

RYAN: Couldn't-- that's really expensive. It's much more expensive than one person in my program. I will guarantee you that. I was a very expensive component of that program. I think the estimation was, geez, \$53,000.

HOST 1: Well--

RYAN: [LAUGHS] But the thing was they actually tried to keep me in and not because of the money. And I know it wasn't just because of the money. It was because I was in the top 10%, and they wanted to keep me in.

HOST 1: Now, Jackie, you always knew that you were transgendered? Or you had a pretty good strong indication.

JACKIE: Oh, yeah, since I was four or five years of age.

HOST 1: And so when you went on down to the recruiting station, I don't think we-- we had a draft, but we were not at war at the time, were we?

JACKIE: No, no, no. Well, yeah.

HOST 1: Or any police action. You went down under Eisenhower or Jack Kennedy?

JACKIE: No, OK. I graduated from high school in 1957, went to college, and I enrolled in the ROTC program basically because--

HOST 1: [INAUDIBLE]

JACKIE: Well, it was not a matter of-- I mean, I was 1A or whatever the-- you know, on my draft board and so forth like that. Although, actually, my number was-- when they-- when they pulled the beans out of the thing, my number was low enough that I probably would not have been called up. Because, again, this was back in '57, '58 when, as you say, we were not at war. Actually, we really didn't go to war until '64.

HOST 1: And Eisenhower was the president.

JACKIE: Well, Eisenhower was president in '57 when I went to college. But no, my motivation was not to try to straighten myself out or to avoid the nature, my personality, and the aspect of my personality that was transgendered. It was basically that I came from a military family, and it was just expected that you would go into the military. And all three of us boys did, both my older brothers and myself.

And, again, it was a situation. My oldest brother did not opt for the officers program. He went in as enlisted person. My middle brother went in as an officer, again, through the ROTC program. And having been exposed to the military and the life of an enlisted person versus that of an officer, I figured, hey, if I'm going to spend time in the army or in the military service of some kind, by God, I'm going to do it as an officer.

And in fact, in my senior year in high school, I applied for the Marine pilots program that they had. But unfortunately, my eyes were not good enough. I did not have 20/20 vision and therefore was not accepted. Whereas, the army would allow me to be an officer if it was correctable to 20/20. And so that's why I went through the Army ROTC program.

HOST 1: OK. Now, when did you do what-- the time that you was in the military, was there ever a conflict about transgender or was that totally in the closet? Or you just said-- did you just sort of hang up the dress for a while you were in there or you were just--

[LAUGHTER]

That was an awful way of putting it.

JACKIE: Not at all, not at all. No, I know what you're trying to say. No. Basically, again, it's the same type of thing. As I say, I went through college, got my commission in June of '62 and was ordered to active duty for my two years of active obligation at that point.

HOST 1: What's your MOS?

JACKIE: Pardon?

HOST 1: What was your MOS?

JACKIE: My MOS-- well, initially, at the time that I received my commission, military intelligence was not an active branch. It was a reserve branch. And so therefore, you had to have an active branch carrier. And my active branch carrier was infantry. So I went from University of Houston to Fort Benning, Georgia, and went through the infantry officers orientation course there. I spent three months stomping around through the swamps and the hills of Chattahoochee River. And we jokingly said we were personally acquainted with every sand grain.

But it was not that big a problem. To me, it was kind of fun. I enjoyed it. As far as the transgendered aspect of my nature, it really wasn't a conflict for me because basically I had other things that were of a higher priority. And it was not a matter of consciously suppressing it. It was just that it wasn't that important to me in relationship to all the other things that I was doing at the time.

HOST 1: OK. Now, my next question is, how is the difference in attitude of gays in the military different from today as opposed to the time when you were in the military?

JACKIE: OK. Well, I was on active duty from June of '62 to September of '64.

HOST 1: That means you're on duty during the October Missile Crisis.

