

Jane Withers

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and Ken could have a happy marriage, coming from such different backgrounds. I told her I didn't know, but I knew Ken was in love for the first time and if they loved each other, it should work.

She also came to New Orleans to meet up with us and she and I went to a drive-in movie in Ken's Thunderbird. Afterwards, we went to a place where they were making fresh doughnuts... so good!

Ken and Jane were married in October of 1955 on a yacht which was owned by Roy Rogers and Dale Evans. Ross and I drove Ken's parents and the best man, Elmo Glorio, who had all flown in from Detroit for the occasion. We were held up in traffic and arrived a little bit late. We felt so bad, but they had not even missed us. I was wearing a cute little white cocktail hat, Jane loved it and wanted to wear it for the wedding. So, I gave it to her, and she gave me the black picture hat that she had planned to wear. David Rose played the *Wedding March* and Betty Rose was Jane's Maid of Honor.

Soon after they married, Ken talked Jane into selling her mansion in Holmby Hills, CA, where her neighbors were Judy Garland, Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall, and right across the street was Art Linkletter's home. They bought a ranch house in the San Fernando Valley which had previously belonged to Lucille Ball and Desi Arnaz.

It wasn't long before he and Jane decided Ken shouldn't be gone on the road so much, so he left The Four Freshmen in late 1955. Ken Albers joined the group in January 1956. Jane and Ken had two children together, Ken Jr. and Kendall. They adored them both. Jane continued to act and was involved in several charity groups. You might remember her as "Josephine the Plumber" in the Comet Cleanser commercials.

Jane and Ken were married until 1968, when Ken was killed in a plane crash. The last time I saw Jane was several years ago. She told me that those times when Ken was with The Four Freshmen were the happiest times of her life.

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who were constantly working, touring, and recording to perpetuate and honor the Freshmen sound, I think it was difficult for us to truly grasp how important moments like these were for our fans, friends, our predecessors, their families, and all who have come to keep The Four Freshmen close in their hearts. With age comes growing appreciation. Looking back has certainly reminded me of the power of music and how an amazing sound such as the Freshmen's can bring so many people together.

These days the group still plays in the Palm Springs area now and again and I will always try to make

FN OCTOBER, NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2021

The Four Freshmen...On the Road!

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

For bookings: International Ventures Incorporated

Dina Sheets-Roth

P.O. Box 256, McGregor, TX 76657

Phone: 661-259-4500

Email: ivimanagement@me.com

Please note: Dates subject to change without notice.

Due to the current health restrictions, please be sure to keep up with the status of concerts online at fourfreshmensociety.com.

October 21, 2021

Lawrenceburg, TN

Crockett Theatre, 203 North Military Ave

Show time: 7:00p

Tickets: 931-762-4231

December 3, 2021

Kerrville Bay, TX

Kathleen C. Cailloux City Center for the Performing Arts, 910 Main St

Show time: TBA

Tickets: 830-896-9393

December 5, 2021

Horseshoe Bay, TX

Quail Point

Show time: 5:30p

Tickets: TBA

December 7, 2021

Fort Myers, FL

Tribby Arts Center, 17821 On Par Blvd

Show time: 7:00p

Tickets: 239-454-2067

December 31, 2021

Spring, TX

The Centrum, 6823 Cypresswood Dr

Show time: 8:00p

Tickets: 281-440-4850

January 23, 2022

Malibu, CA

Lisa Smith Wengler Center for the Arts, 24255 Pacific Coast Hwy

Show time: 2:00p

Tickets: 310-506-4522

January 25, 2022

Avon Park, FL

Alan Jay Wildstein Center for the Performing Arts, 600 W College Dr

Show time: 1:30p

Tickets: 863-784-717, 11:30a-2:30p

January 27, 2022

Boca Grande, FL

Friends of Boca Grande Community Center, 131 First Street W

Show time: 5:00p & 8:00p

Tickets: 941-964-0827

February 17, 2022

Scottsdale, AZ

ASU Cultural Center, 6110 Norht Scottsdale Rd

Show time: 7:30p

Tickets: 480-596-2660

February 19, 2022

Coolidge, AZ

Central Arizona College, 5470 N. Overfield Rd

Show time: 2:00p

Tickets: 520-477-SHOW

April 3, 2022

La Mirada, CA

La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts, 14900 La Mirada Blvd

Show time: 2:00p

Tickets: 714-994-6310 / 562-944-9801

June 4-5, 2022

Grosse Pointe Farms, MI

The Dirty Dog Cafe, 97 Kercheval Ave

Show times: TBA

Reservations: 313-882-5299

the trek to visit that little square that simply says, "The Four Freshmen - Vocal Artists." For those who know little or nothing of who The Four Freshmen were or are, the words on that small piece of sidewalk might mean little to nothing as they walk over it. But, to those of us who have grown to know and love the group, its members, and the sound over the years understand profoundly what this group has meant to us in our lives. Those five words on that square of thin marble means more than one can describe.

So if you happen to be in Palm Springs, California and just happen to be at 139 South Palm Canyon Road, look down. You might just see a friendly name looking back up at you, smile and know that you had a small part in making that happen.