

CREATH BRB--
ROBINSON:

HOST: Jamie is an incredible entertainer, and has been with TGRA, and doing shows, and just putting herself out for years now.

CREATH Most definitely.
ROBINSON:

JIM NIXON: Yes.

JIM SORGINI: And Mr. BRB is Larry Wittek.

JIM NIXON: Oh.

JIM SORGINI: So I have to say, I don't know Larry, but I've not meet him.

CREATH I'll have to look forward to meeting him.
ROBINSON:

JIM NIXON: Yeah. You bet.

CREATH Absolutely.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: But we all know Jamie Roberts. We all look up to her.

[LAUGHTER]

JIM NIXON: Sure do. Sure do.

CREATH You have no choice there.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: That's great.

CREATH And to continue on with the evening, we're going to go back to the Rip Cord this year.
ROBINSON:

JIM NIXON: Oh.

CREATH After the BRB, and that's going to start at 10 o'clock with a cocktail party by Brotherhood of Pain, which is our
ROBINSON: newest HCC member.

JIM SORGINI: That's great. And they're having their anniversary run too, coming up. They just had it?

CREATH Just had it recently. Their 12th anniversary.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: 12th. 12th anniversary.

CREATH ROBINSON: Yeah, it's quite successful. Then at 11 PM is Cocktails by the Misfits.

JIM NIXON: Ah.

JIM SORGINI: Which we're both involved with.

JIM NIXON: Ah.

CREATH ROBINSON: Slightly.

JIM SORGINI: Slightly. So if you hadn't had enough to do on, Louie, you get to do this.

JIM NIXON: Absolutely.

CREATH ROBINSON: Exactly. Exactly. So that's always anticipated. We do a special punch every year that people know that we always have for Louie, so it will be no different. And then at midnight is the Garden Party, which is a local club here as well.

JIM NIXON: I'm glad to see that they're still around.

CREATH ROBINSON: Exactly.

JIM NIXON: And this year, I'm really going to push for our community to back them.

CREATH ROBINSON: I hope so. I hope so. They've been around for a number of years.

JIM NIXON: A long time. I know that their attendance has dropped off in the last few years, and we need to work it back up.

CREATH ROBINSON: I agree.

JIM SORGINI: It's a fun, fun thing to do. You don't-- you can go and you don't have to even go in drag, you know? I have escorted people before and still had a great time.

CREATH ROBINSON: It's truly a tradition-- a Houston tradition that is slowly dying, and the community needs to get together and put it back together.

JIM NIXON: You betcha.

CREATH ROBINSON: I agree. So we'll be looking forward to seeing them at midnight. And then from there, everybody just kind of goes their own way for the balance of Saturday.

JIM NIXON: And by that time, everybody's going to be so pretty.

CREATH ROBINSON: Oh, definitely. Definitely. Most definitely. Then we reconvene on Sunday.

JIM NIXON: Woo!

JIM SORGINI: For the big finale, huh?

CREATH
ROBINSON: The big finale.

JIM SORGINI: Oh--

CREATH
ROBINSON: Actually, this Sunday's even grown even more so this year.

JIM NIXON: This is not to be missed.

CREATH
ROBINSON: It's going to be another big day.

JIM NIXON: Yeah.

CREATH
ROBINSON: We start out at Rich's at noon, and Rich's is going to supply a wonderful brunch--

JIM SORGINI: Oh, it's always great.

CREATH
ROBINSON: They always do. And at noon, the first cocktail party will be put on by Bears on the Bayou, which I believe they're planning on doing a big event this year as well. And then at 1:00 PM, Miss Camp America is coming back and doing a cocktail party this year.

JIM SORGINI: All right.

CREATH
ROBINSON: And this is our second year to participate with them. We welcome that. And for the first time, at 2:00 PM, Gulf Coast Archives and Museum.

JIM NIXON: Tada! Yes!

CREATH
ROBINSON: We're welcoming that.

JIM SORGINI: Yes, I'll be awake by then. And that will be the actual last official cocktail party of Louis weekend.

JIM NIXON: Official.

CREATH
ROBINSON: Official. Yes. Yes. I emphasize official. Of course, at 1:00 PM, just as Miss Camp America is kicking off their cocktail party, we will start to show the show of shows, which--

JIM SORGINI: Which is not to be missed.

