



Fresh News

Volume 33, No.3

JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2019

DENVER WELCOMES

GROUP 25



Denver, CO 2019



The Four Freshmen Society Convention

GET THERE!

Our President, **Neil Lantz**



Near or Far... Were YOU There?

We're coming up on the 32nd annual Society Convention, 2019 to be celebrated with the Four Freshmen in beautiful Denver, Colorado, September 5-7. Once again, the Freshmen fan family will have an opportunity to renew old acquaintances, make new ones, and enjoy the great music of the Freshmen. If you haven't yet registered, you still have time by using the registration form in this issue or registering online at <http://www/ffs2019.com>. Space for you is still available for all the festivities, and I hope to see you there.

It's almost hard to comprehend that an organized music fan club could sustain its active interest and support over three decades, although that record pales when measured aside the wonderful 71-year record of the Four Freshmen. I find it interesting to look back at the locations of our conventions, around the country and across the pond, beginning with the first one held in 1988 at the Barbary Coast in Las Vegas, celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Freshmen. That year featured Group #13, Bob Flanigan, Autie Goodman, Mike Beisner, and Gary Lee Rosenberg. It would be interesting to know how many, if any, of our current Society members will have attended all 32 conventions as of this year. If you did, I hope you'll let me know. Following is year-by-year refresher on the convention you may have attended:

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1988 – Las Vegas, NV | 1989 – Toledo, OH |
| 1990 – Springfield, OH | 1991 – Oshkosh, WI |
| 1992 – Columbus, OH | 1993 – Columbus, IN |
| 1994 – Oshkosh, WI | 1995 – Lakeside, OH |
| 1996 – Lincolnshire, IL | 1997 – Sharon, PA |
| 1998 – Las Vegas, NV | 1999 – Oshkosh, WI |
| 2000 – Colorado Springs, CO | |
| 2001 – Bowling Green, KY | |
| 2002 – Reston, VA | 2003 – Orlando, FL |
| 2004 – Grand Rapids, MI | |
| 2005 – Amsterdam, Netherlands | |
| 2006 – Pittsburgh, PA | 2007 – Portland, OR |
| 2008 – Indianapolis, IN | 2009 – Atlanta, GA |
| 2010 – Annapolis, MD | 2011 – Toledo, OH |
| 2012 – Reno, NV | 2013 – Fort Wayne, IN |
| 2014 – Tampa, FL | 2015 – San Antonio, TX |
| 2016 – Louisville, KY | 2017 – Dayton, OH |
| 2018 – South Bend, IN | 2019 – DENVER, CO. |

As I asked, were you there? See you in Denver!

2019 CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Thursday, Sept 5th

| | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|
| 9:00am-6:00pm | Registration | Ballroom Hallway |
| 9:00am-4:00pm | 113 Club & Silent Auction | Colorado III |
| 10:00am-2:00pm | FFMF Board Meeting | Executive A |
| 3:00pm-5:00pm | FFS Board Meeting Executive A | |
| 2:30pm-4:00pm | Wannabees | Grand Ballroom 1 |
| DINNER ON YOUR OWN | | |
| 7:00pm-11:00pm | Jam Session (Cash Bar) | Grand Ballroom 2-3-4 |

Friday, Sept 6th

| | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 7:30am-noon | Registration | Ballroom Hallway |
| 8:15am-2:30pm | Tour of Denver & MT Area Meet in Lobby | LUNCH INCLUDED |
| 9:00am-4:00pm | 113 Club & Silent Auction | Colorado III |
| 9:00am-2:00pm | Board of Directors | Executive A |
| 2:00pm-3:30pm | Convention Coord. Comm. | Executive A |
| 3:00pm-4:30pm | Wannabees | Grand Ballroom 1 |
| 5:00pm-6:00pm | Meet / Greet Cash Bar | Ballroom Hallway |
| 6:00pm-7:15pm | Dinner | Grand Ballroom 2-3-4 |
| 7:30pm | FOUR FRESHMEN AFTERGLOW | Grand Ballroom 2-3-4 Doubletree Bar |

