

Sweden's The Cadillac Band brings the crowd with them!



The Cadillac Band features Anders Ehrenstrale on lead and rhythm guitar, Börje Hallberg, bass and vocals, Ulf Nilsson on drums and rhythm instruments and Janne "Lucas" Persson on piano, organ, accordion and harmonies.

Back in their native Sweden, The Cadillac Band still is still a touring band with big success. Fans flock to see them perform their brand of '50s and '60s rock 'n' roll and rockabilly standards, often traveling with the group wherever they play, whether it's in a bar across town or a couple of hours away.

They'll even hop on a plane to tour the United States with the band. And I'm not talking about just a few folks. On Sunday 6:30 p.m. September 4th, the TCB tour of the U.S. will stop in Los Angeles at Moonshadow Ranch Home of Special Spirit for a show on this horse ranch in Shadow Hills, bringing with them about 80 or so people.

That group will be in the states for about three weeks, stopping and playing in Nashville and Jackson, Tenn., and eventually making their way north through Nevada and Arizona before heading home.

"Everybody wants to come to Chattanooga," says Ulf Nilson, the band's drummer/tour guide/spokesman and leader.

The band will play at several places along the way, always for free.

"Any money we do get we give to a local charity," Nilson says. "We don't want to take anything away from local musicians."

He says they also encourage the fans traveling with them to spend as much as they can in the local shops and restaurants along the way.

Elvis is a big deal to TCB, as the name might suggest. The King's former drummer DJ Fontana suggested it as a name for the group. Elvis was fond of the initials, an acronym for "taking care of business," which he and his employees adopted as their motto. And he liked Cadillacs.

The group has even helped put together a museum called the TCB House of Music in Floda, Sweden, featuring instruments and memorabilia from Presley and musicians who played with him. The house itself is a replica of Presley's Tupelo, Miss., birthplace.

There are also memorabilia from artists such as Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, Carl Perkins and Jerry Lee Lewis.

The TCB U.S. tours started a decade ago and Nilson says they are already booking people for next year. Nilsson's next goal is to create some sort of exchange program, with people from here doing a similar tour in Sweden.