

## ***Rigney Family Bluegrass Press Information***

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The Rigney Family Band hails from Normandy, TN, just outside of Nashville. Their unique, appealing blend of family vocal harmonies and innovative bluegrass instrumentation exemplifies everything that is right about family playing together. They offer traditional bluegrass mixed with fresh originals and driving instrumentation that exhilarates your soul with youthful energy, laughter, and emotion.

They play over 70 dates a year ranging from festivals, concerts, radio/TV shows, private parties, restaurants, weddings, and similar venues. Their music is a great balance of the traditional and fresh new sounds. Their third CD "Familiar Paths" released in September 2011. Produced by Stephen Mouglin of the Sam Bush Band, the project offers 12 original songs (three of which were written by Andrew Rigney) taking you down often-traveled paths of life. This project also features guest vocalist Becky Buller.

**Mark Rigney** began playing banjo as a teenager. He gave up his beloved Gibson to buy Melissa's engagement ring in college. He did not play again for 17 years. Then she surprised him one Christmas with a banjo under the tree and that is the beginning of their story. Mark also sings lead and harmony vocals for the band.

**Melissa Rigney** studied music at an early age on piano. When the guys in the family started rolling, they wanted her to join in and she decided they needed a bass player. Now she is the bands solid beat.

**Andrew Rigney** (age 18) has been playing since age 10. He plays guitar, mandolin, banjo, bouzouki, and bass. His hard-drivin' smooth sound gives the band its tight drive. Andrew sings lead vocals and harmony and contributes much to the band with his original songs and arrangements. He recently added to his many accomplishments by placing 1st in flat-pick guitar at the Tennessee State Championships for the second consecutive year and placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in Guitar at Merlefest 2010 & 2011. Andrew keeps a busy schedule teaching guitar, mandolin, and banjo as well as recording for other artists.

**Grant Rigney** (age 15) has been playing since age 7. He plays mandolin, fiddle, bass, guitar, and tenor guitar. His accomplishments include 3-time National Championship Youth Instrumental Entertainer of the Year at the Smithville Fiddler's Jamboree and 2009 Alabama State Fiddle Champion for his age category. The title track on their second CD "*Never Just Once*" was written by Grant at the age of 12. He also has numerous other awards across his instruments from many contests. Grant also sings harmony for the band and often works studio sessions recording for other artists. Grant also teaches mandolin.