Saturday, Sept 7th

| | | |
|-----------------|--|----------------------|
| 9:00am-4:00pm | Registration | Ballroom Hallway |
| 9:00am-4:00pm | Board of Directors | Executive A |
| 9:00am-4:00pm | 113 Club & Silent Auction | Colorado III |
| 9:00am-10:00am | State Representative Meeting | Grand Ballroom 1 |
| 10:00am-11:00am | General Meeting | Grand Ballroom 1 |
| 11:00am-1:00pm | LUNCH ON YOUR OWN | |
| NOON | SILENT AUCTION ENDS PICK UP ITEMS BEFORE 4:00 PM | |
| 1:00pm-2:30pm | Fresh Memories | Grand Ballroom 1 |
| 3:00pm-4:00pm | Wannabees | Grand Ballroom 1 |
| 5:00pm-6:00pm | Meet / Greet Cash Bar | Ballroom Hallway |
| 6:00pm-7:15pm | Dinner | Grand Ballroom 2-3-4 |
| 7:15pm-7:30pm | Neil Lantz | Grand Ballroom 2-3-4 |
| 7:30pm-7:45pm | Quartet from Orlando High | Grand Ballroom 2-3-4 |
| 8:00pm | FOUR FRESHMEN | Grand Ballroom 2-3-4 |

GO DENVER!

Greetings to all,

If you have not registered for our 2019 Denver Convention, I would strongly suggest you do so today. Co-chairs, Kathy Bazz and Nancy Driscoll, along with their entire committee, are planning a blockbuster convention for us this year. This will not only be a marvelous opportunity to share the magic with the number one jazz vocal harmony group in the history of the music industry, but also a time to reunite with old friends, make new friends, and take advantage of a perfect chance to experience Denver and the gorgeous surrounding area. Denver is known as one of the most exciting tourist destination cities world-wide. If you have not spent time in that area, this would be a perfect time to do so. By the way, there will be a few surprises for you that I am not at liberty to share with you. You will just have to be there to find out what they are.

It is extremely important for all of us to support our annual conventions. In order to continue to offer the quality conventions that we have had each year, we truly need YOUR SUPPORT. As a matter of fact, we can't continue to do so without you. So I am appealing to all of you to make a special effort to join us this year in Denver. You really don't want to miss this one!

Have a safe journey to Denver, and I look forward to seeing all of you.

Best fresh wishes,
Gil Peterson

Tribute to a True Freshmen Fan

by Dot (Matviya) Lydic

Barbara (Pleischl) Frederich

November 8, 1939 – April 30, 2019

On April 30, I lost one of my long-time friends, Babs Frederich. We both were in our early teens when we were captivated by the unique, haunting sound of the Four Freshmen! Babs, who lived in Cleveland, started one of the first local FF fan clubs in the early 1950s and, because of her talents and enthusiasm, soon became national vice-president of "The Freshies."

In 1954, I inquired about starting a Freshmen fan club in Pittsburgh and began receiving letters from Babs (all her correspondence ended in "Forever More for the Four"). This was the start of a long-lasting friendship. Our families met and exchanged several visits between Cleveland and Pittsburgh in those early years.

In 1957, Bill Wagner became the group's personal manager and reorganized the Four Freshmen fan club. He launched the first-ever newsletter, called "The Fifth Freshman." Babs Pleischl was appointed national president, and Dot Matviya became national vice-president. This newsletter was the main connection between the Freshmen and their fans for over twenty years. In the meantime, Babs married Wayne Frederich and moved to Tallahassee, FL.

Much later, in the 1990s, the Four Freshmen Society became the official "fan club." Babs served on the Board of FFS until 2013, when she was awarded the title of "FFS Corporate Board of Directors Emeritus."

