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One should anticipate change in the creative world, and so it happens that Vince Johnson, a 13-year veteran with The Four Freshmen, has decided to leave the group to seek out, explore and immerse himself in other musical challenges. It has happened before with talented members of this great ensemble, and it will likely happen again. Vince departs with our very best wishes and our genuine, heartfelt thanks for giving us 13 years of remarkable musicianship, holding up the part Ross Barbour made famous, playing the bass lines on a variety of instruments and giving us that special understanding that whistling

has its place in the music of the great American Songbook. Like Bill Comstock, who left the band in 1973, Vince will always be welcomed at our yearly gatherings.

Replacing Vince in body, though not in part – more on that later – is Stein (pronounced Stain) Malvey, a multi-talented teaching and touring professional musician, whose major instrument is guitar. Brian Eichenberger says he far exceeds his own guitar playing abilities. Stein has Norwegian blood in his veins – his mother is from Norway, and he grew up in Minnesota, not 20 miles from our own Brian. He brings talent, drive, ambition and a love of the 'Freshmen sound. Stein will sing the second tenor part – his voice is very much in that register and Curtis will take over the baritone part. We welcome this 24th member of The Four Freshmen.

by Dave Bentley