

GAC Great American Country

HEADLINES

Exile Wants "One More Chance"

Oct. 2, 2008 — Some 25 years ago, Exile was riding the country charts for the first time in its career, beginning what became a highly successful shift from pop music. The band earned six nominations from the Country Music Association in the next four years and racked up 10 No. 1 hits, including "Woke Up In Love," "I Can't Get Close Enough" and a pair of songs with now-prophetic titles: "Give Me One More Chance" and "I Don't Want To Be A Memory."

The musicians from Exile's most successful incarnation played a benefit in March that marked the first time they'd taken the stage together in 23 years. Now that version of the group — guitarists J.P. Pennington and Les Taylor, bass player Sonny Lemaire, drummer Steve Goetzman and keyboard player Marlon Hargis — is out of exile and planning a new album.

"We were surprised to discover the magic is still there," Steve says of the reunion show. "We feel like a family, and we're sounding like it, too."

They return to the Grand Ole Opry Nov. 4 and will appear at Nashville's 3rd & Lindsley the following day. Their five-song EP, which is still untitled, should be released by the end of October.

"We still have a lot to offer as a group," Sonny notes. "The new songs we've cut are what I imagine we'd be doing had we never stopped recording."