

JIMMY: Well, the first thing about building a float-- but I just-- and it's--

TROY: But we don't have to.

JIMMY: We don't have to. And I mean, when Rainbow starts describing what he's going to do, I don't want to hear about it. I just want to see it the day of the parade because it is absolute magic.

TROY: Well, and this year, he had several art cars, which we--

JIMMY: Those art cars are incredible.

TROY: --fully support the art car parade. It's another unique Houston institution.

JIMMY: Let me ask-- now that I have Troy and Jack here, let me ask you about the gay and lesbian, bisexual and transgender pride parade or as we know it now is just the Pride parade. How does it--

TROY: Because otherwise, it's just too long.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY: Yeah, the GLBT pride parade.

JACK: The queer parade.

JIMMY: How does it rate with other parades in Houston for size or--

TROY: We know it's one of the biggest. It's very hard to gauge. There's so many different ways of measuring what was the biggest.

JIMMY: We had over 130 entries this year.

TROY: Yes. And I think we had 134 or 135 so we're on the schedule.

JACK: The art car parade has 250 car--

JIMMY: Really?

JACK: --units in it. But there's-- like you said--

TROY: But they're not 50-feet long, either.

JACK: Right. They're not floats for the most part. There's a few in there. We know that we are the largest pride event in the Southwest.

SPEAKER 1: Hell, yeah.

JACK: That we have 100,000 people out there.

JIMMY: Yes.

TROY: At least.

JACK: That it is a political event. By stepping out in the street, that is a political statement, that it is so empowering to so many people. And not only the parade itself as we witnessed it, but the fact that we're talking about it now. That there are people out there, and I'd, sort of, give them the Ray Hill Memorial speech every year to a lot of the units.

SPEAKER 1: Memorial.

TROY: Also, in terms of how it rates here with other pride events around the country, I think we're unique in that we truly meld sometimes very, very disparate elements. Earlier this week, I went to one of the pride events. And somebody afterward asked me, well, maybe we should-- maybe I don't-- this whole Mardi Gras thing, it's like, why don't we make a much bigger impact if we were all in our business suits and showing the very professionalism of our community and da-da-da-da. Well, first--

JIMMY: Don't even go there.

TROY: --that's very madishing. I was like, OK, that was 1955. But also what I explained to him is that the pride committee has a three-prong mission. It's to celebrate our individuality and who we are. It's to commemorate our history, the fact that we moved to the nighttime so that we could still commemorate Stonewall.

JIMMY: Yes, and that's the very important part. I had to explain it today, as a matter of fact, to a pride committee person who's from South Africa, who just volunteered to work with the pride parade. She's been here--

TROY: I got that email.

[LAUGHS]

JIMMY: --11 days, and now she's like, what's the pride parade about? And she had no idea about Stonewall. So she got the--

TROY: And then the third prong is education.

JIMMY: Yes, absolutely.

TROY: And our parade really, I think, truly melds those three elements. It is like he was saying, we have to really be very serious and show everybody we're just like them and da-da-da-da. And I think no--

JIMMY: We have to speak.

TROY: It is important for us to-- and like Jack was saying, I was thinking about this when Jack said earlier about how much fun the parade is. We need to have fun.

JIMMY: Yes, we learned that through the AIDS crisis.

TROY: It's so important that we celebrate who we are because we have a contribution to society that is-- and here's Rainbow, that's truly unique.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 1: Speaking of--

JIMMY: Speaking of unique.

SPEAKER 1: --truly unique, yes.

TROY: Number 666 in the parade.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY: Number 666. Well, and that's part of it. I mean, there are the professional groups that come in the parade, and that's wonderful.

SPEAKER 1: I think it's great.

JIMMY: But there's also the fact that--

TROY: We have all of it.

JIMMY: --when Stonewall happened, so many of us were in some type of drag. And there's so many different versions of drag. I mean, drag can be wearing shorts all the time. I mean, drag can be a clown, like Rainbow--

TROY: Yes.

JACK: Or leather.

JIMMY: --or leather or all these different things.

TROY: Me and my pink shirts.

JIMMY: Because-- and the fact that our parade is at night is that this is when Stonewall happened. It happened at night.

JACK: Yes, it did.

JIMMY: And it happened when we felt we couldn't be the people we really wanted to be, or we were the people who we wanted to be. I mean, there's all of those different--

TROY: It's liberation.

JACK: And the whole thing is that--

TROY: To be whoever we want to be.

JACK: It's a celebration of who we are. And it is serious in many ways. There are the religious organizations. There are tremendous number of them. The AIDS organizations, the care organizations-- how many ambulance companies were at--

JIMMY: We had two ambulance companies in.

