

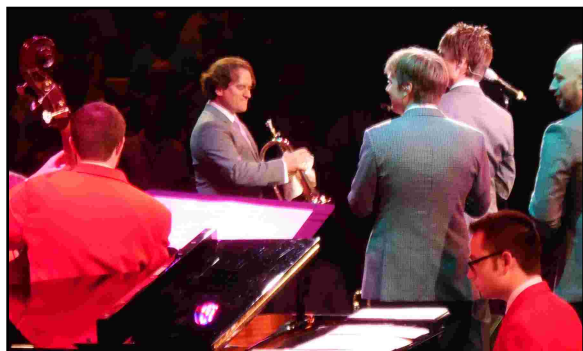
# Bach and Other

Mel Meyers, FFS Toledo, OH

This past Labor Day weekend Barbara and I spent time at the Detroit Jazz Festival. For us the main attractions were the Four Freshmen and the Toledo Jazz Orchestra. When you put these two groups together, add the link of reverence to Stan Kenton and his history with the Four Freshmen and terrific charts, you get excitement unheard of.

Barb and I had the pleasure of joining these two organizations on one stage at the 2011 FFS Convention in Toledo for the first time. The Detroit Jazz Festival reprised that particular show on a Saturday afternoon. While there we talked with guy who performed bass in his lifetime in Wisconsin. We chatted as I tried to sell CD's and ultimately he said that he knows a "one line" that sums up the Four Freshmen performance and that was, "There are two types of music, "Bach" and "other!" These Guys are "Bach!" We were swamped at the CD table.

Fast forward into the January show with the Glen Miller Orchestra at Busch Garden in Florida. While our seats clearly displayed their backsides because the "joint was loaded." We anxiously awaited what the sound would be .....EVEN BETTER! You really should check their schedule in the *FreshNews* and check them out. Of course the FFS Music Mart has their CD - *Live At The Franklin Theatre*.



The Four Freshmen with their backs to us during the Busch Gardens concert.

# A Valentine's Day Present: The Four Freshmen

by Tom Purvis, FFS Ohio

I received a phone call yesterday from John Bangs. John is doing OK but struggles with Parkinson's and the restricted activities related. On Valentine's Day his daughter drove him to see the Four Freshmen in Wisconsin Rapids, an hour or so from his home. There was a good crowd, mostly filling the 600 seats despite the "crappy" weather.

John said, "I was very favorably impressed with the change in personnel and musical parts. The group's sound is now a bit stronger and Brian and Stein played off each other very well."

John was pleased that the guys came out after the show to meet with the fans, sign CD's etc. They were very sociable.

Those who know John say historically he has often been a critic, so Group 23 must have really put on a good show to get this kind review.



## What's Their Number?

How many Group Numbers can you get correct.

