

# AT Banter Podcast Episode 254 - Maccessibility

📅 Mon, 9/6 4:18PM ⏱ 1:11:40

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

apple, accessibility, people, siri, talking, halibut, apps, mac, screen reader, accessible, glasses, google, big, darcy, days, nokia phones, question, ryan, devices, feel

## SPEAKERS

Rob Mineault, Steve Barclay, Darcy Burnard, Holly Anderson, Ryan Fleury

- 
- R **Rob Mineault** 01:13  
Hey, and welcome to another episode of AT Banter,
  
  - S **Steve Barclay** 01:19  
Banter, banter.
  
  - R **Ryan Fleury** 01:23  
Who's whose silky tones could that be?
  
  - S **Steve Barclay** 01:27  
I am so relaxed right now man after a month off. Ah. Fishing and camping and just living in a tent. Tent living, man!
  
  - R **Rob Mineault** 01:46  
Anyways, okay, hold on before we getting too far down that particular fishing hole. My name is Rob Mineault. Oh, and joining me today. Mr. Steve Barclay. I'll give you first bill

because you're back.

**S** Steve Barclay 02:04  
Well, thanks. Thanks very much guy who purports to be Rob.

**R** Rob Mineault 02:11  
Mr. Ryan Fleury is also here.

**R** Ryan Fleury 02:13  
I am back again.

**R** Rob Mineault 02:15  
When you go back, what do you mean, you're back?

**R** Ryan Fleury 02:17  
I was here last week. And I'm back again.

**R** Rob Mineault 02:18  
Alright. say all right. Yeah, sure. We're doing a little podcast we call at banter, banter, banter. So, okay. Well, I think you've answered some of my questions, Steve already. How did you enjoy fishing?

**S** Steve Barclay 02:41  
Fishing was spectacular. We were We were in Eucluelet British Columbia, just on the west coast of Vancouver Island out in the open ocean. We were fishing primarily for salmon and halibut. And we got a lot of salmon and halibut. Limited out on the number of Chinook salmon I could take which is 10 a year. I got a couple of coho on top of it. Got to nice halibut as well. My freezer is full.

**R** Rob Mineault 03:09  
Wait a minute. 10. Like that doesn't seem like a lot for a year. Are they really big fish?

- S** Steve Barclay 03:14  
Biggest one I caught was about 22 pounds. So So I guess that's pretty big. I think. On average, we probably our average fish was probably around 13/14 pounds.
- R** Rob Mineault 03:29  
Okay, so can we do the math on that?
- S** Steve Barclay 03:32  
So let's say 50 say we'll average on the low side. 130 pounds of salmon before you fillet it. Right? So yeah. probably lose about 20% so you know, I probably got 100 pounds of salmon.
- R** Rob Mineault 03:46  
What you don't eat the eyes?
- S** Steve Barclay 03:49  
No, I don't eat the eyes, I never gone there. No, no. Halibut cheeks on the other hand, those are good.
- R** Ryan Fleury 03:56  
Tell him the size of halibut you caught
- S** Steve Barclay 03:59  
The biggest one that we brought up was 142 centimeters. So that's four feet. It weighed in at after it was cleaned. 74 and a half pounds I believe.
- R** Ryan Fleury 04:23  
Took two of them to carry it.
- S** Steve Barclay 04:25  
For the that's almost 56 inches for the for the folks in America. And yet, it took two people

to carry it. It was it was kind of fun. Actually, that day because you're under a regular recreational license. You're only allowed to take one halibut per person over 90 centimeters. And the maximum size you're allowed to take on a recreational license is 130 centimeters. But we had what's called a experimental recreational halibut quota license, which is something DFO Department of Fisheries has just come up with recently. And it allows you to take fish over your recreational limits. So you can take more fish and you can take bigger fish than you would normally be allowed to take on a recreational license we have to do is you have to log them in your logbook, they send you a logbook, you've got to log it in your logbook, you've got to report it electronically to them, what you've caught, how much you've caught, what you're keeping, and, and then you have to pay the quarter cost for that fish based on the poundage. So to establish the license, you have to buy at least 20 pounds on the license, you have to have a balance of at least 20 pounds just to go fishing. When I bought those 20 pounds, they were \$5 a pound. And I think right now, it's up to about eight bucks a pound. But halibut halibut per pound in Canada is about \$38 a pound. So if you're being asked to pay five to eight, you take that fish. It's like the cheapest way you're ever going to get it. So yeah, I was that was a that was the biggest halibut that we've ever kept. And it was it was massive. big, massive, thick chunks of meat on it. Very, very good.

**R** Ryan Fleury 06:32  
Yummy.

**R** Rob Mineault 06:33  
Yeah, no, it's a good thing. I didn't get into fishing because it sounds like there's way too much math involved.

