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SPEAKERS

Sarah DePalma, Jimmy Carper, Shawn Carter, Gerald McNeil

S

Sarah DePalma 00:01

So what I've always said is oh, we thought I was crazy what else is in? Honestly, that's, that's really what it came down to is I looked at it and said, Okay, I could go out and spend \$12,000 and go to Canada, and have this expensive, dangerous surgery. And when it's all done, I could end up with all kinds of potential problems. Sure, I might, or it might be a great success. But either way, what would surgery give me I don't already have. Now, I know there are transgender people sitting out there right now saying what she means she isn't going to have surgery. What's the point of being a transsexual, you're not gonna give serves grid. And I'm gonna tell you folks, being a transsexual has nothing to do with surgery. It has nothing to do with your genitals. And we've talked about the shelter, we're blue in the face. Right? And we'll talk about it again, I'm sure. But I'm just not going to get into the peer pressure out there about it. There has been I've had a lot of people who have said to me, Well, you know, you just have to have the surgery. It's what we're about. No, it isn't. It's not and stop telling me that.

J

Jimmy Carper 01:03

It's like saying, hey, you know, gay men, it's all about their dicks. And that isn't it?

S

Sarah DePalma 01:08

Isn't it? Isn't? It never was no. So anyway, I just thought I would put that out there on the record. And before we go to break here, I want to talk about couple of upcoming shows.

J

Jimmy Carper 01:17

Oh, okay.

S

Sarah DePalma 01:18

Our next show, we're going to have Gary Bowen on. Gary Bowen is I had hoped to get him on for this show. And Gary is ill, and we couldn't get the interview together. And so, the next show, we'll we'll try and get Garu on and I want to do a show but female to male transsexuals. Yeah. Gary is the is on the board of directors of his time, America. He also has an organization called American boy, American boys. Yes. And he is going to be heading up a conference in February for Native Americans, Native American transgendered people. Wow, that is called True Spirit.

J

Jimmy Carper 01:56

Where is it going to be held?

S

Sarah DePalma 01:57

It's going to be held in in Maryland, I believe. Wow. I think but anyway, we'll have Gary Bowen on the show we'll be talking about that.

J

Jimmy Carper 02:04

Okay.

S

Sarah DePalma 02:05

We're going to have Jessica Xavier in the near future. Oh, good. Jessica is going to be talking about some of the changes that have taken place and what gender PAC is all about. Why it's America's become part of it and where America is. ITA is gonna go from here. We're also going to do a show probably in February, I think we're going to do show about significant others. Ah, a significant others of transgenders. Yeah. And I hope to get a genuine Fairfax's wife on the show. And talk about being significant other of a crossdresser. You bet. Well Lorie is going to be on the show. And Beth Richard's significant other will be on

J

Jimmy Carper 02:40

Oh, terrific. Oh, terrific.

S

Sarah DePalma 02:42

So that should be a route that we're looking at. That's in February. And I also have lined up,-.

J

Jimmy Carper 02:47

You know, I'm still waiting for, for the DOMA thing to fall apart because of transgender people. And the amount of transgendered gendered couples that are now same sex, legally married

couples-.

S

Sarah DePalma 03:02

And that's going to happen, I have heard from a couple of people via the internet, who in fact have cases they are putting together right now. So it's going to happen, it's just a question of how soon, but it's down the road. My guess is by mid summer, these cases will be in court. Also, we have coming coming down the road, we have a couple of other shows that are going to be coming up, one in particular that I'm really looking forward to. And that is we're going to do more about transgenders and law. I have contacted a couple of attorney friends that I know. And I'm going to sit down and tapes of interviews with them. And this is going to be specifically dealing with child custody issues.

J

Jimmy Carper 03:42

Wow.

S

Sarah DePalma 03:43

Specifically dealing with adoption and divorce, how to select an attorney in child and in child care cases. And I know that I've had several people call me and say I'm in the middle of a divorce. What do I do? It's very well, we're going to talk about that. We're also gonna get Linden Cynthia Phillips back. Oh, good. What a great cup and Linda Cynthia, I think we may even get them in studio live.

J

Jimmy Carper 04:07

That would be fun.

