

# JAZZ RAMBLER

Published by America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society • San Diego, CA • [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org)

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August, 2009

Vol. XXVII No. 4

## More Bands Added to 30th Annual Thanksgiving Festival

Since the last issue of the *Jazz Rambler* was published, bands have been added to the lineup of the 30th Annual San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival:

- **Tim Laughlin and his New Orleans All Stars featuring Connie Jones....** The All-Stars were a hit at the 2008 Festival. The audiences were thrilled by the band's performances of New Orleans music, featuring Connie's world-class cornet work and Tim's authentic Crescent City style. AFCDJS is pleased to welcome the All-Stars for a return engagement in 2009.

- **Cash Kings....** This band pays tribute to the music sung by American icon Johnny Cash. Led by vocalist Johnny G. D'Artenay (visiting San Diego from his new home in Nashville), the Cash Kings perform in the authentic style of Cash's bands of the '50s and '60s. Come early to get a good seat. Last year, the Cash Kings filled every room they played in.

- **Dixie Express....** A San Diego band that evolved from the AFCDJS Free Dixieland Workshops and the Adult Jazz Camps into one of the best jazz groups in the area. Dixie Express performs a wide-ranging repertoire every



*Connie Jones featured with N.O. All-Stars Wednesday at Fuddruckers in La Mesa and the band also plays concerts, parties and other events around San Diego County.*

- **The Hayriders....** The interpretations of music made famous by Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Bill Haley and other '50s "Rockabillys" drew S.R.O. crowds at the 2008 Thanksgiving Festival.

Regretfully, pianist **Neville Dickie** has withdrawn from the Festival due to a scheduling conflict. He is set to perform for British Royalty the same weekend as our event!

**Real Gone** will step aside as the Hayriders and Cash Kings will be in charge of the Rockabilly sounds, together with **Dave Bennett**, who will play and sing a tribute to "The Killer" – Jerry Lee Lewis.

Due to financial considerations, it was necessary to cut **Billy Mata** and his fine band from the 2009 program. Please make your Festival reservations *now* so that AFCDJS will be able to keep the remaining lineup intact!

For a complete list of the fabulous bands and musicians at the 2009 San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival, and to order badges and make hotel reservations, please see the advertisement on page 5.

Plan now to join AFCDJS for our 30th Anniversary celebration — Nov. 25-29 at the Town & Country Resort & Hotel, 500 Hotel Circle North (jct. of SR-163 and

## Special Banner Marks Year #30 for AFCDJS

If you attended the June concert (Mississippi Room, June 21, South Burgundy Street Jazz Band) you saw the special 30th Anniversary Banner on display. As seen below, the banner shows the AFCDJS "Twins" Logo along with the number "30" and has mounting grommets in each corner.

The Festival committee would like to decorate each venue with two of these 3' x 4' banners – one on either side of the stage. Would you be interested in



making a donation of \$150 to cover the cost of the banner? The "30" would be replaceable making the banners reusable each year, and for an additional \$25 an attribution such as "Donated by ..." or "Donated in memory of ..." could be added using a small font at the lower right corner. If you are interested in making a donation for this special 30th Anniversary Banner or perhaps other forms of Festival sponsorship please contact Paul Daspit, AFCDJS Sponsorship Program not later than Sept. 18th at 619-222-9535 or [pdstamant@yahoo.com](mailto:pdstamant@yahoo.com).

On another note, if you are planning to attend the Festival this year but have not yet purchased your badges or made arrangements with the Town & Country, please consider doing so as soon as possible. Advance sales are slow this year – likely a result of the economic slowdown. After reducing our pre-Festival expenses as much as possible, we've had to take a hard look at the number of bands we can support this year. You'll note that while in previous years about this time we'd be adding 1-2 bands to finalize the lineup, we've actually had to pull back on the number of bands – unfortunately Billy Mata & the Texas Tradition and Pianorama have been scratched from the program. We did this reluctantly but believe it is in the Society's best long-term interest

I-8) in San Diego's Hotel Circle.

For more info, visit our website at [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org).

### The AFCDJS

#### Monthly Concert Series

All concerts take place on the  
**Third Sunday of the Month except Dec.**  
**The Mississippi Room at the  
Lafayette Hotel & Suites**  
**2223 El Cajon Blvd., San Diego, CA**

**Aug. 16 – South Bay Jazz Ramblers**

**Sept. 20 – Heliotrope Ragtime Orch.**

**Oct. 18 – Sue Palmer and Motel Swing**

**Nov. 15 – Bobby Gordon Quartet**

Take I-805, exit El Cajon Blvd West. The Lafayette Hotel is 2 blocks West of Texas Street. The Mississippi Room is located downstairs, in the northwest corner of the building. Enter from the El Cajon Blvd. entrance door.

**All concerts are from 1-4pm.**  
**Full bar service is available.**

# JAZZ RAMBLER

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Website: [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org). Fax number (619) 297-5281. Single copy price \$3.00. Editorial contributions welcome. Contents of *Jazz Rambler* are copyrighted © (2009) by America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society and may not be reprinted without permission. Jazz Publications and Jazz Club Newsletters may reprint articles provided the following credit is included: "Reprinted from the *Jazz Rambler*, San Diego, California." The *Jazz Rambler* and Society functions are funded in part by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture.