JIM NIXON: It is the best show of the year. It really, really is. You can't imagine the amount of imagination and creativity that go into these things. I'm always floored by these shows. And the one that stands out is the Village People Then and Now.

JIM SORGINI: It's just-- Creath, you were involved in that.

JIM NIXON: That was just incredible.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Yes, I am reminded of that every time I go in my attic and see the walkers up there.

JIM SORGINI: That was just, I mean, genius. I mean--

JIM NIXON: Yes.

JIM SORGINI: Couldn't believe it.

JIM NIXON: Yes.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** That was quite fun, and it was very well received. And now let me tell you all. I will tell you this. And having experienced this the last few years, it gets very hard to accomplish something that you did last year--

JIM NIXON: Top yourself every year.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** I mean, you just can't do it. You have to digress somewhere. You just have to. You cannot always do it. Although, I will have to say The Misfits do outdo themselves.

JIM SORGINI: Oh.

JIM NIXON: Yeah.

JIM SORGINI: So don't give it away. I know you won't, but--

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Oh, I can't. I can't. Absolutely not.

JIM SORGINI: It's just great. Because I was involved in that two years ago, and I had made-- in LA-- used these-- made these props that we did the song that broke apart, and--

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** That was wonderful.

JIM SORGINI: It was just incredible to put all this time and effort into these things that just got destroyed.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Exactly. To the tune of mama said there would be days like this.

[LAUGHTER]

I'll never forget it. That was excellent. That was excellent.

JIM SORGINI: It was really fun to do. So I think if anything, of course, all this is just great. You have to see the show at rich's.

JIM NIXON: Oh, yeah. Definitely.

CREATH ROBINSON: Yeah. If you can't participate in any other part of the weekend, please do try to come to Rich's.

JIM NIXON: And it's just a wonderful hospitality thing that Houston does. People all over the country know Louis and they know of all the hospitality and the show.

CREATH ROBINSON: You bet. You bet.

JIM NIXON: And the show.

CREATH ROBINSON: And I will tell you this, that, of course, you do need to run to be able to attend some of these events, the dinners, the food, and stuff like that. But for things like the show, everyone is welcome to that. Most definitely. And we would like to invite the public and anybody that's not been to Louis before, come to the show and experience it.

JIM NIXON: Yeah.

JIM SORGINI: Just have a good laugh.

JIM NIXON: Yes. No kidding. Yeah.

CREATH ROBINSON: Exactly. So you never know what you might see.

JIM SORGINI: That's great. And you're doing something a little different this year too, right?

CREATH ROBINSON: We are. We are. In the past-- in the past two or three years, we've had a couple of groups from Washington, DC come down for Louie, and they're coming again this year. We've been notified-- warned, I guess-- that they're coming in.

So we actually set up an official-- unofficial schedule at Mary's-- naturally after Rich's-- for cocktail parties. And they're going to, once again, the DC Boys are coming in, give their cocktail parties, but we've also got another surprise this year. Fire Dancers Dallas are going to kick that off at 3:00 PM, the cocktail party for us. So that's going to continue on from 3 PM on.

And last year, I believe the DC Boys cocktail party, Jim, what? Went about 2 and 1/2, 3 hours?

JIM NIXON: Probably, yeah. The latest.

CREATH ROBINSON: They just kept pouring liquor, and Outback was just packed. We had a blast. And of course, at this point in time, that's when I can breathe.

JIM NIXON: That's right. That's when you can really--

CREATH ROBINSON: I don't care.

JIM SORGINI: The downhill slide.

CREATH Exactly. Exactly. I don't have to worry about it. No, not this year. Not this year.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: And we're going to get into that in a minute. Why don't we take a little break?

JIM NIXON: OK.

JIM SORGINI: And we'll get into a little bit more and talk about Creath's schedule coming up here.

CREATH Sure.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: If he hadn't had-- if he doesn't have enough to do, you won't believe what's coming up.

CREATH Exactly.
ROBINSON:

JIM NIXON: Oh, I got to hear this. And it's going to be right after Cub 65 from his latest CD, talking about hanky codes. And the one-- my favorite, because of the music, is the one I'm going to play right now. It's "Red." And you're listening to it on *After Hours*, Queer Radio with Attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Oh. Cub 65 with "Red."

JIM SORGINI: "Red." I like that.

JIM NIXON: Yeah. Yeah. Yeah.

CREATH All right.
ROBINSON:

JIM NIXON: Good song too.

