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SPEAKERS

Speaker 2, Jimmy Carper, Speaker 1, Tom Richards

J

Jimmy Carper 00:07

The following program contains language or images of a frame or a sensitive nature, which may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised. Oh yes, you've tuned into After Hours a continuing tradition on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of After Hours is ready to bring you news, interviews and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people. Here at 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 closets. 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 a 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, it's Jimmy with After Hours queer radio with attitude heard every week on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station, right around midnight right after the news. We've got an exciting show tonight. Have you ever wondered about those romance ads? And how to deal with them and and what comes out of them and, and what kind of other things are involved? Well, we've got Shannon from the Houston press tonight, he's going to tell you all about it coming up. And later on, Rod Nash is supposed to be here, talking about his new play 12 Steps to a more dysfunctional family. Part Three. Done, he's done part one, and he's done the Christmas thing. And now he's done. Part three, this ought to be fun. It's playing at stages. So you can come call five to stage For ticket information and prices and all of that kind of good stuff. We've got music, we've got some some taped interviews later on in the show. And second half of the show. We're supposed to have LuJack LuJack Tyler, and you know, you never know what he's going to be bringing up. Let's go to a piece of music and then we're going to bring out Shannon, something that has been very controversial here by a woman who was always controversial. And like I said last week, I wish Michael Crawford was here so that he could pronounce her name Michelle. Ah, the day go, oh, cello. Hey, what do I know? But she's got a hot song called Leviticus, semicolon fagot. And I'm gonna play the long version because it's if you hear it on the radio elsewhere, you're going to hear the short version. You're never going to get to hear the album version. So by Michelle Leviticus, Faggot. Oh, yeah, Leviticus Faggot by Michelle. What was that again-.

S

Speaker 1 04:37

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J

Jimmy Carper 04:40

You just heard from Shannon who's going to tell us about the romance section of the Houston press. But before we get into that, I want to kind of set this up a little in the latest issue of OUT magazine. In here in here, opened up to like page 456. And you see MTV singled out, you know that that series they have on MTV where there's 50 women and one guy and he kind of X's them all out, while they're gonna have a gay version, gay and lesbian and right here is a form to fill out for girls a form to fill out for boys. So we're on MTV now. And I open up the twit this week in Texas. And I see Wow, Thursday, June 20th. Let's see. End of the Rainbow another romance event by popular demand candlelight in love songs. set the stage for new romance for you and your friends. Write a free 40 word romance ad to appear in the Houston press register for a trip for today in New Orleans courtesy of advanced travel I mean this whole deal it Jr's somewhere along the lines, the bars kind of are taking second place to meeting people and starting the romance thing. And I mean, if you look in the back, there's the other end of the spectrum, which was all of the the 900 numbers. But romance. Shannon, why don't you fill us in on on the romance thing about what I remember most about about personal ads is about four or five years ago, there's this big brouhaha about the green sheet would not accept ads from same sex. Correct. Correct. And the gay community was up in arms and and now you can't even find a green sheet. Like I bet a lot of people are going on with the hills of green, because you can't find one in the Montrose.

S

Speaker 2 07:00

Yes. Part of what we do at the Houston press and part of why we are targeting more towards the gay community with a romance section like this because we were receiving letters from the gay community asking us why we didn't promote more why we didn't do more things for the gay community. Yeah. And that's really that's really why I'm here tonight to help promote it to help promote our service to explain how it works. And just to let the gay community know that there is a fun, safe, easy way to get out and meet people.

J

Jimmy Carper 07:39

Okay. When I think of personal ads, I think if some some maybe, I don't know, maybe the more sleazier publication and, and the ads are based on physical attributes and what you want to do sexually and, and then if you get involved and I have I have written, you know, to a couple of the more innocuous innocuous ones and and you find out, it's really people looking for sex, they're not looking for anything else.

S

Speaker 2 08:10

I really think that's the past of personal as I really do. Houston is such a big city. Oh, yeah, there's what four and a half million people here, over 100,000 are that 10% are the gay and lesbian community.

J Jimmy Carper 08:24

You know, I'll bet and for you say four and a half million, and statistics are 10%. But then in cities, I'll bet it's a lot higher because people from the revenue come in. So I bet I bet a half a million people.

S Speaker 2 08:38

So definitely, that's very possible. Our like, like I was saying our main goal here is to help promote meeting for people you know, and it's a safe, easy way. It's not it's not some trashy gross sex bang, we're not a 900 line.

J Jimmy Carper 08:54

I've read some of the ads and well, it's professionals.

S Speaker 2 08:58

I mean, you really be really surprised. You said, I mean, it's the fourth largest city in America, it's hard to meet people.

