



## Testimonials from Band Members

"I like the challenge of playing the music, the friendship of the other band members and the enjoyment of performing for many people." -- Lawrence, Clarinet

"Surprise Pops Band is composed of about 75-90 excellent, friendly musicians. The people in the audience at the concerts love all the beautiful entertaining music, always." – Bill, Tuba

"I am 82 years old and have played baritone horn in the pops band now for 22 years. It has become my musical family. Many close and long lasting friends. Playing in the pops band keeps me young at heart and young in mind." -- Joel, Baritone

"The Surprise Pops Band is a great opportunity for many of us lifelong musicians to play together."  
-- Tim

"The pops band is like pickleball, softball, pools, spring training facilities ... happy places for people to meet and make friends and share passions." -- Marv, Trumpet

"I get to play music. That's something I really enjoy plus it also acts as a mental challenge which is good for those of us getting older. We get to share music with others in the community. It's a way to give back - not only through the music we play but also the funds we are able to generate for the food bank."  
– Russ, Baritone

"Playing in Surprise Pops Band is so fulfilling! The wonderful feeling of unity with others is just so satisfying." -- Ruth, Flute

"I play pops because I really enjoy the more popular music compared to the more classical style of the other bands. If it weren't for pops, I wouldn't be playing in a band at all now!"

-- Karen, Eb Clarinet

"I am writing from personal experience, to share how much a community band music concert can benefit the community members, especially in senior communities like the Sun Cities area. Participating in a concert band keeps you young and your brain healthier and is a priceless social outlet for many. We have band members enjoying making music with others well into their 70's, 80's, and even 90's."

-- Deborah, Bass Clarinet

"People who retire to Arizona are not always aware of the opportunities to make music that exist here. Groups, like Surprise Pops Band, are here to re-kindle that lost love of music. The Surprise Pops Band fills a huge role in this area by "taking all comers." As a newcomer to the area, I was able to take up an instrument I'd never played before and became an important part of the tuba section after just 4 years!"