

Fresh News

Volume 36, No.2

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2022

A promotional image for a band. The background is a night scene with a city skyline and numerous colorful fireworks exploding in the sky. In the foreground, four men are posed. From left to right: a man in a black suit and fedora holding drumsticks; a man in a black suit and glasses with his hands clasped; a man in a black suit and red tie holding a trumpet; and a man in a blue suit and glasses holding a bass guitar. The text 'IT'S TIME!' is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters across the middle. At the bottom left, the text 'RSVP ASAP' is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters.

Our
President,
**Donna
Gallaway**



GREETINGS FFS MEMBERS

I find it so amazing how time marches on regardless of the circumstances we find ourselves in. Can you believe that we have endured another Winter (speaking from Ohio) and now see the hope and new beginnings that Spring always brings! We are finally coming out of the grips of the pandemic that has held us hostage for more than two long years.

The excitement of a convention/reunion for all of us who have missed our Four Freshmen and each other is in full motion now. It looks like Jim Williams and his planning team have everything in place for a terrific event. Now we need all of you to register to come experience some fabulous music and a chance to meet and actually get to know the four guys who are responsible for that music. You can even pretend to be a Freshmen by joining in with the Wannabes as a large group of us at the convention gather to sing Freshmen songs. What a great sound that can be!

Another event you will enjoy is the Jam Session on Wednesday night where we can witness the diverse and awesome talent of our members who will perform. Of course, the Thursday and Friday night dinners and performances by the Four Freshmen are the highlights of our time together. Also, the tours sound so great that you may want to spend an extra day or two in the area checking out the sights. Make it a vacation trip!

There will be a Silent Auction which is always a fun part of our conventions and is a way we can raise funds for FFS. Look for more information about that on page 9 of this *Fresh News* issue. As most of you know, this organization is run only by volunteers who so love the Four Freshmen and all of you who support them. Since we have not been able to have a convention the past two years, this one is critical to keep our FFS afloat, as these events
(continued on page 11)

FN APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2022

Bay City Will Still Be Ready

by Jim Williams

The uncertainty of the COVID 19 virus has caused the postponement of our 2021 Convention to June 8-10, 2022. Everything will be transitioned without much disruption. One thing for sure, having to continue to wait to hear our beloved Four Freshmen should heighten our anticipation and make the Convention more enjoyable as we break our fast. The tours have changed, and the hotel is just as anxious to host us. We will have the hotel almost entirely to ourselves. (see article elsewhere in this issue) The biggest change again will be the shift from a Thursday – Saturday Convention to Wednesday – Friday. Bay City is a weekend tourist destination during the summer, resulting in virtually all Saturday nights being booked for 2022.

The Michigan weather should be delightful in early June. One of the advantages to a small town is proximity. The DoubleTree Hotel, being on the Saginaw River in the downtown, encourages you to explore both the River Walk and a stroll through the downtown. There are over 20 restaurants and pubs within easy walking distance of the hotel, ranging from Jimmy Johns, and an Omelet Shop to fine dining with a variety of choices in between. Three blocks from the hotel is a full block of antique stores, including Michigan's largest antique store.



Bring a light jacket, a hearty appetite, and of course a desire to once again, hear our favorite vocal group, The Four Freshmen. Until then, stay home, stay safe and stay healthy. See you in June.

Please consider registering for the Convention online at ffs2022.com

Our Annual Conventions

by Gil Peterson

I think it is extremely important that we should all make every effort to attend the 2022 Convention in Bay City. I know there are many obstacles that we will all have to overcome in order to be there, but in my opinion, we all need to attend. I truly believe that our annual conventions are the glue that holds our FFS together and makes our organization so unique. As far as I know, there is no other fan-based group like the FFS. I know, traveling is difficult, fuel is expensive, airline scheduling is painful and numerous other reasons that we could dwell on that would keep us from attending, but I think it is essential for the future of the FFS for all of us to simply overcome whatever we have to and be together again.