JACKIE: I was in the October Missile Crisis. In fact, I was at Fort Holabird Maryland in Baltimore in the military intelligence school while the Missile Crisis-- Cuban Missile Crisis was going on. And as I mentioned to Roy earlier this evening, there was one particular instance that kind of amused me because we were having an eight hour all day class on photo interpretation-- imagery interpretation.

And we had the morning class from 8:00 until 12:00, and then we broke for an hour for lunch. And when we came back to the class at 1:00 in the afternoon, the commandant of the school came in, and he said, y'all are dismissed for the rest of the afternoon because Captain Smith or-- no, Captain Apple was his name. Captain Apple is down in-- or on his way to Eglin Air Force Base in Florida, which was the command center for the military that was handling the Cuban Missile Crisis.

And of course he was the premier imagery interpretation officer-- photo interpretation officer. And they yanked his butt out of the class and sent him. He was on the plane going to Florida when we got back to the class at 1 o'clock that afternoon.

HOST 1: So he was probably one of the ones who identified where the missiles were and everything else.

JACKIE: Yeah, exactly.

HOST 1: I remember those times because-- I know that as a young boy, my family-- being all gathered in front of the television set, watching Jack Kennedy speaking to the nation-- we all thought we were kissing our butts goodbye that week.

JACKIE: Well, I'm going to tell you, there were a few of us at Fort Holabird there. They weren't too sure that we didn't need to bend down, put our head between our legs, and kiss our ass goodbye. But there were some other real interesting aspects of that because-- when I ultimately graduated from the intel officers course, I had-- they asked us, where would you like to be assigned?

And so my first choice was Fort Crockett, Texas, which is down in Galveston-- which they said, no, we don't think we need any intel people down there right now. So my second choice was Fort Meade, Maryland, which was halfway between Baltimore and Washington. And that's where they did assign me. And I wound up as a brand new second lieutenant in the 525th military intelligence group there.

I had a variety of jobs. The initial one was-- which really was very fortunate for me, but the initial posting was to a military intelligence detachment, which was a censorship detachment. And I became a 9335, which is censorship officer. In addition to that, I also held several other offices, additional duties. I was the chemical, biological, radiological warfare officer for the unit. I was the editorial officer for the unit newsletter. And, hell, I don't know, a bunch of other stuff that I had as additional duties.

But one of the things that was very, very interesting was that the-- every year, our unit would have a open house on the anniversary of our commissioning or the setting up of the 525th. And since Fort Meade at that time was Second Army Headquarters, we would always have a big blowout with food and stuff. And of course 525th MI group was a theater army level intelligence unit. Had the balloon gone up, our unit would have been responsible for military intelligence in the entire European theater of operations.

HOST 1: What's a balloon going up?

JACKIE: Well, if the Russians had come across the border in Europe, we would have been sent over to Europe. Of course, we would have been augmented by military intelligence battalions and all kinds of other odds and ends of stuff. But basically, our unit would have been responsible for all military intelligence gathering and so forth like that in the European theater of operations.

HOST 1: Getting back to gays in the military--

JACKIE: Well-- all right. Gays in the military is the situation-- within my censorship detachment, I had AI had a section of linguists, European linguists. I had a couple of people who spoke Spanish. I had a Hungarian. I had a couple of Germans. I had some people who spoke French. Myself, I spoke Russian, German, Spanish.

But anyhow, I had two Hispanic enlisted people in my unit who were linguists, who were gay. And I knew they were gay. And by the same token, my attitude was just I didn't really give a darn. They were the best linguists I had. And by God, I wasn't going to turn them in. And I'm sure there were other officers in the 525th who were aware of their orientation.

And again, because it was a situation where we were a specialized unit, there seemed to be less of a problem than, say, there would have been in an infantry unit or some sort of combat branch unit-- infantry armored--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

HOST 1: All this talk that we hear about, well, we don't want the-- this is what we heard stateside here about gays in the military. We don't want them in the same shower as us. What if we bend over? I mean-- [LAUGHS]

RYAN: Yeah, well, you know this--

HOST 1: I mean, that's ridiculous. But I actually heard this on ABC News--

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

JACKIE: You've got people that are like that. And the thing to me-- the person who has a problem with someone being gay, to me, it says more about their sexual insecurity than it does about the person that they are objecting to.

