

## ***Up To Bat – Senior Slugger Player Profile***

**Name:** Jim Wicker

**Birthday:** March 7th

**Originally From:** Born and raised in central North Carolina near Sanford (equidistant from both Raleigh and Greensboro) Jim's first job (and all-time least favorite) was working the tobacco fields around Sanford. He played both baseball and basketball at Deep River High School (class of '70) in Sanford.

After high school Jim attended Duke University, graduating with a degree in English. Almost 20 years later he earned a Master of Fine Arts degree in theatre from the University of Virginia.

**Previous Work:** Jim was a teacher in the Tampa Public School system for 32 years, beginning his career at the middle school level working with about 150 kids every day and then later teaching at the high school level. He began his career as an English teacher, prior to adding drama to his resume.

**Plus:** Jim began his professional acting career in his late 20's and has flourished, performing in live theatre across the country and even in film. Most of his acting work now is in Tampa where he keeps his second (seasonal) home. He just finished 3 shows in Tampa including the Shakespearean romantic comedy, *Twelfth Night, or What You Will*. His favorite role as an actor so far has been *Stage Manager* in the Thornton Wilder classic, *Our Town*.

**Family:** Jim and his girlfriend of 15 years, Mary Frances split time between these mountains and Tampa, Fla. He considers the thousands of kids he taught during his career to be "his kids".

**Favorite thing about the Sluggers:** Jim's been a Senior Slugger for the last 18 years. What he enjoys most is for a few hours a couple days a week, you get to be a boy again.