



BAZIL D. O'REILLEY, 1915 - 1990

From the Gamma 50th Anniversary Booklet in 1993:

Basil D. O'Reilley was born January 12, 1915 near Fowler, Indiana in Benton County. He married Opal Blem in 1937 and graduated from Indiana Central College (now the University of Indianapolis) in 1938. He earned his bachelor of arts degree in music and studied at The Detroit Conservatory of Music.

He began his teaching career at Avilla High School (1938-43) and led the band to its first Division I rating in both state concert band championship and marching performances. He then became the band director at Culver High School (1943-47) and again led them to a state championship performance.

Brother O'Reilley developed an outstanding band program at Warsaw High School (1947-1978). His 1949-50 band won a first division rating and the sweepstakes trophy in marching, the first time it had been given in Indiana.

He was the Director of the Indiana University Summer Music Clinics for fourteen years. He was also a member of the Indiana Bandmasters Association, the Indiana Music Education Association as a charter member in 1961, and a very active member of the Northern Indiana Band, Orchestra, and Vocal Association.

Brother O'Reilley was a charter member and the first vice president of Gamma Chapter of Phi Beta Mu. He served as president in 1963.

He passed away in Warsaw on October 20, 1990 where he is buried.