S

Sarah DePalma 04:08

So we've got a lot of really good stuff coming up in the upcoming months. Oh, and so anyway, that's where we're at. Let's do some music here ok.

J

Jimmy Carper 04:16

And coming up in the second hour of the show, is going to be an interview. Well, let me put it to you this way. If you don't know what the court is all about. You're gonna find out.

S

Sarah DePalma 04:28

That's right. And I thought it would be appropriate to go some Romanovsky in Philips Wearing my Mother's Clothes Romanovsky in Philips wearing my mother's clothes, that Yeah, isn't that a

great song? I love that. That's one of those songs that you know, it's funny I've I've, I've talked to people about Romanovsky and Phillips and they often will say to me, who?

J Jimmy Carper 04:52

I know it, don't you just want to slap them-.

S Sarah DePalma 04:54

And yet they put out what 6,7,8 CDs?

J Jimmy Carper 04:57

Something like that. In fact, Ron Romanovsky put I put out a single-. I've got them all. There's about six.

S Sarah DePalma 05:05

It's not like they're exactly unknown.

J Jimmy Carper 05:07

No. And they've been they've been doing this since like, 1983 1984.

S Sarah DePalma 05:12

Yeah. Well, we have some guests.

J Jimmy Carper 05:14

We do.

S Sarah DePalma 05:15

Yeah. And Jimmy, why don't you go ahead here and why don't you?

J Jimmy Carper 05:17

Why don't we put on their mics?

S

Sarah DePalma 05:19

Six and seven. Okay. And we're bringing up your microphones and you should be able to hear. Yes, yeah. They can't hear you shaking your head. Say hello.

G

Gerald McNeil 05:32

Oh, hello. I'm just waiting for it to come on.

S

Sarah DePalma 05:36

I want to jump ahead and introduce yourself.

G

Gerald McNeil 05:41

Well, my name is Gerald McNeil. I'm a candidate for ampere 13 of the Royal Sovereign and pure record of the single star of Houston.

S

Sarah DePalma 05:48

Y'all need to come a little bit closer to the microphone. There we go.

G

Gerald McNeil 05:51

I'm new to this so helped me out. I liked the headphones. I can really hear good.

S

Sarah DePalma 05:57

It does nothing hard to hear it what do we have here?

S

Shawn Carter 06:04

I'm here listening to Gerald. I'm his partner. My name is Shawn Carter. I'm Mr. Gay Houston All American.

G

Gerald McNeil 06:10

Ah, he's also my campaign manager.

— — — — —

 Sarah DePalma 06:13

Wow. But he thinks he's gonna hide not in this studio, honey.

 Gerald McNeil 06:15

He keeps me on track.

 Sarah DePalma 06:19

Jimmy, why don't you go ahead and start off here.

 Jimmy Carper 06:21

Okay. When I met you last night as a matter of fact, Gerald. And the first thing I said was, you know, I want to talk about the beginnings of the court and what the court is all about. And you told me something fantastic. About a book coming about, about the court system.

 Gerald McNeil 06:39

Yes, the court started roughly 30 years ago in California, where little a little lady called what we call her the widow Norton. And she started court then and through the last 30 years. There's over 60 courts throughout the country, Hawaii, Canada, were a major organization throughout the country. And we decided throughout the different courts to put a book together of the history of each individual court. And that's the book I mentioned to you last night. It just the history of each court of where we started, where we're going, where we're at now.

 Jimmy Carper 07:20

Now, what does it mean to be a court?

 Gerald McNeil 07:23

The court is basically just a camp organization, it started out as just raising funds for the community. And that's just where it's still going, is raising funds for each individual community and each different state, and that a lot of it is based on drag 90% of it as drag.

 Jimmy Carper 07:43

But I've noticed that some members are not in drag, and there are drag queens and drag kings.

 Gerald McNeil 07:49

And I've never turned myself as a drag king.

J Jimmy Carper 07:55

I've seen I've seen an emperor that's a woman.

G Gerald McNeil 07:59

Yeah, it was recent. Yeah, it was recent. Yes. Deb Delahaye.

J Jimmy Carper 08:03

Yeah, that's what I mean by drag king.

