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houston, community, parade, aids, montrose, gay, nice, texas, people, organization, lesbian, work, lesbian gay, switchboard, call, live, bar, give, open, group


SPEAKERS


Dennis Spencer, Ray Hill, Kay Harper, Jack Valinski, Deborah Bell


- D** Deborah Bell 00:00
So, now is the time to come on over to star night nanny and find out what group to get involved with so you can be part of all those things
- J** Jack Valinski 00:07
from cuties
- D** Deborah Bell 00:12
to the gay nannies 608 Westheimer their cocktail club and disco dancing show bar to entertain and serve. And they say Be yourself
- J** Jack Valinski 00:28
very colorful floating on green around the edges gold,
- D** Deborah Bell 00:31
and that's the gay and lesbian Nani's. I hope and they have several people are tired and beautiful costumes and a lot of balloons that say cuties on them, which I have a feeling they're going to release into the atmosphere.
- J** Jack Valinski 00:45
I thought it was maybe now I think they're working. Yeah, they


 Deborah Bell 00:48
can't get the bag open. The doubt. Those are the descending laughs I've been looking for them. The mattress Counseling Center. Angela pesah ready with the women's program? I think it's everyone's the counselors that work there are marching in the parade shirts.


 Jack Valinski 01:09
Just around the corner from us here and downtown Montrose,

 Deborah Bell 01:12
they've been going on what 12 years now about started by Bill Scott a mental health services for the gay and lesbian community specialties in alcohol and drug counseling HIV, HIV and AIDS counseling a womanist feminist counseling and sexual abuse survivors program. There's a women's weekend coming up in October and also I live in with AIDS in Houston a conference taking place it's a safe place to come for mental health services and also private and group therapies are available there.


 Jack Valinski 01:41
We have a big flood coming this is

 Deborah Bell 01:43
I had hot throat This is from Rich's gonna get loud jack for the happy smiley face on top of the moon looking to the future


 02:17
little mock up of riches with a satellite dish on the top.

 Deborah Bell 02:23
Some party booked there from riches. Now we have the gay and lesbian Hispanic Union House and you went to the ballet last night. Tonight.


 02:30
It is the largest indoor

 Deborah Bell 02:34


ballroom bus convertible has the downtown filled it was packed Yeah, the officers are rotting in the first flight and then Mr. and Miss ballet are in the second convertible. And their theme this year is carnival and Montrose. Definitely

 Jack Valinski 02:48


yes, it was an absolutely wonderful event last night, dancing going on in

 Deborah Bell 02:54

the morning. And they've been around over 21 years so that they were in existence before there really got to be an activist community happening in Houston time on Wednesdays of each month at 7:30pm. At center and what is that number 880 GHL you

 Jack Valinski 03:12


address the center

 Deborah Bell 03:14

3217 Fat N All right. We know we're on your brain too. Yeah, it is. So very nice. They have some Peacock Feathers and some glittery things.

 Jack Valinski 03:27

And glue really represents the diversity of this community. Yes, really

 Deborah Bell 03:30

the gay and has Hispanic lesbian unidos and they do welcome him involved in the organization very strongly. And they also have a wonderful New Year's bilag. We have the Houston nonviolent action, supporting lesbian and gay rights. Now this is a non gay group that is supportive of this community and also supportive of the world community and they have been in the parade a number of years representing the the importance of standing together and alliance and coalition. They also have people representing the Houston peacenik work and the other economic summit tows the voice of the people for a change a beautiful banner. I sounds like this type of people. Yeah, I think I think I'll recognize a few faces from those that group. I saw Linda Lowe and a few other people there. Houston peace network.

 Jack Valinski 04:26

J Jack Valinski 04:20

It's real nice to see them here representing in the gay lesbian Pride Parade.

D Deborah Bell 04:30

Because you know, peace is not just the absence of war. You know, when you think about what a peaceful world would originally be like and be about it would be safety for all people and what was the what's been going on in our community. We are more and more aware of that that need for personal safety and peace.

J Jack Valinski 04:48

And now we have this kiddies Texas art.

D Deborah Bell 04:52

The Dance Hall is the opposite extreme, some nice looking man, the parents. You wouldn't notice that at Jack's lovely Palomino horse at the beginning we have to Houston another committee under the Montrose activity center carrying a banner. They're on their way to Vancouver. They've just done a march right from here

J Jack Valinski 05:14

to the Metropolitan service center, they're going straight to Vancouver,

D Deborah Bell 05:17

they have the Texas flag and the Canadian Maple Leaf flag they're they're carrying at the front of their delegation. They have a convertible and in that convertible are two people that I know of at least Connie Morin Felix Garcia, which I believe are the co chairs of pay me used in this and they've been doing a lot of events, raising money by uniforms getting people to enter events during and the guy games and they can be contacted at I Know the second part of the numbers team the first five to 05 to zero t interested in the guy games or want to take part in the team Houston that's the people to call the contact to do that.

J Jack Valinski 05:57

Well now our audience will get to listen to somebody else besides us. Well, the Lone Star symphonic

D Deborah Bell 06:01

band also on their way to the Gay Games as part of Tim Houston and they're gonna be playing

music so we might have to let you listen he's wearing a kilt and if you've ever wondered what they were under killed that doesn't look like much. I guess that's just bowed. Up person in this and now we have our celebrities performing at Star Night. Tonight. She performed last night she'll be with us again tonight to be part of the performance with Thelma Houston. She's

J Jack Valinski 07:32
visiting the province here. She's from San Francisco. And she's

D Deborah Bell 07:35
got her son hat on when she's writing a nice little

J Jack Valinski 07:38
spider. And it's a very nice afternoon here. It's not too hot. It's you know, typical Houston summer, the sun is not shining.

D Deborah Bell 07:45
It's even better than usual. I mean, there's a nice little breeze right now. So it's real comfortable out here. And we have coming up that they have found dignity center

J Jack Valinski 07:53
3217 fan and it is the gay Catholic organization.

D Deborah Bell 07:58
They've been going on in Houston for 17 years. They have math 7:30pm On Saturdays followed by a social they do have dues. That's at 30 to 17 Phantom, some familiar faces in that group. They're also active in different things in the community.

J Jack Valinski 08:16
And many organizations meet at their center there on Fanon

D Deborah Bell 08:20
pants for Yeah. And they've got balloons, bouncing balloons that they're all popping there.

J Jack Valinski 08:28
You know, it shows that you don't have to spend a lot of money to do a creative type of entry in the parade and such

D Deborah Bell 08:33
fun. I think people really feel like that they're doing something is now we have the Tom J. Thomas lounge sharpcap This is a black gay bar in Houston. They've got white limos and they have a number of their performers riding on the limos. Choco red presents the previous boys in town at the Jay Thomas lounge 1224 Running Carolina,

J Jack Valinski 08:57
open Tuesdays through Sundays 5pm to 2am. There's a second window coming up

D Deborah Bell 09:03
on the show from the looks of it, because these are some great costumes here.

J Jack Valinski 09:10
I guess maybe we need to do fashions on Wildenstein.

D Deborah Bell 09:13
I know, maybe we'll find a guest person to do that because I don't think you were the ones to make the statement. And now here's one of the most important groups in the community because they serve all the other groups and this is the gay and lesbian switchboard. He assumed you had their picture from last year on the front in the post today,

J Jack Valinski 09:33
and the magic number is five to 930 to 11.

D Deborah Bell 09:36
Five to 930 to 11. They've got that number right here. They have information counseling and referrals. They have they're walking delegation, some of the people are wearing big some hats. Some of them are carrying umbrellas. They've got their telephone, truck, a little car that has a digital dial that looks like a telephone. It looks like goes on, you can just bring it up and make that call if you need to know where something is on a number of another organization, if you're

having some issues around coming out or if you need a referral for one of the gay lesbian therapist, our services that are available in the city of Houston, five to 930 to 11 is the number of our staff

J Jack Valinski 10:21

from 4pm to midnight daily, although I would have today maybe an exception.

D Deborah Bell 10:26

I'm sure they probably have, you know, they do have a training coming up in August. And that's a real good way to get involved in the community. First of all, you can learn a lot about the community by being there being a volunteer, you know what's going on what's happening, and it's something you just take a few hours a week

J Jack Valinski 10:42

to do. Five to 930 to 11 The game has been switchboard of Houston.

D Deborah Bell 10:48

Well, this is one of the favorite injuries every year. the rip cord delegation This is our country to rip cord is what is known as Oh leather bar. And of course these guys are decked out.

J Jack Valinski 11:00

Definitely. And what they do is they carry flags from every state of the

D Deborah Bell 11:04

union. So there's at least 50 people there. Of course, we're starting off with the United States and the Texas State of Texas, of course, we're going to be fried. They've got regalia on their leather regalia, which I always kind of feel sorry for them. But they look good. They look they look hot, but not just in the sense of that the temperature is hot. And they have the rainbow flag. The city of Houston flag.

J Jack Valinski 11:29

Yes, the one with the train on it. The Plow never makes any sense to me.

D Deborah Bell 11:32

Why does that have a train our power on it? We don't know. But it's the city of Houston and they have the silver snipers and marching drill team from Dallas. They've had the man of Houston explosion of color the flags of the nation. On coming up behind him so

J Jack Valinski 11:51

and walking it takes a while to get 50 flags in front of this podium here.

D Deborah Bell 11:56

They're at 715 Fairview they're open Monday through Saturday. 7am To 2pm to eight, no 7am to 2pm I think they mean I am. Yeah, and then on Sundays from after noon to 2am. And their theme for their float is looking to the future, but making it happen now.

J Jack Valinski 12:24

A drill team coming down.

D Deborah Bell 12:27

They do they have men are hot. Yeah, they have Red Berets black suits, or red belts, red shoe laces, and they are carrying Maccha rifles, which I wish they had down something else to throw around, not approving of guns but

J Jack Valinski 12:49

getting a nice round of applause here

D Deborah Bell 12:52

in this group. This is not a male only delegation.

J Jack Valinski 12:59

That's a ripcord. Probably one of the better known bars here in the game lesbian community.


