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Mon, Nov 28, 2022 4:17PM 36:30

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

stonewall, night, houston, people, gay, lesbian, homosexual, good, west, person, call, police, years, women, cops, remember, village, life, skate, sunday

SPEAKERS

Harvey Milk, Bruce Reeves



00:01

She turned around and she matched the cop with her high heeled. Shoe knocked them down. And then she proceeded to frisk them for her bikinis. So she got them and she handed herself and pass them to another queen that was behind her. And that's



00:17

when all hell broke loose. And then we were, we had to get back into stone.



00:26

My name is Howard Smith. On the night of the Stonewall riots, I was reporter for The Village Voice locked inside with the police covering from my column, it really did appear that that crowd because we could look for little peep holes in the plywood windows, we could look out, and we could see that the crowd you know, my guess was within 510 minutes is probably several 1000 People 2000 Easy, and they were yelling, kill the cops. Police brutality. Let's get them we're not going to take this anymore. Let



01:08

me out is a group of



01:12

persons



01:14

attempting to uproot one of the parking meters which in which they did succeed. And they then use that parking meter to as a battering ram to break down the door. And they did in fact, open the door. They crashed it in. And at that point was when they began throwing Molotov cocktails into the place. It was a situation that we didn't know how we were going to be able to control numbers.



B Bruce Reeves 01:51

Someone fell in a Molotov cocktail. I don't know who the person was, but I mean, I saw that and I just said to myself in Spanish, I said, Oh my god, the resolution is finally here. I'm just like, screaming freedom. We're free at last did our it felt really good.



02:11

There were a couple of cops stationed on either side of the door with a pistol flip in a combat stance and in the door area a couple others was stationed in other places behind like a pole, another one behind the bar. All of them with a guns ready. I don't think up to that point I ever ever seen. Cops that scared.



02:33

Remember, these were pros. That everybody was frightened.



02:37

There's no question about No, I was frightened.



02:43

And I've been in in combat situation. And there was never any time that I felt more scared than I felt that



02:55

and it was just, you know there was no place to run.



B Bruce Reeves 03:04

When the moral squad officers barricaded themselves inside the Stonewall Deputy Inspector pine put in a 1041 call an emergency help request which can only be placed by a high ranking officer. That call was mysteriously canceled, and the telephone inside the Stonewall went dead.

It took nearly 45 minutes for the riot police to get to the Stonewall and rescue the moral squad from the smoldering bar



03:35

once the attack of police force



03:40

showed up.



03:45

I think I really started



03:48

My name is Martin born in 1969. I was a drug known as Ms. I remember on that night will be sort of like all this dragons. We think John's like The Rock heads and sang the songs to sing. We are the Ville which we were our hands and we were a dungarees above are nailing and the feast went crazy hearing that and they just immediately rushed us gave one kick and fled.



B Bruce Reeves 04:21

My name is Rudy. And the night of the Stonewall. I was 18 and to tie that through that night I was doing more running than fighting. I remember looking back from 10th Street and their unwavering Street. It was a police I believe on its outcrop and it's on his stomach and his tactical uniform and his helmet and everything else. With a drag queen straddling she was beaten the hell out of him with her shoe. Whether it was a high heel or not, I don't know. But she was beaten the hell out of it. resistor.



05:01

My name is mama Jean. I'm a lesbian. And I guess you would label me as a butcher. I remember on that night I was at a gay bar women's bar for cookies. We were coming out of the gay bar going towards Eighth Street. And that's when we saw everything happening blasting away people getting beat our police coming from every direction hitting women, as well as men within a gay men running down the street, all over their face. We decided right then and there, whether we scan or not, we didn't think about it. We just jumped in.



05:40

But here was queen of going completely bananas, you know, jumping and hitting the

windshield. And next thing you know, the taxi cab was the cause of the entire dopest Windows was shattering all over the place wires were burning around. It was a beaut, it was beautiful really was



06:02

I remember when kept coming at me, hitting me with the nightstick in the back of my legs. I broke loose and I went after again. I grabbed this nightstick my girlfriend went behind him. She was a strong seven. I want him to feel the same pain I felt. And I kept on saying to him hiding like the pain. Do you like it Do you like and I kept on hitting him and I was angry. I want you to kill. At that particular minute



06:28

I want I want to do every destructive thing that I could think of at that time. To hurt anyone that had hurt us



06:42

is like just when you see a man protecting his own life. They weren't the Queen's that people call them. They were men fighting for their lives. I tried a website and it



06:55

was a lot of heads. But it didn't hurt their feelings. They all came back then you could tell that nothing could stop at any time in the future.