Beginning with the original Four Freshmen (Bob, Ross, Don and Hal), Babs met and encouraged all of the FF groups, until about six years ago. She attended most of the FFS conventions with her husband, Wayne, until he passed away on May 1, 2014.

Babs was a true and faithful Four Freshmen fan, working tirelessly to promote their music for over 60 years. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.

Rest in peace, my friend.



An Ode for Jim

By Gil Peterson

On April 8, 2019, the Four Freshmen Society lost one of its most loyal members and I lost another wonderful friend. I met Jim Bell many years ago at the Bowling Green Convention.

If you remember, we had no assigned seating at those early conventions. It just so happened when Marsha and I arrived for the Friday night dinner/concert, Jim observed that we were looking for seats and he asked us if we would like to sit at their table. We accepted, of course, and as a result of that meeting, we remained steadfast friends through the years.

Jim was a low profile individual who never wanted any notoriety or accolades. Over the years, he was on a number of convention committees and was always willing to do anything asked of him. If you didn't know where he was at the convention, you could usually find him in the 113 Club assisting anyone who needed his help.

Jim was a Regional Representative with the Balfour Ring Company for many years. He had Balfour design a special "Four Freshmen Society" watch for us and made them available in the 113 Club each year. Although I have several watches, the FFS watch has always been my favorite.

Jim introduced his lovely future wife Candy to the Four Freshmen family at the Grand Rapids Convention in 2005. I don't think she had any idea at that time the impact that event would have on their lives. We were all together several years later on a jazz cruise when he proposed to Candy and they were married not long after that. They were wonderful for each other and Marsha and I shared many delightful times with the two of them each year.

I always cherish our friendship each time I look at my watch and I will remember my wonderful friend, Jim Bell. We will always miss you, Jim, more than you could ever know.



COME TO COLORFUL COLORADO

AND THE 32nd ANNUAL FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY CONVENTION
SEPTEMBER 5-7, 2019

DENVER FACTS

- Denver's State Capital is 5,280 feet above sea level (the Mile High City)
- The yearly 300 days of sunshine brings tourists from around the world
- There is a spectacular 120-mile vista of the mountains (always to the West)
- Downtown features the walkable 16th Street Mall with free shuttles to restaurants and shopping. The gold-domed Capitol is on one end of the Mall and the restored Union Station is on the other. Union Station has plenty of restaurants and history to boot.



- Denver is the #3 hottest food city in the US according to Zagat.
- The Coors Brewery (in Golden) is close by. They give a great tour and offer free samples at the end!
- The low hotel rates are good for three days before and three days after the convention.



SO... Plan to extend your vacation around the convention dates where you'll hear the world-renowned vocal and instrumental quartet... The Four Freshmen and then enjoy Colorful Colorado!

TOUR: EXPLORE DENVER AND MOUNTAIN AREA

Friday, September 6th, 2019 • 8:30am-2:30pm* • \$68 (incl. lunch)

Join your friends and explore the sights of Denver and the mountains including Red Rocks Amphitheater and Museum, Buffalo Bill's Grave and novelty store, the Continental Divide, Lookout Mountain, downtown Golden, Coors Brewery, lunch, and more. Bring your cameras because the views are spectacular and one-of-a-kind. Then travel back to Denver viewing and visiting iconic Colorado sights such as Union Station, sports stadiums, Confluence Park with its rich history during the Gold Rush days, and the Colorado Capitol Building including a photo opportunity on the Capitol steps at exactly the "One Mile" marker – 5,280 feet.

Register soon for the tours as we expect them to fill up quickly. If you have questions, please e-mail Betty Ball at B.L.Ball@comcast.net.

*Please meet in the hotel lobby at 8:15am. Our guides introduce themselves and begin telling stories before boarding the bus.



