

# The 50th anniversary of *The Girl From Ipanema*.

by Tom Feigum

This is the 50th anniversary of *The Girl From Ipanema*. The Freshmen have it on their new CD, a great arrangement by Curtis.

I discovered the Four Freshmen in the late 50s and saw them the first time in college in the early 60s as Group 4. I have loved the sound ever since. My luck was that when I married in 1966, my wife discovered the Freshmen through me and also loved them.

We sold our business, retired, and started attending the International FF Society Meetings in 2000. We have not missed a meeting since. They are more fun than people our age are supposed to have.

All this is to say that we were in San Antonio and saw the new Group 24. You will not be disappointed. If anything, the Group returns to the strong lead countertenor. Tommy has hit the Flanigan spot. At the same time Stein who has been with the group about 18 months is a good strong addition also.

The new CD, recorded in California this year, has some additional great new songs and arrangements by Curtis that really do give a further advance to the Freshmen.

## Everything Freshmen

by Don Follett

Avid readers may have noticed in a recently published 2015 book entitled *1965-The Most Revolutionary Year in Music*, (by Andrew Grant Jackson) that our favorite quartet, the Four Freshmen, was mentioned twice, both times in reference to the Beach Boys. The book recites the many changes in pop music during the 1960's, against a background of turbulence in the U.S. and around the world, plus the "British invasion" of rock music groups.

It would not be Bob Flanigan's favorite book.

## Why Attend the Convention?

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them and you get to see them year after year - it's virtually a family reunion every year. There are lunches, dinners, & tours with other members. We have discussions with current and former Four Freshmen. There are times when you can get together and sing those Four Freshmen arrangements you have loved to listen to over the years.

In short, the Society's convention is a three day immersion into the Four Freshmen with friends from all over the world who share your passion in this music. Come on out and join us. Next year we'll be in Louisville, Kentucky in August. You won't regret it.

# Four Freshmen Music Foundation Established

by Trudy Feigum

What can we do to bring young people into the Four Freshmen Society? How can we help them learn about the Freshmen Sound?

These are questions often asked at Four Freshmen Society (FFS) General Membership meetings.

FFS President Neil Lantz introduced Trudy Feigum at the 2015 General Membership Meeting. Feigum, Virginia State FFS Representative, was appointed almost a year ago by Lantz to chair a Steering Committee to explore the formation of a foundation.

"It is my distinct pleasure to announce that we believe we've found a way to help answer these questions," said Feigum when asked to report to the members.

The Four Freshmen Music Foundation, Inc., was officially established yesterday, September 18, 2015, during this convention in San Antonio. An independent, free-standing organization, established and recognized as a 501(c)(3) by the Internal Revenue Service, the FFMF is being incorporated in Indiana, as a tribute to the Freshmen's home state and their connection with Butler University.

"The FFMF is completely separate from the FFS," Feigum said, "and in no way is it intended to compete with the Society. It will complement the efforts of the Four Freshmen Society by using tax-deductible donations to support educational programs and create a legacy to honor the uniquely distinctive Four Freshmen Sound."

The new organization's mission statement, developed by the committee of nine FFS members, reveals the direction the FFMF intends to pursue.

***The mission of the Four Freshmen Music Foundation shall be to perpetuate appreciation and understanding of the historic music and unique harmonies created by the Four Freshmen beginning in 1948. This will be accomplished by, but not limited to, educational efforts about the singers and their repertoire among music educators, music students and music fans worldwide.***

Among several purposes of the FFMF cited by Feigum to carry out the Foundation's mission are the promotion and support for educational clinics and other learning opportunities in elementary, middle and high schools, colleges and universities. The Foundation will foster and encourage the study of the Four Freshmen's interpretation of the Great American Songbook, and provide by grant and scholarship for these studies. Additionally, the Foundation will promote and encourage establishment of a permanent archive to contain historical memorabilia of the Four Freshmen.

Members of the Steering Committee recognized by Feigum were Dave Bentley, Wayne Corey, John Emerson, Gil Peterson, Christian Rank, Kermit Sveen, and Anne Johnson.

Feigum introduced Dave Bentley, newly-elected Foundation treasurer, and Candy Bell, board secretary. Feigum was unanimously elected chairman of the Foundation. Names of the new board will be announced soon, Feigum said.

"In closing," Feigum told the audience, "I know many of you would like to be Founding Members. Please make your check - in any amount - payable to the Four Freshmen Music Foundation, Inc., today or before the end of 2015 and you will have this honored designation."

Checks are to be mailed to David W. Bentley, 41 Parish Road, New Canaan, CT 06840-4424.

More information about this exciting new organization can be found online at [www.FourFreshmenMusicFoundation.org](http://www.FourFreshmenMusicFoundation.org).