

## **SCCHE Band Directors**

### **Dr. Steve Aubuchon**

Dr. Steve Aubuchon is the director of the Upper Grades Concert Band, Swing Apprentices, the Intermediate Band, and Beginning Band. Dr. Aubuchon grew up in South St. Louis County and attended DuBourg High School. After playing freshman football for six weeks he decided to learn to play the French Horn. While in the orchestra he met Mary Jane. They have been married for 33 years and have two sons, a daughter-in-law, and a granddaughter (tons of pictures available upon request) and another grandchild due in September.

Steve's higher education began at St. Louis Community College at Meramec. Then after a brief time of active duty with the Missouri Air National Guard, he attended the University of Missouri-St. Louis and earned a Bachelor of Music. Since then he has also received a Master of Music Ed. from Vander Cook College of Music in Chicago, and a Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Since his graduation from UMSL Steve has held full time positions teaching instrumental for 33 years until he retired from the public schools in 2005. Most of those years were spent with St. Charles City Schools. His teaching experiences range from pre-school to graduate levels. Dr. Aubuchon is also retired from the Air National Guard.

Steve Aubuchon has been a professional performer since 1967 and still loves to play for anybody who will listen. In addition to his position with St. Charles Christian Home Educators, he is very busy with the music ministry at All Saints Parish. Additionally he is working towards a commercial pilot license and has recently joined the Civil Air Patrol.

### **Mr. Gene Garza**

The Ambassadors of Swing are directed by Mr. Gene Garza who is a native of St. Charles, MO. After graduating from St. Charles High School, he worked for a year to be able to enroll at the University of Missouri-Columbia where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree and Masters degrees in Music Education.

Upon graduation from MU, he served two years as an Army musician performing on trombone and arranging music for Army jazz ensembles. Among his assignments was one with the U.S. Army - Europe band in Heidelberg, Germany.

Mr. Garza worked for the Missouri Division of Employment Security as an Employer Service Representative for 23 years. Since his retirement, he has been an active performer on trombone and euphonium, and arranging music for bands and orchestras.

In 1997, Gene was appointed Director of the O'Fallon, MO Community Concert and Jazz Bands. He is also a member of St. Charles Municipal Band (directed by Nancy

Garza, his wife of 43 years), the St. Charles County Symphony Orchestra, the St. Charles Community Big Band, the St. Louis Low Brass Collective, and is active in the music ministry at his Church, Immanuel Lutheran, in St. Charles. In his spare time, Mr. Garza has formed a brass quintet and he regularly augments the Town and Country Symphony Orchestra brass section.