RYAN: Actually, right before I came out, my whole thing-- I had this whole asexual bit going on. I didn't care about what anybody did. I was secure enough in myself. Yeah, right. But right after I came out and I was ready to actually be out of the closet, my whole thing was, you know what? At least I am more secure in myself than you are.

HOST 1: Well, in all honesty, the same argument that I've heard about, we don't want to be in the same shower or in the same tent, this is the exact same argument back in the early '60s that I heard military people saying about the Blacks in the military.

RYAN: Yeah, no kidding.

JACKIE: Yeah, exactly.

HOST 1: Exact word for word. The only difference is that the-- yeah, the only difference is you separate the word Black for gay.

RYAN: Yeah, and unfortunately, the difference-- so go ahead.

JACKIE: Of course, the other problem, too, in this regard is that the person who says, well, I don't want that guy in the shower with me, who the hell made him God that he thinks he's such-- he's so good-looking that every gay man is going to be attracted to him?

RYAN: And besides that--

JIMMY: This is the thing that gets me.

RYAN: Yeah, and besides that, how do you know that the guy over there, who's all manly and has manly body, doesn't-- he has a very firm wrist, how do you know he isn't gay? You don't. He doesn't have

Only a gay man, only a gay guy could ever pick it out. I'm going to tell you that--

HOST 1: We got our gay-dar.

RYAN: Or a woman or a woman.

[LAUGHTER]

JIMMY: I actually have several--

HOST 1: We've got our gay-dar.

JIMMY: --friends, several gay friends, they were in the military. Some of whom are still currently in the military. From everything I have heard from some of them, they have other people who know they're gay, and it's like whatever. And it's very much more all the people who are the big uppity-ups who are like-- who are more concerned about it than any of the other guys around them.

JACKIE: Well, it's a situation where-- this was one of the things that used to really puzzle me a little bit because-- again, I just think, well, OK, if a person is gay, they're attracted to other gay men. But then a very good friend of mine, Jerry Moran, who's Emperor of 11 of the Imperial Court sat down with me one time, and he was explaining about an assault, a robbery assault that he had testified in court about.

And all of a sudden it struck me because his comment was when the attorney, the defense attorney, had tried to contend that Jerry was having an affair with this person who had assaulted him. And Jerry said no. He said, I was not having an affair with him. And the lawyer screwed up and said, why not? And Jerry said because he's not my type.

[LAUGHTER]

And it just totally blew the case. The guy was convicted after that. There was no question about it. And when Jerry told me, that I thought to myself, Jackie, you dumb-ass, you are not attracted to all women. Why in the hell should every gay man be attracted to all gay men? They're not, any more than I'm attracted to all women. And so the same thing occurs-- you get some sergeant that's got a 200-pound beer gut on him, and so forth like that.

And most gay guys are not going to be attracted to him. Give me a break. He can go into the shower all he wants, and the gay guys aren't going to have a thing to do with him.

RYAN: Unless he thinks that highly of himself. Some people just have such big egos, they completely outdo their beer guts. [LAUGHS]

JIMMY: I've often said it this way, that if I were physically capable of going into the military and of the type of person who wanted to be in the military, as an openly gay man, it doesn't matter that I'm gay and openly gay. I am more concerned with the ammunition-- with the rounds going over my head than the rounds on the back of the guy.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST 1: Oh, the guy's butt, huh?

RYAN: Yeah. I actually--

JACKIE: Well, of course, you have instances in the military. And in fact, you're talking about, well, what is the attitude of the average heterosexual in the military towards someone who is gay? Well, a very telling, if you will, story is the killing of the private at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, who was not gay. He was dating a preoperative transsexual, who looked more female than a hell of a lot of women that I've seen, Calpernia Addams, who was a female impersonator, preoperative transsexual, in the town there.