Jim and Linda Williams have some very special surprises for us that I know you will not want to miss. One of the highlights this year will of course be Group 27, since many of you have not had the pleasure of seeing them. I spoke with Bob Ferreira a few days ago and he was in Minneapolis with Group 27 recording the new CD. He is very excited about the progress they are making. He believes they will have the CD finished in time for the Bay City Convention. He also said they were planning to perform much of the new CD material at the convention. This new material has never been recorded before by any other Four Freshmen group. That is very exciting and another dog-gone good reason to be there.

I look forward to seeing each of you in Bay City. I am counting on you. Please don't disappoint me. **SEE YOU THERE!**

Take a Break and Relax at

BAY CITY

Have you ever visited a new place and felt ‘wow’ about it? For many visitors, it happens at Bay City.

Bay City may not be as popular as other cities in the United States, but don’t let that fool you. Bay City is a smaller but beautiful upcoming tourist destination that is worth a visit. You will be surprised by some of the unique things to do and places you can explore while at the Convention.

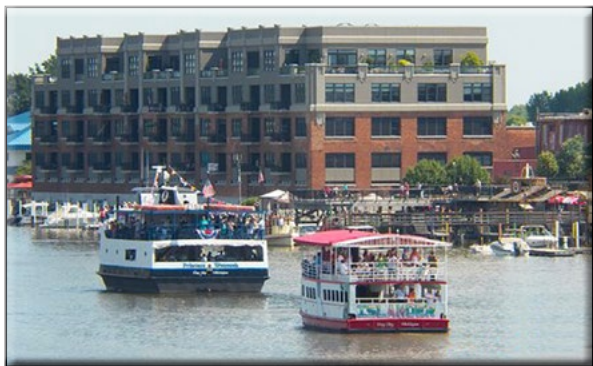
Many folks that have spent a few hours, or a few days, of a side trip here while traveling to Ann Arbor, Detroit, or Mackinac Island have wished to revisit someday, to take a break and relax at Bay City.

Bay City is one of the tri-cities that make up the Mid-Michigan region, along with Saginaw and Midland. Saginaw was known as an automotive town that hosts two of the world’s largest foundries, which provided raw materials for a number of war efforts. Midland is home to Dow Chemical. Bay City, which sits at the mouth of the Saginaw River, was at the heart of Michigan’s lumber industry. Lumber baron homes still line blocks of Center Avenue.

If you are not sure if Bay City should be included in your Convention plans, you will be pleasantly surprised when you do so. As is not often the case in other convention cities, everything in Bay City is laid back, casually paced and centrally located.

Within a few blocks of the DoubleTree Hotel are specialty shops, pubs, restaurants and one of Michigan’s largest antique malls. The DoubleTree Hotel sits adjacent to the Saginaw River providing the opportunity for a leisurely stroll along the River Walk which lines both banks of the river that divides the city. Be sure to include in your visit one of the three tours.

Most importantly, The Four Freshmen will be here. Make plans to join them.



Register online at: FFS2022.com

FN APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2022

Both the Frankenmuth and Dow Gardens tours include 25 – 30 minute bus rides and some walking, but they are both worth it. Frankenmuth is one of the top tourist attractions in the Midwest. Dow Gardens and a stroll along the canopy in early June should be spectacular. A piece of pie from Grand Traverse is probably worth the trip alone. For those of you who would like to spend less time and/or avoid a bus trip and walking, we are offering a presentation at the Delta College Planetarium directly across the street from the hotel. More detailed information regarding the tours can be found below.

Frankenmuth – Bronner’s Christmas Wonderland City Tour and Lunch • Thursday, June 9th, 2022

This morning we depart Bay City 8:30 AM and head to Frankenmuth, Michigan’s Little Bavaria. We arrive to shop Bronner’s CHRISTmas Wonderland, the world’s largest Christmas store with over 50,000 trims and gifts for all your holiday needs. While at Bronner’s, you can view the replica of the Silent Night Memorial Chapel and spend a memorable moment singing *Silent Night*, the world’s favorite Christmas carol.

Back in the heart of downtown we will pick up our step-on guide as we enjoy a city tour of Frankenmuth.

