

These are from the 1997 (3-week) Florida Tour, which traveled by bus down the eastern seaboard, performed concerts down the eastern shore of Florida before turning north to concertize on the western shores of the state. We also had concerts in southern Alabama and had a day in Disney Land, (in reverse order to that). As far as I know, the bus returned up through the state of AL and back to Princeton.

I was the pianist (and organist when needed) for the tour. All staff, teachers and musical folks alike were called upon to help the boys with their daily on-bus school lessons, tutoring as we walked the aisles. I believe we took 2 school teachers from Albemarle, conductor Craig Denison, and 2 proctors whose names I cannot remember. One photo shows two boys in their seats on the bus doing homework and you can see the elaborate strings, beads and contraptions they would invent at their seats to pass the time, sometimes.

Some of the scenes are from the day in Disney (my first time there! - as a chaperone to about 10 boys for the day!).

I believe there was a stop for sight-seeing in St Augustine and that is the day of the photo where the boys are faking all falling off the huge rock wall ramparts of the fort near sunset. Also the pic where a bunch of them are faking trying to LIFT the end of a canon.....so clever.

I believe we must have stopped for a day at one of the famous FL racetracks - Darlington Raceway? Not sure, but you see that Craig led a rehearsal **STANDING ON THE TRACK** for motivation - that photo looks like they were doing one of their African pieces because I see the three boys out front with their drums. (Fun!) You can see some of the boys racing the track on foot in one photo. The photo of Craig laying on the track with the crutch beside him was a stunt set up - I believe - where they thought it would be funny to fake a hit and run accident on the racetrack. Such fun-loving boys! There was a crutch along on tour with us because one of the the singers had a current broken ankle or something. It didn't keep him from doing the tour, but he had to hobble around a bit. (The children in the blue shirts in the racetrack photos are from a school we were probably doing a master class or special event with, promotional event) That's my guess, as it seems they are learning the actions to the African piece)

The pictures with the large pick-up truck are actually MY MOTHER (in the blue suit) and me, crazy as that seems. My father owned a HUGE truck at the time, and we thought the boys would really love to climb around in it. You can see in the photos that it was quite a hit! One of the boys is posing laying under the truck and another I can see has hopped into the driver's seat. My parents must have been so proud of my work with ABS and they lived far from Princeton so never really got to come to any concerts. They were in Florida for a convention at the same time as one of our tour concerts, so I guess that means they got to hear one of our performances.....AND to show off the truck. Looks like the singers enjoyed it! I can see one of our proctors in the back of the truck bed in one of the less populated photos there.

In another photo of a woman and two boys, that may have been a teacher, or perhaps is the mother of both boys who was able to see us on tour?

I also enjoy the Disney souvenir photos, and even the photos of the boys just standing in lines here and there, as you can see how creative and goofy they get even just standing in line!!

If you need any clarification, please call or write. As of yet, I have not been able to lay my hands on any brochures or programs from the tour. I will reach out to Craig Denison. If you have documentation, I'd love a copy.

I did find today a notebook with the names of the boys who took private piano lessons from me while I was there, if that helps determine who may have been on the tour.

Terry Heinze
Amadeus Durbin
Josh Faber
Jimmy Kite
Terry Laukkanen
Jon Ringland
Will Southerland
Joel Tranquilla
Corey Webb
Leif Westermark
Robert Wooley

Thank you,
Kimberly McAllister