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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

disco ball, community, fun, roy, gay, pride parade, leather, lesbian, great, thinking, picture, stonewall, folks, amazing, thrown, lost, triangle, street, turn, float

## SPEAKERS

Roy McCarthy, Chris

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 Chris 00:00

And then they, they walked in front of the truck and carried it. And they had a pride flag with them. And they were doing lesbian flag realize they would run a lap around the float and hand the flag off to another one. And they did this repeatedly throughout the parade. That's cool. And I was thinking we were gonna get shirts made last next year that says, I want the stamina of a lesbian. All of us, I mean, everyone else in the parade and were ones that were waving actually just standing on the float throwing things. Were dead tired. When we got there, and they were still out running around. They shuttled ever helped shuttle people back to get their cars over at the middle school. We looked at we had a big shade for a

 Roy McCarthy 00:49

I was amazed at the size of the crowd. It was it was the biggest crowd I ever seen.

 Chris 00:57

I'll say one thing. I was a little scared of the beginning because it was really thin. where we were.

 Roy McCarthy 01:03

We weren't. We came in started off at the seams by YouTube.

 Chris 01:06

Yeah, we came through not the hazard entrance. We were one street down. hazards. The main one the first one no Woodhead. Woodhead, yeah. Okay, we went on the backside Alinea we came through, and it was kind of thin, and I'm sitting there going, Oh, my God is anybody there

is anyone there. And then by the time we got done, we were telling people to be careful, because we had lights that extended out to the maximum of the limit, shining up on our display. And by the time we got down there was like, Okay, people look out, look out, you're gonna get hit by these lights. Jimmy scared the hell out of us. We're telling them Look out, you're gonna get hit by this thing. And he stood there. And it just cleared him. I mean, his hair just goofed up a little bit. And it was like, You're going to kill us if you keep doing that.

R Roy McCarthy 01:57

Oh, my goodness. It was it was

C Chris 01:59

loads of fun. And I was teasing around there because of the way this play this play was was gonna grab someone and we were going to do a titanic king of the world kind of stance there. But it was loads of fun doing that and seeing everyone's reaction to the, to the music. And just the lights and the spectacle of the whole event. I've got some pictures I took there, especially with the ball.

R Roy McCarthy 02:28

Oh, yeah, the disco ball, not just Western, I

C Chris 02:31

will admit. And I can say this now with Jackman not being here. I was a little worried when last night I was here for the trial run. And we're sitting there we're looking at and stop and go parking lot on the end of a cherry picker. And it didn't have any lights on it or anything. They just brought it out, blew it up and go. Whoo. And we were a little worried weren't sure how they were gonna hold it up the hair and how it was gonna do. But it was real

R Roy McCarthy 02:55

shiny. And that disco ball came to us courtesy of macro smack Gallery Furniture. They donated.

C Chris 03:04

I know he donated the crane last year I didn't know. Yes. But it was it was neat seeing the trial run because you can't see it close up. You could frantically go up and touch it at one point it was it was on the ground, it was close to the ground, you can really see. And then within all lit up in that and the people over chances did did throw us for a loop. They kept shining a spotlight down the road. And we kept getting blind and we thought it was the ball and I go, it can't be the ball because you have to make that turn. And that's the great thing about having the winding street that we have that when you get to the disco ball. It's kind of like you're

coming up and you get right there at that turn that horrible turn it chances across from Hollywood Video. And you make that turn and all of a sudden, you've got that huge ball sitting there.

 Roy McCarthy 03:51

No, you know what, I cannot see a disco ball anymore. I can't even hear the word disco ball without thinking about that new story you did a few months back about Boy George and his disco ball. When I was caught him knocking. But I mean, disco Devo was getting done with it. Let's go, Oh, that

 Chris 04:15

would have been fabulous. He said. It is just loads of fun with the pride parade. And I will I remember throwing one bit of somber little heads up and we're getting some new information on here of a special kind of town hall meeting seminar, which is going to be coming up here in a couple of weeks. And we're hoping to have more information on it. Right now is proposed is going to be Monday, July 17.

 Roy McCarthy 04:42

Town Hall meeting on hate crime.