JIM SORGINI: Well, we're here on the leather line. Jim Sorgini, we're talking with Creath Robinson and Jim Nixon about Louis weekend. And again, for those just joining us, if you're just getting up or just couldn't sleep and turned the radio on, we're talking about Louis weekend, Let Us Entertain You weekend, which is next weekend, when it starts.

And we're talking a little bit about the history behind Louis, and a little bit about the schedule, the venue of events. Explain, Creath, how you go about getting to host bars. I'm sure you plan for this in months in advance.

CREATH Yeah, we do. Actually, we've gotten to where we are doing this on a yearly basis. In years past, it was planned
ROBINSON: within a three month period of time, which I still don't see how they did it. But now for the second year in a row, we are planning it all year long.

There's a meeting every month. And the host bars are actually decided on by the clubs that are members of the council, and there actual home bars are the ones that are the bars that host the cocktail parties.

JIM SORGINI: Which is great. And it's good to support them too because they do a lot for the bar-- for the clubs in the community.

CREATH Exactly.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: Touching base a little bit on HCC, can you kind of explain that a little bit?

CREATH Well, HCC is a combination of the social clubs here in Houston. They're fundraising clubs, there's actual fun clubs,
ROBINSON: there's social clubs, they're kind of a combination of everything. And they're combined of 10 clubs locally here, starting out with probably one of the oldest clubs, would be Sundance Cattle Company. It's been around for a number of years.

The Texas Renegades, Lancers Motorcycle Club, Texas Leather and Lace, Houston Area Bears, Colt 45s, NLA Houston-- the Houston chapter-- Misfits Houston, and our newest member is Brotherhood of Pain.

JIM SORGINI: All right.

CREATH Rainbow Wranglers as well.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: Explain how a club gets involved in HCC, because it's a little bit behind it, right?

CREATH That's true. There is. Number one, you have to be a club within good standing in the community for at least a
ROBINSON: year to be able to pledge to HCC, and then at that point, it's contingent upon you getting voted in, as a matter of fact.

JIM SORGINI: OK, so all the HCC members vote upon them.

CREATH Exactly.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: And each one of the clubs that participates has two votes? Or--

CREATH Actually has one vote.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: Just one vote.

CREATH Just one vote. Yeah. Yeah, when it comes to something like that, they have one vote, and it takes a majority vote
ROBINSON: to vote in a new member.

JIM SORGINI: Well, that's good. And it's tough too. A lot of people don't realize you're involved in club activities and things, plus HCC, and you really have to get the involvement, especially for Louie weekend. And you all have been phenomenal about getting everyone to participate in this, all the clubs.

CREATH True. True.
ROBINSON:

JIM SORGINI: That's very tough to do.

CREATH It is. And I'll be honest with you, it's not easy to get these clubs to some of the meetings, and I've tried to really
ROBINSON: break that. A lot of the clubs are still in that realm of, we only have to go the last three months.

JIM SORGINI: Yeah.

CREATH ROBINSON: And it doesn't work that way anymore. And they finally-- they finally realized that. They've realized in the last two years that, oh, my gosh, well, y'all did that back in September when you normally don't do it until January. So they've learned.

JIM SORGINI: Good. I have to commend you about the organization, Creath, behind Louie.

CREATH ROBINSON: I've tried. It's just-- it's a lot easier when you're trying to put on a function for 800 plus people, you're not prepared for any type of last minute surprises.

JIM SORGINI: Yeah, no glitches.

CREATH ROBINSON: Exactly. And if you can organize something in September that you get out of the way and you don't have to worry about in January, so be it. Do it. And that's what we've tried to do.

JIM SORGINI: All right. We talked earlier about the food that's done before. How did this all come about?

CREATH ROBINSON: Well, it's really kind of funny. The food originally-- they had snacks during the run, but the major food in years past was the dinner, and it's always been barbecue. And Rick Holman, who was one of the originators of Louie weekend, he and his lover literally would cook brisket sometimes from Thanksgiving on, and freeze it, and prepare the food three months in advance to be able to serve. And they would do this solely by themselves to serve as many as 200 to 300 people.

JIM SORGINI: I didn't realize that.

CREATH ROBINSON: And of course, it just got away from them after all.

JIM SORGINI: Yeah, it's too much.

CREATH ROBINSON: So in the last, I'd say-- well, I don't know exactly how many years it's been, but for the last five to eight years, it's been catered.