At the Bavarian Inn Restaurant, we take time out to enjoy a world-famous chicken luncheon. Your signature lunch includes homemade bread, cole slaw, three pieces of fresh, plump, tender chicken served with mashed potatoes, gravy and baked dressing! Chef’s choice dessert and beverage included.

Afterwards, you will have time to take in the old-world charm and hospitality that has made Frankenmuth the number one tourist attraction of the Midwest. Take a stroll on Main Street to shop in the unique stores or enjoy the short walk for additional charming and colorful shopping at the Frankenmuth River Place Shops. Not interested in shopping? There are plenty of places to enjoy wine tasting, indulge in a German beer or people-watching from a park bench.

You will return to the DoubleTree Hotel at approximately 3:30 PM
Price per person \$55 INCLUDES

- Round trip Motor Coach Transportation
- Shopping time at Bronner’s CHRISTmas Wonderland
- City tour of Frankenmuth
- Signature Chicken Lunch at Bavarian Inn Restaurant
- Free time downtown Frankenmuth

(continued on page 9)



JUST DO IT!

By: Bob Ferreira

It is sure encouraging to see life slowly returning to a sense of pre-pandemic normalcy. With states starting to lift mask mandates there seems to be a renewed optimism about reuniting with our lives and pastimes we so enjoyed prior to 2020. For the four of us, well, I think I can speak on behalf of the boys when I say that we are beyond stoked to be getting out there again and performing. The dates are still light, but they are continuing to come in and there is a confidence I feel that is building once again in the music and entertainment industries and The Four Freshmen are all ready and willing to ride that wave!

Speaking of touring, the group is totally excited to finally be heading to Bay City, Michigan this June for the much awaited FFS Annual Convention! It hasn't been so "Annual" lately for sure, but we are going to change that! We are really hoping to see all of you there and celebrate being able to get back out in the world and enjoy the things we love (like Four Freshmen music) as well as reconnect with old friends we may not have seen in a couple of years or even longer. We have all endured a lot these couple of years and it seems we owe it to ourselves to have a little fun (but of course all this being said, we all must do what we feel will keep us healthy and safe).

As some of you may know, the group has been working on a new studio album (As a matter of fact we are recording vocals at the time I am writing this article). It's going to be a burner of an album and if all goes to schedule and plan we hope to debut its release in... You guessed it. Bay City! This is our wish because all involved in this project feel strongly about having something new and special from the group to share with the world and we want to share it with our closest friends and supporters first.

Our hope is that you all will be able to make it out to gorgeous Bay City and help support this amazing society that has helped keep The Four Freshmen touring, recording, and thriving for so many years. You all attending this convention will be a significant way to help the four of us say 'Thank You' to the FFS for their support through the years as well as to thank all of you for being the reason the FFS exists in the first place. It is the appreciation, love,

(continued on page 11)



2022 CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Wednesday 6/8

8:00am – 6:00pm RegistrationGrand Foyer
9:00am – 4:00pm 113 ClubWheeler
10:00am – 2:00pm ... FF Music FoundationSalon A
2:30pm – 4:00pm WannabesDavidson
3:00pm – 5:00pm FF Society Board.....Salon B
7:00pm – 11:00pm ... Cash BarGrand Ballroom
7:00pm – 11:00pm ... Jam SessionGrand Ballroom

Thursday 6/9

8:00am – 6:00pm RegistrationGrand Foyer
8:30am – 3:30pm Tour #1 (Frankenmuth)Grand Foyer
9:15am – 2:15pm Tour #2 (Dow Gardens).....Grand Foyer
10:30am – 12:30pm . Tour #3 (Planetarium)Grand Foyer
9:00am – 4:00pm 113 ClubWheeler
2:30pm – 4:00pm WannabesDavidson
5:30pm – 6:30pm Meet and GreetGrand Foyer
5:30pm – 11:00pm ... Cash BarGrand Ballroom
6:30pm – 11:00pm ... Dinner and ConcertGrand Ballroom

