



Volume 29, No. 1

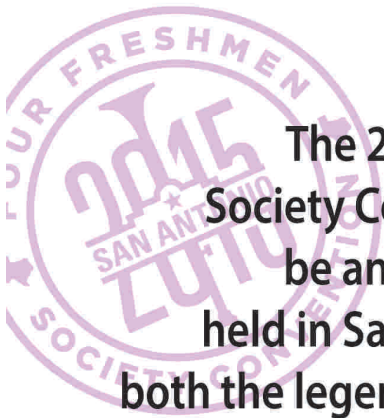
JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH 2015

**Please Join Us in
San Antonio, Texas for the**

**2015 Four Freshmen
Society Convention**
September 17-20, 2015



We welcome you all to join us in our dynamic City of San Antonio for the 2015 Four Freshmen Society Convention. A city with year-round charm, San Antonio is a wonderful place to visit in late September. The heat of the summer is past and while welcoming the cooler autumn temperatures, the city really comes alive. Activities abound throughout the city, you will have your pick of wonderful options for dining, entertainment and exploration of our historic and colorful city. We are including many exciting, "never-done-before" items for you to enjoy on this extra special weekend...you don't want to miss this one!



The 2015 Four Freshmen Society Convention is sure to be an extra special event held in San Antonio, home to both the legendary Bill Comstock and our very own Curtis Calderon!

The Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel

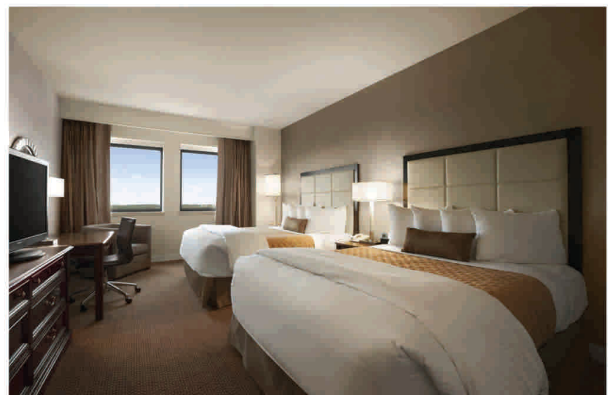
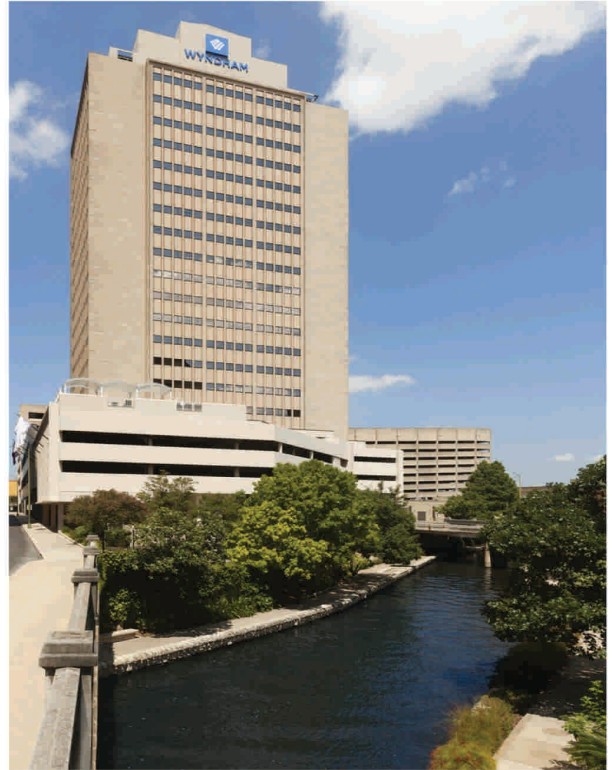
The 2015 Four Freshmen Society Convention will be hosted at our beautiful Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel. Located on the river itself, the hotel sits right in the heart of downtown San Antonio. The perfect venue for our convention, the Wyndham boasts 37,000 square feet of event and conference space, providing for generous accommodations for the 113 Club and our Wanabees. The hotel is currently undergoing the final stages of a room renovation, so our guests will be able to enjoy newly updated, deluxe accommodations next September. Additionally, the Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel features a glistening rooftop swimming pool with hot tub, valet parking, fitness center, business center, Wi-Fi Internet access throughout the hotel, onsite dining and room service. We are confident that this luxury hotel meets all the requirements needed for a truly amazing 2015 Convention!

