

SARASOTA CONCERT

Bill and Anne Miner Indianapolis, IN

During our 2010 vacation in Sarasota, Florida, we were able to attend the sold-out, Four Freshmen concert presented by the Sarasota Jazz Festival at the Players Theatre. Attendees unanimously agreed that the current group (Bob, Brian Curtis, Vince) had never sounded better. (Fresh News Volume 24: 1-2)

This year (on our 2011 annual Sarasota vacation) we got to hear the ORIGINAL Freshman (Bob, Don, Hal, and Ross) 24 hours a day on Sarasota's AM radio station 1450. "The Dove on Route 66" features jazz programming "round the clock". When we wanted to hear really good music, we'd just turn on our "rental car" radio and hear *Poinciana*, *Day by Day*, *Route 66*, etc. Thank heaven, good music is still alive and well in Florida!

Thanks for editing such a great newsletter. We purchased Stan Kenton - This Is A Orchestra by Michael Sparke!



GOOD PEOPLE

I know some of you wonder about my health, and don't want to call and maybe bother me.

The problem with cancer is that it takes such a long time to get over it.

Progress is slow. Chemotherapy makes **me** slow.

They are treating me with gentle doses because the strong doses attack my blood, and my old bones can't make blood that fast.

I skipped my "Chemo" last week to let my body make blood, and they will skip the next two weeks too.

Then I'll get a "petscan" test, which will give us news about killing cancer. I'm hoping for good news.

I'll do my best to make it to Toledo. I want to hug everybody at the convention!

Will you keep hoping with me?

Ross

BACK HOME AGAIN IN INDIANA

By Sara Lou and Neil Lantz

What a joy! April 29 - May 1, a couple dozen Society members were joined by nearly 5,000 of their "closest friends" for a series of four great Freshmen concerts in Indianapolis with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra (ISO) and former Metropolitan Opera star Sylvia McNair. The concerts were performed flawlessly in the beautifully restored 95-year old Hilbert Circle Theatre in downtown Indianapolis as a part of the ISO Pop Series.

The Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra was formed in 1930 and today performs 200 concerts for more than 350,000 people each year. The ISO is the largest performing arts organization in Indiana and one of only 18 year-round orchestras in the nation.

Two-time Grammy Award winner, Sylvia McNair, has had a stellar 25-year singing career, ranging from opera, to cabaret and musical theatre, to performances of the Great American Songbook. Since 2006, in addition to her performance schedule, she has been on the voice faculty of the prestigious Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University.

The Freshmen were in their usual top form at all four concerts. Backed by the symphony, the guys wowed the audiences with their beautiful renditions of *Poinciana*, *Nancy*, *I'm Always Chasing Rainbows*, *You Made Me Love You*, *Laura*, *It's a Blue World*, and many others, prompting spontaneous applause from the appreciative audiences and followed by a hearty standing ovation at the conclusion of each concert.

The arrangements backed by the full orchestra are indeed magnificent and clearly serve to highlight the wonderful musical talents of the four guys while, at the same time, preserving the harmonic uniqueness and style for which the Four Freshmen have been known for 63 years. Their performances brought back many fond memories for the audiences who recalled hearing the original Freshmen or any of the groups that followed.

Ms. McNair joined the Freshmen for a rousing conclusion to each concert with a happy, swinging rendition of *Something's Gotta Give*. As always, it was a joy to see the Freshmen back in Indy, and the their future return can't happen too soon!

