



Wedding Bells! Greg Stegeman

Way back when, I was a music major at Cal-State, Hayward (near Oakland) and putting together a big band arrangement of "Bluesette" written by the great Belgian harmonica and guitar player, Toots Thielmans, that would feature a vocal in front of the band. A pretty young violinist and vocalist by the name of Johanna Wingert heard of the idea and suggested we sing it together sort of like Jackie and Roy might do. The chart and the concert went well and over the years we would occasionally catch up with each other's lives. "JoJo" came to see me with the Freshmen a few times during the '90's, and when I got off the road in 2001 she helped me put together a Curriculum Vitae (expanded resume) with the idea of securing a teaching position at the university level. Johanna has been a grants coordinator for the education department at USC for 11 years and was well qualified to compose my "CV." She was also still busy as a musician, conducting her church choir at North Glendale United Methodist Church and gigging on the side as a singer and violinist. She had played as a teenager with the Oakland Youth Symphony (one of the best in the country) and even performed at the Monterey Jazz Festival behind jazz icons Bill Evans, Cannonball Adderly, and the Modern Jazz Quartet at the age of 16!

Last December JoJo invited me to visit her at her home in Burbank, CA (where they broadcast "The Tonight Show") and over the period of a couple of weeks, we rekindled our friendship which quickly escalated to a romance. We have so much in common as well as a deep admiration and respect that we both knew that we had found a lasting partnership. We are very excited to announce our wedding at Johanna's church in Glendale on March 20th, appropriately the First Day of Spring. Ross and Sue Barbour will be among the guests, but unfortunately the current Freshmen will be in Florida. I'm composing original music for the occasion that will feature 3 trumpets, tenor sax, trombone, piano, guitar, bass & drums and we plan to have a very festive party at our home in Burbank following the service. I'm telling all of you this, dear friends, so that you won't be shocked when I introduce my new bride at this year's convention in Grand Rapids! Looking forward to seeing you all again and hearing the great new group.....

FN April, May, June 2004

A Gorgeous New Freshfan!



My name is Cynthia Solheim Albers and I enjoyed The Four Freshmen on January 13th in Grand Junction, Colorado. Some of you may know my father, Robert (Bob) Solheim, because he has been so involved in the Four Freshmen Society. I am a third generation Freshmen fan and just wanted to express my appreciation for the band and wondered why no one else in my age bracket (20-35) attended the show.

I think that somehow we need to turn on my generation so that their music can live on and on. Maybe getting them on Craig Kilborne or David Letterman or Jay Leno might be a good start. I think that The Four Freshmen is a timeless band and I wish them the best. I will always go to their concerts, hopefully bringing a few friends with me to expose them to such a wonderful band. Thanks Four Freshmen!

VINCE JOHNSON AND HIS PUCCOLO

by Jack Morrison

Next to Vince's credits, on future recordings, it might be appropriate to add Puccolo along with bass and trombone. Vince is fast becoming one of the best puccolists around. This term is a hybrid of piccolo and pucker. A simple way of putting it is "someone who whistles."

When people think of whistlers, Elmo Tanner comes to mind. He was with the Ted Weems Orchestra in the 30/40's and had a million selling record of *Heartaches*. In more recent times, 60-80's era, Ron McCroby has made a successful career as a pucollist (even recording with many big bands and jazz artists of our times).

Vince does amazing things with his chops and can be heard on more and more songs in their concerts.