Call Today to Reserve Your Room

1-866-764-8536

Or use the Web Link to Reserve Your Room

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/FourFreshmenSociety2015>



San Antonio River Barge Tour & Luncheon

Join us as we cruise down San Antonio's famous river, take in the historic sights and experience the romantic charm of our beloved Alamo City. Our tour will also include a delicious lunch of authentic Mexican fare. Cost Per Person \$65.00.

Photo Booth

How would you like a unique, personalized photo of you with all four members of The Four Freshmen? Take advantage of this marvelous photo booth opportunity and instantly walk away with your very own, autographed copy of this extra special moment! For just \$20.00 you'll receive a signed 8 x 10 glossy photo.

Convention "Extras" also include an incredible auction with autographed items and a fun Western Themed gala night which is sure to bring out your inner cowboy/cowgirl! Stay tuned for updated details.



While here in San Antonio, you must of course visit the Alamo, originally founded as the Spanish mission of San Antonio de Valero, the mission has become an integral part of our beloved city.



The Alamo is maintained as a shrine and museum. Surrounded by many hotels and tourist attractions, it is San Antonio's best-known landmark, featured in the city's flag and seal, and the most visited tourist attraction in the state. San Antonio is nicknamed the "Alamo City."

Things to Do Near the Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel

It wouldn't be a proper visit to San Antonio without a stroll down the Riverwalk. Set below street level, the Riverwalk winds along the banks of the San Antonio River, lined with shopping and dining in stylish and open-air venues. Additionally, seasonal events, farmers' markets and live music have been known to grace the walkways. Be sure to check with the front desk at the hotel for information about Riverwalk and Main Plaza events nearby.



You don't want to miss the unique experience of cruising along the San Antonio River. River cruises are a fantastic way to enjoy the real ambiance of our river city.



Of course, there are many other things to do in San Antonio. Guests of the 2015 Four Freshmen Society Convention will appreciate their proximity to local historic sites like the Alamo, great dining at our many outstanding restaurants, and unique shopping venues. Walk to many downtown attractions including an IMAX theater and Alamo tour origins, or drive to some of the area's top destinations for family fun that includes Fiesta Texas and Sea World San Antonio via neighboring highways I-10, I-35 and I-37.

Historic Market Square (0.2 Miles)

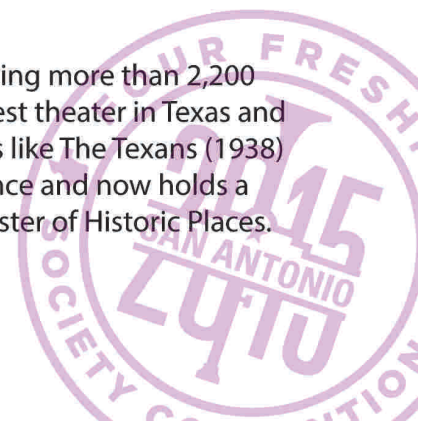
Formerly known as El Mercado Mexican Market, the Department for Culture and Creative Development for the City of San Antonio now manages this colorful hub for authentic Mexican dining and music.

The Tower of the Americas (1 Mile)

The Tower of the Americas is one of the lasting structures built for the HemisFair in 1968. Including the antenna, our San Antonio Tower of the Americas rises 750 feet above HemisFair Park. The tower houses Flags Over Texas Observation Deck which offers a panoramic view of our city and surrounding areas, Tower Café on the Observation Deck, plus the Chart House for Legendary Dining and Bar 601 for Happy Hour. On the ground floor there is a gift shop and Starbucks coffee and more.

Majestic Theatre (0.5 Miles)

The Majestic Theatre is the oldest operating theatre in San Antonio, accommodating more than 2,200 people in a Baroque, Mission Revival style setting. For many years, it was the largest theater in Texas and the second largest movie theater in the U.S. featuring world premieres of features like *The Texans* (1938) and *The Alamo* (2004). Built in 1929, it has hosted films and live entertainment since and now holds a seat on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places.





