

- John Schneider and "Katey's Christmas Card." And that's from his album "White Christmas." And we were talking about Christmas and being at home for Christmas earlier, and of course, you and I will be spending Christmas together and with our good friends and--

- New family.

- --and our new family. And because that is, Christmas should be spent with family, but family doesn't have to be birth family.

- That's true.

- And before that, we heard Judy-- I [? might ?] say this wrong-- Fjell.

- I don't think that's a J, but--

- Probably not.

- --that sounds--

- It could be "Fel," or "Feel," or-- it's F-J-E-L-L, from her album *Dance in the Moment*. And the song was "The Goddess Lives."

- And I just loved it.

- It's a very pretty song. And we are celebrating a very special Christmas show here on *After Hours* this evening, playing lots of our favorites and, hopefully, some that you're enjoying, as well. We've got a lot of interesting news articles, and we've got a letter that we're going to read in a little bit.

Actually, I guess, you could call it Christmas letter or a holiday letter. But some interesting news I guess in the gay community this week, the gay and lesbian community, and a sort of a victory.

- Well, I guess you could call it a Christmas miracle, if you really wanted to. I'm sure there are a couple of people around who believe in such things today.

- And, of course, if you don't know what we're talking about-- Karen Thompson and her lover, Sharon Kowalski. Sharon was injured in an accident many, many years ago, and Karen has been fighting for seven years for custody and the right to care for her lover, Sharon Kowalski. She was left a quadriplegic by an auto accident. And about a year ago, her father stepped down as guardian, and they appointed a track coach.

- Interesting choice.

- --to be her guardian. The judge, at that time, said that Thompson had acted contrary to Kowalski's best interest by making their lesbian relationship public. Karen had said many times that they had talked about coming out. Sharon had really wanted them to come out. And Karen didn't feel like she was in a position to do that. And once Sharon was hurt, there were no written documents or anything to support her claim that they were a couple.

So finally, this year at Christmas-- Sharon is not actually home, she is in a nursing home, but Karen's hoping that they can move her to a nursing home closer to home. And as they said through the years that Karen's really been the only person that can communicate with Sharon and that Sharon will communicate with. So hopefully, as they begin to communicate again, Sharon will begin to grow again and continue to get better and actually, be home, maybe, next year for Christmas.

- Maybe next year.

- But it's a real wonderful victory for gay and lesbian people everywhere. And we'd just like to wish our very special Christmas wishes to Karen and. Sharon and we have a special song for you.

"Santa Claus, I Still Believe in You" from Alabama and their Christmas album. And before that, we heard Johnny Mathis singing "I'll be home for Christmas."

- You know what's been the hardest part about doing this show?

- What?

- Not sitting here, belting out the songs.

- [CHUCKLES]

- Behave myself, and be quiet, and listen for a change.

- This coming from Scrooge herself, right?

- Well, everybody has to be somebody.

- Well, that's probably true. I give Judy a hard time. I think she's offered about five times in the last three weeks to take the Christmas tree down, and--

- I haven't offered at all in the last few days.

- [CHUCKLES] So when January 6 rolls around again, I'll let her offer one more time, and I will put it away.

- I just remembered, I'm going on vacation that day.

- [CHUCKLES] But we both believe in Santa Claus. We hope you do, too. It always brings a lot of cheer into my heart to think that there is really a Santa Claus.

- Of course, there's a Santa Claus.

- So we had a visit from Santa Claus earlier. Rainbow the Clown came by, and--

- It's hard to argue with Ding Dongs and Twinkies.

- Ding dongs and Twinkies. And he said he was all out of Ho Ho Hos. I told him he should go to the bars, but-- [CHUCKLES]

- Which I strongly suspect he did.

- Probably. This is the *After Hour* show here on KPFT 90.1 FM in Houston. We're just having a good time this evening playing some of our Christmas favorites, playing some Christmas specials, and having a good time. We've got a couple more things that are special to us that we want to do a little later in this show. And we've got another 45 minutes. It's 3:15, so we'll be here until 4:00. And my name is Bruce Reeves.