JACK: I mean, there's lots of seriousness in a celebratory way.

SPEAKER 1: We even had the fire department this year.

[LAUGHTER]

TROY: We celebrate. We commemorate our history. And the parade has such an educational impact in that not only do the 100,000 to 150,000 people on the street see it, but in all of the media, possibly millions more will understand.

JIMMY: And I don't know how many people saw the Pride magazine this year.

SPEAKER 1: Oh, fantastic.

JACK: Beautiful.

SPEAKER 1: I just bought it, beautiful.

JIMMY: Ken Donnelly just did a fabulous job. And I mean, this was like, he not only put it together, he was out-- been out there distributing it the past month, 35,000 copies, not only in Houston but in Dallas and Austin, San Antonio. This is a--

TROY: All over Texas.

JIMMY: --300-page magazine that didn't cost the community a cent.

TROY: We made money on it, actually.

JIMMY: And it is just this incredible thing that it's got a lot of national content, but it has a lot of Houston content. And the thing that the Pride Committee has done over the years is to do that resource guide. That is the most thorough, the most accurate. And of course, in our community, it changes. Things change so quickly.

JACK: Yes, but things like that are very useful for the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard. We rely on stuff like that.

JIMMY: And it is this effort of putting these things together and then the events that happen. And I'll be honest. I didn't go to very many events because I was so concentrated on the parade. But the fact that we have these different events that are educational, that are entertaining. And I understand that the alley event that happened on Friday night, it was sold out, which in my wildest dream, I didn't expect or know of.

And I heard very good reviews about it. And I had nothing to do with it. So I'm trying not to be a bias about it, but just what I heard. It was just great.

TROY: And something that we've never done before.

JIMMY: And that is it. I mean, the parade is a totally free event for people to watch. And then we have other events that cost money. We have other events, like the-- and Troy went to the event-- the educational event that Ray was part of and Phyllis Frye.

TROY: The Stonewall lawyers, first decade of Houston GLBT activism.

JIMMY: And I said to Phyllis today, how did you get a word in edgewise? And Phyllis said, I've been doing it for years.

[LAUGHTER]

TROY: She can so match Ray.

JIMMY: And G. Cam was busy with a daytime thing, and we couldn't make it because we wanted to see that and impossible--

TROY: In videotape, that Ray--

JIMMY: Possibly videotape, I didn't know about that.

TROY: Stonewall lawyers is talking about restaging it with the three. But it wasn't just Ray and Phyllis.

JIMMY: Oh, no.

TROY: There's also--

JIMMY: Aaron.

TROY: Aaron--

JIMMY: Coleman.

TROY: Coleman, right. And he did some really incredible poetry. One poem was in the *Pride* magazine from last year *We Be Diverse*. And it's really-- if you have a copy of last year's *Pride* magazine, look that up again. It's a really great poem. Also he did an homage to Montrose. That was a lot of fun.

JIMMY: I need to step in here and remind folks that we are in pledge drive. This is the summer marathon for KPFT and *After Hours*. We were on our way. We had a generous, generous check from Paul, who-- he's just-- I mean, he's there with us every marathon. It's incredible. We've got several people like that. But Paul is there every time.

JACK: And we'd love listeners on it.

JIMMY: Yes, we do. And of course, that guy from Channel View also. But one thing I had failed to mention is that with a pledge of \$60 or more on plastic-- no, it's not plastic, credit card plastic.

SPEAKER 2: I was implying you get Lee as a consolation prize.

JIMMY: Well, well. Where's my credit card?

SPEAKER 1: There'd be none of that.

JIMMY: We've got a thing going with Wolf Video. They own the rights to a movie called *Big Eden*, which is a wonderful fantasy-type love story that takes place in Montana or something. I've seen it. It's just beautiful, just beautiful. And it's a DVD. And with your \$60 pledge on plastic, you can get one. Now the last two weeks, I've been giving them away to color number whatever.

And if you've not been able to get in there, this is going to be, probably, your last chance. So \$60 on plastic, it's yours, a DVD of *Big Eden*. And be sure to mention that to Roy so that we can get that information to the right people. So that number is 713-526-5738, 713-526-KPFT. Give Roy a call or whoever else is out there. And let's go to a piece of music. And we'll be talking more about pride when we get back.

In fact, you can listen to *Pride* right now. This is *Pride* by John Gilbert Leavitt.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Tom Robinson, a classic, classic gay anthem back from the '70s when that was the rule. He wasn't really feeling very happy about being gay at that point. And my, how things have changed as you will find out with the next song that I'll play later on in the show. But right now, that number is 713-526-5738, 526-KPFT to pledge your support for *After Hours* and KPFT Radio Station.

