

uhlib_2023_001_ah_20001216_t1_01_edit

📅 Thu, Dec 07, 2023 9:32AM ⌚ 31:16

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

people, years, hours, houston, called, talking, computer, lesbian, group, life, pflag, gay, great, email, montrose, town, posted, connect, bulletin board, digest

SPEAKERS

Jimmy Carper, Jewel Gray



Jimmy Carper 00:39

Oh yes, you've tuned into after hours queer radio with attitude right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews, dialogue and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and their friends. Hear it after hours, we may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closet. That means standing up for yourself taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age job or frame of mind. That's okay, we're here for you too. So sit back, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of after hours. Hello, Houston in College Station, and Huntsville, and welcome to after hours queer radio with attitude on Jimmy Carper. And let's say I say that to Huntsville, because our sister show is up there on the air right now after hours north. K s Hu radio up there, college station Radio, Sam Houston State college radio. And let's see the music that you heard before we get into because we have a packed show, and it's gonna be crazy. The first couple of things you heard was from the gay capital city Men's Chorus, the Gay Men's Chorus of Austin. And that's off their Christmas album called Northern Lights. Beautiful, beautiful music, very little of it that I can pronounce because it's kind of European. A lot of its European or Welsh. The first one was kelenic It's a traditional Welsh Welsh gift giving song. And the second one that you heard you probably were more familiar with steal steal steal, which is an Austrian Carol and then a new artists to after hours Matthew cloeren. And it's off of his album called finally free that was called Love came in and you came out. And I really liked that one because there's there's so little music, they're talking from a gay men's perspective, talking about lesbians coming out. So I thought that was really cool. I kind of in the back of my mind, I was thinking that it was probably a woman who may have been described as a fag hag, and finally came out of the closet as a lesbian and her best gay male friend was congratulating her on that. We've seen that happen so many times. The first half of the show, we've got jewel gray and Jim Vaughn, Kim Vaughn, tada and the second half of the show. We've got Charlie Pacheco, he is already here in the house. All right, and we're going to have a phone interview with Doug Stephens in endless in California. San Francisco. Yeah. Doug Stevens and the out band to have that song that one of the most requested songs out in the country. I know it's rainbows favorite. Anyway, the first half of the show we've got you all and she's been saving it up.



Jewel Gray 04:50

Oh yeah, I'm really ticked to the man I don't want even begin right now because I've been I won't be able to stop. I want to want to talk to Brandon a minute about handling And before we do the brand that it you know, I went around telling everybody for months. Oh yeah, it's at Brandon dewulf guy I don't know there was something about your handle on one of the posts that said it's looked like it said the wolf. So I always thought that was it and then I saw the d go away I thought did he get married to somebody named Wolf?



Jimmy Carper 05:19

Brandon, welcome to after



05:22

hours here. So nice to be here. Oh, yeah. And my first visit Yes,



Jewel Gray 05:26

it is. And Hannah it for those who don't know, how could they not really, it's just our listeners name and town on a computer. And I've been noticing the numbers been going up a lot in the last week or so. Oh, it's been incredible. Yeah. I noticed that because when we go into the oh, let me let me back up. I didn't know why. When talking about is a email group on the internet Yes. People locally part of and exchanging ideas and philosophies and once in a while a poke here. I try to minimize that. But it happens mostly when you got a spirited discussion going on.



Jimmy Carper 06:05

But look at our community. We come from every walk of life. That's right. You know we were socio



Jewel Gray 06:11

and nobody is going to Rachel everybody all the time. Yeah, nobody.



06:16

Yeah. It can't.



06:17

It can't happen. It's one of the really nice things about Hannah is that I think we do have a real diverse group. Oh, yes. Like even during the campaign. It wasn't just a race, let's be

diverse group. Oh, yes. Like even during the campaign. It wasn't just a gore laughs



06:27

We know people.



06:31

Well, we still have a lot of cabin



06:34

Cabin Republicans, some great people.