**R** Ryan Fleury 06:39  
A lot of work.

**S** Steve Barclay 06:41  
Well, it is it is it is hard work. I mean, you're out there, it was bouncy seas the entire time we were out there. So we were in, you know, probably about the worst waves that we were in were about 12 feet you know, on a on a 28 foot boat. So you're, you're basically sitting on a boat watching these waves that are taller than the boat rolling by. And you got to be very careful when you're operating a boat in that and, you know, make sure you're very careful on how you make your turns and stuff. But it's also super funky in the back when

you're running around trying to you know, bait lines and put lines on downriggers and get them down and you know, you're trolling along and you're getting whacked side to side and it's quite the quite the lower body workout. You definitely feel it. Yeah. Well, good. You're all bright eyed and bushy tailed and ready for the show. You would think right? But yeah, first first couple of days back here. My it took quite a while for my brain to reengage.



**Rob Mineault** 07:43

Well. It's too bad that you missed last week's episode because it's all about brain computer interfaces in rehab.



**Steve Barclay** 07:51

Because I'm really fascinated by that stuff, too. So yeah, I'd love to hear hear what you heard.



**Rob Mineault** 07:57

Yeah, yeah, it was interesting. actually talking to somebody who actually works in the field. And then we missed the sex episode. You missed Darryl, Lennox, the comedian episode. Yeah, you missed a bunch of good episodes.



**Steve Barclay** 08:10

Oh, Holy smokes. I know.



**Rob Mineault** 08:12

So speaking of what the hell we do, Ryan, what are we doing today?



**Ryan Fleury** 08:17

Today we are speaking with Darcy Bernard and Holly Anderson from the Maccessibility podcast.



**Rob Mineault** 08:24

Steve, you'll notice on my segueways have not gotten any better. while you're away.

S Steve Barclay 08:28  
Well, you know, practice practice. Yeah.

R Ryan Fleury 08:30  
Five years of practice. Hey.

R Rob Mineault 08:36  
Five and a half to you. Yeah, I feel like Steve man, I feel like there's so much to catch up on but -

R Ryan Fleury 08:45  
There isn't really

R Rob Mineault 08:51  
We're having an election!

S Steve Barclay 08:56  
Yeah. All right. Well, we got a lot to say about that. Well, I mean, I got things to say about that. Because I've just been fishing with a whole bunch of guys who are conservatives and you know, here I am, you know, the, the lefty. It's been Yeah, it's been edgy, educational, you might say?

R Rob Mineault 09:12  
Yeah, about the thing that concerns me is that I don't get the sense that anybody's really talking much about disability or disability rights in terms of their platforms.

S Steve Barclay 09:25  
Yeah, that's that's unfortunate. I think I'm just getting jaded around the politics altogether. You know, I keep seeing, you know, the liberal leader, the NDP leader going out there and talking about all this money that they're going to spend, but nobody is talking about how we're going to recover from, you know, all the money that we spent during this COVID pandemic because we put out a lot of money. Yeah. Oh, yeah. And it's gonna take some

time to recover from that. I think but You know, I also was looking at a poll today, it looks like the conservatives are now pulling neck and neck with the liberals. Yeah. So they've moved, they've moved quite a bit ahead and the liberals are falling against the NDP as well. So we could have, we could end up with the Conservative government with maybe the NDP and opposition. It'd be interesting to see how it all pans out. The different parties need to step up and start talking about some disability rights issues, because nobody's really talking about them. And the stuff that they're talking about is pretty pathetic. And the ACA still has so much work left to do, in terms of all the promises that that made. Yeah, so it doesn't, it doesn't look real great in terms of that space, but who knows, maybe they'll start coming out and start actually making some promises.

**R** Ryan Fleury 10:50  
Not in the next 19 days

**S** Steve Barclay 10:54  
They'll make all kinds of promises in the next 19 days. The question? Will they follow through with any of it?

**R** Ryan Fleury 10:59  
Yeah, well, why I just can't, I shouldn't say I can't be bothered with politics. But it's just, we're gonna do this. We're gonna do this. We're gonna do this. We're gonna balance the budget in the next 10 years. You might not even be in in the next four years. Right?

**S** Steve Barclay 11:12  
Yeah. You know, like, I just can't I just irritates the hell out of me.

**R** Rob Mineault 11:16  
Yeah, but you gotta vote.

**R** Ryan Fleury 11:18  
Yeah, absolutely. Yeah.

**R** Rob Mineault 11:20  
You got to get out there. And, yep. It's important.

**S** Steve Barclay 11:23  
Even if you file a protest, vote to a party, that's not necessarily going to win in your riding. It's important to get out and vote.