2019 FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION

(This information gives further details regarding the Registration Form)

REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Registration begins February 1, 2019. You may register online at **FFS2019.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 their online 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 for \$124 plus tax per night for two double beds or a king bed. These rates will be available also for three days before and three days after the convention dates of September 5, 6 and 7, 2019.

TO RESERVE YOUR ROOM: Call DoubleTree by Hilton reservations at 303-321-3333. Be sure to mention the Four Freshmen Society Group rate.

COMMEMORATIVE SHIRTS: The shirts are collared **blue denim**, Ladies' and Men's sizes with our 2019 convention logo. Please order shirts with your registration as shirts will be NOT available for purchase at the convention.

JAM SESSION (MEMBERS' TALENT NIGHT): A great evening of jazz. A talented local jazz group will anchor the evening's festivities as 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:

Friday, September 6 **TOUR** (\$68/person) embarks from the hotel at 8:30 AM by bus for Downtown Denver & Surrounding Mountain Area. Includes lunch.
All gratuities are included in the price of the tour.

MENU VARIATIONS: Please specify if you require vegetarian for evening meals.

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.

PAYMENT SUMMARY: Please complete all information on the Registration Form and forward with your payments. You may pay by check or credit card. If paying by credit card, add \$6 per person to cover the processing fee. 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: Light Rail (The **A** Line from DIA to Central Park Station), Uber, Lyft and Taxi are available. You may also rent a car at the airport. Please see the FreshNews for complete details.

HOTEL PARKING: Parking at the hotel is complimentary.

Be sure to read registration information in this FreshNews before filling this form

2019 FOUR FRESHMEN SOCIETY CONVENTION
Denver, Colorado September 5 – 7, 2019

Send form to: Nancy Driscoll
6648 King Street
Denver, CO 80221
QUESTIONS? 303-600-8496 or 303-921-3215

PLEASE PRINT

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

Address _____

Phone# _____
Email _____

City, State, Zip _____

COMMEMORATIVE SHIRT: \$38 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 meals? How Many Friday _____ Saturday _____

HOTEL INFORMATION: Have you made your **DoubleTree by Hilton** reservation? Yes _____ No _____
3203 Quebec St, Denver, CO 80207 303-321-3333

Rates are \$124 / night including breakfast
Rates apply three days before and/or three days after convention date (if rooms are available).
Complimentary Parking
(See Registration Information in FreshNews or the ffs2019.com website for hotel reservation procedure)

REGISTRATION FEE: POSTMARKED (or online) after JUNE 1, 2019 - \$215 per person
Cancellations – Cancellations with full refund before June 1, 2019. Cancellations from June 1 to August 1 will incur a \$50 processing fee. **NO REFUNDS AFTER AUGUST 1, 2019**

TABLE SEATING: Tables of eight. List name 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 _____ 4 _____
5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____

TOUR: Friday, September 6
Downtown Denver & Surrounding Mountain Area. (lunch provided) 8:30 AM–3:00 PM \$68

JAM SESSION: Plan to perform at the Thursday night **Musical Jam Session:** _____ Yes _____ No
Since this will be a **Musical Jam Session** and time is limited, we will need your song, key and instrument by May 1, 2019 so we can be ready for you.

PAYMENT SUMMARY:

REGISTRATION: \$195 (or \$215 after June 1, 2017) _____ people @ _____ each = _____

Add \$6 per person if paid by credit card _____ people @ \$6 each = _____

COMMEMORATIVE SHIRTS: men's _____ women's _____ @ \$38 each = _____

TOUR: Downtown Denver & Surrounding Mountain Area. _____ @ \$68 each = _____

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

(\$15 fee applies to couple OR single) Couple _____ Single _____

Name if different from above. _____ **TOTAL** = _____

PAYMENT BY CHECK IS ENCOURAGED: Please make checks payable to **FFS CONVENTION 2019** Check No _____