Jewel Gray 06:38

See, because we don't get that bio in the bio straight gay that kind of I just assume everybody goes anywhere, actually. So I don't know straight people who? I mean, I don't want to say I was gonna say that would we don't want to do that. Tyler, Tyler. Oh, well. Name I recognize but I don't know. She



06:59

has a lot of connections in the community. Yeah, a lot of articles. Great. She's very supportive, straight people.



Jewel Gray 07:05

The interesting thing about him that I want to get back, I'm doing it again, it to describe one hand that is so that people understand what we're talking about. Because it's such an exciting thing. To me. It's the way I connect with dozens of other people from way out in the boonies, where I'm at, it's a lifeline. So what it is, is an email group on the computer, you go to a certain place, you get some information, you register and you belong to a group of people. It's kind of like the thing outside of the bulletin board outside of Kroger's, you can go out there and leave your three by five card on there and let people in the one but who come by read your three by five information, you may be a comment or suggestion or, you know, just a wishful statement, some lively discourse between people, but a lot of people to learn 52 and 60 people now are all leaving their three by five card on that bulletin board. And everyday somebody comes by region and things change and people discuss things. And it's pretty interesting. All you have to do is sign up and when you go to E groups now. It was one list. And now it's everything's changing even. Who is it? Merging with Time Warner? AOL, right? Yeah, there'll be changing too. So can you tell me how to get involved in this group I was just describing Brandon.



08:22

One of the easiest ways to check it out is to look at our website. And that's it. HD DB dot flush is gay Houston. Excuse me. I forgot that myself here.



08:37

Is there a lot of duck when you start doing your wq? There?



08:40

Can you read that for me? I don't have my class.



Jewel Gray 08:44

Let's see. I don't see it written on here. Done about oh, oh, gate.houston.com.



08:52

No, www Oh, you know, that goes without saying no. Some of them don't have the W No, it



Jewel Gray 08:58

doesn't say that. It doesn't say that. Okay, the way I found it. And the way I find it repeatedly is I look up just do a machine search, you know, out of Vista, Yahoo that says ha en slash I mean, not slash was in between hyphenated words. Behave, and then in any t and it'll pull up several things when I'm in Houston and



09:24

I had forgotten about this. We have one of our members who's just taken over the website. And right, Matt, Matt? Yeah, man. And one of the first things he did was he got a hand that address. So actually, I don't think it's up yet. But it's gonna be WWW dot Han net. Ha en hyphen, ne t.org which will be much easier to try to remember



Jewel Gray 09:49

Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. That's great. But you can find it just by running your yahoo or AltaVista, excite one of those on your you know, and I'm talking to people,




09:57

. -

nearest neighborhood activists, right. Good. Exactly,

 Jewel Gray 10:01

exactly. They're all involved. 260 of the top people in the city are involved in this group. And I mean, the top people who city who are involved, who are informative, who are part of who are, who live, eat and breathe, doing something for our community, these are all these people on there, and I don't care what their philosophy is, or how I might disagree, I still hold them in that esteem, that these are the top people the most involved most passionate people in

 Jimmy Carper 10:24

town and hand that is the only way you can keep on the pulse. At happenings in Houston, my

 Jewel Gray 10:32

life, I would die out Needville and not have some way of knowing what's going on and down. And this way, I know what, you know, minute by minute what's happening in town. And I'm not talking about you know, somebody's barn burns down or something. Of course, somebody's restaurant burns down or something. But, but I know, I know what's happening as far as any political ideas, any political discussions, any, any real serious things going on in our local community. Any things that going on in Washington around the world that affect our local community, I find out all that stuff every single day, every minute of

 11:07

the morning, boring technical question. Okay. How do I get on? Like just getting the news thing instead of the emails every

 11:18

single day? Oh, you gotta digest Yeah,

 Jewel Gray 11:20

you go to the you go to the place when you first sign on gives you where you go find messages, it says messages, you go there, look down a little further. And it tells you down there and what does it says it

 11:31

says, well, actually, there's three different delivery modes, and you can get single emails coming in. Or you can get you can get a digest, which means it collects every 25 for every 24

hours. And that essentially sounds right. But the third thing, and I think a lot of people don't know about this, and it's actually probably one of the best ways to do it, especially now with the high volume is to go out and read it on the web. That's what I do on a bulletin board list. And you can just go right down and click each one highlighted

 Jewel Gray 12:00

for you know, one thing subject line is okay, you just go down and check it out.

