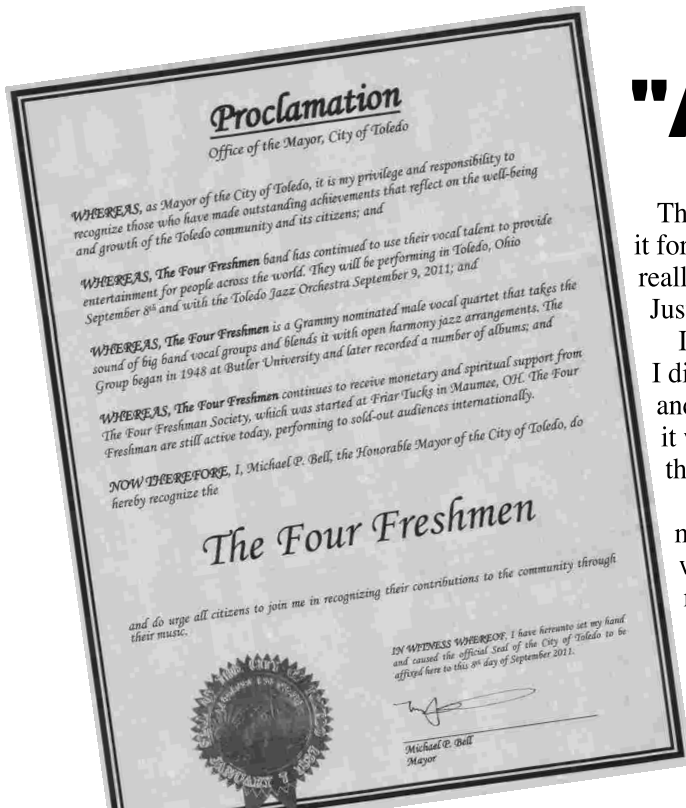


Convention Recap



"And So It's Over"...

Barbara Meyers, Chairman of the 2011 Convention

The 2011 Convention is over. It is hard to believe since I have been living it for two years. I'm in the midst of cleaning up loose ends and then it will really be over. I never thought I would say this, but I think I will miss it. Just a little!

I want to thank everyone who came and hope you all had a good time! I didn't try to make it the best, but I hope it was memorable. We lost Bob and Ross within 100 days and that alone made it hard to comprehend how it would all come together. The Memorial, I hope celebrated the Men and their Music.

I knew from the beginning that I would put most of my effort into the music and with the help of Mel, my music chairman, we brought to life what we hoped would be a combination of old times with Stan Kenton music and what it brought to The Four Freshmen. Brian, Bob, Vince and Curtis will be the gift that Bob and Ross left us.

I would like to thank my Co-Chairman Jean Emery, my Registration Chairman Donna Gallaway and my Club 113 Chairman Christian Rank. I could not have done it without them. Our newest and youngest members, our God-daughter Debbie Frey and her husband Bob who knew when they looked at me I needed a glass of wine! All the people who volunteered to be on my committee were wonderful. The Merkles, the Murphys, the Maps, the Roysdens, the Roessings, Jim Ammon, Jim Malohn, Barbara Finch and Mary Jane Weipert. I hope whoever volunteers to do this in the future has as good a committee as I had.

I would also like to thank Yas Ichiura and Dan de la Torre, for making videos for the Memorial, and Palle Christensen for leading the Memorial. How could we ever do without Dan's wonderful artwork and all the time he puts in for our logos and Chaz Cone for his computer expertise that kept me in the modern world.

Last, but, certainly not least, The Four Freshmen for giving us two great shows and putting up with all of our adoration for three days.

Bob's Trombone

Chaz Cone, FFS Membership Director, Webmaster and Database dude www.fourfreshmensociety.com

At the beginning of Thursday night's Jam Session, Barb Meyers made a presentation. When Bob Flanigan was near the end of his run, he asked Mary to make sure that his trombone made its way to long-time FFS member Yas Ichiura as a gift.

After Bob passed away, Mary had it packed up and shipped to Mel & Barb Meyers, the Toledo convention co-chair. Mel took the trombone to the leader of the Toledo Jazz Orchestra (his instrument is the trombone) to check it out. He pronounced it "ready to swing" so Barb presented it to Yas just as the jam session began.

What a wonderful gift from Bob to a wonderful FFS fan, Yas.



Here's Yas (on the right) playing Bob's (now his) trombone for the first time at the jam session. I know Bob was smiling...

The other trombone is Ron Kischuk, leader of the TJO. After he checked Bob's trombone, he asked if he could play on Thursday with the backup trio from his orchestra; he added so much to the evening.