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SPEAKERS

Jack Valinski, Ray Hill

R

Ray Hill 00:01

time, a time where you want to reach out and touch people that you love. I agree that that works out real good when you situation like me and Frankie, who cannot be separated anyway. And so I'm really lucky to have Frankie, my mother during Christmas time, but I do, I'm going through with Patrick, because he's hell halfway around the world, from those folks down in Chile. Today at the dinner table, he brought up and we're eating in a cafeteria and he said, well, that lady over there is about the size of my mother. And then he looked at me and said, I'm missing my mother in so long. I don't know what size she

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Jack Valinski 00:38

is. Yeah, that's because

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Ray Hill 00:41

he's been seven years out of Valparaiso. And, and so he goes through it. And yeah, the relationship is sound and supportive and loving and nurturing. But it's not the same as being with your family. And a lot of gay men and lesbians are really a strange, I mean, they're actually hostile situations with their family, or even worse. They're cordial, insincere relationships, because you've got to be somebody else.

J

Jack Valinski 01:13

That's somewhat like my situation is I don't want to be back there. This is either my third or fourth year away from them at Christmas. And I was back there for Easter. And it's like, I don't want to be there. I don't relate to those people. And I'm not trying to put them down. They don't like them or anything like that. I don't relate to them. I don't want to go back up there. Talk about who's died, who I didn't remember, or don't want to remember, we've got more people dying right here. Unfortunately, yes, and I don't relate to some of the stories that

go on up there. I mean, I'm in a different different different atmosphere down here, we've got things that we're fighting for. We're not sitting in front of televisions, watching programs or, or gossiping about this. I mean, sure, we gossip, there's no two ways about it. But there are struggles that go on day to day that many of us are involved in we're doing. And because we're participating in, it may not get any easier. We may not see resolutions to a lot of these things in our lifetime, but we are actively trying to change some of those. Yeah,

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Ray Hill 02:12

and I think we can deal with all of that on an intellectual level, I think we can all deal with that on a political level. Because that's, that's what we're doing. That's the kind of the, the arenas in which we work, but the emotional thing, quite different from the politics of who I am, or the intellectualism of who I am. The emotional thing of, of just reaching out and touching someone, and it's real hard to find a substitute. But you need if you're going to, you know, you've given a choice of facing the holidays alone, are throwing together some kind of surrogate family. You know, some of the warmest times I've ever seen is when people gather round in bars, and I'm not a real bar going person, I don't go to bars a lot. But you go to bars on holidays, where there's the cover up the pool table and put out a spread. And there's some outrageous drag queen carving up the turkey and, and all of this this surrealistic holiday thing. And there takes the edge off. And it works and has worked for years.

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Jack Valinski 03:18

There is another center, which we don't talk about enough here on this show, the lambda center. It's an absolutely wonderful center. It is basically for people who want to recover from alcohol. But there are other programs there. For other people. There's an Al Anon program, there's adult children of alcoholics. And it is on Joanna, which is just south of west Dallas. And between West Dallas and West clay, and there are meetings from I think, is it noon, till almost midnight.

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Ray Hill 03:50

Yes. I mean, you there's no such thing as as missing meeting, because there's going to be somebody there to talk to you until the next meeting happened, which is not a long wait.

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Jack Valinski 03:59

And one of the ways if you're not familiar with any AAA center, is that they don't go out looking for publicity. So they really don't even want us talking about it now. But just to let you know, there is a center there, it's listed in TW T magazine, or you can pick up and call the switchboard at five to 930 to 11. And they'll give you the number you can call if you're interested. And you don't have to be a dependence person to go up there. And be part of that if you're interested.

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Ray Hill 04:25

You know, you can be a dependent person. There's many different kinds of addictions that ...

you know, you can be a dependent person. There's many different kinds of addictions that you can be through. But the situation is that if you want a place where people are sober, and make sense, and talk and are friendly and loving, then the Lender Center is a good place to go.

J Jack Valinski 04:45

And speaking of families, as we're sort of talking about surrogate families or families by choice, there's a family here at KPFT.