San Antonio Museum of Art (0.5 Miles)

Step back in time! SAMA houses the largest collection of ancient Egyptian, Greek, Roman and Asian Art in the southern United States. If you are looking for something indicative of the area, visit the collection of Latin American art. This grand museum boasts riverside grounds and a boutique café for a full day's itinerary.

The Alamo (0.6 Miles)

The Alamo, which is just a quick walk from the Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel, was originally the "Mission San Antonio de Valero." It is the site of the historic Battle of the Alamo of 1836. Today, more than 2.5 million people visit the Alamo complex, and its original buildings that remain, each year.

"Made in Texas" at the Institute of Texan Cultures (0.9 Miles)

From cowboy boots to salsa and Texas-shaped tortilla chips, this museum exhibits some of the Lone Star State's best-loved people, products and ideas. Did you know that Dr. Pepper comes from Texas, circa 1885? And the Fritos corn chip originates in San Antonio, 1932? All this and technical gadgets, famous inventors, space exploration, art and fashion are on display within walking distance of the Wyndham San Antonio Riverwalk Hotel.

Rivercenter Mall (1 Mile)

Check out this mall downtown, adjacent to the Riverwalk. With a variety of stores and restaurants to choose from, Rivercenter offers a perfect air-conditioned getaway for a few hours and even an entire day.

"Tribute Through The Years" Shirt Design



We are excited to offer the 2015 Commemorative Polo Shirt in the following color combinations:

White Shirt w/ Purple Embroidery

Purple Shirt w/ Silver Embroidery

Commemorative Polo Shirt Price: \$31.00/ea.

Polo Shirt comes with 2015 Convention logo embroidered on the breast.

For the first time, we are offering our special "Tribute Through the Years" Long Sleeve T-Shirt.

Our Tribute Shirt will be available in two options as follows:

Black Long-Sleeve with White Logo/Lettering

White Long-Sleeve with Purple Logo/Lettering

Tribute Long-Sleeve T-Shirt Price: \$25.00/ea.

Tribute Shirt comes with large 2015 Convention logo on the chest and the list of members' names on the back.

Our
President,
**Neil
Lantz**



Time for a Short Quiz



President: Babs Pleischl / Vice President:
Dot Matviya / 6047 Hollywood Boulevard /
Hollywood, California 90028

1. Who is the Fifth Freshman?
2. Who are the four guys below the banner?
3. Who are President Babs Pleischl and Vice President Dot Matviya?
4. Who encouraged the original Freshmen to play instruments while singing?

(continued on page 11)

Fresh News is published quarterly © 2014, all rights reserved, celebrating THE FOUR FRESHMEN, the best vocal/instrumental quartet in the world. Publication does not imply approval of FFS corporate directors or trustees. Each author is responsible for his/her article.

Deadlines for consideration of articles:

1. Jan/Feb/March - Dec 15
2. Apr/May/June - March 15
3. July/Aug/Sept - June 15
4. Oct/Nov/Dec - Sept 15

Submit manuscripts to the Editor:

Barb Meyers, bam2411@att.net
Cell 419-309-7855

The Four Freshmen...On the Road!

Check the Website: fourfreshmensociety.com or fourfreshmen.com for updates

For bookings: International Ventures Incorporated

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25115 Avenue Stanford, Suite A-102, Valencia, CA 91355

Phone: 661-259-4500 FAX: 661-259-1310

Email: info@ivimanagement.com

Please note: Dates subject to change without notice.

December 18, 2014

Tarpon Springs, FL

Tarpon Springs Performing Arts Center, Holiday Show!, 324 Pine St.

Showtime: 7:30p

Tickets: 727-942-5605

<http://tarponarts.org/>

December 31, 2014

Spring, TX

The Centrum, 6823 Cypreswood Dr.