 Chris 04:47

And this is this is being done by the community Senator Ray Hill. And cube patrol is going to be helping out with it. And it's basically a memory of Paul Broussard. Although we're sitting here talking about pride and all that, a lot of people in the community remember the events that come about, on our nation's independence, of the tragedy that occurred in our community that really brought us together. Eight years ago, nine years ago, it's 91. And we're gonna, when we get more information on that, we're gonna definitely pass that on to you. And it's, we think it's gonna be very informative with a lot of resources. Because yes, it is a time for pride. We did have a report tonight that there was somebody out there who was not happy to be it wasn't in the community for fun. He used was shouting out some words out of his car, and three of them, we can't say three of them. We can't say on the air. Well,

 Roy McCarthy 05:50

you know, we also had the Reverend Phelps type people out there at the beginning of the parade.

 Chris 05:58

Yeah. But when I saw him, and then we brought back, brought Jimmy back and we drove past

him. And his reaction when seeing it was just this, this cackling and I'm really I kind of silly it. Like, like I said earlier, they're the one sign that said, turn or burn. If they were still out there. I told everyone, we're just going to go around. And we're just going to do one little pure wet front of them. We're turning is this better now? No. And there was a couple of the people that one of our people on the float. She said, look out because of those protesters there. I'm grabbing the first lesbian around me and planting a big one. Strangely enough, they everyone kind of they were kind of moved to the back of the float there.

R

Roy McCarthy 06:44

Well, there was kind of amazing because I was looking for him when our flu went by, and they were nowhere to be seen. We were towards the end, right? Yeah, we were 106.

C

Chris 06:55

Yeah. Now we were at 47. And they were already gone. But they were still out there at seven. When we we drove down West time or they were just starting to shut everything down. It was actually about 715 720. So basically, I almost like want to say Don't you people know the parade starts at nine. But actually, there was one protester. I don't know if you saw this, who was setting up for a m yesterday morning. And the good thing about it was it was a gay rights protester. Over on the I don't know what to refer to it as but the memorial Esplanade? I mean, when the Kim Herat memorial was at the Princess Diana memorial was at the new some new memorial out there now. If you saw it today, yeah, that was him. That was he went out he was out there. I drove by there four o'clock this morning. He was setting up these the tall candle. Yeah. To describe him back to the best Hispanic votive candles, the tall ones forming a triangle. And when I came down this afternoon, about one o'clock, he was sitting at the apex of the triangle with a sign that said support gay and lesbian rights. And for a minute, I looked at like, Oh, he's got a god awful looking pink hat on. And then when I saw him later, it wasn't a pink hat. It was a flamingo. On his head. He was wearing a stuffed Flamingo as a hat.

R

Roy McCarthy 08:37

Oh my. Well, no, no, no, Chris, if I can walk around in my yellow shorts with this little beside, I guess this guy can walk around with a stuffed Flamingo on his head.

W

08:46

We didn't say you. You should or could walk around. But there's yellow shorts. In fact, just the opposite.

C

Chris 08:53

That is why cube Patrol has fashion citations. Oh,

R Roy McCarthy 08:56

okay. And we've done a whole book tours on those we

C Chris 09:00

were teasing when we were out of season with some of that said we should have had two types of fashion citations while we were out there. One was a fashion no and over for people who shouldn't be wearing what they're wearing. And another one for people who shouldn't be wearing anything. Ah, it was funny. Jimmy was out there with our float. And I told him, I walked up to him and I go half naked Sean Carter. And I figured he would click immediately. Just those four words. He didn't click I had to turn them around. And then all of a sudden he heard what I said it was like 20 seconds later he turns around he goes oh a half naked Shawn Carter. Now

R Roy McCarthy 09:40

if you want to see a full naked, Shawn Carter, you need to get your drawing little fun buns over to the Bienvenu theater to see naked boys singing because Shawn Carter is naked. Singing he is a naked boy singing and yes, it is full frontal nudity.

C Chris 10:00

others certainly nice to see you only in this community, can you have truth in advertising? Naked voice singing is naked voice singing?

R Roy McCarthy 10:06

That's right.

C Chris 10:07

So go down. It's not just Shawn. It's a whole ensemble correct

R Roy McCarthy 10:11

is a whole, a whole ensemble.

C Chris 10:14

Have you seen the?

R Roy McCarthy 10:15



Roy McCarthy 10:10

I've seen the ensemble I haven't. They came to the caucus meeting last month, and did a little bit of a show. But they were fully dressed.