G Gerald McNeil 08:05

Yes. It's, we don't look at gender, male or female. If-.

S Sarah DePalma 08:12

I like you people already.

G Gerald McNeil 08:15

We look at what you do for the community what you work for. And whether you're male or female, it doesn't matter if you want to run in the court, we have the male side and the female side, the Empress in the line of succession. It's like I say it's it's all camp. And then the male side with the Emperor and then line of succession,-.

J Jimmy Carper 08:36

And grand dukes and Duchess-.

G Gerald McNeil 08:38

The Duchess is in Imperial Princess.

J Jimmy Carper 08:42

Installation is a fabulous-.

G

Gerald McNeil 08:45

It's a lot of fun.

J

Jimmy Carper 08:46

Yeah.

G

Gerald McNeil 08:47

And whether you're male or female, it doesn't matter.

J

Jimmy Carper 08:49

And the whole thing-.

G

Gerald McNeil 08:50

All part of the same organization work for working for the same cause for the community.

J

Jimmy Carper 08:54

And the whole thing is, is raising money for charity.

G

Gerald McNeil 08:57

Yes. And I'm very proud to say that we've in the courts, since we're, we're ending our 12th year, and since I'm running for Emperor, 13, it'll start in January, we raised between 202 \$150,000 for the community. Wow. And I'm very proud of that. It's pretty it's it's a little fundraisers and benefits throughout the year, you know, \$1 here, \$1 there.

J

Jimmy Carper 09:21

I know. We try to announce as many as we can, but I mean, some nights there's two different benefits going on.

G

Gerald McNeil 09:29

Lately there's like three or four.

 Jimmy Carper 09:32

It's it's impossible to keep up with.

 Sarah DePalma 09:35

How many people do you have involved in the court?

 Gerald McNeil 09:37

We have over 60 members right now.

 Sarah DePalma 09:40

Wow. I had no idea it was. And these are active folks. I mean-.

 Gerald McNeil 09:44

They have well, like many organizations, we have 90% of interactive. There's some that come and go depending on what they have going on. But they still are involved in the court. Now there's come out with the-.

 Jimmy Carper 09:57

Empire in Houston and at And there's a Dallas empire and-.

 Gerald McNeil 10:03

We have six courts in Texas.

 Jimmy Carper 10:04

Oh, wow.

 Gerald McNeil 10:05

In Dallas Fort Worth, San Antonio, Waco, Corpus Christi, Houston, Austin.

 Sarah DePalma 10:12

Now there might be some people out there say, well now how would I ever get involved in the court? How would they do that? How do we get involved in it?

G

Gerald McNeil 10:18

That's-.

J

Jimmy Carper 10:19

How did you get involved?

G

Gerald McNeil 10:22

I think somebody wants say something,

S

Shawn Carter 10:23

Well, a great way to get involved is the third Tuesday of every month, the court does, it will be called chatting to at Gentry, which is at 23 through Richmond, at seven o'clock, the court comes in, that's a social night for us. If we have pizza, it's just a party for us to meet other people get the communities now what we do, and anyone who's there is welcome to talk with us and meet with us. In fact, this past month, we added two members through 10. And it's, it's just a, it's a good time for instead of just coming up to a meeting, and seeing all the business of the court and what goes on, this is a time for you to get to know the members see what we do talk in a social atmosphere. But it's usually the third Tuesday of every month we meet a Gentry just to be social.

J

Jimmy Carper 11:21

So I guess, after you become emperor, you're gonna have this fabulous salary.

G

Gerald McNeil 11:26

Oh, I wish there was a salary involved, I wouldn't do it. I wouldn't do it. I've been involved in the court for the last four years. And this will start my fifth year. And I just enjoy getting out out there and meeting people and helping my community. And what really changed my life is last year I was Imperial Princess, Imperial Princess, listen. We can tell this is 90% drag, imperial prince Imperial Prince Royale. Last year, I had the opportunity as my main beneficiary along with the need of man who was the Imperial Princess Royal at that time, our beneficiary was the Loving Arms Foundation. And what really changed my life is when I went by, and we decided talked about several different organizations to our main beneficiary to go by and visit their new location. And just talk to the children is children living with AIDS. And to hold a baby in my arms, a little baby that was like, like a month old. It made a big difference.

