

Flynnville Train's 'Tip A Can' featured on new album

By Tammy Roberts

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The casual atmosphere of the Space Coast area had such an effect on one country music singer that he decided to write a song about it.

"Tip a Can" is a featured track on Flynnville Train's newest album, Redemption, scheduled to be released in late July.

The song highlights the local area, referencing locations such as Sebastian Inlet and Lou's Blues Upstairs in Indialantic.

"My wife's grandmother had a place down in Sebastian Beach, so we've taken a lot of vacations around the Brevard area," said Brian Flynn, the group's lead singer. "We always have so much fun down there, and the people are so nice. It's such a great area."

Formed in 2001, Flynnville Train is a four-member country rock band from Central Indiana.

The group was originally signed by country singer Toby Keith's label, Show Dog Nashville, in June 2006, but parted ways three years later.

Flynnville Train is now managed by Hallmark Direction Company and is preparing to release its second album, which Mr. Flynn said, is historically the toughest to put out.

"Everyone says there's no way you can write an album as good as your first," he said. "I'm my worst critic, and I can say for sure that this album is better than our first. We've put out songs about family and friends and a lot of the things you take for granted in your life when you're younger."

The band's first single, "Preachin' to the Choir," has already begun to climb the country music charts.

While this track has a more inspirational, soulful sound, the guys describe "Tip A Can" as a good-time, party song that depicts real people in a relaxing beach town.

Throughout the years, the band has become good friends with Louie Andrus, owner of Lou's Blues, and has played at the popular venue several times in the past.

"It was a funny story actually; we were performing at Lou's and one of the cooks, who everyone calls 'Cowboy Mike,' requested that he sing along with us to a Travis Tritt song," Mr. Flynn said. "When we finally did, Mikey forgot the words half-way through and just walked off stage. It was pretty funny, so we added it to the song."

"Tip A Can's" opening lyrics read: "Soakin' my feet on the hot Sebastian sunshine sand, watchin' the girls struttin' by in their Coppertone tans."

Followed by, "Singin' karaoke at Lou's Blues bar tonight, Mikey the chef's been singing Travis Tritt; tonight I bet he gets it right. And old Lou's down at the swingin' doors, with a smile, he says hello friends. You just need to run down if you can, let's tip a can."

In addition to Mr. Flynn, the band consists of his brother, Brent Flynn - lead guitarist, strings player and vocalist - as well as Tommy Bales on drums, and Damon Michael on bass.

When it comes to song-writing, Mr. Flynn said he typically comes up with "some crazy idea" for a song, then the guys all get in a circle and write the song together.

As for "Tip A Can," he said the lyrics came quite easily, describing a town all the band members enjoy.

An avid fisherman, Mr. Flynn said he spends the majority of his vacation time in Brevard fishing with pal, Rick Dollard, co-owner of Moo's Soft Serve in Indialantic.

"I've caught some of the biggest fish I've ever caught down there," Mr. Flynn said. "I'd live over there if I could, and one day, probably will."

While the "Flynn" part of the band's name was named after band brothers Brian and Brent, the "ville" part came from all of the little towns that end in "ville" close to where the boys grew up.

The "train" was added to mark the memory of when the band used to hold front-porch rehearsals at its house in their town of 2,000 residents in Indiana.

"Our neighbors actually named us," Mr. Flynn said. "They could hear us from miles away. They said it sounded like a freight train comin' through town."

Mr. Andrus said he couldn't be more thrilled to have he and his bar mentioned in one of the band's songs.

"Over the years, we've had a lot of different artists play here, and they are one of the nicest and most talented group of guys," he said. "We really hope this song and the rest of their album take off. They know they're welcome to play here anytime."

For information about Flynnville Train or to order its new album, visit www.flynnvilletrain.com.