

Judi Ford

Few singers exemplify the best of what it means to be a Sweet Adeline more than Westcoast's very own Judi Ford!

Judi joined Westcoast in 1993, after three years in Peace Arch Chorus. Her contributions to chorus life have made her a standout among current and past members, directors, and coaches. At every chorus gathering, you can see her giving and receiving the warmest, most enthusiastic greetings and hugs.

Judi is best known for always offering a helping hand, especially to new members and guests. She has served in membership roles on the management team, as greeter, attendance taker, and manager of membership supplies. She has chaired events, and for along time has looked after our weekly 50/50 fundraiser.

Above all, Judi has been the person that newcomers can look to for help when they arrive at the rehearsal hall: Where do I go? What do I do now? Am I where I belong? She has been known as Judi "Wear Your Nametag" Ford, a gesture of generosity meant to help newcomers get to know others and feel welcome.

Despite health issues in recent years, Judi is up on the risers all night, everynight, giving 100%. After almost every rehearsal, she sends our Westcoast director an email letting her know what she loved about the rehearsal and how excited she is to keep working hard. She was devastated not to be able to compete with Westcoast at International in Phoenix in 2022, but every member carried with them a little "Pocket Judi" created by one of our more artistic members. And indeed, Judi performed the entire set with the chorus from her home!

CAROL POOLE

Judi's steadfast love and friendship to others has made her an essential part of Westcoast life. We are privileged and proud to honour Judi with the 2023 Carol Poole Spirit of 26 Recognition.