J Jimmy Carper 09:04

I mean, people are busy. They work, you know, you can't go out every night of the week and who wants to do that's true. And there are a lot of us who are not comfortable in a bar setting. Exactly. We don't drink or, or maybe we're alcoholics and we don't want to be around liquor, or we just don't like the taste of it.

S Speaker 2 09:21

Or it's too loud. Laugh. Right, exactly. And that's like I said, That's what our whole service is for. And our service covers the whole spectrum gays straights, you know, and we invite everyone to come to every event that we have, you know, we don't exactly what-.

J Jimmy Carper 09:38

What event are you what are these event things? I thought you were talking about personal life. Like well, we have events every week, we have two, two gay and lesbian events a month. Which again, like I say, these are not strictly gay and lesbian events. These are not strictly straight events. Everyone is invited. You know, we open across the board. We want everyone to come and have a good time. because that is what our service is for, it's for everyone. And it's very, we monitor very strictly, we make sure that nothing as far as we can control is going to go wrong with we, whenever you place an ad, if you were to place an ad, we would give you a

voicemail box, you would leave a message on there, we would check your voicemail box to make sure that you hadn't said anything that was either offensive, incriminating, like where you worked, or your home phone number or anything like that, just for your safety. Yeah. Now, whenever people call into your voicemail box to leave you a message, that that is when they leave you their phone number, and you choose whether or not you want to call them back. Oh, and it's a very, you can tell like right away whether or not you're gonna want to call somebody back. But it's a fun, it's just fun to do, you know, you place an ad, you get 15 calls back. And oh, yeah. Was it all done by phone? All done by phone? Remember, in the old days, you know, you would like send a letter.

 Speaker 2 11:02

Now nothing is done in writing. It's all done by phone. Okay. You know, the best way.

 Jimmy Carper 11:06

It's a lot more immediate, right?

 Speaker 2 11:08

Right. The best way I found when I place ads is I place my ad, I get my calls. You know, I weigh whether or not I really want to talk to these people. And I talked to him two or three times before we actually set up a date. Our dates usually end up or like a date for me usually ends up at a coffee house. I have a specific one that I go to. I know people who work there.

 Jimmy Carper 11:29

Crossroads would be-.

 Speaker 2 11:31

The they have that nice. Exactly, exactly. Our last event was that crossroad. Oh, and it was very successful. We had a great time there. Anyway, getting back to the dating part of it. I always like I said, I always meet at one certain place, you know, very safe, if I feel any way threatened, then I can get out of the situation, you know, but it's always to me, it's always best, you know, to be as straightforward as possible with these people, because they also nine times out of 10. They also are looking for basically the same thing you're looking for. Even if you don't click, you know, they're still kind of on the same wavelength you are. And that's really what we're trying to do.

 Jimmy Carper 12:09

Wow. Okay, so. So this is the immediacy thing. Well, first of all, you have a written ad, right in the press. And then the immediacy thing of calling and leaving a message. Yes. And they call

you back and you can meet and then there's the events, which are, how does that work? Is it just for people who write ads?

 Speaker 2 12:31

Or no, everyone can come to an event everyone is invited to come to it. We know about this, you know, we advertised Yeah, we advertise them weekly in the press. Like this week for this week's event coming up, Jr's is advertised in the twit. It's, we try to advertise as much as possible at least two weeks in advance for our events, okay, at the events, you can, you can place a free 40 word romance ad, you can get help writing it from a romance writers like myself, the editors. And then you just get to mix and mingle with the other people who are there, we always have to appraise it. We always have refreshments. We always have to, you know, and even at crossroads, we had a fabulous entertainer. She's saying, wow. And it was just you know, they're just a good fun time.

 Jimmy Carper 13:19

I noticed you have one of the pages of the page.

 Speaker 2 13:24

Yes, I do have a couple of ads I wanted to read just these are a couple that kind of caught my eye. And it just helps give people an idea. If they've never read the press, they've never read the romance section, or they have no idea what a romance ad is, just to let them know. This one is in men seeking men and it's one of my favorites. It's titled as postmodern paradigm, postmodern world, creating havoc with your multifaceted identity. Do you recognize that dichotomies rule? Artistic wedding, introspective, outgoing, 24 year old seeking cynical, idealistic 25 to 35 year old to puzzle out conundrums on dance floors in coffee houses or before VCR.

 Jimmy Carper 14:06

I like the cynical idealistic well.