Showtime: 8:00p

Tickets: 281-440-4850

<http://www.cypresscreekface.org/> <https://twitter.com/hashtag/thecentrum>

<https://www.facebook.com/hashtag/thecentrum>

February 8, 2015

Indio, CA

Private Engagement

February 10, 2015

Redondo Beach, CA

South Bay Community Concert Association, Redondo Union H.S. Auditorium
631 Vincent Park

Show Time: 7:30p

Tickets on sale after July 31

Information: 310-798-8679

<http://southbayconcerts.org/>

February 12, 2015

Newport Beach, CA

Live Recording! West Coast Jazz Party, Newport Beach Marriott Hotel
& Spa, 900 Newport Center Drive

Jazzline: 949-759-5003

Show Time: 7:30 PM

March 3, 2015

Surprise, AZ

Happy Trails RV and Golf Resort, 17200 West Bell Road

Show Time: 7:00p

Main phone #: 623-584-6645

http://htresort.com/happytrails/outside_home.asp

March 13 & 14, 2015

Brownville, NE

Brownville Concert Series, 60 Atlantic

Show Time: 7:30p

Tickets: 402-825-3331

www.brownvilleconcertseries.com/

March 15, 2015

Brownville, NE

Brownville Concert Series, 60 Atlantic

Show Time: 2:00p

Tickets: 402-825-3331

www.brownvilleconcertseries.com/

April 4 & 5, 2015

Las Vegas, NV

Suncoast Hotel & Casino, 9090 Alta Drive

Show Time: 7:30p

Box Office: 702-636-7111

www.suncoastcasino.com/

April 17, 2015

Houston, TX

Northwoods Presbyterian Church Concert Series,
3320 Cypress Creek Parkway (FM 1960)

Show Time: 8:00p

Tickets: 281-444-8861

<http://www.northwoods.org/>

April 24 2015

New Braunfels, TX

Brauntex Performing Arts Theatre, 290 West San Antonia Street

Show Time: 8:00p

Tickets: 830-627-0808

<http://www.brauntex.org/>

<https://twitter.com/BrauntexTheatre>

<https://www.facebook.com/brauntextheatre?ref=ts>

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Joel Rothman 949-759-5003
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John Wieck 850-974-0142

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Email: yasichiura@mac.com

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FFS New Member/or Renewal Form

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New Member Fee: \$32 Single or Couple (worldwide)

All Renewals: One Year \$22

Two or more years \$17 each year

FFS dues are not tax deductible.

Please mail form and correct fee to:

Chaz Cone

FFS Membership Dept.

6900 Hunters Knoll NE

ATLANTA GA 30328-1763

Or online at www.fourfreshmensociety.com/dues

New Members

Jim Blucker, Kewanee, IL
Walter & Diane Brown, Bluffton, SC
Catherine Campbell, The Villages, FL
Al & Sharron Mahan, Sarasota, FL
Mr. Shuichi Ohno, Tokyo
Gerald & Rosalie Osterberg,
Garden City, NY
Jane Redwine, Carrollton, GA
Nicola & Kelly Schirosa, Tampa, FL

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Michael & Marilyn Schwartzkopf,
Bluffton, SC
Michael Shaffer, Dayton, OH
Milton & Linda Steck, Vacaville, CA
Helmut Winkler, Gwatt
Hideki Yamanaka, Japan
Kelly & Laura Zarvas, Cocoa Beach, FL

Contributors

Tony Leone, Washington, PA

The Four Freshmen Society Inc.

