

THE GRASS CATS

Promotional Package



www.GrassCats.com





Howdy Folks,

You have downloaded the official promo package for The GRASS CATS. As you go through this package, you can read more about the band, including career highlights, information on individual members, their highly acclaimed recordings, and quotes from people that have booked the band at all types of venues, such as festivals, concerts, corporate events, and private parties.

Now in their second decade as a band, The GRASS CATS present a show that appeals to bluegrass fans, as well as people that may be hearing the music for the first time. As one reviewer noted, “The GRASS CATS put a wide range of material into a bluegrass frame, providing a perfect intro to bluegrass to the uninitiated listener.” Still there is lots of lively foot-stomping fiddle and banjo music, bluegrass classics, tight vocal harmonies, acapella-style gospel quartets, chart-topping original music and plenty of down home humor.

The GRASS CATS have solidified their position in the upper echelon of bluegrass music with numerous singles appearing on the *Bluegrass Unlimited* national chart, such as “A Good Way To Get The Blues” and “Bluegrass Man” which reached #1 and “Pill Or Potion” which reached #2.

For more information or to book THE GRASS CATS, contact:
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The GRASS CATS continue to entertain audiences with their exciting live performances and critically acclaimed recordings. Their shows feature lively foot-stomping fiddle and banjo music, bluegrass classics, tight vocal harmonies, acapella-style gospel quartets and chart-topping original songs.

Though careful never to lose their traditional bluegrass footing, the Cats also perform cleverly arranged "covers" of songs from artists as diverse as Eric Clapton, Duke Ellington, Johnny Cash and The Who. Their broad range of material and fast paced show make the CATS a perfect choice for any venue, appealing to die-hard bluegrass fans and to folks hearing bluegrass for the first time.

Equally comfortable performing at bluegrass festivals, corporate events, street fairs, Arts Council, and Parks and Recreation presentations, as well as private events, they are the perfect choice for your next entertainment need.

For more information, visit our website www.GrassCats.com or send us an email at info@grasscats.com.



Band Highlights

August 2010 - Single "A Good Way To Get The Blues" is #1 on the *Bluegrass Unlimited* national chart for the 3rd straight month and #1 on the BMP Top 30 chart for the 4th month in 2010

July 2010 - Single "A Good Way To Get The Blues" is #1 on the *Bluegrass Unlimited* and BMP Top 30 national charts

June 2010 - Single "A Good Way To Get The Blues" reaches #1 on the *Bluegrass Unlimited* national chart

May 2010 - Single "A Good Way To Get The Blues" rebounds back to #1 on the BMP Top 30 national chart

February 2010 - Single "A Good Way To Get The Blues" reaches #1 on the BMP Top 30 national chart

October 2008 - Provided background music for 2008 NC State Fair radio and TV commercial

January 2008 - Tim Woodall nominated for SPBGMA 2008 "Bluegrass DJ of the Year"

October 2007 - Showcase artist at 2007 IBMA World of Bluegrass in Nashville, TN

April 2007 - Two singles ("Pill or Potion" and "Home To Carolina") in top 20 on *Bluegrass Unlimited* national chart; CD *Home To Carolina* one of top 5 albums

December 2006 - CD *Home To Carolina* gets 4 out of 4 stars from *Raleigh News & Observer*

August 2005 - Selected as "Band of the Month"

by the Triangle's *Independent Weekly Magazine*

January 2004 - Russell nominated for "Songwriter of the Year" at the 29th Annual SPBGMA National Awards

July 2003 - *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine, Bluegrass Music's premier publication, features The GRASS CATS on the cover and in 3 page article

May/June 2003 - *CMT (Country Music Today)* magazine, Nashville, TN's premier Country Music magazine, gives a positive review of the CD *The Blues Are Back In Town*

May 2003 - Single "Bluegrass Man" remains at #1 on the *Bluegrass Unlimited* national chart for a second month

April 2003 - Single "Bluegrass Man" reaches # 1 on the *Bluegrass Unlimited* national chart

January 2003 - County Sales, the nation's premier Bluegrass Music distribution company, "Best of the Year 2002" selects the The GRASS CATS' *The Blues Are Back In Town* as the #5 "Best Bluegrass Recording" (New Bluegrass, Traditional Bluegrass)

November 2000 - Rhonda Vincent and Mark Newton land a # 10 single on the *Bluegrass Unlimited* national chart with "We Can't Go Wrong" written by The GRASS CATS

August/September 1999 - *Crossroads Magazine* gives a positive review of the CD *Cattin' Around*

1999 - First CD *Cattin' Around* released

November 1997 - First show as a band



Meet the CATS



Tim Woodall is the elder statesman of The GRASS CATS and believe me, the rest of the band takes pleasure reminding you of that fact. Having played banjo for 30 years or so, he also has interest in many other types of music. Tim has recorded pedal steel, bass, and guitar in addition to banjo as a studio musician. Another hobby since the age of 13 or 14 is radio broadcasting. He acquired his FCC License in August of 1967 and finally got a job in January of 1989 as the co-host of the Pinecone Bluegrass Show on WQDR in Raleigh, NC. Occasionally he will step out front to sing lead if there are cue cards available, but is more comfortable singing harmony.