And basically, the guy was-- he was dealing with his sexual orientation, trying to determine, am I gay or not? Because I'm attracted to this female. And this other idiot, who because he was apparently insecure himself, beat the guy to death with a baseball bat and wound up making little ones out of big ones at Leavenworth, where he is now. And I hope to hell he stays there for a number of years.

RYAN: Oh, yeah. You don't ever want to go to Fort Leavenworth. I have heard bad stories about there.

HOST 1: That place is run by the Marines, who are not very happy to be there.

RYAN: Yes, we got-- we were actually told those horror stories before we went to our racks in boot camp, OK. It's that bad.

HOST 1: Now, Ryan, I want to ask you-- today, what is the attitude of the other sailors and classmates that you've met towards gays and military?

RYAN: You've always got your homophobes. They're going to be around wherever you go. But mainly, it's, I don't care. Or even, I don't care as long as you don't come on to me. It's like that--

HOST 1: I remember when-- I think the Naval officer was Jeffrey Thorn when he came out on *Nightline*. And I remember the *Nightline* interview with Ted Koppel when Jeffrey Thorn came out. And then the next day, they had ABC News reporters on just about every Naval vessel that was available.

And this one sailor had said, a lot of times, we go out for six months at a time without dry docking. And we may go out with a complement of a thousand sailors, we'll come back with 500 couples.

RYAN: Mm-hmm.

[LAUGHTER]

Yeah, I heard that one.

HOST 1: And this guy said out there on-- right there on the news.

JIMMY: One of the guys who-- one of the names-- one of the soldiers who ended up having a name because he got drummed out for his orientation-- and I don't remember his name off the top of my head-- said something to the effect of-- and I think it's an interesting quote and a sad one, to some extent, that-- they gave him a medal for killing a man.

JACKIE: Matlovich.

HOST 1: Yes.

RYAN: Yeah, and they--

JACKIE: Yeah, gave him a medal for killing a man, and they discharge him for kissing one-- or of loving one.

HOST 1: That was Sergeant Matlovich, who was a decorated Vietnam hero-- gay veteran, who has since passed away.

JACKIE: Now, of course, I think really-- I believe it was Barry Goldwater that summed it up several years ago prior to his death also. He says, you don't need to be straight to shoot. He says, you just need to be able to shoot--

HOST 1: Have a good aim.

RYAN: Yeah. Now--

HOST 1: So what you're telling me, Ryan, is that most of the enlisted personnel-- probably officers as well because humans are humans, regardless of their education-- most personnel in the Navy and Military that you've met, they don't care about a person's orientation. They really just don't care. It's just not an issue. It's, can you do the job?

RYAN: Yeah, actually, I've got a story for that. It's amazing. There was this queen-- I mean, die hard queen that I knew in the military.

HOST 1: Not worse than me?

RYAN: Worse than you.

HOST 1: The nerve of him!

[LAUGHTER]

RYAN: No. This is what he did one day. And everybody in his class knew he had to be gay, including his instructors who were officers and everything. He walked in to the galley one day wearing a red sparkly shirt with a black vest, corduroy coat-- white corduroy coat-- and black shimmer pants.

HOST 1: Oh my goodness. How bad can you get?

RYAN: He was standing outside the window, and everybody in the galley was going, oh my god, he's gay.

[LAUGHTER]

And I said, what? I can't hear you over his clothes! He was that loud. And when he walked in, I was like, my god, are you suicidal? Do you know what you're wearing? And he said, yes, I know perfectly well what I'm wearing. And isn't it fabulous?

[LAUGHTER]

And there wasn't anybody who cared that he was gay, only the fact that he wore such tacky clothes.

[LAUGHTER]

HOST 1: Oh my goodness, gracious. That almost was as bad as me and my yellow shirt.

JIMMY: I was fine up until you said the corduroy. I was like, OK.

