

## WE ARE JUST A FAN CLUB!

Tom Purvis, President

The recent Bowling Green KY convention provided a rare opportunity for your Officers/Directors to spend some time with the Four Freshmen management group to discuss just what our role should be and where the Four Freshmen Society, Inc. can provide important support.

The consensus was that with a professional management team in charge, the most significant contribution that we can make is to work toward filling seats at concert venues. Attend concerts, encourage friends to do so! WE can also continue to assist with the sale of Freshmen CD's at concerts and to additionally spread the word about our very unique fan club.

Over the past several years we probably became too much involved with many aspects of Freshmen activity. We were sort of attempting to get into "show business." Therefore, IVI, the Freshmen management group, prefers that we just continue to be a supportive and significant fan base. They do appreciate referrals on potential concert venues, but too often the information is not complete and therefore not useful. But our members frequently call to follow up, not recognizing that often such booking efforts require many months, or even years of advance work. IVI manages several artists and with even a modest staff, our folks can quickly overwhelm their ability to respond. We suggest that future referrals include specifics about the venue, a contact person with phone and address information. Then submit this information to me....I will advise you if we require further information and then I will forward to IVI. We have a good relationship with IVI and I confer with them often. Please do not call IVI with such requests or inquiries.

Additionally, please do not call IVI and request travel and/or hotel information about Freshmen appearances. This information will no longer be provided.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

from Ralph N. Wheeler, Daytona Beach Shores FL

The last edition of "Fresh News" contained a front page "thank you" letter from Greg Stegeman indicating that he had just completed an arrangement of the beautiful song "Once I Loved," which was written by Antonio Carlos Jobim, one of my favorite composers. This particular song was part of a Frank Sinatra/Jobim collaboration recorded in the late 1960's and I still enjoy listening to this album often.

When I think having this haunting Jobim melody being sung with the harmony of the Four Freshmen, I look forward with great anticipation. Please don't let this music get away! When the fans hear it they will be very happy.

Please make my views known to the Freshmen and Bob Flanigan.



Moon Mullins with Bob Flanigan

### Dick Reynolds, The Recommendable

Yutaka Alaki (Japan)

In the last issue of Fresh News (Vol. 15, No. 1), Ms. Ann Smith wrote the following as Bob Flanigan's words: "Bob said that, to him, three of the all-time great arrangers are: Pete Rugolo, Kenny Albers, and Greg Stegeman."

My opinion is that Dick Reynolds is more recommendable than Rugolo because of his many Freshmen arrangements and the nature of the "Sound." The Frosh Sound had been created and developed by them (including Albers, Comstock and Stegeman) and Reynolds. The arrangements of Reynolds are directly on target with the Frosh. He treated the song for the Frosh and was honestly "going to school on Frosh" (FN Vol. 12, No. 3).

Compared with Reynolds, Rugolo's arrangements are on a different stream....not the Freshmen. Ross mentioned in his book "Now You Know" the time that Don tossed a glass against the wall when they were rehearsing 5 Trombones charts. The reason was the difficulty and irregularity (and a feeling of wrongness or curiosity, I assume).

Last year, the Mosaic 55 selection offered us some never prereleased numbers. One of them is "Laura" performed at 1950 (and bewitched me with charming bell-tones). Please see Ex. 1, typical Frosh arrangement. To be compared with this, the well-known "Laura," performed at 1950 on Voices In Brass, is as Ex. 2 and Ex. 3. These were arranged by Reynolds based on Rugolo's arrangement. Ex. 2 is orthodox arrangement of the Frosh and Ex. 3 is not so. Ex. 3 is pre-singing of following notes of the trombone choir. I guess this is Rugolo's idea, because it's often heard in the other numbers like Angel Eyes, Autumn Leaves, etc. They are Rugolo. Back to Ex. 3, I regard this as an unnecessary phrase. Too difficult to sing and no one can probably notice the effort of the singers. **(SEE PAGE 5)**

Reynolds offered many beautiful and suitable arrangements since 1951 (FN Vol. 3, No. 4). Bob Flanigan especially names "In Love" and "Love Lost" as Reynolds' best ballad writing (FN Vol. 3, No. 6). Greg Stegeman told us "Voices In Love - with this album Dick Reynolds established himself as probably the most appropriate arranger for the Freshmen." (FN Vol. 4, No. 4)