

Fresh News

Volume 39, No. 2

APRIL, MAY, JUNE 2025

THANKS!



Our
President,
**Donna
Gallaway**



GREETINGS FFS MEMBERS & FRESHMEN FANS

The calendar keeps changing, yet the music plays on. The fabulous Four Freshmen continue to wow audiences and fill venues from what I am hearing from FFS folks who have been lucky enough to see them in person.

We would like to see and hear about more “Gatherings” where FFS members and friends will get together in the area where the Freshmen are performing. It’s always good to catch up with one another at a show, but the Gathering can extend the reunion or even introduce us to new members and fans that could grow our Society. Check the FFS website to find out how to arrange one of these events or to participate in one.

If you have a special memory of a time spent with any of the former or current Freshmen and would like to share your experience, we encourage you to write an article for the *Fresh News*. We want to hear from you! Our editor Barb Meyers is always open to receive your stories.

*I wish you all a wonderful Spring season filled with **Fresh music** and **Fresh opportunities**.*

Yas & Michiko: We love you!

by Yas Ichiura

I joined FFS (FFAS) in 1991 and tried to promote the fan club in Japan. I have been successful for the first 15 or 20 years, mainly because The Four Freshmen have been to Japan many times.

Now, I have to admit I’m getting old and can’t organize FFS Japan properly these days. Therefore, I would like to move my job as FFS Japan Rep to Chaz Cone before I become totally uncontrollable.

Late 1990, John Bangs asked me to help him take care of an increasing number of FFS Japan members. There were long time Four Freshmen fans in Japan, but many of them were not good at handling the foreign currency exchange and thus sending money to FFS, USA. I was happy to assist those people and John Bangs. It has worked out very well.

Now, it’s the right time for me to hand over the reins of FFS Japan members to Chaz. Simply, he’ll take care of them in the same way as he does other groups from other countries as well as USA members.

I have informed the FFS Japan members about my resignation and ask them to contact Chaz directly thru the FFS website for renewal procedures. I have sent Chaz a list of active FFS Japan members along with their renewal month to help make the switch as smooth as possible. Luckily, the next membership renewal in Japan is due in May 2025, so we have some time to prepare this procedure.

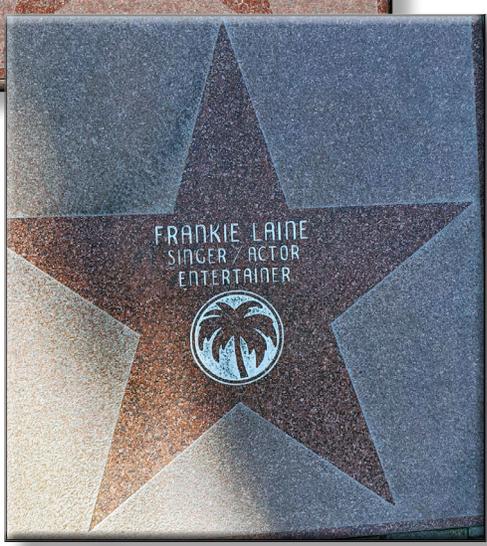
PS. It was great fun and happiness to help The Four Freshmen and FFS for the last 35 years or so. Michiko and I will always cherish

the many valuable friends and the wonderful times we shared with the great sound of The Four Freshmen.



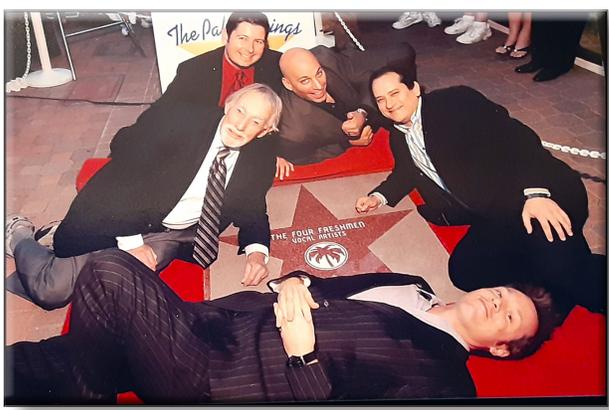
The Four Freshmen Warm Up Morton, IL

by Don Follett



A Star on Hollywood Palm Spring's Walk of Fame

Don Follett's daughter took this photo of the sidewalk in Palm Springs, CA (on a vacation). Palm Springs has a walk of fame like Hollywood.



FFS members, Bill and Pauline O'Neill, caught the Four Freshmen's first concert of 2025 at Morton, Illinois on January 13, 2025. It was a on a cold, 11 degree, Monday night. But the Morton Fine Arts Theatre was toasty as the Four Freshmen played an excellent performance to a sold-out crowd. The appreciative audience called for an encore. The boys are off on another successful year.



