

Fresh News

Volume 25, No. 3

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2011

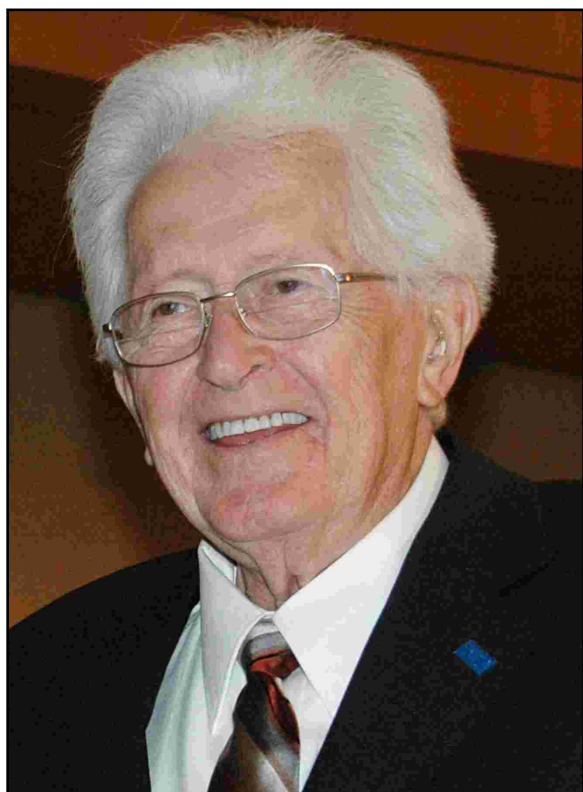
BIGGER THAN LIFE

Greg Stegeman, FFS ???

I first met Bob Flanigan in 1968 when I was 17 years old. For the last year and a half I'd been gathering together as many of the Freshmen's recordings as possible as a result of stumbling across my parent's copy of *Four Freshmen and Five Trombones*. They had just seen the group on the same bill with Billie Holiday and brought home that album. Even though I had already been playing trumpet in school for six years, I was especially attracted to vocal harmony so when I starting hearing these progressive chords sung by four men, it just turned my whole world around.

Like Brian Wilson of the Beach Boys, that's all I wanted to do — listen over and over to that sound, pulling back the vinyl needle repeatedly for some of the better moments until I could sing along with them, trying to discover what it was that thrilled me so.

Fast forward to 1984: As the musical director and DJ for KRML, a small jazz station in my hometown of Carmel, CA (where Clint Eastwood filmed *Play Misty For Me*) I drove up to San Francisco to interview Bob Flanigan while they were appearing at The Fairmont Hotel. When I asked him how he was able to keep it together all those years, he simply said, "Well, I'm a performer." He didn't say entertainer, musician, showman, or anything else. I think this was the essence of the man — he was a PERFORMER. It was obvious to everyone who saw The Four Freshmen that Flanigan was a stage presence to be reckoned with. At 6'4", his huge voice, trombone, and comic attitude let you know he was in town. (continued on page 2)



BIGGER THAN LIFE (continued)

He was the fire, he was the SWING.

Let's break it down: starting from what usually gets the least attention, I submit that Bob was even an underrated bass player. Bill Wagner, the Freshmen's manager through their most successful years, sent me bootleg tapes of the original group with Bob playing full chorus bass solos on tunes like *Street of Dreams* that were really well conceived. Listen again to his bass chops on Ross's *My Heart Stood Still* from *Voices in Modern*. The *Freshman Year* album also contains two outstanding bass solos from Bob on *Show Me the Way to Get Out of This World* and *It's Only a Paper Moon*. Years later his electric bass/vocalese was featured on *What Now My Love* from the *Live in Tokyo* recording.

The Trombone:

It's no secret, too, that Bob was a Stan Kenton fan of biblical proportions. It didn't matter that he was blowing this difficult brass instrument in front of just three other guys — he played it as if he WERE the lead bone in Stan's 22-piece orchestra. And even though we think of him as having this aggressive approach to the trombone, there are examples of his tenderness as well: *While You Are Gone* from *Voices in Love* and *I'm Getting Sentimental Over You* from *The Freshman Year* just to name a couple. His trombone solos became as famous as the group vocal sound and it's difficult really to separate them. It was all coming from the same source: the love of musical performance. Maybe that explains why Bob considered *Voices in Fun* with Billy May his favorite Freshmen recording.

The Voice:

Here's where Bob Flanigan stands alone. NOBODY ever did or will sound like him. I've said this many times but I think it's worth saying again: For warmth and beauty, you can't beat the sound Bob got on all the "oooo" acapella intros on the *Love. Lost* album. Those little gems are priceless. I could listen to them every day and not tire of it. When it came to the swing idiom, he had no equal. He could swing as hard as Mel Torme but do it in a much higher key to accommodate the brilliant harmonies below him. Who else could do that? Clark Burroughs of the Hi-Lo's was an incredible lead voice, too, but he had more of a classic tenor sound with an obvious break when he ascended their chords. There was no break in Flanigan's voice. For me, the best example of this is his solo line at the beginning of *Polka Dots and Moonbeams*. He somehow literally morphs from a natural male register to a beautiful, bell-like falsetto even before Ross, Don, and Ken enter. I've never heard anything quite like that from ANY singer.