Credit Card: Charge my Amex _____ Discover _____ Mastercard _____ Visa _____

Card Number _____ Expiration Date ____/____

Signature _____ Print Name on Card _____

Card Holder's complete address including zip code _____

Beginning February 1, 2019 you may register online at: <http://www/ffs2019.com>

Form 12/12/2018

Corporate Board of Directors

Gil Peterson, Chairman 541-672-0937
Neil Lantz, President 317-849-7443
John Emerson, Treasurer 843-271-6001
Donna Gallaway, Secretary 419-943-2756
David W. Bentley 203-972-1916
Maurice Byrne 975-565-1530
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Jack Morrison 616-949-6339
Christian Rank 734-728-1673

Corporate Board of Directors Emeriti

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Sue Barbour 805-581-4100
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Fresh News is published quarterly © 2019, 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:

Barb Meyers, bam241136@gmail.com, Cell 419-309-7855

FFS New Member/or Renewal Form

Name _____

Spouse _____

Address _____

(9 digit zip please)

Telephone # _____

Fax # _____

E-mail _____

New Member Fee: \$15 Single or Couple (worldwide)

All Renewals: One Year \$25

Two or more years \$20 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 online at dues.fourfreshmensociety.com

New Members

Craig Campbell & Patricia Powell
Natural Bridge, VA

Jon & Judy Cryer, Iowa City, IA

Terry Diers, Greenwood, IN

Donald & Pat Hammalian, Newtown, CT

Todd & Carrie Johnson, Silverthorne, CO

Jerry & Mary Kerns, Tigard, OR

Daniel & Marquetta Kinnamon
Omaha, NE

Renie Leeling, Golden, CO

Christopher McKham-Gilkes
Homestead, FL

Michelle Rene Meyers, Las Vegas, NV

Ginny Pierpoint, Golden, CO

Harold & Norby Pratt, Littleton, CO

James & Barbara Smith
Santa Monica, CA

Norma Spaeth, Las Vegas, NV

Mel & Linda Tinney, Pepin, WI

Contributors

Basil Hobar, Bonita Springs, FL

Jeanette Keyser, Calhoun City, MS

Tony Leone, Washington, PA

Ron & Nancy Orman, Fort Wayne, IN

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

JazzBash TV Show

By Don Boland

Below this note is a link to Tony Agostinelli's TV show **JazzBash**. There are about 40 interviews with some well known and not so well known musicians, four or five of them are with me talking of course about The Four Freshmen. You might find this interesting and educational.

Would enjoy hearing from folks and their thoughts on the many shows.

<http://www.jazzhistorydatabase.com/.../anthony-ago.../jazz-bash>



A Correction and Apology

Editors note: The article *"The Cotton Club at Christmas in Japan"* was written by Michiko Sakai not Michiko Ichiura. And the last paragraph in the article should have said, "To be honest, those who are ardent fans of the Four Freshmen would also have enjoyed listening to their standard numbers."

I am very sorry this happened. So everyone go to the last issue and make these corrections, because Michiko wrote a beautiful article and it should be read again.

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

P.O. Box 256, McGregor, TX 76657

Phone: 661-259-4500

Email: info@ivimanagement.com

Please note: Dates subject to change without notice.

July 16, 2019

Los Angeles, CA

Upstairs at Vitellos, 4349 Tujunga Ave.

Showtimes: 7:00p and 9:00p Box Office: 818-769-0905

July 17, 2019

Newport Beach, CA

Sunset Jazz at Newport, 900 Newport Center Dr.

Showtime: 6:00p Tickets: 949-759-5003

July 24-27, 2019

Grosse Pointe, MI

Dirty Dog Jazz Cafe, 97 Kercheval

Showtimes: 7:00p and 9:30p Tickets: 313-882-5299

July 28, 2019 Ann Arbor, MI

Blue Llama Jazz Club, 314 S Main St.

Show time: 1:00p Tickets: 734-372-3200

August 17, 2019

Stony Brook, NY

The Jazz Loft, 275 Christian Ave.

