

all-time favorite Freshmen songs, "Blue World", which always draws spontaneous applause from the crowd. Bob Flanagan says it's the song that's kept him from having to work all these years. He says if it wasn't for that song, he probably would have been a teacher and a farmer. (Think what we would have missed.) The next song, "After You've Gone" was introduced as being perhaps the fastest song the guys have ever sung,. As Bob told the crowd, it's: "a product of 6 cups of coffee, a 12-pack of Pepsi, and half a bottle of St. John's Wort." This closed out the evening, until the Freshmen treated us to an encore – a beautiful rendition of "Over the Rainbow". They stepped out in front of the mikes and performed it a cappella – and without mikes. It was just breathtaking. The Freshmen were kind enough to come out after the concert and autograph CD's for their fans and visit for a while with us.

Needless to say, we love the Freshmen and their music – as is evidenced by this mass migration to Oklahoma. That shows how much we want to have the guys back in Dallas. And for the record, we've been looking into several possibilities. One good likelihood would be a return engagement to the Lakewood Theater in Dallas. That's where this all started for me two years ago. When I attended that concert on April 6, 2000, I expected it to be like the other times I'd heard the Freshmen through the years. After the concert, I'd leave, still wanting more and wanting someone to talk to about the exciting performance. Well, little did I realize what was in store for me, with the Four Freshmen Society and the Freshmen themselves. I'm so grateful to all of the Freshmen throughout all these 53 * years for keeping the Freshmen sound alive. And especially my thanks go to Bob Flanagan for his 44 years with the Freshmen – without whose driving force we probably wouldn't have the Freshmen today. Also many thanks to Ross Barbour for his 29 years with the Freshmen and for his book about the Freshmen, Now You Know. In addition to these two remaining originals, we would be remiss if we didn't express our gratitude to Ken Albers for his 26 years with the Freshmen and Bill Comstock for his 13 years as a Freshmen – plus the beautiful songs and arrangements we have because of them. That's a total of 112 years racked up by those four very noteworthy gentlemen. Thanks again to all you Freshmen through the years. We love you – and your music.

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