 12:05

And then nothing comes into your email. Right now. It's just relentless. Oh,

 Jewel Gray 12:11

I'm getting ready to take myself off that. So I'm calling you. Okay, now. Every day I don't need to digest I'm there you are

 Jimmy Carper 12:21

the star behind Hannah. Oh, yeah. Yeah, I

 12:25

didn't know I'm gonna call him. The real stars are the members. Come

 Jimmy Carper 12:29

on, you were the one who put it together and really fought it. And

 Jewel Gray 12:33

I watched that I was very prominent, because you got a good thing. You got something good out of it?

 12:36

Would you like to know we're the first seed of inspiration came from Yes. We had a good Oh, carry that out. Again, he just always keeps showing up. It was about a year beforehand that started that I got an email from him. And at that time, different activists into were kind of making their own address book. Other activists and I think he had about 50 people on it. And he had included me. And it was something I believed about AIDS funding and writing a

congressperson, the chairman of this particular committee, and he sent it out to all 50 people. And I got it, he said, but I'm sorry, I don't have the addresses. And so I got it now that I could probably find on the web, I went out, sure enough, I found him. I put him in a reply. And I sat there and I looked tonight after I did I thought, you know, I just reached 50 People like that. Yeah. And then I couldn't get the idea out of my mind. And for about 810 months, there were probably six or eight of us in the community, people from PFLAG Jack Polinsky. We all sat around a talk. But you know, it was a typical thing. To me, chiefs, and no Indians. It was a great thing that somebody needed. That

 Jewel Gray 13:48

is a that is why there's sometimes a little poking, because you have great leaders all doing it leading and you've got to have heads, but occasionally I'll

 13:57

doing the Alpha thing. Yeah. And actually,

 14:00

I had set up I had actually called out probably about 150 200 names just from emails that I had gotten at the time. But I never quite got the courage to use it. And then ironically, what very tragically, what happened was that Matthew Shepard was. And again, Gary asked me to be one of the people involved in that rally. And so for the whole week before the rally, I use that that list, I thought, well, if people are gonna get pissed off, because I sent them something, they didn't ask me to sell them. At least, if they get pissed off about something like this, I guess we don't even need to worry about

 Jewel Gray 14:35

whether it's right. Or the wrong ones on the list anyway, and

 14:38

nobody said a thing. People were really very good. And it was really was two weeks after that, that hand that started. Yeah.

 Jewel Gray 14:44

Well, I cannot be more passionate about it. It's the best thing it's, I think it's the future of any political movement. To connect. You don't have to go to town hall. You've got a town hall in your computer. That's me. That's the way it is. Instead of going off to these town hall meetings into the city council meetings and all these places where you get your two cents, you got it in your, you know, in your computer, and you can actually affect and touch people, like your

congressman, like your city council people, like the president or any political group, you can connect with him right there on the. I mean, it's not that I'm advocating that we all live in our little shells. But here's a way we can connect in a very serious and important way in our lives. So politically, and that's what I think we need to start doing is getting more and more involved and getting more and more of these people. I keep thinking, why haven't we connected with some democratic group? Because we are, you know, a big punch of is a gore supporters, you're and I was wondering, we're talking about what to do. And I know, once the audit has to be going on in democratic, specific Democratic groups, why haven't we connected with one of these groups and said, come over and see us? And we'll go over and talk to you kind of thing. So I think it's the future of what's going to happen as far as politics who was going to be the internet's way to connect people.



15:55

One thing I'd like to emphasize too about Hana is that people shouldn't be confused at hand. It's about email. It's not about



Jewel Gray 16:02

it's called an email. It's about communication. Right? You bet.



Jimmy Carper 16:06

I rely on it almost solely these days. For it's like, the news section. Yeah. What's going on? You know, who's doing what, what kind of fundraisers are going on? What kind of groups are meeting and when I get all of that?



16:22

I say that because I still can't seem to convince some people to use the web version. Because I still like they keep thinking hand that's got to be an email.