D Deborah Bell 13:06

In their float looking to the future but making it happen today they have a team of astronauts taking off from the state of Texas from the ripcord and I have had the space shuttle right there behind them. They're waving to us they've got instead of NASA symbols they have gay and

lesbian symbols pink triangles and the ones that I've got disco music What a fun idea these guys are in white instead of black like on their black boots. taking a little break

 Jack Valinski 13:41


here during the the flag contingent is actually doing Oh in front of the podium here

 Deborah Bell 13:50

they're doing a what they call this a presenting presenting the flags you can hear the music in the background some some of these people are dancing to this disco music even in this heat back and just there doing maneuvers very sharp and those Red Berets with black uniforms you'd like to be the drill sergeant for that group Jack. I

 Jack Valinski 14:44


don't know if

 Deborah Bell 14:46

I can see you that way.

 Jack Valinski 14:47


We're doing quite a show here in front of the official judging standard here 99 We are trying to do the best color coverage we can although this is a little bit difficult to describe the formations that they're doing,

 Deborah Bell 15:34

they're doing maneuvers and finally show their best stepping off Moving on down with Tom or the flake, the float about the pull up in front of us and they've got that disco music playing in the background looking to the future, but making it happen today. I think that's a very important slogan. And they're ready to take off into space. Astronaut uniform, the staff

 16:13

had fun putting those outfits together. Yes, absolutely.

 Deborah Bell 16:17

They have the ripcord around the back. Next we have we deliver videos

J Jack Valinski 16:24
over to 1109 Hyde Park. They've been in business since 1984. Open 11 to 10pm.

D Deborah Bell 16:31
And they have a star Matt Gunther who is one of the performers in the videos. Imagine he's a good looking guy. He's blowing kisses to the people to the audience. And we deliver videos deliver videos, they're 1109 Hyde Park and they're open from 10 coming from 11am to 10pm. They support the stone soup Food Pantry they specialize in videos for our community. Very active in the community. Video Star of the nadase Matt Dunker salutes Houston Lesbian Gay Pride Nani.

J Jack Valinski 17:05
Now if you were listening to any of the coverage from San Francisco, you had heard a lot about act. They're here showing some of their posters or silence equal death and also the AIDS gay good Reagan's picture on there with red eyes.

D Deborah Bell 17:25
The government has blood on its hands one eight staff every half hour something we're trying to put a stop to in this community. They say act up, fight back.

J Jack Valinski 17:36
The AIDS coalition to unleash power meet at the Metropolitan multi service center 1475 West grade the first and third Thursday of each month.

D Deborah Bell 17:48
And we have the Miss Montrose from the practice river bottom.

J Jack Valinski 17:52
Yes, one of the most colorful cars in the community the leopard inside card convertible right on the outside

D Deborah Bell 18:00
leonard print seats and Miss Montrose like I always try to explain to people if it's ms then it's a

leopard print seats and Miss Montrose like I always try to explain to people if it's ms then it's a female if it's miss, it's a guy

J Jack Valinski 18:11

and that happens of course at the breasts river bottoms 2400 dresses and we have

D Deborah Bell 18:16

looked to the future with your boots on this must be a country.

J Jack Valinski 18:19

This is the BRB.

D Deborah Bell 18:36

They've got a haystack a statue of a horse and the cacti and some paddles and cow died. Mr. Shawn Yarborough and this ranch Teresa Smith are riding a convertible behind the float

J Jack Valinski 18:50

presents river bottom has been in business for 13 years. It is a Western bar as we call it down here Western gay bar. They are home of the Texas gay Rodeo Association Montrose cloggers community involvement in all those organizations.

D Deborah Bell 19:05

And then we have the imperial court of the single star.

J Jack Valinski 19:13

And of course, as the theme is looking

D Deborah Bell 19:15

to the future, the founder and writing monarchs all decked out in their lovely outfit. With their tiaras shining in the sunlight. The College of monarchs

J Jack Valinski 19:33

... ..

that is the imperial court of the single star.

D

Deborah Bell 19:38

They must have been one of our oh okay, here it is. They have a lot of things going on in there. I wish there was a phone number about this group called a switchboard you can find out more about the people from Corpus Christi Fort Worth and Dallas and not just the Houston group. Here's the pet patrol

J

Jack Valinski 19:55

patrol if you're listening to Katy

D

Deborah Bell 19:56

Chapala hound dogs riding in the back of it Truck, the pantry patrol and we also have a Jeep here. Troy Williams, the founder of the pen patrol, she's got a little dog playing with a bright fluorescent tennis ball as people are, who are caring people, pet people. This, they go in and they help PW A's who might be in the hospital for a time or not be able to take care of their pets, or they even find homes for pets when someone's not able to take care of their pet anymore, or match people up who need a pet.

J

Jack Valinski 20:29

There's a wonderful story about them this morning on KTR. H if you caught that pet patrol, Tory Williams. Next is the Metropolitan Community Church of the resurrection.

D

Deborah Bell 20:41

With the leadership of Reverend elder John Gill, it's working today and looking to the future so that all people no matter whether you're lesbian, straight, gay, black, white, Hispanic, or you know, or whatever, we can all work together. And they say they believe that God doesn't care because He loves us all. He she or she, as some of us might they believe we are looking for a city we're in the teacher.

J

Jack Valinski 21:05

This is a very large contention. They all have their own T shirts, looking to the future with sort of triangles that go around in a circle, I guess.

D

Deborah Bell 21:14

And this is alpha is a lot of people think of them CCR is a gay church, but it's a place a church,

more specifically for gay people are welcome. And they are come out every year for the parade, very proudly represented. They usually have their own t shirt. They have a beautiful float coming up. And they haven't seen him maybe maybe it's the float comes down, we'll hear the music from a song. They

J Jack Valinski 21:42

are located at 1990 Decatur up in the near heights just outside of downtown Washington. And they are looking for a new place though. They're trying to build a new church here in Montrose.

D Deborah Bell 21:53

So our 320 members and France recently celebrated the 15th anniversary and I

J Jack Valinski 22:00

think half of them are here today at the brain.

D Deborah Bell 22:04

Thinking chan about Jesus loving us. And if you are a person who has a belief system that encompasses a Christian belief system, then that's a place for you to go face to check out.

J Jack Valinski 22:19

There comes there floats that says well to the future it is a long blue, and it must be space sitting here today because another one having

D Deborah Bell 22:29

a space shuttle again, here's that this float has blue and bright pink they have to manage this guest on this route. They had the softball team the MCC are angels coming up in a truck here. And you know what they do every year is they encourage their members who are not open who are not openly out to come down and sometimes the skies and at least be part of the delegation. So a lot of folks are wearing sunglasses and hats are in some way and I guess guys but they're here today and that says something

J Jack Valinski 23:30

that has to be the largest contingent in the parade today, at least so far

D Deborah Bell 23:33



Deborah Bell 23:33

good size group of people. And now we have the lesbian and gay rights lobby. Texas with our lobbyists. Maxine is here today. Sharon Stone who was on the board and Pat Gandy lesbian gay rights lobby of Texas. They're in a nice convertible, waving with the rainbow flag with holding up that rainbow flag and doing the International Sign Language I love you symbol.



Jack Valinski 24:01

And we hope to be talking about Maxey lately later as we go up from the Metropolitan multi Surret



Deborah Bell 24:06

the next car contains burgundy words who is the show director for Mama's money. We're right next door to Mama's money the day they allowed us to set up out here. Next to Mom was money and infinite records. The Lesbian Gay community of the University of Houston. So that's the lesbian and gay student association to life and boy named Carl they have act up people and they they have data.



Jack Valinski 24:38

That's our future. If you read that article today in the post, they talk about the future, interviewing some of the people from the game lesbian community at the university definitely



Deborah Bell 24:47

have some activists coming out of that group. They're already active in the community. They're not waiting to graduate from college. They're doing it now as they look to the future.



Jack Valinski 24:57

Therefore groups are open students, faculty staff at an alumni at the University of Houston has over 60 members. They work to provide an alternative space where lesbian and gay members of the university community can express themselves socially and politically as well as educating other members of the university community about lesbian and gay rights and AIDS. And if you'd like more information on that you can call 529 3211, which is a game that's been switched on August



Deborah Bell 25:22

10. Through 12th. There is a lesbian gay youth conference coming up that will be sponsored at the University of Houston. Oh boy, oh my gosh.

J Jack Valinski 25:34

And this is EJ

D Deborah Bell 25:36

and rank is often AMS things the show's over there

J Jack Valinski 25:41

is a little bit bigger than usual.

D Deborah Bell 25:43

Space games on the moon. And it's that's GHz E on the moon 2106 ad, it says don't have to wait to 2106 ad for 2106 to be overturned.

J Jack Valinski 26:00

EJ is a bar with a patio and they are more or less like a neighborhood bar. I guess you would describe them. And they're involved in different community events.

D Deborah Bell 26:10

Today league marching along they have on their hard hats with the pink triangle. So I guess that means they're hard workers.

J Jack Valinski 26:18

Jean Harrington along with Carmen Pollack, who used to be a board member here at Pacifica, Houston

D Deborah Bell 26:22

educational foundation with a 15 person board to ensure equitable involvement of the gay community at risk group in local aids Deschutes in Macomb, working with local county, state and national public and private entities to inside to make sure our voices are heard. In one

J Jack Valinski 26:40

of these groups, you can find out more information about them if you go up to stern like 90 tonight because many of them have booths there.