**R** Rob Mineault 11:30  
Yep, yep. Yeah, feels good. A nice FU vote. Good at the end of the day, stuck it to the man the best way that I could. All right. Well, listen, if we got nothing else to jabber about. Let's go ahead and bring on our guests.

**R** Ryan Fleury 11:52  
All right. Joining us now are Darcy Barnard and Holly Anderson from Maccessibility. Darcy and Holly, thank you so much for joining us today. I am Ryan Fleury. Joining me, as usual, are Steve Barclay. That would be me. And Rob Mineault.

**R** Rob Mineault 12:06  
Oh, hey, I think that's me.

**R** Ryan Fleury 12:09  
That is you! Wwe have Darcy Barnard and Holly Anderson from the Maccessibility podcast or Maccessibility Roundtable. I'm not sure how you want to be referred to,

**D** Darcy Burnard 12:19  
Either.

**R** Rob Mineault 12:21  
Excellent. I've got it.

**S** Steve Barclay 12:22



I've got a leading question for you guys. So So Android versus Apple, is Android, superior or vastly superior?



Darcy Burnard 12:32

Well, that's about all the time we have ....



Ryan Fleury 12:38

Let's talk about iOS 13.



Rob Mineault 12:41

Okay, hold on, actually, that that does. as much of a joke is that kind of is because we are kind of we're a little bit Android over here. But that, but that actually ties into a question that I did have for you guys, because I really feel like and -- by the way, welcome to the podcast.



Ryan Fleury 13:03

Now defend your position! This is not a normal show.



Rob Mineault 13:15

But no, but it's but that whole discussion this whole, like Apple versus Android, do you really see that as as, as a conversation that has much weight these days? I know it used to, but I feel like that's a conversation for five, six years ago, when people were still finding their, their place on on which ecosystem they kind of want to dial into. I really feel like these days, the playing field has leveled to the point where there's really no right answer, not that there was ever a right answer. But I mean, I think that there was a time when you could have pointed to accessibility and say, apples the way to go. I feel like now that the playing fields are leveled. So really that anybody who asks that, I feel like the answer is kind of well, it just depends on what you're looking for. What what devices you already have. But what is what is your guys's feeling about this? Like, is this really a still a valid compensation to have? Or is it really just personal preference these days?



Holly Anderson 14:15

I think it's phrasing it's always been personal preference. Because, I mean, yeah, you could probably argue, one or the other. But you're always gonna have your Apple people and

your Android people. And, you know, it just depends on what your personal. I haven't know that. Having said that, I haven't used Android in a while. So I can't speak to its accessibility. You know, I'd heard that Braille support has been lacking at times. But I think maybe that's changed, but I'm not sure. But I think I think it's always been sort of a personal preference thing. Really, ultimately,

D

Darcy Burnard 14:49

These things are tools, right. So it's like, yeah, you know, whatever tool works best for you. And, you know, I think a lot of people and I think it's still happens, but a lot of people really kind of You know, link their whole identity sometimes into which platform they use. And I think ultimately these things are, you know, whatever works best for you. And I try not to. I never was one to say anything about someone who used Android, because I know what it's like to sort of, you know, for the longest time, at least as far as accessibility, Android was kind of the minority, and I can, I know what that's like, for being a Mac user. Because, you know, back when Holly and I first got our Macs back in 2006, you know, everybody was like, Why? Why are you doing that? Like, you know, at that point, you know, if you were talking about screen readers, you know, voiceover was free. And at the time, the only other free screen reader was narrator, which was not very good back in those days, so that the thinking was, well, if a screen reader is free, it can't possibly be good. Right? So I think I think it's Yeah, this is a roundabout way of answering your question. But ultimately, it's just whatever, whatever works best for you. And, you know, whatever you kind of connect with, I mean, they have different ways of doing things and whichever works, works best for you.

R

Rob Mineault 16:05

So stepping things back a little bit and sort of taking a sort of a, a high level view of apple and accessibility? What What is kind of the the state of Apple accessibility these days? Are, is Apple really still innovating? Or is it mainly just kind of quality of life improvements with with every sort of new iOS update?

D

Darcy Burnard 16:30

I would say they're still innovating. I mean, they added the, like, things like the screen recognition and all that last year, they've added stuff with, if you have one of the phones that have LIDAR, they have things like that. I think they're still innovating. I think it's it's the kind of thing that you know, you know, over time with any sort of product, once the sort of all the low hanging fruit gets picked, it's, you know, the, the updates are going to be fewer and farther between, but I think I think they're still i think i think they're still innovating, I think, I think it's, I think it's still important to them.