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Advertising in the *Jazz Rambler* is one of the best ways to reach a large exclusive audience of Trad Jazz fans. With our circulation of approximately 2,000 and an estimated readership of 3,500, you will be reaching thousands of people who are interested in all aspects of Traditional Jazz.

The *Rambler* is published quarterly. Deadlines are the 15th of the month, prior to the date of issue. Jan. 15, Apr. 15, July 15 and Oct. 15.

### Advertising Rates

Full page	— \$230.00
One Half page	— 125.00
One Third page	— 90.00
One Quarter page	— 70.00
One Eighth page	— 40.00

For a rate sheet, write AFCDJS, P.O. Box 880387, San Diego, CA 92168-0387 or call (619) 297-5277.

### AFCDJS is a member of:

- American Federation of Jazz Societies
- International Association of Classic Jazz Festivals
- San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
- San Diego Convention & Visitors Bureau

# Jazz Alive — Here, There, Everywhere

(To be included in updates, submit material for the Jazz Alive Column to [jazzalive@dixielandjazzfestival.org](mailto:jazzalive@dixielandjazzfestival.org) attention Myrna or 619-992-3787 by the 10th of the month.)

## TWILIGHT IN BALBOA PARK SUMMER CONCERTS

Spreckels Organ Pavilion, 6:15-7:15pm  
**Dixie Express Jazz Band**—August 18  
**San Diego Banjo Band**—August 20

## DIXIE EXPRESS

Wednesday, 6-8pm at **Fuddruckers**,  
5500 Grossmont Center Drive, La Mesa

## CROWN ISLAND JAZZ BAND

August 9, 1-3 pm, **Coronado Ferry  
Landing**, First St. at C Ave., Coronado

## SOUTH BAY JAZZ RAMBLERS

Mondays, 6-8pm at **Fuddruckers**, 340  
Third Ave., Chula Vista

## SAN DIEGO BANJO BAND

**McDonald's** at El Cajon Blvd. & 54th  
St. every Tuesday from 5:30-7:30pm

## UPTOWN RHYTHM MAKERS

Second Sat. of each month, 8-11pm,  
**Claire de Lune**, featured artist Bobby  
Gordon, 2906 University Ave. San Diego

## BAYSIDE DIXIE STOMPERS

Tuesdays, 6-8pm, **Fuddruckers**, 8285  
Mira Mesa Blvd., San Diego, CA

## BOBBY GORDON QUARTET

Sundays, 7-10 pm, **La Scala Italian  
Restaurant**, 1101 Scott St., San Diego

## REY VINOLE'S DIXIELAND WORKSHOP

Tuesdays, 7-9pm, **The Orchard**, 4040  
Hancock, San Diego (858) 581-9293

## PARAGON JAZZ BAND

**St. Paul's Villa**, Thursdays (except  
2nd) - 6:30-8pm, 2340 4th Ave., San Diego

## THE SAINTS

**St. Paul's Villa Senior Facility**, 2340  
4th Ave., San Diego. Friday, 2-3:30 pm,  
(619) 384-7574. Musicians, dancers,  
listeners invited.

## BENNY JACKSON TRIO

Tuesdays, 7-9pm, **Metaphor Café**, 2nd  
& Juniper, Escondido.

## LAKESIDE JAZZ CLUB

1st Sundays (951-245-9504), **Women's  
Club in Lake Elsinore**, 710 W. Graham  
Ave., Lake Elsinore, CA 1:30-5pm (Featured  
band at 3)

Aug. 2 – **Red Pepper**, Sept. 6 – **Hotel  
Wolverine JB**, Oct. 4 – **Revelation JB**,  
Nov. 1, **Uptown Rhythm Makers**

## JAZZ ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SAN DIEGO

Concert Schedule [www.jazz4u.org](http://www.jazz4u.org) or 760-  
753-0456 or 858-459-2559

## RAMONA SENIOR CENTER

Fridays, **George Newman, Dixieland  
and "oldies" piano**, 11:30am-1pm.  
Musicians welcome, 434 Aqua Lane,  
Ramona, (619) 233-4720

## GOLDEN EAGLES

Sundays, 1-4 pm, **Steamer's Res-  
taurant**, in Fullerton. Call for dates and info  
at (626) 799-1761

## CJ SAMS and KATIE CAVERA

Wednesdays, **Curley's Café**, 1999 E.  
Willow (at Cherry), Signal Hill, CA. Free.  
Best to confirm dates and times. Info:  
[www.katiecavera.net](http://www.katiecavera.net).