Showtime: 7:00p Info: 631-751-1895

Tickets: Please purchase online

August 25, 2019

Modesto, CA

Gallo Center for the Arts Foster Family Theatre, 100 I St.

Showtime: 5:00p Tickets: 209-338-2100

September 2, 2019

Detroit, MI

Detroit Jazz Festival, Four Freshmen and Five Trombones

Venue: Hart Plaza

Showtime: TBA Tickets: Free!

September 5-7, 2019

Denver, CO

32nd Four Freshmen Society Convention

Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, 3203 Quebec St.

September 8, 2019

Oakley, KS

Western Plains Arts Association

Oakley High School Auditorium, 118 W 7th Oakley

Showtime: 7:30p Series Tickets and info: 785-460-5518

September 19, 2019

Old Saybrook, CT

The Katharine Hepburn Cultural Arts Center, 300 Main St.

Showtime: 7:30p Tickets: 860 510 0453

September 25, 2019

Thibodaux, LA

Mary and Al Danos Theater, Talbot Hall, 906 East 1st St.

Showtime: 7:00p Tickets: 985-448-4110

October 18, 2019

Rehoboth Beach, DE

Rehoboth Beach Jazz Festival, The Sanctuary Theater

Epsworth United Methodist Church, 1925 Holland Glade Rd.

Showtime: 8:00p Tickets: rehobothjazz.com website

October 26, 2019

Prairie du Sac, WI

Sauk Prairie River Arts Center, 105 9th St.

Showtime: 2:00p Ticket info: TBA

November 2, 2019

Horseshoe Bay, TX

Horseshoe Bay Cultural Enrichment

Horseshoe Bay Quail Point Lodge, 107 Twilight Ln.

Showtime: 4:30p Tickets: Purchase Online

November 3, 2019

Horseshoe Bay, TX

Horseshoe Bay Cultural Enrichment

Horseshoe Bay Quail Point Lodge, 107 Twilight Ln.

Showtime: 4:30p Tickets: Purchase Online

Down Memory Lane

with the Four Freshmen in Columbus, IN

By: Kazuko (Kako) Nakanishi Ficara

I did not know about the Four Freshmen until the Fall of 2014. I hear gasps out there and I totally understand. The Four Freshmen did a string of tours to Japan in 1964 but I was oblivious to their existence while watching *Dark Ducks* (see note) weekly on NHK. How did I miss them? I guess I will give myself some allowance for being just a toddler back then.

Thanks to our dear friend, Michiko-san ("Mikko"), my husband (Anton) and I joined the convention in Tampa in October of 2014. Soon after I met Michiko-san for the first time at the Double Tree Hotel, I realized that the event was not a convention. It was a family reunion.



Fast forward to June of this year, Anton and I took a business trip to Indiana to inspect a couple of commercial properties in Noblesville and Columbus. During the 2 ½ day visit, since we had a pocket of half a day, we planned a side trip to visit a few memorable Four Freshmen sites in Columbus. Anton is holding a photo of the Group #22 with Mr. Ross Barbour in the middle from their visit to this site in 2006. By a fortunate kismet, the road sign stands only about ½ mile East from the center we visited. What odds?!

A short drive - less than 10 min. - took us to the Garland Brook Cemetery where a few members of the Barbour Family rest. I am glad that I had done research beforehand on the location of the plot. The Barbour's plot is in Zone 52, across the street from Zone 51 near Zone 63. There in a compound of

the Barbour's resting places, we introduced ourselves to Mr. Harold and Ms. Maude (parents), Mr. Francis "Frank" and Ms. Carrie (grandparents), Mr. Wallace (uncle who perished when he was only 21 years old) ... and ... last but not least ... Mr. Don.