Jewel Gray 16:31

I don't even read anymore as my fact I was thinking just today, I needed to stop it because I get to digest. And I don't, I don't even need it anymore. I look at it. I think I've already been there. In fact, I



16:39

posted right under that one. Yeah, well, this way, if you go to the web, you get it as soon as right there. And

 Jewel Gray 16:44

I leave it on all day. So then when I walked by, and can see when somebody had something or not, I'm really into it, you will not believe I'm into it. It's the way it's the way I connect back with my community. And I've been lonely for that out there. And you know, kind of be Fe I've been lonely for unity. And that's why I'm saying this on the phone. I know that a lot of people out in the rural areas, who are lonely for community, you cannot touch these people, but you can touch their hearts and they can touch your you don't have to touch them. If you want that. We just had a hand that mixed with and I'm so miserable. I was made to know who these people were, I was excited. And I wanted to go but just didn't work. I'm 50 miles out of town. Oh, no. And it just and I have children and uh, you know, I can't I just can't get it, not my I foster children. And I just can't get into town. So it was really difficult. But I was really wanting to do that I wanted to go meet these people, you know, I know one or two from past experiences. But a lot of them are people I've not I've never met and I'd be excited to meet some of them. We were talking about a couple that we were earlier, you know that it just really excited me what their passion and their and what they talked about on there.

 17:49

I figure it's kind of like our Montrose is in cyberspace. It's like years ago, you always had to come into Montrose in order to really be a part of what was going on. That's right, at least we had one part of the city and

 Jewel Gray 17:59

diversity was the in this community. You know, you remember the streets look like back then. And well, that's how this looks like only you don't have bodies, you have essence, but you don't have bodies. And once a year, you get to match up to the and I'm sure as this grows. I'm sure as this grows that once a year will become more. You know, I really do I think that this lead will lead to people meeting other people. Yeah. And you know, I hear people talking about the internet and this exactly what I'm saying as a way that we're going to start withdrawing from society and not connecting. I don't think so. I don't think we actually need to go out and touch somebody's body to connect with them. Because the body is corporeal. It's not real. It's not just flesh and blood. What's real is the heart and soul. And you can get that on this internet. You can get heart and soul.

 18:43

It's like Nancy Ford said hand that is something you can do with your bunny slippers. Yeah,

 Jewel Gray 18:47

that's right. You know that good? Dress? Yeah. Yeah. Well, it's wonderful. I can't recommend it enough. I enjoy it. It makes me laugh, it makes me cry makes me man. We're gonna talk about a little bit that in a great part of my mad I've expressed on her net. And, you know, as long as you're respectful and you have, you know, a point of view and try to be it constructive, at some

point, you know, that's very welcomed. I mean, if it's not like we would tell somebody, I don't know, you do have we do have their policies and procedures and, you know, limits to behavior on there. I'm



19:23

sure. I think there's only two things that I've ever said that don't spit is just total, I had one guy he was with an atheist group and actual he sent a lot of good things. But he would always put in subjects that have either the words vomit or maggot. And after I just said, you don't have to do that. And he said, Yes, I do. And I said, Well, I'm not gonna let you do that because I just don't think people have to be exposed to vomits and maggot. That's true. That's true. And the other is just outright character assassination. Yes. Yeah. People can you know that they can criticize what another person is doing. without having to call them stupid or, or



20:06

for some bizarre reason on the computer, or Lurker lurkers can be far more cruel. Because they don't actually have to sit and look the



Jewel Gray 20:16

person. Right, it's easy to be detached and do things like that. And you know, that's a nice thing is to remember is when you deal with this and sometimes it's hard to tell emotional responses. You got no get no feedback. There's a way around that by communicating that emotion with letters like if you're trying to be funny say grim, or, or haha, something, you're communicating that you're shouting if you're shouting if you're very mad. That's right. So there are ways around that expressing you know, making sure people understand what you sarcasm is a subtle thing. I'm telling some of them got real subtle. You know, when you put this bunch of people on there, they're such characters they're such a lot of them are. What is it this centric in their direction, their philosophy and their who they are, but they're people you would not, you would not want to miss going through your life thriller. You know, if they add, those are the people who add color and dimension and stuff to your life. It's those people who are different, who see something and passionately no matter how wrong they may be, they're willing to, or willing to go to hell and back to back them up. And I you know, I tell people on there, I don't care what your philosophy is, it's, you know, it's, I'm not gonna judge that. i As long as I'm late, I'm able to express mine to Yes. So I don't have any problem with what you say,



Jimmy Carper 21:42

I need. Let me rainbow the clown in my life.