This is our summer membership drive. We're only going to be here this one time, this one week. It's only lasting one week. It ends Sunday night.

SPEAKER 1: Sunday, Sunday, Sunday.

JIMMY: Whoa, Sunday, Sunday, Sunday, that's right. My, my, my. Let's see. Big Roy, we've just got a wonderful--

BIG ROY: Yes, I'd like to thank Jordan out here in Houston who gave us a very generous donation and--

JIMMY: On plastic and so he will be receiving a *Big Eden* DVD.

BIG ROY: As well as a KPFT cap.

JIMMY: That's right.

BIG ROY: And he would like us to remind Pop that they love him and support him as he comes out to his mom this week.

JIMMY: Ooh, OK.

BIG ROY: So once again, thank you, Jordan, for your very generous and kind gift.

JIMMY: Yes, thank you. And so you can get a DVD of *Big Eden*, a wonderful love story by calling in a pledge of support for \$60 or more on plastic. I still have everyone here. Some people have left. Some, you can't get rid of.

[LAUGHTER]

No, Troy Christensen and--

TROY: You can't get rid of me.

JIMMY: --Jack Valinski are here from the Pride committee. And I did see Steven Jerome here just a little bit ago, and he disappeared. I was wanted to get him on the air.

TROY: He went to Switchboard.

JIMMY: Yes, he is with the Switchboard.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JIMMY: Yes, you bet. You bet. And he was there with his mother. She rode in the car with him. And I just thought that was a--

TROY: I heard Ernie Meneses' mother was with him on the announcer's stand.

JIMMY: Oh, really?

TROY: One of our announcers from KUHT, his weekday show.

JIMMY: And Joan Devlin was a judge.

JACK: Joan Devlin was a judge along with-- my mind is, of course, blank now, the tall guy from--

TROY: Fred Walters.

JIMMY: Fred, yes.

TROY: From Houston Buyers Club.

JIMMY: Oh, God, he's so cute.

[LAUGHTER]

TROY: That goes without saying. And yeah--

JIMMY: Who said glasses weren't cute?

TROY: Well, I always make passes at men who wear glasses.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY: Who was the other judge?

TROY: Well, we had five.

JACK: Rich--

JIMMY: Really?

TROY: Rich Arenschioldt.

JACK: Rich from the Center Phrase.

JIMMY: Rich Arenschioldt, oh.

JACK: And Kaye from The Voice.

JIMMY: Kaye Dance? Yeah. Oh, terrific.

SPEAKER 1: She's the announcer.

SPEAKER 2: What were the different categories?

JACK: We had different categories. Well, they will be announced. The winners, I don't know the winners because they don't want me to know the winners.

JIMMY: They're going to be announced tomorrow at Richard's. I had that thing.

SPEAKER 2: I have to say I know the winners, but I'm not saying.

JIMMY: Oh, OK, take him out. Beat him up.

SPEAKER 2: Big tease.

JACK: We have different categories. There's nine awards.

SPEAKER 2: I can-- I mean, if you're interested, I can name the categories. Let's see.

JIMMY: And you can find out who wins what at the Pride Party and Parade Awards at Richard's, which is today at 4:00. 4:00 PM--

SPEAKER 2: Yes, 4:00 in the afternoon.

JIMMY: --today.

SPEAKER 2: Cover is just \$2 and both of those dollars go to the Pride Committee of Houston.

JIMMY: Oh, terrific.

SPEAKER 2: The categories for the awards are the Stonewall Award; the Pride Worldwide Award, which is best interpretation of this year's theme; the Spirit of Montrose Award; the Ruby Slipper Award; Gypsy Rose, which goes to best out-of-town unit; Edison for Best Lighting; Houston Award; Rainbow Lights for Best Professional Lighting-- I might have those mixed up, Edison Rainbow Lights, professional and non-professional; and the Texas Award.

JIMMY: I was just amazed-- I know that it's already been decided. But really, I have to say this again at the Switchboard float, because I mean, it was this huge phone, I mean, huge.

SPEAKER 2: That was a lot of fun.

JIMMY: I was there this afternoon putting all the pieces together. They all arrived at the Montrose Counseling Center in the parking lot. And we put it all together there. But I mean, I didn't realize until I saw the thing coming down the street that the button-- the lights were blinking.

SPEAKER 2: But I saw them blinking. But did they blink your phone number?

JACK: I think they did.

JIMMY: It may have. It may have.

SPEAKER 2: OK, that's good. That's good.

