



# “THE G-MEN”

*Pictured L to R: Jeff “Toaster” Countryman (Vocals/Guitar), Gary Girden (Bass Guitar), Bob Londry (Vocals/Guitar) & Brian Collins-Drums)*

## Good Times & Good People!

By Tanya Shukalova

For “The G Men”, Brockville is and always will be their home. The local band is proud to be a classic rock staple in the city. They know how to keep their audience happy and on their feet, dancing to the music that everyone grew up with.

“We all grew up with it; and regardless of age, it seems to still be what everybody wants to listen to, young and old,” says Gary Girden, the band’s bass player.

“It’s a comfort zone for us. It’s where I started.” Chimes in Bob Londry enthusiastically, who is one of the lead singers.

Bob and Gary were a part of the band “Blues Highway” for about 8 years, playing contemporary blues music. They later teamed up with Jeff “Toaster” Countryman, who completed the vocal talent that the band needed.

“With Jeff and I, it’s not history, it is chemistry. It’s really easy to laugh at our mistakes. We have fun even when we’re rehearsing,” Bob says, “although we were not in another band together previously, there was just something about the way Jeff sang that we knew we finally had to get together and do

it. Gary and I talked about it one day and we invited him. Jeff came first and we had a couple different drummers.”

They finally came across Brian Collins to make the quartet complete. Brian had been the drummer in previous bands with Jeff and Gary, it was the perfect fit. Having played with Gary for nearly 20 years as part of “Gypsy Moon”, the history helped the men unite immensely. They played everything from jazz, blues and classic rock. The vast experience shared among the four men has lead them to have an effortless connection in “The G Men.”

“We can sit down at a rehearsal, bring a brand new song to the table, and learn it in one session. Where some bands would struggle, we can do it in a single task. It’s all about having fun.” Bob explains. “The biggest thing for us is the fact that we all get along so well. Having that experience and connection, makes for the perfect formula of a well-balanced band.”

The passion they have to please a crowd also plays a huge role in their performance. “The G Men” play regular local shows at Sam’s Brass Racks on Perth Street, and for private

gatherings around the Brockville area. In late June, they played for a larger gathering at the All Ships Festival.

The reason “The G Men” play is to look into a crowd of people and see that everyone is having a good time, as well as looking at each other, and knowing that everyone is enjoying themselves. What better way to enjoy an evening than to go out and see a show where everyone, of any age, can simply have a good time, dancing and singing, to all the songs that we will never forget the words to? You can tell by watching them perform that “The G Men” surround themselves with good times and good people. When Bob and Jeff joke around with the audience between songs, and Gary and Brian laugh on stage, it’s obvious why they do what they do after all this time.

“We’ve got 60 plus songs under our belt, and we rehearse weekly, come rain or shine, because we enjoy it”, reveals Bob. Gary adds, “It is a lot of work, believe me, but after all these years, if it wasn’t fun, we wouldn’t be sitting here”. LH

**To find out more about “The G Men”, visit. [www.the-g-men.ca](http://www.the-g-men.ca)**