



FAN-TASTIC HOME



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CQ CQ...From The Cyber Seas on the Pirate Ship FANTASTIC to the High Desert....and Back!



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Author | Topic: [What's it like talking to Art Bell?](#)

Highwayman
Buccaneer



posted 02 May 2001 05:49 AM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Posts: 175
From: California
Registered: Sep 2000

I've listened to Art Bell for almost 10 years and I've always wondered what it's like to call him. I'm not someone who is comfortable talking to 10 or 15 million people, so I've never called. Somebody here must be.

So what happens. Do you get an endlessly ringing phone? Do you get a busy signal? When you get on the air is it out of nowhere, therefore the turn off your radio problem?

He never says goodbye to anyone. He just cuts them off, usually while they are in the process of a thought. Do you hear his response over your phone, or do you just wonder what the hell happened as you continue to talk on, to yourself?

I've never seen this question asked. I hope it gets some responses.

I'm not any good at speaking to more than 3 people at a time.

-Highwayman

IP: [Logged](#)

Hitchhiker
Buccaneer



posted 02 May 2001 06:45 AM



profile



edit



quote

Posts: 130
From: New Orleans,
La.
Registered: May 2000

I've talked to both Art and Ian. Art's thing about not screening calls is not quite true. Two of the times I talked to Art he screened me before I got on the air, and the second time he didn't let me on (he was looking for people who disagreed with the guest, and I agreed with the guest). The other time he just asked if I had a question for the guest (he does this while someone else is talking to the guest). I could hear the conversation and the other callers. Unlike with Ian, there wasn't any indication that you were on the air; you had to know what line you were calling on (East of the Rockies, you're on the air). When I was on with Ian, the screener asked my name and where I was calling from. I could hear the show, and as he came to me I heard a beep and a little burst of static.

The open line times I've gotten on, I was on the air when he picked up the phone. I think that's why so many people get caught with the radio on. If you get a ring and somebody long-winded gets on before you, you might get disconnected (by the phone company) before he picks up. Most times, it's just luck, and I've gotten through in the middle of the show on my cellphone. Not even speed dialing. I've heard (and I believe) that your chances of getting through improve during the last hour when many stations drop off.

IP: [Logged](#)

Hitchhiker
Buccaneer



posted 02 May 2001 06:50 AM



profile



edit



quote

Posts: 130
From: New Orleans,
La.
Registered: May 2000

Oh yeah. Unless you engage him in conversation, you get cut off as soon as you get out your point. If you hurry and turn on the radio, you can hear yourself and the response. It helps if you make a few notes or write out what you want to say.

IP: [Logged](#)

Hilda Sophia
Buccaneer



posted 02 May 2001 07:10 AM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Posts: 1334
From: Connecticut
Registered: May 2000

I've never gotten thru to Art. Have always gotten busy signals so just gave up.

I don't think that most talk show hosts say goodbye. Will listen closer today with local hosts.

IP: [Logged](#)

radioman
Buccaneer



posted 02 May 2001 11:01 AM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Posts: 32
From:
Registered: Sep 2000

I've talked with Art off-air for 40 minutes or so ...
It was his call to me, and I'm told that others have had similar experiences ... he has an agenda in that he wanted me to make some positive posts on a BBS if I cared to - he made his case for his then current controversy - I forget the exact issue, after the Robert A M Stephens affair, but a situation where he wanted to rally some Internet support - I was not impressed. I argued the legalities of his taping phone calls - he said the FCC had no jurisdiction in Nevada ... hmmm - after some forty minutes of his playing tapes of calles to other people (who did not know that they were being recorded, I decided to stop saying anymore - he wasn't listening anyway. I said I would make a post, or two - and he was off to phone someone else - he has a special line which has a tape deck on it - he used another line to call me initially, so I know he didn't tape our call - was an odd experience and I've disconnected that third line, so I've not heard from him since

radioman
webmaster@psychicspy.com
<http://psychicspy.com>

IP: [Logged](#)

Hilda Sophia
Buccaneer



posted 02 May 2001 01:13 PM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Posts: 1334
From: Connecticut
Registered: May 2000

Very interesting. I had no idea that Art would call and ask a listener to post. Then, again, I guess nothing should surprise me any more!

IP: [Logged](#)

Linnea Meyer
Dread Pirate



posted 02 May 2001 09:29 PM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Posts: 6605
From: Upon the High
Seas ~ Aboard the
FANTASTIC
Registered: Apr 2000

Sorta murky -

IP: [Logged](#)

Celtia
Buccaneer



posted 03 May 2001 05:01 AM



profile



edit



quote

Posts: 452
From: American in
the UK
Registered: May 2000

I have spoken to Art twice. It's much easier to get in now that the Canadians are using the other lines.

He didn't screen me, he only asked my first name and what part of the UK I was calling from.

He was very polite. 😊

IP: [Logged](#)

mac
Buccaneer



posted 03 May 2001 03:38 PM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Posts: 558
From:
Registered: Oct 2000

Sounds like it is very much like talking to the typical control freak.

IP: [Logged](#)

LisaA
Buccaneer



posted 30 May 2001 07:31 AM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Posts: 1714
From: Colorado
Registered: May 2000

I've been on Montel Williams, and called Dr. Laura and tried to call Art Bell once. You need to prepare, and make it into a sound byte. Now, sometimes I've been too into making the point and didn't have anything else to say, but really, the host has a job to do and an audience to consider, so they might seem rude to you but I don't think they mean to be rude. If you're sensitive about it, it hurts a little. You have to steel or center yourself. I'd encourage you to try it--it's neat talking to millions.

IP: [Logged](#)

DisneyFreak96
Swashbuckler



posted 30 May 2001 09:16 AM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Posts: 1528
From: New Orleans
Square, Disneyland
Registered: May 2000

Lisa, it is neat. I've done Rush, and Peter Weissbach offhand, not including local stuff. I really enjoy it but you do have to remember that it isn't personal, and their job is to move the show along.

signing off...
DisneyFreak96

["If we can dream it, we can do it."](#)
[Horizons Attraction, WDW\(1983-1999\)](#)

IP: [Logged](#)

everaftergirl
Swashbuckler



posted 07 June 2001 04:50 AM



profile



mail



edit



quote

Posts: 2367
From: Southern
California
Registered: May 2000

Well I spoke to Art twice on Shortwave radio when he "retired", and it was great fun. It was a totally different atmosphere than on C2C, much more relaxed and he was very polite and entertaining. I enjoyed the conversations very much. I will always remember those days (wish I had a tape of them).

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