

# Fresh News

Volume 30, No.2

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2016



# Our President, **Neil Lantz**



## Remembering Bob, Ross, Bobby & Blue II

Looking ahead to the 2016 Convention in Louisville triggers my memory of so many enjoyable experiences following the Freshmen over the years, their wonderful music, their personalities, and their continuing warm relationship with their loyal fan base in the Society.

For me, aside from dozens of wonderful concerts over the past fifty years, a very special memory dates back to May of 2008 when Ross Barbour and Bob Flanigan were awarded honorary doctoral



degrees by Bobby Fong (yes, real name Bobby), the 20th President of Butler University. On that occasion, Butler's institutional pride in two of its former students came through loud and clear as the University recognized Ross and Bob who were students at Butler's Jordan Conservatory of Music in 1948, together with Don Barbour and Hal Kratzsch, where the Freshmen sound began. For Bob and Ross, along with those of us who worked to make this happen and were proud to represent the Society, it was certainly a memorable occasion.

The festivities began on Friday night, May 9, at a dinner held at President Fong's campus home in honor of Ross, Bob, and Dr. Susan Soloman, world leader in the field of atmospheric science and co-recipient of the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize, who also was to receive an honorary doctorate. It was a wonderful evening, highlighted by Ross singing his parody of Back Home Again in Indiana:

"Back Home again in Indiana, I went away to seek my fortune, and I smile 'cause I'll enjoy toured this earth from Perth to Nome.

(continued on page 11)

## The Four Freshmen...On the Road!

Check the Website: [fourfreshmensociety.com](http://fourfreshmensociety.com) or [fourfreshmen.com](http://fourfreshmen.com) for updates

For bookings: International Ventures Incorporated

Dale Sheets & Dina Sheets-Roth

25115 Avenue Stanford, Suite A-102, Valencia, CA 91355

Phone: 661-259-4500 FAX: 661-259-1310

Email: [info@ivimanagement.com](mailto:info@ivimanagement.com)

Please note: Dates subject to change without notice.

### April 10, 2016

Kenneth J. Minnaert Center for the Arts, 2011 Mottman Rd. SW  
Showtime: 7:00p

### Olympia, WA

Information: 360-753-8586

### April 14, 2016

Evergreen Commons, 480 State St.  
Showtime: 2:00p and 8:30p

### Holland, MI

Information: 616-355-5120

### May 22, 2016

Warren Performing Arts Center, Eash Auditorium, 500 East 16th St.  
Show time: 4:00p

### Indianapolis, IN

Tickets: 317-532-6280

### June 27, 2016

Lees-McRae College, Hayes Auditorium, 235 Main St. W.  
Show time: 8:00p

### Banner Elk, NC

Tickets: 828-898-8709 (opens June 2016)

### July 20-23, 2016

The Dirty Dog Café, 97 Kercheval Ave.  
Showtimes: 6:00p and 8:30p

### Grosse Pointe Farms, MI

Tickets: 313-882-5299

### July 27, 2016

Sunset Jazz at Newport, Rose Garden, 900 Newport Center Dr.  
Showtimes: 6:00p and 7:30p

### Newport Beach, CA

Tickets: 949-759-5003

### August 25-27, 2016

Four Freshmen Society Convention & Reunion  
FFS Members Only!

### Louisville, KY

### September 8, 2016

Carrie Cerino's Ballroom, 8922 Ridge Rd.  
Show times: 12:00p, 1:30p, 6:30p and 8:00p  
Tickets: 800-482-3531

### North Royalton, OH

### September 9, 2016

Croatian Lodge Ballroom, 34900 Lake Shore Blvd.  
Show times: 12:00p, 1:30p, 6:30p and 8:00p  
Tickets: 800-482-3531

### Eastlake, OH

### September 24, 2016

The Opera House, 403 N. Huron St.  
Show time: TBA

### Cheboygan, WI

Tickets: 231-627-5841

### November 12, 2016

Shell Point Concert Series, 15101 Shell Point Blvd.  
Show time: 7:30p

### Fort Meyers, FL

Tickets: 239-454-2067

### November 19, 2016

The American Theatre, 125 East Mellen St.  
Show time: 8:00p

### Hampton, VA

Tickets: 757-722-2787

### December 4, 2016

Fowler Center, 201 Olympic Dr.  
Show time: TBA

### Jonesboro, AR

Tickets: 870-972-2781

### December 8, 2016

Monmouth College, Kasch Performance Hall, 700 East Broadway  
Show time: 7:00p

### Monmouth, IL

Tickets: TBA

### December 14-17, 2016

The Colony Hotel, Royal Room Supper Club, 155 Hammon Ave.  
Show time: 8:00p

### Palm Beach, FL

Reservations: 561-655-5430

### December 31, 2016

Livermore Valley Performing Arts Center, Bankhead Theater, 2400 First St.  
Show time: 8:00p

