

The Fergusons: All in the Family

Shawn, Carrie and Cassie Ferguson have been in about 12 different Westwinds groups, in all of the “families” – concert, jazz, choir – sometimes more than twice a week! Shawn joined in 2002; Carrie followed in 2003, deciding that after attending all of Shawn’s concerts, she wanted to do something for herself. Their daughter Cassie followed, playing in Gold Concert Band for two years. “Music is very strong in our family,” says Carrie; indeed, all of the Fergusons played music or sang during their school years. Shawn adds, “I have tried to pass the love and passion of music on to my children.”

Carrie has enjoyed the road trip to Drumheller with Choral Ensemble as well as performing with the Civic Symphony. Shawn can count Hurricane Dennis among his Westwinds adventures during the jazz bands’ 2005 Cuba trip. On the positive side, “It really created a bond between the people that went.”

Besides the “great music”, this bond is what the Fergusons like best about Westwinds. “I have made many good friends... [whom] I consider to be the nicest and best friends I have ever met,” affirms Shawn. Every week, Carrie looks forward to “the people, the music...everything!” and claims that even after a bad day, she feels better after rehearsal.

Shawn currently plays saxophone in Jazz Orchestra while Carrie sings in Choral Ensemble. Cassie is taking some time off to be with her young son...perhaps the next generation of the Fergusons to join Westwinds?