Chris 10:25

Saying so you saw the whole ensemble, but you didn't see the whole ensemble? I



Roy McCarthy 10:29

saw the whole ensemble, but I did not see the whole ensemble. Now getting back to you. You met the LI a group a lesbian? Yes. This is a group I've been wanting to profile on at first, can you tell us a little bit about them?



Chris 10:48

Well, actually, we've got a better way of doing that. Okay, we are trying to put together and they are the first group that we've asked for next week's show, for after hours and next generation, we're hoping we're going to have some representatives of less gray in



Roy McCarthy 11:04

action, hey, that'd be fantastic. To find out



Chris 11:07

more. It's, it's basically a support and fun and social group for lesbians in their 20s and early 30s. And they meet down with community center, they have a large group of events planned. If you stopped by the community center just see their, their calendars throughout the place. I don't have their email address with me. But like I said, we're gonna be talking talking to some of them here next week. And it was I mean, there was a group we were just looking at him going. And Maria energy, President of the Community Center, looked at me over at one time and she goes, Oh, to be 25 again. And I go, you know, I'm not that far from 45. And I wish I was like 25 because it was they, I mean, they were enthused and pepped afterwards. And we were just sitting, a group of us were just, like, dead. I mean, there were hatchlings that were inside the community center, recovering with ice packs on their foreheads trying to cool down. And here are these members of from Leah. And they were just having a ball, they were giving out floral lays, so they kept going around people going you just got laid by Leah.



Roy McCarthy 12:24

got laid by Leah. And it was just I was a fun parade. And I love lesbians with a good sense of humor. Oh, it sounds like they ever a fantastic

C

Chris 12:33

it was. It was a it was a great group. And because because of all that, like, when we were playing in the music, when we hit down in front of chances there, we had to play I am woman and it was like, everything around us was rockin at the time. And it was a it was a great event. And I tell you this, I was thinking about it beforehand. And I'm thinking think about it afterwards. I think it's time KPFT gets back into pride float.

R

Roy McCarthy 12:57

Yes, I would like to see that happen. And I think that there is a possibility that it can happen again. But that

C

Chris 13:05

together, I at least four or five wore a hat with a sticker on it. I don't know where it fell off at but when I got down to the community center, I did not have my sticker on anymore. I

R

Roy McCarthy 13:15

want to move this a little bit different here. And mentioned how that I'm out at work. I mean, I can't do what I do. And be closeted. I'm here on the radio with the caucus

C

Chris 13:28

and honey, I don't think you could be in a closet. I don't make them that big. Especially now being a ladies and gentlemen, if you have not picked up a Texas triangle, I have to I have to break a segue here to big Roy McCarthy here is a centerfold model. It

R

Roy McCarthy 13:43

took me till I was 50 years old to become a senator vote. But yes.

C

Chris 13:48

And I don't know what that says about the triangle that big Roy? He was a centerfold. I guess they were desperate. But that's a large article there on big Roy's past and the history of our community. And so make sure you pick up one of those. Pick up one of the triangles they're hearing about and I already have mine at home. Oh, you do? Yeah. You've replaced the picture I have on my Dark Horse. Oh, dang.

R

Roy McCarthy 14:15



ROY McCARTHY 14.15

I kind of figured that with you do it with. I knew you was not going to let I told I even told you as Jimmy. You know, he's really going to let me have it.



Chris 14:23

Well, I picked up the triangle and I look at the cover and I go, this can't be about big boy. Can't be about big boy because the cover says I survived Stonewall. And then I flipped to the inside. There's a picture of Roy and I go How did he pull this off?



14:43

And I'm going I'm sorry, I'm doing things in here.



Chris 14:46

We're just we're discussing the centerfold model here. Yes. And it's like, I'm looking at that and I'm going we're not going to get Roy's head through the door.



14:58

Actually, we want to talk to Roy and The next segment Oh, we do? Yes we do. I



Chris 15:01

want to say this. Yeah, somehow, some way. If you're here, if you're listening to the voice if someone from the voice Okay, get my picture in there again. Because I mean, Jimmy was in the in the paper three times last week. Roy was in here. I just want to ask one favor. If you put my picture in the voice again, don't use that severely cropped picture use the last time. A person in my size does not need their face cut in their framed at the IRS.



15:33

Or Jay, did you talk about Ray Hills show? No. That's playing at the Ashlyn theater? No, yes. Cuz I heard you talking 2600 block of Ashlynn. Talking about unless it's a wonderful, wonderful show. No, he doesn't. Well, he isn't I am. It is a wonderful show. It's the best he's ever done.