D Deborah Bell 26:47

And it says their delegation is 12 of the hottest human beings alive, charming the city and gay consciousness I wonder who wrote Didio 13

J Jack Valinski 26:58

which is just down around the curve of Westheimer is a black gay bar,

D Deborah Bell 27:02

which of course welcomes all people but does particularly involve itself with the black gay community. They have several of Mr. Studio 13 who is also Mr. Gay Texas, Miss sweetheart Taylor doors five white convert and Mr. Doug's studio. So we got some nice looking people on these cars. Christie Coleman, who has to the other team manager oh my gosh, we have arrived at the future with this float. This is the Acadian Baker's boy this is a beautiful they have such a creation. They have Spaceman their space. people dressed up they have silver helmets, very large helmets. They're releasing some balloons some gold and silver balloons or cloud passes in front of the reviewing stand. They have a space age cake design. Very fancy, very impressive. intreat and this year, then the balloons are going up very silvery. That's one thing you could say for sure. And here she has herself in this film. Performer tonight at Star night Nani waving to us out of the black of the top top of a black limo it's the man of the mining company. They're looking to the future as they come up on their bulldozer. They have their construction outfits on you like that check

J Jack Valinski 28:41

definitely that search and they're on their construction shortlist

D Deborah Bell 28:44

look at a hard hat. And they once again have the United States flag the Texas Lonestar banner and the International rainbow flag of the gay and lesbian can be that age. And they're playing some of that. Some of that music some of that music the men of the Montrose mine look to the future 1992. montrose mining country company that 805 Pacific street they celebrated their 20th anniversary this June so open seven days a week 1pm to 2am they believe in creating a safe fun environment for the man of Texas to meet with friends to party.

J Jack Valinski 29:48

They are one of the bars of the Pacific triangle.

D Deborah Bell 29:55
This is not because they brought Islam We know that we didn't know that but we know that now and after the parade they invite you to party with Houston number one muffles on that? Definitely. Definitely. Now this next group are the people with the Northern Lights alternative

J Jack Valinski 30:42
the age mastery workshop,

D Deborah Bell 30:44
teaching people to not even Bradley they're handing out fires as they move down the street so people can attend to a to mastery workshop, which when people have attended them and told me about them, they got a lot out of doing so it's for people who have a to work with people with AIDS, so that you have a better understanding a better way of coping. And they're teaching people rowdy group, I must say, then they've got their banner other streamers shaking them around. They're teaching people to live fully and alive and well with AIDS. They offer workshops every month for the spread the mastery to other cities as well as Houston. And the mastery is for all people affected by AIDS. They can be reached at 4646971 That's 4646971

J Jack Valinski 31:41
you are listening to KPFT Houston at Pacifica foundation radio station 90.1 FM

D Deborah Bell 31:48
well, it says Dolly Parton in a white limousine and it definitely is. Like Dolly. I mean, there was a lot of blonde hair. There's a lot

J Jack Valinski 31:57
whenever you call,

D Deborah Bell 31:59
whatever your word of preference, but when when you talk to when you say Dolly Parton you're not just talking to double I sorry. Yeah. It says Limousin Li Mo Zen. There's some bills like I

J Jack Valinski 32:11
do. Yeah.

D Deborah Bell 32:15
I think it's one of our local performers. As Dolly Parton. We thought it was really dark valley.
Barton is the Houston

J Jack Valinski 32:33
Houston outdoor group is a group that has gotten very much active in the last last few months.

D Deborah Bell 32:38
They've been around since 1984. They have various monthly activities that include they have,
they have a tent here that is filled with balloons, which they're about to release, but they do
everything from hiking and biking to camping and swimming and you know all that kind of
outdoor style. I

J Jack Valinski 32:55
would bet a lot of that stuff happens outside

D Deborah Bell 32:58
outside the loop. Maybe So Jack, they do have membership dues, it's for lesbians and gay man.
They have an expanding mailing list. The group started when they're one person and ran
around and asked for other people who were interested in

J Jack Valinski 33:14
walking vote and a walking and he's doing a pretty good impression.

D Deborah Bell 33:20
canoeing, water key skiing hiking tubing, we want to let people see that the gay community
includes a diverse range of individuals that we have identities beyond the stereotypes
perpetuated so often in our society as a group. We also stress the importance of responsibility
to our planet and environment how important that is. Mr. Club body center, Frank Mara Dola

J Jack Valinski 33:47
club body centers at 2205 fan and open here's

D Deborah Bell 33:50

management of the club body Center, also waving to us from a lovely convertible they're open 24 hours and they have a six month membership requirement and workout paths. They give funds to charity and have different fundraising events. That's a nice entry they have some of the patio furniture from over a buck on that float with many colorful balloons and alive singer you just heard. So they're looking at the future over Ibaka and their

J Jack Valinski 34:55

Texas band and we're proud and the bottom

D Deborah Bell 34:57

saying last night is with a group. Here's the tech This gay Rodeo Association, they're gonna get a big reaction.

J Jack Valinski 35:05

They have over 400 members statewide, and they are a fundraising organization that raises funds for different community events.

D Deborah Bell 35:12

They meet the first Sunday of each month and they will be having the rodeo this year November 9 10th and 11th here at NARM Houston Coliseum, Houston Texas. They've raised over \$65,000 at the rodeo last year in Fort Worth. They have a stage coach with a team grade state officers in Houston chapter officers also Houston officers on horses besides the stage coach


J Jack Valinski 35:39

with the have a big Texas flag I


D Deborah Bell 35:42

checked the size Texas flag and they're gonna pop something up on there they've got they got some kind of routine there's gonna be it looks like gold nugget. So I don't know what that is. Yeah, it's coins. It's for you to throw money on so you can give money to the association to help with their fundraising. What a good idea. So as your flag comes down less time you throw money on it coin so that they can raise more funds to help with the things that they are so


good at. They have Mr. Miss and Miss 1990 tgr a royalty candidates and horse drawn buggy followed by Okay, I think and here's Priscilla Deval Larry Garrett and Melanie Ashcraft. This Brucella Devall is

 Jack Valinski 36:26


part of the requirements to make one of those titles is to raise money.

 Deborah Bell 36:29


Yes, you have to the person that raises the most money which they did by various segments throughout the year. Well, we have a lot more coming up here. For for you with this parade. It's

 Jack Valinski 36:40

been over an hour it started at three o'clock it's over the past four and of course, listening to KPFT Euston Pacific foundation station in Houston. You can the Texas gay Rodeo Association, very large contingents. We've had more animals, I think in this parade than we've ever had.

 Deborah Bell 36:59


I think that's true. This is the four legs. That was good Jack. These are very nicely groomed horses.

 Jack Valinski 37:10


And of course, you know, Texas thinks it's more than the state of Texas thinks it's a country. It's a nation it's not

 37:18

Jack.

 Jack Valinski 37:19

And since it thinks it's a nation, we have to have a national Bar of Texas.

 Deborah Bell 37:24

And guess what bar that is? And that's Mary's naturally Mary's naturally 20 years.

J Jack Valinski 37:33

A number of years we've done our broadcasts on top of Mary's and I'm sure there's a lot of people on top of the bar today.

D Deborah Bell 37:40

Having a good time having a good Mary says had 20 years of dedication and they say 20 more years to come at least

J Jack Valinski 37:49

walking with different flags. US flag of course the Texas flag and the Mary's flag and a rainbow flag. marries or have different colored flags also.

D Deborah Bell 38:04

That's the bar that when you see this car and it has Dorothy and Toto and it's this leather bar you see these guys all they're in leather and Dorothy says to toto I don't think we're in Kansas anymore. Well that was Mary's that was Mary's that they use for that card and the Sundance Cattle Company also at Mary's

J Jack Valinski 38:28


Mary's is home to a number of different organizations and is very much community involved raises a lot of money for the community.

D Deborah Bell 38:35

And look what we have coming down the street is part of this contingent It's a pink Cadillac. Actually we have two pink Cadillacs I read what year is that? It 60 or something? It's one with big fans. It's a nice looking sedan Sedan deVille being Cadillac and then behind it it's a blow up pink Cadillac with blue no they had low pink cattle I didn't either that's about the only count I could afford 20 years at the same location oldest gay bar in Houston second oldest in Texas at the same location walking members with flags and banners to decades of decadence it says on one of those better believe is a floating Cadillac Mary's and they had the Mary's mind following that grip. Oh,

J Jack Valinski 39:30

looks like a nice boat coming down. This is montrose



D Deborah Bell 39:32
mine company heaven Jr's play safe beach party at 800

J Jack Valinski 39:39
Pacific Charles Armstrong investments

D Deborah Bell 39:41
they have a dolphin is leading off here splashing away. Some good luck and Harmsen swimsuit looks like they're at the beach. They got palm trees. They've got a sailboat they've got the sun shining brightly. Charles on was strong enterprises Charles Armstrong was the winner at the Pride Award for five of an individual in the community and Grand Marshal last year. And here we have energy. I climb energy RG which is an outside the loop group 6121 hillcroft.

J Jack Valinski 40:24
work seven days a week from 5pm to 2am. So you

D Deborah Bell 40:28
had to be over 21 They're giving a plug now very loudly. It's heavily involved with the Hispanic community but they're branching out to involve everyone. They are community bar and they have a team Houston benefit coming up July 3 and eighth minutes and the near future and they're working with the nameless project.

J Jack Valinski 40:51
The 611 Hyde Park, which is gorgeous on 611 Hyde Park, another bar used to home by Steve Shimer with a horse drawn carriage.

D Deborah Bell 41:01
One of the first businesses to support the Omega house various sports sponsorship, numerous other fundraisers for the community that continued their involvement in the community as they look to the future there. Won the 1985 Gay Pride parade best theme entry and the 1986 Gay Pride parade best non professional entry.

J Jack Valinski 41:22
best description of the unit is in God Save the Queen



Deborah Bell 41:32

Well, this is the parade cochair you want to do one of them and live together. Oh look at this girlfriend. I don't want to you want to do



Jack Valinski 41:43

lady victoria lust and she is dressed killer.



Deborah Bell 41:47

She's got on a hot pink feathered hat. She's first moved to Houston and 1980 has worked here in the bars and entertainment industry as lady victoria lost and has done just a tremendous job putting this parade together has on our lovely pink ensemble with WordPress and Barbara Bush could ever deal with. And then of course the female coach upgrade chair is Debbie Holmes. Jimmy Holmes



Jack Valinski 42:15

has very much been active in the community for quite a long time. She has been active in the Lone Star symphonic band before known as a Montrose a hot



Deborah Bell 42:21

drummer. And also with the choir and NCCR she She's currently the parade co chair and facilitates retail sales for the Marketing Committee. She's She has favorite pastimes that includes golf and Ronnie the



Jack Valinski 42:38

co chair of Pride Week,



Deborah Bell 42:41

the International march to cure a now



Jack Valinski 42:45

that's the next event coming up after tonight. They're at



Deborah Bell 42:48



Deborah Bell 42:40

2606 Montrose. They have meetings on Thursdays. And they're open Monday through Friday 10 to six future transportation for PW A's is something they're concerned with. There will be a march on July the eighth the marching in it. They'll start at 11am Downtown Houston in March, to the site of to some of the involvement with the summit. And it's curates now and then we have Mr. Right.