 Speaker 2 14:11

And that's what's fun about this is that you can really, really have a good time writing these ads. If and if you like I said, we're there to help you write them if you can't get your point across what you want to say. That's what we're here for. We help you out a lot. So we have one for women seeking women, which I really liked to title a surfer girls. Where are you this educated? 34 Gay white female is looking for boogie boarding and surfing lesbians. Wednesdays and weekends Galveston South Padre and maybe Mexico must have own equipment for this endless summer. Take a breath and let's go hey.

J Jimmy Carper 14:44

That's that's getting your interests in there. Exactly. And create kind of creates excitement in that. Exactly.

S Speaker 2 14:50

It's you know, it's just, it's a lot of fun.

J Jimmy Carper 14:54

I bet you might, you'll probably even if you don't get the mister right here people you meet and make friends. Well, you make friends you do and people who, who have similar interests.

S Speaker 2 15:05

Exactly, we have hard to come by. And we have a certain, we have kind of a certain following that come to all of our events. And they're, they're always at our events, they're, you know, good, normal, nice people who just need a way to get out, you know, to get out and meet people. And these are people who I've been working these events for a year. And I know all these people now. And if I see them, when I'm out, you know, these are people that I come up and talk to them.

J Jimmy Carper 15:34

Wow. Well, you know, on this show, Scott, and Howard actually together, or someone initiated a husband hunt along. And people would call in and they would, you know, talk about their interests and what they were looking for. And other people would call in, we tried to match people up, it was kind of the only couple we got together were two women, which is kind of strange, since they named it the Husband Husband. And these two women are still together to this day. But the but nobody else seemed to really click or anything like that. And pretty soon after the months went, it kind of disintegrated right into a sexual thing. How do you keep this from happening? In your line of work? You said, You've been there a year now and and it's still very up and, and very romance? Well, that's rather than the sex.

S Speaker 2 16:32

Exactly. Well, that's what we're there for. We were very dignified at the eastern press, you know, we don't want it to degenerate into something trashy, and that's just not that's just not what it is. It is about romance. And that's what that's what really what the events are for we trying to make them fun, you know, cute, play little games, you know, do whatever, to really make it an enjoyable piece of work for it.

J Jimmy Carper 16:57

Okay? So if I go to Jr's on what, Thursday, Thursday morning, from six to nine, what can I expect when I walk in the door?

 Speaker 2 17:07

Well, you're going to expect some fabulous food first of all, from and you know, I've forgotten who's giving the food this week. Got it right here. Kevin, okay. Oh, wow. Yes, yes. Very, very good. You can expect to possibly win Greece tickets or a trip or to New Orleans, which is also fun. And you can sing karaoke to your heart's content. Ah, yeah. Which is, which is a really big, big night for us or Jr's events are always a lot of fun. And it's because of the karaoke.

 Jimmy Carper 17:44

I really think so. Will there be like a table set up? If I want to write an ad?

 Speaker 2 17:49

Yes, there will, will be on the Santa Fe side of the bar. We'll have several tables set up, we'll have one big table where you can find me working. And the rest of the ad writers will be walking through the crowd. And you like I said, you know, we're there to help you. And there are people I mean, everywhere right now it's in there. It's like amazing clipboards for you, you know, and we're always people are always floating around helping you out, you know, and it's just a lot of fun.

 Jimmy Carper 18:20

That does sound like fun. Oh, yeah. We really, really enjoy it. Even if you don't like karaoke. It sounds like fun.

 Speaker 2 18:26

That way you know, it's always fun to watch, you know? Again, like I said, we have a whole group of people that come over to our Jr's events, because they want to sing karaoke. Oh, no kidding. So that's really, you know, that's really a live heard that is wildly popular. Oh, it is? Oh, it's great.

 Jimmy Carper 18:43

I've attended one and a lot of it is fun. It is fun. Even if, if you want to dish the person up on the stage, you know.

 18:52

It's it's still well, you know, it wouldn't be karaoke. If you got up there and sing like Barbra Streisand. Well, you got to get up there and sing bad.

J Jimmy Carper 19:00

Karaoke and emote?

S Speaker 2 19:05

No, of course.

J Jimmy Carper 19:08

So what were the what are some of the things you've done in the past? You said, we have at the Crossroads.

S Speaker 2 19:15

Crossroads we've had our Valentine's event this year for the lesbian community. Was it Riches? Oh, that was a great, that was a great event. We've had pretty big venue there. Yes, it is. It is we pull in a lot of people when we have a big event like that. We had won the village brewery a couple of months back, which was a very popular event for us. And that's a strike. Yes, it is. Yes, it is. And that's what we try to do. We try to have like a club event or a larger event and then a smaller, more intimate event, whether it's at a straight venue or not. And that's that's another reason why we're here to try to bring the community out. Yeah, get you out of the Montrose area. All right people where we have Jr's Sure. Okay, sure. We have the mixed thing, right? We have people who follow us, you know, it's not. That is not what it's-.