### Livermore, CA

Tickets: 925-373-6100





# WELCOME TO LOUISVILLE



## CONVENTION 2016 IS COMING SOON!!! AUGUST 25 - 27, 2016

Congratulations to all of you who have registered for the Society's 29th annual convention to be held at the beautiful Galt House Hotel in Louisville, KY. AND TO THOSE OF YOU WHO HAVE NOT YET SIGNED UP, THERE'S STILL TIME. Registration instructions and the Convention schedule follow in this issue. If you are flying in BE SURE TO MAKE YOUR AIRPORT SHUTTLE RESERVATION WITH SANDOLLAR PRIOR TO YOUR ARRIVAL. SEE CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION PAGE FOR DETAILS.

**THURSDAY:** Festivities get underway with the first of the three days of Wannabees sing-a-long sessions. Thursday evening will offer the always popular Musical Jam Session featuring many of the talented members of the Society.

**FRIDAY: TOUR AND DERBY DAY!** There are 2 tours available to you, but they are filling up fast. Unfortunately, timing does not allow for participation in both tours. One is the exclusive Backstretch Breakfast Tour of Churchill Downs, home of the world famous Kentucky Derby. An alternate outing is the Belle of Louisville Luncheon Cruise on the Ohio River. The Belle of Louisville is a 102 year-old paddlewheel steamboat.

HATITUDE will be Friday afternoon from 2 to 4 pm. This is an opportunity for ladies and gentlemen to design their own one-of-a-kind hat to wear for the Derby Night Dinner that evening. All hats, ribbons, feathers, fanfare, and assistance are included in the fee for this unique activity. Those on the Belle of Louisville tour return at 2:00 pm, so there is plenty of time to make your creation. This is an extremely popular activity with all events held in Louisville! And you will have something special to wear with your outfit for Friday's Derby Night Dinner. Be sure to include this on your registration form. If you have already registered and not signed up for this one, you still can. Just send a check made out to FFS CONVENTION 2016 for \$25 per person to Sara Lou and Neil Lantz, 10911 Innisbrooke Ln., Fishers, IN 46037.



The traditional Meet and Greet reception with cash bar will precede Friday's Derby Night Dinner. Of course, the day would not be complete without a great concert by the wonderful Four Freshmen.



**SATURDAY** begins with the annual General Meeting, including Society and and Freshmen updates, reports, introductions, and announcements about the 2017 Convention. Come back at 1:00 pm for the popular Fresh Memories to hear road stories from former Freshmen, wives of former Freshmen, and the current guys (subject to their rehearsal schedule). Another Meet and Greet with cash bar begins the festivities Saturday evening. Following dinner, the concert opening act will feature the Kentuckiana All-Star Big Band, performing traditional big band selections including several from the Stan Kenton era. We then welcome back our favorite jazz vocal group, the Four Freshmen - Bob, Curtis, Stein, and Tommy!

The beautiful city of Louisville has much to offer in addition to our FFS Convention activities. Within walking distance of the Galt House are many museums, restaurants, and shops. The FREE Zero Bus runs along Main and Market Streets and another along 4th Street. You will find attractions such as the Louisville Slugger Bat Company, The Muhammad Ali Center, Kentucky Science Center, and more - even an underground zip line! We hope you come early for the Convention and stay late in order to take advantage of all Louisville has to offer.

We welcome you and look forward to seeing you August 25 - 27!

*Sara Lou and Neil Lantz  
2016 Convention Co-Chairs*



Remember to order  
your shirts



## **FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY**

### **2016 CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

(Please read carefully before completing Registration Form)

YOU WILL FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THESE ITEMS WITHIN THIS ISSUE OF FRESH NEWS

**REGISTRATION:** Registration begins on February 1, 2016. You may register by mail and pay by check or credit card using the Registration Form in this newsletter or online at [www.ffa2016](http://www.ffa2016). Please provide all requested information, including first and last names.

**TABLE ASSIGNMENTS:** Dinner seating will be at tables of eight (8). Location will be made based on the postmark date or online registration date on or after 2-1-16 of the last member in your party. We encourage you to send them all at the same time. To ensure that you will receive assigned seating with others you want at your table, please provide all names.

**HOTEL INFORMATION:** We recommend you make your hotel reservation early. Rooms at the Galt House Hotel will be reserved on a first-come, first served basis. Rates for the convention are guaranteed at \$115 plus tax per night in the Revue Tower for a deluxe guestroom with two queen beds or one king bed. Executive suites in the Suite Tower are available for \$135 plus tax per night. (One-bedroom waterfront balcony suites in the Revue Tower are available at \$195 plus tax per night). These rates will also be available for three days before and three days after the official convention dates of August 25 - 27, as long as rooms are available. FREE WIFI.