Item	Cost	QTY	Total
5 Saxes/5 Guitars	\$ 15.00		
5 Trombones/5 Trumpets	\$ 15.00		
50 Years Fresh	\$ 15.00		
Blue World	\$ 15.00		
Capital Collector	\$ 15.00		
Culmination - Greg Stegemann (*)	\$ 15.00		
Faux Freshmen - Scratchin' the Surface	\$ 10.00		
Faux Freshmen - Season of the Heart	\$ 10.00		
Faux Freshmen - Unsung	\$ 15.00		
Fresh	\$ 15.00		
Freshmas	\$ 15.00		
Freshmen Year/Voices in Latin	\$ 15.00		
Golden Anniversary	\$ 15.00		
Graduation Day	\$ 15.00		
Graduation Day - Double CD	\$ 15.00		
In Session	\$ 15.00		
Jazz Factory	\$ 15.00		
Ken Albers Arrangements	\$ 28.00		
Live at Butler	\$ 15.00		
Live at Clearwater	\$ 15.00		
Live at Penn State (*)	\$ 15.00		
Live at the Franklin	\$ 20.00		
Live from Vegas CD	\$ 15.00		
Live from Vegas DVD	\$ 20.00		
Live from Vegas (DVD & CD)	\$ 30.00		
Live in Holland	\$ 15.00		
Live in the New Millenium	\$ 15.00		
Live Trombones	\$ 15.00		
Lost Soul - Curtis Calderon	\$ 15.00		
Love Songs	\$ 20.00		
More 5 Trombones/In Person Vol. 2	\$ 15.00		
"Now You Know" (Book)	\$ 100.00		
"Now You Know" (Book - Overseas Order)	\$ 120.00		
Remembering Ken (*)	\$ 15.00		
Return to Romance/Live in Manchester (*)	\$ 15.00		
Road Shows	\$ 15.00		
Road to Portsmouth (*)	\$ 15.00		
Snowfall	\$ 15.00		
Star Spangled Banner - Single CD	\$ 5.00		
Star Spangled Banner - Five Pack	\$ 20.00		
Still Fresh	\$ 15.00		
The Liberty Years	\$ 15.00		
Through the Years (*)	\$ 15.00		
Voices in Brass/In Person Vol. 1	\$ 15.00		
Voices in Standards	\$ 15.00		
Voices in Modern/Funny How Time Slips Away	\$ 15.00		

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or 888-448-7429

or

4) email: johnejazz@sc.rr.com

Make check payable to:
The Four Freshmen Society, Inc.

(*) Available to Members Only

Subtotal

Credit Card Surcharge

\$ 1.00

Total

We are adding the "Four Freshmen Vocal Arrangements" book that we "sold" at the last convention. The white book is complete and has 60 arrangements (we have about 20 copies). The blue book is only volume one and has 36 arrangements (we only have 3 of these). We aren't actually selling them due to copyright concerns. They are available for FREE but there's a \$20 shipping and handling charge for the white book and \$15 for the blue book.

Excerpts from Torii Cant's
THE DH
 An anti-Designated Hitter novel
 loosely based on the 1965 MLB
 season

Available at Amazon.com

Paul Daniggelis, FFS El Paso, Texas

Torii called Felina the next Sunday. They agreed that he would pick her up at her place on Monday at 2:15 for a 3:15 movie. He was chomping on the bit and got there early. He heard some music as he knocked on the door. He recognized the singers as the "Four Freshmen" but the song was not familiar. The door opened and he was greeted with, "The early bird gets the worm, or what?"

"Hi. Yeah, I guess I'm a little early; got nervous hanging around the apartment.

"Well, you better come in then."

"Are you a Four Freshmen fan?" Torii asked.

"Yes, and you?"

"Yeah, I like them fine. They were all over the Arizona State campus when I was there."

"Same at New Mexico State."

"Penino mentioned you were from El Paso but he didn't say that you went to NMSU. That's a good school for golf."

"You'll get no argument from me. I loved it there."

"That's not a radio I hear, is it?"

"No, that's the new Freshmen album. I just got it."

"Are you a collector?"

"Yes, I have all their albums except the Tokyo. My dad took me to see them at the Café Charmont in Juarez, Mexico when I was eleven or twelve [1955]. Ross Barbour even came to our table to chat between sets. What a wonderful sound don't you think?"

"You even know the names of these guys?"

"Of course."

"Well, I don't know the song they were singing when I came in. What was it?"

"That was *Nancy with the Laughing Face*. It was written for Frank Sinatra about Frank's daughter Nancy. It's a real cute song, don't you think?"

"Sounded good to me," Torii said.

"You'll never guess who wrote it."

"Who would that be?"

"Phil Silvers."

"You mean the Sergeant Bilko, Silvers?"

"That's the guy."

"No kidding; how about that. Hey, check the time. Better call a cab."

That evening, the quartet got together for some home cooked spaghetti and beer at Felina's place. She was quite pleased, and showed it, when Torii requested the Four Freshmen for a musical interlude. After that, try as they might to avoid it, baseball intruded on the conversation.

PROFILE IN COURAGE: JACK HUBBARD

by Bob Ferreira

Many of you may not know that one of my great interests outside of music is history, particularly, the history of World War II. The many trials and tribulations set upon the world by despotic leaders brought out the worst and the best in people around the globe.

