



OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2019

Denver, CO 2019

The Four Freshmen Society Convention

Our President, **Neil Lantz**



FFS Volunteers Make It Happen

It's been my pleasure over the past seven years as President to work with dozens of volunteers who continue to dedicate their time and energy to support the activities of the Society, especially as it pertains to planning and execution of our annual conventions. Unfortunately, space limitations make it impossible for me to list everyone, but I do wish to salute the prime movers who did so much to lead the 2019 Convention as well as those who are already hard at work in planning the 2020 event. Working closely with FFS Board Chairman Gil Peterson, who also chairs the Convention Coordination Committee (CCC), the 2019 Convention was under the leadership of Co-chairs Kathy Bazz and Nancy Driscoll. Together with their local committee, Kathy and Nancy executed a most entertaining and enjoyable experience for all of us who attended. I sincerely appreciate their leadership and thank them and their dedicated committee for all that they did to make the Denver gathering another great FFS event.

Looking ahead to next year, the 2020 Convention will be held September 24 – 26 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bay City, Michigan under the enthusiastic leadership of Jim and Linda Williams. Bay City sits adjacent to the Saginaw River a few miles from the entrance of Lake Huron's Saginaw Bay. The Williamses, who reside in Bay City, are in the process of recruiting other Freshmen fans to join their local committee. Many thanks to Linda and Jim and their growing team for their volunteer spirit on behalf of the Society. Further details on the 2020 Convention will be forthcoming soon.

Thanks also to another team of hard working volunteers – the FFS Corporate Board of Directors and Emeriti Directors, all who are listed in this issue. As well, I wish to express appreciation and congratulations to retiring Board members Mel Meyers and Yasushi Ichiura, both of whom volunteered faithfully for many years in a variety of roles.

Congratulations are offered, also, on the election of two new members to the Board of Directors, George Nosky and Hank Roysden. George and wife Ellie have been members of the Society for 22 years. George serves as the State

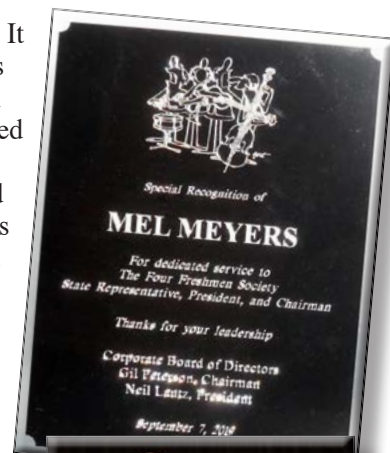
Thanks for the Memories

by Mel Meyers

The Denver Convention was great for me. It brought back memories of meeting Flan, Ross and Ferreira and the rest of the Four Freshmen through the years. One of my most remembered was the 50th Anniversary Convention in Las Vegas. This was my first convention. I walked out on the patio and saw Flan and Joe Williams having a drink. My thought was this is a good place to hang out. So we have! We have gone to many concerts and sold CDs for the guys. We went on many cruises with them. On the first cruise, we sat at the same dinner table with Bob Ferreira and have remained friends for many years. I have been honored to serve in many capacities in The Four Freshmen Society including my last endeavor as CEO. I enjoyed serving for several years until my health started declining.

Now in Florida, we hope to continue supporting the Four Freshmen for many years to come. So, to all who helped in my offices, I say, "Thanks. Thank you all for this wonderful honorary Plaque."

And to all the Four Freshmen and The Four Freshmen Society, I say "Thanks For The Memories".



Representative for Michigan and most recently volunteered to become the Midwest Regional Director. Hank has been a FFS member for 25 years, is the West State Rep for Ohio, and Co-chaired the 2017 Convention in Dayton with wife Sue. Both George and Hank will continue to do a great job on behalf of the FFS membership and the Freshmen.

Volunteerism for the Society is critical to its success. I can't express my appreciation enough to all of the volunteers I've mentioned along with the dozens of other who have served over the years as Board members, Officers, State Reps, Convention Co-chairs, and members of local convention committees. Collectively all of the volunteers have worked in so many ways to make our organization the best vocal/instrumental jazz support group in the world...thanks to everyone for jobs well done!

The Fresh Four are **FRESH!**

By Trudy Feigum

What a privilege it was for 2019 convention-goers to hear and see The Fresh Four, an enthusiastic quartet of 18-year-old young men who harmonized in a few Four Freshmen classics as they opened for the Freshmen Saturday night in Denver. In true Freshmen fashion, all played instruments and sang.