Chris 15:59

And the outlets outlook were like Ray Hill is the story of before his gay activism Correct. Back in the early days when he was early days of activism. Early days. I have seen only one of his show. I got to see the tail end for some reason of Ray Hill and the sex police. And well, that was

the best part. Oh, yes. When I heard it was getting to that part. I just had I had to slip in into the room there and see the magic bag. I see. Yes.

R

Roy McCarthy 16:29

Well, you know, I'll tell you what, folks, this pride parade is of national renown.

o

16:38

Oh, yes. Like how was the first night nighttime Pride Parade? I think there's one place in Australia. No, no, I think there's one place in the US. Who did one last year. I don't know if they did win this year. I haven't heard okay. I don't know where it is. Well, what the Florida okay.

c

Chris 16:58

There's one way we can tell when we finally have made it. Yes. When pictures of our pride parade are featured on the 700 Club.

o

17:07

Yes, that's when we'll make it. Tired

c

Chris 17:10

of those. No offense to our next segment. I'm tired of those two Leatherman from San Francisco who have been on the 700 club for 15 years now.

R

Roy McCarthy 17:20

I'm sorry, they would their gay agenda is out.

c

Chris 17:23

To get you they need to find a new group to show up to showcase are the evil tendencies we have. So they need to come down to our night parade.

R

Roy McCarthy 17:34

Okay, we're getting the wrap up. We're getting the wrap up finger the squirrely finger curly fingers. Do the twirly fingers is that

C

Chris 17:41

another twirly finger but oh,

R

Roy McCarthy 17:43

that sounds like fun.

W

17:44

Yeah, please do that elsewhere.

C

Chris 17:49

Not even with rainbows hand.

W

17:51

twirly fingers got your twirly for that. Okay, well,

C

Chris 17:56

if you want to send us news information stories, go ahead and say it Roy. Again.

R

Roy McCarthy 18:03

Are your dirty pictures you can email

C

Chris 18:04

us at after hours. kpft@hotmail.com and Jimmy that was real subtle.

R

Roy McCarthy 18:16

live radio

C

Chris 18:18

playing music over



18:19

No. Something I'm experimenting with here in the control room. Don't pay no attention to the man in the control room.



Roy McCarthy 18:26

We do we ever know. Okay, well that's it for this week's edition. Thanks a lot for listening. We'll be back next week with more and insanity. And that's it folks.



18:52

Now some music by request and right after that. We'll have the leather line with Jim's Rohini and Ken Claude



19:08

Oh yeah, Romanovsky and Phillips with give me a homosexual. And it's time for the leather line. Jim, how you doing?



19:17

Great. It's great to be back here.



19:19

Yes. I missed you last last month.



19:21

I heard it was a really good show. Yeah,



19:23

we had fun. We did have fun effect when you were doing it. I



19:25

was flying back from Denmark. Gosh,



19:28

gosh. Oh, boy. Was that fun. The three of them it was I was in hog heaven is because duck Stevens has been an idol of mine since the 93 march and to have him here in the studio with Charlie Pacheco and Patrick Haggerty, who put out the first country and western openly gay album. All right, which the editor of country the C and W journal and has asked for a copy for the archives because it was the first one. That's cool. That's cool beans



20:09

from I have to get a tape from you that



20:13

that was great. That was just great. And can either thank you for that phone call. That was great. That was fun. That was fun. You know, I was listening to it just the other day because I was making a tape for somebody. Probably you and I didn't bring it and it's like, okay, men downstairs got to go by.



20:36

It was amazing. I tried to call you from downstairs so that you could actually hear what was going on, but I couldn't hear the phone ringing. Wow. And then getting grabbed and groped.



20:48

Gee, yeah, that must be terrible. Hi, yah, yah, yah, yah. And I bet I just the smell of leather. I mean that many men together and very heavy. So what are we up to tonight, folks?



21:07

First you want to say who won? IML when you?



21:11

Yeah, actually, Mike Taylor. He was Mr. Heartland leather he won. It's amazing how that contest swings back and forth. They go from a a colt type model spokesperson to a regular guy, then this guy this year, he had some meat on his bones, which isn't a bad thing. A lot of people didn't really find him the most attractive representative. He did, however, have a lot of activism behind him and a lot of enthusiasm onstage.



