



Martin Carey-Becker

Born in Cincinnati, Ohio (1945), Martin Carey-Becker came from a musical family; his grandfather Martin Carey was a band director in Muncie, Indiana and played with the Frank Simon Armco Band and the Henry Fillmore Band. His father Martin Norwood Carey was a professional trumpet player with Ted Weems orchestra, and his uncles were all professional musicians, two of which played on WLW in Cincinnati. His uncle Cyrus Carey played tuba and was a lifelong friend of the great tubaist William Bell.

Mr. Becker graduated from Greenhill's High School in 1964. During this time he played in the Greater Cincinnati Y Band, and the Cincinnati Civic and Community Orchestras, studying with members of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra. He attended Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky and was a member of Phi Mu Alpha. He played first trumpet in the marching band, jazz band, brass choir and symphony bands under the direction of both Fred Marzan and Robert Hawkins. During his Junior and Senior years he was a member of the Lexington Philharmonic Orchestra, also playing in the summer in many of the Park Bands in Cincinnati and as the Bugler at River Downs Race Track.

After receiving his Bachelors in Music Education from Morehead State University in 1969, Mr. Becker taught in Kentucky, West Virginia and Ohio for ten years. His bands won many marching, color guard and concert band awards, including both a State and National Drill Team Championship. His concert bands in Greenville, Ohio were State finalists four times. In 1976 his Greenville Band was chosen to perform at Riverfront Stadium and appeared on National Television for the Cincinnati Bengals Pregame and Halftime shows. He also directed the Greenville Park band for five years.

In 1978 he received his Master of Arts Degree in Music Education from Ball State University. Mr. Becker served on the staff of the Ball State Mid-America music camps for thirteen years. In 1978 he became Director of Bands at Marion High School where his bands received Superior Ratings in Marching, Concert and Jazz. The Marion Band program grew from 70 band members to over 160 when he left in 1986. His Marion HS marching band was a State Fair finalist three years and in 1985 and 1986 his Marion Concert Bands were finalist in the ISSMA State Finals.

In 1986 Mr. Becker became Director of Bands at Warsaw Community High School where he directed Marching Band, Wind Ensemble, Concert Band and Jazz Bands. Under his direction these groups were consistently given Superior Ratings at ISSMA events. His Wind Ensembles were State Finalist seven times, placing fourth in 1988. In addition his Color Guard and Percussion groups were consistent State and National finalists. The Warsaw "Tigers Pride Band" performed in Toronto, Canada, the Philadelphia Thanksgiving Parade, Chicago Christmas Parade, the Washington D.C. Cherry Blossom Festival, and a Concert tour in New York City. In 1989 the Warsaw Band received the Grand Championship Award at the Festival of Music in Toronto, Canada and was the only band that spring that Dr. Wm. Revelli gave a Superior Rating. Mr. Becker retired from Warsaw High School in 2002.

He has twice served as the President of the Indiana State Music Association and is also a President of the Indiana Bandmasters. In 1994 he was awarded the Phi Beta Mu "Indiana Outstanding Bandmasters Award." He has received the Indiana Music Educators "Distinguished Music Educator's Award" and the "Outstanding Alumni Award" from Ball State.

Mr. Becker is an active judge and contest official for ISSMA, judges for Music in the Parks, and is a guest conductor and clinician for IMEA and IBA. He is a member of the International Trumpet Guild and teaches private lessons in the Warsaw area. Mr. Becker has been an associate director of the Indiana Ambassadors of Music and has toured Europe seven times. He also serves as a tour escort for Music Travel Consultants in Indianapolis. Currently he serves as an Adjunct Music Professor at Grace College. He also directs the Lake Area Community Band. He belongs to the Warsaw Morning Optimist Club and directs the Optimist Singers. He plays trumpet with the Truth In Jazz big band in Elkhart.

His wife Judy is also an outstanding Music Educator having taught both band and choir for twenty-four years. She currently teaches at Lakeview Middle School in the Warsaw school system. The Becker's attend the Warsaw Evangelical Presbyterian Church where he is a Deacon and he and his wife play in the church orchestra. They have two married daughters Melissa (husband Mark) Mitchell and Carrie (husband Jacob) Rhoades, and three wonderful grandchildren-Madison, Matthew and Hank.