J

Jimmy Carper 12:42

And you're making the big difference.

G

Gerald McNeil 12:45

But that's what we're here for. To help our brothers and sisters, whether they be babies, whether they be 60 years old, it doesn't matter. We need to help. That's and that's that's all it matters.

J

Jimmy Carper 12:58

That was at the Venture Inn Friday night for a fundraiser that was going on. And the [INAUDIBLE] was there. And you know, she went through four or five costume changes. And I'm thinking, you know, it must be getting kind of pricey.

G

Gerald McNeil 13:16

Just a little bit. I had the opportunity to turn about for the court. Ah, that's when the male line become female and the female become male that they have guts enough to. It's easy for him. It's not easy for us. No, I have a good, very strong respect for those folks that do the the female drag. Absolutely. Just a pain to get those nails off. It really is.

S

Sarah DePalma 13:45

You know, I'm always interested to watch the reaction to your float in the parade every year.

J

Jimmy Carper 13:49

Oh, yeah.

S

Sarah DePalma 13:51

People just love you. I mean, it's nice to have an organization where people just stand up and cheer. Do you get? Do you get that as well? I mean, do people come to you and say, Hey, we really appreciate what you're doing.

G

Gerald McNeil 14:01

Yes, we do see that.

S

Sarah DePalma 14:03

I'm glad to hear that.

J

Jimmy Carper 14:05

The first time I heard about the court, let's say and 1987 I went through training at the gay and lesbian switchboard. Prior to that, I I've been in this town since the 60s but I barely knew where Pacific Street was. I mean, you know one of those corporate queens. You can imagine-.

S

Sarah DePalma 14:32

If you could have seen him dancing to the time warp in here earlier, you wouldn't have believed that.

G

Gerald McNeil 14:38

I'm not gonna shock there.

J

Jimmy Carper 14:40

Anyway, 1987 I went through training at the switchboard and right after training. We went on a bar tour that switchboard kinda does that familiarize people with bars, especially women with male bars and, and men with female with women's bars. We went to I forget, forget the name. I don't know where it was some bar somewhere.

G

Gerald McNeil 15:06

Oh, don't give me the line and go ahead, you're on your own.

J

Jimmy Carper 15:08

I picked up a copy of the courts newsletter at the time. This is 1987. And inside it was a full page ad for the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard. No one at the switchboard had ever heard that the court had no idea now, had no idea. This was an 87. Right, then we began to realize how insulated we were. We did not know what was going on with a community. And I've been promoting the court ever since then.

G

Gerald McNeil 15:42

Well, I'm also the managing editor of the court newsletter, haha. And I'm always walking by and seeing a flyer or a pamphlet something about the switchboard the pet patrol, yes, TGRA no

matter who, who it is, and picking it up and sticking it in our newsletter. So yes, we sometimes will pick something up and who's the court? Where did they get this?

 Jimmy Carper 16:06

Exactly, exactly. Because it's like we were talking about Lady Victoria Lust, the court just kind of quietly does what it does without making a big fuss at you know, and it's like, okay, we raise a lot of money, but that's what we do. And they don't want it to be front page headlines, because that's not what they're about. They're about getting it done and doing it.

 Gerald McNeil 16:27

That's right. Yes.

 Sarah DePalma 16:30

It's nice know, there are people like that in the community. And you wonder where the community would ever be with that. So no kidding. I think about groups like you and the colt 40, fives and a couple of other groups that you don't hear a lot of publicity about them. They just do the jobs.

 Shawn Carter 16:42

Exactly. Go on. The people that do it. They they don't want the recognition. They don't want the appreciation. The reason they're doing is because they know that there are people out there that need it.

 Sarah DePalma 16:55

Yeah. So what do you have coming up next now? What's next for the court?

 Gerald McNeil 17:01

Oh, my heavens, do we have enough time?

 Sarah DePalma 17:04

Well, here's your chance of free publicity.

 Gerald McNeil 17:05

So well, I have a show coming up on November 23. At the venture end is for lady victoria. Last.