Russell Johnson brings sixteen years of performing and recording experience to the band. He was the driving force of the award winning Pinycastle Recording Artist "New Vintage" from 1989 to 2000. His "rock-solid and exquisitely high-lonesome vocals" and humorous stage presence are hard to forget. Russell's success as a songwriter and singer is well documented with eight of his original songs reaching the Bluegrass Unlimited National Bluegrass Survey, including the #1 hit "Bluegrass Man" in April and May of 2003. He was also nominated for SPBGMA's Songwriter of the Year in 2004. Bluegrass Unlimited magazine places him in "the first ranks of contemporary bluegrass."



Affectionately known as "Fiddleboy" by The GRASS CATS faithful, Chris Hill has been draggin' the bow since the age of 7. His over twenty years of performing have taken him from local shows, to bluegrass festivals to venues as far away as Ulster American Folk Park in Northern Ireland. He has appeared on-stage with the likes of Grand Ole Opry member and International Bluegrass Music Association Hall-of Honor inductee Ralph Stanley, country and bluegrass favorite Mac Wiseman, bluegrass-gospel legends The Lewis Family and was a member of regional favorite Al Batten & The Bluegrass Reunion for 6 years. Chris' deeply traditional style compliments the band's powerful vocals and shines on their instrumentals.



A triple threat entertainer whenever he steps in front of a microphone, Steven Martin has years of playing and singing bluegrass to his credit. From his early days with Carolina Drive, and more recently a six year stint with the award-winning Churchmen, his richly textured country-tinged lead vocals, exceptional songwriting abilities and his "in the pocket" rhythm guitar, have won him much recognition. An excellent songwriter, his song, "Get Onboard," from The Churchmen's' album On The Journey Home went to #1 on the Bluegrass Now Gospel Truths chart and the album was nominated for the prestigious Dove Award. With a name like "Steve Martin" you know he's got to be a "wild and crazy" guy, a perfect fit with the rest of The GRASS CATS.



Picking a rock-solid banjo, Rick is the newest member of the Cats. He was exposed to the sounds of Flatt and Scruggs at an early age and fell in love with Earl's playing, the banjo, and bluegrass. His parents are avid bluegrass music lovers and supported Rick's endeavors to meet other players, go to festivals, and develop his musical talent. Rick received his Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry in 1997 and found his way to NC by way of his post-doctoral studies at UNC-Chapel Hill. He loves the warm weather and friendly folks here in the home state of Earl Scruggs.



What They're Saying About The CATS

"We'd all heard in Fountain how good The GRASS CATS were, but they were better than we'd imagined. Great talent & delivery and a wonderful show for our family crowd."

Alex Albright, R.A. Fountain General Store

"The GRASS CATS are without a doubt one of the finest bluegrass bands anywhere to be found. Their harmonies, musicianship and sense of humor won over our audience from the start. The GRASS CATS make fans out of people who didn't even think they liked bluegrass."

Robert Poole, Louisburg College Auditorium

"The people in eastern North Carolina know, and LOVE, Bluegrass music. Our performance brought in the passionate fans, as well as our season ticket holders, many had never attended a bluegrass concert. Everyone, and I do mean everyone, left happy! The GRASS CATS are extraordinary musicians! If that weren't enough, they brought in great humor, variety, and a show that brought the audience to their feet. We will have them back!"

Sheila Martin, Dunn Center at NC Wesleyan

"The GRASS CATS are a fan favorite ranking high on guest feedback. A real crowd pleaser!"

Kris Ziegler & Barb Krumm, Ocean Lakes Premier Bluegrass Weekend

"In addition to sounding good in the studio, The GRASS CATS consistently deliver top rate live performances to capacity crowds at PineCone sponsored events. They are a sure bet for a good time to be had by all."

William Lewis, PineCone

"The Grass Cats are consummate professionals. Our crowd thoroughly enjoyed the music and humor on stage. They made themselves available to the crowd both during intermission and after the concert. They also received the first standing ovation and curtain call of our summer concert series. We would love to have them back again in the future."

Tara Gallagher, Garner Parks & Recreation

"An amazing live band and a lot of fun. They had everyone at our wedding dancing and helped to make it a very memorable night. An all around great band!!"

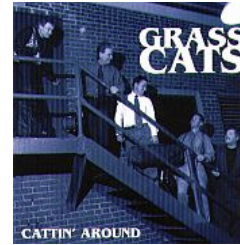
Pauline Shipley, wedding reception

"The GRASS CATS are consummate professionals ..."

Mike Parker, Kinston Free Press



Recordings



With a total of seven CD's, their recording career has been highly acclaimed with four of their CD's landing in the Top 10 on *Bluegrass Unlimited's* national chart. Their latest release, *A Good Way To Get The Blues*, produced their second #1 hit "A Good Way To Get The Blues". Their 2002 release, *The Blues Are Back In Town*, received a highlight review in *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine and garnered the CATS their first #1 single, "Bluegrass Man." The CD was also named County Sales' Top 5 Traditional Bluegrass Recording list for 2002. Their 2007 release, *Home To Carolina*, garnered a #2 single, "Pill Or Potion".

..."one of our region's newest and most compelling bluegrass quintets."

Jack Bernhardt, Raleigh News and Observer

..."strong singing, material and arrangements"

Bluegrass Unlimited Magazine

"Oh, yeah! Mighty fine pickin' and singin' goin' on here!"

Bo McCarty, WSIP

..."one of the top regional Bluegrass groups in the country. "

County Sales Newsletter