JIMMY: Yeah, 529-3211.

SPEAKER 2: I was hoping-- I was hoping that.

JIMMY: 529-3211 There you go.

SPEAKER 2: Very quickly, though.

[LAUGHS]

JIMMY: Yeah, it's just great.

SPEAKER 2: As a designer, you got to have those inside jokes.

[LAUGHS]

JIMMY: But I'm serious. I mean, it was all done by lesbians.

[LAUGHS]

I'm serious. It was designed and built and yeah.

JACK: You gave them an emotional support. That's great. That's really good. OK, Martini.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY: I painted the pink part.

[LAUGHTER]

That's what I did.

SPEAKER 1: Although the community center's float was done by a lot of lesbians, too.

JIMMY: See? Mm?

SPEAKER 3: Did they make you an honorary lesbian?

JIMMY: They might have because I was holding it up and doing the semi-butch stuff.

JACK: It's heavy.

SPEAKER 2: It's something like that.

JIMMY: They were up doing all the-- putting it all together.

SPEAKER 2: I put a couple steaks in the ground this morning.

[LAUGHS]

It's as close to butch as I got.

JIMMY: How about the HATCH float?

SPEAKER 1: Oh, God. Hey, it looked a lot better after we had people on there and stuff.

JIMMY: And hid all the-- the imperfections.

SPEAKER 1: No, it was-- I didn't see it until you said it. What did you have?

SPEAKER 3: Ooh, I don't know if I should talk about it.

[LAUGHTER]

Well, it was like a futuristic theme because I thought of the theme, HATCH is the future of the gay community, but--

SPEAKER 2: I think I saw a conceptual drawing at the community center.

JIMMY: But it looked nothing like that, right?

SPEAKER 3: Well, I thought it came out pretty good. I mean-- and there were a lot of people on there, a lot of people I didn't know or I'd never seen before. But hey, we were happy to have them.

JIMMY: They turn out every year.

SPEAKER 2: It's all crazy.

TROY: But how much applause did you get?

SPEAKER 2: We don't know.

SPEAKER 3: We don't know. We were standing on the side.

TROY: Oh, OK.

SPEAKER 2: None of us marched with HATCH.

JIMMY: I helped do it.

TROY: I bet y'all got a lot of applause.

JIMMY: I applauded.

SPEAKER 3: We hope so.

JACK: We applauded.

JIMMY: How many parades have you guys-- there's three of you guys here?

SPEAKER 3: Two--

JIMMY: Two and one just recently not with HATCH.

JACK: Right. Yes.

SPEAKER 3: I've been the last two parades two years ago, three years ago-- anyway, the last two on the float, and this year, I've never seen it from the-- as the people, the common folk.

[LAUGHS]

TROY: No way, polloi.

SPEAKER 3: Yes.

SPEAKER 3: [INAUDIBLE]

JIMMY: Where are you? Where are you standing?

SPEAKER 3: Right in front of those really loud speakers.

SPEAKER 2: Right in front of Burger King. That's where we were standing. So we're like, Jimmy! Jimmy!

JIMMY: And I can-- it's just at that point--

SPEAKER 3: Oh, no, he didn't.

JIMMY: --there's so many people. You can't hear anything.

SPEAKER 2: I was, like, jumping up and down and waving my arms, trying to get your attention.

JIMMY: I'm sorry.

SPEAKER 2: No, that's cool. I was like, why isn't he wearing that shirt more often?

[LAUGHTER]

JACK: That was a great shirt.

JIMMY: Thank you.

JACK: It's a really good shirt.

JIMMY: Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

SPEAKER 1: All pink and sparkly.

JIMMY: Basic brothers, I believe in spending money in the queer community.

SPEAKER 3: That's right.

SPEAKER 2: All I saw when you came up to us in the pagan group that you-- all I saw was this pink reflector coming out there.

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 3: You didn't need lights in your entry. You were a light.

SPEAKER 2: Pagans didn't actually have a float this year, but we were there. Well, most of us.

JIMMY: Ooh, we got another pledge on plastic.

BIG ROY: Yes. We want to thank out James or Jim from here in Houston for becoming another instant member.

JIMMY: Ta-da! Great, wonderful, wonderful. Thank you very much. We're about halfway there.

BIG ROY: A very generous pledge to our goal.

JIMMY: And I want to remind you folks that it's 526-5738, 526-KPFT. And with your pledge of \$60 or more on plastic, you get a free DVD of the movie *Big Eden*. And let me just say a little something about the movie because it's really sweet. *Big Eden* is a tiny town tucked away in the timberland of Northwestern Montana, where cowboys lounge on the porch of the general store to pass the time away.