Bruce Reeves 07:26

The media covered the riot extensively. The Daily News featured it on its front page. There were reports on all the local television and radio stations. By the next day graffiti calling for gay power had appeared on buildings and sidewalks all over the West Village hastily worked up flyers distributed on street corners touted the night as the Hairpin drop around the world. And the next night 1000s of men and women converged on the West Village and came here back to the stone wall to see what would happen next. While trash cans were set on fire stones were thrown and sporadic fighting broke out between police and gays, the more than 400 riot police milling around the village ensure that the previous night's violence would not be repeated. But on this night, for the first time, gay couples could be seen walking hand in hand or kissing in the streets just by being there surrounded by reporters and photographers and onlookers. 1000s of men and women were proclaiming to themselves and the rest of the world that they were gay. And the crowds grew and came back the next night. And for one more night the following week. What happened here on those nights helped to usher in a new era, both personally and politically for gay men and lesbians.



08:53

When when Stonewall happened, Bruce and I were still in the closet and where we had been for nearly 40 years. But we realized that this was this was a tremendous thing that had happened at Stonewall and it it gave us a feeling that we were not going to be remaining closeted for very much longer. And soon thereafter, we did come out of the closet.



09:28

My name is Jenny Prusa. In 1969, I was in the convent. I was in the Sisters of Charity. And when Stonewall hit the press it hit me with a bolt of lightning was as if I had an incredible release of my own outrage at having to say sequester so much of my life. I made my way down I seem to recall, in subsequent nights, being down on the, you know, kind of just in the periphery looking observer, clearly an observer, clearly longing to have that courage to come out and was a matter as I recall, it was only a matter of weeks before I left the convent and started a new life.



B Bruce Reeves 10:30

I'm Henry Baird, in 1969. I was in the US Army, a specialist 3d station that long been posed near Saigon in Vietnam. I remember I was having lunch in the army mess, reading the Armed Forces news summary of the day. And there was a short paragraph describing a riot, led by homosexuals in Greenwich Village against the police. In my heart was filled with joy. I thought about what I had read frequently, but I had no one to discuss it with. And secretly within myself, I decided that when I came back stateside, if I should survive to come back stateside, I would come out as a gay person, and I did for those of us in public Marvel's. After the Stonewall incident, things were completely changed from what they had previously banned. They they suddenly were not submissive anymore, they now suddenly had gained a a new type of courage. And it seemed as if they didn't care anymore about whether they were whether their identities were made known. We were now dealing with human being,



11:48

my name is Jim poor. And then in the mid 60s, along with Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin was one of the founders of the of the hippie movement. I remember the third night of the riots, there was this meeting called by Matt ashame society at St. John's Church on West on Waverly Place. We went and Randy wicker was running the meeting.



12:10

For 10 years, I've been gone on television, as Randy wicker, the respectable homosexual, dressed in dark suit and tie. explain to people that most homosexuals look like everybody else, and behave like everybody else. And when storewall began happening, you had chorus lines and queens kicking their heels up at the police bonfires burning in the corner, trash baskets, and throwing bricks and stones at the police. I was horrified because this violated everything that we thought of as responsible behavior, that this was not the way respectable citizens behaved.



12:47

Evelyn Hooker was a sociologist, I believe, Randy had introduced her and she got up and she suggested that we should have a candlelight, March that we should turn the other cheek because gay people were really different. We were really nice. And we had to show how nice we were in Stop all this riding because people were going to get hurt. I remember I stood up. And I said, No, we are not going back. And people felt the same thing I felt, and we marched out of that room. And that was the night that the Gay Liberation Front



13:23

was born.



13:31

Today, I live in a senior citizen apartment building. What's different now is that I can be free. I have a daughter who's a senior citizen, and my son is 58. They know about my home and sexuality. My three grandchildren in the 30s know about their grandmother. I have a great granddaughter who at the age of 10 learned that grandma Jerry was a lesbian, and she thought that was most interesting. Yet, I still don't have the personal courage to not care if these yentas in the building, know that Jerry is a lesbian?