Along with the great horrors of war also came renewed hope; the spawning of great innovations; new ideals; as well as to introduce us to "The Greatest Generation." I am referring to the brave men and women in our armed forces as well as those who contributed immensely to the war effort in a civilian capacity all towards the common goals of victory and peace.

For some time now I have had the privilege to know one of these brave souls. He is Jack Hubbard, Major, USAF (Ret.). I became fascinated with Jack's story back in 2012 when I received an article on Major Hubbard regarding an honor being bestowed upon him by the French government for his contributions in World War II in the liberation of France. Major Hubbard (then 90) was designated a Knight in the Order in the Legion of Honor from the French Consul General and a Rear Admiral of the French Navy. In reading the article I was acquainted with Jack's background and became more intrigued on what led him on his path to patriotism and this long overdue accolade.

I contacted Jack and was greeted by a jubilant voice on the other end of the phone; sounding all but half of his ninety years. We discussed many topics including his love of music and, of course, The Four Freshmen. It was then that Jack told me about a book he wrote on his experiences in growing up during the Great Depression and his odyssey to find his own path in contributing to the war effort. The book is called *Patriots Will* (Pub. Authorhouse- 2002).

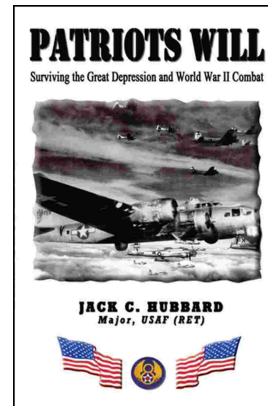
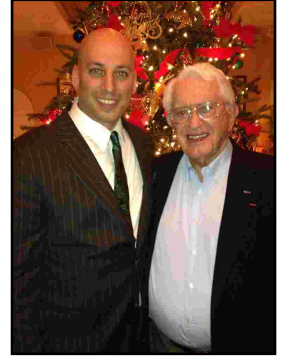
From his early years growing up in South Carolina and his multiple solo cross country treks to his years in the Canadian and US militaries, Jack ably transports the reader to his side during his many adventures. I was amazed and inspired by how one

so much adversity and and convictions to serving his country in a patriotism. After serving Army and several months finally transferred to the on B-17 bombers for the where he ultimately flew

The brightness that of humility and pure joy more inspiring aspects of and his lovely wife Karen of the Four Freshmen.

Tampa Convention.

An autographed copy of Jack's book *Patriots Will* can be purchased from directly from Jack. Write to him at jhubbard121@gmail.com.



young man could overcome remain stead-fast in his faith achieve his ultimate goal of fashion befitting his two years in the Canadian as a US Army MP, Jack was 306th Bomber Group flying renowned 8th Air Force 24 successful missions. exudes from Jack is one of life which is one of the both man and story. Jack have been long time fans They recently attended the

We love the Conventions!

John and Willie Canham, FFS Ontario, Canada

My wife and I attended our first Convention in Indianapolis in 2008 and we have not missed one since then. I was encouraged to go to Indianapolis by a friend in Toronto, Canada. That friend is Rod West, a superb trumpet player, and I am truly indebted to him for recommending that I attend one of the conventions.

Besides the wonderful performances of the Four Freshmen, whether it be with a Big Band or self-contained, we have never been disappointed. We tell all our friends that seeing the Four Freshmen perform is 10 times better than just hearing them perform.

A huge plus has been the new friendships that we have made by attending these conventions. The comradery and hospitality that we have enjoyed with our new international and American friends is truly amazing. I hope that these friendships, based on our shared love of the music, will endure over time and that we will continue to enjoy together that special Four Freshmen sound for many years.

We are extremely grateful to all the dedicated people who have volunteered their time and energy to host the Convention in their city. It is a huge responsibility and every year it is all made to look so easy.

The enjoyment of the Four Freshmen music transcends all political and other differences that we may have. We come for the music and, with increasing importance, the friendships that we are continually renewing with every convention. See you in San Antonio.

Long live the Four Freshmen sound!

As Editor I am not responsible for the accuracy of an article. However I do have to correct an article in the last "FreshNews" People were put in the wrong family. This is the correction: "Nancy Lewis is Sue Barbour's Niece and Marty Bentley is Ray Brown's Sister."