It's also the childhood home of Henry Hart who is a successful but lonely New York artist, who returns after years away to care for his ailing grandfather. Back home, Henry confronts his unrequited passion for his high school best friend and his feelings about being gay in a small town. Warmed by the openness and affection of old friends, in time, Henry finds new possibilities for friendship and romance.

Big Eden is a uniquely American fable about home and family. It hits upon the universal longing and hope we each have for finding a place where we are loved and the unconditional desire to see those that we love find happiness. It's just a wonderful, warm--

SPEAKER 2: Fuzzy.

TROY: And Henry is played by Ayre Gross who you might remember from Ellen's show.

JIMMY: Yes, yes.

SPEAKER 3: Her cousin.

JIMMY: He does a magnificent job--

SPEAKER 3: He's great.

JIMMY: --in this. Everybody does. And for a small budget film, it certainly looks big budget to me. So I've just really enjoyed watching that. And it's--

SPEAKER 2: Tears are coming to your eyes.

JIMMY: Yes, it does. It's 30 bucks if you want to buy it. But it's free if you want to put 60 bucks on plastic foAfter Hours and KPFT at 713-526-5738, 713-526-KPFT. Jack is still here. Yes?

SPEAKER 3: Oh, and you get a really good story to tell all your friends when you put in the movie. Listen to this radio station.

JIMMY: Yes, yes.

BIG ROY: And I just want to remind our listeners that both Chris and myself, Big Roy, are out there in the lobby. And we are ready to take your pledge. So please call. Put us to work.

JIMMY: Yes, please.

SPEAKER 1: Make him do something.

JIMMY: David, my wonderful next door neighbor brought doughnuts. So Big Roy's on the sugar high right now. So you call in, and he'll probably give you anything you want.

[LAUGHTER]

Oh, I did want to say that-- Larry was talking about when he first got involved. He was joking. He was 14 when he got involved in 1979-1980.

SPEAKER 3: He looks like it.

JIMMY: I met Larry Bonnareese in the late '60s when we were both in our 20s. But the moral of the story is that when he saw what was going on in the parade, and he felt things should have been different, he got involved and changed it. And when Rainbow didn't like some of the things that was going on in the parade, Rainbow got involved, and he fixed it.

And if you didn't like some of the things you saw on the parade or thought better things can happen, get involved, or if there's some other organization which you'd like to see better or different or what, get involved because people getting involved do change things.

SPEAKER 2: Yes.

TROY: I personally was just so totally thrilled by the organization today with the parade. But there's always room for improvement. And we can always use your help.

JIMMY: You know something else? I would like to think of myself as a professional queer. But--

TROY: Of course.

JIMMY: There were organizations and a couple of clubs that I had never heard of before in the parade.

JACK: It just-- and this happens. I mean, it's like as we're doing it, we have a couple of different deadlines. And the parade-- the applications are online, and they're very easy to get, and they just pop up.

TROY: In my area, as block captain, there was a new gay bar in Pasadena named Club Escape.

JIMMY: Yes.

JACK: Well, it's been there for a while from what I know. Yeah, it isn't new there.

TROY: But new to me. I don't get to Pasadena too often.

JIMMY: Someone had reported a couple of months ago that there was a gay club in Pasadena. But they didn't know the name, and they didn't know where it was.

JACK: I do believe there's two of them in Pasadena when I used to work there.

JIMMY: Wow, no kidding.

JACK: They're both on the same road. I do believe it's off of either College or Monroe.

TROY: It's the Pacific Street of Pasadena.

JIMMY: Wow.

JACK: Let's hope it's Monroe because that sounds a lot better.

JIMMY: We got a guy the guy here who's from Pasadena, and he didn't know it.

SPEAKER 4: I didn't know a damn thing about it.

JACK: I don't know if it's Highway 3 intersection.

JIMMY: Wow.

SPEAKER 4: Grew up there and I didn't know anything about it.

JIMMY: Jackie, I'd like to get your impressions impressions. You were with The Court?

JACKIE: No. Actually, I was the designated driver for the garden party this time around. They used my--

JIMMY: That's what you get for being in so many damn organizations.

JACKIE: Well, it's like, I had my-- I had my choices. I stopped by and visited with the Houston Area Bears when they were putting their float together and so forth like that. And they were all there with their brand new shirts that they've just gotten with a great big logo on the back. And then of course, The Court also. And the PWA didn't have a specific thing. But I mean, our people were so scattered out. We didn't want to try to have something with that.