WHERE DO MY MEMBERSHIP DUES GO?

Annual membership dues are required for membership in the Four Freshmen Society (FFS). Here's how your dues are used:

- Not for labor :) The FFS is all volunteers. No one is paid to do Society work; there's no paid staff.
- *Fresh News* Newsletter is published quarterly and is full of information and member stories to help members learn about the upcoming convention, Four Freshmen gigs, latest CD releases, to gain access to the Merchandise Mart, and so much more.
- A mailing list is maintained for the newsletter and other mailings to FFS members. All mailing expenses are paid by the FFS.
- The FFS often purchases items for the Freshmen -- clothing and sometimes instruments and cases, replacements for damaged items, publicity photographs and posters.
- Four Freshmen recordings on CDs are usually produced by the FFS.
- Transition expenses for bringing new Freshmen into the group are paid by the FFS.

Your annual dues of \$30 (or \$25/year when renewing for multiple years at once) stretch far beyond what's listed above in benefits and expenses. As a FFS member, you are part of the greatest fan club in the world for a group of hard working, skilled and talented young men who, for more than 75 years, continue to perform one of the greatest historical legacies in American music!

You can renew your membership at any time by going to dues.fourfreshmensociety.com; please do!



Gatherings

by Gil Peterson

Greetings to all,

I recently had a conversation with Bob Ferreira and he informed me that things seem to be picking up for the group and he is very positive about their future. They have a number of dates coming up soon. I have been working on having the group back here in Oregon this summer. I don't have anything currently set in stone, but I am hopeful that I can secure a date someday soon. I have also been in touch with Jake's sister, Emily, who lives in Eugene, Oregon, and she informed me that she has several contacts there that she will be pursuing. Our hope is that we can put together several venues this summer. Between us, maybe we can put our heads together and make something happen. Stay tuned!

I know that our membership has declined, but we still have members scattered all over the country. I would like to encourage everyone to always be on the lookout for possibilities for the Freshmen in your area. Most communities have some kind of summer music venue. If there is one in your community, I suggest you contact the committee Chairman and promote the Four Freshmen for the event. You might be surprised. At least make the effort. If anyone is interested, I would be very pleased to assist you in the process.

The news from the "gatherings" around the country has been very exciting. The one I attended in Lynden, Washington was superb. Keep up the good work and let's have a bunch more of these. It may not be a convention, but it's a great way to celebrate the Four Freshmen. These also serve as a wonderful way for us to meet again and share the iconic sounds of our favorite group. Put one together and if it's anywhere close, I will be there.

I wish each of you a delightful spring and summer. Stay healthy and safe.

Best fresh wishes!

Editors Note:

I have decided to add a page called *Memories*. If any of you have photos from Conventions or parties that you love and would like to see them in *Fresh News*, just send them to me and I will eventually get them in. They, of course, always have to be with the Four Freshmen and Society Members.

– Barb Meyers

Some Most Memorable Encounters

Preston Stevens' Memorable Encounter

Marian and I signed up for this, our first cruise. The Four Freshmen were our attraction. I had first heard them in 1957 and reunited with them at Winthrop College in South Carolina circa 1992. This was back when Bob had a bushy head of hair!

We boarded the Holland America ship in New York never thinking that this would be a cruise we would never forget!

As we left the harbor, we ascended to the top deck for the view which included the beautiful World Trade Center gleaming in the western sun. Attached is one of the photos that I took. Later, I had the ship's photo lab make a dozen copies for new friends we had met. The excursions were wonderful. Marian, a tennis star, loved the World Tennis Center in Newport.

At about eight o'clock Tuesday morning I was walking the deck with my Sony Walkman broadcasting trivia when a startling announcement came concerning a plane hitting one of the Towers. I rushed back to our room and we saw the second tragic crash. At this moment the world knew that this was a terrorist attack. The ship announced that the theater would be showing the scenes. We stayed there watching for several hours. Many viewers were in tears.

Our next stop was Halifax, Nova Scotia. Oh my! What a welcome. The folks were so sympathetic and hospitable. Our ship was clearly out of USA jurisdiction when the crashes happened so we could not be called back. The Four Freshmen added heroic performances that we were so grateful for and will never forget.