Fast forward to 1989:

Some dreams do come true. After almost 30 years of performing and training, I finally got what was for me, the brass ring. I became a member of my favorite group and found myself trying to sing Ross's part with Bob Flanigan on stage. It was almost surreal. Is this really happening? After more than 40 years of THE ROAD, Bob, already in his 60s, was still the life force of the Freshmen but naturally his abilities were declining. I certainly had no intention to eventually replace him — I wanted to sing a harmony part. But fate intervened and I found myself suddenly in this new role. I knew instinctively that it wouldn't work for anyone to attempt an "impersonation" of Bob but since he laid that part down for 44 years, I had a pretty good idea on HOW his part was meant to sound. I had some good moments in my seven years as the top voice in the Freshmen but as they say, "Tough act to follow.....".

It's also worth noting that Bob was a good boss. We were on salary (almost unheard-of in the music business) and got our paychecks every Friday, 52 weeks a year regardless of how often we were booked. It wasn't a lot but we could count on it and since I had two young sons to consider, this was crucial and greatly appreciated. Bob made sure we were taken care of and when that happens, you're ready to do anything for that person.

On the road, I was Bob's driving partner so you can imagine the stories I'd love to tell you but most of them are not appropriate for publication. There are a handful of other things that Bob said to me that were so kind and generous that still make my heart soar. Just a few days before he passed, I got a chance to spend an hour alone with him at a hospice in Las Vegas. Flan was not big on sentimentality so I kept it light. Just hours before he left us I conducted Rod Henley's eight-piece trombone choir at Bob's bedside with his entire family and few friends surrounding him. He lifted his hands to conduct the ending of "Blue World" and we were all just a mess after that.

Yesterday's memorial in Las Vegas was an extraordinary event, too. I'm sure there will be several articles from FFS members who attended. Hopefully, a video will surface that will be shown at the upcoming Toledo convention. Rod Henley deserves a medal for putting the whole affair together that included not only the current Freshmen but a 12-piece trombone choir as well.

We all knew this was coming but somehow I just can't imagine a world without that powerhouse character. Suddenly, it's quieter and duller. But guess what? We can listen to him and the rest of the Freshmen anytime we want. How lucky can you get?



Autie and Bob

Toledo, Ohio at Fiar Tucks,
October 1987



Kirk Marcy

TRIBUTES TO BOB

President, Mel Meyers, speech at the memorial tribute

In behalf of the FFS, I am pleased to be here to speak to the memory of Dr. Robert Flanigan. I am grateful and feel honored to speak.

Bob was:

The Consummate Entertainer - he displayed his humor and skills on stage and off, easily.

The Musician - he was on a mission and that was to make the Four Freshmen sing as a trombone section so it's no surprise that from Club 113 to Five Trombones to Live Trombones were so musically unique and dynamic.

As a family man he responded to those issues we parents all have, as required. It didn't take long for Mary to figure out he was a "keeper".

As a story teller he was a delight. It seemed he knew everyone in the music industry and could tell a tale, make it funny yet, believable.

As a Friend - He and Mary stayed at our Toledo home prior to the Pittsburgh convention. It was his birthday. We thought we could show him Toledo's finest but, instead he asked "Do you have a Steak and Shake" here in town? He said they have the best crock of baked beans I ever had. Of course we ate there.. It was his birthday! Frequently, Barb and I would stop there to pick up meal and napkin. And then send it on to Bob. With that gesture we wrote on the napkin and sent it to him with a parody from "I thought about you." It went "I took a trip to Steak and Shake and thought about you." We still think about them.

FFS Member - he enjoyed the comraderie of the Society as provided by every convention as it provided him with the opportunity to enjoy the membership and tease the current Freshmen. What a Guy! He touched the whole Society and he will not be forgotten! The Society looks to the future to continue this Legend!

For me - he was a legend in his own time! Often I pressed him to write a book and record all he could remember. By the way I was told he had committed over 500 songs to memory.

But listen.. .shhhhh! You may be able to hear Bob and Stan tuning up again. He told me on one occasion, "If it weren't for Stan Kenton, The Four Freshmen would be still be singing up and down the Ohio River.

Listen..... Thank you and our love to you, Mary and your family.

ReFreshingly,
Mel Meyers, President Four Freshmen Society

Honoring Robert Flanigan (Aug22,1926-May15,2011)

The Flagship of Freshmen Nation has cleared the harbour breakwater and entered the broader seas beyond.

A twenty-one gun salute to the Captain, the CEO, the Chairman of the Board, the Commander in Chief of our 63 year and still counting love affair with the Four Freshmen and the Freshmen Sound - a sound that will live and flourish as long as men and women possess the gift of hearing.

So sail on, sail on, oh Ship of State. And may your journey continue to spread peace, joy and laughter throughout the universe.

When I first met Bob Flanigan, I addressed him as 'Sir Robert', later as 'King Flan', and finally as 'Hi Bob! It's really great to see you again' - each time with the greatest of respect and admiration for a master entertainer and eventually a friend.

I will miss him dearly. I will always remember.

With love,
Al Skane, FFS Boston
Retired Used Sweater Salesman

Here is what Bob Flanigan has to say about the 60 years of The Four Freshmen...

... "Bad Roads... Bad food... Good and Bad Hotels... Millions of air-miles in DC3s to 747's....

... being a part of Stan Kenton's life and being thankful for all the help he gave us from 1950 to his death....

... the People and Places: The Blue Note and Jack Teagarden, Stan Kenton at Boston's Storyville, Jazz City in Hollywood, CA, and Woody Herman, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Maynard Ferguson and so many more people and places....

... playing the great concert halls of the world and almost every college and university in the USA....it's very special to me because it means we have made, and continue to make, a real contribution to music in the WORLD over these 60 years and now into the future!"

