

END OF A JAZZ TRADITION?

Presently, there is no invitation nor known plans for Natural Gas Jazz Band to perform at the 2012 Sacramento Music Festival (the words *JAZZ*, *JUBILEE* and *DIXIELAND* were dropped from the festival's original name). The Gassers have appeared in the past 36 festivals, having **participated in everyone since 1975** and therefore the omission of the band from next year's event marks a huge change in NGJB tradition and history. It has been a major band event for many years, providing an annual reunion of jazz family, friends, and musicians from around the world. The weekend created the opportunity for the Gassers to make contact with bands from Kowloon, Japan, , China, Australia, British Isles, U.S.S.R., and many more - all of which contributed to the many successful international NGJB tours.

Changes in attendance, ages of audience, and musical preferences have occurred and musical genres such as western, R&B, Latin, zydeco, swing, and show bands began replacing traditional jazz. The following quotes are given in hopes that they may give insight into the festival history and changes that have taken place over the years.

"The Sacramento Jazz Jubilee is the largest traditional jazz festival in the world. The four-day celebration attracts more than 100,000 visitors each year who enjoy over 125 bands."

Business Wire, Wednesday, April 27 2005 ← *Note Date*

"In previous years the lineup included a couple of dozen trad jazz bands, but the largely-elder audience for those is dwindling and, to make the Festival pay its way, changes had to made, including addition of other popular music genres to attract a broader audience sufficient to support the event."

*Charlie Hull, Dixieland Jazz Mailing List,
dixielandjazz-request@ml.islandnet.com ,13 May 2011*

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END OF A JAZZ ERA? (TRADITION?? or INSTITUTION FIXTURE)

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Changes in attendance, ages of audience, and musical preferences occurred and musical genres such as western, R&B, Latin, zydeco, swing, and show bands (such as Tom Rigney & Flambeau) began replacing traditional jazz. The following quotes may give insight into the festival history and changes that have taken place over the years.

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1989 Sacramento Jazz Jubilee GasHoppers Fan Club