

# COME JOIN THE PARTY IN OSHKOSH May 21!

by Mike McCoy, FFS Wisconsin Rep.

We're making it an event when the Four Freshmen perform in Oshkosh, Wis., May 21, returning to the state to entertain us for the first time in over two years.

I've just visited the city and, with the help of John Bangs of Oshkosh and Wayne Corey of Madison, have picked the Pioneer Resort & Marina as the place for fans to stay, if they wish. That's also where fans can meet for a pre-show dinner as we overlook Lake Winnebago at sunset and then gather for the post-show Afterglow in the same room.

All Society events in Oshkosh are open to both Society members and non-members.

The concert location will be the restored 1883 Victorian theater known as the Grand Opera House (100 High Street in downtown Oshkosh), about a four-block stroll from the Pioneer and just over the Fox River. But there's also parking near the Opera House for those who prefer to drive the distance.

Many fans already are familiar with the area because it has been the site of four Four Freshmen reunions/Four Freshmen Society conventions over the years, starting in 1987. Others followed in 1991, 1994 and 1999. The convention concerts twice have been held in the Opera House.

## SHOW TICKETS

Tickets for the 7:30 p.m. Friday show range from \$17.50 (gallery) to \$24.50 (premium). Other options are \$21.50 (Circle, box seats) and \$19.50 (balcony). You can order tickets online by going to

<http://www.grandoperahouse.org/tickets/tickets.html>

For a seating chart, go to

<http://www.grandoperahouse.org/tickets/chart.html>

You also can contact the Opera House at 920-424-2350 (voice) or 920-424-2357 (fax). Hours are 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, and one hour prior to event time.

The Box Office accepts cash, check, MasterCard and Visa. Telephone, fax and online reservations must be paid for with a credit card at time of purchase.

For most events (excluding special events), discounts are available for groups of 10 or more when no other discounts apply. Patrons 62 years of age and older are eligible for a 10% discount to 2003-04 season events (excluding special events) when no other discounts apply.

For more information on the show itself, go to

<http://www.grandoperahouse.org/events/tas/20-freshmen.html>

## LODGING

For those staying overnight (or longer), we've confirmed a room rate of \$89 for those mentioning "Four Freshmen" when registering. (Normal rates are \$99 to \$169.) That rate is good for the weekend, as well, if you choose to stay over.

The facility has 192 sleeping rooms and suites with a great view, indoor and outdoor pools, a whirlpool, a game room, an exercise room, two restaurants and a waterfront Tiki Bar.

To make a reservation at the Pioneer Resort & Marina, reserve online at: <http://www.pioneerresort.com/reservations.html>

or call toll free at 800-683-1980 (or 920-233-1980) or fax 920-426-2115.

If you plan to stay for the weekend, you might want to check out the hotel's special room rate offers at

<http://www.pioneerresort.com/getaways.html>

## PRE-SHOW AND POST-SHOW FUN

We'll gather in the Cattails Food & Spirits in the hotel starting around 4:30, then at 5 p.m. we'll move to our tables immediately in front of the large stone fireplace and by the windows overlooking the pool and Lake Winnebago. A casual menu is available; for the menu go to: <http://www.pioneerresort.com/cattails-menu.html>

If you prefer eating in the formal dining room, The Bellevue, it is just a few steps away. Check out its menu at

<http://www.pioneerresort.com/the-bellevue-menu.html>

After the show, we'll return to Cattails for the Afterglow and the end to a perfect evening.

## OTHER THINGS TO DO

Be sure to allow time for other things to do while you're in the area. For some ideas, go to

<http://www.pioneerresort.com/thingstodo.html>

Some options:

Take a cruise on board the Pioneer Princess luxury yacht. The 49-passenger boat cruises the waters of Lake Winnebago and the Fox River from April through October.

The following require local transportation:

- The Experimental Aircraft Association. The EAA convention draws about 800,000 people from around the world there for one week every July. The museum houses over 20,000 historic aviation artifacts, along with fascinating exhibits. It's also home to the Ducks Unlimited Great Outdoors Festival. The AirVenture museum is open year around.

- Prime Outlets Mall featuring the Oshkosh B'Gosh Outlet, along with 50 other stores

- Paine Art Center & Gardens

For other ideas, visit <http://www.oshkoshevents.com>

## IF YOU'RE COMING...

If you're coming to the concert, please be sure to look for me in the lobby before and after the show, and during intermission, and say hello.

If you plan to stay at the hotel and/or join us for dinner in Cattails, please let me have your name, hometown, and the number in your party by May 19. This will help ensure we have enough space together at Cattails. (But if you arrive unannounced, you're still welcome to join us.)

Contact me at [ffswisconsin@hotmail.com](mailto:ffswisconsin@hotmail.com), One Hiawatha Circle, Madison, WI 53711 or 608-274-1638.

I also encourage you to periodically check for any concert updates between now and the show at the Four Freshmen Society Wisconsin Web site at: <http://communities.madison.com/4fresh>