Ryan Fleury 17:06

How is accessibility, like on the Mac side? Because none of us here, use a Mac, or maybe have ever used a Mac? I know I happened. And so is voiceover still being improved? worked upon on the Mac OS?



Darcy Burnard 17:19

Yeah. Yeah, I would say so. Um, it has it. I mean, like, they all have their, their issues are? I think so they're, I think they're, they're improving it every time. And, you know, there's..



Holly Anderson 17:33

it's probably a little bit slower improvements than iOS, because it's been around longer. You know, it's been around since 2005. Whereas iOS was 2000 2009. Yeah, it doesn't. That's why I thought and then I didn't want to say it because I was wrong. But yeah, so it's been around a little bit longer. So I think it's had more time to and I mean ..



Darcy Burnard 17:52

I'm pretty sure now i don't i don't know this for a fact, but I'm pretty sure it's the same, you know, primarily the same accessibility team that works on all of it. So I think if something's going to get improved, it's going to be iOS, because that's where, you know, the majority of people are. But yeah, I would, I would say so. I mean, it's, it's my, it's my primary screen system. I've been using a Mac, like I said, since 2006. And I haven't really used windows much since then. Matter of fact, the only time that I think either Holly and I have used windows in the last several years is when we had to install it in a VM. So we could update Holly's orbit reader. And then it was hilarious, because it was like, it was windows 10. And we were both like, I don't know where anything is. I don't know how to do anything anymore. This is all changed. It was windows seven. Yeah. And yeah, that's right. But even that was a big change since XP, which is the last time any of us had really used



Holly Anderson 18:49

And we were using NVDA. And then, which I didn't know how to do anything. And it was all different, because it was a Mac keyboard. And so I just basically tabbed around to get done when I needed to be done. Yeah. So it was it was, it was an experience. Like, I don't know how to do anything anymore.



Ryan Fleury 19:07

Yeah. So is Mac OS still the thing? Or have they ported iOS over to the Mac yet?



Darcy Burnard 19:13

No, it's it's still a thing. It's still its own its own thing. I mean, they're, they're all based on the same thing, like all Apple's OS is are all, you know, based on the same underlying technology, like, I mean, iOS came from from Mac OS. Now there are, there are things that are sort of moving back to the Mac like you can, if you have one of the new m, one Mac's you can run some iOS apps on them. And they are doing more things with various technologies where apps can be written and easily converted to run on on either platform. So they are they're closer than then maybe they were initially but they're still they're still definitely their own things. Right. Okay.



Rob Mineault 19:55

Yeah. And, you know, sort of going back to the the whole idea of of the ecosystem, I think The advantage that Apple seems to have is that they have a few more devices than that, or they're all sort of tied into very much tied into that ecosystem. You know, we've got the Apple Watch, you've got Macs, you've got the iPhone, you've got Apple TV. Like there's, there's a real, real connection. I mean, hopefully, and I'm going to ask you a spoiler warning, I'm going to ask you about this down the road. So you can prepare your answers now. But I also want I'm curious to know if you've heard any rumors about the whole Apple glasses, wearable thing that we keep hearing is coming. So I mean, there could be a really, really like tight knit ecosystem, for an apple user that has all these really, really useful built in accessibility features. Is that is that kind of what draw drew you guys to Apple?



Darcy Burnard 20:54

Um, well, at the time, the Mac was the only thing access that was accessible, when we got into it. And at the time, it was still kind of a risk, because, you know, there had only been one version of voiceover. And so we really didn't know how much Apple was going to support it. But I think the thing that attracted me to it was I knew that, like Mac users really seem to like their products, and really seem to like the Mac. And I was curious about that. Also, at the time, for me, I was both a Windows user and a Linux user. And I liked the idea that I mean, this because, you know, the Mac OS is basically Unix at its core. And I like the idea of having sort of both like a graphical interface and the the Linux underpinning So, so that was what drew me to it. But I did love the idea of just having a screen reader built in like, that first time back in 2006. And this was, this was quite an experience back then, especially because of how difficult you know, things were

sometimes to get going in Windows, when I turned on my Mac for the first time. And after they booted up, a voice told me that if I wanted voiceover, here's how to turn it on. And if I want to do a voiceover tutorial, here's how to do that. And that's like, every Mac did that, like I didn't have to get a special, you know, I just bought that from Apple, I didn't have to get a special thing from an assistive technology company, I just had to, you know, get it from Apple. And that was, that was great. And also, I remember the first time going to an apple store, and being able to walk up to any other computers and just turn them turn VoiceOver on and just use it. And that was I mean, that's, that's less. I mean, because I know that narrator has gotten better. And there are free alternatives in in Windows now. But that was really appealing back then.