"I recall a luncheon with Jerry West, one of the greatest basketball players of all time and we compared our professions in this way: We both agreed that the boredom is a problem if we allow it to be. He said "all the travel and hotels can create this, but all of it has to be pointed to 'GAMETIME' for him and 'SHOWTIME' for me."

"We have made many good friends through the last 60 years, most of whom are still friends. Friends are members of The Four Freshmen Society, the only support group of its kind."

"I have loved every second of the last 60 years and would not trade them for anything in the World!"

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New Members

Bob & Bobbi Baboian, Greenville, RI
Beth Belleville, Kalamazoo, MI
Miles Burnett, The Villages, FL
Ed & Martha Clarke, Loveland, OH
Alan & Dottie Crebo, Sharpsville, IN
Derek & Betty Detjen, Evans, GA
Gail & Dom DiNeno, Wakefield, RI
Wes Doak, Sacramento, CA
Kay & Lou Dorazio, Parma Heights, OH
Len Drew, Sherborn, MA
Bruce Edson, Bonita Springs, FL
Mary Anne Eichner, Kettering, OH
Norman Eig, New York, NY
Bob Eldredge, Ypsilanti, MI
Joe Ellison, Trenton, MI
Larry & Dixie Gibson, Anderson, IN
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Richard Hague, Henderson, NV
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John & Naomi Huhn, Livingston, CA
Augusto & Evelyn Jamora,
West Bloomfield, MI
Frank & Marilyn Jamora, Northbrook, IL
Dave & Chris Johnson, Noblesville, IN
Sandra Jones, Toledo, OH
Karen & George Kielwasser,
Palm Coast, FL
Johann Korsfeldt, Soenderborg
Jordan Leitson, Solon, OH
Roy & Sandy Levin, Modesto, CA
Doug & Betty Lillie, Oakdale, CA
Bruce & Sue Machol, The Villages, FL

Alex Maier, Herriman, UT
Willam & Connie Mathison, Ozark, MO
Patrick McGuinn, New York, NY
Timothy & Sylvia Newman, Akron, OH
Jeanann Olds, Toledo, OH
Greg Olzack, Atwater, CA
James Ostermeier, Greenfield, IN
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FFS New Member/or Renewal Form

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

(9 digit zip please)

Telephone # _____

Fax # _____

E-mail _____

New Member Fee: \$32.00

Single or Couple (worldwide)

All Renewals: One Year \$22.00

Two or more years \$17.00 each year

FFS dues are not tax deductible.

Please mail form and correct fee to:

Chaz Cone

FFS Membership Dept.

6900 Hunters Knoll NE

ATLANTA GA 30328-1763

Or renew online at

www.fourfreshmensociety.com/dues


FROM THE PRES...

With heavy heart I note the passing of our friend, Dr. Bob Flanigan. He always was so much fun on cruises and conventions.

Much was already written about Dr. Bob so I'll be brief. We all know he loved to party. So lets have one in Toledo for him. He'll be there in spirit!

If you are still undecided about attending, "Just do it!"

Refreshingly,



Mel Meyers, President, FFS

Contributions

Tony Leone
Lee & Lydia Mason
Bob Rorich

Fresh News is published quarterly © 2011, 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 15
2. Apr/May/June - March 15
3. July/Aug/Sept - June 15
4. Oct/Nov/Dec - Sept 15

Submit manuscripts to the Editor:

Tom Purvis
tpurvis@bex.net

The Four Freshmen...On the Road!

Check the Website: fourfreshmensociety.com or 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

Please note: Dates subject to change without notice.

For information or questions call: Mel Meyers 419-380-8596

July 13-16, 2011 Grosse Pointe Farms, MI

Dirty Dog Jazz Café, 97 Kercheval Ave,

Show Times: TBA, Reservations: 313-882-5299

July 23, 2011 Hackettstown, NJ

Lackland Center for The Performing Arts., 715 Grand Avenue

Show Time: 8:00 PM, Box Office: 908-979-0900

July 24, 2011 New York, NY

Iridium Jazz Club, 1650 Broadway (51st)

Show Times: TBA, Box Office: 212-582-2121.

July 27, 2011 Newport Beach, CA

Newport Beach Marriott Hotel & Spa, 900 Newport Center Drive

Tickets & Information: 949-759-5003

July 29, 2011 Las Vegas, NV

South Point Hotel & Casino, 9777 Las Vegas Blvd South

Hotel: 702-796-7111, Show Time: 7:30 PM, Tickets: 702-797-8055

July 30, 2011 Las Vegas, NV

South Point Hotel & Casino, 9777 Las Vegas Blvd South

Hotel: 702-796-7111, Show Time: 7:30 PM, Tickets: 702-797-8055

July 31, 2011 Las Vegas, NV

South Point Hotel & Casino, 9777 Las Vegas Blvd South

Hotel: 702-796-7111, Show Time: 7:30 PM, Tickets: 702-797-8055

AUGUST 2011

August 7/2011 Scranton, PA

Scranton Jazz Festival, Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel

700 Lackawanna Avenue, Show Time: TBA, Tickets: TBA

August 12, 2011 Newport Beach, CA

Balboa Bay Club, 1221 West Coast Highway

Bay Club 888-445-7153, Ticket info: (949) 630-4201

August 13, 2011 San Diego CA

Anthology, 1337 India Street, Reservations : 619 595 0300

SEPTEMBER 2011

September 8, 2011

Four Freshmen Society Convention (3 Days), Park Inn,

101 North Summit Street, Toledo OH 43604, More details: www.ffa2011.com

September 11, 2011 Fredonia, NY

Fredonia Opera House, 9 Church Street

Tickets: 716-679-1891, Show Time: 7 PM

September 19, 2011 Wichita, KS

Friends University, Sebitz Auditorium, 2100 W. University Ave.