JIM SORGINI: And it's always great for people that don't realize that, to go have a great barbecue meal and just enjoy everyone's company there at the BRB.

CREATH ROBINSON: Exactly.

JIM SORGINI: Now, to get ready, everyone may not understand you typically have a Louis packet.

CREATH ROBINSON: We do.

JIM SORGINI: And that packet is involved, I guess, has your run pin, has a Louis pin.

CREATH ROBINSON: Actually, in the packet-- your packet is-- it consists of your run schedule now, and advertisements from not only the membership clubs, but also businesses that support Louis throughout the community. Also, there are clubs within-- all through the nation, as a matter of fact, that have club runs or functions that are going on throughout the year, and they are putting stuff in the packets. So the packets become fairly large.

And when you do get your registration, if you've pre-registered, you can pick it up at Mary's or at the Outpost, or you can go in and register Thursday or Friday-- you'd be given your packet, as well as your run pin. And we don't put the run pins in the packet per se anymore. We actually hand those out individually.

JIM SORGINI: OK. That's a probably better idea.

CREATH ROBINSON: Yeah, clarify that. Absolutely. So if you get a run packet, you don't get your pin expecting it to be in your packet. It's not. You do have to be handed that.

JIM SORGINI: OK, good. I didn't realize that. That's something, I guess, a little different.

CREATH ROBINSON: Exactly. Exactly. We're fine tuning some things.

JIM SORGINI: OK. So you just had this packet stuffing last week?

CREATH ROBINSON: Actually, Wednesday night.

JIM SORGINI: Wednesday.

CREATH ROBINSON: And I'll be honest with you, that's one of the-- the neatest things, I think, getting ready for Louis is half the fun. And we had approximately 60 people on the patio at Mary's stuffing, and it took within, oh, I'd say, just over an hour to do it. And it's gotten so large that we're going to actually have to find provisions for a larger area to do this.

JIM SORGINI: I'm sure it's a lot. And I'm always reminded of the episode *off Love Lucy* at the Chocolate Factory. It's almost like--

CREATH ROBINSON: It is.

JIM NIXON: We have bottleneck. A little bit.

CREATH ROBINSON: It is. It definitely is. But we had a great time. There was a lot of laughter and camaraderie, and everybody gets along so well, and it's all for such a wonderful thing, so.

JIM SORGINI: Well, it's kind of-- you can almost take a little bit of a breath, you know, like a sigh of, oh, this part is done. I know, of course, the Louie running events are coming up, but at least you know, well, it's set. Here we go. No matter what.

JIM NIXON: It's done.

CREATH ROBINSON: Yeah. Exactly.

JIM SORGINI: That's good. So you want to run through a couple of the stats? Like, so far, you have how many people registered to date?

CREATH ROBINSON: Well actually, I'm very, very proud to say this-- and let me hold up just one second here because there's one individual that I have to thank from the bottom of my heart, that honestly has been involved in this as far as an officer longer than I have, and was unable to be with us tonight is Chris Patterson, our Secretary Treasurer.

Believe me, this would not happen without Chris's assistance and his expertise in doing this. He has everything down to a science, and I've really learned a lot from him myself.

But Chris has been out of town this week, and was absolutely exhausted, and wanted to be here tonight, so he sends his apologies and he will see everybody this next weekend.

JIM NIXON: That's OK.

JIM SORGINI: Chris, if you're listening, thanks a lot.

CREATH ROBINSON: Absolutely. But he did take the time this afternoon, after a busy schedule, and prepare all of these numbers for me. And this year, we have got 516 people pre-registered. That is the most in 28 years that we have ever had. Last year, the most-- the number was 401, and that was Thursday night that we started at the Outpost.

JIM SORGINI: Wow.

JIM NIXON: More than 100.

CREATH ROBINSON: Well over 100.

JIM SORGINI: That's great.

CREATH ROBINSON: Yeah. So we're looking to probably fill all of that 750 registrations this year, I hope. And as a matter of fact, as I said earlier, we had 799 total in 1999. And just to give you a brief rundown, it was 739 last year, so it digressed a little bit.

JIM SORGINI: That's OK.

CREATH ROBINSON: That's not unusual.

JIM SORGINI: That's OK.

CREATH ROBINSON: And 797 in 1998. So it's staying around that 750 figure. Most definitely.

