

Happy New Year to all, though, It seems to be better stated, "By the Grace of God and our efforts to do the right thing, and not do the wrong thing (or some combination of the two in balance) which allowed us to survive another year!"

January 5th 2016 will complete year 13 and begin year 14 of Feet to the Fire Radio. I started the show, streaming live on www.live365.com on Jan 5th, 2003. I started it the first week after Art Bell retired from Coast-Coast AM as George Noory took over. I went to a few Internet stations Like Nekked Radio, Radio Heart and iRadio Active before being picked up by the IBC Radio Network for satellite syndication on terrestrial radio. The late paranormal talk legend, Lou Gentile was the network paranormal content manager and I thought it was only a matter of time before I could make this a full-time job and dedicate all my time to it. But, after a while in the network, it disintegrated, and I was totally on my own.

I set up a Internet-based syndication system on my own servers that I use to this very day and carried by stations like TogiNET and The Conspiracy Channel as well as my own smart-phone friendly streams and downloadable MP3 archives; all 100% free with my work as a truck owner/operator to support.

I have been listening to Chicago late night talk radio starting back in the late 60's with CONTACT and host Dave Baum. Moved on to the "odd" Talk Radio shows of Larry the Legend, and Eddie Schwartz. Music based talk shows with Larry Lujack, Ron Britain, Steve & Garry, Roe & Garry, and the Leftwing Bob Lassiter, the Progressive Jay Marvin, and Rightwing Rush Limbaugh talk shows before I hit the mother-load of talk; Art Bell.

I admired Art on many levels. For example, his laid back, yet engaged approach. He actually listened to the guest, and asked questions that came out of his own head as they occurred within the stream of consciousness of the intercourse; as opposed to a list to awkwardly and irrelevantly inserted into the conversation like a case of turrets.

He asked the questions YOU would ask. Many a time, as I spoke out loud to the radio with a question and, lo, here comes Art with some form of it. He was on the journey WITH you; not some (*self appointed*) know-it-all to tell you what to think.

He had topics that I have never heard addressed. He allowed the topic to flow and not force steer it. (*Well, perhaps with the exception for the 9/11 and the Moon Landing controversies; biased by his USA Patriotic Paradigm, I guess*). Of course today, in his wake, there are many hundreds of shows. But while quantity offers more net information, it does not necessarily replace quality.

Art was not a talking head. He did it all. Talked, answered phones without screening, took faxes, later emails, ran the board and commercial carts. For a short time he had a live video cam which showed him in real time doing the show. Wheeling around the studio in his chair doing the aforementioned, while talking with a wireless headset. And we did not have a clue these things were transpiring as we listened. Take it from me; one who also does it all as well. This was impressive and has kept my soul very humble in my live on-air endeavors.

He DID NOT talk about the usual stuff that monopolized the other hours of the radio day.

He sold archives (on cassette, then CD, then mp3), as his show had depth to be used for years to come as reference material.

He used emails and his website as a main tool to accompany the live show. News, pictures, etc would often be posted on the fly, live, throughout the night; another first, ubiquitous today.

He was criticized in later years as being a showman, rather than a truth-seeker, by many internet hosts. Probably a bit of sour grapes behind it, though Art has never gave any illusions it was nothing other than a show. But, he did provide a venue, for the first time in my knowledge, for topics hitherto unheard on the airwaves to emerge, and created a full-blown Alternative Talk genre.

2015 saw the return of Art Bell to live radio and internet streaming. It also saw his final retirement; leaving under the reported threat of shootings if he remained on air. Some say it is an act. I just am saddened by the loss whatever the reason.

Feet to the Fire Radio without embarrassment or shame, as been formatted in it's on-air presence, from day one, as Art did his show. Thematic bumper music, non-political, non-conventional topics and guests, civil on-air intercourse; all aimed for discovery of information that may not appeal to a mass-media. For this I thank Art Bell as my mentor.

I will add that F2F seeks Truth via the Lack of Contradiction as it's guide. It does not seek sides, alliances, avoid boundaries or taboos. I have found this approach is politically naive and not conducive to commercial success (whether commercial success was even possible). I do this show because all my years of "training" in the school of life has prepared me for it. Science and math in school, being born in a time when schools still taught you discernment skills, audio recording, computer skills, Internet skills, Bible studies, desire to learn, desire to know how and why things work (or don't work), the yearning for Truth no matter the costs (and Lord knows, I have paid costs, lol). My Love of God, My Love of Love and Love of my fellow Humans with a goal of no attachment to material gain or personal ego.

In recent years I have not been able to stick to a once-a-week schedule. Between rough work schedules, personal trials, and the like, I have missed shows. But I want to thank the stations and listeners who have share like goals and feel F2F offers them a particular insight and information they find valuable enough to actually make time in their week to listen live or download the shows for reference material for their edification.

2016 will see Feet to the Fire Radio continue into year 14 with the added expansion of the Video Stream (Live and HD YouTube) as time will allow. As long as I seek information and breath, I will share both.

*The two most important days in your life are the day you are born
and the day you find out why. – Mark Twain*

Thank you for you,
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