## AUNTIE SKINNER'S LUCKY WINNERS JAZZ BAND

1st & 3rd Monday, **El Patio Restaurant**,  
1750 W. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, 7-9pm

## CROWN CITY DIXIELAND BAND

Wednesdays from 6:30-9pm, **Burger  
Continental Restaurant**, Pasadena (626)  
792-6634

## ROYALE GARDEN DIXIELAND JB

1st & 3rd Thurs., 6-8pm, **Dolce Café &  
Bakery**, 8821 Central Ave., Montclair. Info  
— Alan Shelton (951) 898-2174

## SAN FERNANDO VALLEY BANJO

1st Thursday, 7-8:30pm, (818) 882-  
1877, **Lamplighter Family Restaurant**,  
9110 De Soto Ave., Chatsworth.  
Reservations suggested.

## BALDY MOUNTAIN SWING

1st and 3rd Thursdays, 8-10:30pm, at  
**The Press**, 129 Harvard Ave., Claremont  
Info: (909) 625-4808

## SOUTHSIDE CHICAGO SEVEN

Mondays, 7-10 pm, at **Le Carousse  
Roughe**, White Lane, Bakersfield Info: (909)  
625-4808

## JERRY ROTHSCHILD'S RAGTIMERS

Mondays, 6-9pm **Curley's** Signal Hill  
[jerryrth@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jerryrth@sbcglobal.net). (562) 424-0018 or  
(310) 412-5985

## SEAL BEACH, CA

Tuesdays, 6-9pm, **Leisure World  
Dixieland Workshop**, 13550 Seal Beach  
Blvd., Club House 3, rm. 8, (562) 594-5722

## NEW ORLEANS JAZZ CLUB OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

3rd Sunday, 1pm. **Westminster Lanes**,  
6471 Westminster Ave., Westminster

*continued on page 4*





*The Cash Kings return to entertain at the 30th Annual Dixieland Fest*

### **Gordon Concert is Rescheduled**

Jazz legend Bobby Gordon recently underwent surgery on his clarinet-playing arm, rendering him unable to play the July 19 AFCDJS concert.

Another local reed wizard, Chloe Feoranzo, graciously offered to switch with Bobby. Chloe led the band on July 19 and Bobby has been rescheduled to play the AFCDJS monthly concert-dance on Nov. 15.

### **Heliotrope/Sue Palmer to Entertain at Upcoming Society Monthly Concerts**



## **La Jolla Beckons Wintertime Visitors**

The San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival is often referred to as the “Crown Jewel of Jazz Festivals.” Before or after the event, our patrons may enjoy a visit to a nearby jewel of a different kind.

The city of La Jolla (Spanish for “the jewel”) is just a few miles north of the Town & Country Resort. The picturesque village has a downtown with trendy shops, art galleries, boutiques, upscale dining and historical buildings. La Jolla also has world-class golf courses and beautiful beaches, including the most-photographed in Southern California — The Cove.

If you are traveling to the 30th Annual San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival from the East Coast or Midwest, imagine spending time on the beach or the links in mild, dry weather!

For more information on tourism, please visit [www.lajollabythesea.com](http://www.lajollabythesea.com).

### **AFCDJS Music for Youth Bands**

Small instrumental combo and Dixie-style musical arrangements are now available for school and youth bands and other community or start-up bands. Check our updated website at: [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org) and click Small Band Music, or you may contact our Archives volunteer by email: [aarchivist@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aarchivist@sbcglobal.net).



## Jazz Alive . . .

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### SOUTHBAYN. ORLEANS JAZZ CLUB

2nd Sunday, 12:30-5pm, Knights of Columbus Hall, 214 Avenue I, Redondo Beach. (310) 374-3174

### SO CAL HOT JAZZ SOCIETY

1st Sunday, American Legion Post 335, Southgate. (323) 566-9128. 1pm

### SIMI VALLEY JAZZ CLUB

2nd Sunday, 1-5pm, Simi Valley Senior Center, 3900 Avenida Simi, Simi Valley

### GOLDEN EMPIRE HOT JAZZ SOC.

1st Sunday; 1-5 pm, Kern City Town Hall, 1003 Pebble Beach Dr., Bakersfield

### WEST COAST TRAD JASS CLUB

The Untouchables – host band, 1st Sunday Every Month 1-5pm

The Saloon at Piper's Winery, 6500 Casitas Pass Road, Ventura - 805-684-6494 <http://www.westcoasttradjass.com>, [untouchablehotjass@gmail.com](mailto:untouchablehotjass@gmail.com)

### COSTA MESA, CA

Orange County Classic Jazz Festival, Aug. 6-9, (888) 215-6222 <http://www.oc-classicjazz.org/index.html>

### SUTTER CREEK, CA

11th Annual Sutter Creek Ragtime Festival, Aug. 14-16, (209) 223-0867 [www.suttercreekragtime.com](http://www.suttercreekragtime.com)

### STRONGSVILLE, OH

Early Jas 2009 Fall Festival, Sept. 25-27, (330) 678-5903, [www.earlyjas.org](http://www.earlyjas.org)

### VANCOUVER, B.C.

15th Annual Vancouver DixieFest, Oct 9-11 (866) 796-9934. [www.vcn.bc.ca/vdjs](http://www.vcn.bc.ca/vdjs)

### DENVER, CO

31st Annual Summit Jazz, Oct. 9-11. (866) 883-2288, [www.summitjazz.org](http://www.summitjazz.org)