Show Time: TBA, Tickets: 316-295-5000

September 24, 2011 Wooster, OH

College of Wooster, Scheide Music Center, McGraw Chapel

525 East University Street, Tickets: 330-263-2419

September 26, 2011 Centerville, OH

Centerville Performing Arts Center, 500 E. Franklin Street

Tickets: TBA, Show Time: 8pm

September 29, 2011 Bluffton, OH

Yoder Recital Hall at Bluffton University, 1 University Drive

Tickets: 419-358-3239, Show Time: 7:30pm

HOLY TOLEDO

The 2011 Convention is almost here. If you haven't registered there is still time and enough rooms at the Hotel. And, as you can see by the program exciting things will be happening. The music will be wonderful and probably some surprises from our Four Guys. Bill Comstock, Ray Brown, Autie Goodman and Kirk Marcy are on board. We are keeping our fingers and toes crossed for Ross.

Of course, the main focus of this Convention is to celebrate Bob Flanigans life. We are hoping to have His Memorial on video for those of you who were not able to attend the one in Las Vegas.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in Toledo September 8, 9, and 10th at The Park Inn Hotel

Barb Meyers, Chairman



The Four Freshmen on stage, Sidney, OH in April 2011



Mel and Barb Meyers,
Sidney, OH in April 2011

2011 CONVENTION PROGRAM SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2011

9:00a-4:00p	Registration	Ballroom Atrium - 2nd floor
10:00a-4:00p	Club 113 Music Mart	Waynesfield - 2nd floor
1:00p-2:00p	Yahoo Group	Eaglepoint - 2nd floor
2:00p-4:00p	Wannabees	Ballroom 1 - 2nd floor
3:30p-4:15p	Corporate Board	Boardroom - 3rd floor
4:30p-5:30p	Advisory Board	Boardroom - 3rd floor
<i>Dinner on your own</i>		
7:30p-10:30p	Jam Session	Ballroom - 2nd floor

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2011

9:00a-4:00p	Registration	Ballroom Atrium - 2nd floor
10:00a-4:00p	Club 113 Music Mart	Waynesfield - 2nd floor
10:30a-3:30p	Tour (meet in lobby at 10:15a)	
3:30p-4:30p	Rep. Meeting	Ballroom - 2nd floor
5:30p-6:30p	Meet and Greet	Seagate Convention Center Hall
6:30p-7:30p	Dinner (Casual Buffet with Josh Silver on piano)	Seagate Convention Center
8:00p	Concert (The Four Freshmen) Afterglow	Seagate Convention Center Mike's Bar Hotel

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011

9:00a-12:00p	Registration	Ballroom Atrium - 2nd floor
9:15a-10:30a	Arm Chair Tour - Susan Skinner	Ballroom - 2nd floor
10:00a-4:00p	Club 113 Music Mart	Waynesfield - 2nd floor
12:00 noon	Silent Auction Ends (Results to be announced at the General Meeting)	Waynesfield - 2nd floor
1:00p-2:00p	Fresh Talk	Ballroom - 2nd floor
2:00p-3:00p	General Meeting	Ballroom - 2nd floor
3:30p-4:30p	Wannabees	Ballroom 1 - 2nd floor
5:30p-6:30p	Meet and Greet	Seagate Convention Center
6:30p-7:30p	Dinner (Sit down dinner with Josh Silver on piano)	Seagate Convention Center
8:00p	Concert (The Four Freshmen with Toledo Jazz Orchestra) Afterglow	Seagate Convention Center Mike's Bar Hotel



Four Freshmen Society Convention 2011 Toledo Ohio September 8 - 10, 2011

Pull out this
Convention
insert
to keep

It's all about the Four Freshmen and their music -- with Stan Kenton excitement in the mix!

If you've been to one or more of the preceding *twenty-three* Four Freshmen Conventions, you know what a great time everyone has. If you haven't been to one (and *why on earth* haven't you?), you really need to join us in Toledo and find out what all the buzz is about.

For us, the Convention is all about two things:

- 1) hearing the great music of the Four Freshmen performed by arguably the best FF group – ever, and
- 2) visiting with a few hundred like-minded fans.

We've planned this Convention to maximize both of those wishes.

Toledo is a great town for the FFS convention. It is said "Toledo's DNA is Jazz".



In addition to meeting and listening to the performing Freshmen, more FF alumni will be here adding to the joy.

We're fortunate to have the Park Inn Hotel as our host hotel. The convention hotel, The Park Inn Hotel - located at 101 North Summit Street Toledo Ohio, 43604 - is ready to take your reservations for the Convention. The phone number is **1-800-670-7275**; just tell them you are with The Four Freshmen Society. Our special Convention rate is \$109.00 plus taxes, and there's free parking for hotel guests. As a bonus, the prices are good three days before the Convention and three days after.

Suites at the Park Inn are also available; one-bedroom suites at \$198.00 and two-bedroom suites at \$288.00.