Friday 6/10

9:00am – 4:00pm 113 ClubWheeler
9:00am – 10:00am.... State RepresentativesDavidson
10:00am – 11:00am.. General MeetingDavidson
1:00pm – 2:30pm FF MemoriesDavidson
2:30pm – 4:00pm WannabesDavidson
2:30pm – 4:00pm Convention Co-ordination
Boardroom
5:30pm – 6:30pm Meet and Greet
Grand Foyer
5:30pm – 11:00pm ... Cash Bar
Grand Ballroom
6:30pm – 11:00pm ... Dinner and Concert
Grand Ballroom
11:00pm – ??? Afterglow
Grand Foyer

**Order your commemorative
shirts before they are sold out!**

Please consider registering for the Convention online at ffs2022.com

2022 FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION

(This information gives further details regarding the Registration Form)

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Registration began February 15, 2022. You may register online at [FFS2022.com](https://ffs2022.com) or register by mail and pay by check or credit card using the registration form provided. Please provide all requested information including preferred first **and** last names (for name badges).

TABLE ASSIGNMENTS: Please provide all names of others you want seated at your table. Encourage your preferred tablemates to mail or create online their registrations early. **Seating will be arranged by postmark date or online registration date of the last member in your party. MULTIPLE REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED ON THE SAME DATE WILL BE SELECTED BY A LOTTERY.**

HOTEL INFORMATION: We recommend you make your hotel reservations early (even before February). Rooms at the DoubleTree by Hilton will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Rates for the convention are guaranteed at \$129 plus tax per night for Riverfront view or \$119 plus tax for city view. Please specify two queen beds or a king bed. These rates will be available also for three days before and three days after the convention dates of June 8-10, 2022.

TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM: Call DoubleTree reservations at 989-891-6000. Be sure to mention The Four Freshmen Society Group rate.

COMMEMORATIVE SHIRTS: The shirts are light blue collared golf style in Ladies' and Men's sizes with our 2022 convention logo embroidered on the upper left chest. They are made by Port Authority. Please order shirts with your registration as shirts will NOT be available for purchase at the convention.

JAM SESSION (MEMBERS' TALENT NIGHT): A great evening of jazz. A talented local jazz group will accompany the evening's festivities as past and current Freshmen and convention attendees perform. Please indicate your song, key, and instrument on the registration form so that the group will be prepared to accompany your song.

TOURS:

Thursday, June 9, **Tour #1** (\$55/person) embarks from the hotel at 8:30 AM by bus for the Village of Frankenmuth including Bronner's Christmas store with lunch at the Bavarian Inn.

Thursday, June 9 **Tour #2** (\$58/person) embarks from the hotel at 9:15 AM for the city of Midland, home of Dow Chemical. The group will tour Dow Gardens and the Canopy Walk. Lunch will be at the Grand Traverse Pie Restaurant.

Thursday, June 9, **Tour #3** (\$30/person) leaves the hotel at 9:45 AM for a short walk to the Delta College Planetarium. Lunch will be catered by a local deli.

MENU VARIATIONS: Please specify whether you require vegetarian or other specifics for lunch or evening meals.

REGISTRATION FEES: Early registration, prior to April 15, is encouraged and must be accompanied by payment. Every effort will be made to accommodate late registrations, but priority dinner seating cannot be guaranteed.

PAYMENT SUMMARY: Please complete all information on the Registration Form and forward your payments. You may pay by check or credit card. Only **MEMBERS** of the Four Freshmen Society may attend this convention. Non-members will be able to join the FFS for \$15 (single or couple - please indicate). Feel free to duplicate the registration form for your non-member friends who may be interested in attending the convention.

TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORT TO HOTEL: There is a free shuttle to and from the MBS International Airport. Rental cars and taxi service are also available at the airport.

HOTEL PARKING: Parking at the hotel is complimentary.