Another 10-min. ride took us to Columbus North High School (CNHS) where the Barbour brothers attended during the 1940s. Since the summer recess had begun sometime ago, the school building was empty save a couple of administrators at the reception area. The two kind ladies at the desk happily related that Group #25 had performed at CNHS last year as part of the school's 150th anniversary celebration.



With the exciting encounters with the memories of the Barbour Brothers and the Four Freshmen through the ages fresh in our hearts, we drove to Downtown Columbus where the brothers must have left their footprints from way back then. The cozy downtown had only a few people on the day of our visit. It is a hidden treasure trove of interesting and historical spots. If you ever venture out there, please be sure to step into the Zakarakos Ice Cream Parlor and Museum (<http://www.zaharakos.com/>). The original 1908 Welt automatic organ in the museum section of the store is a must-see.

Rewinding back to the fall of 2014, a few minutes after I met Michiko-san, Brian and Stein passed through the lobby where we were chatting away, followed by a scene of heartfelt greetings and introductions. With their pleasant reply to my request for a photo, I snapped a portrait with Michiko-san in the middle.

May the beautiful harmony of the Four Freshmen continue to echo through generations!



NOTE: *Dark Ducks* is a Japanese vocal quartet.
www.allmusic.com/artist/dark-ducks-mn0000464896

Wear Your Denver Denim!

by Bob Boynton

September is the most beautiful time of the year to enjoy all that Denver has to offer. The weather averages in the mid-80s in the afternoon with very low humidity and often dips below 60 degrees at night, with almost no possibility of rain! Come early and stay late! Our very low convention rates are good at the Double Tree for three days before and three days after the convention. C'mon, what are you waiting for? There's still plenty of time to register, and we have plenty of room!

As a special treat, Friday night's banquet is going to be BBQ and Western-themed. So save your finery for Saturday night, throw on some jeans and by all means wear your Denver Denim convention shirts! If you didn't buy one when you registered, first of all, why on earth not? And second, no problem! Order one now and join us in the fun! Shirts need to be ordered by August 1st. They will not be available at the convention. Bring your Western hats, your Western boots, and your big-buckled belts, if you've got 'em. We'll be handing out bandannas to complete the look!

We look forward to welcoming you to our fair city! If you know anyone who is on the fence about coming, give them a nudge! It'll be FAN-tastic!

Your Freshmen Society Membership Department

by Chaz Cone, FFS Membership Director

How's that for an article title to encourage you to turn the page as fast as you can? :)

The FFS Membership department is the nuts and bolts deep in side the FFS machine. I thought you might like to know how it all works.

Still reading? Here we go...

First, the "FFS Membership Department" is just me; running it takes about 15 hours every week.

The job has two major elements: managing the memberships worldwide and leading the State Rep/Regional Directors organization.

The database

Currently we have more than 1,300 members world-wide. Each family has a record in the database with demographic information and membership history. The system "knows" when each member's dues are due so it sends a reminder the month before; those who have email get the reminder that way as well as a postcard.

When someone pays their dues, I update the database with the new renewal date and that triggers a "thank-you" email or letter acting as the receipt.

When someone new joins the FFS, I add them to the database. This triggers a new member packet welcoming them to the FFS.

Each quarter when Fresh News is published, I provide the mailing labels to the printer for those of you still receiving FreshNews in the mail. At the same time, I email those who have "opted out" of the mailed version in favor of reading Fresh News online.

Dues processing

When members pay their dues, I receive those checks (or emails which I acknowledge with a reply). I prepare the checks for deposit and make entries in this month's spreadsheet. The online (credit card) renewals and new member applications are added to the spreadsheet as well. This happens daily at the same time I update the member's renewal date.

After the end of the month, I process the credit cards that have come in during the month and send that information to our Treasurer and personally deposit the checks. If you've wondered why a check you wrote early in the month doesn't clear the bank until the next month, that's why!



Bob (Tommy's Dad) and the Denver Gang
p.s. Board members who don't wear our Western shirts Friday night will be teased mercilessly!

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