- And this is Judy.

- And we're your new host here on *After Hours*, a continuing tradition here at KPFT. Now, what was I going to do? Oh, yeah.

- Play music.

- Let's play some more music. Bing Crosby singing "White Christmas." We had had a special request from Bruce for Arlene. Not Arlene.

- Andre.

- Andre. My brain's going-- Earlier in the evening, and we didn't think we had it. And we dug around some more, and we actually found it. So that was a special song for them. You are listening to KPFT 90.1 FM Houston. This is the *After Hours* show, and we're just having a very special Christmas evening playing some of our favorite songs.

Wow, and I think Judy's really glad because I think that probably means I'm through playing Venus Envy tonight.

- Ho, ho, ho.

- We did have a couple of calls about this wonderful album, though. It is called Venus-- the group is Venus Envy. And Venus with a V, like the goddess Venus.

- Yes, one of my favorites.

- And the album is entitled *I'll be a Homo for Christmas*, and is undoubtedly available at Inklings. And if it's not, I'm sure they would be more than thrilled to order it for you.

- No doubt.

- So, what have you got?

- Well, actually, I was just perusing the gay in *Houston, Lesbian and Gay Pride Week Newsletter* here a little while ago and came across a little thank you letter from Jazz Paz-- Paz, I don't want to mispronounce it, but I probably did. And it just kind of sums up the feelings, I think, a lot of people have, not just at this time of the year but all year round about their own little private sanctuary here called the Montrose.

And I like to read it to you, which is going to be a real challenge at this hour of the morning for me and my eyes, but we're going to give it a try. It says, "Thanks to you. 'Tis the season to be thankful, and this year, there are abundant blessings to keep me in gratitude for a long time. My thanks to the goddess and my personal banking officer, but mostly, to my community.

I'm thankful for the lively, extended, inclusive lesbian and gay family. There are those, and you know who you are, who make me crazy. But I'm thankful for our loud, colorful, local characters, as well as those they inspire to write long angry letters to the editors. I'm thankful for our visionaries-- Jack Valinsky, Felix Garcia, Kathy Lenahan, Ray Hill, Annise Parker, and Deborah Bell.

I'm thankful for the free space provided by Inklings and Lobo, where we can post our notices, leave our announcements, and network. I'm thankful that the goddess is fat." Me, too.

- [CHUCKLES]

- "I'm thankful for HeartSong, The Montrose Singers, The Montrose Cloggers, but especially, the Lone Star Symphonic Band. I'm thankful for our everyday heroes-- those who give care to our PWAs. And I'm thankful that my friends who no longer suffer are at peace, but I still miss them grievously.

I'm thankful for my spectacular children and their phenomenal stepmother who takes such loving care of them in Beaumont, of all places. And I'm thankful that Beaumont doesn't take offense at my little jokes. I'm thankful for Holy Unions, lesbian and gay pride parades, and picnics and rallies, Marches on Austin, The Gay Games, saxophone teachers who take on beginners and love letters in the mail.

I'm thankful for this community's energy and anger, and the Quick Response groups who organize swiftly and effectively in crisis. I'm thankful that the goddess made me a lesbian Latina. Not everyone can be one. And I'm thankful for women in general, and a few men in particular." I think that sums it up real well.

- It really does. It's a real nice sentiment, and I think it says a lot. And I guess if there was one thing I could ask for this Christmas that I could really get would be a cure for AIDS.

- I think we all have that same sentiment.

- Jazz mentioned several things. Of course, she mentioned the March on Austin, and I believe there will be a March on Austin coming up in--

- March?

- And we just had one this year, didn't we?

- Yeah.

- There'd be another one in '93. Coming up in October, however, in Washington, the Quilt is returning to the--

- Eclipse? Ellipse?