Register online at: [FFS2022.com](https://ffs2022.com)

PLEASE PRINT

NAME(S) _____
(First Name) (Last Name) (First name) (Last Name)

ADDRESS _____ Phone# _____

_____ Email _____

City, State, Zip _____

COMMEMORATIVE SHIRT: \$35 EACH (shirts will not be available for purchase at the convention).
Enter NUMBER of shirts wanted by size and gender

MEN (____small) (____med) (____large) (____XL) (____XXL) ____XXXL)

WOMEN (____small) (____med) (____large) (____XL) (____XXL)

MENU SELECTIONS: Do you need vegetarian or otherwise special meals? How Many? Friday____Saturday ____

HOTEL INFORMATION: Have you made your DoubleTree hotel reservation? Yes____No____

Doubletree Hotel, Bay City, MI 989 891 6000

Rates are \$129/night and \$119/night depending on view including breakfast prior to the Thursday tours.

Rates apply three days before and/or three days after convention date (if rooms are available).

Complimentary Parking

(See Registration Information in FreshNews or on the ffs2022.com website for hotel reservation procedure)

REGISTRATION FEE: POSTMARKED (or online) FEBRUARY 15 to APRIL 15 2022 - \$205 per person

POSTMARKED (or online) after April 15 2022 - \$225 per person

Cancellations: -- Cancellations with full refund before April 15, 2022. Cancellations from April 15 to May 1 will incur a \$25 processing fee. NO REFUNDS AFTER MAY 1, 2022

TABLE SEATING: Tables of eight. List names of those you want at your table SEATING IS ARRANGED BY REGISTRATION POSTMARK or ONLINE DATE OF LAST MEMBER IN YOUR PARTY. MULTIPLE REGISTRATIONS RECEIVED ON THE SAME DATE WILL BE SELECTED BY LOTTERY.

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 **3** _____ 4 **4** _____

5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____

TOURS: Tours will be on Thursday, June 9th.

Tour #1 Frankenmuth Village \$55 _____ (limited, reserve early)

Tour #2 Dow Gardens \$58 _____ (limited, reserve early)

Tour #3 Delta Planetarium \$30 _____

JAM SESSION: Plan to perform at the Wednesday 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 by June 1st so we can be ready for you.

PAYMENT SUMMARY

REGISTRATION: \$205 (or \$225 after April 15th) _____ people @ _____ each = _____

Add \$6/person if paying by credit card _____ people @ \$6 each = _____

COMMEMORATIVE SHIRTS: Men's____ Ladies' _____ @ \$35 each = _____

TOURS: Tour #1 Frankenmuth Village _____ @ \$55each = _____

Tour #2 Dow Gardens _____ @ \$58 each = _____

Tour #3 Delta College Planetarium _____ @ \$30 each = _____

NEW MEMBERS ONLY: Four Freshmen Society Membership Fee: \$15= _____

(\$15 fee applies to couple or single) Check one: Couple__Single __

Name if different from above. TOTAL = _____

If paying by check, please make payable to **FFS** Check No: _____

If paying by credit card, please fill out the rest of the form:

Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ / _____

Signature _____ Print card holder's name _____

Card Holder's complete address including zipcode _____

Register online at: **FFS2022.com**

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Deadlines for consideration of articles:

1. Jan/Feb/March - Dec 01
2. Apr/May/June - March 15
3. July/Aug/Sept - June 15
4. Oct/Nov/Dec - Sept 15

Submit manuscripts to the Editor:

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Bruce Spencer, Springfield, OH
Shirley Vonderheide, Fort Meyers, FL
Jim & Laura Wright, Huntley, IL



The Four Freshmen Society Inc.

