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SPEAKERS

Sarah DePalma, Jimmy Carper, Jason



00:02

When program contains language or images of a frank or sensitive nature that may be considered objectionable by some listener discretion is advised.



Jimmy Carper 00:34

Oh yes, you've tuned into after hours queer radio with attitude right here on KPFT Houston 90.1 FM. The crew of after hours is ready to bring you news interviews, dialogue and music geared for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and their friends. Hear it after hours. We may be diverse, but we have one thing in common. We are all out of the closet and urge everyone to come out of their closets. That means standing up for yourself taking responsibility for your own life and being proud of who you are. Realistically, we know not everyone can do that because of age job or frame of mind. That's okay, we're here for you too. So sit back, relax and enjoy this week's edition of after hours.



01:57

Hello, Houston and welcome to after hours queer radio with attitude heard every Saturday night at midnight right here on KPFT Houston and ke o s College Station I'm Jimmy Carper. And with me tonight is



Sarah DePalma 02:13

Sarah dipalma We're having a hard time in the Old City tonight and



02:18

guess why? Yeah,

J Jason 02:20
heavens on fire Jason from

02:22
hatches here to give us an exclusive not only an exclusive but we've got Chris from Cooper trawl who was on the scene gathering information right now for us now

S Sarah DePalma 02:32
we don't mean having as in you know we're barely saw harvest one two, we're we mean heaven dance club in the Montrose in. You tell us they were like wading through the

J Jason 02:43
roof. Yes, actually, within a couple of minutes. There were flames coming through the roof. On at Heaven and the smokes just pouring down the street. I saw some ambulances going in. I'm wondering if it's due to smoke inhalation outside of the club. Oh, okay. The smoke is billowing out of there. So

03:01
where did it do you know where it started?

J Jason 03:03
I'm pretty sure almost positive it started in the DJ booth. Okay, and cuz it did it started in the back of the club because the lava lounge was completely clear smoke. There was a faint smell of the electrical fire. Okay, and, but you can see the smoke pouring out of that area. And, but there are still people in the booth announcing everybody needs to get out of the building and quickly Okay, and did the people get out? They did evacuate the club in fairly quick manner within a couple of minutes. Okay, got everybody out. Then I saw all the staff members I know coming out of there. So as far as I know, everybody got out safely. That's

S Sarah DePalma 03:46
the important thing. You know, insurance will build rule will rebuild the club. That's right, you know, making sure everybody gets out that's what matters you know, just



03:55

just on the outside what just just what you said that kind of makes me feel good to hear that the staff waited for everyone else to get out before they got out. Yeah, I



Jason 04:05

didn't see I didn't see any staff members leaving before all of the party goers had left okay. But like I said it's possible there are ambulances going there for smoke inhalation outside of the club because it was there was so much smoke. Wow. And people were milling around and I was one of the people milling around right.



04:24

And we that many people in one spot you just can't disperse and it's cold outside.



Jason 04:29

Yeah, it is. And we're what we're what about 1012 blocks from having Yeah, we are here and I I'm pretty sure if you walked outside you could at least smell or see the smoke from doubtedly because you can definitely see it crossing Westheimer because of the winds and the amount of smoke there is wow that's



Sarah DePalma 04:47

how we with with a bunch of with a bunch of folks that are down in the Montrose for the holidays. We have college students are home now and stuff. And that's all we need is to have a fire and one of the most popular dance clubs in the city.



Jason 04:59

Really, I believe it's the only one that has a regular 21. As far as a gay club goes, it's the only 21 and under admitting club, except for Rich's does have their straight night. I mean, 18 and up, okay. They allow people under 21 to come in, right?



05:18

Yeah, we



Sarah DePalma 05:18

don't want any 12 year old. Richard. Richard,



Jason 05:22

I know that Richard does it on their Thursday night. And I've heard a big deal, right? Thursday night straight night, too. And I've heard whatever.



Sarah DePalma 05:33

The gay bar in context of the show what the heck does st mean? Don't



Jason 05:39

Don't ask me. But I heard there's another night when they have 18 and up, but it's not publicized, and no one seems to know what it is so well. I hope they make it Saturday. Well, right now. It'd be a great time for Rich's to take advantage of this this catastrophe on the part of Charles Armstrong. Is that one? That's the one and it's quite a catastrophe. Yeah. Well,



Sarah DePalma 06:02

he's got the money. He's got the insurance. I'm sure there will be the rebuild the club. I'm just more concerned to make sure that there were no injury. Absolutely.