**\*\*TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM,** call THE GALT HOUSE directly at 1-800-THE GALT (1-800-843-4258). Select option 2 which is reservations. You must mention that you are with the Four Freshmen Society to get the group rate. You may also make your reservation on line at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/ffa0823>. It will take you directly to the reservation page for the group.

**SHIRTS:** The 2016 commemorative shirts in both women's (v-neck) and men's (golf shirt) collared styles are royal blue with the 2016 convention logo designed by Dan de la Torre. They are silk touch 65/35 poly/cotton blend and very true to size. Only a few shirts will be available at the convention, so you are encouraged to order with your registration.

**TOURS:** The Churchill Downs Tour includes breakfast at the backstretch Kitchen where you will be able to watch the horses' morning workout. Following breakfast, the coaches will take us for a quick trip to the frontstretch and the Kentucky Derby Museum. This tour is wheelchair accessible. Cost for the Churchill Downs Tour is \$58. See additional information in this issue.

The Belle of Louisville River Cruise on the Ohio River includes lunch. Boarding begins at 11:30 am for a noon departure. If you may need extra time to board, it is suggested that you arrive at 11:15. Cost for the Belle of Louisville River Cruise with lunch is \$35.

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is not possible to take both tours as coaches from Churchill Downs do not return in time to board the Belle.

**HATITUDE:** Hatitude is a new session at this year's convention on Friday from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Galt House. In recognition of the 142nd year of the Kentucky Derby, convention ladies and gentlemen are invited to Hatitude. Hats and decorations will be provided along with assistance for you to design your own Derby Hat to wear to the Friday evening dinner which will be Derby Night! Cost for Hatitude is \$25.

**MENU SELECTION:** Please specify if you require vegetarian dinners.

**JAM SESSION:** Thursday night's Music Jam Session promises to be another great evening, and Society members are encouraged to participate. While a talented local trio will anchor the session, past and current Freshmen and Society members are welcomed. Please indicate your song, key, and instrument on the registration form so the trio will be prepared to back up your selection. Time is limited, so only music participation will be accepted.

**REGISTRATION FEES:** Early registration (\$195) on or before June 1 is encouraged and must be accompanied by payment. After June 1, every effort will be made to accommodate late registrations (\$215), but priority dinner seating and tour reservations cannot be guaranteed. Please complete all information on the Registration Form and forward it with your payment. While checks are preferred, you may charge your fees using Visa or MasterCard only. The 3-digit CVCC security number on the back of the card must be included. **ONLY MEMBERS OF THE FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY MAY ATTEND THIS CONVENTION.** Non-members will be allowed to join for a special fee of only \$10 (single or couple - please indicate) if submitted with a convention registration. We encourage you to duplicate the registration form and this information section for your non-member friends who may be interested.

**HOTEL PARKING:** Parking is \$5 per day with in and out privileges.

**AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION:** Sandollar will provide airport shuttle service to the hotel and return (round trip) for \$22 per person. You must make a reservation for your seat on the shuttle prior to airport arrival. Go to [www.sandollarlimo.com](http://www.sandollarlimo.com). When you get to the "additional comments" box on the reservation form, please enter "FFS" to receive the discounted price and pay the \$22 per person on the form. When returning to the airport, go to the Transportation Counter in the Galt House to confirm your return shuttle seat and receive a time from them. You may also call (502) 561-4022 and give the "FFS" code to the shuttle reservation people to receive the special price. **\*\*\*SHUTTLE RESERVATIONS MAY NOT BE MADE BEFORE MAY 25, 2016 - 90 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF ARRIVAL.\*\*\*** Taxi service is also available at the airport for approximately \$20 one way.

**SILENT AUCTION:** As in previous years, there will be a Silent Auction in the 113 CLUB. If you have Four Freshmen memorabilia, musical items, or other items you think would be worthwhile for the Auction, please contact: Jean and Bud Mendenhall at (260) 426-986 or email them at [bjmend013@comcast.net](mailto:bjmend013@comcast.net)

**Be sure to read registration Information details in this issue before filling out this form.**

**2016 FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY CONVENTION**

**Send form to:** Neil & Sara Lou Lantz

Louisville, Kentucky August 25 – 27, 2016 **Flying in?** \_\_\_\_ **Driving in?** \_\_\_\_ 10911 Innisbrooke Lane  
Fishers, IN 46037

**Question? 317-849-7443**

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
(First Name) (Last Name) (First Name) (Last Name)

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone # (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMEMORATIVE SHIRT: \$34 EACH. (Add \$3 ea. for sizes XXL thru XXXXXXL)**

(Enter NUMBER of shirts wanted by size and gender)

