



# Fresh News

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JULY, AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 2024





# The Lynden Music Festival Celebrates The Four Freshmen!

by Mark Schlichting

**ALL Four Freshmen Society Members, families, and friends are enthusiastically invited** to attend a big FF Society “Gathering” on October 9-13, 2024 in Lynden, Washington. The event will be in conjunction with *The Lynden Music Festival's* 15th Anniversary and it will be similar to the Society's past “Conventions,” but it will be less expensive, and it will offer *à la carte* opportunities! [LyndenMusicFestival.com](http://LyndenMusicFestival.com) will be continuously updating details of this 5-day event! There may not be any Wannabees or 113 Club, but there will be *The Four Freshmen*, a jam, and lots of fall fun in Washington!



## How will we get to Lynden?

You can drive to Lynden or fly directly into BLI (Bellingham International Airport) from hubs such as Las Vegas, Oakland, Long Beach, Palm Springs, Phoenix/Mesa, Denver, and Seattle, then take a *LYFT* or cab to one of two main hotels in Lynden, a 30-minute ride. If the *Lynden Music Festival* knows your arrival time, they may send a shuttle to gather you! When you make reservations, let hotels know you are a FFS Member, and you will enjoy a discount on your lodging!

**Where will we stay?** The *Inn At Lynden* is the “official” hotel; the *Freshmen* will be staying there, and they will give Society Members a 20% discount if you ask. As they have less than 40 rooms available, a brand new hotel nearby, *The Cobblestone Hotel*, will be happy to accommodate additional Society Members with a 15% discount. Their website is: [staycobblestone.com/wa/lynden](http://staycobblestone.com/wa/lynden). The *Holiday Inn* at the BLI is also a possibility; it is a 5-minute walk across the Bellingham Airport parking lot where you could stay any number of nights from October 8-14 for only \$129 per night! Their number is (360) 746-6844.

**Do you have a camper or RV?** You might consider driving it to Lynden and hooking into a space at the Lynden Fairgrounds for only \$30 per night! You will be near the WECU Center for the Thursday “Dance Night,” and the *Four Freshmen* concerts on Friday and Saturday! Make reservations for your RV space at: [lyndenmusicfestival@gmail.com](mailto:lyndenmusicfestival@gmail.com) or call (909) 936-1057.



**What will we do while we are in Lynden?** In addition to attending any or all of the musical offerings during your visit, you can stroll the charming Front Street of Lynden, snack at *Avenue Bread*, the *Dutch Bakery*, or the *Eucatastrophe Coffee Shop*, dine at restaurants featuring Mexican, Greek, Italian, and Asian cuisine, visit the *Lynden Heritage Museum* (one of the best in the state), pop up to see the historic *Peace Arch* in Blaine, journey over to Mt. Baker, head down to Bellingham for a whale watching cruise through the San Juan Islands, or play a round of golf at one of the many nearby courses. If you bring your passport, you can even slip across the border into Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, or take the beautiful Tsawwassen Ferry to the historic city of Victoria, B.C. on Vancouver Island! New adventures lurk everywhere during your visit!

**The Four Freshmen will hold a student workshop** on Thursday, October 10, and will then perform two uniquely different concerts, one on Friday with a local “big band,” *The Swing Connection*, and one on Saturday, with a buffet dinner preceding the concert! Again, there is a “Society” jam session Friday afternoon at the *Jansen Arts Center*, so bring your axe!

**There is NO registration fee for this Gathering**, but please go to the *Four Freshmen Society* website and click the *FFS Gatherings* tab to let Chaz know when you're arriving and where you will be staying. A member of the *Lynden Music Festival Committee* will greet you with a FREE Goody Bag full of visitor information, fun, and surprises when you arrive!