H

Holly Anderson 22:44

We're dating ourselves very much. Oh, yeah, absolutely. But yeah, it was it was very much like a revolutionary thing at the time. You know, you can install the operating system yourself, which, again, you can do with Windows now. But back then in 2005 2006, you couldn't really do that. So it was a big, it was a big deal. And, you know, I think because, and also, I was always kind of the skeptical one, I was always like, I don't know, it's free. And it's different. And I don't know if it will be good. And Darcy was like, no, it's gonna be great. I'm gonna go buy one. I was like, well, maybe you should wait until we find out more about it. Like, no, I want to buy one this weekend. Like, maybe, maybe you should talk me down. And we had heard about it, you know, different places. And I actually got to a friend of mine had one and I got to try it out. And that's actually what sold me on it was I tried it out. I'm like, Okay, this thing's really cool. And I want one now, so that I had to talk myself down because at that point, we'd heard that the Intel transits. This was back when they still use power PC chips, again, dating ourselves. And so the Intel transition hadn't happened yet. So we decided we're going to wait until the first Intel Mac computer came out. And so we waited until then, but yeah, it was, it was really cool. Just to be able to do that without, you know, with with nothing off the shelf. It was just built into the operating system.

R

Rob Mineault 24:17

Yeah. Yeah. Well, I mean, we've we've talked on the podcast a lot about Apple, and in that sense that they were really responsible -- You know, however you feel however, whatever side of the of the of the field you've come down on in terms of Apple versus Android or, or how you feel about Apple as a company, you have to give them credit that they really got the accessibility ball rolling. They were the first out of the gate to really embrace it. And I think that the reason why we have the accessibility that we do have in in Microsoft products and in Google products is solely because of Apple and their efforts.



Darcy Burnard 25:00

And you know, not even not even just not even just computers like, now if you go and buy a television, like a smart television, there's a good chance that it's going to have some sort of accessibility stuff built into it. Now, some of them are better than others.



Holly Anderson 25:15

But that kind of stuff because of the the law the 21st Century Communications Act.



Steve Barclay 25:20

Yeah. All right. Yeah. But But I mean, that, that the fact is that, you know, that that what I was talking about how big a deal that was now, there's so much more mainstream technology that's that that is open to us.



Holly Anderson 25:30

Like, I think you're right, I think it's because Apple innovated and made it because even phones with touchscreens, I you know, back in 2009 I remember having a conversation the weekend before voiceover was announced. And everyone was discussing whether a touchscreen was something we could use. And I was like, Well, if the blindness community can agree on whether or not a touchscreen is something we can use, and there's no way Apple's gonna make it accessible, because we can't even and that Monday was when voiceover was announced. So, you know, that was a huge and at the time, we all said this is a huge thing, because I think that changed everything. And it did it really changed the landscape of accessibility. And I think Apple is responsible solely responsible for that. And I agree, I'm glad you said that. Not me, because it makes it sound more credible.



Rob Mineault 26:24

But yeah, you know, and I often think about that in like, what kind of a weird alternate reality, it would be if Apple just hadn't done that. Like, if they had just been, yeah, look, we made this great new smartphone. And yeah, it's pretty much inaccessible, but Oh, well. And they just, they just went on the mainstream. And, you know, what would have happened there? And, you know, I'm sure that like, we used to work for an assistive technology company, and I used to sit beside Ryan and, and here, oh, really date ourselves here. But he used to have to install What was the name of that that software that you have to he had to put on those Nokia phones?

- R** Ryan Fleury 26:59  
it was talks and mobile speak.
- R** Rob Mineault 27:01  
Oh, and the pain in the butt that like trying to get that software working on one of those Nokia phones.
- D** Darcy Burnard 27:08  
And it was like \$1,000, not cheap, either.
- R** Rob Mineault 27:12  
Yeah, exactly.
- H** Holly Anderson 27:14  
Yeah, I never had one because it was so like, way out of my price range. Like I just couldn't afford it.
- R** Rob Mineault 27:20  
Yeah, exactly. And I often think that that's I guess that's what would have happened, if they hadn't, we would just be stuck with some sort of a third party would have come out with some sort of an app or something that you could install on a smartphone that maybe would have made it accessible. I mean, so really, we we have to give Apple you know, all the kudos we can for, for least starting the process.
- R** Ryan Fleury 27:46  
You just flip flip the conversation around there, you know, used to pay so much money for the Nokia phone and photographer mobile speak. Now we're paying \$1,000 for an iPhone, but the accessibility is built in. No add on technology.
- H** Holly Anderson 27:58  
Right, I think too Google had come out with something around the same time as Apple. But it I think, if I remember, and I may be remembering this wrong, you guys can correct

me, but I think mainly use like the keyboard and like the little joystick, like it didn't use any touchscreen.