**Men** (\_\_\_\_small) (\_\_\_\_med) (\_\_\_\_large) (\_\_\_\_XL) (\_\_\_\_XXL) (\_\_\_\_XXXL) (\_\_\_\_XXXXL) (\_\_\_\_XXXXXL) (\_\_\_\_XXXXXXL)

**Women**(\_\_\_\_small) (\_\_\_\_med) (\_\_\_\_large) (\_\_\_\_XL) (\_\_\_\_XXL) (\_\_\_\_XXL) (\_\_\_\_XXXL) (\_\_\_\_XXXXL) (\_\_\_\_XXXXXL) (\_\_\_\_XXXXXXL)

**JAM SESSION:** Plan to perform at Thursday night **Musical Jam Session?** \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Since this will be a Musical Jam Session and time is limited, we will need your song, key, and instrument so we can be ready for you.

Song: \_\_\_\_\_ Key: \_\_\_\_ Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

**MENU SELECTIONS:** Do you need **vegetarian meals**? How many Friday \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday \_\_\_\_\_

**HOTEL INFORMATION:** Have you made your **Galt House** Hotel Reservation? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_

Rates are \$115/night for Deluxe Guest Room (Rivue Tower) or \$135/night for limited number of Executive Suites (Suite Tower)  
Rates available for 3 days before and/or 3 days after convention at the same FFS rate if rooms available.

Parking is \$5/day with in and out privileges. (See Registration Information in this issue for hotel reservation procedure.)

**REGISTRATION FEE: POSTMARKED (or online) FEBRUARY 1 to JUNE 1, 2016 - \$195** per person.

**POSTMARKED (or online) AFTER JUNE 1, 2016 - \$215** per person.

**Cancellations** – Cancellations with full refund before June 1, 2016. Cancellations from June 1 to July 15 will have a \$25 processing fee. **NO REFUNDS AFTER JULY 15, 2016.**

**TABLE SEATING:** Tables of eight. List names of those you want at your table. **SEATING IS ARRANGED BY REGISTRATION POSTMARKED DATE or ONLINE DATE OF LAST MEMBER OF YOUR PARTY.**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_

**TOURS:** Tour #1 – Churchill Downs Backstretch Breakfast and Museum Tour **\$58** OR  
Tour #2 - Belle of Louisville Riverboat Lunch Cruise **\$35**

**Timing does not allow for participation in both tours.**

**HATITUDE:** Men and Women come make your hat for Friday's Derby Night Dinner. All supplies provided. **\$25 each.**

**PAYMENT SUMMARY:**

**REGISTRATION:** \$195 (or \$215 after June 1, 2016) \_\_\_\_\_ people @ \$\_\_\_\_\_ each = \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMEMORATIVE SHIRTS:** men's \_\_\_\_\_ women's \_\_\_\_\_ **\$34 OR \$37 per pricing above** = \_\_\_\_\_

**TOURS:** Tour #1 Churchill Downs \_\_\_\_\_ @ **\$58 each** = \_\_\_\_\_

Tour #2 Belle of Louisville \_\_\_\_\_ @ **\$35 each** = \_\_\_\_\_

**HATITUDE:** men's \_\_\_\_\_ women's \_\_\_\_\_ @ **\$25 each** = \_\_\_\_\_

**NEW MEMBERS ONLY: Four Freshmen Society Membership Fee \$10** = \_\_\_\_\_

(\$10 fee applies to couple OR single) Couple \_\_\_\_\_ Single \_\_\_\_\_

Name if different from above. \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL** = \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT BY CHECK IS ENCOURAGED:** Please make checks payable to **FFS CONVENTION 2016**. Check No. \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card: Visa or Mastercard may be used: Charge my Visa \_\_\_\_\_ Mastercard \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3 digit CVCC # on back of card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name as on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card Holder's Complete address including zip code \_\_\_\_\_

Beginning February 1, 2016, you may register online at: [www.ffa2016](http://www.ffa2016)



# POSSIBILITIES

by Greg Stegeman

I just finished reading the new autobiography of one of my favorite musicians, Herbie Hancock's *Possibilities*. Herbie has been a major inspiration for me and countless other musicians since the early '60s and has won 14 Grammy awards, an Oscar for scoring the film *Round Midnight* and in 2013, the Kennedy Center Honor. This is what he wrote just 19 pages in:

"We used to stand around as kids on street corners and sing, imitating our favorite groups. Later I heard the Four Freshmen, a vocal quartet that gained fame in the mid-'50s with songs like *Mood Indigo* and *Day by Day*. The Four Freshmen sang harmonies that were beyond the four-part barbershop harmonies that had been popular in the '30s. They sang more jazz-like harmonies, with major sevenths and even a few ninth chords, which mesmerized me and made me want to learn how to sing them myself. I loved this type of singing so much that I even put together my own vocal group at Hyde Park."