### SUN VALLEY, ID

20th Annual Sun Valley Swing\*n\* Dixie Jazz Jamboree, Oct. 14-18 (877) 478-5277. [www.sunvalleyjazz.com](http://www.sunvalleyjazz.com)

### PISMO BEACH, CA

33rd Annual Jubilee By The Sea, Oct 23-25. [www.pismojazz.com](http://www.pismojazz.com), (805) 481-7840

### CHANDLER, AZ

20th Annual Arizona Classic Jazz Festival, Nov. 5-8, [www.azclassicjazz.org](http://www.azclassicjazz.org), (480) 620-3941

### CLEARWATER BEACH, FL

19th Suncoast Dixieland Jazz Classic Nov. 20-22. [www.jazzclassic.net](http://www.jazzclassic.net), (727) 536-0064

## Monthly Jazz Concerts

Sponsored by America's Finest City Dixieland Jazz Society  
(Every Third Sunday of the month except December)

Aug. 16 – South Bay Jazz Ramblers

All Programs: 1-4pm  
Admission-\$15 • Members-\$10  
Under 22 (with photo ID)-\$5

Sept. 20 – Heliotrope Ragtime Orch.

Oct. 18 – Sue Palmer and Motel Swing

Nov. 15 – Bobby Gordon Quartet (*rescheduled from July 19*)

### Lafayette Hotel & Suites

Mississippi Room • 2223 El Cajon Blvd. • San Diego

**PLEASE SUPPORT LIVE TRADITIONAL JAZZ!**

**ATTEND OUR MONTHLY CONCERT/DANCES!**

Check the AFCDJS website for the latest information at  
[www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org).

## Society's Concerts

### May 17

BAND: Dixie Express

PERSONNEL: Ray Coutu, cornet/vocals; Alan Adams, trombone/vocals; John Contreras, clarinet/sax/vocals/co-leader; Ken Dillard, piano; Jim Goodwin, banjo/guitar; Tim Smith, bass; Dave Austin, drums/co-leader

• First Set: *I Found a New Baby; Do You Ever Think Of Me; Once In A While; Big Butter and Egg Man* (Austin, vocal); *That Da-Da Strain; Blue, Turning Grey Over You; Bogalusa Strut; Kansas City; Sweet Sue*

• Second Set: *Come Back, Sweet Papa; I Still Get Jealous* (Coutu, vocal); *Snake Rag; Melancholy* (Coutu, vocal); *Undecided; Tishomingo Blues* (Adams, vocal); *Struttin' with Some Barbeque; Minnie the Mermaid* (band, vocal); *That's a Plenty*

• Third Set: *Memphis Blues; Oh, How I Miss You Tonight* (Adams, vocal); *Wolverine Blues; A Little on the Lonely Side* (Contreras, vocal); *At the Jazz Band Ball; Louisiana; Algiers Strut; Tin Roof Blues; Everybody Loves My Baby*

### June 21

BAND: South Burgundy Street JB

PERSONNEL: CJ Sams, cornet/vocals; Robert Butler, trombone/vocals; Mike Olson, clarinet/leader/vocals; Pat Aranda, piano; Jim Jones, banjo; Buddy Apfel, tuba; Jon Lundgren, drums.

• First Set: *East Coast Trot; Auntie Skinner's Chicken Dinner* (Olson, vocal); *Beale Street Mama* (Sams, vocal); *Once in a While; Five Pennies/Lullaby in Ragtime* (Butler, Sams, Olson vocal); *Do Something; I'm a Little*

*Blackbird* (Olson, vocal); *Weary Blues*

• Second Set: *Dusky Stevedore; Dreaming the Hours Away; Kiss Me, Sweet* (Sams, vocal); *Play a Simple Melody* (Sams, Butler vocal); *Lonesomest Gal in Town* (Olsen, vocal); *Friendless Blues; Sheik of Araby* (Sams, vocal); *Snake Rag*

• Third Set: *Louisiana Fairy Tale* (Sams, vocal); *Willie the Weeper; Si Tu Vois Ma Mere; Big Bear Stomp*

## AFCDJS PRESENTS FREE 2009 DIXIE WORKSHOPS

(2nd Thurs. of month, 7-9 pm)

2009 Dates:

Aug. 13 • Sept. 10

Oct. 8 • Nov. 12

AFCDJS-sponsored workshops are held the second Thursday of every month (except December) from 7 to 9pm at the San Diego Musicians Hall, 1717 Morena Blvd.

*Requirement:*

Desire to play Dixieland Jazz!

*Furnished:*

Drums, piano and a core group of instructors.

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**ALL LEVELS OF  
TALENT WELCOME!**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**(619) 297-JASS (5277)**

[www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org)

The personnel of many of the local Bands that have appeared in our Festivals have been participants in the AFCDJS free Jazz Workshops.