But anyhow-- no, what I did, I was the-- I was driving my car, which was a convertible, with the garden party royalty which are Mr. and Miss Honeybee. And JJ Fulton is Mr. Honeybee this year.

JIMMY: I didn't even notice you were driving that car.

JACKIE: And Zima Gabor is Miss Honeybee. And then Alicia DeSimone Stewart was there also because she was Miss Honeybee 2000. And so I had the three of them and on the back of the-- in the back seat up on the top of the thing.

JIMMY: They were all fabulous, I think.

JACKIE: And it was a lot of fun. I mean, people were just-- I mean, we could feel the warmth and the affection of the crowd, the applause and everything. And they're just having a wonderful time.

JIMMY: There's nothing like walking down Westheimer or even driving-- riding down Westheimer during the parade. It's just you have this people cheering on both sides. Everyone is happy, in a good mood. And it's like it's our day.

JACKIE: It feels like home.

JIMMY: It does. It does.

JACKIE: A home we may have never had.

JIMMY: It feels like Christmas. You know that feeling at Christmas where, why can't this happen every day of the year?

SPEAKER 3: Well, that's a great way to put that. That's exactly how I see it.

JACK: Well, with PFLAG this year and last year, there was a lot of people that were actually crying for PFLAG, at least. I know that for the parents to come out there and do and march like that is amazing.

JIMMY: Yes, it is. Yes, it is.

JACKIE: Parents and grandparents, and brothers and sisters.

JIMMY: And through PFLAG, we have really gained in society. I mean, just, what, this past week, Jim Noel-- Sue and Jim Noel, but Jim spoke at HISD in getting them to put sexual orientation in that--

SPEAKER 3: Nondiscrimination thing, non-harassment.

JIMMY: Non-bullying.

SPEAKER 3: Right, yeah. The other thing, too, I was talking with talking with Ray Hill before the program started, before he came on. And we were talking about having been participating in the parade for as many years as we have. And I said, Ray, I said I don't even know how many parades that I've actually participated in. But they've been from this one going back.

But I said, before that, I would stand on the street and watch the parade go by. And they're really-- there's all the difference in the world there between-- it's a lot of fun to watch the parade. But it's even more fun to be a participant.

JIMMY: Absolutely, yes. My first Pride Parade in-- being in the Pride Parade was 1988. And I've only not been in it one time. And that one time made me realize that, why am I standing here when I can be in it? And I have my parade pants, not on, because they only wear them for the parade only. They're old jeans that are over-dyed pink.

SPEAKER 1: Just for reference, he actually does have pants on.

JACK: And what are you wearing now?

[LAUGHTER]

Everything but the pants.

SPEAKER 2: Jimmy, going back to what you were saying with--

JIMMY: It's not naked radio.

[LAUGHS]

No, not tonight, not tonight.

SPEAKER 2: With Jim and Sue Noel on an update from that.

JIMMY: Oh, please.

SPEAKER 2: The 1st of August, before school goes back into session and the teachers come back, it's not mandatory. However, they're asking for all the coaches and assistant coaches of HISD to come in, and they're doing it all over again for them alone. And they're getting--

TROY: That's very important.

SPEAKER 2: Although we're trying to get it mandatory, but it's not mandatory yet. So that's an update on that. PFLAG is sponsoring that as well.

JIMMY: Yes, and that's why if I went to HISD and ask for the same thing, I don't think it would be as effective as having someone from PFLAG do it. There's nothing like this stuff now.

TROY: Like when they did the moms and dads go to Washington.

SPEAKER 2: The march on Washington, that helps-- that did a lot of support for us, too.

TROY: I know there were several congresspeople who said, if an openly gay person came into my office, I don't know if I'd listen to them. But you, I can relate to. As a mother, as a father, I can relate to you.

JACK: Well and that's the whole theme of pride. Pride started in New York City in 1969. I mean, there's other things that happened even before the Hitler time in Germany and stuff. But our modern day history of Stonewall when it was the riots, when it was the people from the society that nobody respected, that basically said, we're not going to take it anymore, and then the year after 1970, there were celebrations in New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

And then a friend of mine, not at the time, but now a friend of mine named Marsha Levine, started this organization called International Association of Pride Coordinators. And there are pride celebrations all over the world from Waco, Texas to Houston to San Francisco, et cetera, et cetera.

SPEAKER 3: To Cape Town, South Africa.

JACK: And it's so important that it's rather easy nowadays for us to do pride in Houston. But until we take it home, until we take it to the small communities, till we take it to the suburbs, till we take it to the rural areas, that's the only way we're going to really progress. And it's unfortunate, but it's happened in another way with AIDS-- HIV, when we went back to our homes and had to deal with it.