**D** Darcy Burnard 28:14

Yeah. At first version of talkback, maybe you can only use the D pad and like, and so it had to be on phones that had physical, physical keyboards, because at the time, at the time, you know, there was still a debate about whether, you know, there were still lots of phones out there that had physical keyboards, and whether that was, you know, the way things were going to go or not? Because, you know, obviously, the BlackBerry and stuff was still was very popular. And I don't know, that ever became accessible, did it?

**R** Ryan Fleury 28:40

It did, there was a Blackberry, there was a screen reader for blackberry as well, at one point that was there.

**D** Darcy Burnard 28:45

Okay. never used one.

**R** Rob Mineault 28:47

Man shout out to 2004 everybody.

**D** Darcy Burnard 28:50

Yeah.

**R** Ryan Fleury 28:53

Well, look at look at Microsoft, you know, they came up with Windows phones as well, you know, 5, 7 years ago, running, you know, Windows Mobile and Narrator on those they tried, and they were Nokia phones as well. They were touchscreen, but it just didn't go anywhere. Right?

**D** Darcy Burnard 29:09

Yeah, well, the Microsoft Windows Phone is up as a whole didn't really go anywhere. Like, like, Who would have thought if you if we would have had this conversation back then. I



think everyone thought for sure. You know, Microsoft would have won the mobile war, you know, cuz Why wouldn't they? Because they, you know, had the desktop and mobile.

R

Rob Mineault 29:26

yeah, yeah, man. It's funny. Funny how it all turns out.

R

Ryan Fleury 29:30

Yeah.

R

Rob Mineault 29:31

So what have you guys heard about the Apple Glasses? Anything? Or are they are they still being really super tight lipped about that?

D

Darcy Burnard 29:40

Well, I don't think probably at this point. I mean, I don't think there's been any, any of the really like the people who, who leaked rumors and who knows stuff haven't really come up with anything. I'm sure they're working on something because they've been talking about AR like augmented reality for years. So I'm sure they have stuff whether, like how far along it is, you know, who knows? But it? Yeah, there's rumors about everything in the apple world. And it's just hard to know which ones to trust, I tend not to put much stock in any of them until Apple actually announces something.

R

Rob Mineault 30:16

Well, you know, it's really interesting too, because, you know, we have to remember that that's not the first foray into that space. I mean, of course, we all remember the Google Glass. And you know how that kind of landed with a splat. And I wonder that if part of it is, you know, they've got it in the bag, they know it, and they're just waiting for the right time. Because I think that with the Google Glass, that was exactly what the problem was, was, it was just a little bit before. before its time, people weren't quite ready for the idea of a wearable, especially in a glass or eyeglasses format. And so it yeah, it didn't go so I don't know, maybe, you know, maybe they're still working on it. Or maybe they are just waiting for just the right time. Although, I think that you know, they've ease people into that, that water with stuff like the Apple Watch. I mean, remember the Apple Watch being launched. I remember talking with Ryan and you know, Ryan being the pessimist users like this is gonna, this is gonna be a disaster. No one's who's gonna get an Apple Watch. That's fine,

guys. I

**H** Holly Anderson 31:18  
I was actually not skeptical about that.

**D** Darcy Burnard 31:20  
I was like, skeptical one, one, immediately give me my Apple Watch.

**H** Holly Anderson 31:24  
I wanted it like two years before it came out.

**D** Darcy Burnard 31:26  
Yeah, I was skeptical when Holly got her Apple watch on day one.

**H** Holly Anderson 31:29  
So on day one, and I've worn it pretty much ever since. So yeah,

**R** Ryan Fleury 31:33  
I've got one as well, that I'm wearing.

**D** Darcy Burnard 31:36  
Yeah, it's, it's, uh, and that's Yeah, I think, you know, the whole wearable thing. And I think the Apple Watch is, is a great as long as, as long as you want the things that it's good for, like, I'm not sure the Apple Watch is good for everyone. But I really like mine.

**H** Holly Anderson 31:51  
And I'm, well I have it, and with the things that they're doing, like LIDAR, you know, even just accessibility, you know, Seeing AI, LIDAR, things like that, I think would be great for glasses, because, you know, you still have to hold out your phone. And with LIDAR, and, and, you know, that sort of thing, you're still using your phone's camera. But if you could have glasses, that okay said, okay, there's, you know, four people in front of you, and you

could hear it in your ears, and you wouldn't even have to, you know, pull your phone out. I can see a lot of use for something like that. So I think they definitely are working on it. But I don't know any, anything concrete either.

R

Rob Mineault 32:32

Yeah, you're, you're so right, that would be such an incredibly useful tool.