# 30th Anniversary

## The 30th Annual San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival

# Nov. 25-29, 2009

Town & Country Resort and Convention Center

500 Hotel Circle North (I-8 & SR-163) San Diego

[www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org)



### FEATURED BANDS AND GUEST ARTISTS

Tim Laughlin's New Orleans All-Stars with Connie Jones  
 Yerba Buena Stompers • Dave Bennett Quartet • Grand Dominion JB  
 Anita Thomas • Uptown Lowdown • Sue Palmer & Motel Swing  
 Katie Cavera • Chloe Feoranzo • Night Blooming Jazzmen  
 Titanic Jazz Band • The Hayriders • Carl Sonny Leyland • High Society  
 Heliotrope Ragtime Orch. • Mission Bay High Dixie Band  
 Dixie Express • Dick Williams' JazzSea Jams • Cash Kings

*Special Sets: Benny Goodman, Lester Young, Bing Crosby, Gospel, Jerry Lee Lewis*

### BADGE PRICES

**5-Day All Event-\$90 • 4-Day Badges-\$85 • 3-Day Badges-\$80**

*\$5.00 off the price of each 3, 4 or 5-Day badge if staying at Town & Country. To qualify for the discount, room reservations AND badge purchase must be made, and mail orders postmarked prior to Nov. 1, 2009.*

**For 2009 Hotel Reservations, contact the Town & Country**

500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108, 1-800-772-8527 or (619) 291-7131

The Festival is funded in part by the City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture.

### BADGE REGISTRATION

AMERICA'S FINEST CITY DIXIELAND JAZZ SOCIETY  
 P.O. BOX 880387, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92168-0387  
 Telephone: (619) 297-5277

email: [jazzinfo@dixielandjazzfestival.org](mailto:jazzinfo@dixielandjazzfestival.org) • website: [www.dixielandjazzfestival.org](http://www.dixielandjazzfestival.org)

No. of 5-Day All Event Badges (Wed- Sun) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$90 ea. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. of 4-Day Badges (Thur - Sun) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$85 ea. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. of 3-Day Badges (Fri - Sun) \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$80 ea. Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to join the Society. (Check one)  Single \$20  Couple \$30

Amount of check or money order TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**DAILY BADGES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE FESTIVAL**

### Festival Sponsorships are Available for 2009

Take an active role in producing the Festival!  
 AFCDJS encourages our Festival attendees to consider sponsoring a room, band or musician at the 30th Annual San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival — Nov. 25-29, 2009.

~ ~ ~ ~

E-mail: [pdstamant@yahoo.com](mailto:pdstamant@yahoo.com) or call Paul Daspit directly at 619-222-9535.

~ ~ ~ ~

Multiple sponsors for the same room, band or musician are welcome.

## PASSINGS

### Jim Cunningham

(1919-2009)

James V. Cunningham, longtime convention manager at the Town & Country Hotel and AFCDJS Executive Director, passed away in Florence, Oregon on May 19.

Mr. Cunningham grew up in Florida where as a teenager he sang on the radio and in nightclubs. He entered the hotel industry in 1937 as an elevator operator. Later he became a hotel manager in Miami Beach. He served in the US Army in WWII and was an engine tester at the Air Force base (now Wright-Patterson Field) in Dayton, Ohio.

In the late 1950s, Mr. Cunningham transformed the Wagon Wheel Lodge in Rockton, Illinois into a convention hotel — a precursor to his tenure at the Town & Country.

In 1969 he moved to San Diego and

worked as convention manager at the Town & Country where he remained for 16 years. He was a recipient of the Gold Key Award from the Hotel Sales Management Association International and received the first lifetime career achievement award from that organization. There is also an annual merit award, presented by the San Diego chapter of a hotel industry group, named for Jim Cunningham. His emphasis on providing “personalized service” extended to his staff and co-workers and continues in the day-to-day operations of the Town & Country.

He was the liaison between the hotel and the San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival from the beginning, and from 1985 to 1995 was the Executive Director of AFCDJS. Following his tenure with the jazz society, Mr. Cunningham retired to Oregon.

He is survived by his wife, Helen; two daughters, Kat Cunningham and

Maryann Galer of Oregon; two grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

### K.O. Eckland

(1926-2009)

Jazz pianist Kenneth Eckland was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1926 and was raised in Berkeley, California. During WWII he served in the Army Air Corps and returned to the Bay Area after resuming civilian life. In the late '40s he frequented Hambone Kelly's in El Cerrito, as a fan of Lu Watters' Yerba Buena Jazz Band. Mr. Eckland was particularly drawn to the music of pianists Paul Lingle, Burt Bales and Wally Rose.

In the 1960s Mr. Eckland lived with his wife and children in Los Angeles, where he was a commercial artist for the *LA Times* and played with several jazz bands including the Tailgate Ramblers. In 1962 he replaced Frank Thomas as the pianist with the Firehouse Five Plus Two and remained with them until the group disbanded in 1971.

Mr. Eckland moved to Pismo Beach in 1976 and worked as a writer. He was one of the founders of the Central Coast Hot Jazz Society (a/k/a Basin Street Regulars) and published the BSR newsletter *Offbeat*. He also organized the Pismo Beach Jubilee By The Sea — now considered to be one of the best jazz festivals anywhere.