Jewel Gray 21:44

Yes. You know, I'm telling you, I've gotten some great stuff. Right, but keeps you honest.



21:50

I cannot tell you shall write one sentence that will just put everything Oh, yeah, that's nice. I just want to stand up. But that's why



Jewel Gray 22:01

my day, it really makes my day worth living out there. Let me say, I can't be any more. You know, passionate about this. It's an everyday thing. I know that some people began to say, oh, Joe, you're obsessed? No. It's like the same period. You know, for a long time. I just watched like, Jim, I've never post well, you posted once or twice quietly in the dark hours of the morning, you know, but, you know, I just watched I just read what people are saying, got to know some people in their particular, you know, sure. Attitudes and you know, stuff like that. And before I felt comfortable participating, and once I felt comfortable participating in minutes, shut me up. For an hour a lot out there thinking I wish we could



Jimmy Carper 22:49

have been on hand that for quite a while now. I think you are one of the original members. No, not quite the original, but it was just the beginning. Yeah, yeah. Only a couple of months after you started. Well, it's been like it's so it's like, I hear Brandon Wolf. Brandon Wolf. Brandon Wolf. What's behind that name?



23:09

What's behind that night? Yeah. Who's



23:11

Who's the man? What



Jewel Gray 23:12

are you the Thompson one of the well does it talk in that 50 people emailed?



Jimmy Carper 23:17

You've been an activist for a very long time,



23:21

probably about 30 years. Yeah, no, I'm



Jewel Gray 23:24

30 years in kindergarten. Yeah, no, I



23:26

came out. I remember what the reason I came out was because I saw two guys already Robinson, his lower Tom Dewar in 1970 and The Dick Cavett Show a year after Stonewall, and they were so hot, like and they had these tight, maybe blue shirts, and they have these orange lambdas. Do you remember that? Yeah. First thing that ever came out wasn't rainbow. It was Atlanta, it



23:49

was the lambda. Oh, yeah. Nowadays, you have to explain what that



23:53

was. Me and my brother had come up to me a year before that. And I told him I wasn't gay. And I never had done anything, actually. But after I saw those two guys on there, so yeah, that's. And then once I came out, it was like, you know, because it was right after Stonewall. And I lived in Washington, DC for six years, where a lot of people were involved in politics. It really kind of blew my mind that having gone all that period of time for 22 years, so I came out feeling so powerless. Suddenly, everything was totally changed. The first time as gay people we actually had power. It was about that mud? Yeah, I



24:31

felt like a lot. It's



24:34

that's very exciting. And I just, I moved to Houston 22 years ago. It actually handles very nice for me because it's kind of helped me take about 20 years of getting to know people and pull it all together. And when neat little core as well.



Jewel Gray 24:48

It's so cool. You know, I see posts from Pokey and Ray Hill Yeah, I'm missing shakers. If you know a name in this community they've posted and been, you know, had read it and check it out and keep abreast of things. I just say that because I like that word. You know, I'm the only

lesbian ever down here. So it's like I have to slip in these little subtle things breast. Well, I'll tell you what your lesbian I know



25:15

that I don't really haven't told me people this but actually it was kind of my like my it's ended up being like my ultimate dream because years ago this might sound a little obtuse for the moment but I'm gonna get to a point there was a BBC show a Masterpiece Theatre about 14 things long about Lily Langtry, who was an actress at the turn of the century. And she was one of the mistress II after to yes to the to the Prince of Wales. Yeah. And the series was about her life. Well, one of her friends was Oscar Wilde. But the thing that fascinated me about this was her fist hated they were, but they kind of had what, you know what a sell on it. Yes. We're just sort of, we're really witty sharp with it. People kind of met and came and went and traded off and talked about things and on studies. And then I used to hear about Gertrude Stein having their little clique. And the closest I ever came to it was one day when there was years ago, when there was somebody got a discussion group going one Sunday afternoon and world population problems. But you know, it was nothing that was ever just constant, but this is what I feel like had that is sort of like our own little cell on there, you know, people just throwing stuff and mixing it back and forth. Yeah. Because



