

## DIRECTING THE HEART OF FLORIDA CHORUS

### Director - Scott Werner

Scott is one of only two men in Barbershop Harmony Society history to win a gold medal in the Society International Quartet Competition and as the director of a Society International Chorus Champion in the same year.

He started barbershop singing in 1958 when he joined as a chapter member of the Sandy Hill Chapter of the Society for the Preservation and Encouragement of Barbershop Quartet Singing in America (SPEBSQSA; later to become the international Barbershop Harmony Society).

Scott returned to his senior year in college and did not become involved in barbershop again until 1964 when he joined the *Alexandria Harmonizers* in Alexandria, Virginia. There he served as President in 1967-68 and was asked to become their Musical Director in 1970. The *Harmonizers* rose from division competitors to International Champions four times (1986, 1989, 1995, and 1998) under Scott's direction.

During this time, he was also singing in his own quartets. His first, the *Nova Chords*, went on to become the Mid-Atlantic District Champions and earn a 3rd place medal in international competition. In the 1980s he sang in the *Vaudeville* quartet, earning an International Silver Medal in 1985. Scott later sang with *Reminisce*, the 1995 International Senior Gold Medalists. His final competing quartet, *Auld Lang Syne*, place 3rd in the 2003 International Seniors Championship.

In all, chorus and quartet, Scott has received 19 medals (including 5 gold medals) in international competition. For his efforts within the Mid-Atlantic District he was elected to the honors chapter and was selected for the District Hall of Honor.

Scott retired from the *Alexandria Harmonizers* in 2002 when he and his wife Linda moved to The Villages, Florida. He became a founder and charter member of the Heart of Florida Chorus where he currently serves as Musical Director.

### Assistant Director - Don Barnes

Don graduated as a vocal music major from Western Michigan University in 1972. During his 32 years of teaching, Don taught K-12 vocal music for 5 of those years. He did not start singing barbershop until he and wife Debbie moved to The Villages in 2004. In 2005 he was tapped to be the Assistant Director.