Good. I had a schedule last month. Bless her heart. I can't say this on the radio, but it'll be nice. I had a chance to talk were there several times. And all caught a few times. But just a week before she passed. I said girl, it's time for you to get out there and perform. It's been so long since you've done it. And we're we're doing his show at at Chances. And I said now, all yet while we have to do is just put a stool up on stage. You can sit there look like a diva. And just have fun.

 Jimmy Carper 17:48

That's right.

 Gerald McNeil 17:49

That's well, I can do that. So this show is for Lady Victoria.

 Jimmy Carper 17:56

Wow. That's nice.

 Gerald McNeil 17:57

She has been a beautiful person.

 Jimmy Carper 18:00

Yeah.

 Gerald McNeil 18:00

And I will really miss her. But this show was for her. And so far. We have over 25 performers. So I hope and Jim, I hope you're hearing this at the Venture Inn, it may be longer than two hours

 Sarah DePalma 18:18

You ought to have a huge crowd for that. And if you don't, there's really something wrong.

 Jimmy Carper 18:21

Yeah. So that's the 23rd?

G Gerald McNeil 18:23

November 23 venture. Okay, John Gill is going to emcee-.

J Jimmy Carper 18:27

With Mr. Everything.

G Gerald McNeil 18:29

Yeah. Yeah. Have a chance to see him tonight at military ball.

J Jimmy Carper 18:34

Ah, how was that? Looking very military too. Yes, yes. Oh, man in uniform.

S Sarah DePalma 18:41

What was it?

J Jimmy Carper 18:43

Yes, it was. We don't get to do that.

S Sarah DePalma 18:46

I got to do it.

J Jimmy Carper 18:48

Yeah, good. Yeah. Okay, now, um, you said you're running for emperor. What does that mean?

G Gerald McNeil 18:56

Oh, heavens. Yes, I'm running.

S Sarah DePalma 19:00

Yeah, but it means something I know it does.

 Jimmy Carper 19:02

That means you're running against someone else.

 Gerald McNeil 19:05

Yes. There this year.

 Jimmy Carper 19:06

There's if you raise more money you get to be emperor or?

 Gerald McNeil 19:09

No, it's all based on community vote.

 Jimmy Carper 19:11

Ah-.

 Gerald McNeil 19:12

The community elects the new emperor and empress because we are the our organization is, is working for the community. We feel that the community needs to vote who the co-presidents are for our organization. We just named them emperor and emperor, but they are the co-presidents and the community needs to vote.

 Jimmy Carper 19:31

How did they vote?

 Gerald McNeil 19:32

They walk up on January the 11th at 11 Westheimer. Between 10 and six-.

 Jimmy Carper 19:39

The Voice building the Voice and Twit.

 Gerald McNeil 19:42

It is the Voice building and vote. You just need a valid Houston, Texas driver's license, Houston area and surrounding counties are all eligible to vote and just walk in there and-

J Jimmy Carper 19:55

Are you getting on early voting?

G Gerald McNeil 19:57

What now? We don't have-Oh, I'm sorry.

J Jimmy Carper 20:00

I'm gonna be out of town.

G Gerald McNeil 20:01

We're working on a, we're working on one day. That's one day we're working on. The community decides, and our court here in Houston has one of the longest campaigns that I know of in, in Texas that we started in October and go through January 11. So it gives a lot of us a lot of time to get out in the community. And a lot of people know us anyway, because we're out there.

J Jimmy Carper 20:31

Exactly. Yeah, exactly.

G Gerald McNeil 20:33

But it gives them a lot more time to, to talk to us find out what we're all about what we want. What we like, don't like-.

J Jimmy Carper 20:41

Got to be hectic for you, or me, are you even putting up a tree this year.

G Gerald McNeil 20:45

I mean, it's like what tree. But I look back and it's, it's before I know it, it's going to be January the 11th. Yeah, I'm just having fun. It's, I've met a lot of new friends met a lot of new new people. And now it helps one person. It's good.

J Jimmy Carper 21:06

Yes, I've seen I've seen an installation. Is that Is that what it's called?

G Gerald McNeil 21:11

Coronation.

S Shawn Carter 21:12

Installation is some people like to call it coronated.

G Gerald McNeil 21:16

Yes, sometimes it's a long coronation

S Sarah DePalma 21:21

Installation, or installation is plumbing.