JACKIE: Yeah, but this is the thing that I found.

HOST 1: This guy sounds like he outed you, Jackie.

JACKIE: Trust me, he did.

But even on active duty and also during the number of years that I was in the reserves in the National Guard, with very few exceptions-- and again, as I say, the most of the exceptions were the people who were insecure in their own sexuality. But basically, most of the people that I ran into in the reserves in the National Guard didn't give a shit what you were.

HOST 1: [GASPS] Oh my goodness.

JACKIE: As long as you were capable of doing your job, they didn't give a damn what you did outside this.

RYAN: Actually, when I was talking to the CO, he actually said something else. He said he doesn't project the don't ask, don't tell policy to be around much longer anyway simply because of the way most-- OK, the way he put it, it was put into place to bandage up how all the older officers were feeling like, all the generals and admirals, they didn't like the idea.

So it was put into place to make them feel better. He didn't think it would stay around very long because of the way general mainstream society was getting more and more accepting.

JACKIE: What was happening was that the senior officer in the early '90s-- late '80s and early '90s were the leftover from Vietnam. They were finally getting out or being retired or whatever. And there was a new breed of officer that was coming up behind them that had a different attitude.

HOST 1: Well, I think, also, events in the world is working against them because there are many nations, many nations-- Israel being one of them. And I cannot think of a country that is more theocratically conservative than Israel that allows openly gay people in their military. There are many countries.

JACKIE: Yeah, almost every country in Europe in the NATO Alliance and so forth, like almost everyone. I think there's one or two possibly that do not--

HOST 1: And more and more are getting like this every year.

JACKIE: They're getting less and less to where they don't give a damn whether you're gay or not.

HOST 1: These old dinosaurs, these old homophobic dinosaurs are just going away.

JACKIE: Yeah.

RYAN: And that's why he presented it--

JACKIE: Part of the problem, though-- you mentioned the institution of the don't ask, don't tell policy in the early '90s. And I think, to a certain extent, this was the backlash from the religious right, from the people that weren't even in the then military at the time. But the politicians and so forth that were beholden to-- particularly in the South, that were beholden to the voters who would not countenance openly gay people in the military.

HOST 1: Well, I'll tell you what. After Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson's comment after the September 11's attack--

JACKIE: Old Foul Mouth.

HOST 1: Yes, their influence on just about anything politically is just about gone. Now I'm getting the wrap-up sign, I'm gay. I'm now getting the wrap-up sign from Jimmy. And before I go, I do want to mention that here in Houston, there is a Houston chapter of gay vets. And it has been formed for the gay, lesbian, and bisexual veterans of America. It's a national group with chapters from Palm Springs to San Antonio.

Calling themselves America's, quote, "unwanted warriors," end quote, the GLBVA dedicates its efforts to overcoming the ban on gay service in the military and on creating a sense of pride in the gay service members and veterans. There was a local chapter of this group about a decade ago. But after several years of existence, it faded away.

The Houston Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Veterans of America is opening up again. And the meetings will be held on the first Monday of the month at the Houston Lesbian Gay Community Center at 803 Hawthorne. That's this coming Monday.

JIMMY: OK.

HOST 1: This Monday.

JIMMY: Which Mondays now?

HOST 1: First Monday of every month.

JIMMY: At the Lesbian and Gay Community Center.

HOST 1: 803 Hawthorne. If you'd like more information, call the center at 713-524-3818. You can email them at Houston--the HoustonGLBVA@earthlink.net. You can leave a message. They do not have what time the meetings are. But folks, Chris, next month, the first Saturday of the month, Chris on his News and Views magazine is going to try to get a member of this group here.

RYAN: That'd be great. That would be wonderful.

HOST 1: He has agreed to do that interview for me.

RYAN: OK. Does he know it yet?

HOST 1: Yes.

RYAN: OK.

[LAUGHTER]

RYAN: He's standing out in the hall, looking confused, so--

HOST 1: Well, that's normal.