JIM NIXON: I don't know why I thought it was a little higher last year. I don't--

CREATH ROBINSON: Yeah, I was kind of surprised in that as well. I was expecting more people. But I have found in the community that sometimes when you're in the middle of your anniversary run-- say in other words, we had the 25th anniversary two years ago, and last year was the 27th. You get in the middle of that, and some people don't think that it's as much of a priority. They tend to go closer to the anniversary years.

JIM SORGINI: That's true.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** And so we're coming up on 30 as well, so it's going to start building again.

JIM SORGINI: Well, that's-- of course, a lot of in town people, like myself, I don't usually pre-register. You show up and you register that night.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Most people don't. And that brings me to the subject of out of that 516 people, I had Chris research this today, we only have 63 people in town locally that have registered so far.

JIM SORGINI: OK, there's a lot more to go.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** That's about 450 people that we've got from out of town coming in, and there's still people coming in-- I mean, there's still registrations coming in everyday.

JIM SORGINI: Well, I see a record this year.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** I hope so. I hope so. We need to get over 800. Somehow, some way, we need to get over 800. And also, I will take this opportunity to say if you haven't mailed in your registration, please don't mail it at this point.

JIM SORGINI: OK.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** We don't want to take a chance on it getting lost or getting held up. So just hold on to it and bring it to the Outpost or to Mary's, and we'll definitely get you taken care of one way or the other.

JIM SORGINI: And one of the ways they can get that registration form, if they want to pre-register-- I mean, to get the form done is through the website. Is that correct?

JIM NIXON: Right. Actually, we have it on-- [CLEARS THROAT] excuse me-- on the website in two formats, and Word format under Doc, and then we have an Adobe format that you can actually download online--

JIM SORGINI: PDF file.

JIM NIXON: And print it out-- exactly. So that works really well for us.

JIM SORGINI: How has that been? A little history, Jim Nixon developed a website and it's really great.

JIM NIXON: Thank you.

JIM SORGINI: I mean, you have a lot of interactive links and things like that, and a lot of good photos, which you can get-- if people want to say, well, what goes on here, there's a big list-- and I don't know if you recall some of the headlines or the photos that you had.

JIM NIXON: We actually broke it down this year. We wanted to make sure you kind of got a feel of what Louie was about and what some of the things that went on. So we broke it down into a couple of different sections, and one of the first and most important sections of course was pinning.

JIM SORGINI: Pinning.

JIM NIXON: So we have a section on-- and this is a small photo section because we need to maintain certain levels of coverage for that-- and so we separated that--

JIM SORGINI: High standards.

JIM NIXON: High standards. And our server has a little bit of limit on content so we have to watch that. We also did a section on the Show of Shows, which is our pictures from last year's show, some of the different numbers that were put on by the clubs. And we also have the run photos, which is pictures from the clubs when we were at EJ's and then the BRB and the Rip Cord, and while-- just the camaraderie of everyone. And so that's always entertaining.

Then we added a new section recently, which is our fundraiser. A lot of people don't realize that four times out of the year, one of the host clubs will actually hold a fundraiser for Louie--

JIM SORGINI: For Louie.

JIM NIXON: To cover the costs and expense. And so this year, we have two sections that we actually have photos on, which is The Misfit's AOL party, was held at the Rip Cord, and the Houston Area Bears, which was held at a fundraiser at Mary's. So you can go and take a look at those as well.

But it's a lot of good content that you can look at, a lot of photos, and see some of the people that you've seen last year, which is really nice as well.

JIM SORGINI: OK. That AOL party you mentioned, you're going to have another one coming up in March?

JIM NIXON: Right. We're actually- being part of The Misfits for both Creath and I, we are having an AOL You've Got Male-- and that's M-A-L-E-- party during the day on Sunday, March 18. This is a fundraiser for Creath Robinson's candidate for Prime Choice, and our beneficiary is going to be Body Positive.

JIM SORGINI: That's great. And like we were talking about earlier, if Creath, if you hadn't had enough to do, you're involved in Mr. Prime Choice. So let's tell people about that Mr. Prime Choice contest.

CREATH ROBINSON: Oh, yeah. Well, they've been gnawing at my leg for a number of years now-- I won't say how many because I'll really date myself. But at any rate, I finally gave in this year and decided I would go for it, and I'm looking forward to it very much so. We've got a number of fundraisers-- of course, with Louis going on, and my new business, and this and that, I've been just a little busy, so I haven't had a whole lot of time to be able to do much fundraising.