06:09

Absolutely. And



Jason 06:11

I'm fairly sure there were none inside the club outside the club. I have no idea. Because I got out of there when I could no longer



06:16

log in. We'll have a further update on this from Chris from Q Patrol who was on the scene right now finding out more information.



Sarah DePalma 06:26


Well, this is one heck of a way to open the show.





06:28

.


I never thought we'd do


 Jason 06:30
it this way. i i After I got done clubbing, obviously, for unexpected reasons. Yeah, I decided I come right down here and tell Jimmy and everybody else down here at the radio station. Gosh,


 Jimmy Carper 06:39
well, you know, we heard the the sirens and stuff going off as we were leaving to come to the show, because I only live about 12 blocks, six blocks from here on the other side, right. And we had no idea but there were a lot of sirens going on. So if something was


 Jason 06:58
up, and I was driving around on the other side of Montrose and you could if you looked down one of those streets I don't remember I don't know names. I'm horrible. cific know the one next to it.

 07:12
Hyde Park park park.

 Jason 07:13
If you look down Hyde Park, it's just covered with you know, flashing lights and you hear sirens everywhere. I in it's it was I think Montrose must be burning down because first, you know, there was this building next door. And then that's true building

 Sarah DePalma 07:27
next to the station burned.

 07:29
Just a couple of weeks ago.

 Sarah DePalma 07:31
I was I was when I first heard I thought, Oh, tell me the stations on fire



07:35

on a Saturday night as a matter of fact. Oh,



Jason 07:39

yeah. We walked in and we walked in. There was no driving because you couldn't



07:45

drive. I mean, there were seven fire trucks here did it was this while you were on the air? It started at nine o'clock and they it was still going at midnight. The fire people were here till about three in the morning.



Sarah DePalma 07:59

Oh, good. Oh, good.



Jason 08:02

I am actually wondering if maybe arson would be a possible thing. Oh, I



08:08

can't imagine I can't I wouldn't. I would hope not the



Sarah DePalma 08:11

club the place next story apparently started from a space heater. There were folks who were seeing Oh, yes, that and so you



Jason 08:18

would think you'd have to be pretty stupid to start a fire from inside the building where you start the fire? Right? But an electrical fire would make you think it's probably an electrical fire. smell right? It had that peace chill. You're



Sarah DePalma 08:32

like burning tires? Yeah,



08:33

we've been there. Yes. Me.



Jason 08:39

Horrible. Yes, it it's ruined my nightlife for months.



08:42

Ah. Do you have a steady boyfriend? Yeah,



Jason 08:47

he lives out and clear. Like and unfortunately, it's a bit difficult to see him but Oh, ouch. So, but there are still places like crossroads. Crossroads is open till 131 130 At one o'clock. Yeah. And so there is still a nightlife. It's just that's ruined my clubbing for now.



Sarah DePalma 09:06

My galley? They they're gonna have to learn how to go to movies. In you know, yeah, and like, yeah, I rest my case. Somewhere. Yeah, you actually, you're gonna have to learn how to do like dating type thing. Actually,



Jason 09:21

I have I have been known with my friends, too. We'll just decide. Hey, how about a sudden instantaneous, spontaneous party and movies at my house? Now? It is a great time. It's just it's, I don't know. Sometimes you want to get out listen to music and dance. I agree. I agree. Hopefully I'm really hoping that Rich's takes advantage of this, because there is quite a big money market as far as the gay teenagers who want to go clubbing.



Sarah DePalma 09:48

Charles Armstrong won't leave it like that for long. Believe me. He likes to make money he'll find a way to



Jason 09:54

I'm sure he'll fix it as soon as possible. Heaven is usually packed on Friday and Saturday.