R Ray Hill 04:54

A strange and wonderful family. One of the

J Jack Valinski 04:57

most bizarre families if you ever want to see

R Ray Hill 04:59

radio's kind of bizarre phenomena anyway. I mean, I mean, you just picture back in the early days radio of Edward Amara, sitting in a room by yourself smoking a cigarette after another

J Jack Valinski 05:11

wonderful movie called Radio Days, which was by Woody Allen was one of my favorite people, if you do get a chance to see that that is wonderful, because it talks about radio in the early days when radio was actually television is today when they had programs and people sat around there and watched it. And in that time, people sat around more in families watching or listening to radio. And now it's much more of a personal meeting,

R Ray Hill 05:32

Roosevelt built a political career out of Fireside Chats over the radio, and whole families and whole communities would gather around the radio down the country store where they may be the only place in miles that had electricity.

J Jack Valinski 05:45

And this station very much is like those stations back then. What else could you hear?

R Ray Hill 05:50

That's worse than that. I mean, I mean, this is the place where Arabs and Jews sit down and talk seriously about station business, where Englishman, an Irishman who are very strong in their political polarity, sit down and talk about keeping the machinery working and loving one another and sharing record collections and things of that nature. This is Kate Pacifica is even more bizarre than other radio. It's it's an interesting amalgamation between human efos and pathos, and machinery. The human end of it, we handle very well around here. People at Pacifica don't fight they can quarrel over time, and don't try to take my time away from yours. But generally speaking, if somebody asked for our time, we give it readily because sooner or later, we'll be back around asking for their time. So be cooperated in that. And we're not that selfish. So it's a sharing family. But when we when the family whole family gets sick, when a piece of equipment doesn't work, I mean, I don't care if whether it's just the turntable, and the very heart of a radio station is it's transmitted. Now a lot of radio stations, commercial radio stations have more than one transmitter, many have more than two. And some of them have more than two, right? So that if something goes wrong with one you just switch over, and the sound is never interrupted. For the last several days. Now, the sound at 90.1 FM has been fine hands of other FM stations in the far background. And that's because we had heart failure. And heart failure is is irrespective of how healthy the family is, when the heart fails, then everything is thrown into crisis. You missed somebody's Great show you for instance, you missed a prison show, which was going to deal with holiday blahs in prison, which would have been interesting even for non prisoners to listen to. But we weren't on the air. So we couldn't do that radio program. Now that we're back on the air, we've been back on the air now almost four hours,

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Jack Valinski 08:03

we were back on the air, as it says here on our official log at 5:48pm 15 December 87 with a new transmitter, right. And the problem with the new transmitter is that it's very expensive. We're talking about \$50,000 for the transmitter. While they were also working on the transmitter, they took down the antenna for repair which cost \$8,000 They were going to try to repair the old transmitter which give us a backup at half power in case this one ever does fail, it will cost us \$7,000 And the electrical work cost \$5,000. Now that may seem like 70 grand here, but in terms of radio that is not a lot of money. And in terms of commercial radio, that is not a lot of money for a major city like this. And so one of the problems they were also fighting against was nature, the wind was pretty windy the past couple of days. So that's why we're

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Ray Hill 08:57

talking about 70 grand, which is a big chunk of jeans budget around here. 70 grand is more than one couple of months cash flow. And I know that that a lot of you have just given to the last marathon that a lot of you are getting ready to give to the next marathon. But gene has had to borrow some money from the foundation in order to make this purchase in these reforms. And a lot of this is still dreams, I mean about fixing the old transmitter and having it as a standby all has to do with how much money we can actually come together with right now. I know it's Christmas time and you've got all kinds of obligations out there and other kinds of dreams and some of you are going on a ski trip and all that. But please understand that as of January the first there's going to be some more changes in the tax law. So 501 C three contributions are simply worth more in tax reduction right Now, then they're going to be in January. And some of you have that facing. Please consider a special gift KPFT for the transmitter fund. Now I don't know exactly how they're doing that I know that you can send a check to 419 Love it lol v e TT Boulevard. And they'll be more than glad to receive it in some of