Barbara Meyers, Editor

A Great Sunday Afternoon With The Four Freshmen

Barbara Meyers, FFS Ohio

I would spend every Sunday afternoon like this if I could. We drove three hours there and three hours back, and I might add going home was in heavy rain all the way. Would I do this again? Yes!

The Guys performed with the Middletown Symphony Orchestra. What a great orchestra. You usually don't see orchestra's this great in small towns.



Their director I am sure has a lot to do with it. His name is Carmen DeLeone. The overture was *Artistry in Rhythm*, which pleased all of us Freshmen Fans. He explained why he started with this connecting the dots between the Four Freshmen and Stan Kenton. The conductor even had the pleasure of meeting Stan Kenton and talking to him on several occasions.

Brian, Bob, Curtis and Stein were in top form. They performed some songs self-contained. However, most of them with the orchestra while blending in their instruments as well.

They performed a lot of the old standbys. One surprise was Brian singing, *If I only had a Brain* with the orchestra.

And if this wasn't enough, Curtis introduced Lauren Lewis, the great-niece of Ross and Sue. He asked if she would like to say something she shook her head no. Then he said sitting next to her is her boyfriend, Ben. He asked Ben if he would like to say something. Ben said yes and pulled Lauren up front, got down on one knee and proposed. Of course he got a YES. Now how many times does this happen at a Four Freshmen concert?



Afterwards, in the lobby they had a reception with lots of good food and beverages for anyone who wanted to stay and schmooz with the Guys. The conductor even came out and enjoyed the fun. They all loved the Four Freshmen so much that we sold lots of CD's and had many people interested in the Society. I hope that pays off. Sarah Lou and Neil Lantz along with Mel and I sold CD's. We were very busy!

I would like to say thanks to all the people of the Dave Finkelman Auditorium, the sponsors and the orchestra for such a wonderful Sunday afternoon.

TAMPA TO SAN ANTONIO

by Gil Peterson

First, I think that all of our society members who attended the Tampa convention should put our hands together for a huge round of applause to Bob and Candi Sehrheinrich. They were faced with some unique and difficult problems that no one has had to deal with before. With their tenacious spirit and sincere dedication they were able to overcome each of the obstacles they faced and from opening to closing the convention rolled along like a well oiled machine.

The Thursday night jam session was very well organized and entertaining. The multi talented Dr. Rod Henley acted as the MC and kept every thing moving along smoothly. Thanks Dr. Henley, you are the best. A number of very talented society members performed for us with there talent and style.

One of the highlights of the evening was the performance of Bill Comstock with the able accompaniment of Dave Bentley. Memories like that will linger with you for a lifetime. Thanks Bill and Dave.

The Dan McMillion Big band added a very special touch to the Friday evening concert. If you close your eyes and let your mind wander back in the past, you might think you were once again hearing the visionary sounds of the fabulous Stan Kenton orchestra. It just doesn't get much better than that. The band also did a great job of backing the Freshmen Friday evening.

Group 23 was right on top of their game both Friday and Saturday evenings. I have thought about it a lot through the years, but have never really come up with an answer to what it is that has drawn us all to that magical sound that only the Freshmen have. Many groups have attempted to emulate them, but none have succeeded. I guess I will never know for sure, but I do know it will always be there. Once again Bob and Candi, thank you and your committee for a wonderful convention.

Now, as most of you know, the 2015 FFS convention will be held in San Antonio. We are very fortunate to have Geoff Comstock and Sarah Notzon to have taken on the responsibility of producing the convention. These are two very creative and bright young individuals who have some real surprises in mind for the convention. I know a few things that they have in mind, but I have been sworn to secrecy. Therefore, you will have to attend to find out.

As many of you know, San Antonio is well known as a tourist destination City. There is so much history surrounding the area. Also, it is a city that is served by most major airlines as well as other forms of transportation. Another plus is the fact that it happens to be the hometown of both Bill Comstock and Curtis Caldaron. When you add all of these things up, you will have to agree that this is one convention you definitely do not want to miss. I strongly suggest that you get your registrations in early to make sure you get the table you would like.

I will look forward to seeing you in San Antonio. It is going to be a blockbuster! Trust me!

Time for a Short Quiz

(continued from page 6.)