 Jimmy Carper 09:57


Charles Armstrong As a member of the gay and lesbian switchboard, I want to give kudos to Charles Armstrong investments because last Monday night, they held a benefit turnabout show. And it was for the employees fond of Charles of 800. Pacific street. That's all of the employees there, right. And they split the proceeds with with that, and the game has been switchboard. And we, we didn't have to do anything. I mean, it was it was a bartender turnabout show and it was fabulous, satisfying, absolutely fantastic. And they raised nearly \$1,500. Thank

 Sarah DePalma 10:40

you very much Navidad for having to do nothing at all on a Monday.

 Jason 10:44


Well, I mean, I think this staff at heaven, I can only speak for the staff, you know, as what I think about heaven. But I know they've worked with hats as far as we used to lose a lot of members during our break in the middle of the hatch program, because they'd want to go down and get stamped for free and come back and try to interrupt groups, right? Well, having worked with us, and they were giving us we the facilitators would pick up our little free passes. And so after our hatch meeting, they'd hand out the free passes so we could get in a free. We didn't lose the members. We still had the benefits very,

 Sarah DePalma 11:15

very It says a lot, don't you think? It says why? Yeah. Interesting.

 11:19

But an interesting thing about this fundraiser last Monday night. I had to leave early because I have a show Monday at midnight. And I went over to see Scott Lewis the next day to find out how the fundraiser went. He didn't know because he wasn't there. So he called over to Jr's talked with Carol. And she said, Oh, they rate raised 13 170 some dollars away. This was a showman. I heard about this show on Monday. And 13 170 some dollars. And so Scott told me that and great. That's fine. So I'm leaving. I'm driving out of the heaven parking lot. And Scott comes running after me and says, wait, wait, wait, isn't 13 170 it's 14 170. And I said, Well, what happened? He said, Well, Carol was talking to me about this fundraiser and a guy at the bar overheard the conversation and said here's \$100 towards it.

 Sarah DePalma 12:15

Where is he when we do our our annual fundraising for KPS.

 Iason 12:20

Speaking of fundraisers tonight is the annual aids benefit fundraiser up in College Station at the club. No, yeah. I hope it's tonight, though. That's what I was told from my friends up there. So if anybody is in College Station and listening right now, go down to the club. They're doing a big old benefit show and it's a big drag show and all the drag queens that perform, give they donate 100% of their tips to the AIDS. I forget what the name of the founder what the group is the College Station, right? Brazzers county aids, something foundation or something like that. Great. Well, it sounds terrific.



12:58

Well, Jason, thank you very much. I guess we'll be seeing you next week. Yes. Okay. 130 to three. That's right. Hatches it a new time slot. The third Saturday, second half. I want to get Monday to give them more time. And so we're gonna try this out. See how it



Jason 13:17

works. And hatch is very grateful. And we really hope we can work it out. Oh, we'll work it out.



13:22

I'm sure we can. And thanks for that update.



Jason 13:25

No problem. Thanks for letting me come on. Sarah, live community



Sarah DePalma 13:29

radio. Yes. That's



13:30

what it's all about. You know, it's really, really, really is.



Sarah DePalma 13:34

Well, you know, you hate to hear about a business burning but oh, are being fired, especially when it's popular is this. The important thing though, is that as is least from what we understand, everybody got out. And that's the you know who the cloud especially for parents who are listening right now? Yeah, yeah. I hadn't thought about that, actually. But yeah, I mean, nobody will. They'll rebuild itself.



13:57

Oh, absolutely. Yeah, absolutely bigger and better. Well, we're doing



Sarah DePalma 14:00

a show tonight about how to survive the holiday. Oh, boy. And act was what got me thinking about doing this show is that the Sarah is finally going home as Sarah. Oh, brought this six years into transition. And I thought it was time to go home. Okay. Now, now your folks your family know, oh, yeah, this. They've seen pictures, but they haven't seen you. But they haven't seen me? No, because I have I have not gone home for a lot of reasons. And we'll talk about some of that tonight. That's been a long day in terms of preparing folks, especially if you're transgender. You're a national transgendered activists. Yeah, it's funny up and on. All of the major television networks. I've testified in Congress, have lobbied in Congress have testified at the state legislative level. I'm known throughout the country, both on the internet and in person. And yet my parents that particularly And father, his concern is what will the neighbors think?