Ray Hill 43:22

I'm awfully glad to be here and glad to be the tail end of the parade. I'd like to take this opportunity to especially thank and recognize the presence of Judge David Petronella reasons a political opponent of mine on the stage was good to see judge Petronella out along with Vince Ryan and the other judges who are leaving the stage to deliberate their system. This is the largest braid in the terms of number of people involved that we've ever had. It's a festive day, it is hot out there. The last unit in the parade is the cure AIDS now unit and that is going to hopefully bring people off the sidewalks into the streets on their way to the festival so that they can get in the habit of doing that to get them ready for the July 8 event downtown. Those of you who are listening and those of you who are around here, please remember July 8 is a Sunday. And the parade route for the March for cure AIDS now is the rodeo parade route beginning at Smith in Texas. And going down Main Street and back to City Hall. So I'm going to go out and sweat some more. This has been festive so far.



Jack Valinski 44:25

Well, it's nice to see you here. Put together many of the pride parades in the past, and certainly helped out today also. And that concludes this portion of the live coverage of Lesbian Gay Pride Week. We didn't really get a chance to get into the beginnings and talk about some of the other events that happen this week because the parade started exactly at three o'clock. And we started exactly at three o'clock because we were just finishing up live coverage of Pacific as doing live coverage of the six international AIDS conference in San Francisco. And they were also doing some coverage of the events that was having San Francisco



Deborah Bell 44:59

so Just took a little over an hour in 10 minutes for this parade. One of the largest in history shirt was the large and people are moving on down behind the parade are going to their cars that are parked nearby so that they can go over to star night Nani at the festival site, which is the multi service center 1475 West grey between wash dry and the Indian lady. There is a shuttle service. So if people go over there, they can get a ride back to the quick copy parking lot over at Montrose across from Kroger Kroger's. Yeah. And so we invite anyone who hasn't made it down yet to come on over the star night naughty. The price of admission gets you in not only to the carnival, there's food, there's booths, and there's entertainment, Sandy van and Thelma Houston will be performing over there this evening. I don't know



Jack Valinski 45:51

if we were able to do justice of the break coverage because of all the colorfulness and all the

things that were in loudness.

D Deborah Bell 45:55

But it was great. And we didn't really get a chance to comment on some of the people that were up here with us on the reviewing Stan,

J Jack Valinski 46:04

Vince Ryan.

D Deborah Bell 46:07

Yes and Brian caver. And they will be awarding, they've made their decision on the entries in the parade who they think represented the community this year the best either and their float or delegation. And we'll find that out when we get over to star night Nani.

J Jack Valinski 46:24

Yes, we'll be going over there shortly we will let the crowd dive down a little bit so you'll have better chance of getting in there. But we certainly appreciate it being able to cover this thing live. And this is done through Pacifica radio here in Houston. Pacifica radio is a nonprofit non commercial. And they certainly don't make a profit radio station that is a community radio station, you

D Deborah Bell 46:44

know, you weren't getting paid for this.

J Jack Valinski 46:46

I never told you never you've been doing the show for a year, you've never,

D Deborah Bell 46:51

you know, maybe it was an annual thing. Now actually, the payment is something much more than money because there's a lot of rewards of being able to bring this to the community every week on Tuesday with Walden spawn, and of course, KPFT also has Friday morning break through

J Jack Valinski 47:07

and Saturday night, Sunday morning after hours, which starts at midnight and goes to 4am. And that's just part of the Pacific of family here. That's just sort of one chapter of the things that are done on KPFT. KPFT also has many other programs that covers the black community.

D

Deborah Bell 47:22

Oh Jack,

J

Jack Valinski 47:23

look, mothers,

D

Deborah Bell 47:24

there is a plane flying overhead and it says gay and proud. Something I can't read it off mother's that's sponsored by mothers Club, which is right over at Taft and love it across the street from the station

J

Jack Valinski 47:38

back is where the two bars that were the bars that helped set up they were the sort of the what am I trying to say parade

D

Deborah Bell 47:45

Central, that's what they call it? And yes, the floats and the delegations lined up along Lovett Boulevard this year. And that was a real nice place for them to do that. And gay and proud mothers is they every year they have this plane that flies around the area with that banner sort of covered from the sun. Yeah. So it is kind of a unofficial part of the parade every year, but it certainly needs to be recognized. So if you're out and about you can look up and see that plane and be reminded that we're looking to the future for Lesbian Gay Pride. The the ones can't they're wondering why they can't hear us because we're using microphones but they don't realize we're going out over the radio. They don't have their walk. They think we're just standing up here talking to no one because most of the people have left to go over to star night Nani. Well, anyway,

J

Jack Valinski 48:34

what I was saying was at KPFT Pacific radio here in Houston does many different types of programs that cover many different communities. That includes a black community includes Hispanic community, because we do many different languages if you're tuning in for the first time. And we want to remind you that you can listen to that you can get a free program guide by calling up the station at five to six 4000 during business hours, which is like nine to six, nine

to five, Monday through Friday. And that's how you can start getting involved in the station because the station is very much involved in the community probably the most involved with any other radio station, we're able to do live coverage. And then sometimes we do live coverage from events away like the six international AIDS conference in San Francisco Cisco. This past weekend. We also had live coverage of Mandela speaking to the UN that was really something to share. So thank you for listening this afternoon. We've got more coverage coming up. We're going to take a little break and play the interview that was actually the speech that Quinton crisp did last week at the pride awards at the Astra village motel hotel, and Linda Morales introduced him and Linda Morales is the plaintiff in the 2106 case the sodomy law against the state of

D

Deborah Bell 49:45

the homosexual conduct Statute of the Texas penal code which means that it's against the law to do some of the things we do sometimes jag and we don't want that. So would there is a lawsuit to overturn that being handled by the Texas human Rights Foundation and our very own Houston for Wanda Morales is the lead plaintiff and she did a great job as emcee of that proud award show.

J

Jack Valinski 50:08

And we also want to tank the think tank no thang, we want to thank Garling dancer, the program director who was sitting at the radio station now running the board and engineering that side of it. And Garlon you can take it away now. This is KPFT. You still

o

50:25

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you very much. Thank you for that nice introduction. Mark. You read it like I wrote it. I am honored to be here and also honored to be sharing center stage with Mr. Quinton, Chris

o

50:51

but with all due respects Quinton, I must share my ignorance with my peers and admit to not having known who you were. But I did my research and research turned up you were a writer. You were British and you are an obvious queen. So I am honored to be sharing centerstage with the famous Queen of England.

o

51:20

At this time, I would also like to introduce the people that are sitting at the head of the table in case you were wondering who they were of the Texas Human Rights Foundation, Ms. Sue level.

o

51:32

11 51:30

Our guest speaker Mr. Quinton, Chris

51:46

co chair of the pride awards Mr. Mark Johnson

51:54

with the Montrose activity center Bernie barbers OF THE COLT 40 fives Marty single and signer for the hearing impaired Paul fields. With the Metropolitan Community Church of resurrection, Robert Blake and the other folks have no name. I think we have everyone here that had met the other five, the \$15 ticket, so we'll proceed with our program this evening. Quinton Chris is an internationally known author, whose autobiography The Naked civil servant has become a modern classic, as well as a television movie. His most recent book with Ken crisp book of quotations contains 1000 observations on life and love for and about gay men and women. Tonight, Quinton will be sharing some of his ideas about how to be happy in life. Please welcome our guest speaker, Mr. Quinton, Chris.

53:40

Thank you and good evening. It is a great pleasure and an honor to be here. I don't know why I'm supposed to speak about happiness. But we had to choose a subject. And I thought we should choose a broad subject so that it didn't really matter what I say. You might wonder why I presume to speak on the subject of happiness. But I do because never a day goes well never a month goes by without someone coming to me and saying, Oh, you do have a nice life. I mean, this wouldn't be a reasonable remark to make if I lived as all of you do in mansions riddled with standard of living. But I don't die live in one room on the lorries side one block from the Bowery in Manhattan. I can't sink any lower. And when I lived in one room in England, as you probably know Oh, it was never cleaned in 41 years. But that bring brought me into a false message of hope. Which is, of course, never clean the place where you live. Because after the first four years, that doesn't get any worse

55:29

it's just a question of not losing your

55:38

then people saying to me, Oh, you're doing those such wonderful people. And I do. But this also would only be a reasonable remark, if my room in Manhattan was stuck with people of wealth, substance influence. And it isn't, it's full of the riffraff of New York. But as you probably know, by now, this is the second message of hope. Never tried to keep up with the Joneses. Drag them down to your level



56:26

it's cheaper. And then I'm asked Where do I meet these wonderful people. And I say, so role in cafes, or even at St. colons in America. And people are offered to take my friends to these cafes and diners, but then they always say, of course, when we get there, you'll have to tell me what to say. Now, this means that they haven't got their message to the world, really. And that's what you have to start with. Everybody has to live as though he might only ever have one thing he really wants. So, to make up your mind, what that means, what you want your destiny to be, you cannot have two things, you cannot rely on having two things. Above all, you cannot have two opposite things. You cannot have happiness, and marry. You're gonna have the one or the other. And when you're married, however miserable you become, you say to yourself, every day, well, anyway, I'm married.