**Here's an idea**, especially if you have never visited the “Fourth Corner” of the USA before now! Tuesdays are notoriously “light” travel days, so, arrive on Tuesday, October 8 and stay until Tuesday October 15! Make it a *Full Fall Four Freshmen Fling* with family and friends! The East Coast does not hold a candle to the autumn beauty of the Pacific Northwest, with evergreens speckled among fall's yellow, orange and red leaves! **Experiencing the quaint community of Lynden to wallow in a week of music and natural beauty will be something you'll never forget!**

# The Lynden Music Festival's "Movers and Shakers!"

## Lynden Music Festival President, David Jewkes!

David Jewkes is the President of the Lynden Music Festival, which is a tax exempt, 501(c)(3) organization in Washington State. He has always had a passion for music, having played the piano since age four, the accordion since age nine, and the pipe organ since the age of 16. He has also sung in choirs since age six.

David earned a B.A. in Mathematics from Walla Walla College in 1974, a Masters from Loma Linda University, and then he went on to pursue a career in teaching which lasted 46 years, five of which were as a school administrator.

He retired to the beautiful area of Lynden, Washington in 2021 and became totally immersed in its music community. He is looking forward to welcoming The Four Freshmen to the Lynden Music Festival this October! Oh, when not pursuing his musical endeavors, David enjoys sailing, photography, and automobiles! (There is never a dull moment!)

## Lynden Music Festival Organizing Chairmen, Terhi Miikki-Broersma and Doug Broersma!

Terhi Miikki-Broersma is Executive Director of the Lynden Music Festival. A native of Finland, she has been a church musician since she was 14, and after graduating in 1993 she earned a Masters of Music degree from the Sibelius Academy in Helsinki. She worked for 10 years as a cantor-organist in a Lutheran Church in Kotka, Finland, and then for 8 months in Benalmadena, Spain before moving to the United States.

She is proficient on piano, accordion, bassoon, and pipe organ, and she currently conducts the Emmaus Lutheran Church Choir in Vancouver, British Columbia and the Suomi Conference Choir. She was named Performer of Year in 2009

by the Finlandia National Foundation, and she is often called upon to travel to different areas of the United States to perform at numerous Finnish and Scandinavian church and community celebrations.

Terhi is always "at the ready" to help musicians who are in need of an accompanist or a musical collaborator, and her talent, organizational skills, and boundless energy have made the annual Lynden Music Festival the success that it is today!

Doug Broersma is a lifelong Lynden resident, graduating high school in 1975 and then establishing his own building maintenance company. He is a well-known and highly respected member of the Lynden community.

When he wasn't fixing or cleaning something, Doug was following his love for a cappella music. He started singing in barbershop quartets in 1971 and soon became involved at the competition level.

Doug became the director for the Mount Baker Toppers Barbershop Chorus in the 1990s and maintained that position for 20 years. He was also chosen as the replacement Lead singer for the 2005 International Champion Barbershop Quartet, *Realtime*.

While performing on a music tour at a festival in Finland, Doug met his future wife, Terhi Miikki-Broersma, who later moved to the United States. Doug and Terhi are in their 15th year of collaborating to make the annual LMF a joyful celebration of all kinds of music, from classical, to folk, to jazz.

Broersma has been strongly influenced by the unique vocal harmonies of The Four Freshmen. "They are my heroes," he says. "Lynden is so lucky to have them this year to headline our festival!"

## 2024 Lynden Music Festival Daily Schedule

Please go to [LyndenMusicFestival.com](https://LyndenMusicFestival.com) to view any current calendar updates

"Quotes" indicate the event, *italics* indicate the talent, and **bold** indicates the location. Everything is **FREE** unless noted in **RED**