- It's not the ellipse, it's that other thing.

- That area.

- The mall. The mall, it's supposed to stretch from the Capitol to the Washington Monument, which will be a phenomenal sight and a very depressing one, unfortunately, as well. But that'll be over Columbus Day weekend, which should be the weekend of the 9th, 10th, and 11th of October. And then in April of 1993, will be the 1993 March on Washington for lesbian, and gay rights, and whatever else.

- Get those calendars out.

- Get [? trunked ?] into there. So those are two events that that are going to be coming up in the next year and a half. You want to start saving your pennies now so you can buy that airplane ticket and get there, or a bus ticket, or a train ticket, or walk.

- I don't think I want to walk next time.

- You don't want to walk? OK. But things to think about that are coming up in our future. We've got a couple of, I guess, interesting things to say about the days of the week currently. Christmas eve, which is Tuesday--

- Tuesday.

- --is the sixth anniversary of the 1985 Washington State governor, Booth Gardner, gave gay men and lesbians in Washington State a Christmas present, which was an executive order banning discrimination against them in state hiring. And on Christmas day, on this date in 1908, Quentin Crisp, our queen mother, was born.

Nude model and bon vivant, he acquired a late celebrity when he told of his early life flouting the establishment. And there's a number of other, I guess, interesting people having birthdays in the next week. Tsar Alexander I of Russia was born in 1777.

- I wasn't there for that celebration.

- Lots of sevens in there. I don't know whether I knew the tsar or not, but that--

- Well--

- --that was a long--

- --we'll talk about that--

- --time ago.

- --later. So it's always interesting just to see what gay people were born around this time. And we're here just having a wonderful Christmas after our show, *After Hours*, the continuing tradition at KPFT. And we hope that you and yours are having a happy holiday season and are enjoying the first hour of the winter season and looking forward to it becoming winter in Houston, right?

- Oh, winter season, yeah, in February.

- So let's play a little more music, and--

- I did see you put the Venus Flytrap, or whoever it was, away, right?

- I put Venus Envy away.

- Venus Envy. Yes, thank you.

- We've got a little Peter, Paul and Mary. We're going to light a candle.

- Oh, wonderful.

[APPLAUSE]

[MUSIC - PETER, PAUL AND MARY, "LIGHT ONE CANDLE"]

- And we hope we're sending you a Happy New Year and Merry, Merry Christmas. Of course, next week will be our New Year show. We're going to rush the New Year in just a couple of days early, and--

- No resolutions?

- Never raised my hand again? No. Huh!

- Yeah, right.

- I wouldn't keep that one. But we have just been trying to have a sort of a Christmas show tonight.

- I think you succeeded.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

- --and have lots of fun songs and traditional songs that mean a lot to us, as well. You asked me while back what my favorite Christmas present was, and what my worst Christmas present was.

- And [INAUDIBLE]

- And I gave you lots of time to think about what yours were. So come on, just talk about that a little bit.

- No. In the first place, I didn't have a lot of time to think, you've been working my little tail off.

- No, no, no.

- No, no, no. My best Christmas present? Oh. Well, let me think. Of course, I could name any one of a dozen unicorns. Does that count?

- Well, probably.

- Probably? I have some pretty special Christmas unicorns given to me by some pretty special people.

- And the most tacky thing you've ever got?

- The most--

- White elephant gifts--

- --tacky--

- --don't count.

- (LAUGHS) Why not? Actually I get some pretty nifty white elephant gifts. The tackiest-- oh, no question about it, I got some hand-painted underwear once.

- Ooh. Is that something your mother did?

- [CHUCKLES] I hope you're not listening, mom. No, actually, she didn't do it. But they were real interesting. Fortunately, they didn't fit, so I didn't have to keep them long. They made a wonderful dust rag, though.

- I'm sure.

- The only word that comes to mind is gauche. But even that doesn't fit.