Tristan Butler, Gio Pignotti, Christian Michaelis, and Ethan Mills grabbed the attention of Dave Bentley, treasurer of the Four Freshmen Music Foundation (FFMF), in the fall of 2018 when Dave was contacted by Ethan with a video of the group and a question about getting a Freshmen chart to learn. Not only did the foursome love the Freshmen music, Ethan said, they had been teaching themselves the harmonies after hearing a couple of Freshmen LPs. Dave suggested the four might be eligible for an FFMF grant to help them further their interests to learn Freshmen harmonies.

An initial FFMF grant to The Fresh Four—then known as Los Caballeros de Dreyfoos, paying tribute to the Dreyfus School of Arts high school they attended in West Palm Beach—was followed by a second grant that helped secure a workshop for the young quartet taught by the Four Freshmen at the convention. Their performance Saturday night left no one to wonder if these young men warranted the Foundation's support!

In addition to obtaining the grants from the Four Freshmen Music Foundation and being flown to Denver to perform, The Fresh Four were recognized as the 2019/20 "Young Artist Award" winners by the Society for the Preservation of the Great American Songbook, September 9, 2019.

There should be no question the unique harmonies of the Four Freshmen appeal to all generations!

Dear Four Freshmen Society,

From time to time it is said, "I don't get these kids or their music today," or "there just isn't any good music out there." These statements, to put it simply, are not true! The preservation of music and the passion to pass it forward is generational. There will always be kids out there eager to learn the harmonic sounds. Kids like: Glenn Miller, Mel Torme, The Four Freshmen, Brian Wilson and the Beach Boys or our very own Fresh Four. Thank you to all the individuals who strive to leave a musical legacy to the next generation. Individuals like Selby Mills, who never threw out those Four Freshmen records to be discovered by her grandson. Like Mr. David Bentley, who chose not to ignore some random kid emailing and calling him to ask for sheet music. Or the members of the Four Freshmen who have never stopped singing unbelievable great songs for over seventy years. And lastly, like the Four Freshmen Foundation and Society members, who understand, when it's great music, never let it go and definitely pass it on!

The Fresh Four send their sincere thank you to all. It was an incredible weekend and we will never forget your hospitality.

We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did.

Sincerely,

Ethan Mills, Christian Michaelis,
Giovanni Pignotti and Tristan Butler
The Fresh Four



And Over...

Michiko said the Obi (the wide band around and above her waist) belonged to her grandmother. It has special meaning for her.



Looking Forward to 2020

By Jim Williams

Bay City is located on the east side of Michigan's lower peninsula near the base of the Saginaw Bay on Lake Huron. The city, along with nearby Midland and Saginaw, form the Great Lakes Bay Region. Bay City's proximity to Saginaw Bay made it the center of Michigan's storied lumber industry. Stately homes of former lumber barons still line Center Avenue.

The Saginaw River runs through the city. There are river walks on both sides of the river allowing for pleasant leisurely strolls. Marinas up and down the river serve all kinds of pleasure-boaters from sailors seeking the wind to power-boaters out for a cruise. Only Florida has more pleasure boats than Michigan.

From a fresh-catch seafood restaurant on the water to an authentic churrascaria (Brazilian steakhouse) new to Uptown, get ready to experience bright, bold flavors — and the unbeatable views to match! Choose from 54 craft brews on tap and American gastropub classics with a twist while you take in views of waterfront Wenonah Park at Tavern 101, or experience a bistro inside Bay City's original City Hall with 150+ wines from around the globe. See sushi hand-rolled before your eyes at Fusion 1 Cafe, try poké bowls and bubble tea at Sushi Remix, or sample fresh, local eats at our new City Market.

The Doubletree Hotel, site of the 2020 Four Freshmen Society Convention, sits adjacent to the river, with easy access to the East side river walk. Experience some of the best antique shopping in Michigan — including Michigan's largest antique center — and pop into dozens of other boutiques and eateries peppered from Uptown to Downtown, most of which are in easy walking distance from the hotel.

I know you will find an enthusiastic welcome when you visit. Both the Hotel and the Great Lakes Bay Region Bureau of Tourism, who are looking forward to you being here, have promised to do everything they can to make your time here, not only pleasant, but memorable. More to come. By the way, the Freshmen will be here!

Denver to Bay City

By Gil Peterson

I would like to start by extending my heartfelt congratulations to Kathy Bazz, Nancy Driscoll and the entire Denver Convention Committee for orchestrating a terrific convention. Everything went extremely well. The hotel was excellent and the hotel staff was accommodating in every way. Thanks to each of you for your dedication and many hours of planning and execution.

The Thursday night jam session was one of the best and Dave Blackwell handled the emcee duties flawlessly. We even had a song by Chaz. Thanks Chaz....it sounded great. Do it again next year.

