



Joan Boutilier *Master Director*

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For more than ten years, Joan Boutilier has held the prestigious title of master director with Sweet Adelines International. As master director, she has taken the Choral-Aires Chorus—comprised of nearly 100 women that sing four-part harmony *a capella* (without music)—to new heights; consistently winning regional competitions and placing in the top ten at international competitions.

Ms. Boutilier is an experienced music teacher with a bachelor's degree in music education from the University of New Mexico. She has been a member of Sweet Adelines International since 1989 and became the front-line director of the Choral-Aires Chorus in 1996. She is also an active quartet and chorus coach, offering her expertise to singers world-wide.

Along with earning the Master Director title, she is also an approved judge in the sound category, judging choruses and quartets at Sweet Adelines Competitions. She also serves as one of three members on the Director Education Coordinators committee. This committee—appointed by the International Board of Directors—creates programs supporting Director Education in the entire Sweet Adeline's organization.

Joan also sings tenor with the Four Bettys Quartet, which took first at the Sweet Adelines International competition in Calgary, Canada, in October of 2007, making Joan and the Four Bettys the 2008 International Quartet Champions of Sweet Adelines International.

In her time away from the Choral-Aires Chorus and Four Bettys, Joan directs a children's chorus at her local elementary school, enjoys gardening, reading, and spending time with her family. Joan and her husband, Eric, have been married nearly 25 years and have three children.

The 95-voice Choral-Aires Chorus is a member of Sweet Adelines International. The Chorus has placed first at nine regional competitions and won medals at five international competitions. This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. More information about the Chorus can be found at their website, www.choral-aires.org.