



Sam Rhinesmith

Sam Rhinesmith was born March 25, 1929 in St. Mary's, Pennsylvania. He grew up in Bellefonte, PA where he received his early musical training through the American Legion. He was the first person from his high school to participate in the Pennsylvania All-State Band and Orchestra. Mr. Rhinesmith earned a B.S. Degree in Music Education from West Chester University (Pennsylvania) in 1952 and a Master of Music from Butler University in 1961.

Mr. Rhinesmith served in the United States Second Army Band from 1952-55. While there the Dance Band had the unique opportunity of playing the television show "Cavalcade of Stars" every 4 weeks in New York City for a period of 14 months. The musical director of the show was Ray Bloch and Bobby Sherwood was the M.C. In the meantime his family had moved to Indianapolis where he became the first director of Scecina Memorial High School from 1955 to 1961. He taught band and choir and was responsible for the Scecina Fight Song as well as the Alma Mater.

From 1961-64 he was George Vaught's Assistant Director at Anderson High School. After one year in M.S.D. of Warren Township he became Director of Bands at North Central high School. Mr. Rhinesmith spent 27 years at North Central (1965-92) where his bands consistently earned superior ratings at Indiana State School Music Association events. He was also an adjunct instructor for band at Marian University from 1967 to 1972. Overall he taught 37 years in Indiana.

Brother Rhinesmith was sponsored in Gamma Chapter in 1977 by Brother Jim Calvert. He served as chapter Vice President in 1999-2000. Brother Rhinesmith received the Outstanding Bandmaster Award from Phi Beta Mu in 1992 and was inducted into the Indiana Bandmasters Hall of Fame in 1999 by Gamma Chapter. He was presented with the Robert A. Phillips Service to Music Award by the Indianapolis Symphonic Band in 2001.

Mr. Rhinesmith remains active, directing the New Horizons Band of Indianapolis, a band for senior citizens. He was a member of the Indianapolis Symphonic Band for some 25 years, the Indianapolis Brass Choir, and various dance bands and small ensembles.

He and his wife, Marianne, have two children and five grandchildren.