In the late '70s, Mr. Eckland led a wild traditional jazz band called “The World Famous Desolation Jazz Ensemble and Mess Kit Repair Battalion.” Later, he put together the “Pismo Experimental Jazz Band.” One of his original compositions from this time period, “Sundown Mama,” is still popular with traditional jazz bands around the world.

In the early 1990s he joined the Frisco Syncopators, which included another veteran of the Firehouse Five Plus Two — soprano saxophonist George Probert. Mr. Eckland appeared with the Syncopators at many West Coast festivals, including the San Diego Thanksgiving Dixieland Jazz Festival from 1990 to 1995 and recorded two CDs with them. He continued to write for a variety of

*continued on page 7*

## The New Orleans Jazz Club of Southern California Presents the Fourth Annual

# Mardi Gras Jazz Cruise

Departing from San Pedro, February 14 - 21, 2010

The Experience of a Lifetime... You are invited to enjoy 7 days of New Orleans style Dixieland Jazz aboard Royal Caribbean's incredible ship *Mariner of the Seas*. Your week-long experience will feature performances by the:

**REVELATION JAZZ BAND**  
and the **NOJC JAMMERS JAZZ BAND**

#### Your Jazz Experience Includes:

- Experience the Mariner “Tailgate Room” - for all levels of musicians, under the expert guidance of C.J. Sams and Pat Aranda. Remember to bring your instruments! Bring your Jazz Group along too!
- Enjoy the “Mariner Experience” of traveling in style, comfort, elegant dining and outstanding service.
- Experience ports of call in Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan and Puerto Vallarta
- The “Mariner Experience” includes travel insurance, afterglow cocktail party, exclusive use of the “Tailgate and Concert Room”, plus all of the on board delights that the Mariner has to offer
- EARLY BOOKING BONUS—Special drawing for 3 prizes of \$250 shipboard credit. The first 60 cabins to book will qualify for the drawing.

CST# 1015788-10 Mariner of the Seas is registered in the Bahamas

For more information  
or to book, please visit:

**SEACruises.com/Jazz**

**SEA Cruises**

**800 795-1008**

**Royal Caribbean INTERNATIONAL**

## PASSINGS . . .

*continued from page 6*

publications and was the author of *Jazz West*; an encyclopedia of musicians, bands and events related to West Coast Jazz. His writing, always laced with dry humor and sharp wit, was a joy to read. An oft-cited example of his humor could be found on his business card, which read “K.O. Ec3kland.” He would wait for a puzzled expression on the recipient’s face, then explain, “The ‘3’ is silent.”

In 2004, Mr. Eckland relocated to Paradise, California to live closer to his family. He passed away on May 4. He is survived by his wife, Faye; son Daniel; daughters Nancy Berkley and Taina Klaus; grandsons Ryan and Beau Berkley; former wife Lucille and Waldo the Cat.

The 2009 Pismo Beach Jubilee By The Sea will feature a restigouche memorial to K.O. Eckland.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

### Jim Goodwin

(1944-2009)

One of the hottest jazz cornetists in history, James Goodwin, passed away

in Portland, Oregon on Apr. 19, 2009

Goodwin was born in Portland. His father, Bob, was an excellent jazz drummer who recorded with Hitch’s Happy Harmonists in the 1920s. Jim Goodwin served in the Oregon National Guard and worked briefly as a stockbroker (the youngest in the U.S.) but preferred the life of a musician to a 9-to-5 job. In the Northwest, he played with the Great Excelsior Jazz Band, Monte Ballou, Don Kinch’s Conductors Ragtime Band, Jim Beatty’s Jazz Band and others. Goodwin also spent a considerable amount of time in the Bay Area, where he was the first choice cornetist for bands such as the Golden Age Jazz Band, Berkeley Rhythm, Jazz Cardinals and the NOJCNC All Stars. He also played a long-running engagement with pianist Ray Skjelbred at the Bull Valley Inn in Port Costa.

During the ’70s, Goodwin played extensively in Europe, including appearances at the Oude Stijl Music Festival in Breda, Holland. He toured with the Sunset Music Company and played with George Probert’s Happy Riff Machine, among others. His nickname was “Kid Goodwin”—a nod to

his perennially youthful appearance and his red hot cornet playing (“Kid Louis” and “Kid Muggsy” enjoyed similar status in previous years).

Back in the States, Goodwin was a partner in the Portland Brewing Co., at the beginning of the microbrew craze of the 1980s. However, he forsook the business side of the brewery, preferring instead to play duets with pianist Dave Frishberg at the company’s Flanders Street Pub. An *Arbors* CD, “Double Play,” documents the Goodwin/Frishberg musical alliance and celebrates both musicians’ devotion to baseball.

Goodwin was married briefly and later was in a long-lasting relationship with vocalist Rhetta Christie. He enjoyed living in a rustic setting near Astoria, Oregon and playing music on cornet or piano when the spirit moved him. (Goodwin was also a terrific pianist and drummer though few recordings exist of him playing these two instruments).