J Jimmy Carper 20:11

What you're right. Yeah, it's not the separation here. And we're striving for exactly what I think the community as a whole striving for what you're providing is, it's made exactly gay and lesbian romance very ordinary, just like-.

⌚ 20:26

Wxactly just like, you know, just like the straight.

J Jimmy Carper 20:28

That's, that does equal and, and, and not to get up in arms and all that and when people are not excited about the prospect of two dating or two women dating, then we will find except-.

S

Speaker 2 20:43

Exactly. Well, you know, I mean, everyone deserves love. And, you know, we try to stay as far away from a political point of view, I can understand that it's possible because that's not what we're doing. Yeah.

J

Jimmy Carper 20:55

In the way you're very political.

S

Speaker 2 20:59

Well, I'm gonna come in lots of ways to writing begins, right? Yes, exactly. And that's, that's a very nice one. That's a very nice. Well, it's like I said, everybody needs love, you know, fans can hurt. You know. Let me take a second to mention a couple of upcoming events. Sure. We are going like we're going to be at Jr's on the 28th from six to nine. We will be participating in the Pride Parade this year, which is a pretty big deal for us. I'm really excited about that and we're going to have a table at the Pride festival right offering information and if you want to place your free ad you can then-.

J

Jimmy Carper 21:38

We will be at that's on the 23rd Sunday.

S

Speaker 2 21:42

On July 3 We will have our Independence Day celebration at Revis which is the new Riva is on Missouri. Oh, they're finally Oh, yes, they're open. It's gorgeous, too gorgeous space. It's gonna be a lot of fun when they are they have they opened open two weeks ago. Oh, okay. I missed the grand opening. Absolutely beautiful spacing, the sign and oh, yeah, it's great. And it's just, it's just gonna be a lot a lot of fun. And on the 25th we are going to have July we're going to have a our kind of coffee and jazz event at cafes on no down on Westheimer and Sheppard. Yeah. So I'm really looking forward to that one. That's gonna be a nice, fun event. And it's going to be later in the evening for about eight to 11. So the after work crowd can get a chance to go home and change and then come up just for a nice relaxing evening with some really, really spiffy words. That's what we're that's what we're going for Aussie. Yeah, exactly. I like that. Exactly. What do I have to do to keep updated on here, because all you have to do is either pick up a press every week, look in the romance section, you can call 64 1414. That is our 24 hour romance line, you will hear when you call that my Boston lane, talking about the upcoming events, what's going on. And then you will be able to record a message for us stating what you would like to say on your hands. Always free of course. 40 words free \$1 over every word over 41 Make that clear. You can call me at 64 147 If you have questions about the gay and lesbian romance section, that's my job to you know, to be there to create these events and answer your questions. Or you can come to an event. Place your ad.

J Jimmy Carper 23:40

Okay, so if happen if I want to place an ad right now, what do I do?

23:44

You want to place an ad right now, you would say Shannon, I'm ready to place an ad and we would sit down right now and figure it all out.

J Jimmy Carper 23:50

Okay, what were the find that home listening right now,

S Speaker 2 23:53

You would call it 24 hour line called 641414. And that's where you can record a message. What you do when you do that is you call you say what you want to say. And then we would transfer that into the paper then we will call you with your numbers for how to retrieve your messages. Oh. Also, like I said during regular business hours, which are eight to five, Monday through Friday, you can reach a romance writer, Virginia, Elaine or myself at 64 1414. And from six to nine every evening. There are late night crew. Oh, no kidding. So you can almost always in between eight o'clock in the morning and nine o'clock at night. Speak to a live person. Whoa.

J Jimmy Carper 24:40

Okay, that's probably without one the date and time. Yeah, really,

S Speaker 2 24:45

My recommendation is if it's the first time for you come to an event, come to an event, see what it's about. Okay. Because that really that's where you really figure out whether or not you know, writing a romance ad is for you. And I can do that on June 20. Yes.

J Jimmy Carper 25:00

You can see this coming Thursday six to nine at Jr's. We all know where that is 808 Pacific or there abouts.

S Speaker 2 25:10

You can't be there. Come to the Pride festival up there.

J

Jimmy Carper 25:13

That's right. You know, everyone out there will be at Pride fest. So I hope Oh yeah. Right outside the window here. Oh yeah, just gonna be packed. So yeah. Wonderful. Well, Shannon, thanks for coming. All right. Well, you've opened my eyes. Great. That's what we're here for. So I hope we can have you on again and about how it's going and maybe introduce some people who met through your service.