JACKIE: Yeah, he looks so confused most of the time.

RYAN: You mean like promises?

[LAUGHTER]

HOST 1: Ryan, I want to thank you for coming here and sharing your experiences. Jackie, as always, you look stunning tonight in this emerald green.

RYAN: Yeah, I love it. And I love that.

HOST 1: And I want to thank you for your input. It's really important that I had a straight transsexual officer-- occifer.

JACKIE: Occifer.

HOST 1: Occifer. And Jimmy, thank you very much.

JIMMY: You're welcome. And here's the outgoing song that JD provided. I think you're really going to enjoy this.

[WHISTLE BLOWS]

[CADENCE POUNDING]

(SINGING) If you don't ask, I won't tell. And you'll think that I'm just swell as a gay ones go rolling along. If I don't tell, will you check? Will you make my life a wreck as the gay ones go rolling along? For when we fight, to kill, we'll be all right. But our loving must not get out of hand. So it's just buck up. And if you're queer, you're out of luck as the war machine goes rolling along.

Sam Nunn, he's the one, the moral world weighs a ton. He's got the moral world in his hands. He's got the moral world in his hands. He's got the moral world in his hands.

[WHISTLE BLOWS]

Civil rights go rolling away. After all, he is white. He's conservative and right. Civil rights go rolling away. He knows that only straight boys can play with military toys. And men who are with men must not be men. If loving women is the rule that all lesbians are cool, civil rights go rolling the way. I will kiss my true miss that will put me on a list. And the brass can kiss my--

[WHISTLE BLOWS]

I won't hide who I am. I'm a gay American. And the brass can kiss my--

[WHISTLE BLOWS]

Well, it might be kind of scary if the sergeant is a fairy. He's always been so big and buff and strong. But he's still the same guy, the Apple of his mother's eye, as our gay sons go rolling along.

Keep them rolling.

As our sons go rolling along. Be all that you can be.

JIMMY: [CHUCKLES] JD Doyle provided the music for the opening and the closing. That was by Mother Lode, is the name of the group. And it's called Don't ask, don't tell. It's from their CD live and laughing. And that's a 2001 release actually. JD, thank you. And you can hear JD's monthly segment, *Queer Music Heritage*, every fourth Monday right here during *Queer Voices* on KPFT.

That 8:00 to 10:00. And his segment is 9:00 to 10:00. A couple of things going on in the community while we're closing out here. Theater New West is still putting on the most fabulous story ever told that, of course, is a Joe Watts production. So that's wonderful and queer. And that's a Theater New West, 1415 California Street every Friday and Saturday through February the second.

You've got to see. It's just a wonderful, wonderful play. Joe has just improved so much now that he has his own theater. That seems to make a big difference. PFLAG has a meeting tomorrow, January the sixth, at the 2:00 PM at Christ Church Cathedral, 1117 Texas at San Jacinto. Gene Simmons, past PFLAG Houston president, will speak on the topic how homophobia hurts us all. That's downtown. 1117 Texas Christ Church Cathedral at 2:00 PM.

And let's talk about sex. Well, we do that a lot here. But Theater Lab is doing it on the stage. The North Side Village Theater company, a young group of actors who are dedicated in bringing education and culture to the community through drama. *Let's Talk About Sex* by the not quite ready for bedtime players. It's a comedy in three acts with a serious message dealing with safe sexual awareness, sexual dialogue, and education.

HOST 2: Oh, you mean they still talk about sex?

RYAN: Yes. Yes, they still talk about-- yes.

HOST 2: That's a brilliant thing.

JIMMY: And that's Theater Lab that is-- let's see, Houston-- just off the 2100 Block of Houston Avenue at 1706 Alamo. That's nearly downtown. Now, you are cordially invited to attend a cabaret evening with Deborah Boylee-- Boylee, Boylee. Oh, boy-- benefiting the bearing support network. That's mental health program targeting people impacted by HIV/AIDS and the GLBT community. This is Monday, January the 14 at 7:30 PM. It's at Ovations at 2536 Times Boulevard.