Curtis Calderon's music video was outstanding and very well received. By the way, If you didn't know, Curtis wrote the arrangement and sang all four parts on the recording. The only thing that could have been better is if Curtis could have been with us himself. Maybe next year in Bay City. Thanks Curtis, we loved it.

The Friday and Saturday night Freshmen concerts were superb. They were right at the top of their game. Their selection of material could not have been better. The Saturday individual dedications added a very special and personal touch for all of us. Thank you Freshmen for your thoughtfulness.

Also, thanks to Dave Bentley, Trudy Feigum and the FFMF, we had the opportunity Saturday to be entertained by the Fresh Four. This is a group of four eighteen year old college freshmen from Florida who happen to love the Freshmen sound and they sing it very well. It was delightful to hear their performance. We all loved having them and their parents with us this year. All in all, I think our Denver convention was very successful and everyone I spoke with truly enjoyed the experience. Once again, we all extend our sincere thanks to the entire Denver Convention Committee.

As most of you know, our 2020 convention will be held in Bay City, Michigan. Jim and Linda Williams are planning a blockbuster convention for us. The Bay City area is serviced by three airports and numerous airlines. Although I have never been there, I understand it is a beautiful area and our Double Tree Hotel is located within walking distance of many restaurants and shops. The convention dates are September 24, 25, and 26. Mark your calendar now! You do not want to miss this one! I look forward to seeing all of you there.



My 80th Birthday Convention

Moe in Canada

I was just a young lad of 20 living in Dublin, Ireland when I first heard the Four Freshmen on the A.F.N. radio station from Europe. I immediately fell in love with the Fresh Sound. I never dreamt I would be celebrating my 80th birthday in Denver, Colorado seeing and listening to Group 25 of the Fabulous Four. I was literally a mile high. Mary and I were delighted to meet old friends and make new ones in Denver.

Full marks to the wonderful committee for putting on this event and arranging the perfect tour of Denver and Red Rocks. The Thursday night jam session was one of the best ever, and both Freshmen concerts were most enjoyable.

It was a joy to hear the young talented Fresh Four performance. Looking forward to Bay City in 2020.



WHAT IS IT About the Freshmen?

Trudy Feigum, Virginia State FFS Representative

It can be summed up in one word: Smiles! Yes, there are smiles given on stage, particularly by Tommy and Bob. But, it's mostly about the smiles the Four Freshmen produce from their audiences when they sing the wonderful, memorable harmonies that only they have developed from the Great American Songbook.

Watching the audience from my vantage point during a performance, June 30, at Heathsville, VA, it was easy to see the pleasure the Freshmen were providing with each song they performed. There were poignant moments when songs evoked special memories and audience members issued audible "ahs". At intermission while selling CDs there was further confirmation. Audience members gushed with joy about hearing these "old" songs, being transported to when they first heard the Freshmen, and which Freshmen groups they had heard sing what songs over the years. Nostalgia. Does it ever get tiresome?

This concert—to the largest audience of all concerts held this entire season by this concert series



in Virginia—was to have been last October. Due to Hurricane Michael and a resulting regional power outage, the concert had to be rescheduled. The result was a fired-up audience in June and an equally exciting and enthusiastic performance by the Four Freshmen. And, definitely many, many happy smiles!

FFS New Member/or Renewal Form

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E-mail _____

New Member Fee: \$15 Single or Couple (worldwide)

All Renewals: One Year \$25

Two or more years \$20 each year

FFS dues are not tax deductible.

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FFS Membership Dept.

6900 Hunters Knoll NE

ATLANTA GA 30328-1763

Or online at dues.fourfreshmensociety.com



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Fresh News is published quarterly © 2019, all rights reserved, celebrating THE FOUR FRESHMEN, the best vocal/instrumental quartet in the world. Publication does not imply approval of FFS corporate directors or trustees. Each author is responsible for his/her article.

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1. Jan/Feb/March - Dec 15
2. Apr/May/June - March 15
3. July/Aug/Sept - June 15
4. Oct/Nov/Dec - Sept 15

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The Four Freshmen Society Inc.

Item	Cost	QTY	Total
5 Trombones/5 Trumpets	\$15.00		
50 Years Fresh	\$15.00		
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Through the Years (*)	\$15.00		
Voices in Brass/In Person Vol. 1	\$15.00		
Voices in Standards	\$15.00		
Four Freshmen and Friends LP	\$20.00		
"Now You Know" (Leather Bound Book)	\$100.00		
Book is \$120 for orders outside US			

Subtotal

Shipping - \$1 per CD for US orders
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(*) Available to Members Only

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The Four Freshmen Society, Inc.