14:23

Well, I retired from the police department in 1976 20 years have passed. I'm going to be seven in a few months. I still don't know the answers, I would still like to know the answer. I would like to know whether I was wrong or whether I was right. In in ever thinking that there was a difference and ever thinking that maybe you shouldn't trust the homosexual because something is missing in his personality archives



14:55

of lesbian culture, which surrounds us now and was created four years after Stonewall owes, at least from my part, its creation to that night and the courage that found its voice in the streets. That night in some very deep way. We finally found our place in history. Not as a dirty joke, not as a doctor's case study. Not as free, but as a people



15:47

remembering Stonewall was engineered by spider blue, it was produced by David Isay with a grant from the Pacifica national program fund. I'm Michael shirker.



16:04

I'm a 38 year old I can keep my long hair I can pluck my eyebrows and I can work wherever the hell I want. And I'm not going to change for anybody if I change that I feel that



16:21

I that I'm losing



16:25

what 1969 brought into my life and that was to be totally free. How can the Jesus know Hello, how to have a heavy cold? Well, I don't think she was cold. But you didn't didn't come on, you



B Bruce Reeves 17:39

probably know. But you are listening to after hours here on KPFT 90.1. FM Houston, a continuing tradition here on KPFT. And we've got lots of stuff coming up. I'm not sure what. Next week, Jewel will be with us. Actually, Diane and Jewel will be with us. Diane is doing the show next week. So her job will be here. On the weekend of the oh, that's August. Back up,



18:08

get back in July.



B Bruce Reeves 18:09

Next week is Diane show. And I think she's doing something about people with color, maybe people of color, people of color. That's what my notes says. Anyway, the first weekend in August tool will be here. K is supposed to be here on the eighth of August. I'll be back on the 15th of August. And I am enjoy. We'll be here on the 22nd. And then the first weekend in September is the anniversary show of after hours. So we're starting to make plans now for that show. And we'll be keeping you posted as we get closer and closer to that date. Hopefully we'll be able to get voices from the past live and archived and whatnot to be on the show and kind of talk a little bit about what after hours has been for them. So that's kind of what's going to be coming up in the next month. It's gonna be a lot of fun. But we've got just a whole lot of of newsy stuff here and we're not going to try to hit it all because we just really can't hit everything.



19:27

You didn't want to go yeah number though,

B

Bruce Reeves 19:29

in the Stonewall thing brought reminded me that we have a person locally who's doing a history on pride, not just Pride Week, but pride as it relates to the gay and lesbian community and here in Houston. Esperanza lavender jazz pas is working on a historical book that that basically talks about the gay and lesbian history here in Houston. Um, it's going to be called pride. And, well, it started out as a history of Pride Week. But it's kind of evolved into a lot more than that. Because Pride Week, pride isn't something that happens one week a year. It's a year round process. So if you think you might have something of interest for a historical book about gay and lesbian history here in Houston, you might want to call jazz. Her home number, I think this is our home number. It is 52293 to five, that's 5229325. Or you can usually catch her at the twit office at five to 791 11. It doesn't have

👤

20:45

to be something earth shattering or major either. It has to just be something to do with the positive history of our community here in Houston. A lot of people

B

Bruce Reeves 20:56

talk people jazz can talk to the the rounder view of

👤

21:02

people say I don't have anything to contribute. It's like, Well, how long have you been in Houston? 25 years. Well, what else do you do? Well, I go to a meeting on this night this night this night this night, we did so until until but that's not important. It is important.

