

# Music fans won't have **beefs** with this band

*"It's rock 'n' roll for us, but it could be something ... like quilting for someone else."*

by GARRETT SCOTT

If solid rock 'n' roll is your thing, you're in luck. The rock band Chief Beef will be performing in Wichita as part of the band's Gravy tour with Volaticus. The band will play Sunday at Kirby's Beer Store in what promises to be a night of great music.

Wichita is third on the almost-three-year-old Phoenix band's scheduled tour around the Midwest this summer and fall.

"[Wichita] is part of our largest tour ever," said John Lipfert, vocalist and guitarist for the group. "We like the Midwest."

The band prides itself on striving to be a more perfect rock band, and the sound of their new album, influenced by a variety of music from the past 15 years, wastes no time in explaining that to you, starting with its title, "Something About Rock."

"We're a band for anyone who likes good rock 'n' roll," Lipfert said.

Chief Beef is definitely not the old-fashioned rock 'n' roll of yesteryear, though.

"We're more of a hard rock indie band," Lipfert said. "It's hard for a band to describe their own sound, though."

Chief Beef doesn't need to. Many papers from around Arizona, their home state, already have.

The Tucson Weekly called Chief Beef's music "straightforward indie rock with a durable rhythm section, big guitar chords and hummable vocal melodies."

Another jargon-filled source, the Phoenix New Times, raves, "Chief Beef plays post-rock imbued with blues-tinged riffery and off-kilter jamminess."

The greater themes are not lost in the "riffery" and "jamminess" of their style of rock 'n' roll, though. Lipfert said there is one major theme that permeates all the songs on the eleven-song album, and it's all about balance.

"It's about doing what you really want to do, which for us is writing and performing in a band, but then being able to balance that with family and work, among other things," he said. "It's rock 'n' roll for us, but it could be something ... like quilting for someone else."

The members include John Lipfert on guitar and vocal, Christine Lipfert on bass and vocal and Stewart Alaniz on the drums.

The three members originally started off



Courtesy Photo

Band Chief Beef poses for a photo.

in two different bands, one with Christine and John Lipfert, who are married to each other, and the other with Stewart Alaniz.

"Christine and I were in a band that played shows with Stew's band," Lipfert said. "That's how we got to know each other."

When Alaniz's band broke up, the Lipferts knew that he was looking for a band, so they formed their own with an additional member, Aaron Burke.

One-year band member Burke is responsible for the band's full name, "Chief Beef: King of All Meats."

"Me and Aaron were in a bar, and we had been drinking ... and Aaron just said 'Chief Beef: King of All Meats,' and we decided to use it," Lipfert said.

Burke is no longer part of the band, but the name has stuck since their beginning in October 2004.

When asked about the Wichita performance and what the concertgoers could expect, Lipfert said, "We like to shake it up to keep it interesting for ourselves. It's going to be a good, loud rock 'n' roll band playing some good original music."

The performance will be Sunday at 8 p. m. in Kirby's Beer Store, 3227 E. 17th St. N.

For more information about Chief Beef or to listen to some of their music, visit [chiefbeef-band.com](http://chiefbeef-band.com) or [myspace.com/chiefbeef](http://myspace.com/chiefbeef).

## Fun Facts

Full name: Chief Beef: King of all Meats

Hometown: Phoenix

Newest album: "Something About Rock" available from [cdbaby.com](http://cdbaby.com).