Time	Wednesday, October 9	Thursday, October 10	Friday, October 11	Saturday, October 12	Sunday, October 13
9.am	---	"Morning Piano" with the LMTA <b>Eucatastrophe Cafe</b>	"Morning Piano" with David Jewkes and Chet Noli <b>Eucatastrophe Cafe</b>	"Morning Jazz" with Etsuko Tomeda and Doub Pearce <b>Eucatastrophe Cafe</b>	---
12.p.m	"Opening Ceremony" Introducing 2024 Festival Performers: Dmitri Matherly, Folkert-Hans Tolma, and others... <b>Jansen Arts Center</b>	10.am – 2.p.m "Student Clinic and Master Class" with The Four Freshmen <b>WECU Center</b>	"Lunch Concert" Folkert-Hans Tolma Trumpet, Sax, Vocals <b>\$6 lunch (optional)</b> <b>Lynden Community Center</b>	1 pm: "Ice Cream Kid's Concert" with Folkert-Hans Tolma <b>Lynden Heritage Museum</b> 2 pm: "Across the Border" Freedom Singers <b>Jansen Arts Center</b>	---
3.p.m	"Romance" presented by Carolyn Canfield, violin and Judith Widrig, piano <b>Jansen Arts Center</b>	"Art Songs" presented by Julianne Olson, soprano, and Nathaniel Olson, baritone <b>Jansen Arts Center</b>	A "Society Jam" with members of The Four Freshmen Society and Friends <b>Jansen Arts Center</b>	3-5.p.m "Soul Music" with Checo Tohomaso and Folkert-Hans Tolma <b>The Mill at Seventh</b>	"God's Love" with Sherman Andrus, Bill DeGroot, and Folkert-Hans Tolma <b>Jansen Center</b>
6.p.m	"Festival Reception" with Wine and Appetizers <b>\$15</b> <b>Steakhouse 9</b>	5.00 p.m! "Happy Hour Jazz " Lynden High Jazz Band <b>Jansen Arts Center</b>	6.p.m Pre-concert "Wine and Appetizers" <b>\$15</b> <b>WECU Center</b>	5:30 p.m! "No Host Cocktails" Buffet & Show <b>\$50</b> The Four Freshmen <b>WECU Center</b>	---
7.p.m	"Opening Night Concert" Dmitri Matherly's Jazz Group Plays Mancini on his 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday! <b>\$25</b> <b>Steakhouse 9</b>	"Dance Night" with The Atlantics <b>\$15 General</b> <b>\$7 Students/Seniors</b> <b>WECU Center</b>	The Four Freshmen with The Swing Connection <b>\$30</b> <b>WECU Center</b>	The Four Freshmen <b>\$30 (show only)</b> <b>WECU Center</b>	---
9.p.m	---	---	"Party Like It's 1999," Dial Up Rock Band <b>Heritage Museum</b>	---	---



Our  
President,  
**Donna  
Gallaway**



## **GREETINGS FFS MEMBERS & FRESHMEN FANS**

Summertime, and the living is easy....sound familiar? Guess that depends on where you are in life's cycle and what responsibilities you hold at this time. At least the longer hours of daylight give us the chance to spend more time outside enjoying nature and perhaps take in an outdoor concert which is always a pleasure.

You will notice in this issue a detailed description of the Gathering event being put together by our FFS Board member, Mark Schlichting. It sounds like a great opportunity for all of you in the northwest part of the country to enjoy some good music, beautiful scenery, and of course time with other Fresh fans and the Four Freshmen. This event will be like a scaled down convention with less cost to participate, so I hope many FFS members will plan to attend.

This brings up the question of how do we raise funds without a convention? The cost of printing and putting out the quarterly newsletter *Fresh News* is our biggest expense but also the lifeline of our organization that keeps us connected. In order to continue doing that, we will need another source of income besides the revenue from dues. I feel sure most of you would be willing to make a donation to FFS to help keep the Society financially secure.

Many of us who have been regular attendees of past conventions are not able to make the trip to Washington State in October, so we will not have the expense of travel, lodging and registration fees. So why not send a donation to keep FFS going and able to provide all of us with *Fresh News*? Any amount will be appreciated and will help your Board of Directors to effectively make decisions regarding how we can support the Freshmen. TO DONATE just go to [FourFreshmenSociety.com/contribute](http://FourFreshmenSociety.com/contribute). Fresh gratitude to all of you who care enough to do this for the Four Freshmen Society and to continue our support of the Freshmen!