21:46

Yeah, it's not it's this is not a beauty contest, folks. I mean, you got to have brains behind it,



21:51

you really need to have the whole package able to function with this. And he had an incredible amount of energy. It was amazing to watch him. I was a little bit disappointed that Mark Frazier from Dallas did not place in the top three, I really thought he was going to be there. But he did a very good job representing Texas. And I saw him later in the hotel. And he was a little dejected. He had gone through a personal loss about three weeks prior when he lost his mother.



22:20

Okay. Things happened.



22:22

I don't really have time to grieve with that. Yeah,



22:24

he must have just hit him immediately. Yes.



22:27

He said, I really need to shut down and deal with some things. Yeah, he did that. And he's back up and going. We have a fundraiser scheduled in Dallas for August for the leather Archives Museum, which I got to visit while I was there, though, what's been relocation yes, they just moved into their own building that they're purchasing. The goal is to burn the mortgage in 2004. There's 163 seat theater, in the building where they, they do a variety of functions there, the archives itself, it they didn't have everything out there where you could look at it. But they did have some displays out there. And it's amazing to go through the history of the leather tribe and see how it evolved. How everyone really started getting into it from when they came back from World War One. World War Two, yes, a lot of read that a lot of the restraints and things were on display, copies of restraint, all that. And it really got into detail about all of it. And there was pictorials from from Films Television. There was also a documentary that was playing continuously about the history of that movement and in our movement and it was it was just amazing to to witness that and see it. That's



23:54

amazing. I need to break in here and tell folks that they're listening to after hours, queer radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station. When you mentioned the video continuously running it reminded me that the opening of G cam Gulf Coast archives and

museum for gay lesbian, bisexual and transgendered history, Inc. That's a mouthful there. When we opened we did kind of the same thing. You know, we don't have that much yet, but did a timeline you know, follow it around the room and we had the video there of Larry Butler had filmed on real film. In 1979, parts of the baseball game or softball game that a gay group did with the Houston Police Department and the Houston Police Department damn near lost it, which is why they never had a rematch.



24:59

They probably rounded us all up and took us out on Tuesday.



25:04

But not Yeah, changed. But after that he had some film of the 80 and 81 Pride March here in Houston. And that was really incredible to watch. It was a whole different era back then, you know, we don't realize it because I guess change is so gradual in some cases, but and a lot of it was tough to watch, because of the many, many men who are not with us anymore exactly who were on that film



25:33

having having been there during that time having come to Houston at that time. It's, it's kind of incredible to look back on it and see how things have evolved and how things are much better now. Yeah, tonight was living proof of that. Absolutely. Great. Gray. That was breathtaking.



25:51

Speaking of speaking of history, yeah. You know, a lot of people, unfortunately, the younger generation, as we call them, don't always know why we celebrate gay pride,



26:02

especially in June when it's so hot. And



26:06

let us take you back to the year 1969. And June 28. Is to be a matter of fact, there. Stonewall in New York, and we got pig Roy still here. Hey, Brian. Hey, girl, I was amazed you were here. You were there?



Roy McCarthy 26:24

Yes, I was there. And I got that piece of meat is still there somewhere. Gotta chip off my head.

On the police baton.



26:36

Read. There's a really good article that that just came out this week in the Texas triangle. And there's a very good article, I wish everyone would get a copy of it and read it. It really makes you think of how often we take things for granted. Now we do. And when you were there, you have an interesting story about at first, you didn't understand what was happening. Did you



Roy McCarthy 27:01

know I really didn't understand exactly what it happened. I was asleep in. Okay, let me



27:11

backtrack a little bit set the stage here for us.



Roy McCarthy 27:15

I was my my first love my lover, Angel, Puerto Rican boy, he was getting ready to go to Columbia University in a couple of months, and he was going to be majoring in psychology and I was spending the summer with him. And I had gotten thrown out of my house when I was 16. And I was a male prostitute on the streets in New York City. And during that time, and at this time in June of 69, I was 18 years old, and I still had two more years of high school to go. But I had dropped out and but I was staying with with my lover. And when that he just comes running up and he says Roy Roy the the drag queens are writing the jaggery the writing and it's



28:15

important to location that you were at was where right across the street right



Roy McCarthy 28:19

across the street from the Stonewall Inn. I was not inside the Stonewall Inn, I was across the street. And when we got down, we were running downstairs and there was maybe like several other guys out there. The drag queens getting loaded up in the paddy wagons and somebody throws a high heel or brick or bottle or what



28:43

happened that was memorable for you.