- Frightening works.

- That's good. No more Christmases like that, please.

- You are listening to KPFT 90.1 FM Houston. And the *After Hours* show is a gay and lesbian show. We haven't changed much of our format, just the host have changed. And we're going to be bringing in some additional host to help us out here on Saturday nights, Sunday mornings. And we're here every Saturday night at midnight, and we're here until 4:00, Sunday morning.

And if you're interested in gay and lesbian programming, you can also tune into *The Wilde 'N Stein Show* on Monday nights, which is on from 9:00 until 10:00 pm. And Jack Valinsky and Deborah Bell are the co-host of that show, and I'm engineering through the end of Marathon.

Marathon is coming up in January. We'll be doing Marathon Saturday the 11th and the 18th. We'll be coming to you, as we do three times a year, to ask for your support for public radio. Public radio is here for you, and it's paid for by you. We don't do any commercials for commercial organizations. That's what makes us different. It also allows us to bring you all kinds of programming, including gay and lesbian programming.

- Things like this way out.

- If you listen to us every week, or if you listen to us sometimes and you find what we have brought to you in the past and what we'll be continuing to bring to you in the future is something that is of value to you, we'll ask that you show us some appreciation, I guess, of that in January. It takes money to keep the station on the air, and that's something that's very near and dear to all of our hearts.

- Money, by the way, which we don't get.

- That's true.

- We're all volunteers.

- And it takes a different breed of people to be at this radio--

- Amen.

- --station all hours of the night. There's also another gay and lesbian show that's on on Friday mornings, from 9:00 until noon, and it's called *Breakthrough*. And your primary host there is Pookie. And I never can remember Pookie's last name, but Pookie's a wonderful person. She's got lots of good co-hosts, and it's a good show, as well. So tune into those shows and support public radio.

If you're listening to *After Hours* for the first time, we'd like to welcome you to our listening audience. If you're an old listener, we'd like to ask that you continue listening. *After Hours* is a continuing tradition here on KPFT. The hosts have changed, but the rest of the show goes on. So thanks again for listening, and we're going to go to a little more Christmas music, and-- which one was I going to play?

Oh, yeah, the last song we heard was the Roaches singing "Here come: Caroline, and this next song is also by them. And it's jingle bells, a little different twist.

- I'll bet.

- Barbra Streisand singing "My Favorite Things." And I guess one of the things I would add to that would be, public radio and the chance it gives me to volunteer and be part of the community. There's lots of ways that we can all volunteer and help in the community. In the first part of our show, we had a special guest on, Jewel Gray, talking about the Christmas dinner at Bearing Care Center.

And that'll be going on at noon on Christmas day. If you're a PWA, you can eat free. If you're a friend of a PWA, you can go down with your friend and you can eat. If you'd like to volunteer with Bearing either that day or some other time, give Jewel a call. I'm sure she'd be glad to hear from you. And we'd like to wish you all a very merry Christmas.

- It's just something about volunteer work that makes you feel warm all inside.

- Ain't it? And we're here because we hope that we can do almost as good a job as Buddy did. Well at least, for the first couple of weeks. We're a little rusty around the edges, but we want to hear from you. We want your comments. If you'd like to comment about *After Hours*, what you'd like to see, what you don't want to see, give us a call at 526-4000 any time. Someone should be able to take a message for us. Or write us a letter at 419 Lovett Boulevard, that's Houston 77006. We'll be glad to hear from you.

Thanks again for listening, and we hope you have a very Merry Christmas. And tune in next weekend. We're going to be celebrating New Year.

- I don't know about those resolutions.

- Merry Christmas.

- This next song is very special to both of us. We hope you'll find it equally special. Thanks for listening to *After Hours*. We look forward to having you listen to us again next week.

- Reflections Black on Black.

- Freedom is a road sold and travelled by the multitude.

- Political philosophy of Black nationalism only mean--