D

Darcy Burnard 32:37

Like, I tend to not want to use my phone, if I'm, like, if I'm out walking around, and I ever have to pull out my phone for some reason, I'm very much aware that this is a fragile piece of glass, I'm holding in my in my head, even with a case, you know, it only takes one slip, too. So just having having something just available to you without having, you know, having to take one of your hands would be would be awesome. For you know, like the glasses and stuff.

R

Rob Mineault 33:05

And, you know, that's kind of what gets me excited about the assistive technology field right now is that more so now than ever .. We have these mainstream devices that are mainstream devices, but they have really incredibly powerful AT potential as well. And I feel like that you before at was always really literally an add on or it was a niche device that that's all it does. Whereas now Yeah, we just it's it's a much different landscape now.

D

Darcy Burnard 33:36

Well just think about all the devices that your smartphone replaced, like all the physical things, whether it's a media player, a GPS device, like a compass, if you had like a talking or real compass, you know, you've got a camera, you can scan things. There's OCR, like, and I'm not even probably coming close to all the different assistive technology things that you know, we've all had replaced by, by smartphones by this this one device that you know, we that have that a lot of people have now.

R

Rob Mineault 34:08

Okay, I'm going to talk about the elephant in the room. Let's talk let's talk some Siri. What's the deal with Siri?

R Ryan Fleury 34:17  
Hey, Siri!

R Rob Mineault 34:19  
I feel like this is definitely one one thing that Apple has kind of fallen behind the competition with what's How do you guys feel about Siri being being, you know, dedicated Apple users? Is it a love hate thing? Or is it getting better?

R Ryan Fleury 34:37  
It depends on what you ask her.

D Darcy Burnard 34:41  
And they all have their they like, I guarantee if you have all three of them. I don't have the Google one. But I have you know, the Amazon one end Siri, there are times that asking one of them. Like asking them both. One of them will give you the right answer and the other one won't. And it's it's it goes back and forth.

H Holly Anderson 34:59  
If you'd ask me this six months ago, I would have had a very different answer. Because I got for my birthday, I bought myself a home pod Mini. And I was like, I just want to see what it's like, you know, because I had an Amazon Echo. And I wasn't using it to its full potential, you know, all the skills and things, I just wasn't finding that I was using them very much. So I was like, well, for what I need it for, I think the home pod will work. And it also hooks into your phone and that sort of thing. Um, I really like my home pod. Mini, um, but it does drive me crazy at times. If I do have specific questions about like, an example, I was asking. Earlier in the year, I decided I was going to watch all of the Marvel movies. And I was asking for a specific movie, like the length of that specific movie, because I was curious if I had enough time that day to watch it. And I asked, and it said, there are no showings of that movie in this area. I'm like, that's not what I asked. So I think I did eventually have to go ask the the A lady the question, and she was able to answer it. So I think it's one of those things where it is behind. I think it's getting better, I think. But yeah, it is behind? And I don't know. I don't know if they just don't care as much about that as other things. I don't know. I don't know what the what the reasoning is. But it is it isn't. It's great for some things, but it's not perfect, which I guess you can say about all them.



Steve Barclay 36:43

But one of the big criticisms about Siri is the fact that it doesn't integrate with other apps like the you know, the other services Alexa and Google Assistant do it very tied down by comparison to those ones. And that's, I think part of what Apple's philosophy has been for a long time is to keep their, their their entire products integrated, but not open to you know, every potential exploit that might be out there. The other problem with it, because it is not the same on different devices, like your Siri on your home pod is not the same as your Siri on your Apple TV, or your Siri on the Mac. They're all different. And you can ask certain ones certain things. They're designed for certain things, but you can't get the same information from all of them.



Darcy Burnard 37:35

Yeah, no, that is a problem. Because I actually just recently got a Homepod as well. And the other morning, I asked I was I woke up and I asked, you know, Siri, what the charge was on my phone. And the home pod was like, I can't I don't have a battery. But you can ask on your other devices. And I think, like, that's the kind of thing where I hope that they will eventually make it to the point where they can sort of work together and realize that like, like, oh, he probably he's asking this question about a phone. Maybe the phone should should handle it, you know, maybe the phone should should take that. And I hope that's something I think that's something they're working on, it's probably a hard problem to solve.



Holly Anderson 38:17

Because sometimes you can ask it a question. It's like, I sent a link to that to your iPhone, because it knows it can recognize different voices. So it knows that I am specifically speaking to it, and it can say, Hey, I sent this to your phone. Why you can't say hey, what's the battery for my, my iPhone?