***We can have a FRESH FUTURE with your help.***

# **“Gatherings”**

by Gil Peterson

I am sure by now, that all FFS members have heard that our 2023 Convention in Fort Wayne, without some miracle, will in fact be our last FFS Convention. Dave Blackwell, Marlene Lobsiger and their committee certainly did a masterful job of planning and providing one of our most memorable conventions ever. The FFS owes you all a standing ovation for your outstanding dedication and achievement.

This is painful for all of us, but perhaps we need to simply remember all the wonderful conventions, the friends we have acquired and the memories that will remain in our hearts forever. No other fan-based group in the history of the music industry can even come close to our success. That is a tremendous legacy and we should all be proud of our history. But, it ain't over yet! There is a new game in town. The new game is called “Gatherings”. This occurs when the Freshmen are performing and FFS members in the area gather to see and hear them. There have been several “Gatherings” over the past few months and the reports are that they were well-attended by many FFS members and very successful. There happens to be a very special Gathering planned this October in Lynden, WA, that from all accounts, is going to be terrific. The Freshmen are going to be the



headliners for the Lynden Music Festival. This edition of *The Fresh News* contains a lot of information regarding this event. Mark Schlichting has been very involved with the festival organizers and has arranged some very special opportunities for FFS members. I think this a wonderful opportunity for all of us, and especially those of us who live on the west coast, to “gather” for this outstanding music festival.

The weather in the Pacific Northwest in the fall is generally excellent. If you have never visited here, this is a marvelous opportunity for you to enjoy the Fabulous Four Freshmen, the fantastic scenery, the renewal of FFS friends old and new, and the ambiance of this very special musical extravaganza.

There will be updates regarding the event forthcoming as the festival draws near. Should you need further assistance regarding planning, you can contact Mark Schlichting at [mschlich@comcast.net](mailto:mschlich@comcast.net).

Start making your plans now. I will be looking forward to “Gathering” with you all in October.



# The Gatherings

## FestivoX Festival, Tiffin University, OH & Thornapple Arts Council Jazz Fest, Hastings, MI

by Marlene Lobsiger and Dave Blackwell

Several members of the Four Freshmen Society gathered in Tiffin, Ohio on Friday, April 12 at "Carmies" restaurant for dinner, renewing friendships and exchanging memories from the past and present of Four Freshmen concerts and conventions. Dave and I acted as hosts.



Following dinner we headed downtown to the beautiful Historical Ritz Theatre built in 1928, where the Freshmen were in concert playing to a nearly full house. The four guys joined us and other concert attendees in the lobby after the performance where we sold CDs, and the guys were busy greeting and signing the CDs.

The Freshmen were invited to not only perform in concert in Tiffin but were invited along with other outstanding guest artists and clinicians to perform Q & A and workshops with high school and college jazz and pop vocal groups during the day at the University. It was an exciting evening for us to once again hear the Four Freshmen performing in concert many of the songs we love, as well as keeping the legacy of the Four Freshmen alive after 76 years. They never let their audience down throughout the evening though they must have been extremely tired from working at the University for two days with vocal jazz groups from the area,

not to mention that Jake was coming off jet lag after performing in Italy for several days.

### TWO WEEKS LATER. HASTINGS, MICHIGAN, APRIL 26

The morning of April 26 Dave and I traveled from Fort Wayne, Indiana to Hastings, MI for another "Gathering"



of Four Freshmen Society members and to attend a concert by The Four Freshmen held at the Hastings Performing Arts Center. Four Freshmen Society members gathered at the Seasonal Grill in downtown Hastings for cocktails and dinner prior to the concert. We had a great time being with members from South Bend and Fort Wayne Indiana, Detroit, (continued on page 6)





# Hastings, MI WOW!!!

By Josie Cole  
Thirty four year member of  
the Four Freshmen Society

Let's start with the Gathering. There were 14 from the Four Freshmen Society. We all had dinner at the Seasonal Grill. While there, we all enjoyed a great dinner and reminisced from the past years of Four Freshmen fun! From there we all went to the Hastings Performing Arts Center, and what a beautiful venue for the audience as well as the performers.