15:02

Well I have a little clip of Kate Clinton, who's who talks about how she had just told her father a couple of years ago. And people in the audience start laughing. You know, because she's, she's been this out. How did they not know when a years? And she looks at them? She said, Well, I forgot.



Sarah DePalma 15:29

I forgot. Well, you know, I've been sending home letters and pictures, and I mean, I've done everything by the book in terms of preparation. But my father is a pentacle, a deacon independent costal church, Ooh, boy. Well, I just got a Christmas card from him the other day addressed to dipalma, no first name, which is probably about as good as it's gonna get from him. But I've my great way actually would made me decide to do this as my grandmother is getting well up in her 80s and is not in very good health. And I felt like if there was anything I wanted to say to her at the time to say it is while she's here, it's a little late to tell her at the funeral. Yep. So I decided I wanted to go home. My grandfather died several years ago, I was not able to go home at the time, I'd never I've not been to his gravesite, I not really allowed myself in the time to grieve over that. And I thought, This is crazy. And finally, I'm in a position, I am in a financial position where we can afford to go. And so we're going to do that. And then we're going to spend several days in Florida with Lori's family. Now, that's going to be interesting, because they have not actually come right out and told us they know what we're about. And Laurie has said, well, the rub is going, we come to the Sleep, come to sleeping arrangements. They don't know that you're transgender. If they don't know it, they're deaf, dumb, blind, blind, the last time they were here. Her Laura's father in particular was very interesting, because there was a poster of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert, in our computer room, with a bumper sticker at the bottom that says, I'm transgendered and I vote Oh, on the wall. Well, that, you know, okay, but on the wall, there's a plaque from denial, you're not going to apply that on the on the wall in our kitchen. In our dining room is a, an award from the

Transgender Law conference, the transgender pioneer. Right, right. Okay. And it's in my name. Okay. I mean, it's not like, you know, it's not like it's in somebody else's name. It's in my name. You can't



17:33

win an award from a transgendered group and not be transgender? Well, I guess. Well, no,



Sarah DePalma 17:38

yes, it will. Yeah, that's right. With your family. That's true. And then, you know, we don't know what they know, we've kind of made it a point not to stick stuff in their face. Okay. Having said that, it's gonna be very interesting. Laurie is of the opinion that the rub is going to come when it's time to make the sleeping arrangement. Oh, yeah.



Jimmy Carper 17:57

That's always a toughy. Yeah. So no, it depends on on the parents, how they feel, how their, their their personal value system. What that is, well,



Sarah DePalma 18:08

we tried to bring that up with him Latin with them. Last time they were here, we get into conversation about Ellen. And I thought, okay, here comes we're finally going to get to the meat of this. And she ducked the question used as smoothly as anything.



18:19

Well, well, you know, not only that, but back to the, to the personal value system. Yeah. I mean, there there are people who would not let a their son and his girlfriend sleep together. Well, that's right. As well in their house. So, you know, there's two sides to that.



Sarah DePalma 18:38

Yeah. So and but we're so we think we're in for a very interesting trip. And so it seemed like, that was a good topic to bring up. Just tonight, one of the members of our community got a message from her family, which essentially said, you know, don't come Ooh, yeah. And I've been through holidays like that. I know, an awful lot of friends. And it doesn't matter whether you're gay, lesbian, transgender, whatever the case may be. I know, I knew of one incident where the family went to church, and had their child declared dead by the church and not an easy way to spend the holiday. You



18:46



19:16

know, I find that of a certain age group. And, you know, I know you're in your 40s. Yeah, I'm nearing 50. And I know the person you just talked about is our same age. Yeah. That's great. That is almost expected from people our age and our and their parents. But you see, like the hatch, folks, they're coming out in high school.



Sarah DePalma 19:44

I'm so envious to them. I just want to choke them and say, why couldn't I do and I've made it a special point to listen to the hatchet shows. And as I'm listening to him thinking, damn, I wonder do they know how lucky they are? They



19:57

are like you but also if you Listen closely. It is all all not without problems. Oh, no,



Sarah DePalma 20:03

I haven't heard anybody say that. They just skied it in. And it was easy either. Well,



20:06

except for Tigger. Who's, who's got two lesbian mothers. So you know that



Sarah DePalma 20:10

that's helpful. Yeah. That makes it a little bit easier. And so we're going to be talking about that tonight. And also occurred to me that there were a lot of people who probably have come out to their family over the course of the year. Now they're going home for the first time.