58:09

But of course, I have to admit that I was not happy when I lived in England. England is a mistake. Don't don't go to England. Stay right here. I didn't know that that was any happiness in the world at all. I didn't get to America, for the first time, John 1977. I was already 68 Before I ever got here. But the moment I saw New York, I wanted. I've always been American in my heart. Ever since I saw the movies. And everybody who comes from England to America and goes back says one thing. First. It's more like the movies than you'd ever dream. And it is the real difference which struck me the moment when I first came of course, I was sacred. I lived in the Algonquin hotel, I went to work in a taxi. So I couldn't compare New York with London, because I never lived in a hotel in London and I never went about in a taxi. But the moment I lived here as though I were an ordinary mortal in a rooming house, and went about the city on my own to be full by bus. Then I realized that the difference between America and everybody else, everywhere else is that everyone in America is your brain and Everybody talks do everywhere you go. Now in England, nobody ever talks to anybody. To give you proof of this, I will tell you the English story. A friend of mine was to make a long journey by train. She went to the Main Line station or as she was early, she went into the station canteen. And she went up to the counter, and she had to put down her suitcase, open her shoulder bag and take out a purse hadn't paid for coffee, and a kick cat. Do you know what to kick cat, one of those chocolate biscuits divided into four pieces. And then she had to assemble it all again so that she could take the coffee and everything back to her seat, and she could only find the table of which there was a stranger already sitting. So she sat down, and she put her suitcase down, and she put some milk and some sugar into her coffee. And there on the table was the kit. And she opened it and laid it out on its silver paper. And the man opposite her, broke up a piece and ate it. So she broke up a piece I made that. Then while she was taking a few sips of coffee, he broke up another piece, only leaving her one more piece which he ate. Then he got up and went to the counter and brought himself a cream bar, which was a spiral affair with a little disc of pastry on the top. At that moment, my friends train arrived. So she reversed the princess and ended up her coat and put her shoulder bag on her shoulder and picked up her suitcase. And as she passed the man, she snapped the lid of his cream bomb and ate it when she got on the train, and as it moved on, she put her luggage in the rack and sat down and opened her shoulder bag and there was the KitKat.



1:02:46

The one on the table had been his head as they were English and had not been introduced

The one on the table had been his dad as they were English and had not been introduced. Neither of them could say what the hell are you doing with my chocolate?



1:03:09

Man in America, everybody told you I was on a bus going up Third Avenue. On one occasion, only young man came over and very discreetly, I thought crouched down and got me to write my name on a piece of paper. And he went back to his seat. And the woman on the other side of the bus said, well who are you? And I said, who indeed? And she said I thought he was asking your autograph. He was well why? I said you missed out him. He was sitting like this. Nobody else was they were all sitting down. Having a lovely time. They were all running about laughing already. And she turned to the whole boughs and chin said, Well, who the hell is he? And when I got off the bus and I passed her, I said I'm sorry I wasn't anybody. And then even the driver laugh that will never happen anywhere except in America. I don't know why it is but I do know that humans learn to treasure this fact that everybody is your friend in America because it doesn't exist elsewhere. And I lived in England I never felt safe for a moment. That when I got here the first time I was on Mr. Letterman Show and he said is your number in the telephone book and I Did Why would anyone have an telephone and not have their number in the book?



1:05:14

I mean, if you're not careful, you'll get stuck with your friends unless you have your number in the book



1:05:32

and I did have a half hour and half a dozen calls some times of a teasing, jokey named Sharon, sometimes threatening my life. But in England, I had half 1000 calls a day, threatening my life. I used to say, Do you want an appointment? But now that sworn off, people telephone me on all hours of the day and night. It's true. But they are friendly, sometimes say one to answers. Sometimes they only want to talk. Recently, a man telephoned me at 10 to four in the morning and said, Did you know that Gobbo had died? And I said, Yes, I didn't know. And he said, I suppose that means we should all die.



1:06:38

And I said it does. And he rang off, I didn't know who it was, I don't know.



1:06:49

But it's still worth it. I try never to disconnect my telephone, you do gaming, then you can't disconnect your phone. You can only take the receiver of the receiver rest. And then he cries. But here you can disconnect the phone and it rings and nobody knows and you're really in bed asleep and taking no notice. But in general, I try not to do this because I feel that I have to give

something in return. If I who am only English, I'm allowed to live in America, I have to ask myself what do I give in return? And sensation can be build a wing for our hospital or endow a university? All I have to give is my infinite availability



1:08:06

What can I tell you? What am I saying? You know? Am I saying the things you wish to hear



1:08:18

him and see when I've said enough. We go on for a while what shall I tell you now about the writing of the book *simony* mo written the books that people told me to write. When I hand in the time, it's going to die and say all these the words you wish to print. I wrote the story of my life, because I had spoken some words on the third program in England. And this man to that a publisher that said I owe to write the story of my life. And then I did it cause noastre whatsoever. People like now to say which was a best seller at the time, it was no such thing. It sold about 3000 copies and 13,000 copies are not a best seller banter in the end, it was made into a television play. And when I was first told that the movie rights had been bought, I thought it was a joke. But it turned out that Mr. Mackay wanted to write a scenario which he did. And he ran the hackers through the streets of London for four years trying to raise the money to make it into a movie and he couldn't. So in the end he settled for it being a television play featuring Mr. her. And I'm sure he felt that that time that he had settled for less, and so did I. But in fact, it had an advantage. If you make a movie with a homerun saying, Shawn be, it is only seen by other homosexuals, oh, and by liberals wishing to be seen going into the cinema and coming up.



1:10:39

But on English television at that time, there were only two channels, there was either or, there was the BBC or the dog food program. There was culture or entertainment. And so people saw the story of my life, by default. Humans demand gen, a woman standing in the kitchen and calling back to her husband, what's on now. And he says the Queen's and she says, what's on the other side, and he says, the news. And she says, go back to where you are. So that 100 Some people saw the story of my life, because it was less dreary than the news.



1:11:46

And it may have been the first time that hundreds of people had a glimpse of what it is like to be the one among the many. Because that is a sense in which my life has been different from the life of other people. I have always been the one among the many. I am never with people, they are in my presence. I never have a conversation I am only ever interviewed. And this is something which I think some people never think about at all. They move forward with their brothers and sisters. They go to a school where they have the same ambitions and the same pastimes as the other people in the school, and they never have to question anything they do. But I've had to question everything. Because people are always saying, Why do you say this? Why do you do this? Why do you wear this? So I've always had to have the answers ready. And

this has meant that I've had to get some external idea of myself, I've had to see myself doing something stand the way other people see me. And this is one of the purposes of existence, is to try to reconcile the glowing opinion we have of ourselves with the terrible things that other people say about us. And the combination of these two opposite opinions, is your identity. But that's not enough. Your identity is what you're stuck with. You then have to learn to package to process and to market your identity so that it becomes a lifestyle. And once you've done that, you will have something with which to do barter with the rest of the world. And the great use of it is of course that you can spend most of your life on television which means you are with the world I like being on television for that reason you are with the world. I am never going to sit on television in front of 8 million people saying really I'm a very private person



1:14:39

should we I've done this bit Oh, that's later bank. So that I wouldn't say one of the keys to happiness is to decide on your image and learn to present in to in the world so that Everybody knows what magnetic. It's the way in which you cut away all the dead wood, from human relationships. When we say of people, they are boring, it is ourselves and we criticize, because it means that we have not made ourselves into that wide open vessel into which they can pour everything. Because nobody is boring, who will tell the truth about himself. And if people recognize in you immediately, what they can say to you, what they can appropriately talk to you about, then all your relations with people are intimate, and immediate. Nobody ever talks to me about the weather. They know what they can say they know what they can ask, and they know what I made, will be able to tell them. And in this way, I have acquired a new profession in America, I become a professional loser. And in England, of course, the pursuit of success is considered vulgar. But in America, everybody was soon sitting says, so everybody has a mother, who says, You look marvelous, you're going to win, then you have to think about all the people who don't look marvelous and who are never going to win. And they write to me



1:16:56

because I am a self confessed, self evident failure. I'm not that angry, nor afraid. So that this is the messenger when children feel I am justified in giving them if at first you don't succeed, failure may be your style.



1:17:39

Let's go on



1:17:50

everybody should write a book. And it should be about himself. Because this is the tale that no one else can tell. And a number of people write to me or come and see me and then say, I want to write the story of my life that I need, I need help, I don't know how to write. And this, of course, is a mistake, never receive help. When you're writing about your cell, it means of constantly wanting to write literature, they want to put in the bit about the sun setting behind the pine trees. And that, of course, is a complete waste of time, because anybody can write

about that. And every time anybody has said to me, they want to write a story in their life, and they want help. And I said, don't receive mail, go home, by a typewriter on the way, put the piece of paper in and begin. They say, Well, I would know where to begin. And I, I knew Frank Norman, who wrote a wonderful book called bang to write. So I don't know whether it's ever been printed here. He's spent almost all his early life in jail. And I said to him, If I said to you, what one's life in jail? Like, what would you say? And he said, I would say most of the guys in the choir were Christians. And I said, a book that begins most of the guys in the choir where quiz cannot fail



1:19:56

and it's always the same, your very own god true Didn't Stein said the way to say it is to say it. And I'm sure that that is what she meant. Nothing has to be made indirect or dressed up or put into a literary form. Everybody shouldn't write a book. And they shouldn't lay their entire life before the world, because you've only got one life to live. And Zion said, the thing is to share it with as many people as possible.



1:20:43

And then two is the reason why I go hither ended throughout America, to some very surprising places. I recently went to Dayton, in Ohio. And when I couldn't conceal the fact that I thought I was in the outback. Man said, You've been to Iowa, we're practically a suburb of New York compared with them. And I haven't been to Iowa, Iowa is flat. And if you lived in Iowa, until you were about 1011 12, you would never see anything except the sky. Because the whole state is common when a crop of corn you'll see in England, the word corn is when it doesn't mean the words of Barbara cotton, it means. It means wheat maize owns, right? They're all corn. But in America, corn is maize. And it is so high that as you walk through the streets, the landscape, you never see anything. Unless you're taller than the con. I was amazed. It really is a sea of maize, Iowa City. I had a lovely time, none of America and to me, they were frightened that they they handed me religious tracks as I went on the stage. And I read to them from that trip the other tracks before I began. And I have of course, often being asked on stage whether I believe in God. And the last time I was asked is saying I'm willing to answer this question. But I would not like to say anything that gives offence and the Man in the audience said Why stop for now.