you can do that right now. But why don't you call Jean. And let her talk you out of doing a little better. She's the manager, she's going to be here tomorrow. It's her responsibility. She cares a great deal. Not just about the radio station generically, but about the quality of this program. And the ability of Jack and I and, and the other staff are going back to Mike getting the idea across to you that you need to hear she cares that individually about every programmer on the air coaching and see how much you can really give to be really generous. While it's still worth more in tax deductible status. And while the station really needs it, the number here is five to six 4000. If it's inconvenient for you to think to call Jean, if you'll call me, when Jack goes into the next phase of the program, I'll be upfront, take your telephone number and have Jean called you. The number is five to six 4000 are talking serious, large financial need to keep KPFT on the air and listen to sound is wonderful. It's not frying your ear out not any pops and bubbles and whistles in it. You haven't heard this radio this clear in a long, long time. Let's try to keep it that way. Five to six 4000.

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Jack Valinski 11:52

You know, we in the gay and lesbian community are asked many times to donate money. And it's really not fair. We pay our fair share of taxes. Yet we don't get the services back from the government. And that's not fair. It's not fair of what's going on with his virus and killing people killing our brothers dying. Yet the virus could have been stopped in the early phases. The media could have paid more attention to it. The government could have done more. It's not fair. Our community organizations struggle. Because the lack of support and the lack of involvement. It's not fair. As volunteers here at KPFT it's not fair that we have to keep begging you for money and some of the many phases of music played here on KPFT and Wilde 'n' Stein program, reggae and the many phases of different type of people we are. That is Castleberry. Dupree the title cut city down, and it ain't too easy getting around when you're down. But don't let them down. Don't let them push you around, just keep on pushing on Castleberry into pre. They were at the National march on Washington at the stage and played some of their music. It was really unfortunate that we couldn't have just gone on for days because some of these artists had a lot to contribute. And unfortunately there's so many different people on the stage that we really couldn't get to enjoy so much more that of the artists that were on there. And that record is available at a place called Lady lady slipper. It is a catalog of women's music. And there is a page there of men's music, me HN music and they're in Durham, North Carolina. Their box office is 3130 Durham, North Carolina 27705. They have a toll free order number which is 800-634-6044. A wonderful catalog with 78 pages of information. And that is Castleberry Dupree I want to talk about a movie that is going to be at the River Oaks for a very short time it will be there December 20 21st 22nd, three days Sunday through Tuesday. And it's called a death in a family. And I guess if this was going to be a theme show of being on family

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Ray Hill 14:12

write the stuff unusual?

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Jack Valinski 14:15

No, it's not unusual at all. The movie is a New Zealand movie. And it is a tender and evocative film that focuses on the AIDS crisis and a different way by portraying the forceful bounds of

friends and relatives who gather to nurse the terminally ill patient. And it is it's not a very long movie, it's less than an hour. And they're also going to be showing a short call a 30 minute short called complete. Nightly shows are 739 30 and 530. And also on Sunday, there's a matinee at 130 and 330. I got to see this film this past Sunday at the River Oaks at a preview and it is just absolutely wonderful, as are a lot of things at the river very much so and it is a low budget film. Sometimes those are especially good because there's really some love put into those films. And actually, I cried about three or four times during the film, all of his friends, his gay friends, men and women, got around this sick person and try to nurse him to make things comfortable for him. He was a doctor. And it really showed the caring, and the love in a country that probably doesn't know very many gay people, gay people don't have as much as

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Ray Hill 15:32

New Zealand, New Zealand has always had an interesting with New Zealand is largely a frontier society.

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Jack Valinski 15:40

They had a flight to Sydney to the hospital, to have this person go to the hospital, but he came back to die in peace among his friends. And it shows how wonderfully the community his friends got around, and helped him and how it took a while for the parents to be able to come in round do it and feel to begin to feel comfortable with his gay family. And it's just I can't say enough about this. And I really want to thank the River Oaks for bringing this film to Houston to show like they've done many times before, it's a lot easier probably to make money on some of these blockbusters that are playing now that they have three screens, but yet they still reserved some time to show films like this. It's at 2009. West a gray. And the showings are Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, December 20 21st and 22nd. Sunday matinees at 130 and 330. Natalie shows are at 537 30 and 930. And if you do get a chance, it is absolutely wonderful. So as we lead up towards the top of the hour, different things going on. There's been things going on in the news. Also, I heard you on the radio. Yeah,