It got the word out, not necessarily always good, but it got the word out. And now the best way for us to advance-- I mean, it's one thing, and it's a fabulous thing, and I work on the parade that we get out there in the street for those 100,000 people. But when we take it to our parents, our neighbors, where we grew up from, that's when things are going to change.

JIMMY: Mm-hmm. Yeah, you're right. You're right. Gosh. Elkie Chancey just walked in.

ELKIE CHANCEY: Hello.

JIMMY: Hello, Elkie. Elkie does DJing-- has been a KPFT programmer and now does DJing over at Club Insomnia.

ELKIE CHANCEY: Club Insomnia, Houston's number one after hours nightclub. Go check us out.

JIMMY: Actually, it is a lot of fun over there. But did you watch the parade, honey? Yeah, you.

ELKIE CHANCEY: Oh, me? Yeah, went up there and saw it. I was on my bike. I just came out and--

JIMMY: In the microphone, honey.

ELKIE CHANCEY: See what happens when you've been out of radio for a while? You get grain after while I have two wigs. Oh, absolutely. I went up here. I watched it from further up over there by [INAUDIBLE]

JIMMY: Oh, OK.

ELKIE Yeah, it was a lot of fun. I got home. I emailed you and said, yeah, I'll be coming in. But it'll be later. But the

CHANCEY: problem is I waited till about 11:00 to email you.

JIMMY: Well, yeah, I didn't quite get it. But hey, I'm glad you're here. I'm glad you're here.

ELKIE Thank you. Thank you.

CHANCEY:

JIMMY: I've just-- this has been an open house tonight for everyone who wants to talk about the parade. And there's quite a few people who haven't talked yet. Rainbow was sitting here very patiently.

WES: Jimmy.

JIMMY: Wes, yes?

WES: All right.

[LAUGHS]

JIMMY: What? Hello.

WES: There was just one thing I've been sort of--

JIMMY: Dying to say.

WES: Trying not to doze off here because it's been--

JIMMY: Doze off? Let me go there and slap you.

WES: Well, I've been up since 7:30 this morning. And I haven't eaten since then.

JIMMY: Just because you had to work.

WES: Yeah.

[LAUGHS]

BIG ROY: We have doughnuts out here.

JIMMY: Whoa, boy, that'll give him sugar high.

WES: That would require me getting up, which right now is-- anyhow, but the only thing I want to say about the parade is this was our-- only my second go around as a participant. And it was-- I couldn't-- at one point when we were walking down the street and with our signs, and doing the things and everything, and people were cheering because--

JIMMY: And you were with the pagan group, by the way.

WES: Because there were pagans in the crowd, too, and cheering for--

SPEAKER 3: We're everywhere.

WES: And at one point, I was about that close to just crying because it was an amazing experience to be amongst that many people who were all there to celebrate and all about this.

JIMMY: And that's the other thing. It's the acceptance of diversity. There was not any religious organization that said, oh, I'm not going to be in that Pride Parade because you got the pagans in there. That doesn't happen.

WES: No.

SPEAKER 2: It seems like you turn that-- you turn that one corner right before crossroads in a Hollywood video. And you just feel like Miss America because there's--

JIMMY: Tell me about it.

SPEAKER 2: --thousands of people that are just--

JIMMY: Cheering for you.

TROY: Also, too often, even within the GLBT community, we're way too segregated. But everybody comes to the Pride parade. You go down Westheimer, you see everyone, young, old, black, white, Asian, Hispanic, everybody.

WES: One of the things I thought was really cool is that in the past, I've been afraid to go because of my church. They are real strict about it. And so this was my first time. I was a newbie at the parade, and I was just a spectator.

SPEAKER 1: Oh, a virgin.

WES: Yes. I was a parade virgin.

JIMMY: I was just a spectator two years before I was in it.

WES: Actually, I saw many people from my church--

JIMMY: Really?

WES: --that I just had no idea they would have been there.

JIMMY: Wow.

WES: So it was pretty cool for me.

JIMMY: Good. Oh, that's terrific.

WES: It was. It was very terrific, especially just being-- I've always been deep in the closet with the church and with business and things like that. And it was just an opening experience for me to get out there and enjoy myself, and really feel free about everything. It's really cool.

TROY: The things I always say along the parade route when I'm going down to the parade down Westheimer is "Happy Pride," and "Thanks for coming out."

JIMMY: Yes. As a matter of fact--

TROY: Because of course, it's coming out to the parade, but it is an act of coming out.

JIMMY: At the very end of the parade, I was with a group of people standing over near Whitney on Westheimer, and all of the horses were coming by.