Jimmy Carper 20:26

That's right. I mean, we just have national coming out day, October 11. And we all talk about coming out and and now this may be your first holiday season to face



Sarah DePalma 20:37

the music. Yeah. The music. Yeah. And of course, a nice one. Let me repeat a nice one. I have one more time and these wine.



20:45

I am so thrilled. And so. Well, I'm so thrilled, because last week, we called a niece's campaign headquarters to ask if we could do a telephone interview. Right? She came to the station. Yeah. And she did about 15 minutes right here. I was thinking everyone and talking about what she wants to bring to Houston. Why I'm so upset about it is because for the first time in about a year, I didn't get it on tape. My tape machine didn't work.

S

Sarah DePalma 21:24

Oh, oh, PS a Houston history history

i

21:27

now. So the one thing I want to say to everyone out there, it's anybody. Any portion, or any portion of last week show, please, please get in touch with me. Give me a copy. I will reimburse you I will do all kinds of whatever you want. I'll do just about

S

Sarah DePalma 21:47

Laurie and I were at the victory party last weekend at this time. And it was just a blast. We were I was so proud of a niece when she was being interviewed by television. First thing she said was, I am proud to represent the Gay, Lesbian and transgendered community. Yes. And I thought, Oh, my God, a politician that can say the T word. How about that?

i

22:08

She has said it. Lots of times because transgenders made up the backbone of her campaign staff. Yeah. And she talked about that last week. tishie. Well, I'm glad Yeah, that's good. The majority of the people who helped on her campaign were transgenders and women. Yeah,

S

Sarah DePalma 22:24

that's exactly right. There were a lot of people from now, who really made an all out effort to get out there. And hope Vanessa's gone. We're

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22:31

not talking about just lesbian women. No, no, no, I'm

S

Sarah DePalma 22:34

hoping that Vanessa Edwards is going to make it later. Because no one worked harder in the campaigns. And Vanessa, oh, I know it as Vanessa virtually lived there. And so I'm hoping that she's going to come in tonight and because I



22:47

got cucumbers on her eyes to get rid of those.



Sarah DePalma 22:50

I'm telling us, and so we'll talk about the nice campaign and I had a thought about the campaign is we were the party of the night. The person who was not there. But who had to have been most gratified by all of this is Ray Hill. Oh, yes. Oh, yes. Because it nice, built her stuff on the foundation, Ray Hill bill. And although I didn't see Ray, I kept looking for him. Somewhere. Ray has got to be saying, This feels pretty good. You bet. And so and



23:18

I also want to give a congratulation not only to a nice, but a nice his partner,



Sarah DePalma 23:26

Kathy Hubbard was great. The crowd there last weekend got into a cheer for Kathy absolute and Golic Dantonio, she deserved it. She's the first First Lady. And I understand and nice is saying that she has every intention of taking Cathy with her to social events and things which is going to make for an interesting protocol problem. They may have to get used to saying to her using non sexist terminology, which ain't bad. But anyway, we'll talk about the campaign because there were a lot of interesting things that happened over the course of the campaign. There was a an article in the triangle with Ricky Wilson. Oh, boy. And with yours truly, oh,



24:08

you need to come back next week and talk to Nancy Ford.



Sarah DePalma 24:11

No, Nancy did a great job. I Nancy was was was very good. She really was it was perfect. She was really funny. She she she called? Yes. Oh, yeah. She called it the last minute we did the interview by phone. And I called her back because I had given her an incorrect email address. She said Well, let me apologize. First of all, she said I know your name was not the poem. She said but the headline people blew it and sure enough, my head the name was spelled wrong. It was Sarah the poem and I thought Who the hell but she was she was very nice. And they planned actually to do a series of articles about transgendered people over the coming year. oh nine and I wasn't upset with her and it was I was upset with Ricky and that's a different that's a different issue.



24:58

Oh boy. Shosh just imagine that Sarah dipalma is upset with Ricky Wilkins.