Jewel Gray 26:31

with these places, like with Oscar Wilde, you know, he was so celebrity, such a celebrity at that time in the community, because, you know, he was, so you know, the interview people, people flocked to him in groups and with the Isb and Gertrude Stein, Hemingway and some of the great authors didn't. I was trying to think I was thinking Burroughs but he didn't he read didn't run in that crowd. No,



26:57

he was he was, for his



Jewel Gray 26:59

time, Jaco recommended. They were just I can't remember the other people but writers and and artists and great names and great thinkers like the Charlie Parker's come in those clicks. Yeah. And that's, that's like, that's



27:13

the way it seems like to me, because we've got so many bright, talented people



Jewel Gray 27:17

from every aspect of life. I've seen lawyers.



27:21

We've got a dozen lawyers, if not more.



Jewel Gray 27:25

And it's not like they speak legalese. I would not know, I only know that there was one line because he answered as a lawyer, or both somebody had done Yes, I'm a lawyer. They're gonna give me a call, blah, blah, blah. There was no big information or anything. But probably



27:37

the most spectacular thing I ever saw happen on hand that was somebody from PFLAG wrote me and said that they were trying to get a new computer for their office because they just had these beautiful new offices over how they feel. But they didn't have a computer. If there's an organization in town that really needs once PFLAG. So I put this out on hand net, and in less than 24 hours, someone stepped forward and bought them a computer. Wow. I know. That just spun my head around like Linda Blair, and they know that. Yes, I was. Because



28:15

without him that that could not have happened.



28:17

It might have haven't been



Jewel Gray 28:18

very long, long. Yeah, that's that's nice thing, because it's an instant access. Yes. If you get if you get on a reading on the web, you know that somebody's posting this right now, you know,



Jimmy Carper 28:28

and that's, that's when I discovered the power of the internet and the computer. I had not been on very long when, when the Matthew Shepard thing happened, and, and it was like, the day it happened. People said meet at the intersection of Westheimer and Montrose and, you know, 23 people, they're



Jewel Gray 28:52



Jewel Gray 28:52

taking days to get that information to 20 or 30 people to work plan, someone talking about



28:57

three or four hours, you could get 20 or 30 people together.



Jewel Gray 29:01

And so cool. Wow, I cannot speak highly enough, you can get a calendar. It's on their dad, Jack. And with late gay lesbian voices, and the pride committee put out a calendar that's on there. And you can check events and make sure you're up to date on what's going on all around town, which there's a lot of stuff always going on. You bet. You know, a lot of people walk around, the streets roll up at 730. It's not true. They just move out into the suburbs. It's all something's going on all over the place. And to be involved in some stuff, you really need to kind of keep a calendar, so this is a great place to go. And, you know, I was wondering if maybe we might take a few calls. See if anybody's getting questions about that we could answer would that be okay with you?



Jimmy Carper 29:43

Yeah, yeah. All you have to do is give us a call at 7135265738713 Jam KPFT. Yeah, we don't need to give big really of a warning or anything. That's what I said. It is good on him



Jewel Gray 30:01

out there gossiping anyway talking and talking and talking.



Jimmy Carper 30:08

Let's go to a piece of music while he's getting those phone calls. Okay, and we do too I



30:13

gotta go bathroom. Yeah.



Jimmy Carper 30:15

Don't worry subtlety to this has been requested from Ken a guy who's who sent sent big Roy and Chris and I a lovely picture over the internet and I hope he sends more. But this is one of the two he requested. I didn't have the second one. And I'm very glad to play it. It's by Lea de Leiria and it's off of the album called Winter Moon, which is kind of winter slash seasonal songs.

And I don't know he liked it. I like it, then I think you will too. It's called The Truth About Christmas, Leah de Leiria. And you're listening to it all on after hours. KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station.