So starting on the evening of Louie's Finale, which is March 4, is my first fundraiser. It's being put on by Robert Miller, and it's going to be a variety show at Mary's at 6:00 PM. So there's no telling what's going to end up coming out of there.

I've got some people coming in from Dallas, as a matter of fact. They're going to entertain. And I talked to Charlie Pacheo today and he's going to be there for me. And so it's going to be a really good show.

JIM SORGINI: OK, let me have that stuff again because I'm writing it down.

CREATH ROBINSON: OK. At 6:00 PM, March 4 at Mary's, and that'll wind down from the DC Boys cocktail party.

JIM SORGINI: Yeah, from Louis into [INAUDIBLE] fundraiser.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Just when you haven't had enough.

JIM SORGINI: You got [INAUDIBLE]

JIM NIXON: That's great.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Of course, that's my motto. Can't you tell? And then following that, the next fundraiser will be the 18th of March, which is the AOL fundraiser The Misfits are helping me put on. That's quite a lot of fun. We did that for HCC back in December and it was a lot of fun.

JIM NIXON: Very much.

JIM SORGINI: And where's that going to be?

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** That'll be at the Rip Cord, and that's from 4:00 until 8:00 PM.

JIM SORGINI: 4 to 8, which is good for a lot of people that have to go to work early.

JIM NIXON: Very much. On Sunday.

JIM SORGINI: No kidding. Sunday, Sunday, Sunday.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** And then-- I'm sorry.

JIM NIXON: No, I was going to say, you get to come at your favorite screen name and you get to meet people that you've talked to online that you maybe didn't-- you can find out if that pick was correct or not. And you get to send messages back and forth by your screen name, and it's a lot of fun. And we have a 50-50 raffle, and we do a Misfit auction where we auction off one of The Misfits to the highest bidder. So that's always fun. So.

JIM SORGINI: And what do we get to do with the--

JIM NIXON: Well, you at least get a drink and a good conversation.

JIM SORGINI: OK.

JIM NIXON: That's at least.

JIM SORGINI: And the rest is up to you.

JIM NIXON: Absolutely.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Optional. It goes from there. It goes from there. It depends on what Misfit gets [INAUDIBLE].

JIM SORGINI: Very true. So is that drawn or something?

JIM NIXON: Actually, it's a silent auction, that we have photos of all The Misfits up on a huge board, and you come by and write down your bid and the bid goes up higher and higher. I think our top bid for HTC was \$100, which was one of our members Roberto. And David, I can't remember David's last name, but was the highest bidder, and got a cocktail and conversation with Roberto, one of our new members. So it was very interesting.

JIM SORGINI: How nice.

CREATH ROBINSON: All right. Yeah, as a matter of fact, I believe that raised about \$450 that day, and we only did it for like 2 and 1/2 hours because we were limited on time. There were some conflicts--

JIM NIXON: Wow.

JIM SORGINI: That's great.

JIM NIXON: And see, these are interesting. These are things that maybe are a little out of the norm, but they're very exciting to get people involved--

JIM SORGINI: Well, The Misfits are known for that a little. We did a couple straight [INAUDIBLE].

JIM NIXON: Yeah, well, you know, it's a different way-- there's a lot of people who are willing to donate money to charity if they're entertained--

JIM SORGINI: Absolutely.

JIM NIXON: In a certain way, and something different, I mean, will really rake in the dough.

CREATH ROBINSON: Exactly. Exactly. And speaking of different, on April 1, just when you haven't had enough, at 5:00 PM at Rich's, the Whorehouse Girls are coming forward to do their disco diva show in my honor for Prime Choice, and that's going to be a great event. And there'll be some surprise guests as well during that.

And then later on that evening, I'm not sure of the time-- it's either going to be 7 or 8 o'clock. I think 8 o'clock at the BRB, Miss Camp America will be doing a show.

JIM SORGINI: Oh, so you have two on the same day.

CREATH ROBINSON: I've got two on that same day.

JIM SORGINI: It's a marathon day.

CREATH ROBINSON: Absolutely. So those are the ones that are scheduled to date, and there's no telling what may turn up between now and then-- now and the next week.

JIM SORGINI: OK. And then that's Sunday, April 1, And then the end of that week-- the next week, which is Saturday, Friday and Saturday, is the 6th and 7th, that's actual Prime Choice contest?

CREATH ROBINSON: Exactly.