1:23:22

But it is never my intention to offends people now seem to imagine that I lived my early life deliberately in trying to give offense to the world. This is not so I only tried to live my life in a way that expressed my entire personality by to cause exhibitionism is like a drag off after a while you can take a dose of it that would kill anyone who was just starting out. And then one day, you will have to make up your mind knew how much are you doing tweeting spread shows itself? And how much are you doing to annoy your mother?



1:24:28

And that really is the whole question. If there were no praise and no blame, who would you be

And that really is the whole question. If there were no praise and no blame, who would you be then? And once you know the answer to that you're know who you really, truly are. And that seems to me the the very essence of living is to try and discover who basically you are when you're not either trying to please or annoy the Well, and I certainly been trying to make my peace with the world all the time that I lived in England, I didn't have much sense, but I certainly tried. And I have never never defined the world. I once met to Mr. Barrow. And within a few minutes, he had said, What is worth having is worth fighting for. And I said that which we can only maintain by force we should try to do without, he never spoke to me again. But I do think you will have to try not to ask for more and more. And I say this, because I've come from so far back, that to me, it already seem that you will have more than certainly than I ever dreamed you would have. Partly because you are Americans, but partly because times have changed. And you are much freer than than I ever dreamed anyone any homosexual community would be. And I do think it is terribly important to not to imagine that politics or any health. Politics are the art of trying to make the inevitable appear to be a matter of wise human choice. That's all politicians can do. And once you realize that politics are not for you, they're for politicians, then the whole of life becomes explicable teaching is for teachers. Acting is for actors. Religion is for priests. Politicians are for politicians. They are simply a way in which certain people extend the Kingdom. All these people, teachers, preteens, politicians, all these people are people who cannot live within income of prey. So they extend their horizon, they find some way of floating their personality over a larger area.



1:27:54

So I think the thing to do is to have as little expense as little as possible from the world, and don't expect too much from one another. But I think that one human sent in that there's no limit to how happy you can be. Are you happy? In general? Good.



1:28:26

Enough. How about any impressions from Texas? Oh, yes, I have. I've done a lot of tanks since I've done Dallas. I've done Denton. I've done. Austin, very beautiful. I've done San Antonio. And the audience was pleased when they knew that I knew that it was the birthplace of Joan Crawford. And the first thing you'll have to recognize in Texas when you come to him as a foreigner is that Texas is another country



1:29:16

in Dallas, every sentence begins with texts. And they parade that state consciousness and then they parade them about an index Dallas. The men have heels on their shoes than high on hands when Jan another five inches done their heads. And when they paraded their bow. They parade their big heartedness and they embrace you in any pretense don't none. And the viewing spreads surprise they say we Texans have to have our morning



1:30:04

So no wonder I had a wonderful time thank you very much.

J Jack Valinski 1:31:16

I'm kidding, we're not in Kansas anymore. Because KPFT and Houston and this is a special edition of Wildenstein, a show point about the gay and lesbian community. And I'm Jack Valinski, along with Deborah Bell, and we're doing live broadcasting out here in front, not a very big crowd right now, I would say,

D Deborah Bell 1:31:33

well, they're not over in the stage area yet, because this area is still being set up for the entertainment that's going to be taking place all evening. We're next to the tennis courts. And I understand that's going to be the dance floor. Oh, so where there's a nice breeze, there's a lovely park here, the so they're, they're setting up, they're gonna have some live performers singing on the stage next to us. So we're probably gonna have some background noise of people still testing instruments and sound checks. The carnival rides are set up there several are the games of chance that you can take part in. There are some wonderful food vendors. There's also the community booth.

J Jack Valinski 1:32:12

Can't very impressive there are community booths from all over.

D Deborah Bell 1:32:16

And there's also games you can take part in there and wonderful products made by people in the community, local businesses, T and T shirts is over there. Some wonderful shirts by Carlos who's the graphic artist for printf plus. And oh, I was I kind of skimmed through last night some of the things and I was so tickled there's, of course a booth Fran Richards, there's the Lesbian Gay lobby, rights lobby, Booth. Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus has some really fun stuff. And so people can just come out, there's an admission charge. If you didn't come yesterday, or have a two day pass, you can buy your pass for today. And children under 12 If they're accompanied by an adult or get to come in free, and enjoy the facilities here today, and anyone is welcome everyone it is for the gay and lesbian community but it's also for people that are part of this community of the city of Houston. Also, we

J Jack Valinski 1:33:18

want to thank our kamikaze driver who got us here before most of the parade, I think we bet the eight over his did a great

D Deborah Bell 1:33:23

job and and we even though we had to skirt around HPD. And they didn't, they weren't impressed that we were with the press. Go around, we don't care. She had a uniform and a

gun. I wasn't gonna argue whether

J Jack Valinski 1:33:36

but I do want to take this minute to thank the programmers relinquish their time this week to let us do this special broadcast. And those programs. We'll be back next Sunday at the regular time, the prison program and some of the other programs and also want to thank the people who relinquished their times for the coverage of the International AIDS Conference in San Francisco. And I think Pacifica should be real proud of their coverage. It sounded absolutely professional. And I'm

D Deborah Bell 1:34:01

and it brought something to us that we wouldn't get anywhere else. And that was really important to hear some of the things that are going on at that conference. They've done a great job. And then again, thanks to going Ganter for being there in the studio helping us with this remote. It's a challenge to do it this

J Jack Valinski 1:34:18

way, especially the way we operate.

D Deborah Bell 1:34:21

And the parade was just fantastic. We're still kind of digesting some of the sights and sounds of the event. And we have one of our famous community activists here with us now. Okay,

J Jack Valinski 1:34:32

Harper, and nice picture on the post today. Yes.

K Kay Harper 1:34:35

Isn't that wonderful? My mom's gonna die.

D Deborah Bell 1:34:37

No, she won't die.

J Jack Valinski 1:34:41

Is the switchboard open today?



1:34:43

Yes, we sure are. Okay.



Jack Valinski 1:34:44

Are you like transferring calls to here? No, no,



Kay Harper 1:34:46

no, I'm not doing that today. It's not my night. I've done my bed. I walked. I'm selling buttons. I'm doing all the good stuff I'm supposed to be doing besides answering phones,



Deborah Bell 1:34:56

which you do have staff at down at the switchboard for people that would like to call and find out about community organizations and referral. Oh, you have a brochure. Oh, okay. Okay.



Kay Harper 1:35:09

I just figured I was gonna forget what I needed to say. 5293211 is the most important thing. That's how to get in touch with us. And switchboard is just an information and referral service for the community.



Jack Valinski 1:35:20

Okay, well, what type of referral? I mean, do people call up for information on bars on AIDS information?



Kay Harper 1:35:27

Bars, AIDS informations. If you want a lawyer or a doctor who's gay sympathetic, do you want to get involved in a group like the outdoor group or the symphonic band, we can put you in touch with people to do that.



Jack Valinski 1:35:39

So a lot of smaller groups who can't really afford to have their own phone number or somebody crazy enough to give their own phone number for their group. They can use the switchboard. Yeah,

K Kay Harper 1:35:47
that's one of the things we do and just the fact that you know, we know what's out there. And if you don't know what the Diana's are or whatever,

J Jack Valinski 1:35:55
what are the don't have your book in front of you. No, but the

K Kay Harper 1:35:59
Diana's are a service organization, and they do a big party every year. Actually, I'm not sure we have them listed. But

D Deborah Bell 1:36:08
the switchboard itself is a service organization to the community. And they operate fully by volunteers

K Kay Harper 1:36:15
extremely much all volunteer, do it on a little bit more than \$800 a month, all donated.

J Jack Valinski 1:36:22
And it's a 501 C three organization, it's five at once. 501 C three, so you can write it off. So like I could just go over there and answer phones for the switchboard, right?

K Kay Harper 1:36:30
No, no, no, no, you have to go through training, we want to make sure that you can pick up a telephone properly. And we offer training. We've got two more classes this year, and then we're going to be offering it six times next year.

J Jack Valinski 1:36:42
Wow, that's almost around the clock then. But how many volunteers? Do you have answering telephones?

K Kay Harper 1:36:48

Um, ideally, we would have 42. We're a little bit less than that right now. We are understaffed. And that's one of the things that we're working on right now.

J Jack Valinski 1:36:57

So you need people to get involved in the next training session is

K Kay Harper 1:37:00

August 10 11th 12th 18th. And 19th. Boy, that's good. And you weren't even looking at the paper? That's because it's not on the paper. It's

D Deborah Bell 1:37:08

a little what, 36 hours? Yeah, so that people are well versed in what's going on in the community, what's available in the community that they can answer those phones answered those calls intelligently? Yeah,

K Kay Harper 1:37:21

a lot of it is just learning what kinds of calls we take, and getting to where you're, you're comfortable answering some of the scary kinds of calls like AIDS calls or or crisis intervention calls. We do a lot of AIDS, we don't do very much crisis intervention, but they're scary calls to pick up. And also young people or people coming out. Yeah, we we do a lot of coming out calls. And it's not just young people. A lot of them are 3540 year old people who've been married and have kids and have lots more different ramifications to the process. But we also we also give a chance for younger people to volunteer. We are one of the few organizations that that will let you volunteer at 18.

J Jack Valinski 1:38:02

Is it also an organization where people can get to know the community? I mean, if you volunteer to become phone answers, is it sort of you sort of operate like a family? In other words, do you fight to oh yes, we

K Kay Harper 1:38:12

fight a lot. But we a really is it's been a wonderful experience being involved. I've been involved for almost three years. And it is some of the best friends I have ever made have been through switchboard and it really is a family.

J Jack Valinski 1:38:26

Great. Well, thanks for coming by. And we wish you the best of luck and continuing the switchboard because it's very important organization to our community. Kay Harper, are you have a title or are you just



1:38:36

vice president? Vice President?



Deborah Bell 1:38:37

Okay, yeah, she was the official switchboard person. We always see her I always associate the two. Now I



Kay Harper 1:38:43

am the official switchboard dyke comes out.



Deborah Bell 1:38:48

That's not quite true.



Jack Valinski 1:38:50

Well, thank you. Okay.



1:38:52

Y'all have a good day.