The Four Freshmen Society Inc.

| Item | Cost | QTY | Total |
|--|----------|-----|-------|
| 5 Trombones/5Trumpets | \$15.00 | | |
| 50 Years Fresh | \$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 | | |
| Four Freshmen and June Christy on the BBC | \$15.00 | | |
| Four Freshmen Live in Stockholm (*) (CD & DVD) (group 4) | \$15.00 | | |
| Four Freshmen in Japan (CD) (*) (group 18) | \$15.00 | | |
| Four Freshmen in Japan (DVD) (*) (group 18) | \$15.00 | | |
| Four Freshmen with the Emmet Cohen Trio (group 27) | \$18.00 | | |
| Fresh | \$15.00 | | |
| Freshmas | \$15.00 | | |
| Freshmen Year/Voices in Latin | \$15.00 | | |
| Golden Anniversary | \$15.00 | | |
| Graduation Day | \$15.00 | | |
| In Session | \$15.00 | | |
| Live at Butler | \$15.00 | | |
| Live at Clearwater | \$15.00 | | |
| Live at Constitution Hall 1979 (*) (group 6) | \$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 Millemium | \$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 | | |
| Stars in Our Eyes/The Swingers | \$15.00 | | |
| Star Spangled Banner (up to 10 per order) | Free | | |
| Still Fresh | \$15.00 | | |
| The Liberty Years | \$15.00 | | |
| The Swingers/ 4 Freshmen-5 Trumpets | \$15.00 | | |
| Through the Years (*) | \$15.00 | | |
| Voices in Brass/In Person Vol. 1 | \$15.00 | | |
| Rod Henley's Jazzmin Vocal Band | \$10.00 | | |
| "Now You Know" (Leather Bound Book) (\$120 non US) | \$100.00 | | |

Please use "Return Address" label when available - Thanks

Name: _____

Street: _____

City, State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Name on Card: _____

Credit Card Number:

_____ - _____ - _____ - _____

Expiration Date: ____/____/____

Pre-owned CDs (\$4 each includes shipping)

- Through the Years
- Live in the New Millemium
- Live at Constitution Hall (2)
- Graduation Day (3)
- Fresh (2)
- Return to Romance
- Remebering Ken
- Voice in Love (2)
- The Liberty Years
- Voices in Latin
- Still Fresh
- Greatest Hits
- Live at Butler
- Faux Freshmen
- Unsung
- Scratchin' the Surface (2)
- Season of the Heart
- Ray Brown
- Southern Comfort
- Thank You Very Large

New LP's - Friends \$20, others \$15

- Four Freshmen and Friends
- Fresh
- The Freshmen Year

Subtotal

Shipping - \$1 per CD for US orders (CD/DVD Combo is \$2)

\$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

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Fresh News is published quarterly © 2025, all rights reserved, celebrating THE FOUR FRESHMEN, the best vocal/instrumental quartet in the world. Publication does not imply approval of FFS corporate directors or trustees. Each author is responsible for his/her article.

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

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The Four Freshmen...On the Road!

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

For bookings: International Ventures Incorporated

Dina Sheets-Roth

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Please note: Dates subject to change without notice.

June 20

Twin Cities Jazz Festival, Emmet Cohen Trio with The Four Freshmen
Mears Park, 221 5th St E

Show time: 8:30pm

Tickets: Free Event!

St. Paul, MN

July 21

Douwstra Auditorium at Central College, 817 Peach St

Show time: TBA

Tickets: TBA

Pelvia, IA

August 23

The Opera House, 403 N Huron St.

Showtime 7:30pm

Ticket info: TBA

Cheboygan, MI

December 3

Katherine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center, 300 Main St.

Showtime: 8:00pm

Tickets: 860-510-0453

Old Saybrook, CT

December 7

Horseshoe Bay Cultural Enrichment Granite Ballroom
at Horseshoe Bay Resort, 200 Hi Circle N

Doors open: 4:30pm

Dinner: 5:30pm

Show time: 6:00pm

Tickets: TBA

Horseshoe Bay, TX

December 9

Parker Jazz Club, 117 W 4th St, 107 B

Show time: TBA

Tickets: TBA

Austin, TX

December 10

Jazz TX, 312 Pearl Pkway, Bldg 6, Suite 6001

Show times: 7:00pm and 9:30pm Tickets: TBA

San Antonio, TX

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The Four Freshmen Society Inc.

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Four Freshmen Music Foundation

The logo for the Four Freshmen Music Foundation (FFMF) is a circular emblem. It features a blue globe in the center, with the letters 'FFMF' in a bold, orange, sans-serif font overlaid on it. Below the globe and letters is a white musical staff with a treble clef and several notes. The entire emblem is set against a black background and is enclosed in a blue border.

If you would like to make
a tax-deductible donation,
please go to
FourFreshmenMusicFoundation.org
or contact FFMF Treasurer
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