B

Bruce Reeves 21:15

ever attended any function, especially a primary function, but really any function in the Houston community, you can probably continue to have some knowledge and contribute something that could be very helpful to jazz because the more people she can get information from the better. Alright, might later do something else. So we got a news release from ACT UP in Houston. The contact person is Lesley Perez at 4332924. Says on Sunday, July 19. That's today. At noon. ACT UP will sponsor a demonstration and press conference in Intercontinental Airport. Houston's International Airways building act up as a nonpartisan group of individuals united in anger and committed to direct action in the face of the AIDS crisis. The eighth annual International Conference was scheduled to take place in Boston but was relocated to Holland when President Bush upheld the INS ban stopping HIV, immigrants and travelers from entering the United States. We want to stress that this decision on Bush's part is direct discrimination by the US government against people with AIDS. It is not right that people with AIDS are not welcome here. Leslie Perez says silence equals death is not just a slogan, it's a declaration of war. So that's going on today at noon, at the International Airways building of the Intercontinental Airport. Okay. Um, of course, during the Democratic Convention, there was a

march of hope for AIDS activist where 10,000 plus people rallied in Times Square to demand increased funding. And, of course, there were just a lot of demonstrations in New York this last week concerning that busy busy people



23:14

excuse me, fairly new language. You're trying to get musical on me.



B Bruce Reeves 23:20

I'm just kind of looking through stuff. You can look through stuff too, and maybe you'll find something but I don't have my contacts on. July the second that's this Wednesday, the Women's Network will be having a discussion on healing from abuse and psychotherapist to Denise Odair T will discuss how to identify symptoms of abuse and effective ways to counteract them to lead to healing. Special attention will be paid to shame developing personal boundaries and effective confrontation. And of course, the Women's Network is a support group established to serve the lesbian and bisexual women's community of Houston. It provides an opportunity to discuss women's issues in a safe environment that works for other women and socialized with all the new friends. A donation of three to \$5 per meeting is requested. But any woman is welcome regardless of her ability to pay. I want to talk about Skating, skating skating.



24:12

The Lambda Roller Skating Club is sponsoring are having roller skating and ice skating and outdoor skating this month. Yeah, so if you're into roller skating and breaking your neck, you can go out to the Trade Winds roller rink at 5006. West 34th at highway 290. That's next to Kmart on July the 20th. That's Monday from 7:30 to 10:30. And you can skate out there there's an admission fee of \$5 but that includes your skates and all the benefits are the benefits go to smile. SM ya L That's a nice little use group that's in Houston. They also have ice skating at the Galleria ice skating rink at 5015 Westheimer on Aug 11, than they're asking everyone to wear a neon that night. That's 4:50, including your skates, and that's on a Tuesday from eight to 10pm. And it seems like every Sunday well, not every Sunday, it looks like every other Sunday, July 26 is the next date for outdoor skating. That's going to be on Sunday at 8:30pm. And they're going to start at the MCC, our church at 1919. Decatur. Anybody interested in finding out more about the skate knights can call the Lambda Rollerskating club at 5236381.



B Bruce Reeves 25:34

And there's a couple of other things going on during the Republican convention. Queer nation is having a protest the military ban against the queers. On Wednesday, August the 19th at noon, at the Military Entrance Processing Station at 701. San Jacinto coordinations planning all kinds of things obviously for the convention, if you'd like to be a part of that organization meetings are going to be held every Wednesday at 7:30pm at the Allen Parkway, Village Community Center. And for information you can call 9428146. And, as always, there's just a lot of things going on in our community. For our complete calendar in the community. Be sure and listen to Wildenstein every Monday night at nine o'clock. And you might also tune

into the break through program here on KPFT between nine and noon on Friday mornings. But Wildenstein does do the news section of the this way out tape, which we play in its entirety two weeks later, but they play the news portion every Monday, and as well as a full calendar. And of course, the breakthrough is especially for the lesbian community, but is of some interest to all of the community as a whole as well. So



27:11

that sounds good to me.



27:15

I had something else I was gonna say but I don't know what it was.



27:19

I want to say I want to say happy birthday to my mom. And it was a special Happy Birthday to Scott who's visiting his mama this weekend. That's nice of him. So now you can play music for both of



Bruce Reeves 27:35

them. We'd also like to wish a belated Happy Birthday to Dean from the bowling alley.



27:40

That's right. Oh jeans. No,



27:42

that's a lesbian over the age of 50.



27:44

I know. That's right, but you can't tell it by the way. She both she was good. He was 76 Or no, I don't remember but



Bruce Reeves 27:54

she's been in the Houston bowling league since it was crazy. And still balls every Thursday night.



28:02

fine lady.