Jack Valinski 1:38:53

You're listening to KPFT Pacifica radio here in Houston. KPFT. Houston is part of the Pacifica foundation and we do these things we do live broadcast. We're at Starlight 90, which is part of the gay and lesbian Pride Week celebration. It's the final part of the gay lesbian Pride Week celebration for 1990. And there's a live stage here. Thelma Euston will be here later. And but it's getting going now it's getting going. People are coming in because it's cooling off a little bit. The sun's going down.



Deborah Bell 1:39:19

Yeah, I think the final part of the parade is actually making it over to the military service center which is at 1475 West gray, between Dunlavy and wall drive and if you haven't had a chance to

which is at 1475 West Gray, between Dunlavy and Wall Drive and if you haven't had a chance to come out today, to be part of the festivities, this is a chance to still do so you can't park right at the center. There is a bank parking building right at the corner of West Gray and Wall Drive where free parking is available. And then along the side streets in the area you can park and so there's an admission charge to get in it's \$5 it goes to help the Montrose activity center and you can have access to the entertainment the rides the food and it's It's really exciting to be here to wind up this Lesbian Gay Pride Week 90 in this way

J Jack Valinski 1:40:06

and wind down a little bit to the planning and the time that was put into putting this event together. And basically the reason we do pride work, I

D Deborah Bell 1:40:14

mean, it really I wish people could realize the amount of work that and commitment of people involved that the committee that gets together, they've been working on it for a whole year, and this is their day, it's our day. For our community. It is happy Lesbian and Gay Pride down here, we're working. And here we are working. No, this is volunteer volunteering.

J Jack Valinski 1:40:35


And that's what the community is made up. It's made up of volunteers, as we're talking about all the contingents that went by the parade, we were talking about all the different art nonprofit organizations, and even the businesses, the businesses that support many of the organizations in town, and the gay and lesbian businesses, most of them pay a double tax, they pay the normal taxes, they pay the community. Plus, they also support a lot of the organizations in town. And a lot of them got started to that. And the bars have a very special meaning to this community. Because that was the first place where people were able to feel comfortable in coming there where they weren't, there wasn't a Montrose clinic 10 or 20 years ago, our counseling center or the switchboard or any of those organizations, or you know, KPFT is just celebrating its 20th anniversary, and

D Deborah Bell 1:41:16


also the fact that the Stonewall Rebellion began at a bar.

J Jack Valinski 1:41:21

And amazing thing in the hot summer time, the interview we were listening to with Quinton Crisp, was a he wrote that back in the late 60s, the naked civil servant, which was then made into a tele movie, a television movie telling you got British there for him. It was really interesting, because they tried to make it into a real movie. But they there wasn't enough support for that. So ended up on television, which meant it got a lot wider distribution.

 Deborah Bell 1:41:43


He was so wonderful. And like I said, it is such a delight to see someone that you've heard about all for a long time. And then to find out they're really like the way you always

 Jack Valinski 1:41:54

are. Well, we have another guest with us. His name is Chris and he's with the month explained that to me again, it's a newer, I didn't quite know it.

 1:42:02

It's the Houston Clinical Research Network where division of the Montrose clinic were funded partially by the American Foundation for AIDS research, which is the group that Liz Taylor started to bring community based experimental drug trials for HIV and AIDS to the community level and make it available to more people and get these drugs approved faster than the normal means.

 Jack Valinski 1:42:19

Okay, I didn't know that was going on here and used and how extensive is it,

 1:42:23

we're up and going now we've been around for about six months, we haven't done a lot of promotion, because we didn't want to get 1000 people onto our patient registry and get them all excited, and then not have anything going on, we now have four drug trials going on, we have some more coming. So we're really getting up and started and advertising and letting people know that this is available to them. It's a really nice thing for the HIV and AIDS infected individual because Houston has the fourth largest HIV infected population in the nation yet has a terrible, terrible record of doing these experimental trials. So this was developed to try to bring some of this to Houston and do some of the things they're doing in San Francisco and New York, and some of the other areas to make these experimental drugs available. Well, it was sort


 Jack Valinski 1:43:03

of embarrassing that Houston is considers itself a Medical City, and in fact that it's supposed to be the largest medical center in the world. And yet we weren't doing this. It was also very embarrassing that the AIDS hospital was set up a few years ago and didn't make it.

 1:43:16

On top of that. It's just It startles me, the number of of even physicians in Houston that I talked


to that really are not knowledgeable at all about HIV disease, and have to call us and ask us questions about how they should treat these patients. And to me, that's just just a terrible position to be and when we're such a large city, and we're supposed to be such a great medical community, well, why don't really know these facts? So that's, that's what we're here for. That's we're here to change that.

 Jack Valinski 1:43:40

Okay. Are you familiar with some of the other things that the clinic does? Yes, I am. Well, let's tell me a little bit about the HIV testing.

 1:43:47

Okay, we have anonymous HIV testing that the clinic does, I'm sorry, I'm not aware of exactly what hours they do that because I'm not that involved with that area of it. However, there is pretest counseling and after test counseling, which is very, very important. We also have a program called the next step, which in English is done the first two Tuesdays of each month and in Spanish, the third Tuesday of each month. And that is for people that have recently tested HIV positive, and it's a counseling session, to let them know what's available to them what they need to do next, we do a T for evaluation for free for them, so that we can then give them medical advice about where they stand with their infection. Okay, and

 Jack Valinski 1:44:24

it's my understanding when somebody goes in there to get tested, their name isn't even taken, that they just are taking a number is given to them. And the only way that they can come back and get the results is have that number,

 1:44:33


right? That's absolutely true. It's always anonymous, the patient can request that they would like their name put on it so the record can be sent to their doctor or something along those lines, that's fine, but unless they request it, it's entirely anonymous. Okay.

 Jack Valinski 1:44:46

And there is a charge for that. No, that's

 1:44:48


that there's no charge for the HIV testing. We request a \$10 donation, however, that's optional. If they don't want to give the \$10 We'll still do the test and there is no charge for it.

 Jack Valinski 1:44:58

I'm hearing that the counseling that they clinic is basically growing out of its facility. It's been growing so much.

 1:45:03


We have branched off quite a bit they what is known as the Montrose clinic, or what people think of us as is now actually the Thomas det clinic. The Montrose clinic, is the parent organization, which runs not only the Thomas Odette clinic where we do the STD testing and HIV counseling. We have the Thomas Odette Center, which is more of a psychological and the social arm of it, where we do the next step program and counseling for HIV positives, the women's outreach groups that we do that kind of thing. And then the Research Network, which I'm part of is another branch

 Jack Valinski 1:45:35


of the Montrose clinic. Okay, and the Montrose clinic is located at

 1:45:39

1200 Richmond corner of Richmond and growl Stark. Okay, the phone number 5285554 is clinical research. 5285535 is where they can reach the clinic.

 Jack Valinski 1:45:49

Okay, thank you, Chris, for coming by and talking about the clinic and some of the areas that you're involved in. Okay, great.

 Deborah Bell 1:45:53

Thanks for that work. The, if you think that you may be at risk for HIV infection, it is so important to get tested. First of all, because you need information, you need information about what resources are available in the community to help you, you also need to know what drugs are available that can maybe help you stay healthier, longer, we're getting more and more a new language concerning AIDS. And instead of saying PWA, people with AIDS, the phrase is becoming PW la people living with AIDS. And that is what AIDS is really about more and more, it's not so much that people are dying, which is still taking place. That's true. But the chances of living longer and healthier, while you're infected, are increasing because of some of the drugs. And that's one of the things that they're doing over there at that clinic and trying to make those more accessible to the people that are in need. There are certain we're going to be having more closure on to talk about safer sex practices, which is the first step for prevention.

 Jack Valinski 1:46:50

J Jack Valinski 1:46:59

And one of the issues we're going to address is a relapse. I've been hearing some stuff about that, that men who have been practicing safer sex, all of a sudden are getting well.

D Deborah Bell 1:47:07

The amount of infection in the gay community among gay men had decreased. And so people were saying, well, it's really not there. We flicked aids. It's not so much a concern for our community, because AIDS is moving more towards other communities, there's more minority people affected. There's people that are drug abusers that are getting infected, there's women and children that are becoming infected. It is spreading more in this country among the heterosexual population, because unsafe sex practices take place there as well. And because of people that use drugs in that community, so it's, it's has caused for some of the guys to think, well, it's really okay. And I don't have to be as cautious as I happen. But that's simply not true. Maybe more than ever, we need to take the responsibility for ourselves and our partners and and participate in safer sex.

J Jack Valinski 1:48:04

Deborah Bell, you amaze me and how much you know about aid? Well,

D Deborah Bell 1:48:08

you know, I, I worked on the issue in my employment, but also because of people that I have known and unfortunately have lost. And because it's a mother of male children, I feel like it I have to be able to know to tell them to educate them. They don't even want to hear it. They're still fairly young. And there's they're yet not being factual. But when they're prepared, they're going to be prepared because I don't want you've had conversations with your children about sex. I certainly have. And I tell you, I'm very explicit. And I'm very blunt, because what does it take? Not too long ago, Bartlow. Sure. And Blanca Balderas did a program on breakthrough where they were talking about safer sex, you know, safer sex is becoming more of an issue in the women's community. An area was that we really thought we were pretty safe. But now there's some questions about that. And, you know, what should we be doing? And some someone heard that and they said, Oh, aren't they being too graphic? And I said, No, they're not being too graphic. If it if that's what it takes for people to understand what is it involves it saving a life, if one person hears that and it makes a difference, then that's what it's all about. That's what it takes. And it's

J Jack Valinski 1:49:21

also talking about community standards. The standards for the gay and lesbian community are different than probably the standards of many other communities.

D Deborah Bell 1:49:28

And if you know, there's been a reluctance in this country for people to educate themselves, their

And it, you know, there's been a reluctance in this country, for people to educate properly, their children about sex and about sexuality, about loving one another, and in all the ways that that are encompassed in that and maybe in a mixed blessing kind of way AIDS has done that it has forced people to say yes, we better make sure the information is out there because otherwise we're killing our children.