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Ray Hill 16:53

I was on KPRC this morning, young fella beneva Castillo over there had made me promise him that once I got decision on exactly where the Congress was going to be hailed, that I would give him a call. So that pretty much happened over the weekend, essentially, the Executive Committee of the National march on Washington says, Ray, why don't you go ahead and make these decisions that will support you. And so I've done that the National lesbian and gay rights Congress will be held in Houston, in 1988, probably November, we'll have to look at the scheduling and seeing where the convention center is available. We're talking about about 1000 voting delegates to the Congress, one gay man and one lesbian from each US congressional districts, and we'll divide up Washington, DC and the other territories, so that they have represented tation, just like the rest of the states. And we'll bring all those people into Houston, the delegation may be as large as it wants to be so. So there'll be more than 1000 people here, but there will be some delegation doses back from San Francisco may have 100 people

J Jack Valinski 18:03

in it. This is sort of shades of Washington, you mean used to maybe come a gay city?

R Ray Hill 18:07

Well, I think that you're talking about 12 14,000 gay people in here, maybe as many as 15,000 gay men and lesbians in town for the Congress. And that means a lot of business from the city. It also means that the community here in Houston is going to have an opportunity to show its hospitality. To all these folks from out of town. The idea of the Congress is to come up with a national consensus building decision making body to decide what are going to be the priorities for our national movement for the period of time between this Congress and the next one, the first time out. So don't expect everything to be sweetness and light, it's going to be consumed contentious meetings and other things. But we'll do fine. And we'll make a beginning. I hope that the rest of the community joins me in being excited about this. Houston business people are already excited about it from the news report this morning and the responses we got. And so, as we get ready for that to happen, I'd appreciate encouragement and support from the rest of the community. It's a pretty ambitious undertaking for us, but we can handle 14 to 15,000 gay men and lesbians in our city.

J Jack Valinski 19:24

And even before that January, there's gonna be a Texas conference here in Houston. It doesn't matter. The weekend on January. As

R Ray Hill 19:31

a matter of fact, in at that conference, I'm going to give a major address on planning for the Congress. So those of you in Houston, who have not attended one of those congresses, and conferences, we have a couple of three of those a year in Texas. It's our substitute for a statewide organization. Get your ear to the ground or watch the publication's or listened to Wilde 'n' Stein because your attendance at that conference would be very instructional and that's kind of the take off have point for the entire state. On the Congress there will be a good bit of media around at least that's what the newspapers and television stations tell me they're interested in covering that address. And so get ready for quite a show ADH going to be a good year for Houston.

J Jack Valinski 20:17

We have a lot of things planned or hoped to have a lot of things planned and going and moving and we're starting already in 87 to work on 88. As we are heading towards the top of the hour, we want to remind you about some of the things coming up in the community. Wednesday tomorrow the 16th at 7:30pm The men's gay network topic depression from the holidays. For more information you can call 8699952 or five to 99754. And there's also a tour draw a toy drive for the pesci and Children's Center by the fathers first group. You can drop off locations

can be found by calling 2666232 and the NCCR Christmas choral sword celebration for more information 8619149 That's Wednesday at 7:15pm rather few things and for more information on any of those things you can call the gay and lesbian switchboard Houston at five to 930 to 11. And as I was talking about doing things around the Christmas holidays, one of the things I'm going to do is been doing some more volunteer work here at KPFT. Well some of those people go home and celebrate with their family. I'm going to help spin records here during

 Ray Hill 21:32

I haven't done that duty before that's kind of festive too. It gets real quiet you're the only one here in the audience can develop a real good relationship on somebody else's program.

 Jack Valinski 21:42

So stay tuned. We hope to be back next week as we were very lucky to be back this week with the station be coming back on the air with 100,000 watts of strong power on a brand new Continental transmitter made in Texas from in Dallas but made in Texas so it's okay thank you very much for joining us for supporting this radio station and sometimes it's not fair but sometimes it's better because we do it ourselves

 Ray Hill 22:09

and jackets fun doing radio with you. It's

 Jack Valinski 22:11

fun doing with you when you're in town.