B

Bruce Reeves 28:03

I hope I'm still moving like good but this next song is from the Margie albums album The Best of Margie album. Margie Adam. And the song is called best friend. It's the unicorn song



28:25

when it comes down



28:33

do you know me? I have appeared in hundreds of one of other cartoons with that squirrely wabbit who always does drag. Yet whenever I travel, homophobic troublemakers always tell me that there's no goons and no hotels, no available seats in the Western ones and no cause to went. It gets downright frustrating. At first I wanted to cry. What's my sexual orientation got to do with my being a good customer. Then I got a game that can express cards. Now I use it everywhere from crepes and flabs to tropical foods in Honolulu to pick it up to works in Australia. My good American Express card does it all. Get American Express. Don't be home or without it.

H

Harvey Milk 29:21

Some ways in Des Moines or San Antonio, there's a young gay person all of a sudden realizes that she or he is gay knows that if the parents find out to be tossed out of the house, the classmates would taunt the child. And the neither Brian's and John brains are doing their bit on TV and that child had several options, staying in a closet, suicide and then one day that child might open a paper it says homosexual elected in San Francisco and there are two options. One option is to go to California Senator Tony on night. Two days after I was elected, I got a phone call. The voice was quite young was from Altoona, Pennsylvania. And the person said, thanks. And you've got to, like gay people. So that that young child and the 1000s upon 1000s Like that child know that there's hope for a better world. Just hope for a better tomorrow without hope that only gays that those blocks the Asian disabled seniors the essence passes without hope. The essence give up. I know that you cannot live on hope alone. Without it, life is not worth living. And you can you can you gotta give

B

Bruce Reeves 31:04

and of course, that was Harvey Milk in his Altoona, Pennsylvania speech shortly after he was elected as the first open like gay, anything in this country, but more specifically, openly gay supervisor of the city of San Francisco,



31:22

something we need to hear periodically. Yes. We'll never be updated. It's



31:30

been a different show.



31:34

Inside and they have



B Bruce Reeves 31:36

we, of course, our interview this evening was with Lofa lesbians over the age of 50. Their phone number one more time if you in case you misplaced it is 6611482. They meet every Sunday, every third Sunday morning at afternoon at two o'clock at the Metropolitan service center. And we just got a note that the Montrose softball league will be playing this morning at Memorial Park at 10 o'clock. So if you would like to see the Montrose softball league playing, be sure it'd be a memorial park at 10 o'clock. Thank you, sir. The course we had this way out, as always at 115. We had a new segment this morning. That's true. We did our very own Jim Carper. From from the past welcome. Sort of a silent co producer of after hours since December, is back on the airwaves with queer music zone. Interesting little segment midnight. It's about 20 minutes of gay and lesbian music by gay and lesbian artist. And so we're glad to have you back on the air. James. Thank you. Thank you.



33:07

Thank you. Sounds so good. hasn't lost his nice



B Bruce Reeves 33:11

to hear that voice. Yes. That's nice to be back. And of course you can also hear hear Jimmy on esoteric adventures from three to six o'clock on Monday morning, Monday morning with your host some 24 hours from now.



33:27

Latin for punishment. But he's so good.

B

Bruce Reeves 33:32

And of course in the bottom half of the show, we played the history of the Stonewall Riots tape which we were not unable to play prior to Pride Week because the station was off the year the night we intended to do that. So your co anchors this evening have been Bruce a movie. And of course Jim doing career music zone. Be sure and stay tuned for the BBC News followed by the carbon dating game with Eric. And be sure to tune in again next Saturday night Sunday morning at midnight till 3am for the after hour show and your co anchor next week will be Diane Williams. So it's nice to have her on the show as well. And it's been nice being with you this morning. Have a good evening. Good morning and good day and we'll talk to you again soon. You been listening to after hours a continuing tradition here on KPFT 90.1 FM Houston after hours is heard every Saturday night midnight into 3am. Also tune in to Wildenstein on Monday nights from nine until 10am Break through Friday mornings from nine until noon. All of us on the after hours staff Thank you for listening. We are what we are

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35:15

where we are. Hi, I'm not home right now. It's three o'clock Monday morning and I'm at the KPFT doing my radio show esoteric adventures, where I feature oddities and highlights from the recorded universe. So hang up, tune in to 90.1 And don't call back you will wake up my fish. Don't forget that's esoteric adventures with your flight attendant Jim. Mondays 3am on KPFT Houston Is anybody home