

Linda Pedersen: Band Mom, Band Member

Linda Pedersen joined Westwinds in 1992 in Blue Concert Band under the direction of Ross McIntyre. One of six French Horns in September, Linda was one of two left by Christmas! She has stuck with it, and currently plays in Silver Concert Band.

Although Linda did not play in a band as a child, "...there was always music in our family...choirs and piano lessons." She had always wanted to play in a band, and heard about Westwinds when she worked as a Band Assistant for Mike Gardner at David Thompson Jr. High; at that time her daughter Jenn was in Mike's band, and according to Linda, "I learned so much working there and realized it was possible for me to learn as well." She has a great deal of respect for the directors, whom she knows do a lot more than people realize. Eventually, Linda and Jenn both played in Gold Concert Band. "I cherish those years we were in band together."

Linda enjoys the challenge and fun of playing in a large group and loves the performances, especially the Christmas concerts and Festival. She has learned that she doesn't have to be a "virtuoso," but can enjoy band without adding stress to her life. She has also made many wonderful friends through Westwinds.

Besides playing the horn, Linda has contributed to Westwinds in many ways: secretary, band manager, and volunteer. Linda feels fortunate to be a part of this "fabulous" organization, and encourages "...people out there who do not realize they could be part of it, if they wanted to."