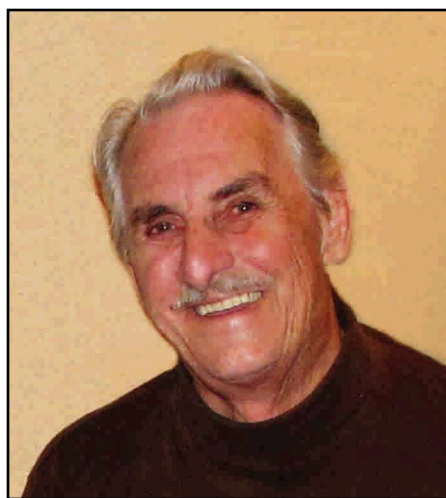
Plan to arrive on Thursday, September 8th if you can. We'll have a number of Freshmen-related activities including the "113 Club" where you can load up on FF memorabilia and recordings, and the "FF Wannabe" room where we'll be singing FF charts together. If you've never heard scores of voices singing "It's a Blue World", it's got to be experienced!

Thursday evening is our traditional Jam Session - anchored by a professional jazz trio - where FreshFans and FF alumni can sit in on instruments and voices. The Jam Session is always great fun. Friday, there are other FF activities and a tour of the Toledo Art Museum (the tour won't conflict with any FFS sessions so you won't miss anything).

Friday night's affair will be a Four Freshmen concert with dinner music by Josh Silver, an extremely accomplished jazz pianist.

Saturday will have more FFS activities including the FFS Membership meeting where you'll get an update on the FFS and plans for the future. Saturday night, Josh will again provide our dinner music and will lead into the second Four Freshmen concert of the weekend, this time with the fabulous Toledo Jazz Orchestra.

It's going to be a wonderful 2+ days of fun with our favorite singing group. The hotel has graciously extended the low room rate three days before and three days after the convention so you can spend more quality time in Toledo. There's lots to do here including our world-class zoo!



Ray Brown, former Four Freshmen member, will anchor the Thursday night Jam Session.

Visit with him in the "113 Club" at the Convention.

What should I do now?

Fill out and mail in your Registration Form found here in FreshNews. If you don't find the form, call us at 419-380-8596 and we'll get you another. Table assignments are made on a first come, first served basis, so you want to get your registration in pronto. If there are FreshFans you want to share your table with, be sure to put their names on your form, and get them to send in their form pronto, too. Remember that the rate changes June 1st, so be sure to take advantage of this early registration opportunity! If you prefer to register online, you can do that, too. Just go to www.ffs2011.com and follow the instructions. Got friends who aren't FFS members? They can come, too, by joining the FFS at a special convention rate. What a wonderful introduction to the Freshmen!

Call the Park Inn Hotel Reservation line at **800-670-7275**, be sure to tell them you're with the Four Freshmen Society, and make your hotel reservations. Do it now!

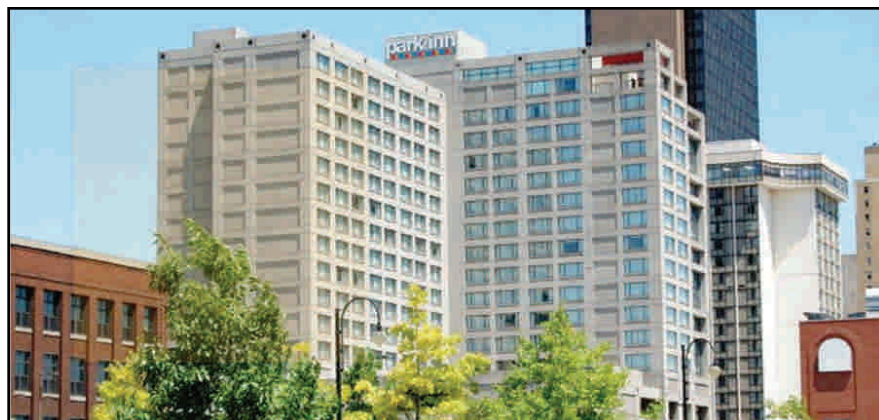
Plan your travel and be here in September!

The latest information is always on the FFS 2011 Convention website www.ffs2011.com so check there often for the latest news. Questions? Email us at barb@ffs2011.com or give us a ring at 419-380-8596.

See you September 8 -10th!

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barb".

Barb Meyers
2011 FFS Convention Chair



Park Inn Hotel Toledo, Ohio

2011 FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY CONVENTION
Toledo OH September 8 - 10, 2011

Send to: **Four Freshmen Society Convention 2011**
2411 Heathervalley Pl
Toledo OH 43614
(419) 380-8596

A. REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Telephone # (_____) _____ email _____

B. TABLE ASSIGNMENT: Tables of 10. List names of those you want at your table. **Seating is arranged by postmark date of registration.** Be sure your whole table mails in on the same day.

C. HOTEL INFORMATION:

Have you made your Park Inn hotel reservation? ____ yes ____ no

D. COMMEMORATIVE SHIRTS:

I would like to order FFS Convention 2011 Commemorative Shirt(s) at **\$25 each** to be included with registration payment.

Men: (____ small) (____ med) (____ large) (____ XL) (____ XXL) (____ XXXL)

Ladies please order appropriate men's sizes

E. JAM SESSION: Will you play or sing at the **Thursday night Jam Session?** ____ yes (everyone invited!) ____ no

F. TOUR: Toledo Art Museum \$45 including lunch.

G. MENU SELECTIONS:

Will you need vegetarian meals? How many? Friday _____ Saturday _____

H. REGISTRATION FEE:

\$200 PER PERSON IF REGISTRATION IS POSTMARKED AFTER JUNE 1, 2011.

