

# Fun Memories

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Ray Brown! Another sweet guy who loves this group and has worked so hard to book the group and try to help keep the name alive. Fun to hang with him and hear stories and he's just a great guy and musician. Thank you Ray!

I also only met Mike Beisner briefly and he was definitely old school. Tough guy, great trumpeter and was a leader and alpha. What a musician!! Fun to see those guys from the old days.

Ah, Greg Stegman, the guy I replaced :) Greg has the heart and soul of what a Freshmen is. I don't know of anyone else who could have taken over for Flanigan on such short notice and sing it with such passion and love. Secretly at home, I try to sing the lead part and have tried to record it and realize that I'm terrible. So much credit goes to Greg for everything he did for the group then, thank you!!

Speaking of lead singers, how about Brian Eichenberger? He constantly impresses me each night with his consistent lead singing. I mean, there are guys out there who have great nights and mediocre nights, it's just part of being a professional, but Brian, he doesn't have a mediocre night. He has great nights and really good nights, that's it, never even an average night. It's pretty amazing. On top of it, he's very funny and clever but I try and hog the mic all night so none of you get to hear that :) Lastly, he's such an honorable guy. I'm not sure if I've ever met a guy I trusted to do the right thing more than I have Brian. Lucky to be working with him.

Next is Vince Johnson. We worked together almost 13 years!! Vince was probably the best part singer I've ever heard. Like Brian, he had great nights and really good nights, nothing else. I never heard him have a bad night. He was always well rehearsed and loved the group. He was certainly more social with the fans than I am and I admire him for that. I simply need more down time and more quiet time and he's able to sing and sing and sing, then go hang and hang

and hang with the fans. I learned a lot from singing next to him and I'm grateful for the experience!!

On to the new guy...Stein Malvey. He impressed me the way he came into the group and simply stepped right in and we took off with very little musical hiccups! He knew his parts, knew the arrangements, had all sorts of rehearsal notes and was simply ready! Pretty amazing. Everyone calls him the rockstar of the group already. I think he's going to do well with us!



Lastly, Bob Ferreira. He's been the rock for the Freshmen for the past 22 years! Bob has been really fun to tour with and I'm glad for him in this current group. I probably spend the most time with him since we drive together often on tours. He impresses me with the passion he not only puts in his drumming, but simultaneously with his singing during a concert. He's one of the few guys that can really laugh at himself and not take himself too seriously. He is a big part of the Four Freshmen and always will be, as many fans will attest to that.

I'm very thankful to have met almost all of the men who have come through this great institution. I'm even more grateful for the guys I've been able to tour with: Vince Johnson, Brian Eichenberger, Bob Ferreira and Stein Malvey. I've toured with various groups and artists and these are the most fun groups I've ever toured with. Musically, they are top notch as most great groups are, but for me the hanging out and being able to get along ends up being the most important thing since a level of professionalism is always expected. I think I've laughed more in the last 13 years with this group, than all the other touring and gigging groups I've played with combined.

Thank you all current and former Freshmen for helping to continue on this great American Institution and legacy known as THE FOUR FRESHMEN!!!

