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ON AIR REGROUPS FOLLOWING PANDEMIC HIATUS

On Air, Sacramento's premier classic rock horn band, is putting COVID where it belongs! Solid rock music, tight harmony, and white-hot horns have characterized the On Air sound for 37 years. The band performs the best of '70s and '80s groups like Chicago, Steely Dan, Tower of Power, and the Doobie Brothers along with a mix of Motown and Stax/Volt landmark hits plus contemporary selections. The pandemic pause ends this year.

The band has a new line-up including Garry Klein who has been added on lead guitar, plus former member John Chermesino who has returned to the band as vocalist and bass guitarist. They join guitarist and founding member Bob Lang who also shares vocal chores with Suzanne Weissenberg and Janese Powell, another recent addition. Rounding out the rhythm section is Jimmy Malone on keyboard and Geno Guerere on drums.

The unique sound of On Air, though, is found in the distinctive six-piece horn section: Craig Yamamoto on alto sax, Raul Sandoval on tenor sax, Brad Tom on baritone sax, Brian Nakagawa on trombone, and trumpeters John Williams and Greg Evans, who is also the band's arranger.

On Air was the fan's favorite for two years running, in 2017 and 2018, as the top band out of more than 200 regional groups in the Best Local Band category of the Sacramento A-List. City Voter, sponsor of the A-List, accepted nominations and votes from the community in various categories. On Air won the top spot twice after being in the top five the year before.

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A staple each year at spring and summer park concerts, On Air has been featured repeatedly at venues like Fair Oaks Park, Carmichael Park, and Curtis Park along with several other regular series. For more than a decade, On Air has been a part of the annual Thanksgiving Day Run to Feed the Hungry sponsored by the Sacramento Food Bank. The group appeared for the final three years of the Sacramento Music Festival in Old Sacramento. During its thirty-five-year history, the band has performed at such venues as the old Sacramento Blues Festival, the California State Fair, the Nevada County Fair, the Dixon Mayfair, the Vacaville Onion Festival, the Stockton Asparagus Festival and others while entertaining at countless private events along the way.

Members of the group tend to remain with or return to On Air. Several of the musicians have been with the band since or near its inception around 1985 and many have been a part of the group for at least the last decade.

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