Cancellation policy: Full refund will be made prior to July 1. Between July 1 & July 31 refund minus \$25 processing fee.

NO REFUNDS can be made after July 31, 2011.

Payment by check is encouraged. Please make checks payable to **FFS Convention 2011.** Visa or Mastercard may be used.

I. PAYMENT SUMMARY:

REGISTRATION: (\$200) _____ people @ \$ _____ each = \$ _____

COMMEMORATIVE SHIRTS: ____ shirts @ \$25 each = \$ _____

TOUR: Toledo Art Museum ____ tours @ \$45 each = \$ _____

NEW MEMBERS ONLY - FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY Membership fee \$10 = \$ _____

(\$10 fee applies to couple OR single)

Couple ____ Single ____ Name(s) if different from above _____

CHECK NUMBER _____ TOTAL = \$ _____

CHARGE _____ VISA _____ MC _____

Card number _____ Expiration Date _____

3 digit CVV number on back of card _____

Signature _____

Print Name as on Card _____

Card Holder's Address (include ZIPcode!) _____

2011 FFS CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION

(These details give further information in regard to the Registration Form)

A. REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Please provide all requested information, including both first and last names. Registration will be confirmed via email.

B. TABLE ASSIGNMENTS: Dinner seating will be at tables of ten. To ensure that you will receive assigned seating with others you want at your table, please provide all names. Encourage your preferred tablemates to mail in their registrations early and on the same day as seating will be arranged by date of postmark.

C. HOTEL INFORMATION: We recommended that you make your hotel reservation early. Rooms at the Park Inn Hotel will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Rates for the convention are guaranteed at \$109 plus tax per night for 2 double beds or a king, double occupancy. These rates will also be available for three days before and three days after the official convention dates of September 8-10 – subject to space availability. TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM, CALL Park Inn Hotel at **(800) 670-7275** and ask for Reservations. Be sure to use the Group Code: **Four Freshmen Society**

D. SHIRTS: Shirts run pretty true to size. The shirts are gray with the convention logo. Shirts are 100% cotton collar-less, button front shirts. There will be only a few shirts available at the convention. If you want a shirt, it's best to order it with your registration.

E. JAM SESSION: Thursday night's open jam session promises to be a great evening of jazz, and Society members are encouraged to participate. While a talented local trio will anchor the evening's festivities past and current Freshmen and convention attendees are most welcome (and encouraged) to join in.

F. TOUR: Toledo Art Museum \$45 including lunch

G. MENU SELECTION: Be sure to specify if you require vegetarian dinners. Entree choices will be made later.

H. REGISTRATION FEES: Early registration (prior to June 1) is encouraged and must be accompanied by payment. Every effort will be made to accommodate late registrations but priority dinner seating cannot be guaranteed.

I. PAYMENT SUMMARY: Please complete all information on the Registration Form and forward your payment as appropriate. While checks are preferred, you may charge your fees using Visa or Mastercard only; the 3-digit CVV 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. Feel free to duplicate the registration form for your non-member friends who may be interested.

J. TRANSPORTATION FROM AIRPORT TO HOTEL: You may rent a car or you can reserve with Black & White Cab company via email to spotter@blackwhitecab.com or by phone at (419) 536-8294 or with Extreme Class Limos at (419) 867-8700.

HOTEL PARKING: Parking is free for hotel guests!

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!



Memorial Tribute for Bob Flanigan

Program

Celebration	Friends of Robert L. Flanigan
Introduction	Pete Barbutti
Special Music	Medley: Just As I Am* - Amazing Grace**
Eulogies	Scott Flanigan, family Mel Myers, president, Four Freshmen Society Brian Wilson, The Beach Boys - video Joel Rothman, Dave Bentley, friends Four Freshmen Alumni: Bill Comstock, Ross Barbour, G.L. Rosenberg, Ray Brown Attending: Rod Henley, Autie Goodman, Connie (for Mike) Beisner, Kirk Marcy, Greg Stegeman
Invocation	Ryan Turner
Special Moments	Cork Proctor
Musical Tribute	You'll Never Walk Alone*** "Flan" by Scott Whitfield *** The Four Freshmen: We'll Be Together Again It's A Blue World
Tutti sing-a-long	Reprise - It's a Blue World
Fellowship	Afterglow - Grandview Lounge
Musicians	The Four Freshmen: Brian Eichenberger, Curtis Calderon, Vince Johnson, Bob Ferreira. The Flanibones: Rod Henley, Walt Boenig, Curt Miller, Bobby Scann, Randy Crawford, Mike Turnbull, Caleb McGee, Jon Klokow, Kevin Mullinex, Ralph Pressler, Kenny Shroyer, Brian Bergstrom

Family

Mary Flanigan, Scott & Apple Flanigan, Jill Flanigan,
Jennifer Turner, Julie Maple, Stephan Flanigan & Debbie Muira.
Grand Children: Peter Flanigan, James Flanigan, Garry Flanigan,
Kiso Cannon, Ryan & Katie Turner, Wade Cannon, Kyle Turner,
Devon & Darren Muira, Bryana Turner, Jared Cooper Miles,
Dylan & Tristan Flanigan

Dad, I am so happy that we were able to spend the time together that we did in the past months. Many people never have that chance. I will miss all the stories that you shared with us. You know, the ones when you were on the bus with Stan Kenton. Those were the best ones ever. Whenever I felt bummed out, I would always think of your stories, and that would always cheer me up. You were always there for us, even when you were 6,000 miles away. Oh, by the way, thanks for getting me and your grandchildren into music.

