

The Four Freshmen Texas Tour of 2002

by Ann Smith, Texas State Coordinator

In three days the Freshmen made a whirlwind tour through three Texas cities: San Antonio on Friday, November 8, then Conroe (a little north of Houston) on Saturday, November 9, and then on to Georgetown (just north of Austin) for a Sunday afternoon matinee on November 10. Lorraine Dellinger, our illustrious Membership Chairman and host of our recent smash hit convention in Reston, Virginia, accompanied me on the trip. She came and stayed with me and then we drove the circuit together. Each of the four travel days involved 4 to 5 hours of driving. Lorraine sold FFS tee shirts, I sold CD's for the Freshmen, and we both promoted the Four Freshmen Society to those attending the concerts.

In San Antonio we had the delight and the privilege of seeing former Freshmen Bill Comstock and his wife Susan. The Friday night performance was held at the newly renovated Crichton Theatre. The fact that they had recently added a bar made for a built in happy hour - before, during, and after the concert.

The show started with a rousing *Day In, Day Out*, then the mellow *You Stepped Out of a Dream*, followed by a haunting *Invitation*. Bob introduced the next song as "a good representation of the guys here on the stage": the song *Young and Foolish*. Next, we were treated to *When Your Lover Has Gone*, then Brian's vocal solo version of *If I Only Had a Brain*. This was followed with some banter about Vince having been raised by a family of chickadees - the explanation for why he whistles so well. *Rain* was followed by *Indian Summer* and Vince on vocal solo for a trip *All Around the World*. By the way, that gives us a "World" trilogy of Freshmen songs: *Blue World*, *In This Whole Wide World*, and *All Around the World*. *I Remember You* came next and then Greg Stegeman's beautiful arrangement of *I Concentrate On You*. The first half of the show ended with a lively *Walking My Baby Back Home*.

After intermission and very active CD sales, we continued with *You Call It Madness*, *I Call It Love* and *Every Time We Say Goodbye*. Next were *Route 66* (always a crowd pleaser), *It Could Happen To You*, and the novelty song, *I'm Gonna Go Fishin'*, featuring Brian's vocal solo. These songs were followed by *In This Whole Wide World*, some jokes by Brian about cloning, followed by *There Will Never Be Another You*, and Bob's gorgeous vocal solo on *Love Dance*. An upbeat *Somebody Loves Me* was followed by big favorites *Poinciana*, *Day By Day*, and *Blue World*. The evening closed out with *Early Autumn* and a very lively rendition of *After You've Gone*. The Freshmen treated us to one encore: a beautiful a cappella version of *The National Anthem*.

The performances on Saturday and Sunday featured a similar lineup of songs, with a few variations. That's fine with me, since I'm happy to listen to the same CD day after day and never get enough of it. The evenings after the concerts were almost as much fun as the performances themselves. After the Friday night show in San Antonio, Lorraine and I went out to eat with the Freshmen and most of Curtis' family, plus Bill and Susan Comstock. The Comstocks and Calderons all live in the San Antonio area. After the Saturday night show in Conroe, we reconvened at a restaurant to celebrate with the Freshmen and about twenty FFS members. Sunday evening, following the matinee performance in Georgetown, we attended a celebration at a mansion on a nearby ranch. I knew the house was going to be Texas size when we had to drive several miles down their private drive to reach the house. It was so wonderful having the Freshmen come entertain us in Texas and we're working on getting them back really soon.



Brian, Curtis, Bill Comstock, Fausto Yturria, Bob & Vince pose under a shot of Ross, Fausto, Bob Flanigan, and Bill Comstock taken at the 1991 Oshkosh Convention



The Freshmen conclude the concert tour with "Their Hearts Were Full of Spring" in the grand foyer at the mansion of Jack and Cammy Garey



The Freshmen pose here with the hosts of the Georgetown, Texas, concert (left to right): Brian, Curtis, Norm & Lynda Peters, Bob, and Vince