

Susan Tyrrell: The Family that plays Together

Susan Tyrrell joined Westwinds 8 years ago, starting in Blue Concert Band. She now plays trumpet in Silver Concert Band, under the direction of Rob Cesselli. Interestingly, Susan's entire family has come under Rob's baton, as he taught both her children in junior high and also directed Susan's husband Brian Mills in the Blue and Purple Jazz Bands. "We have fun comparing notes...we also appreciate [that] he has a way of putting us at ease in performances."

Before joining Westwinds, Susan took band in school, and thus developed a "lifelong appreciation for making music...of all the subjects I took...I would definitely say it had the most impact on my life." In fact, Susan met her husband through band, and they passed on this appreciation of music to their children, both of whom have excellent music skills; one of them is now pursuing a degree in music.

Susan appreciates that Westwinds provides adults with the opportunity to learn a new skill. Since attending her children's band concerts in the past, Susan has now "rediscovered the joys of making music as opposed to just listening to it."