**HEART OF ILLINOIS CHORUS**



***Helen Peters***

The Hearts have chosen ***Helen Peters*** as our 2016 Woman of Note. She joined Sweet Adelines 61 years ago as a member of the Peoria Belles of Harmony Chorus which was under the direction of Floyd “Pop” Connett. “Pop” also coached Helen (and friends) in the Jr Misses Quartet who won the International Quartet Championship in 1956. Several years later, Helen became the director of the Belles of Harmony…and took them to a 10th Place finish in the 1977 Chorus Competition in London.

In 1982, Helen became the founding Director of the Heart of Illinois Chorus. She directed the Hearts for 25 years during which time the chorus competed at International 3 times--including a 5th Place medal in Salt Lake City in 1990.

This year, the Hearts want to congratulate Helen and the Jr Misses during the 60th anniversary of their Championship. We want to thank her for helping us entertain audiences in Central Illinois for 25 years. And most of all, we want to thank Helen Peters for coming out of retirement to be the Interim Director while the Heart of Illinois Chorus is doing a Director Search.