

Southern Reign

Based out of the East Side of Des Moines (the side for singing bluegrass from the heart), Southern Reign has brought the ring of the five-string banjo and the high lonesome harmony of traditional bluegrass music to this region for ten years by name, and for over thirty years as members of other groups around Iowa and Missouri. Southern Reign are Cindie and Larry Beem (Guitar and Banjo), Tabitha Hood (Bass), and Mark Hargrove (Mandolin). Our attitude about bluegrass is that it starts with clear strong harmony, adds

the sounds of crisp bluegrass instruments, and finishes with tight arrangements surrounding great picking. We think a lot about Ralph Stanley, Jimmy Martin, Bill Monroe, the Osborne Brothers, and JD Crowe. We enjoy nothing more than a bluegrass festival with plenty of time to sit around and pick. Please check out our schedule and come out to hear us if you are in the area, and don't hesitate to drop a request on us at any time.



Cindie Beem, founding member of the group, was born into a Bluegrass family and at the age of six, began playing with her father and uncle in their group, Fox River Grass. Cindie was a member of the band "Possum Trot" for 17 years until putting together Southern Reign in 1999. Cindie has been named "Contemporary Female Vocalist of the Year" numerous times by the Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music of America (SPBGMA Midwest). Cindie plays guitar and sings both lead and harmony vocals.

Larry Beem plays five string banjo and is an accomplished musician and vocalist. Larry began playing music at the ripe age of seven, learning pedal steel guitar and later trading that in for the resonophonic guitar (or "dobro" as we know it). He has been named SPBGMA's "Dobro Player of the Year" on several occasions. Larry leans toward the traditional side of material in the band. He is an avid Bill Monroe fan and in addition to his diverse talent, collects Bill Monroe memorabilia. Larry plays many instruments including guitar, bass, banjo, dobro and mandolin.

Tabatha Hood, playing music since the age of seven, was born into the same musical family as Cindie as they are in fact sisters! She has a knack for choosing great songs and has a very crisp, clear vocal ability. She, too, is multi-talented, playing guitar, bass and mandolin. Currently, Tabatha plays bass for Southern Reign and sings lead vocals as well as harmony. The ability to sing all the harmony parts and adding a solid, strong bass sound to the band makes her a valuable asset to Southern Reign.

Mark Hargrove is the newest member of the band and is one of the finest musicians in the midwest. Mark has a drive and "vision" for the band that is second-to-none. He, too, plays nearly every instrument and has mastered each very well. Mark is the master-mind behind arrangements and set lists and is always ready to learn new material. He began playing bluegrass in early childhood and states he plays each and every day, no matter how tired he may be. That shows in his stage presence and attitude and is a fine addition to the band. Mark plays mandolin with Southern Reign and also sings lead and harmony vocals.