

2016 FFS Convention Schedule Louisville, Kentucky

as of 11/14/2015

Thursday, August 25

- 8:00am-4:00pm Registration
- 9:00am-4:00pm 113 Club
- 2:30pm-4:00pm Wannabees
- 3:00pm-4:30pm FFS Board of Directors Meeting
- 5:00pm-6:30pm FF Music Foundation Reception
- 7:00pm-10:30pm .. Jam Session

Friday, August 26

- 7:30am-noon Churchill Downs Tour with breakfast
- 9:00am-4:00pm Registration
- 9:00am-4:00pm 113 Club
- 11:30am-2:00pm .. *Belle of Louisville* River Cruise with lunch
- 2:00pm-4:00pm Hatitude
- 2:30pm-4:00pm Wannabees
- 5:30pm-6:30pm Meet and Greet
- 6:30pm-11:00pm .. Dinner and Concert Afterglow Photo Ops

Saturday, August 27

- 9:00am-noon Registration
- 9:00am-4:00pm 113 Club
- 9:00am-10:00am .. State Reps Meeting
- 10:00am-11:00am General Meeting
- 1:00pm-2:15pm Fresh Memories
- 2:30pm-4:00pm Wannabees
- 5:30pm-6:30pm Meet and Greet
- 6:30pm-11:00pm .. Dinner and Concert

Albert Lea, Minnesota

Don Follett, FFS Minnesota

Two hundred yards away the green John Deere tractor- cornpicker was making big noise putting away the seasonal harvest in the wagon box. Inside the high school, your favorite quartet was sending out its own beat — songs by the Four Freshmen in rural Albert Lea, Minnesota, on a mild Sunday afternoon. The group was one week out from the San Antonio FFS reunion, and launching the front end of extended set of one-day gigs across the state and Midwest.

Tall corn and bountiful harvests, that's the way it is each fall in fertile Freeborn County. Inside, a state-of-the-art auditorium, the Four Freshmen gig was sponsored for the city's Civic Music Association, an organization starting its 71st year; almost as long as the Four Freshmen's nearly 68-year tenure, drummer Bob Ferreria pointed out from stage. The group had steamed in from Beaver Dam, WI, 275 miles away, and a sellout the day before.

The Four Freshmen kicked off a seven week run in Minnesota and the midwest and were set for about 25 shows , mostly in small towns in Illinois, Tennessee — rural heartland America all.

In the case of Albert Lea, a city of 18,000, a crowd of 400 plus welcomed the group with hearty applause topping it off with two standing O's at the end. The Frosh mixed in several numbers from their new "Freshmen and Friends" CD, while making sure the tunes that made them the country's best a half century ago were also included.

They concluded the concert with *Over the Rainbow*, just the third time in a show for the current group, Bob said, and the much acclaimed evergreen drew the heaviest applause of the day.

After the concert we quizzed the group: "Are you ready for the next two months' grind?" Curtis, Tom, Stein and Bob gave thumbs up. The small town schedule is not unlike trips the Four Freshmen (Flanigan, Albers, Comstock and Barbour) made in the early 1970s, navigating the heartland inside an RV, with instruments tucked inside. At the time, it kept the group working, even if it meant some sore throats and icy highways. This series was booked through Allied Concert Series, long time agents for music associations in many cities and states in the upper Midwest, bringing audiences the likes of Doc Severson, the Limelites, the Diamonds, and other established favorites.

Paul and Dorothy Pierson, veteran FFS members and Albert Lea dwellers, were at the concert and couldn't recall the Four Freshmen ever singing in Albert Lea. They were loyal followers of the group when they appeared in the many nearby towns. So onward, Albert Lea, get that Freshmen feeling.

Songs at Albert Lea

1. *Day In, Day Out*
2. *Poinciana*
3. *Now You Know*
4. *Pick Up Your Tears And Go Home*
5. *In This Whole Wide World*
6. *Angel Eyes*
7. *You Stepped Out of a Dream*
8. *Social Call*
9. *Give Me the Simple Life*
10. *There Will Never Be Another You*
11. *Nancy*
12. *Rain*
13. *Fools Rush In*
14. *Just a Gigolo* -
Bob singing/acting
Curtis on trumpet

Second half

1. *Stompin' at the Savoy* -
two mikes
2. *Girl from Ipanema* -
sung in Portuguese
3. *Central Park West*
4. *So Danco Samba*
5. *Graduation Day* (censored)
6. *Here's That Rainy Day* -
new arrangement
7. *Moonglow* - swing music
8. *Come Fly with Me* - jammin
drums/trumpet
9. *Day by Day*
10. *It's a Blue World*
11. *Route 66* - standing O
12. *Over the Rainbow* - acapella;
standing O; only 3rd time in
show; two guitars in spots