

## Giddyup Kitty Biography

Giddyup Kitty is a four-piece, high-energy, all-female bluegrass band from Longmont Colorado. The Denver Post says they are “the finest bluegrass you’ll find anywhere along the Front Range”. Quentin Young from The Longmont Times Call describes Giddyup Kitty as a “bluegrass band made up of serious pickers, accomplished harmonizers and experienced performers.” Weaving fine melodies with rich harmony, these award-winning musicians create a show that leaves an audience joyful, and asking for more! Classy, sweet, and smooth you’ll be a believer once you catch Giddyup Kitty fever!

The band originally formed as a threesome with Adrienne, Kerry and Marni in February 2008. They chose the name Giddyup Kitty because it captures the enthusiasm, excitement and energy they feel about their music. February 2009 Nancy joined the band and that summer the band entered and placed third at the Telluride Band Competition. Giddyup Kitty has three recorded projects. The first Cd, “To The Rock” was released December of 2008. A live Cd was recorded at the Altona Grange for the Colorado Bluegrass Society’s Pickin at the Grange series in November 2009. Their latest Cd, “Tracks” was released December 2010. Members of the band include Kerry Claxton, Adrienne Yauk, Marni Pickens and Nancy Steinberger.

Kerry Claxton was inspired to play the mandolin after she first heard David Grisman while living in Steamboat Springs in the late 80’s. Her father, a bass player, took her to her first bluegrass jam at Ralphs Top Service in Denver where she was introduced to the bluegrass subculture of Colorado. She has performed at the major festivals in Colorado including Telluride, Mid-Winter Bluegrass, Rocky Mountain (Rocky Grass) and the North Fork Bluegrass Festival. She is an award winning singer/songwriter and is also an accomplished musician on the mandolin, guitar, and bass. Kerry has released one solo CD, “Reel Dreams”, and has performed on several other projects.

Adrienne Yauk has been recording and performing in the West for longer than she can remember. Ever seeking new musical experiences and having inordinate amounts of fun is what keeps her going – playing with Kerry, Marni, and Nancy is no exception. She is an accomplished vocalist who plays dobro, guitar, and piano. As a songwriter she’s won accolades at the Kerrville, Texas New Arts Festival and KBCO’s songwriter’s competition.

Marni Pickens is a little bit country, a little bit rock and roll, and a lot of bass player. Born in the shadows of the Colorado Rocky Mountains, she moved to New York City. As a city-dweller Marni learned how to navigate intricate subway systems and how to play just about any type of music. From CBGB to the Bitter End, she has performed and recorded with such luminaries as Joey Ramone, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee Ronnie Spector, Kristen Thien, Torin Alter, David Driver, and Gretchen Phillips.

Since starting the piano at age 4, Nancy Steinberger is fully paper-trained. She studied classical violin at the Interlochen Arts Academy and the University of Michigan and has held positions with the Ann Arbor Symphony and Fort Collins Symphony. After meeting Kerry in 2003, Nancy started playing bluegrass fiddle and quickly took 1st place at the RockyGrass Fiddle Contest. Prior to joining Giddyup Kitty, Nancy played in several Colorado bands including Homemade Jam, Heartwood Hollow, Hot Lunch Bluegrass, and the Coal Creek Bluegrass Band. Nancy’s fiddle playing is also featured on Pete Wernick’s best-selling “Bluegrass Jamming” DVDs, volumes 2 & 3.