From the 1990s until his death, Goodwin played infrequently, often turning down prestigious gigs because they were either musically uninteresting or too regimented. The occasions when he did play are still fondly remembered by the fortunate members of the audience. He stopped playing cornet entirely after losing a front tooth and died from the effects of alcoholism.

Jim Goodwin was a true individual, who played a completely unique style on cornet, piano and drums. However, he was revered around the globe for the fiery sound of his cornet. He dressed in an updated 1930s style (complete with newsboy cap and Oregon duck shoes) and was equally at home living at a friend’s house or in the woods. He abstained from drug use, was scrupulous in repaying debts and his gentlemanly demeanor forbade the use of swearing. His death was a huge loss to the world of jazz and to his many admirers.

Unfortunately, many of Jim Goodwin’s recordings are not currently in print. However, the aforementioned “Double Play” is still available. Two more sessions worth finding are “Taking A Chance” (duets with pianist Ray Skjelbred, on the *Rhythm Master* label) and a recently-released CD of the Sunset Music Company, recorded live in Europe in 1979, on *Blue Swing*.

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## Lester Young . . .

*Continued from back page*

A 1943 *Keynote* session, with Johnny Guarnieri (piano), Slam Stewart (bass) and Sid Catlett (drums), produced four of Young's greatest recordings: "Sometimes I'm Happy," "I Never Knew," "Afternoon of a Basie-It" and "Just You, Just Me."

He also rejoined the Basie Orchestra in 1943, appearing on a number of studio and broadcast recordings, including small-band sessions with Basie sidemen.

Young's ultra-hip demeanor was captured onscreen in Gjon Mili's classic film "Jammin' the Blues," which also featured Jones, Sid Catlett, John Simmons, Marlowe Morris, Barney Kessel, Illinois Jacquet, Harry "Sweets" Edison and others. Shortly after completing the filming, Young was drafted.

Though he was horrifyingly unfit for the armed services, Young was inducted into the US Army and sent to Ft. McLellan, Alabama. Almost immediately he ran afoul of the military prohibition against drug use when an officer discovered drugs in Young's locker. Two sympathetic officers lobbied for an early discharge, but to no avail. Instead, Young was sent to the guardhouse at Camp Gordon, Georgia. Years later he was reluctant to discuss the details of his remaining time in the Army, but his closest associates were aware of the physical and mental humiliation that Young endured. Finally, after receiving a dishonorable discharge, he returned to the world of music.

Some observers believe that Lester Young never recovered from his Army ordeal, and that his postwar playing lacked the spark that characterized his earlier work. There is some truth to the observation, though Young could still play with incredible spirit and creativity.

He toured around the world with Jazz at the Philharmonic during the 1950s. Young was less than thrilled by the gladiatorial aspects of the concerts (sax battles, drum battles, etc.) but generally managed to play consistently well. And if the JATP troupe wound up in a European city with a jazz club, Lester Young would be there as soon as the concert ended, to jam with the local musicians. During

his time with JATP, Young became fast friends with the young pianist Bobby Scott (nicknamed "Socks"). Scott has written extensively of his friendship with Young and his narrative is invaluable in understanding Young's personality and worldview as a middle-aged living legend.

After leaving JATP, Young always tried to give work to "the kiddies" – younger musicians like trumpeter Jesse Drakes, pianist Gildo Mahones and bassist John Ore whose playing he admired.

Though he was still celebrated as a great innovator, at home and abroad, the idolatry for Lester Young's playing eventually became problematic. When Charlie Parker, Charlie Christian or Frank Sinatra showed a distinct Lester Young influence in their performances, it reflected well upon the man who inspired them. But a new generation of tenor saxophonists, including Wardell Gray, Zoot Sims, Stan Getz, Herbie Steward, Allen Eager, Brew Moore, Al Cohn and — most notably — Paul Quinichette actually began to eclipse their mentor by the late '50s. Young often appeared to be tired, drunk, high or a combination of the three. By contrast, his disciples usually played with drive and high spirits. The difference was most apparent when Young was paired with one of his followers in a concert or club. He was particularly distressed when performing alongside Paul Quinichette, who came closer to Young's sound than any other saxophonist. One night at Birdland in New York City, Young and Quinichette were alternating sets. Young told a friend, "I don't know whether to play like me or like Lady Q, because he's playing so much like me." (Fellow reedman Pee Wee Russell underwent a similar situation in England, when he was booked to play alongside English clarinetist Archie Semple). In Russell's case, the similarities in style pushed him to play more inventively than before. But Young's tendency was to just give up.

Except for a brief and happy appearance with a young band at Olivia's Patio Lounge in Washington, D.C., Young withdrew more and more into himself. He left his wife and children and took a room at the Alvin Hotel. There, his window faced

## Local Band Plays Middle School

The Paragon Jazz Band performed during Heritage Day at Roosevelt Middle School in Vista, Friday, May 29.

Between songs such as "Just a Closer Walk," "Bogalusa Strut," Basin Street Blues" and "When the Saints Go Marching In," the band presented information about different types of music that influenced the creation of jazz in New Orleans.