Reading this made me very happy.  
Hope it does you, too.



## Editors Note:

For all of you who bought the Four Freshmen Watches I hope you are enjoying yours as much as Mel and I are enjoying ours. However, all good things must come to an end and so it is true with the watches. They will no longer be for sale. I want to give a big thanks to Jim Bell for getting them made and sold. It was a big job and he was wonderful for taking this on.

Barb Meyers, Editor

# Replay At The Metropolis

Dr. Cody Sweet (Laura Skylark)

Freshmen fans braved the wind and snow to attend two nearly sold-out Four Freshmen concerts at the 250-seat Metropolis Performing Arts Theater in Arlington Heights, Illinois on Friday and Saturday nights, January 29 and 30, 2016.

The first half of Friday night's set list sounded like: *Day In, Day Out*, *Poinciana*, *Now You Know*, *Pick Up Your Tears*, *Whole Wide World*, *You Stepped Out of a Dream*, *Angel Eyes*, *Social Call*, *Simple Life*, *Another You*, *Nancy, Rain*, *Fools Rush In*, *Gigolo*. Saturday night added *Here's that Rainy Day*.

The second half of Friday night's set list included *Stompin' at the Savoy*, *I Didn't Know About You*, *So Danco Samba*, *Graduation Day*, *Ipanema*, *A Little While*, *My One and Only Love*, *Come Fly with Me*, *Day by Day*, *Blue World*, *Route 66*, and *Rainbow* for the encore. Saturday night was identical. The guys hope to record *A Little While* this summer.

The guys originally were going to sing *Central Park West* and *Moonglow* but substituted *I Didn't know about You* and *My One and Only Love*.

At the intermissions and after the concerts, FF Society members Will Cochran and this writer entertained a brisk business selling the newest Four Freshmen and Friends CD and vinyl recordings, *Live from Las Vegas*, *Live Trombones*, *At the Franklin*, *Love Songs*, and *In Session*. Several joined the Four Freshmen Society which they found by signing up on the membership blank and locating on the Four Freshmen Society online site. The fan club is not linked on The Four Freshmen site itself. The audience ranged in age from a 13-year-old (Will Cochran's granddaughter) to 94-year-old Mickey Lee (a decades-long fan).

Curtis Calderon soloed on every number with his trumpet and flugelhorn. Bob Ferreira paid tribute to Julie London and sang *Simple Life* while using brushes. Stein Malvey held the lead guitar spotlight on several tunes including *Rainy Day*. Newest Freshmen member (one year) Tommy Boynton (lead voice and bass) brought cheering sections with him of previous students as he soloed on *I Didn't Know about You* and *Fools Rush In*.

In a brief interview with Tommy, he shared with this writer his happiness and musical growth during his first year on tour. The said the more he plays and sings the Freshmen tunes, the more he appreciates the musical legacy of the Freshmen.

The evenings could be summarized by saying they were a near-classic blend of harmony, instrumentation, humor, and historical significance of past decades of musical memories.

## Staccato Thoughts on the Metropolis Concerts by The Four Freshmen

**Most Emotional Moment:** Tribute dedication of *Blue World* to Ross, Don, Hal, and Bob

**Funniest Line:** "So many drummers. So little time." (Bob)

**Best Explanation of Staggered Opening Entrance:** "Our limos arrived at different times." (Bob)

**Most Missed Group Songs:** *Shining Hour*, *You've Changed*

**Two Most Missed Solo Songs:** *Where Do You Start?* *How Do You Keep the Music Playing?* (Bob)

**Best Recording Audiophile Quality:** Four Freshmen and Friends (vinyl). Greatest

Audio Problem: Guys singing in-one (far down- center stage) without any mic

**Best Mic Sound:** The two Bob brought on and off stage when group down center for a few of the songs

**Best Tribute to an Instrument:** "Today I visited the factory where this was designed." (Curtis)

**Most Repetitive Translation of a Song Lyric:** *So Danco Samba* (Curtis)

**Quietest:** Stein

**Tenderest Guitar Solo:** *Rainy Day* (Stein)

**Most Appreciated Solo Saturday Night:** *Fools Rush In* (Tommy)

**Most Musical Interpretation:** *I Didn't Know About You* (Tommy)

**Most Obvious Anachronism:** *Graduation Day* (beep)

# 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 71<sup>st</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> time in

show; two guitars in spots



### Corporate Board of Directors

Tom Purvis, Chairman 419-873-7041  
Mel Meyers, Vice Chairman 419-205-6648  
Neil Lantz, President 317-849-7443  
John Emerson, Treasurer 843-271-6001  
Donna Gallaway, Secretary 419-943-2756  
Dick Baldwin 716-632-7227  
Sue Barbour 805-581-4100  
David W. Bentley 203-972-1916  
Chaz Cone 770-394-2663  
Wayne Corey 608-222-8528  
Jack Morrison 616-949-6339  
Gil Peterson 541-672-0937