Item	Cost	QTY	Total
5 Trombones/5 Trumpets	\$15.00		
50 Years Fresh	\$15.00		
Capitol Collector Series	\$15.00		
Culmination - Greg Stegeman (*)	\$15.00		
Faux Freshmen - Scratchin' the Surface	\$10.00		
Faux Freshmen - Seasons of the Heart	\$10.00		
Faux Freshmen - Unsung	\$15.00		
Four Freshmen (Jazz Factory)	\$15.00		
Four Freshmen and Friends	\$15.00		
Freshmas	\$15.00		
Freshmen Year/Voices in Latin	\$15.00		
Golden Anniversary	\$15.00		
Graduation Day	\$15.00		
In Session	\$15.00		
Ken Albers Arrangements	\$28.00		
Live at Butler	\$15.00		
Live at Clearwater	\$15.00		
Live at Constitution Hall 1979 (Previously Unissued)(*)	\$15.00		
Live at Penn State (*)	\$15.00		
Live at the Franklin	\$15.00		
Live from Vegas CD	\$15.00		
Live from Vegas DVD	\$15.00		
Live from Vegas (DVD & CD)	\$25.00		
Live in Holland	\$15.00		
Live in the New Millennium	\$15.00		
Live Trombones	\$15.00		
Lost Soul - Curtis Calderon	\$15.00		
Love Songs	\$15.00		
More 5 Trombones/In Person Vol. 2	\$15.00		
Remembering Ken (*)	\$15.00		
Return to Romance/Live in Manchester (*)	\$15.00		
Road Shows	\$15.00		
Road to Portsmouth (*)	\$15.00		
Snowfall	\$15.00		
Star Spangled Banner - Single CD	\$5.00		
Star Spangled Banner - Five Pack	\$20.00		
Still Fresh	\$15.00		
The Liberty Years	\$15.00		
Through the Years (*)	\$15.00		
Voices in Brass/In Person Vol. 1	\$15.00		
Voices in Standards	\$15.00		
Four Freshmen and Friends LP	\$20.00		
"Now You Know" (Leather Bound Book)	\$100.00		
Book is \$120 for orders outside US			

Subtotal

Shipping - \$1 per CD for US orders
 \$4 per LP for US orders
 Foreign Country: actual shipping costs for CDs
 and LPs, \$20 for "Now You Know" book

Total

(*) Available to Members Only

Please use "Return Address" label when available - Thanks

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Name on Card: _____

Visa _____ MC _____ AMEX _____ Disc _____

CC #: _____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____

Please Complete: then

1) mail to: FFS Music Mart
 Barbara Emerson, Director
 74 Doncaster Lane
 Bluffton, SC 29909

or

2) fax: 866-538-9044

or

3) call 843-271-6001
 or 888-448-7429

or

4) email: johnejazz@sc.rr.com

Make check payable to:

The Four Freshmen Society, Inc.

In 1979, the Airmen of Note under the direction of Dave Steinmeyer had a concert at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. They had, as their guests, The Four Freshmen (group 6). That concert was preserved from the sound board by Dave Barnes. It was then cleaned up by Paul Halac. The result was a "new" CD of the Four Freshmen Live at Constitution Hall in 1979, backed by the Airmen of Note, the premier jazz ensemble of the U.S. Air Force. The Music Mart has embarked on a plan to find and release these rare recordings, particularly in years when there is no new CD from the Freshmen themselves. While the Society has done this in the past, we will now try to be more aggressive in this endeavor. We hope to have a "new" CD ready for each convention. We hope you enjoy this new material. Barbara Emerson

SILENT AUCTION

There will be a Silent Auction at the Bay City convention where you may bid on some Four Freshmen memorabilia and related items. If any of you have things you wish to donate to the auction, please contact our Historian, Chris Rank in advance, if possible, so we can arrange proper space and setup for the items. A photo of your donated item would be helpful as well. This is always an interesting and profitable event for FFS, so come prepared to bid!

Contact Chris Rank at 734-728-1673 or email freshhistorian@yahoo.com



Dow Gardens

GREETINGS The President's Message

(continued from page 2)

have always been our chief source of income. We need you to make this a priority for your summer and join us for a guaranteed awesome time in Bay City. At the same time you will be investing in the future of the Four Freshmen Society. (Please note that we never turn away any monetary donations to FFS!)

Come meet me in Bay City this June for a memorable experience with our favorite musicians!



Bay City Tours (continued from page 3)

Dow Gardens – Traverse City Pie Company

Thursday, June 9th, 2022

This morning we depart Bay City 9:15 AM and head to Midland to visit the award winning Dow Gardens where we enjoy a guided tour. Enjoy the magnificent colors of the season where there are over 100 acres of flowers, shrubs, ponds and trees in a relaxing pastoral setting. Follow the paved curving paths as you meander past a waterfall, beside a winding brook and over bridges. Be sure not to miss the Conservatory with lush tropical orchids and seasonal displays. You may even find the young-at-heart exploring a tree house.