Sarah DePalma 25:07

You know, I've spent an awful lot of my life getting rid of the term. He she, yes. And I'll be damned if Ricky doesn't go around using the term. And I thought there are an awful lot of people in this community and right now who would really love to kill her, she uses it. It's her pronoun of choice. Oh, brother. And it was like, Ricky, if you want to do this, do this in Washington. Don't ever come to Texas and do this again. Just so anyway, we'll talk about that. Okay. And I know you get a bunch of Christmas music.



25:37

I do. I do. And a favorite is in the CD player right now. Oh, queer Christmas. I know which one this is? Yes, yes. Yes. It gets requested every year at this time and normally on your show. I wonder why that is. It's not my group particularly. It's by the Bob rivers. Twisted Radio Group. And



Sarah DePalma 26:01

Linda, I'm not touching it.



26:03

I don't even think I'm gonna give the name of it. I'm just gonna go to it and and let everybody have a good time with it. You're listening to after hours on KPFT Houston and ke O 's College Station



26:25

have a good even move or usually do it although it's been



26:46

I think that's the CD player. Why don't we try that in the other one and see if that does any better? If not, then I'm going to be very upset that my Venus env CD is scratched. Okay ready?



27:14

Tonight of the gurus, even more than I usually do. And although it's been saved, I'm a member be way I promise.



27:41

Oh, yeah, Venus envy with all the homo for Christmas. One of my favorite all time queer Christmas carols.



Sarah DePalma 27:51

I just love the title of that song. It's so much Avia home over Christmas. That kind of like grandma got ran over by a lesbian you got.



28:00

They have other nice titles on here. Like Rhonda the lesbo reindeer.



Sarah DePalma 28:05

Oh, I like that one. Yeah, that's one of my favorites. You know, it's a funny thing about Christmas. We get sold Christmas. Do we know we get sold Christmas in other ways. And advertisers define what Christmas is supposed to be about for us. As Laurie and I were commenting to the day we happened. We were both big fans of Comic Con a show called pinky in the brain. Oh, yes. And my absolute favorite cartoon ever? Well, I just Well, we were watching the commercials. And we watched the commercials come up and they were talking they were was baby wet or something or another and Laurie said, Well, they're teaching little girls what their role in life is, aren't they? And I thought Yeah, exactly. Right. Well, I'd say to me, advertisers do the same thing with us. They tell us what Christmas is supposed to be? Oh, sure. The only problem with that is it's not reality. Never is not reality. And



29:03

then then you're always let down always always, Oh, could



Sarah DePalma 29:07

you help with not you have to be let down. They build they make Christmas you know, they they run Christmas through this folder. Like everything is right with the world and there's peace on earth. And everybody is home for Christmas. I've gotten to where I hate that song. I'll be home for Christmas. Because it's not who actually has a family like that there are 10 Are these myriad families left in the whole world and now? Well, for gay and lesbian people. For transgender people, it seems to me it's just that much worse. It is. It's awful hard to go home. If you have come out over the course of the year now you're going home for the first time. And I remember what that was like, you know, trying to go home to the family and say well, I'm just the same person I always was. It's just that I've changed slightly like I'm a new sex. It's a small detail.



29:58

Not quite Oh,



Sarah DePalma 30:00

it means you trust me. We decided we decided i It seems to me this was a good time to talk about this about how to survive the holidays. And one of the the people that made me think about this was Vanessa. Vanessa was late getting to our house for Thanksgiving, because she was down serving Thanksgiving dinner for the Salvation Army. Ah, and I thought, that's one way to approach it



30:25

sure is,



Sarah DePalma 30:26

you know, get out of the house and go find someone else that you can be helpful to, and do something that makes you feel good about yourself. So I with that in mind, we have got a group of folks in the studio, and I want to talk about how do you survive the holidays? You know, it isn't for most people, if you're going home, it doesn't matter whether you're gay, lesbian, transgender, you're going home. And if you have come out over the course of the year, chances are you're not going to get a Hallmark Christmas. No, you know, so I guess this is a good place to start. Let's everybody go around the table. Introduce yourself. So the folks get to hear your voice. And let's go ahead and we'll we'll take the subject on.



31:11

Okay, I'll start. My name is Danielle and gosh, I haven't been on the radio before have I?