The answer to question #1 came from Ross Barbour in a 1971 newsletter called *The Fifth Freshman*. Ross wrote: "We have been issuing this newsletter for a long time, but most of you have joined us along the way and I've never explained the history of this 'Paltry Periodical.' In the beginning it was our way of keeping 'in touch' with relatives and close friends who had become too numerous to send separate letters. That was in 1958. Since then it has grown to 3,000 people who have nothing in common except they are un-common—'Freshman Fans.' We are the four who travel and each reader is the 5th who cares.

Most of the '5ths' are in North America, but we have people in iron curtain countries, Asia, Europe—just about any place you can think of we have a '5th Freshman' there.

We try to tell what's gone on and what's coming up, so if we've just done the first one-niter on the Moon, caught a pie in the face on T.V., planned a new album, or added amplified slide-whistles to the act, our readers know.

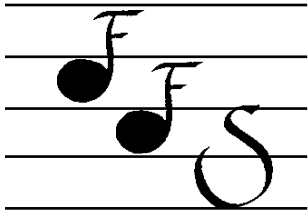
We've noticed that some people use our itinerary as a good excuse to leave the kids with a 'sitter' and bring 'mama' on a second honeymoon for a few days—to hold hands while the 'Freshmen' sing, and sleep late the next morning. They say it works wonders.

The answer to question #2 is easy. The four smiling faces are Ross, Ken Albers, Bob Flanigan, and Bill Comstock. In the pre-Four Freshmen Society era, their newsletter was actually called THE FIFTH FRESHMAN and their faces appeared in each mimeographed issue below the banner.

The answer to question #3 may or may not come as a surprise to many of you. Babs Pleischl and Dot Matviya were the prime movers of the first Freshman fan club, called the "Freshies." Babs and Dot have remained active in the nearly thirty years of the Four Freshmen Society and now hold the title of FFS Corporate Board of Directors Emeriti. I'm sure you know them as Babs Frederich and Dot Lydic. Check out their 1961 photo with the Freshmen on page 186 of the beautiful coffee table special edition of Ross Barbour's book "Now You Know the Story of the Four Freshmen," currently available in the Music Mart (pardon my shameless plug!).

Dick Sheldon is the answer to question #4. He was the first agent to represent the original Freshmen and the one to suggest that the guys play and sing at the same time. In a 1964 FIFTH FRESHMAN newsletter, Ross explained, "September 20, 1948, we opened at the '113 Club' in Fort Wayne, Indiana—our first professional job. We lasted a week and then went back into rehearsal. That first week we would play a song, and then we'd sing a song. Our booking agent heard us there, and urged us to play while we sang. 'If you can do that,' he said, 'I'll have you working some of the best night clubs in the middle west.' That was the goal he set for us...so we rehearsed. It's strange about 'goals'...before you reach one, you find you're reaching for a higher one."

How did you score? Did the answers bring back fond memories for many of you? I hope so, and I'm thankful that the 66 years of our favorite musical group has afforded us the opportunity to recall many of those memories, with more to come in the years ahead. Be sure to see the current guys whenever you can...they're holding the banner high.



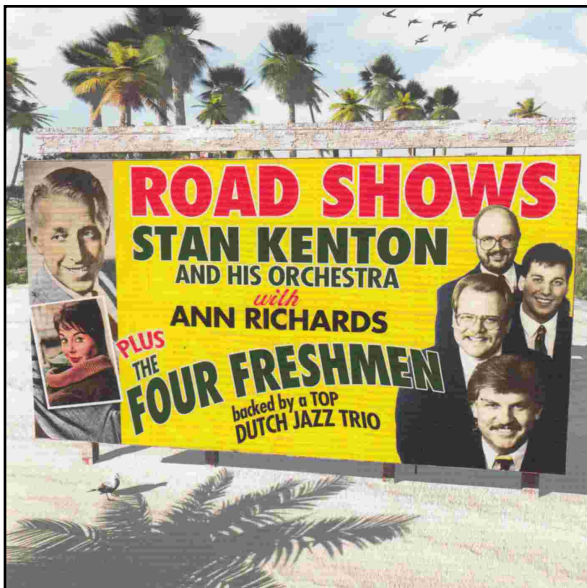
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