Love, Scott & Apple Flanigan

My Dad was the best dad that you could ever have. He would always look out for all six of his kids. My Dad always wanted the best for all of us. I Love You, Dad. I will miss you.

Jill Flanigan

My Dad was such a special person. He adopted me when I was 4 years old. He treated me with love and respect my whole life. I was no different than my other siblings. He taught us to have love and appreciation of all kinds of music. He taught all of us songs that he made up, and we have carried that family tradition on to the next generations. We always listened to his stories about the road and the places he had traveled. We all listened to them so intently that we used to say Dad had the stage...again. When I was in labor with my son, Kyle, Dad was right there walking up and down the hallway of the hospital with me. We did this for hours. But, that was my Dad. He had a very special relationship with all of his grandchildren and great grand kids. Even though he travelled all over the world, when he was home, he was home and we were his world. To you he might be a famous guy but for me he was the greatest Dad any person would ever hope to have. I love him and miss him. We will see each other again someday.

Love you always, Jennifer Turner

My Dad was bigger than life. When I was little, he would put his huge hand on my back and let me know everything was gonna be OK.

Love ya, Julie Maple



Grandpa, thank you for giving your all to our family. I will never forget, and always cherish, the early morning doughnut runs to watch the planes land, our road trips, late night talks about politics and world matters, your stories about the road and being in the Four Freshmen, who sponsored my soccer team. Most of all, Katie and I will always cherish your love for us and our family relationship. Thanks for everything!

Love, Ryan Turner

My grandpa was such an awesome and talented man. Everyone that knew him, or had him in their lives, was very blessed. Every time he would walk into a room, he would be the life of the party! He would amaze everyone with all of his stories, especially stories of when he was on the road doing music. He also talked about his family, children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. We all loved him very much! I know he is looking down on us everyday guiding us in the directions we need to take. I miss him and love him very much.

Love, Bryana Turner

My grandfather is the greatest inspiration to my life. His music and very soul is a huge part of my life. He saw beyond what others see in people. He laughed, was kind, good hearted and he lived life to the fullest. I miss him so much, everyday I think about him. My grandfather will always be with me and with you.

Love, Miles Flanigan

Dear Grandpa, I have always looked up to you as a role model. You are the person I have the most respect for. It always made me happy whenever I could see you. You have the most meaning in my life. I will forever love you, Grandpa.

Love, Dylan Flanigan

My Grandpa was my favorite. He would do anything for me. He will be missed!

Love you Grandpa, Jared Cooper

Grandpa was my favorite grandpa. He was always like a best friend to me. He said I was his favorite. I will always remember him in my heart. He will be missed.

Love, Tristan Flanigan

Special Thanks TVI Management:

Dale & Joan Sheets, Dina Roth

Musical Arrangements:

Ken McCord, **Kenny Shroyer, ***Rod Henley

Video technical direction: Yas Ichiura

Music Copyist: John Tyler

Hosts: The Four Freshmen Society,

Production: Worldstage Productions, Las Vegas

Robert L. Flanigan Memorial Tribute

June 21, 2011, 2-3:30 pm, South Point Hotel, Las Vegas



"We'll Be Together Again" Flan-



The Four Freshmen Society Inc.

Music Mart - Price List 2010

See Item # on "CD Song List" for detail

Item Title	Cost	Total
DVD Live From Las Vegas	\$30	_____
Each additional	\$25	_____
1. CD Live From Las Vegas	\$20	_____
2.* Remembering Ken	\$10	_____
3. Snowfall	\$20	_____
4. Live/Millennium	\$10	_____
5. Voices in Modern	\$17	_____
6. Voices and Brass/Person	\$17	_____
7. Live in Holland	\$20	_____
8. In Session	\$20	_____
9. 50 Years Fresh	\$16	_____
10. From the Jazz Factory	\$17	_____
11. Graduation Day	\$15	_____
12. Voices in Standard	\$15	_____
13. Still Fresh	\$14	_____
14. Freshmas	\$15	_____
15.* Return to Romance	\$17	_____
16. Capitol Collectors Series	\$15	_____
17. Trombones /Trumpets	\$14	_____
18. Five Saxes/Guitars	\$20	_____
19. Voices in Latin/Fresh Year	\$17	_____
20. Love Lost / Voices Love	SOLD OUT	
21. First Affair Notices Fun	\$20	_____
22. Swingers / Stars In Eyes	SOLD OUT	
23. More Trombone/Person II	\$17	_____
24. Live at Butler University	\$15	_____
25.* Old Friends	\$20	_____
26.* Live at Penn State	\$15	_____
27. The Liberty Years	\$17	_____
28.* Through the Years	\$15	_____
29. 50th Golden Anniversary	\$17	_____
30. WAZE / Clearwater Jazz	\$15	_____
31. Nine CD's Box Set	SOLD OUT	
32. Star Spangled Banner	\$5	_____
5 for	\$20	_____
33. Silly Songs / Rhymes	\$15	_____
34. Lost Soul - Baker Tribute	\$15	_____
35. Ken Albers Charts	\$28.50	_____
Overseas	+\$5.00	_____
36. Discography	\$15	_____
37.* Video Pittsburgh 2006	\$10	_____
38.* Video Grand Rapids 2004	\$15	_____
39.* Video Oshkosh 1991	\$15	_____
40.* Video Stockholm	\$15	_____
Culmination, G. Stegeman	\$17	_____
41. Four Freshmen & Live Trombones	\$20	_____
42.* Atlanta DVDs	\$25	_____

