

# Four Freshmen Society 2023 Convention September 21-23, 2023, Fort Wayne, Indiana

# Welcome to Fort Wayne!

From Marlene Lobsiger and Dave Blackwell



Dear Four Freshmen Society Members,

As Co-chairpersons of the 2023 Four Freshmen Society Convention, we can hardly wait to welcome you to Fort Wayne, Indiana and “Back to the 113 Club.” We are going to have a great time celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Four Freshmen and the 34th year of the Four Freshmen Society right here in our city.

The Hilton Hotel has graciously extended their low room rates three days before and three days after the convention date. A free shuttle is available from the airport to the hotel. You may call the Hilton Hotel 260/422-4002 and advise them of the arrival time of your flight. This will give you a shorter wait time for the shuttle.

Parking in the city parking garage is free; however the Hilton confirmation system will always show a parking fee on your bill. When you check in be sure to ask the desk clerk to remove the fee.

Dan de la Torre has designed a great logo for the 75th Anniversary Commemorative shirt. The shirt is a collared shirt in black and available in both ladies’ and men’s sizes.

“Fresh Memories” was a winner last year and once again we will meet to share and enjoy memories of the past. Current and former Four Freshmen and others, along with members from the Ross Barbour family will share their memories from 1948 to the present.

Members from our Fort Wayne committee will be on tap to greet you in the 113 Club. The Wannabees will meet both Thursday and Friday afternoon. We will be singing those great tunes that have been sung and performed by the Four Freshmen for the past 75 years.

Thursday evening, opening night of the convention is the traditional Jam Session anchored by Dave Blackwell and The Jim Steele Trio where Fresh Fans and Four Freshmen alumni can sit in with their instruments or voices. The Jam Session is a great evening of fun and always brings some surprises. We encourage all musicians to sign up and be a part of this great, but casual opening night.

Friday morning both tours will leave the hotel at 9:30. A box lunch will be included with each tour.

Friday will be a very special night of celebration, taking us back to memories and memorabilia of the 113 Club, Fort Wayne, Indiana. The theme “Celebrating 75 Years” will open with dinner music by Jim Steele, local outstanding jazz pianist. The fabulous Four Freshmen will close out the evening’s celebration followed by an “Afterglow” where you can meet and greet The Four Freshmen in the Hilton Hotel lobby.

Saturday morning there will be a Four Freshmen Society General Meeting. All members are encouraged to attend this very important meeting. Please check the schedule for the time.

Saturday night we will enjoy dinner music by Jim Steele jazz pianist. Following dinner we will have the pleasure of hearing another great concert by The Four Freshmen.

Fort Wayne known as “the city of churches” has much to offer its visitors. Some of the highlights of our beautiful downtown are great restaurants, unique boutique shops, the Allen County Library with the second largest genealogy center in the U. S., the beautiful Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, TinCaps Minor League baseball field, Embassy Theatre, Botanical Gardens, Fort Wayne Art Museum, the Allen County Courthouse with its magnificent mural paintings, Freimann Square and its beautiful flowers and fountains. One of the highlights of your visit that you will not want to miss is a visit to Fort Wayne’s newest and most beautiful Promenade Park, located along the river with swings for adults, a covered pavilion, kayaking, walking trails, outstanding play areas for children with many other interesting things to do. Fort Wayne is also home to one of the top ten best Children’s Zoo in the US. If you like to shop, it is only a 15 minute ride to the state-of-the-art Jefferson Pointe outdoor shopping mall including many places to dine. A 28 minute drive from the hotel will take you to Auburn, Indiana where you can visit the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum, a National Historic Landmark Exhibit of 120 cars on 3 floors. The famous Auburn Cord Duesenberg Festival and Car Auction over Labor Day weekend brings thousands from all over the world into the area every year.