

Another Report from MT. VERNON, OH, APRIL 4, 2002

John & Peggy Rapach, Cincinnati, OH

The 4 Freshmen were really tops and sounded as good as we've ever heard! We drove 2-1/2 hours and it was well worth the trip. It appeared that Curtis' trumpet solos were highlighted with applause and, also, Vince's whistling was a surprise tweet!

One of the best parts of the show was when Bob dedicated "It's a Blue World" to the recently deceased Tom Heine, who was the chair for the Community Concert Association.

The second appearance, after a standing ovation at the end of the concert was the group coming up to the front of the stage and singing "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows" without any mikes or instruments. It was a real joy to be there and to experience how well our newest 4 Freshmen performed.

They announced the release date of their new CD "Live In The New Millennium" June 4, 2002. We will buy some as soon as possible!

The best to our newest 4 Freshmen - **John and Peggy.**

P.S.

QUESTION TO FFS:

Could the 4 Freshmen do a concert with a Pops Symphony?
This is a great venue in the summertime.

ANSWER: Yes....The Frosh have a "symphony" book of several instrumental/vocal charts that they use with symphony "pops" orchestras. If you have any venue suggestions and contact people, let Tom Purvis know.

Recommended Reading

by Christian Rank, FFS Historian, Plymouth MI

"September In the Rain," Peter J. Levinson's well-researched biography of the late great musical arranger Nelson Riddle (Billboard Books - \$21.95) comes highly recommended by this reader. This very informative biography chronicles the entire career of the legendary orchestrator from his beginnings with the bands of Charlie Spivak and Tommy Dorsey where he played trombone (he admired Bob Flanigan's playing, see page 57) and started developing his arranging skills, all the way thru his last great comeback with Linda Ronstadt. In between, the book covers in great detail, his breakthrough recordings with Nat "King" Cole, his legendary partnership with Frank Sinatra, his numerous recordings with Ella Fitzgerald, Rosemary Clooney, Keely Smith, the late Peggy Lee, Steve Lawrence, et al, his film and television work, as well as his personal life, which was no bowl of cherries. The book offers many insights and commentaries from musicians, producers, artists and personal friends who were there when this extraordinary chapter of American popular and jazz music was unfolding.

Another great legend, Bob Flanigan, offers some insight on Riddles' arrangement of "Indian Summer" (which group #22 is currently performing) calling it "the most phenomenal thing I've ever had to sing. His harmonies were just too much." (See page 167)

For anyone who is a fan of Jazz, Swing, or Traditional pop music, this book is a must have.

From the "It's a Small World Department"

by Don Follett (MN)

Sometimes when FFS members stray a long way from home, they are known to check out the local record shops - maybe they will find a long sought FF record. When Minnesota FFS member Don Follett wandered into the 25-acre Daytona (Florida) Flea market - specifically to Rainbow Records with a huge collection - he found a knowing manager.

"Ya, I run into you guys once in a while," the manager said in response to Don's inquiry about Freshmen LPs. "There were two (FFS members) here over the last few months showing me their (FFS) cards. It seems like you guys are organized."

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