In 1979, the Airmen of Note under the direction of Dave Steinmeyer had a concert at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. They had, as their guests, The Four Freshmen (group 6). That concert was preserved from the sound board by Dave Barnes. It was then cleaned up by Paul Halac. The result was a "new" CD of the Four Freshmen Live at Constitution Hall in 1979, backed by the Airmen of Note, the premier jazz ensemble of the U.S. Air Force. The Music Mart has embarked on a plan to find and release these rare recordings, particularly in years when there is no new CD from the Freshmen themselves. While the Society has done this in the past, we will now try to be more aggressive in this endeavor. We hope to have a "new" CD ready for each convention. We hope you enjoy this new material. Barbara Emerson

The Four Freshmen A MUST SEE!

By Hank Roysden,
Ohio State Four Freshmen Society Representative

I can only say that, those who didn't attend, missed a great Convention in a great city. Good times were had by all, especially at the two concerts by the Four Freshmen. They must have performed every song in their book. Plus, they were all great - some of the old ones and a lot of new arrangements. You must see them as soon as you can. Unfortunately, they will not be in the Ohio region in the near future. Check out their schedule at FourFreshmen.com in case you will be traveling, or maybe you know someone in a city where they will be performing and you can let them know to go to the show, they won't regret it. It was announced that the 2020 Convention will be held in Bay City, Michigan (I know, but just for a few days, forget about that school up north)

Also, the Four Freshmen History Archive is open and running at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio. It's in the Jerome Library. If you have any Four Freshmen memorabilia that you would like to donate, please contact Trudy Feigum, Chair of the Board of the FF Music Foundation, at Trudy@reagan.com for instructions.

We need to get the guys some gigs in Ohio, if you know of any venues in your locale that would be suitable to the Four Freshmen, please contact them and ask them to add the Four Freshmen to their schedule. If they're receptive, give them Dina Roth's contact information and ask that they contact her. Dina is the FF management person. Her e-mail address is ivimgmt@earthlink.net. It would be great to have the Four Freshmen in Ohio. That's all for now, any question or comments, please let me know.

The Four Freshmen...On the Road!

Check the Website: fourfreshmensociety.com or fourfreshmen.com for updates

For bookings: International Ventures Incorporated

Dale Sheets & Dina Sheets-Roth

P.O. Box 256, McGregor, TX 76657

Phone: 661-259-4500

Email: info@ivimanagement.com

Please note: Dates subject to change without notice.

October 18, 2019

Rehoboth Beach, DE

Rehoboth Beach Jazz Festival, The Sanctuary Theater
Epsworth United Methodist Church, 1925 Holland Glade Rd.
Showtime: 8:00p Tickets: rehobothjazz.com website

October 24, 2019

Mt. Dora, FL

Mount Dora Plaza Live, 2728 W Old Highway 441
Show time: 7:00p Ticket info: 352-234-3755

October 25, 2019

Ormond Beach, FL

Ormond Beach Performing Arts Center, 399 N US Highway 1
Showtime: 7:00p Ticket info: 386-676-3375

October 26, 2019

Prairie du Sac, WI

Sauk Prairie River Arts Center, 105 9th St.
Showtime: 2:00p Ticket info: TBA

November 10, 2019

Horseshoe Bay, TX

Horseshoe Bay Cultural Enrichment
Horseshoe Bay Quail Point Lodge, 107 Twilight Ln.
Showtime: 4:30p Tickets: Purchase Online

2020

January 18, 2020

Worley, ID

Coeur D'Alene Casino Resort Hotel, 37914 South Nukwalqw
Showtime: TBA Tickets: TBA

February 6, 2020

San Juan Capistrano, CA

The Coach House, 33157 Camino Capistrano
Showtime: 8:00p Tickets: 940-496-8930

February 12, 2020

Safford, AZ

David M Player Center for the Arts, 980 S 14th Ave.
Show time: 7:00p Tickets: 928-348-7070

February 13, 2020

Gold Canyon, AZ

GCAC Sounds of the Canyon Artist Series,
Gold Canyon Methodist Church, 6640 S Kings Ranch Rd.
Show time: 7:30p Tickets: 480-983-2171

March 22, 2020

Sarasota, FL

Glenridge Performing Arts Center, 7333 Scotland Way
Showtime: 2:00p Tickets: 941-552-5325

March 29, 2020

La Mirada, CA

La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts, 14900 La Mirada Blvd
Showtime: 2:00p Tickets: 714-994-6310

START MAKING PLANS FOR THE 2020 CONVENTION IN

BAY CITY MICHIGAN

A Beautiful View...Of Life



SEPTEMBER 24-26, 2020



And Over...



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