G Gerald McNeil 21:26

That'll work.

J Jimmy Carper 21:29

Yes, we don't care about plumbing here.

G Gerald McNeil 21:33

No, if nobody has ever seen a coronation, sometimes they last I've been to ones that last for hours. I've been to ones that started to six. And at three o'clock in the morning, my head is hitting the table. Some of those because there's so many people that come and visit from all different states. Yes, it takes a long time because we introduce them. Yeah, they need to be ready introduce all the local clubs and organizations and all out of state coordinate folks that are there. So it sometimes it takes a lot of time.

S Sarah DePalma 22:06

So you're on exactly what kind of energy pills.

J

Jimmy Carper 22:09

And in the court is also kind of involved in other groups too, because let's say that the Mardi Gras thing that goes on and January- the crew, the crew, the crew of with this. Yeah, you know what, there's there's a presentation there. And-.

G

Gerald McNeil 22:32

Now we do think crew of Olympus Ms. Camp America. I think there's a group that we don't do something with even if we just provide food there for a couple of years, the court was called as the catering court. If somebody had a run, if somebody had some kind of benefit going on, we provide a food spread. You wouldn't believe why every court member would bring something in we just put it out for whatever they were doing. And-.

S

Sarah DePalma 23:00

I don't picture you in an apron well.

S

Shawn Carter 23:02

That's see that's that's pretty good. He's up in an apron pretty good.

J

Jimmy Carper 23:09

Respect that the court I had no idea. You know, I'd-. never heard that before.

S

Sarah DePalma 23:13

How long ago was that? The court did that.

G

Gerald McNeil 23:16

We do it all the time.

S

Sarah DePalma 23:17

Really?

J

Jimmy Carper 23:18

Say it's another thing.

S Shawn Carter 23:19

Something about the court is that a lot of the majority of the court, they are not only members of the court, but they're members of other many other organizations, from NLA to TGRA, crew of Olympus.

S Sarah DePalma 23:32

Well, one of the things I wanted to ask about the court isn't that you've raised money now for all kinds of different things over the years. Just out of curiosity, has anybody ever have any actual idea how much money you've raised?

G Gerald McNeil 23:43

We know a split between \$200- \$250,000

S Sarah DePalma 23:47

My God \$200,000? Yes. Is there any organization that is are the guidelines under which that somebody has to an organization has to qualify? Or? I mean, how do they come to you and say we'd like you to do show a benefit for us.

G Gerald McNeil 24:03

They have to be a 5013 C.

S Sarah DePalma 24:05

Okay, I see.

G Gerald McNeil 24:06

Now we raise money for folks that can we donate the money to.

S Sarah DePalma 24:11

Okay, so they have to have be a 501 C three.

G Gerald McNeil 24:14

Yeah.

S Sarah DePalma 24:14

And that's it. Because I know I've bendy I'm just out of curiosity, how many shows does the court put on a month? I mean, I mean, I look in the paper and in twit and it seems like you people are all over the place.

S Shawn Carter 24:28

Yes. Pretty much.

S Sarah DePalma 24:30

Now I know why you need 60 members.

S Shawn Carter 24:35

It's not it's never it's never a surprise to see the court putting on two or three shows a weekend.

J Jimmy Carper 24:43

Yes, that's right.

S Shawn Carter 24:44

And with each show raising from \$300 to \$1,000, to show

S Sarah DePalma 24:49

now how would people get ahold of you? If they're listening to the show right now and they'd like to contact you for benefit. How would they contact you and go about this?

G Gerald McNeil 24:59

She's gonna ask for that court hotline number isn't she?

J Jimmy Carper 25:03

Something like that.

S Shawn Carter 25:03

At one o'clock in the morning. Do you know how hard that is to remember? But the best number to remember is you can always contact the editor of the Imperial time.

G Gerald McNeil 25:12

Yes, you can contact me at 6232757.

S Sarah DePalma 25:16

Okay. 623-235-7275 2757. There we go.

J Jimmy Carper 25:22

Okay, write that down honey.

G Gerald McNeil 25:23

623327572757.

J Jimmy Carper 25:28

Yeah.