R

Roy McCarthy 28:45

And I mean, if it's a high hill, I'm just I've always said gee, wouldn't have been so nice if it was a Ruby.

♂

28:54

The stiletto that rocked the world.

R

Roy McCarthy 28:56

Yes. I mean, it was called the hairpin hurt. It was called our Hairpin drop heard round the world. That's the that's the banner headline that the straight Media gave. You know, there was no game media, there was no voice or triangle or or advocate. I'm not sure if it was an advocate. Well, I know there was no advocate back east, maybe underground, you know, but the closest thing to to an alternative thing was to visit New York Village Voice, which was very alternative was still back then we were we were pariah. And we just started writing and nixing nine. Well, turning over cop car, setting it on fire. I mean, there's 10s of 1000s of us that had gotten in there and at one point I remember a cop had my lover in a headlock and He had the wooden baton in his hand and at the back end vitamin were at the base. I saw with my own two eyes go rapidly real hard fast across both eyes. And it's like blood gushing, was just just immediately. Gersh from my lover's faith now. I was not thinking gay pride, I was not thinking anything like that. At that moment, I just went berserk. This guy hurt me, he hurt my lover, he hurt me. You know, it's like you're not thinking politics at that time. There's only one thing on your mind. And that's to come to the defense and aid of your loved one. I mean, that's a very natural, very human nerve reaction. And I jumped up on the cops back, my legs wrapped around his chest and I snacks that really stick out of his hand and I started hitting him with it. A cop came up from behind me and hit me on the upper left side of my head with such force that it didn't hurt. It knocked me out real quick, for a brief moment. And a piece of my skull, just been flying off. Now. A police baton is supposedly made out of hickory wood, solid hickory. And solid hickory wood. Please, petard will not do that to you. It won't. It may break the bone. If it's hit over your head. If it hits like your forearm. It may possibly break that bone ever hits it at a 90 degree? Hard. But the head the skull is one of the hardest bones to damage, believe it or not. And it leads me to believe, which was a rumor that we had back in those days that those police batons were led lined. In other words, they were hollowed out and a lead rod just inserted in the center of those. And that would make sense to me.

♂

32:25

Set the mood though. I guess this happened because of everyone else that seems around you were getting their civil rights.

R

Roy McCarthy 32:37

Yes, well, Black Writing for their civil rights, Hispanic writing for civil rights. But there was a free love movement going on. There was an anti war thing going on. It was a very, the whole mood

of the country was a lot different than it is today. The year previous. The summer of 68. We had the police right in Chicago at the Democratic National Convention. And that was one in which people all over the world saw that. They saw the police go right there and snatch Walter Cronkite. And then right off the right over there right off the floor. You know, David Brinkley is reporting in his report is booth. And the police come in and just pull him right. They saw that nationwide. And this is what the you know, this was the



33:41

there was it all built up tension. There was



Roy McCarthy 33:43

a tension between the two groups. And well, for gay people, we had just lost Judy Garland. And the funeral in New York City was earlier that day. We were we're not allowed to attend our the queen of our of our lives. funeral. I mean, we talked now about Judy cart garland, you know, but back then, it was even more so. I mean, we really loved and respected Judy Garland. back then. And we were kind of bummed out. You know, as a community we were bummed out. And why in heaven's name, maybe I guess it was just a plain old routine rain.



34:34

Well, yeah, there's no such thing as routine but it just it's hard for us to imagine now. That Miss fear that was going on back then, because people weren't out.



Roy McCarthy 34:45

Well, you couldn't be out. There was no such thing as being out. Back then. If you and Ken had met, and I'm not talking about talking about money or anything like that, But you go off to your own home behind closed doors, and you try to kiss kin. And it can't had been a vice cop, just the act of trying to kiss him. Handcuffs gets slapped on you. You are arrested on morals charges, your picture, your home address, the place that you work are all published in the next day's paper. Also, back then, as a gay person, you had no rights to a job. Landlords had a right in fact, by law could not knowingly rent to an open homosexual. So you were immediately evicted. If you were married, you got a divorce. You were thrown out of the house immediately. I mean, it was horrendous. young people. Young kids would be locked up in psychiatric wards. young gay kids be locked up in psychiatric wards and subjected to the most cruel, inhumane physical torture imaginable. electrodes attached to certain parts of their body. And very unreal, it