The eighth grade students were dressed in 19th Century costumes. They spent the day learning about dancing, food, history, story telling and music of America's past.

The Paragon Jazz Band members are Diane Mensch, cornet, leader; Everett Crouse, clarinet, soprano sax and tenor sax; Howie Nielson, banjo; Frank Massa, drums; Anna Rowe, piano; Bob Bowman, tuba.

Birdland and he spent hours watching other musicians go to work. He played records, but showed little interest in performing. He drank heavily, but ate little and disregarded all pleas to take care of himself. He accepted an invitation to tour Europe in 1959, but his health was so fragile that he cut the trip short to go home. Within a few hours of returning, he died in his room at the Alvin on Mar. 15, 1959.

Despite his untimely and unnecessary death, Lester Young's spirit is gloriously alive in the many recordings made between 1936 and 1959 which are, luckily, almost all available on CD. Furthermore, he continues to inspire new generations of saxophonists, from Scott Hamilton to Anita Thomas and beyond. Even 50 years after his passing, "Pres" is still The Prophet of the tenor sax.

### Jazz Roots on KSDS FM

Jazz Roots is heard on Sunday evening, 8-10 pm, on KSDS FM (88.3 on the dial).

The program features the roots of jazz — ragtime, blues, country music and more.

Jazz Roots is hosted by Lou Curtiss, proprietor of Folk Arts Rare Records and founder of the San Diego Folk Festival and the Adams Avenue Roots Festival.



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## They Called it Jazz

# Lester Young – Prophet of the Tenor Sax

*(This is the 73rd in a series of biographies of great traditional jazz musicians. Continued from May-June Rambler)*

By Hal Smith  
AFCDJS President

Lester Young's first recorded solo (on "Shoe Shine Boy") was — and still is — a life-altering experience. He danced around the beat, playing with an incredibly light sound. He indulged in a bit of humor, placing an accent in a different spot than the one played by drummer Jo Jones and trading lighthearted phrases with pianist Basie. Throughout the side, Young played with a supple sense of rhythm and a beautiful singing tone that owed much more to Bix Beiderbecke and Frank Trumbauer than Coleman Hawkins. All the sides by "Jones-Smith Incorporated" are classics, but none more than "Shoe Shine Boy" which introduced generations to a new way to play tenor sax.

The Basie Orchestra continued to gain popularity as the '30s wore on and they recorded frequently. Young was featured on a majority of the records, including "Every Tub," "Jumpin' at the Woodside," "Taxi War Dance," "Clap Hands, Here Comes Charlie," "Tickle Toe," "Louisiana," "Five O'Clock Whistle" and a number that was to become his signature tune — "Lester Leaps In" — recorded with a small band drawn from Basie's Orchestra.

In addition to his recordings with Basie, Young was featured on many of the sides recorded by vocalist Billie Holiday. The empathy between the singer and the saxophonist was palpable, and the results continue to delight listeners.



Of particular interest to traditional jazz fans, Young also played clarinet on a few sides with Basie, with organist Glenn Hardman and on a wonderful session for *Commodore* by the "Kansas City Six," which also included Buck Clayton (trumpet), Eddie Durham (electric guitar), Freddie Green (acoustic guitar), Walter Page (bass) and Jo Jones (drums). Young's clarinet sound on these records, particularly "I Want A Little Girl," is often compared to Pee Wee Russell. Though Young claimed Benny Goodman and Artie Shaw as inspirations, the haunting, poetic quality that infused Russell's playing is also present in Young's. Years later, French jazz writer Francois Postif interviewed Young and asked why he had not recorded more on clarinet. "One of my friends stole it," Young replied cryptically.

Though Young played jam sessions with Goodman, only a few recordings exist of the two giants playing together — Goodman's 1938

Carnegie Hall Concert, with an extended "jam session" including Young; two sides recorded Mar. 19, 1938 with Goodman's Orchestra (plus "ringers" Freddie Green and Walter Page) and the marvelous 1940 rehearsal (luckily it was recorded) with the two reedmen plus Buck Clayton, Basie, Green, Page, Jones and electric guitarist Charlie Christian. Christian was one of the first instrumentalists who played something other than reeds to be heavily influenced by Lester Young. On this date, many of Christian's solo ideas and his very phrasing were inspired by Young's playing.

By late 1940, Young had tired of Basie's big band arrangements and he was in search of opportunities to play with small groups. He left Basie on Dec. 13 and played with small combos around New York City before relocating to Los Angeles in May, 1941. There he worked with brother Lee's combo. That group went to New York in 1942, to perform at Café Society. During this period, Lester Young donned his trademark item of clothing — a pork pie hat. He also developed a reputation as the hippest of hipsters, speaking in a language that only his closest associates could understand. "Great big eyes" described his enthusiasm for a sympathetic musical situation; "ding dong" was a seal of disapproval; "ivey-divey" was an expression of disbelief. He often referred to fellow musicians as "Lady." Thus, his old friend Jo Jones became "Lady Jo." When asked about this peculiar affectation, Young replied, "Ladies are beautiful people. So are musicians."

*continued on page 9*