Sarah DePalma 31:17

Not this week. You're becoming a regular but that's good. I'm



31:21

becoming irregular. I mean, a regular. Okay, next not touching any of those.



31:27

I have to follow that again. Oh, well. I'm Katrina rose, and I'm almost as irregular as Danielle



31:40

Danielle, she started it. Hey,



31:42

I started it. Okay, Laurie, it's your turn.



31:49

And I'm Monica Roberts.



31:51

r1 shisler. largie.



Sarah DePalma 31:54

Okay, a Laurie Laurie, and you're gonna come closer to the microphone. And Monica YouTube because I could barely hear you when you spoke. Okay. Let's go ahead. And let's go ahead and start with this topic. The first thing that came to mind to me is for transgenders, it seems to me if you're going home for the holidays for the first time. Hopefully you've done some preparation work, wouldn't you think? Like that's one of the keys here? I would think so. Yeah. Yeah. You sent some you have sent some pictures home. At



32:26

least let them know what to expect. Well,



Sarah DePalma 32:29

if you get off the plane without having told them what you're doing your job will to create a heart attack. So but I would think that that's, that's always the first key is how much preparation did you do ahead of time?



32:42

Someone else is gonna have to feel this one.



32:44

Well see something I've done yet. So



Sarah DePalma 32:50

this was the microphone doesn't seem to be working at all. Seems like



32:54

well, just that last Thanksgiving was the first time I'd had Thanksgiving dinner with any of my family members. And my cousin and my cousin who I'd come out to several months ago, called me up about probably two days before Thanksgiving, they invited me to dinner. So it was a very unique experience. It was kind of interesting, because this was the first time I was going to see my baby, my cousin who was a baby at the time, who's now three years old since transition, but it was kind of awkward at first.



Sarah DePalma 33:29

I would think I would imagine it is



33:31

it was kind of awkward at first and especially since most of my muscle relatives the last time I'd seen them had a slightly different body builder at that time.



Sarah DePalma 33:41

Oh yeah, slightly. Yeah. Well, I know it's been a real problem in our family my my brother's wife has really having difficulty with this. She actually asked my brother whether I had something that could be contagious to the children. Oh yeah. And so as you can imagine, I'm really looking forward to go home and dealing with that one.



34:08

But it is catchy. Okay. Just don't think



Sarah DePalma 34:15

that that would seem like a useful idea.



34:18

I guess on the flip side, though, I don't know what SEO is folks know about me she sent pictures to her mom. They know everything about you or they should I don't know what your data you love the things about me my folks have met Sarah and as an email to my entire family about Susan time and that we have a family with Sarah and me and the puppy dog and that will unit and that we take care of each other and all the standard. So life, life partner things that is important to me as my sister's husband's out of them. But what's going to happen when we talk for Christmas and we go and drive up to Tampa to see my sister and her family. It's going to be one For I think we were all going to welcome her with open arms. It's going to be interesting trip though, I think. Yeah,



35:06

cool. Great. My family has always been supportive about this pretty much. But even if, what at first when they really were having to face it, I guess there was some awkwardness, but luckily, I had some allies that kind of smooth waveform,



Sarah DePalma 35:21

you've been very lucky because your mom knew always, I guess. Yeah,



35:26

she kept thinking it was a phase and well, I did grow out of it, you know, manner of speaking



35:32

window. Yeah, mines are basically started evolving. It's been some rapid change over the last probably six months. But the first, I can remember the first Christmas after I was miserable, because it was just they had given me the impression sort of like, you know, you're not welcome. No one in the family is going to welcome you know, and then little by little one cousin here said, Okay, well, so whoever you are, doesn't matter to us. And then it seems like it's like a domino effect when one or two relatives start it then instead, in my case, it has been one or two relatives have started, okay, we accept you, no matter who you are. We love you know, and, and so on and so on. Seems like the momentum starts building, it's like an avalanche going downhill. Eventually, well, the best line to use is resistance is futile.



Sarah DePalma 36:29

We are the board. One of the things too, is that we don't have a group like a PFLAG. You know, one of the things I sort of envy the gays and lesbians is that they can get information from PFLAG. There are groups like PFLAG available, so that if the parents need to know about their child that we want to know what gay and lesbian is, they want to know what it means to their family. There's a ton of resource material available, there are organizations available, there are

phone numbers to call other parents that they can speak with. For transgenders, that's generally not true. There really isn't a parental support group. And it seems to me that makes it so much harder for you, for us to go home and for parents to deal with it. Because they really are on their own.