36:23

see, it's hard for people to imagine that but that that's, you know, that actually happened. I'm just not a fictional story. There are

R

Roy McCarthy 36:30

kids today who have a year guys grown adults today who have a constant drool and can no longer see strength. I mean, they have permanent double vision. They have all kinds of other problems caused by that. And it was amazing when this stuff happened. When the Stonewall Inn riot happened, we had no idea. We were just fighting back. We were just pissed. I thought had enough. We had had enough and the people that were at the Stonewall were not your respectable gay people. We were the dregs. We were the drag the drag queens to hustlers, the prostitutes to transgender to crossdressers. Of course, there's no such thing as there was no such label back then as transgender. They're all drag queens and cross dressers and hustlers joining drug addicts. And I was a hustler. I mean, it's hard to believe like me now. But when I was 18, I weighed about 140. dripping wet with the full set of clothes on and I used to walk around with skin tight leave a 501 cut off jeans that were cut off almost to the crotch. They looked like they were painted on that I used to wear pink I had dyed it myself pink cotton tank top. You know, and I used to work the docks and Times Square and wherever. But we were the ones who had nothing to lose. We didn't just we just didn't care if we got a resident our pictures got put in the paper. We just didn't care. We were tired. We were fed up. Of course,

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38:28

this just didn't happen in one day. Right? This continually

R

Roy McCarthy 38:31

over a period of three days. There was three days of rioting. It was three days of writing. And after we started it off 1000s And I mean 1000s of people showed up. And that's when we realized we really were something up until that moment. We were a bunch of scaredy cats in closets. I mean, we were we had no idea that in Manhattan there were that many queers number. Yeah. You know, and when I say I mean, the leather people, we were all gay. We were all one. That's how we always thought this this division of groups didn't happen until later. And that's one of the sad parts. lesbians, gays, Transgender, Bisexual, we were all gay, and we were all one. We were into different scenes. But we were still one solid cohesive unit, and that those three days and Stonewall showed that we were a solid cohesive unit.

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39:54

That's great. Let let that be kind of our theme for this new millennium. Let's all come together again,

R

Roy McCarthy 40:00

oh my goodness gracious. Do you know if we do that? If we do come together as one solid, cohesive unit into different scenes, but still one solid unit we would be an unstoppable



40:20

and we are and that sort of thing people have to realize we've become somewhat complacent. Do you know what I mean? We take things for granted now. People don't vote. And if we just do all these things, and they're somewhat simple, is come together, man, we got a lot of power.



Roy McCarthy 40:37

I mean, Lord have mercy. Yes, we do, we really would have a tremendous amount. And I'll tell you something, this is this is, this is the truth. Just like back then, and on those three days, we really had no idea that all this that we have today would come about. Same thing for tomorrow. If we come together again, and stop all this idiotic division. You know, you're the you're really not gay, you're leather, or that's not a gay person. That's a lesbian, you know, or that's a transgender that's bisecting that park. Yes. We all are part, you all are part we will even, you know, take some I'm willing to bet money that there was gay friendly straight folks in that Riot, fire. I mean, I don't know of any myself, but I'm willing to bet money that they were there to, I'm willing to bet. And if they're going to stand shoulder to shoulder and take the knocks on the head, like I did. I mean, I don't just come on his radio every week. And just because this is something to do. I paid a price to be where I'm at. I shed blood. I almost died. On Christopher Street. I shed real blood I lost a piece of my skull on Christopher Street. So I've earned my right the hard way. And I'll tell you what, there's many more battles. There's many more battles to be fought. And God Almighty. If we were to come together like that, oops, we can do it. Oh, we got to do it.



42:36

Wow, thank you. This is incredible. I unfortunately, was a little younger than 69. But I do remember a lot lot that happened. And it's just hard to imagine now what all we have now. Like, you know, people can go down to their neighborhood bar or whatever. They just they didn't exist back then. Guys



Roy McCarthy 42:58

can go rent an apartment together now. Anywhere. That was totally illegal.



43:06

And we got a ways to go. But just like any journey, it starts off with some steps. One step 10. You took the first step. Did you know



Roy McCarthy 43:15

that it was illegal in New York. It was a law. A bartender could not serve alcoholic beverages to the known homosexual. That was the law. And now looking at today, now looking at today, it's incredible.