### Corporate Board of Directors Emeriti

John Bangs 920-426-9324  
Dorothy Lydic 412-301-0420  
Barbara Frederich 850-893-0518

### General Information

Neil Lantz, President  
10911 Innisbrooke Lane  
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1. Jan/Feb/March - Dec 15      2. Apr/May/June - March 15      3. July/Aug/Sept - June 15      4. Oct/Nov/Dec - Sept 15  
Submit manuscripts to the Editor: Barb Meyers, [bam241136@gmail.com](mailto:bam241136@gmail.com), Cell 419-309-7855

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Or online at [www.fourfreshmensociety.com/dues](http://www.fourfreshmensociety.com/dues)

## New Members

Dr. James Barile, Belleair, FL  
Dave Camp, Palos Verdes, CA  
Gary Davis, St. John's, FL  
Sherry Ederheimer, Louisville, KY  
Steve Frumkin, Sarasota, FL  
Steven & Margaret Gioia,  
Salem, NH  
Sue Goodell, Belmont, CA  
Ron & Connie McLean,  
Elizabethtown, KY

Carole & Roger Morrison,  
Chicago, IL  
George Noggle, Odess, FL  
Rodney Norwell,  
Arlington Heights, IL  
James Osborne, Carlinville, IL  
Elise Pulham, Paignton, England  
Lera & Dale Stahl, Des Plaines, IL  
Marie Van Ness, Arlington, VA

## Contributors

Tony Leone, Washington, PA  
Robert Miller, Toledo, OH

# The Four Freshmen Society Inc.

Item	Cost	QTY	Total
5 Saxes/5 Guitars	\$ 15.00		
5 Trombones/5 Trumpets	\$ 15.00		
50 Years Fresh	\$ 15.00		
Capital Collector	\$ 15.00		
Culmination - Greg Stegemann (*)	\$ 15.00		
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Faux Freshmen - Season of the Heart	\$ 10.00		
Faux Freshmen - Unsung	\$ 15.00		
Four Freshmen and Friends <b>NEW</b>	\$ 15.00		
Fresh	\$ 15.00		
Freshmas	\$ 15.00		
Freshmen Year/Voices in Latin	\$ 15.00		
Golden Anniversary	\$ 15.00		
Graduation Day	\$ 15.00		
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Love Songs	\$ 15.00		
More 5 Trombones/In Person Vol. 2	\$ 15.00		
"Now You Know" (Book)	\$ 100.00		
"Now You Know" (Book - Overseas Order)	\$ 120.00		
Remembering Ken (*)	\$ 15.00		
Return to Romance/Live in Manchester (*)	\$ 15.00		
Road Shows	\$ 15.00		
Road to Portsmouth (*)	\$ 15.00		
Snowfall	\$ 15.00		
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The Liberty Years	\$ 15.00		
Through the Years (*)	\$ 15.00		
Voices in Brass/In Person Vol. 1	\$ 15.00		
Voices in Standards	\$ 15.00		
Voices in Modern/Funny How Time Slips Away	\$ 15.00		

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Shipping - \$1 per CD

add \$7 per order for Overseas

add \$20 for "Now You Know" Overseas

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Make check payable to:

The Four Freshmen Society, Inc.

We are adding the "Four Freshmen Vocal Arrangements" book that we "sold" at the last convention. The white book is complete and has 60 arrangements (we have about 20 copies). The blue book is only volume one and has 36 arrangements (we only have 3 of these). We aren't actually selling them due to copyright concerns. They are available for FREE but there's a \$20 shipping and handling charge for the white book and \$15 for the blue book.

# New Vinyl (LP) by The Four Freshmen after 30 years!

by Yas Ichiura

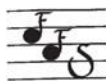
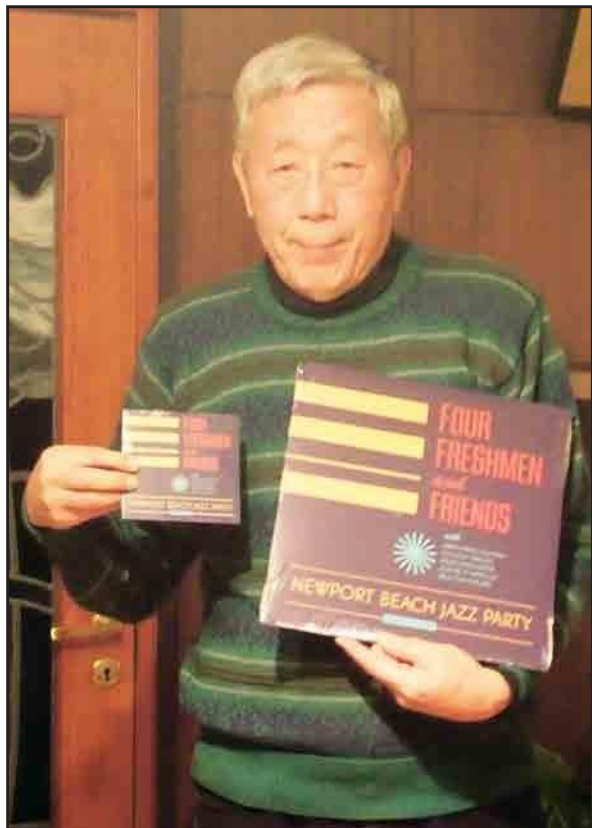
On January 22, I was browsing the renewed Four Freshmen website and found an interesting thing, an LP by the guys. I recalled a rumor some months before that this album would be released in vinyl.