37:20

And I'm not like with my family. My mother and father don't know yet. I don't know how but they say how could they? My dad has cancer in his head, several strokes, and they've been together for 35 years. Good reason. So he doesn't need to know. And my mom has too much to worry about. But it's kind of weird. Like with my brothers. It's like, nothing is changing. What do you mean? It's like, I walk in and it's still though, the way they interacted with with you with me before and everything and bizarre it's like entering a Twilight Zone segment. And I've given them information and I've had other people talk to you. And it's like,



Sarah DePalma 38:04

are they trained to make believe that you have not transitioned yet? They



38:08

are. That's what they're doing. They're just acting like it's not happening. So



Sarah DePalma 38:12

So you've gone through all these body changes. Right? In and yeah. it in? I mean, I look at you. And you know, I mean, I see a woman in like, they don't get it? Yeah. Are they just trying to make believe it doesn't exist?



38:27

A couple of them get it. But my oldest brother and several of my sister in laws, they're like, it's not happening. They're just they just figured they pretend enough, kind of Peter Pan principle, if you clap, you know. So they're okay. With my dad stick, I can't do anything about it. So I'll probably get tons of Christmas presents that are useless.



Sarah DePalma 38:54

So if you get that Harley Davidson, you don't want it to



38:59

just paint it pink.

S

Sarah DePalma 39:03

Yeah, I was kind of upset. My grandmother's in her late 80s. And I had no intention of she was the only person who I had no intention of ever telling you about this. And apparently would happen was last Christmas. My grandmother was getting ready to write a check. Or she writes a check to me for Christmas every year. Don't ask me why? Because she can't afford it. But anyways, she's getting ready to write a check. And it occurred to my family that she wrote it in my old name, I would never be able to cash it. So they finally had to sit down and tell her before she could send check. And I'm kind of upset that they told her that if that was the case that they didn't give me an opportunity to do the educating first. And with that, I don't know that's one of the things I'm gonna get to find out when I go home. So that's one of the things that we're gonna have to find out.



39:55

So this is one of the things that we'll find out on next month's show here. And then

S

Sarah DePalma 40:00

tune in tomorrow. Yeah, it's one of those things. Yeah. The other thing is that that's when you go home. I mean, back at my father's big worry is what will the neighbors think? Now, anybody who's ever gone to high school reunion after 20 years without changing sex, no one knows who the hell anybody is. No one recognizes you. 20 years later, you're fat bald, and



40:28

I'm hoping I won't be, you know, my



40:30

20 years coming up in the year 2000. So that's gonna be a very interesting one. So, matter of fact, I ran into one of my classmates at work about a month ago. And person didn't recognize me, I had to, I had to kind of finally tweak their memory a little bit. And they were really in shock. I said, we know who has the most change toward locked up at three years?



40:57

Well, I It's only been 10 years since I graduated. But every time I have run into anybody from high school, they have told me gosh, you haven't changed a bit.

S

Sarah DePalma 41:10

Well, in your case, you probably haven't. Well,



41:12

I'm not a blonde anymore. At least I have changed some lives. No,



41:16

no, you're not a blonde. No,



Sarah DePalma 41:18

but didn't you do that? Even in high school? Everyone actually thought you were a girl. It should have been? Well,



41:23

they knew that. That I was tes even though I didn't like, go around saying I'm gonna have surgery, you know, but they would always say so when you're gonna have surgery, you know, when you're gonna have sex change auditor, and I would never say anything when they would ask me these questions, but it's like everybody knew, you know, because well, how many guys do you know in high school that you can have like, inch long fingernails are painted blue, you know, blonde hair, bad makeup?



Sarah DePalma 41:49

Voted the person most likely to have a sex change? Yeah.



41:56

Well, I've been finding out with some of the people I've been gradually coming out to at school, but I tell them they say Well, I kind of had a suspicion something was going on in that direction. So no, I haven't had the blue fingernails yet. Well. Skip it.



Sarah DePalma 42:11

It is funny how