We then take the short drive (or you can walk) to the visitor center located at the former Whiting Forest. Guests of all ages and abilities will become immersed in the forest on the longest canopy walk in America. The canopy walk stretches 1,400 feet long (just over ¼ mile) and soars 40 feet above the lush forest and apple orchard.

It's then time to head to a Michigan favorite for lunch at the Grand Traverse Pie Company. Make yourself at home in the warm and welcoming atmosphere as you enjoy a full deli sandwich, chips, beverage, and of course a slice of pie!

You will return to the DoubleTree Hotel at approximately 2:15 PM
Price per person \$58 INCLUDES

- Round trip Motor Coach Transportation
- Guided Tour of Dow Gardens
- Free time to explore the Canopy Walk
- Deli lunch at Grand Traverse Pie Company

Bay City – Delta College Planetarium – Box Lunch Thursday, June 9th, 2022

This morning you will take the short walk from the hotel to the Delta College Planetarium arriving at 10:00 AM. The Delta College Planetarium was designed around metaphors of space and exploration! The sun is the center of our solar system and the exterior colors are red and orange to represent the true colors of the sun's gases. The planetarium is certainly one of the most unique and significant buildings in downtown Bay City and has won significant awards from the American Institute of Architects!

Upon arrival in the theatre you will learn many more facts on the design and architectural elements before the main event entitled *From Earth to the Universe*. An immersive grand tour of the universe, this show starts with the splendor of the various worlds in the solar system and the ferocity of the scorching Sun. The program then leaves our home to take the audience out to the colorful birthplaces and burial grounds of stars, and still further out, beyond the Milky Way, to the unimaginable immensity of countless galaxies. Along the way, you will learn about famous astronomers, the invention of the telescope, and today's giant telescopes that allow us to probe ever deeper into the Universe.

After the amazing show you will have a box lunch provided at approximately 11:30 AM

You will return to the DoubleTree Hotel at your leisure, leaving you ample time to discover the waterfront and unique shops located downtown.

Price per person \$30 INCLUDES

- Delta College Planetarium facility tour
- Planetarium show - *From Earth to the Universe*
- Boxed deli-style lunch

How I Met The Four Freshmen

by Carmen J Cesa

In 1956, when I graduated the 9th grade, I kept hearing “Graduation Day” over the radio at that time. That’s when I first noticed the group although they had been together for several years.

I began following them and through the years I’ve enjoyed their sound. My wife and I attended the 1995 convention at Sawmill Creek in Huron, OH. We’ve seen them several times in the Cleveland area, lately at “Night Town” and have attended many nearby appearances. They usually ask for a show of hands by members of the Four Freshmen Society and usually there are a few of us waving wildly!

I can recall seeing them at The University of Detroit, Beaver Falls, PA, Sarasota, FL, Toledo, OH, Lakeside, OH, etc. I do not have an opinion as to which of the 26 or so groups I favor. Whichever, I hear the basic sound is there. That’s why The Four Freshmen sound will last forever.

My best story about them was when they were “in concert” at Kent State University, my “Alma Mater” in 1967. They were appearing with Al Hirt. I was able to sign up for the committee and to get myself assigned to be the assistant in the “green room” prior to them going on stage. I met and spoke to each of them and enjoyed the opportunity. Below is the autographed photo.

We are planning now to attend the 2022 Convention in Bay City, MI.



THE FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY “ALL-STARS”

How to Organize a Jam Session

By Dave Blackwell

As many of you know, I have organized and presided over the Jam Session for the Four Freshmen Society Convention for the past several years beginning in 2013 when Marlene Lobsiger and I hosted the convention in Fort Wayne, Indiana. It seemed to me that previous jam sessions wasted a lot of time by asking who wants to perform next and then getting them up to play or sing and ask the combo if they knew a certain song in a key in which the person was able to perform. It took a lot of time for the performer and the combo to agree and perform the song. This procedure made for a long night and for some performers, a less than great presentation because someone didn’t know the song that was requested. Based on that assumption, I decided to get all of that done before hand.