Opening the evening was the Thornapple Arts Council Jazz Festival All Star Band under the direction of Kyle Wellfare. This part of the evening was most enjoyable..... what a great treat. The evening concluded with the World Famous Four Freshmen after 76 years, and still awesome!! The show ended with a standing ovation and a wonderful encore.



## In Remembrance

**Evelyn Searl**, Grand Rapids, Michigan and twenty-year member of the Four Freshmen Society passed away peacefully at home May 28, 2024 while listening to recordings of the Four Freshmen.

Evelyn was a determined woman who fought hard to stay alive after being diagnosed with cancer. Even though her health was deteriorating rapidly she was determined to attend The Gathering in Hastings, Michigan to join members for dinner and hear the Four Freshmen one last time. After the concert she met up with Bob and ask him if she could have her last dance with him.



*Keep dancing Ev and rest in peace.*

## GATHERINGS (continued from page 5)

Ann Arbor, Grand Rapids and Riverview, Michigan. Other FS members were in the audience but unable to join us earlier for dinner.

Thornapple Arts Council presents an annual TAC JAZZ FEST, a three-day jazz festival similar to that at Tiffin University. The Freshmen were invited as clinicians to work with high school vocal and instrumental jazz students from the area. The small town was "buzzing" with hundreds of students participating in the festival. Closing the three-day "Jazz Fest" The Four Freshmen were the Festival Headliners in concert at the Performing Arts Center Saturday night, playing to a sold-out crowd of 800! The guy's performance was outstanding as was the audience, showing extreme enthusiastic and responsiveness to their performance which was followed by a standing ovation and encore.



Following the concert, members and friends gathered around a table handing out Playbills and selling CDs. It was another great time of "Gathering" with members of The Four Freshmen Society, and once again hearing the fabulous Four Freshmen live in concert.

We hope you will attend a Four Freshmen concert in your area, plan a "Gathering" of members to keep lasting friendships and the love of The Four Freshmen.



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Tom Deschaine	Grand Rapids, MI	Ross Simon	Fort Worth, TX
Ann Devlin	Dublin, Ireland	Bob & Candi Suhrheinrich	Tampa, FL

## New Members

Roy Caley	Quincy, MA	John Dolab	Los Angeles, CA
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## The Four Freshmen...On the Road!

Check the Website: [fourfreshmensociety.com](http://fourfreshmensociety.com) or [fourfreshmen.com](http://fourfreshmen.com) for updates

For bookings: International Ventures Incorporated

Dina Sheets-Roth

P.O. Box 2749, Wenatchee, WA 98807

Phone: 661-259-4500

Email: [ivimanagement@mc.com](mailto:ivimanagement@mc.com)

Please note: Dates subject to change without notice.

**Please be sure to keep up with the status of concerts at**  
**[fourfreshmensociety.com](http://fourfreshmensociety.com)**

### 2024

#### July 16

Saville Theatre, 14th St & C Street

Show time: 7:30p

Tickets: 619-388-3301

**San Diego, CA**

#### July 17

Herb Alpert's Vibrato Grill, 2930 Beverly Glen Circle

Show time: TBA

Tickets: 310-474 9400

**Los Angeles, CA**

#### September 7

Main Street Crossing, 111 W. Main Street

Show time: TBA

Tickets: TBA

**Tomball, TX**

#### September 22

Crooners Supper Club, 6161 Highway 65 NE

Show time: 6:00pm

Tickets: 763-760-0062

**Minneapolis, MN**

#### October 11-12

Lynden Music Festival

Show times: TBA

Tickets: TBA

**Lynden, WA**





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