

Fabulous 75th Anniversary Celebration!!

Thanks to the hard work of Marlene and Dave, the 2023 FFS Convention in Ft. Wayne was one of the greatest, celebrating 75 years of the unique Freshmen sound.

Harry and I thoroughly enjoyed every planned activity of the convention, especially the Friday and Saturday night concerts of our favorite group. We loved the opening on Friday night with the old video of the original Four Freshmen, followed by the current group—Bob, Tommy, Ryan and Jake—who blended perfectly.

It was wonderful seeing old friends and meeting new ones. Very special to me was spending time with Sue Barbour and her beautiful family.

*Thanks to everyone who made this convention happen.
Dot Lydic*

GREETINGS FFS MEMBERS

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If you love singing along with the Freshmen as I do, then the Wannabes was your choice on Thursday and Friday afternoons. Kirk Marcy, former Freshmen, did a wonderful job leading the singing. Participating in this fun group effort always makes me appreciate the really complex arrangements the Freshmen can do with such smooth delivery AND play instruments at the same time!

It was a memorable three days of renewing friendships and celebrating the fabulous Freshmen legacy. Now you may be wondering what plans are in the works for a next reunion. Our Convention Coordination Committee is currently exploring some possibilities for 2024. But, in the meantime, enjoy the photos of a great celebration in this issue!



On the Wings of Song II

by Gil Peterson

Several years ago, we had the Freshmen here in Roseburg for “ON THE WINGS OF SONG I”. Many of you may remember an article I wrote about that concert. The venue was held in a very large hanger at the Roseburg Municipal Airport owned by a very close friend of mine. It was a fabulous event and Bob Ferreira was so impressed with the setting that he also wrote an article for the Fresh News about it.

Well, that hanger was sold about a year ago and as result of that sale, I became friends with the new owner, Steve Swanson, President of Swanson Group. Steve was familiar with the success of the earlier concert so I approached him with the idea of having another “ON THE WINGS OF SONG II”. He agreed that another Freshmen concert in the hanger would be superb. So “ON THE WINGS OF SONG II” was born.

Swanson Group hosted the event and Sean Smith, with Starfire Lumber and I would be financial sponsors. Since I have coordinated a number of Freshmen events here, I assumed the responsibility of putting all the pieces of the puzzle together. We choose June 17th as the date and IVI verified that the Freshmen were available. With that, we were off and running toward the finish line.

This would be an “invitation only” concert for approximately one hundred (100) guests. The acoustics are excellent in the hanger and DB Pro Audio, who has handled the sound and lights for the Freshmen each time they have performed here was available. Denny Miller is the sound engineer and owner of Pro Audio did an outstanding job for us as he always does. We had a terrific catering company as well as an “open” bar which proved to be very popular with guests.

We had a number of FFS members attending including several FFS members from California and Washington.

The Freshmen simply performed flawlessly combining a number of musical treats from the past as well as several songs from their new CD. They were extremely well received by the audience and I think they acquired a number of new fans. Everything seemed to work in concert together perfectly and I don’t know how the whole experience could have been any better. Frankly, I just wish you could all have been here with me. It was truly a wonderful evening that I will remember always.