JIM SORGINI: OK. Yes. And that's going to be-- that's at the Rip Cord. We don't know the timing.

CREATH ROBINSON: I think it's at 10:00 PM on Saturday. There's going to be a function on Friday night, I'm not sure exactly what that's involving, but it's going to go for two days.

JIM SORGINI: OK. And then Saturday is the actual night of the contest, and those are really good because you do a taped fantasy, and those are always exciting to watch.

JIM NIXON: Woo! Yeah!

CREATH ROBINSON: My lips are sealed.

[LAUGHTER]

I don't want to say too much.

JIM NIXON: No, I understand that.

CREATH ROBINSON: Absolutely.

JIM NIXON: Yes. Yes.

JIM SORGINI: Well, I guess from other tapes, I don't know if your lips are always sealed. But anyway--

JIM NIXON: Well, [INAUDIBLE]. Woo!

CREATH ROBINSON: Hey, Jim.

JIM SORGINI: Just teasing.

CREATH ROBINSON: Absolutely.

JIM NIXON: You are known in this town, sir.

CREATH ROBINSON: Well.

JIM NIXON: But it's good. It's good. It's a good thing.

CREATH ROBINSON: Yes, it is.

JIM SORGINI: Well, you know, a lot of people ask, well Louis' is generally a used in event, and it's really not.

JIM NIXON: Definitely.

JIM SORGINI: In fact, there's people from out of the country-- I think you've had some people involved in this from-- I know from England. I met one from Australia.

JIM NIXON: We've had the UK. We've had-- I think it was New Zealand last year. One that was-- we had--

CREATH ROBINSON: Well, actually, I think this year-- I'm not sure about the former countries that have been here, but Chris, of course, that's where we lack. He's got all that data. This year we have one from the UK-- we have three foreign countries actually-- one from the UK--

JIM NIXON: Canada.

CREATH ROBINSON: Canada, and Trinidad.

JIM NIXON: Yeah.

JIM SORGINI: Oh.

CREATH ROBINSON: Are registered, so. And I believe at this point in time, we have 22 states already pre-registered. Yeah.

JIM SORGINI: That's great. We need to go for 50.

JIM NIXON: Yes.

CREATH ROBINSON: Some day. Some day. Yeah, the most states we've ever had, which was also in 1999, was 29 states represented. So.

JIM SORGINI: I thought maybe, I don't want to speak out of turn, didn't you give some sort of award from the furthest travelled person?

CREATH ROBINSON: At one time.

JIM SORGINI: OK.

CREATH ROBINSON: Yes. And I don't know exactly what happened to that. It was something that wasn't necessarily handed down to my chairmanship. I believe at one time when Bob Boutin was chairman, they did used to do that. And for some reason, that kind of got thrown to the wayside. Something we might reincorporate again.

JIM NIXON: Well, we do still, being that this is a Mardi Gras party, we do stick to the theme of Mardi Gras, so we do also hand out an award at the year for Best Decorated Bar from the host bars, whoever plays. And Mary took that last year with all the great work they did on their patio and Outback. So we'll be doing that again this year.

JIM SORGINI: It's always tough too because I know EJs always does a good job, and the Rip Cord too. So that's pretty neat.

CREATH ROBINSON: Actually, we were down at Rich's the other night for a rehearsal and their decorations were absolutely awesome already. So it's going to be a hard choice this year. Absolutely.

JIM SORGINI: In your wildest dreams, could you have imagined that Louis would be so big as it is today?

CREATH ROBINSON: No, I never would have.

JIM SORGINI: We just had a friend who competed in IBOR in San Francisco last week, and he was saying, while he was on stage, because people know him from Houston, they were hollering out Louie. And this is in San Francisco during a bear competition. And they were hollering Louie, Louie, because they announced-- when they did his profile, they said, you know, that he was from Houston, and that was the one thing that they decided to yell out. So I mean, it's very large.

JIM NIXON: Which is good when you think about it. Houston doesn't always click with people to travel for certain events.

JIM SORGINI: Right.

JIM NIXON: I mean, because people say it's too hot, too humid. And this is one thing that, Houston, we have our name on, and this is our weekend.

JIM SORGINI: Yeah. Yeah.

JIM NIXON: And I guess that's it. Now people will remember Houston for two things, Mary's and Louie.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Very much. Very much so. And they are connected.

