.5 mi 77.5 mi
6. Turn **LEFT** on MARCONI DR go 1 mi 78.5 mi
7. Turn **RIGHT** on ROBERT E LEE BLVD go 0.5 mi 79 mi
8. **Arrive at 1100 ROBERT E LEE BLVD, NEW ORLEANS, on the RIGHT** go < 0.1 mi

Directions from SRRC to Acme Oyster House

1. Start at **1100 ROBERT E LEE BLVD, NEW ORLEANS** going toward AGRICULTURAL DR go < 0.1 mi 0 mi
2. Make a U-Turn at CHRYSANTHEMUM LN onto ROBERT E LEE BLVD go 1.5 mi 1.6 mi
3. Bear **LEFT** on HAMMOND HWY go 0.1 mi 1.6 mi
4. Bear **LEFT** on PONTCHARTRAIN BLVD go 1.4 mi 3 mi
5. Turn **RIGHT** on VETERANS BLVD go 0.6 mi 3.6 mi
6. Make a U-Turn at CARROLLTON AVE onto VETERANS BLVD go 0.2 mi 3.8 mi
7. **Arrive at 498 VETERANS BLVD, NEW ORLEANS, on the RIGHT** go < 0.1 mi 3.8 mi

498 VETERANS BLVD, NEW ORLEANS, LA 70124