S

Speaker 2 25:42

Lots of success stories. I'll bet we have lots of them.

J

Jimmy Carper 25:47

Okay, Lou, Jack Tyler's in the house. And in the meantime, how about that new group Imperial drag live. I don't know if they're gay or not. But they have this great song called boy or girl. And I did find that Imperial teen CD. I'll be playing that later. Right now Imperial drag boy or girl and you're hearing it on after hours. Queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station. I like that tune. It's called boy or girl. It's by a group called Imperial drag. It got good comments on that song. When I played it last week. During the week, I ran into some people who heard the show and really liked it. And the rest of the CD is is about the same. It's all that kind of good rock and roll stuff. Pure real drag. Tom is in the house, Tom Richards. And he wants to talk about his party coming up. Because I mean, we have been talking about it. This is this is a big fundraiser. This is your 20th anniversary in in gay life.

T

Tom Richards 27:03

Yes. Coming out. Coming out. Open it again. Yeah, open the guy. And yeah, I thought it was what I want to do is invite the staff and the friends of after hours. Ah, to come to the party to be this next Saturday, the day before the parade. At two o'clock in the afternoon. Okay, we'll be there. And we're going to be a barbecue and a swim party. Okay. And I live in an apartment complex that is 98%. Clear. Where else would I live? I don't mind working with them. Honey. I just don't want to live with my hat.

J

Jimmy Carper 27:55

Thank you, Tom.

T

Tom Richards 27:57

But anyway, it's Saturday started around two o'clock. And it's my 20th anniversary coming up party. It was was 21 years ago. group of us met downtown at the old exile bar. I remember it. Yeah. And we marched down. We went from there down Main Street. And then we cut back

over and come back down to exile. And that was the first Pride March. It wasn't a parade. There was no floats and no bands. None of that no flag waving just a bunch of, of just a bunch of quarters in the string loudmouth down and that's what we were hauling off the sidewalk and into the street. Yes. And we're bad carts in there, about 250 300 of us.

J Jimmy Carper 28:45

And pretty. That's pretty good.

T Tom Richards 28:46

That was the showing. Jimmy that was the best thing I've ever had in my life.

J Jimmy Carper 28:50

Oh, why now? It took me a little bit more than that. It took me about 10 years later for me. But what a liberating experience is a liberating experience.

T Tom Richards 29:03

It'll be a barbecue, it'll be a barbecue and swim party. Okay. And so and the address is to 19 Marshall. Now, it's what we're going to do is we have somebody from PWA that's going to be there. And we're asking for a donation of how to \$5 Okay, yeah. And that'll be collected by the people from PWA. And they'll take with them when they leave. Okay. And but we feel that they deserve it. You bet. Yeah, very much.

J Jimmy Carper 29:36

So CWA coalition does a lot of good in this town.

T Tom Richards 29:39

The the place will you are I'm not going to tell you how we're going to decorate but it is going to be totally clear. It will be faster. Yeah, it will be and we want you feel free to bring a special friend, a lover companion, whatever, you know, but but we want you to bring him and and that and those of you who would like to come and may be in the closet don't worry about Westmoreland square it's gate in and you can be free and gay if you want and their security gate get and they are secure gate and I guarantee you that nobody will say anything to you in there or they will probably find and ground in the pool with-

J Jimmy Carper 30:25

-anyone nice friendly group.

T

Tom Richards 30:27

Oh yes, yes. But what we want you to come by and enjoy yourself and, and especially the friends and staff of WebDriver since this is my this is my favorite radio show. Thanks. But that's that's more or less what I wanted to talk to you about. Okay, and to make the announcement and, and, and you all are welcome. Most welcome. It's this Saturday at two o'clock to night teen martial arts Westmoreland square. I'll be there. Okay. It's just behind the high rise one street back behind the high rise that yeah, Alabama. Exactly. Yeah. And it's 219 Marshall. Okay.

J

Jimmy Carper 31:15

Thanks, Tom. We love you. Okay. Well, tomorrow is Father's Day and you know, trying to pick appropriate music. It was a little tough, but I found the piece and it's, I have no idea the sexual orientation of the guy who wrote it. His name is Bill Ward. And it was from a tape that I found here in the at the station just hanging around. And it just it's got a kind of a country flavor to it, but it's a very simple metal medley mellow mellow D I gotta get fix it in. And I think I kind of like it as a universal it's even if your name isn't William or your father's name wasn't William it's a kind of some nice words here. It's a nice Father's Day song. Bill Ward singing William is our name-.