They say vinyl LPs are coming back and some newly released LPs are available in the market. However, I didn't expect our Four Freshmen would release an LP. The last Four Freshmen LP album "Fresh!" was released in 1986 (30 years ago) by Group #8 - Bob Flanigan, Autie Goodman, Mike Beisner and Rod Henley.

I immediately clicked the BUY button on the page and soon it arrived in perfect condition.

I am one of the few music lovers who still keep a turntable to play analog records. However, in practice, I use it mostly when I need to digitize an LP so I can play it on my computer, iPhone, etc.

People are asking me what is the difference in sound quality between the CD (which I got almost half a year ago) and the LP. However, I can't answer because I am keeping the LP sealed. I'm waiting for the value to increase up to a fortune so Michiko and I can buy bread and butter in the future. I hope this is an good investment!!!



## The Four Freshmen Collection / LP

February 2016/YAS

1	Voices in Modern	Capitol	T-522	1955
2	FF and 5 Trombones	Capitol	T-683	1956
3	Freshmen Favorites	Capitol	T-743	1956
4	FF and 5 Trumpets	Capitol	T-763	1957
5	FF and 5 Saxes	Capitol	T-844	1957
6	Voices in Latin	Capitol	T-922	1958
7	FF live at Penn State	PS Jazz Club	H8-OP-6295/6	1958
8	FF In Person	Capitol	ST-1008	1958
9	Voices in Love	Capitol	ST-1074	1958
10	FF Favorites Volume 2	Capitol	T-1103	1959
11	Love Lost	Capitol	ST-1189	1959
12	FF and 5 Guitars	Capitol	ST-1255	1959
13	Voices and Brass	Capitol	ST-1295	1960
14	Road Show	Capitol	STBO-1327 (2)	1960
15	First Affair	Capitol	ST-1378	1960
16	The Freshman Year	Capitol	ST-1485	1961
17	Voices in Fun	Capitol	ST-1543	1961
18	Stars In Our Eyes	Capitol	ST-1682	1962
19	The Swingers	Capitol	ST-1753	1962
20	FF in Person Volume 2	Capitol	ST-1860	1963
21	Got That Feelin'	Capitol	ST-1950	1963
22	Funny How Time Slips Away	Capitol	ST-2067	1964
23	More FF and 5 Trombones	Capitol	ST-2168	1964
24	A Toady Kind Of Thing	Liberty	LST-7542	1968
25	Today Is Tomorrow	Liberty	LST-7563	1968
26	In A Class By Themselves	Liberty	LST-7590	1969
27	Different Strokes	Liberty	LST-7630	1969
28	FF live in Tokyo '68	Liberty	LP-8540	(Japan) 1969
29	That's My Desire	Coronet Records	CX-279(262)	1970
30	Return To Romance	Stylist	SA-1900	1971
31	Live at Butler University	Creative World	ST-1059	1972
32	Mt. Freshmore	Kahoots	MRS-8030	1977
33	Alive and well in Nashville	Phonorama	PR-5563	1982
34	Fresh	PAUSA	PR-7193	1986
35	Four Freshmen And Friends	FFS		2016

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Our own dear Vince Johnson was substituting for the lead singer and he did a marvelous job. The article with more details can be read in the 2015 July, Aug., Sept. issue of FreshNews.  
Photo by Ann Smith





## So This is Florida:

On May 21 we closed the sale of our home in Toledo. On the same day we closed the home we bought in Mulberry, Florida. How is that for a stretch? Why you may ask? A big reason for us is the number of concert dates by the Four Freshmen in Florida in the winter, the cold winters in Toledo helped with the decision also. Since moving and beginning to get acquainted, we found we have a virtual aviary in our back yard. And, we anxiously waited for the arrival of the Four Freshmen.