Ovations is kind of a little jazzy place, and they have a lot of live entertainment going on there.

HOST 2: It's in the village.

JIMMY: Yeah. Tickets are \$25. It's a donation, hey. It's a fundraiser for Bearing. And don't forget voting next Saturday at - [LAUGHS] the Royal Sovereign Imperial court of the Single Star Emperor and Empress. That's at 500 Levitt Boulevard. That's across the street from the Levitt Inn. That's the building that houses the *Houston Voice*. And voting will be from 10:00 to 6:00. Right, Jackie?

JACKIE: Right.

JIMMY: Right. OK. And the people running are--

JACKIE: For Emperor is Woody Steiner and Shawn Carter. And the Empress is Shelby Saint John and DD DeMarco.

JIMMY: Four wonderful people, and they deserve your vote. So this is the only organization in Houston that elects the president sort of-- the emperor and empress-- by community vote.

JACKIE: Do not have to be a member of the court?

JIMMY: No, no, no. I'm not a member of the court, and I vote every year. And anyone can vote in Harris County or the any County adjacent to that. So that is next Saturday, 10:00 to 6:00. Vote.

Now, things going on at the Houston Lesbian and Gay Community Center. Today, Sunday, January 6 at 3:00 PM, polyamory Houston discussion group. If you're interested in polyamory-- and a lot of people are-- stop by the Center, 803 Hawthorne at Stanford, and join that group. Monday, January the seventh, the gay, lesbian, and bisexual veterans of America will be meeting at 7:00 PM. I think they're just-- it's kind of a newish group so--

HOST 1: Why are you looking at me?

JIMMY: --jump in there and--

HOST 1: Behind you.

RYAN: Not the first time, I'm sure.

JIMMY: Tuesday is the Lesbian Coming Out group at 7:00, and the Inner Journey Ministries Healing Circle at 7:00. And the Pride committee of Houston board meeting at 7:00. That should be a fun evening. At the Pride committee of Houston board meeting since Jack Valinski has just recently resigned from the board.

HOST 2: That's going to make things interesting.

JIMMY: So Troy Christensen is probably going to be, having his hands full over there. Wednesday. Wednesday's the really busy night at the center. There's at 5:00 to 6:30 is the Mayoral Liaison Community roundtable that's where you can meet with Janine Burgess and discuss stuff going on at the center or stuff going on in the community.

And she has the ear of the mayor, so you can make a difference by attending that meeting.

HOST 2: Does she ever it back?

JIMMY: Sometimes. The Montrose Clinic HIV testing and counseling, you can have HIV testing every Wednesday night at the community center 6:00 to 9:00 PM-- actually, 6:30. Robert usually is a little late. And then the Houston Committee--

HOST 1: Go figure.

JIMMY: --the committee for--

HOST 1: Life on gay time.

JIMMY: --for People's Radio is there at 6:30 sharp. They're always there. Bi-Net meets at 7:30. And the Houston Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus will be meeting at 7:30. Wow. There's a lot of stuff going on there. And let's see. I'm probably just about out of time here. So I better tell you that you've been listening to *After Hours*, queer radio with attitude, on KPFT Houston and KEOS College Station.

Coming up at the top of the hour is the early morning *Groove* with Bobby Phats and the governor good grief, who makes everyone drool-- man, dog, or frog, I'm telling you. So here's the piece--

HOST 1: I'm sure he's glad about the frog.

JIMMY: Yeah, I'm sure he is, too. Here's a piece of music that was requested earlier, much earlier by Marjorie Shepherd and Memorial. And this is the version from the *Queer As Folk* series, the American series-- no, the British series. OK, this British series. OK, why it's a big deal, I don't know.

Jackie, thank you for being here tonight. Bobby, Ryan, Chris.

RYAN: By the way, happy new year.

JIMMY: Happy new year. And we'll see you next week.

(SINGING) I am what I am.

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