S Sarah DePalma 25:29

So if you're okay, so if you're out there right now, and you're a 501 C three organization, and you would like to have the court do a benefit for you. That's how you reach them.

G Gerald McNeil 25:39

That's it. That's it.

J Jimmy Carper 25:40

And let me tell you something else wonderful about the court. When Regina Dane was coronated out of the blues, she donated the money from the coronation to the gay and lesbian

coronated out of the blue, she donated the money from the coronation to the gay and lesbian switchboard. We were flabbergasted. And, I mean, and truly humbled, truly humbled. Well, I mean, it's like that. I mean, you can be a 501 C three, and the court member will know of what you know what you've done in the past and just say, okay, okay, it's your turn.

 Sarah DePalma 26:19

And I know we've talked about Bill O'Rourke here on the show before and of course, we've had Jackie during the show several Oh, yeah. And Jackie course is a member of the court. And I'm just really, I'm, I am so impressed that there are people who actually do things for the community just because that's the right thing to do. I'm really impressed with they're-/

 Gerald McNeil 26:38

All brothers and sisters, we have to help each other. And it doesn't matter. We're all here together.

 Sarah DePalma 26:44

We've said that in the show before haven't we.

 Jimmy Carper 26:48

Well, let's weekly.

 Sarah DePalma 26:52

It's really been a pleasure having you all here. Is that something that you want the audience know that we didn't think to ask.

 Gerald McNeil 26:59

Remind them to go to voting yes. January the 11th. At 811 Westheimer. Suite 105. Houston, Voice office.

 Jimmy Carper 27:08

That's right. We will be in the sixth. We will be telling people that

 Sarah DePalma 27:12

-constantly.

G

Gerald McNeil 27:14

And I have to say to-.

J

Jimmy Carper 27:15

Vote for Gerald.

G

Gerald McNeil 27:17

Yeah, that'll work. Yes. But I have to say is when you see a candidate out there with a sash on it says candidate for emperor or Empress, pull them aside and ask them, What are they there for? What do they want? What do they want for the community? I mean, pick their brain.

S

Sarah DePalma 27:34

I know this year, the Transgender Law conference had a member of the court come and speak for the first time. And she was absolutely wonderful. And there was such positive feedback afterwards. And I hope that I hope that next year, we'll get more folks from the court because she was just great. And I think there are even though there are a lot of trans- there. The entire audience is made up of transgender people. We all learned a lot. And so we were really impressed and glad that she came.

J

Jimmy Carper 27:59

Now you said you went to a GCTC meeting?

G

Gerald McNeil 28:02

Yes. Tonight Tonight. Yes. I was very impressed. You know, I met several of my several folks already. And it was just that was the first meeting I had. And since we had other obligations going on. I didn't have a lot of time to spend. But I was invited by Renee to, to, to come to their Christmas party.

S

Sarah DePalma 28:24

That's always a big event. going oh-.

G

Gerald McNeil 28:27

Yes, I do. Yeah.

S

Sarah DePalma 28:28

Even I like the Christmas party. They do know how to have fun with that.

G

Gerald McNeil 28:33

Ready for a party.

J

Jimmy Carper 28:36

I can't tell you how pleased I am. I wanted to have someone from the court on the show for a long, long time.

G

Gerald McNeil 28:41

Thank you very much.

J

Jimmy Carper 28:42

Because we like to push courts. And that's that's the seat where we don't have commercials on here. And so we cannot, we cannot do commercials. And they're very strict about promoting things. But you know, if a bar is doing a fundraiser, you know, I can talk about the BRB every week or Gentry every week, or, you know, whatever bar Venture Inn, and we're not promoting the bar special we're promoting because these are the bars that are out there in the community and every week. I mean, they're putting something back.

S

Shawn Carter 29:16

That's it. That's it. One thing I moved here about a year and a half ago, and when I learned about the court, I'm a I've graduated in political science. So I've always voting is my obligation. Yeah, but understanding that this organization, lets the entire community vote for their leaders made me realize that this is our job to decide who is going to be helping our community for the next year. Everybody, even if you don't understand what the court is, or even if you don't know exactly what it is about. It is your job and basically when they say vote for the president, it's your civic obligation. As a member of this community, it is your obligation to find out about this because these are the people that are controlling and helping and working their butts off for a year to raise money for our community for the people with HIV and AIDS that need it. And that's why I became involved with it.