TROY: The police on the horses.

JIMMY: And all of us just started saying thank you to all of the officers on the horses. There was only one officer that didn't respond back, only one. And the rest of us, thank you. You're welcome. And I had a good time, one of them said.

SPEAKER 1: He really didn't want to be there.

SPEAKER 3: Speaking of security and safety-- am I on?

JIMMY: Yes, you're on, honey.

SPEAKER 3: I'm on. I make it a point to try-- when I'm walking around and they're in-- during when we're gathering, to thank the officers for being there and tell them that we couldn't do this without you.

JIMMY: That's absolutely right.

TROY: And the thing we have to remember is, of course, this is commemorating the-- like Jack said, the birth of the modern GLBT rights and liberation movement. And that started when we fought back against the police, fought back against police harassment. And now they are in full-- not just cooperation with us, but support.

JIMMY: Jack Valinski is here. It's 2:28 in the AM. And Jack Valinski is standing by the door here, and it's holding him up as I see. It's red-eyed and sleepy. This is really late for Jack. So I'm not going to hold your feet to the fire any longer.

JACK VALINSKI: Well, I just want to thank everybody who was part of putting this thing together, who was part of the groups in the parade, who were out there having a good time. And it's just an incredible experience for me and I know of lot of other people. Usually, right after the parade, we meet somewhere. We don't always know where. But we decompress to know what's going on.

And there are so many different angles of what goes on. And it's just really incredible to listen to all of them. And it's certainly, we can do better. We can always do better. Like I said, get involved. If there's something that piss you off, get involved. I mean. This is why KPFT is on the air. Pacifica is and was and is again rebirth, is a place to be able to talk about issues that isn't always in the masses.

We do the minority stuff. But of course, all this stuff only happens because people are involved.

JACK: That's right.

JIMMY: That's right. And the Pride Committee goes on 12 months out of the year. It does not stop. So you can get involved tomorrow.

TROY: First general meeting will be the third week of July, the third Tuesday of July.

JIMMY: Jack, thanks for being here.

JACK VALINSKI: Well, thank you.

JIMMY: Happy Pride Day. Aah!

[LAUGHTER]

SPEAKER 3: Now Jimmy, talk about security. I'd like to speak about that.

JIMMY: Yes, OK, security.

SPEAKER 3: Because--

JIMMY: Before you do that, before you do that, I want to let people know there's something else going on that's going to benefit KPFT. And that is the Annual Watermelon Dance and Summer Social that's going on right now at the Last Concert Cafe, 1403 Nance Street. And it's going on Saturday and Sunday, so 5:00 PM--

JACK: Sunday, Sunday, Sunday.

JIMMY: Sunday, Sunday, Sunday, 5:00 PM. You've got six bands that are going to be there, Jaded Lovers, Carol and Wallace, and Idol Chaos, Jennifer Fitz, Hamilton Loomis, Susan Gibson, and Plump. And this is brought to you-- hosted by Pat and Rosie's *Night Sounds*. *Night Sounds* is heard every Monday morning, late Sunday night from 1:00 AM till 6:00. And that's one of the other programs where you hear live entertainment.

So watermelon dancing summer festival, it's the annual thing. It's been going on for many years. And it benefits KPFT. Please stop by. And if you can't do that, you can give us a call right now 713-526-5738, 526-KPFT with your pledge of support for *After Hours*. This is our membership drive. We're looking for new members to be a part of the KPFT family.

In the past, we have been so fortunate to have two-- Chris is giving me hand signals here. And he's blowing into his hand and holding up the finger. I don't know what that means.

SPEAKER 3: Which finger?

JIMMY: I guess he's trying to do a joint or something.

[LAUGHS]

What? What?

CHRIS: Cultural baggage is on line 1.

JIMMY: Oh, I forgot all about cultural baggage. Oops! Oh, OK, and Deborah, thank you so much for your pledge of support on plastic, yes. Oops! And let's see. Cultural baggage, yes, that's 713-526-5738, 526-KPFT. And if we will-- hey, Dean Becker.

DEAN BECKER: Hello, Jimmy.

JIMMY: How you doing?

DEAN BECKER: I'm doing great tonight. Y'all doing fine, too.

JIMMY: We're doing fine. This was Pride Parade day. And we're just still just--

DEAN BECKER: I saw some reports. The mayor was there.

JIMMY: Yes.

DEAN BECKER: That's wonderful.

JIMMY: Mayor was there. The fire department was in it. That four of the commercial radio stations were in it. It's becoming just one of the events in Houston.

DEAN BECKER: Well.