

BOOKING THE FOUR FRESHMEN

by Dick Baldwin, FFS President

For The Best Jazz Support Group In The Land!!

Some confusion remains about getting the Four Freshmen into the best venues around America. Here's a capsule to move the procedure along, resulting in a possible booking in your area. The suggestion derives directly from our management team in Valencia, CA.

International Ventures Incorporated (IVI) is ready to cooperate with us. The primary connection should be between a venue or performing/theatre site and IVI. Make your local contact with a potential venue and promote the current Freshmen to the degree you are comfortable with. Advise the venue rep or officer to contact IVI directly (661-259-4500). Here's the inside - let the pros work with the pros. IVI will talk talent fee, travel, lodging, and other particulars with the potential contractor.

The advice is not to get involved in any of those details. Chances are you'll be wrong or misleading. No two "gigs" are ever the same. Often dates are connected geographically - sensible.

The FFS is fortunate to be involved with a major, established professional agency, adept at mixing detail with good business.

Four Freshmen #22 are in capable, professional leadership. Let's assist management. The method makes the way! Private parties are private and require special handling with IVI.

FFS MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE

Effective February 1, 2008, an increase in FFS membership dues will take effect.

Renewal fees will increase as shown below:

New member fees (single or couple) will increase from \$30 to \$32.

One year renewal (single or family) from \$20 to \$22.

Multiple years paid at the same time (single or family) from \$15 to \$17.

For example:

Two year renewal (single or family) will be \$34

Three year renewal (single or family) will be \$51

Four year renewal (single or family) will be \$68

...and so on

This increase, the first in more than ten years, is needed to permit the FFS to continue its financial support of the performing Freshmen and reflects increase in printing costs and postage for FreshNews. Members can renew before February 1, 2008 at the current rates of \$20 for a one-year renewal and \$15 per year for multi-year renewals paid at the same time.

WHO WE ARE - THE FFS

One of the good guys among us left last November 9 in Jeannette, PA. Rudy Piacentino, Westinghouse executive (retired), tenor player, Country Club president, pub owner, Air Force bandleader, Freshmen faithful, and generous person with upscale honor and personality won't be at Indianapolis. And, we will miss him.

For Rudy, I want to emphasize how meaningful friendships are particular to this Society. Time nor space to document the great people this huge music venture, still surrounding Flan and Ross, is not sufficient. At this time, the Baldwins thank the Traffords, Editor Chick and Sue, for connecting us with Rudy and wife Dora Mae.

The FFS is special because the membership makes it so.

Rudy made it so.

Dick Baldwin
President
The Four Freshmen Society