Overseas add \$5.00 for most items

GRAND TOTAL \$_____

*Available to Members ONLY

FN JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2011

MUSIC MART - Order Summary

Please Complete: then 1) mail to FFS Music Mart
Bob Lininger, Director
PO Box 11475
Pittsburgh, PA 15238-9998
412-781-5268
or 2) fax
or 3) call 412-781-5267 for info
or 4) email **boblininger@hotmail.com**

Total Product Cost \$_____

Plus Credit Card (only) Handling Charge \$_____ 1.00

Plus 7% Sales Tax --PA Only \$_____

Plus 10% Overseas Shipping Charge \$_____

Grand Total \$_____

CHECK # _____ made payable to: The Four Freshmen Society, Inc.
or

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT (both USA *and* Overseas members eligible)

☐ Visa

☐ MasterCard

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Expiration ____/____/____ CVV # (on back of card) _____

Print Name as it appears on card _____

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Flashback to the first weekly Best Selling Pop Albums tally.

How long ago was March 24, 1956? On that date, Billboard reported that the country's top TV comedy was *I Love Lucy*, the top comedy among men was *The Honeymooners* and the most-watched syndicated children's comedy was *Abbott and Costello*. (The issue cost 25 cents). Position, Artist Title No.1, Harry Belafonte, *Belafonte* No.2, Soundtrack, *Oklahoma!* No.3, Soundtrack, *Carousel* No.4, Soundtrack, *The Benny Goodman Story* No.5, Julie London, *Julie Is Her Name* No.6, the Four Freshmen, *Four Freshmen and Five Trombones* No.7, Mario Lanza, *The Student Prince* No.8, Jackie Gleason, *Music to Change Her Mind* No.9, Lawrence Welk, *Sparkling Strings* No. 10, Soundtrack, *The Man With the Golden Arm* 3/24/2010

Bill Wagner RIP

Long-time Four Freshmen manager, Bill Wagner, passed away Friday, June 3rd in Los Angeles at the age of 91.

Mr. Wagner's relationship with the Freshmen began as a fan dating back to the late 1940s when they met while the guys were performing in Indiana and evolved into managing the group from the mid-50s through the 1960s.

As their popularity increased, Mr. Wagner assumed management of the group, moving to Hollywood, CA from his hometown of Warsaw, IN 1955. Mr. Wagner continued to manage the group through the 1960s, eventually leaving management to work at Capitol Records.

So enamored with the Freshmen sound, many young groups sought Mr. Wagner's advice, including Brian Wilson, becoming a mentor to Wilson, providing advice and Freshmen vocal charts for the fledgling Beach Boys.

Among Mr. Wagner's many associations were artists and bands including Stan Kenton, Kenny Rogers, John Klemmer, the Si Zentner Band, Paige Cavanaugh Trio, the Air Force's Airmen of Note and dozens of developing and established artists, serving in such capacities as manager, producer or mentor.

Mr. Wagner was pre-deceased by his wife of 68 years, Vicki, in January 2010. A memorial service for Mr. Wagner was held for Saturday, June 25th at 1:00 pm at Sherman Oaks Presbyterian Church, 4333 Noble Avenue, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403.

Bill and Vicki will be inurned at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC in October, honoring Bill's WWII U.S. Army Air Corp service as a bomber pilot and his service at the Pentagon.

The Four Freshmen Appreciation Society

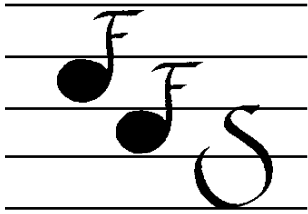
A copy from an note circa 1989

The 1st annual FFAS Midwest Convention was held in Toledo, Ohio, Sept. 15 & 16th, 1989. We met members and held a dinner at the Hilcrest Hotel. The Four Freshmen were performing at John Moran's place, FRIAR TUCKS. Unfortunately, both are closed now. There were 4 members in attendance. Chick and Sue Trafford from Jeannette, PA, John & Doloros Bangs from Oshkosh, WI, Ted & Karen Driscoll from Elyria, OH, Dave Barnes from Mc Lean, VA, Rollie & Theresa Jakuboski from Toledo, OH, Ken Horn & Dolly Fritz from Cincinnati, OH, Bob Watts from Madison, IN, Eloise Zuber from Angola, IN, Bill Coyle from Toledo, OH joined us later. Ken Horn's friend from Cincinnati was Lorry Rice, now deceased.

FFAS President, Edd Townsend was not present. No business meeting was held.



Left: Doloros Bangs, Dave Barnes, Chick & Sue Trafford, Ted & Karen Driscoll.
Head: Rollie Jakuboski
Right: Theresa Jakuboski, Eloise Zubor Angola, Bob Watts.
Photographer: John Bangs



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Visit our Website: www.fourfreshmensociety.com

HOLY TOLEDO!

The Park Inn is ready to accept your room reservations for The 2011 Four Freshmen Convention. The phone number is 1-800-670-7275. Just mention the Four Freshmen Society.

Hope to see you in Toledo, Ohio on September 8, 9 and 10, 2011.
It's always about The Four Freshmen and their music.
We will add fun and friendship.

Barbara Meyers,
Chairman

The Art Tatum Memorial which is located a couple of blocks from the Park Inn Hotel, Toledo, Ohio. It's within walking distance from the hotel - just a few minutes walk and is rather impressive. He attended Scott High School in Toledo.