S

Sarah DePalma 30:25

I knew Bill O'Rourke's lover Lester fairly well yeah. And I know he used to use us to talk about

how much he loved the court and and I've known several people in court over the years and I've never heard a single negative word from anyone ever and I can't say that about any of the organization-.

J Jimmy Carper 30:45

You're right. I think you're right yeah. And let me tell you when you're the Empress I mean, you go to a lot of functions it's like a weekly thing and you have to go out of town and you get an-.

S Sarah DePalma 30:55

Out of pocket-.

J Jimmy Carper 30:58

You can't put that gown on too many times they do talk about it.

S Shawn Carter 31:05

- has problems we gotta be nice.

S Sarah DePalma 31:14

Notice how he kept their claws. Yeah. Way to go. Well, I am so glad that we got you on the show. Every time we've had Jackie honest Jackie when he can get us some people from the court. And Jackie says I'm gonna go back and talk to him and I'd call Jackie next month set well where are they Jackie?

G Gerald McNeil 31:35

Oh, my pleasure. I really like-.

J Jimmy Carper 31:36

One this time.

G Gerald McNeil 31:37

Yeah. Yeah, very much.

S Sarah DePalma 31:39

It's really been a pleasure having you. We have a piece of music here that I thought was really appropriate. And this person is he's a new artist. His name is Tommy. I don't know how to pronounce this exactly. I guess it would be Saeli he's a rock cellist I've never heard of any such thing-.

J Jimmy Carper 31:59

Queer rock cellist.

S Sarah DePalma 32:00

A Queer Rock cellist and is all that. But it's called Full Tilt Diva. And somehow that you see my way our over that. Thank you all for coming in.

G Gerald McNeil 32:13

Thank you very much.

S Sarah DePalma 32:21

That is from a multiple Emmy nominee, television special by Peter Paul and Mary that was done on PBS. called Home is where the heart is-.

J Jimmy Carper 32:31

That is a wonderful song. It's been just wonderful.

S Sarah DePalma 32:34

It's been a long time since I've heard a song that I just want to play over and over. Yeah, but that's one of them. And before we leave tonight, I may play another one called Sweet Survivor, which is just wonderful. And you get something that you wanted to read the having to do with the court, I think.

J Jimmy Carper 32:50

Well, you know, you know, we talked about Lady Victoria Lust then-

S Sarah DePalma 32:54

That's part of the reasons that I played that song-

THAT'S PART OF THE REASONS THAT I PLAYED THAT SONG.

J Jimmy Carper 32:56

And Gerald and Shawn was saying no, it's been really hard for the court because, you know, in like, in four weeks, they've lost four people. Oh my god. It's been really tough. The latest one was Shaboom Herb Shaboom Menshal 46. died Tuesday, October 29. In Houston. Shaboom's Celebration of Life was held Sunday November 6 that E-Jays, we miss him already. Love li buddy in the staff of E-Jay's.

S Sarah DePalma 33:30

And we have another celebration of life coming up isn't it right? Yes, we have no one's related Victoria Lust. Yeah, E-Jay's is tomorrow at five o'clock.

J Jimmy Carper 33:39

The 16th-.

S Sarah DePalma 33:40

Oh, it's the 16th that that was?

J Jimmy Carper 33:42

No no, no. Okay. 16-.

S Sarah DePalma 33:44

Very good. Yeah. And

J Jimmy Carper 33:48

Oh, it says here. Oh my god, we're hearing that okay. What? The twit blue and I thought I thought you had said something like that. Tomorrow at five. Ah, okay.

S Sarah DePalma 34:05

That's where I got the tomorrow.

J Jimmy Carper 34:06

 JIMMY CARPENTER 34:00

So you didn't miss it. You still can. Can can go-. good. Shaboom celebration of life will be held Sunday, November 9. Right.

 SARAH DEPALMA 34:20

Okay, okay. Sara, I see you standing in the corner here. You got something. Oh, okay. I thought maybe he had something else. Okay, what