First came Sarasota, a seaside town on the west side. Great Christmas show here followed by Largo and another great Christmas show. You can tell by the picture they were ready to go home for Christmas. Then came Bonita Springs where they played to two oversold crowds of very impressed people. That venue held around 1,200 for each show. Many of them Floridians and others were Snowbirds from the Midwest, running from the snows up north. Their performances were well rehearsed, crisp on their attacks and having a good time on stage. The crowds were really impressed with lots of "oohs, ahs, and yeah." exhibiting total acceptance. A CD or two were sold also.

Then came Mt. Dora, a bustling little town in Central Florida. This is a place where folks come and hide or getaway from the usual routines. The smaller crowd was rewarded with the Freshmen at their best and they responded in kind.

Now here is where I am going with this article. Having seen them many times in my lifetime, already, I keep coming back. This group of four are on a mission, and enjoying operating out of the box. Their song selections were part of a historical time tunnel starting with *Poinciana* into the present day selections. Bob and Curtis took us on a musical trip that was very heart warming — a great evening of Freshmen stuff, copied by many others. They have worked hard, rehearsed hard, and in general, created a high level of energy on stage.

What tunes did they play? I'm not going to tell you. Y'all get your behinds out the door when they are in your town and see for yourselves. You will not be disappointed. These Guys are viral. "Catch 24!"

Just Sayin,  
Mel Meyers, V/C FFS

## Remembering Bob, Ross, Bobby & Blue II

(continued from page 2)

That Hoosier helpfulness and happiness Though we've lived for years in Southern California, That I knew as just a boy. My heart kept its Indiana Home."

Bob also made a few heartfelt remarks, "I don't get excited about much anymore, but I am REALLY EXCITED about receiving this honor!" President and Mrs. Fong were gracious hosts, and the President's conversations over the evening capably demonstrated his wide range of knowledge and interests from the history of the Four Freshmen to atmospheric science; from his thoughts on the future of higher education to the Butler basketball program (for which they became nationally known as NCAA Division I finalists in 2010). He was indeed a most interesting individual. In 2011, he was named president of Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania near Philadelphia. Unfortunately, Dr. Fong died unexpectedly in 2014.

Butler's commencement day, May 10, began with a morning breakfast with President Fong, the Barbours, the Flanigans, Butler deans, trustees, and FFS guests. The graduation ceremony was held in the nearby historic Hinkle Fieldhouse. In the robing area prior to entering the arena, Ross and Bob were officially welcomed by Blue II, Butler University's English bulldog mascot. Rumor has it that final approval by Blue is required for all doctoral candidates. In view of the Four Freshmen history with their legendary *It's a Blue World* (still a part of the Freshmen repertoire as heard on Group 24's CD, *Four Freshmen and Friends*), I'm quite certain that the guys were highly regarded by Blue II.

The dramatic Commencement ceremony followed as President Fong welcomed thousands of friends and families of the graduates. He opened the doctoral presentation by stating "At this ceremony ..., Butler University pays tribute to distinguished achievement." He proudly announced that "Bob and Ross were once music majors here." He went on: "They began singing together in 1948, along with Ross' brother Don and their friend Hal Kratzsch. As the Four Freshmen, they put out hit song after hit song for more than a decade." He explained the innovative open harmony of the Freshmen and cited the group's continuing success, "Still going 60 years later. ...." His presentation concluded: "On the recommendation of the faculty, with the approval of the Butler University Board of Trustees, and by the authority vested in me, I confer upon you, Ross Barbour, and upon you, Robert Flanigan, the degrees of Doctor of Arts, honors cause, with all the rights, privileges, and responsibilities thereto."

Following the ceremony,

late FFS member Bob Davis, my wife Sara Lou, and I hosted a reception on campus to congratulate Drs. Barbour and Flanigan. We were joined by President and Mrs. Fong, university officials, Society members, the Flanigan and Barbour families, and friends. It was a fitting conclusion to a wonderful tribute for two of our favorite Freshmen. Notice the musical décor on the platform of Blue's statue in the midst of our group photo ... certainly another appropriate symbol in recognition of Blue II's connection with Ross and Bob.

Unfortunately, Ross, Bob, Bobby, and Blue II have all passed on, but the memory of that wonderful weekend back in 2008 lives on for many of us in the Society.



Ready to go home for Christmas.



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## Everyone Loves a Party!

### 2016 Four Freshmen Music Foundation Gala Reception Will Be One to Remember

FFS members who register for the 2016 FFS convention in Louisville should watch their mailboxes for an invitation to a Gala Reception hosted by the newly-formed Four Freshmen Music Foundation (FFMF). The event, which promises to be filled with food, fun and surprises, will be Thursday evening, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., August 25, just prior to the FFS Jam Session. Details about the party will be forthcoming.

***For now, mark your calendars  
and get ready to make memories!***

***Tax-deductible contributions to the  
Four Freshmen Music Foundation  
are welcome!***

Send checks to:  
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