J Jack Valinski 1:49:54

This is Jack Valinski, along with Deborah rebel and we're doing live coverage behind the stage of the sword To bacon stage right now, behind the scenes of the Metropolitan multi service center here on 1475, West grey, it's part of star night 90, which is a big finale celebration of Lesbian Gay Pride Week 1990. And there's still time to come on down. But if, you know we're taking a very serious approach, as we usually do in our show about what's going on in the community, because it's it's made up so many people who volunteer and help out, and not only one organization, but many different organizations,

D Deborah Bell 1:50:27

they turn tonight on the outdoor stage, they've already had a couple of things take place here today, but the they're going to be having a pride awards presentation with the sandy band during the presentation. She's the comic that it was here last night and we'll be here again tonight performing the Houston Lesbian Gay Pride Week committee members will also be presented. Fine bunch of people have done an outstanding job this year. And then at 530, there should be political representatives speaking out the 630 the Brazzers river bottoms Brazzers River Band 730. There's an open mic and then at 830 will be the performance by Phil my Houston with Sandy van. Now is plenty of time for people to get over here. There's a picnic area, there's a food court community booths. The names project is here with some of the banners actually even get things like iced tea. Yes, there's iced tea and lemonade and some nice deli sandwiches. From site cheese over there. There's

J Jack Valinski 1:51:30

designer cups. Yes, I understand. I mean,

D Deborah Bell 1:51:32

it's impressive that there's hot air balloon rides. And it's a nice facility from the city of Houston that we're able to use. And I think we have another person to talk to here. Joe Thornton with

J Jack Valinski 1:51:43

this with is with us right now is bright Flores great organization. Are you representing today? ACT UP Houston. Okay, among some of the many other organizations you're involved in? Correct. Tell us a little bit about act up. I don't know if you were able to hear some of the

coverage Pacific has done from San Francisco. But of course, a lot of that was around act up and what they were doing. I understand during the speech this afternoon from the Secretary of Health, that many people stood up and turn their back as he was giving the speech. Well, that's



1:52:11

the kind of thing act of Death Act as the demonstration organization. That's really all we do. And it's intended to educate the public and particularly politicians on the issues surrounding aids and additionally, the gay community and as to how that impact fades?



Jack Valinski 1:52:32

Well, it's really interesting. I don't know if you saw it today. But in the post, they had an excellent article in the Style section about the community Pride and Prejudice. But also in the post on page four. See, this gentleman named Charles Reese was saying that some of the things that have been done by these organizations probably hurt more than they helped, and that they're really screaming for more attention than they really deserve talking about people with AIDS.



1:52:54

Well, if, as the friend of mine says the price of freedom is eternal vigilance, and the Bill of Rights gives us the privilege of being able to speak out on public issues. And as long as we're exercising that right and doing it in a non violent way, I really don't understand why Mr. Racist problem is perhaps he needs to go to East Europe, and find out how those people feel about those kinds of freedoms. Okay,



Jack Valinski 1:53:22


that's a excellent answer. I wish I thought of it. So act, what does that cup Houston do?



1:53:28

ACT UP Houston, is like all the other aids chapters in the United States. We made on a more or less regular basis, we keep track of what's in the news and what's going on in public events. And when we see an opportunity to express our views on public issues, particularly the in the AIDS crisis, when people who have opposed legislation to help people with AIDS or to help with AIDS research, or who, like Jesse Helms not only opposes the legislation, but then offers amendments, blocking out the gay community somehow rather from what is passed, we try to make sure that people understand what's going on. And let the politicians know that we don't appreciate it. For instance, the demonstrations that the INF last week, which which not only occurred in San Francisco, but all over the United States, including here in Houston. There are a lot of people that I know at work who know me as being an actor who said, I didn't know they weren't letting people into the country. That's terrible, you know, that, you know, that they


come here to, you know, to for a conference or to travel or for medical care, you know, that's not right. And I just tell them, Well, you know, you need to talk to the people who control that kind of thing.

 Jack Valinski 1:54:50

What are some of the things specifically that you snack up chapter has done in demonstrations?

 1:54:55

Well, we've we've been fairly tame here in Houston. We haven't done a thing Well, disobedience yet? We have we've demonstrated when President Reagan was that George R brown Convention Center. I think that was the first one of the first demonstrations at the George R. Brown. We've done excuse me, the we've demonstrated so much that it's almost hard for me to remember all of them. The actually what we're interested in usually as what we're going to do, you know, we the current item of interest, two things, first of all, that Metro is going to change the, the route of one of the Metro buses that it provides to the door service to the Thomas Street Clinic, which is something that we had asked for over a year ago when the Thomas Street Clinic

 Jack Valinski 1:55:50

sort of surprises me that it took that long for Metro because I thought it was a very progressive organization. But I guess we're not always finding that out to be true. Well,

 1:55:57

the reason that they part of the reason they did that we think is because we were studying the list of possible places to demonstrate during the economic summit, and I think somebody sort of mentioned to Metro that they might be one of those places. And so that service change occurs on July, the second, seven days before the summit starts. Coincidence, coincidentally, and we are working on a number of demonstrations for the economic summit. We're expecting people from other active chapters, especially in this part of the country. But we need to do now that people from New York and Boston are coming. It's sort of difficult, because there are over 1000 people in San Francisco that have been demonstrating at the World AIDS conference. So it's, you know, you really can't expect people to do that. And then two or three weeks later, come to Houston, but some of them will do that.

 Jack Valinski 1:56:50

Oh, you mean you just don't fly in all these cities all the time, like they accused us of being able to vote that way?



1:56:55

No. And and they, you know, for some reason, people think we have all kinds of money that we don't have. I think someone has been saying that we're the Houston ACT UP has been getting grants from New York act up and we haven't seen a penny yet. Where's that trickle down theory? Yeah. In fact, that's really all I want to say about that. Because I think there's some legal action common contemplated. Okay,



Jack Valinski 1:57:17

let's put on a different hat here. I know shortly also on the police Advisory Commission, city of Houston and representing the game has been Political Caucus. We've had been hearing a lot of reports reading stories in the Montrose voice about violence in the Montrose area. And also rape is apparently on the uprise in the Montrose area. What is happening on that front?



1:57:39

Well, I'll tell you, it's kinda difficult to find out. The police Advisory Committee met last week for our regular monthly meeting and no one was there from the police department.



Jack Valinski 1:57:48

I read it Wait a minute, wait a minute. This is the Houston it's the Houston Police Advisory Commission. And they didn't show up. Now. We're really out fishing or something.



1:57:58

No one's quite sure what they do down on reasoner Street. Pay apparently we just don't have their attention. You know, I understand the concern about violence in the Montrose I had something stolen out of my car today on the way to the lineup for the parade. So I'm not probably not an interested bystander when talking about crime problems in the Montrose I think that's something that that happens all over the city. I don't live in Montrose. I live in southwest Houston and and people out there dealing with the folks that are breaking into people's houses and baiting them up and taking their cash and jewelry. So you know, that's nothing that happens all over the city. Part of the solution to that, of course, is higher visibility of the police and to do that we're going to have to have more police. But you know, we kind of hesitate to go to your city council member and say give them more money when they don't seem to be doing a very good job with what they've got. Though a lot of people don't realize that Houston Police Department spends over \$170 million a year and if they aren't getting enough bang for that money, then you started don't want to give them any more.



Jack Valinski 1:59:10

Okay. Well, thank you, Joe, for coming by. And keep us posted on the progress. Okay, thank you. You're listening to live coverage of star night 90. We're talking to many different community leaders. This is Jack Valinski along with danner Bell

community leaders. This is Jack Valinski, along with Dapper Ben

D Deborah Bell 1:59:23

and with me say my name. When I say this is Jack Valinski, and this is Deborah. And we have another visitor here with us Live at the Star night Nani event. This is Dennis Spencer and Dennis is the president of the Houston gay lesbian Political Caucus. Welcome.

D Dennis Spencer 1:59:42

Thank you very much.

J Jack Valinski 1:59:43

So what's happening with GOP see these days are you all like taking a vacation because it's the summer season?

D Dennis Spencer 1:59:49

Now that you're saying that in jest, because you're well aware that we are in the process of organizing our political endeavors for November general election And this includes not only having speakers come to our general meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, but voter registration. We'll be doing block walking. We'll do our and our election news and work the precincts on election day as well as have very good precinct organization.

J Jack Valinski 2:00:23

One of the things that was mentioned in the article today in the Sunday post, I don't know if you got to see it. But it mentioned that the mailing list of the gay lesbian Political Caucus and only a small portion of it is actually in Montrose. Is that true?

D Dennis Spencer 2:00:35

Well, actually, if you consider 1/3, a small portion as approximately what we estimate that live in zip code, oh, 698 and 19, to the north of Montrose, the rest of our individuals live throughout the city, our second largest zip code, interesting love is 56, which is the gallery of post oak area.

D Deborah Bell 2:00:57

Okay. So around the city and people that are even outside of Houston can be involved.

—

D Dennis Spencer 2:01:04

That's quite true. On our mailing list, not only do we have Houstonians, but individuals live in Harris County, Texas, and numerous cities throughout the nation.

J Jack Valinski 2:01:14

One of the things that's been said about the game has been Political Caucus, that the screening process is very tough for a candidate to get an endorsement. Is that true?

D Dennis Spencer 2:01:22

It's, we've been told that it's the best screening process of any political organization in the city. Not only does it include a written questionnaire, but a verbal question period or interview. Some people call it an interrogation. We're very, very interested in the candidates views on gay and lesbian issues. And if they don't come up to our standards, per se, then they certainly don't get the nod or the endorsement of the organization. Now, is

J Jack Valinski 2:01:50

it only gay and lesbian issues? No, we

D Dennis Spencer 2:01:53

also it's a myriad of issues because we're the citizens of the city and the state just like anybody else. So we're in taxpayers taxation, we're interested in schools. We're interested in quality of life. We're interested in very, very small things. It's very large things, women's issues and the ecology. So our questionnaire is broad based, though it does specialize in gay and lesbian issues. Okay,

J Jack Valinski 2:02:23

well, thank you for coming.