I start by having anyone who wishes to play or sing fill out the registration form what song they want and in what key. Then I find that song in my large computer file or in my fake books or at the library. Once the song is found, it is put in my computer a note at a time. Or, if it already exists, I can take the next step which is to transfer it to the correct key for the performer. My computer program for this is called Band-In-A-Box. You type in the chord symbols and either type or play the melody from a synthesizer keyboard so it appears on the screen with the chords. This is called a lead sheet. Once the music is in the computer it is a simple matter to press a button and change the key. The next step is to print three copies of the music (one for piano, bass, and drum set).

I set a cut-off date and at that time I make a list of all the performers, their instrument or voice and the title of their song. It’s usually one song per person. Then I take that list and make a program order, so everyone knows when they are performing during the evening. I try to vary the performers by instrument and voice so there are not so many of the same kind in a row. Then some special numbers are added. The current and Former Four Freshmen are always welcome to perform as they often have in the past. In recent years I have added an opening

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Please consider registering for the Convention online at ffs2022.com

JUST DO IT! (continued from page 4)

and support in this little music community of ours we have created that has made it special for so many over the years; including yours truly.

Just do it! Make it out to Bay City to support The Four Freshmen Society, The Four Freshmen, but also to just have an awesome time because the group misses you, your friends miss you, and DARN IT, WE ALL DESERVE IT!!!

See you there, my friends!

Organize a Jam Session

(continued from page 10)

number based on something about the convention and I invite some instrumentalists to perform this number. This year the group is being called The Four Freshmen Society All-Stars and since the Bay City Doubletree Hotel is along a river, we are performing *Up A Lazy River*... you don't want to miss it! Also, at the end of the evening we invite any instrumentalist back to the stage to actually "jam" or improvise on the final number, even if you haven't performed before, you are welcome to join.

The host of the convention assures me he has found the best piano, bass, and drum set combo in town to accompany all the performers. I do them the service of making a book for each player of all the songs in the order in which they will be performed. These three books are sent to the convention host ahead of time, so the combo will have all the music they need to play.

Any musician attending the convention is welcome to perform at the jam session. If you wish to participate, please email me your instrument information, name of song and the key so I can have the music ready for you. My email address is blackdsb@outlook.com

This is always a great night of fun and music on the opening night of the convention.

The Four Freshmen...On the Road!

Check the Website: fourfreshmensociety.com or fourfreshmen.com for updates

For bookings: International Ventures Incorporated

Dina Sheets-Roth

P.O. Box 993, Hampton Bay, NY 11946

Phone: 661-259-4500

Email: ivimanagement@me.com

Please note: Dates subject to change without notice.

Due to the current health restrictions, please be sure to keep up with the status of concerts online at fourfreshmensociety.com

April 2, 2022 San Juan Capistrano, CA

The Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano

Show time: 8:00p

Tickets and Dinner Reservations: 949-496-8930

April 3, 2022

La Mirada, CA

La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts, 14900 La Mirada Blvd

Show time: 2:00p

Tickets: 714-994-6310 / 562-944-9801

June 1, 2022 Ann Arbor, MI

Blue Llama Jazz Club, 314 Main St

Show time(s): TBA

Tickets/Reservations: 734-372-3200

June 3-4, 2022

Grosse Pointe Farms, MI

The Dirty Dog Cafe, 97 Kercheval Ave

Show times: TBA

Reservations: 313-882-5299

June 8-10, 2022

Bay City, MI

Four Freshmen Society Convention

FFS Members only

DoubleTree Hotel, One Wenonah Park Place

Registration opens February 15, 2022

Please consider registering online at FFS2022.com

December 11, 2022 Oakley, KS

Oakley High School Auditorium, 118 West 7th

Show time: 3:00p

Tickets: TBA

December 31, 2022

Spring, TX

The Centrum, 6823 Cypresswood Dr

Show time: 8:00p

Tickets: 281-440-4850



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