JIM SORGINI: Yeah.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Most definitely. And I'll add, one of the biggest pluses that we've had this year is this website. It has been absolutely phenomenal. You literally could download applications from the website, you could actually email them back to us. It has been so much fun to sit there and watch that develop and grow, and I think--

JIM SORGINI: Kudos to Jim Nixon for developing that. I don't know if you've been on there, it's just incredible.

JIM NIXON: No, but I've got to get on there because I have to make an address change.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** There you go.

JIM NIXON: If you can get past the opening music, which is, of course, a Mardi Gras theme, and the web page-- if you've seen our posters around, what we did this year-- we've had actually two sets of posters. We had a mail-out poster, and then we had a color poster that we did for the clubs-- we kept it consistent with the web page and worked that together. So it's a visual image that you see for Louis, and of course it sticks with the Mardi Gras colors as well, and as well does the music that we have online.

So there's a lot of things you can find out there. I mean, we have information page. We have pages on the host hotel, which is very important to a lot of people coming in from out of town as well. We have, of course, the photo page we talked about earlier, the registration form. We have a place where you can actually go in online, on the web page and send us email without having to open your browser or your email program.

We have links to other clubs that have been involved in Louis, clubs that we've come into contact throughout the year or found the website. We have the calendar of events for our meetings, other events that go on here in Houston. So it's an information area all year round, and that's kept maintained all year. So that's available to you as well.

The bar map is there. So when you find--

JIM SORGINI: That's good, with the schedule of events.

JIM NIXON: The schedule of events. And then we also have the run schedule online, what we talked about earlier.

JIM SORGINI: Fantastic. So I want to make sure everyone attends--

JIM NIXON: You bet.

JIM SORGINI: Next week. You have no excuse--

JIM NIXON: Not to attend.

JIM SORGINI: None.

JIM NIXON: So on behalf of myself, I want to thank Jimmy, especially, for all your great work here.

JIM SORGINI: Thank you for all the work you've done with the leather line and education that you've done. You're very strong in education.

JIM NIXON: And that's really important because I always have people come up and they don't know Louis, or they don't know this club, and that's the thing. You got to get the word out to people--

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** You do.

JIM NIXON: And people, tell your friends about this program because *After Hours*, you've been going at this for many years and it's just so great.

JIM SORGINI: Thank you. Thank you.

JIM NIXON: Absolutely.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** By the way, Jimmy, thank you for your attendance at the stuffing meeting on Monday.

JIM NIXON: Oh, that was fun. That was so much fun.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Really appreciate it. You and everyone else that was there.

JIM NIXON: Yeah, I was representing Gulf Coast Archives and Museum, by the way.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** OK. Great. Great.

JIM NIXON: But that was the first time I had been to one of those and I don't think I'll miss another.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** It's a lot of fun.

JIM SORGINI: It is a lot of fun.

JIM NIXON: Yes.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** The build up.

JIM NIXON: Yes. Yes. We stuffed envelope packets with all kinds of information from other clubs and bars and groups. It's just great.

JIM SORGINI: I was joking earlier, Jimmy. It's sometimes like Lucy and the Chocolate Factory with all those things coming around--

JIM NIXON: Oh, I know it. Yeah, no kidding.

JIM SORGINI: So Jim Nixon, thank you very much.

JIM NIXON: Thank you.

JIM SORGINI: Appreciate you being here. And Creath, especially, thank you.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Thank you, Jim. Absolutely. Always a pleasure.

JIM SORGINI: I know this show is in great hands with you at the helm.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Well, thank you. That makes me feel very good. Look forward to keeping up--

JIM NIXON: So the 4th?

JIM SORGINI: Saturday of next month, we will have Creath Robinson--

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Sounds great.

JIM SORGINI: Doing his leather line, or whatever name you'd like to call it.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Oh, no. I don't-- don't change something that's not broken. Believe me. Absolutely. Keep it the leather line.

JIM SORGINI: Thanks, guys. Thanks, Jim.

JIM NIXON: Thank you. Thanks, Jim.

JIM SORGINI: Thank you. Just remind everyone to play hard and play safe.

JIM NIXON: You bet.

**CREATH
ROBINSON:** Absolutely. Have a great weekend.

JIM SORGINI: You've been listening to *After Hours* Queer Radio with attitude on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station. Coming up at the top of the hour will be the Early Morning Groove Guys, and the big man is here, Rob Love. And he's cued up and ready to go. So until next week. We'll see you.