Darcy Burnard 38:38

As far as the connecting with other services and other devices, I think that's going that is getting better with things like the shortcuts app, because you can make shortcuts that time with a lot of stuff. And those shortcuts can actually work with Siri. So you have I mean, that's not going to be for everyone. I mean, it's it's not quite programming, but it's close to that. But you actually can do a lot with that and, you know, be able to make it work with, with like third party services and, and whatnot. So I think that's going to be something that gets better and easier as, as time goes on. They they jumped like Siri

actually came out first before all these and when Google and Amazon came out with theirs, they jumped way ahead. So like they leapfrog them and I think serious catching up. But I think you know, it's it's there's they're proud, they still are behind probably

R

Ryan Fleury 39:32

My biggest frustration with Siri and I have a Google Home. And I've got Amazon Echo to the house. And I've got Siri on my watch on my phone. But is when you ask Siri a question. I found some results on the web. I don't want to go to the web. Just give me the results like every other assistant does, right? Don't put links up on the screen. I don't want to have to go to a website and look it up. I queried you for the information. And to me that that has to change.

H

Holly Anderson 39:56

Yeah, and it does do a little less on the on the HomePod, it will answer more questions, but it's not as good at that as the Google and the Echo. I haven't tried the Google, but I'm assuming it's really good at that. Because that's kind what Google does.

R

Ryan Fleury 40:13

Exactly, yeah,

D

Darcy Burnard 40:14

that's their whole deal. And they should I mean, if anyone's good, it should be good at that. It should be them. And, and you're right, because yeah, if I wanted to do a web search, I would, I would open up my browser and do a web search. Yeah. That's, that's frustrating. That's my only frustration.

R

Ryan Fleury 40:30

I can ask Amazon Echo what the temperature is or what the forecast here's where I live tomorrow. And it'll say, I cannot find your location, please open the Amazon Alexa app and type it in what's already in there.

D

Darcy Burnard 40:41

I've seen that before, too.

R Ryan Fleury 40:45  
They've all got issues.

D Darcy Burnard 40:46  
Oh, yeah.

H Holly Anderson 40:46  
Yeah.

D Darcy Burnard 40:47  
And, and, you know, it's, it's actually pretty, like, we were just talking about how things have changed, you know, who would have thought like this? This was, you know, 15 years ago, this would have been something out of Star Trek, you know, like the fact that we could talk to these things.

H Holly Anderson 41:00  
And so, once again, I was skeptical and because I remember when the Echoes came out, I was like, why do I want to talk to a speaker? Like, I don't understand what this thing does at all. I was like, why? And Darcy was like, oh, it'd be really cool. And I'm like, why? And then of course I got one first because I'm so skeptical than I always go by something first because I want a new toy to play with so that's how that goes.

R Ryan Fleury 41:27  
Well I'm more appliances. You know, you can talk to your microwave right?

H Holly Anderson 41:30  
Yeah. So cool. I mean, that's amazing.

R Rob Mineault 41:34  
Yeah, like I'm just waiting for the day when they can combine a you know, a Google Home and a Roomba and an R2D2 shell and like it can just wander around and beep and ..

- D** Darcy Burnard 41:49  
then we have Skynet and everything just, you know ...
- H** Holly Anderson 41:52  
I don't think we have to worry about Skynet anytime soon. No, no.
- D** Darcy Burnard 41:56  
Yeah, whenever whenever I asked one of these things a question and they give me a completely ridiculous result. I'm like, okay, we're free. We're out of danger from Skynet for a few more years.
- R** Rob Mineault 42:12  
I feel like Skynet we get here and be like, Whoa, this Facebook thing -- I'm not messing with that. -- Like they got Facebook, they're screwed already.
- R** Ryan Fleury 42:22  
Yeah, it's gonna become self aware. Yeah.
- D** Darcy Burnard 42:24  
Facebook ever become self aware. We're in real trouble.
- H** Holly Anderson 42:27  
No, that's my I'm gonna have a nightmare but that tonight?
- R** Ryan Fleury 42:32  
Never even thought of that. Freaky.
- H** Holly Anderson 42:38  
But that's that's that's a horror movie.





Ryan Fleury 42:41  
It is.



Rob Mineault 42:41  
I can just see Mark Zuckerberg running behind a car chasing it and not dying...



Ryan Fleury 42:50  
I'm your father. Don't leave.



Rob Mineault 42:56  
Let's see.



Darcy Burnard 42:57  
Let's see where we go from there.



Rob Mineault 43:02  
Yeah, this is switching gears. But I want to get your I get want to get your feedback on this. So let's talk a little bit about digital accessibility and how far we have to go in digital accessibility. We talked about this ad nauseum on the show, we're always talking about digital accessibility. So it's kind of a thing. But what do you end? You know, Apple, Apple has always been the champion of accessibility. in some regard or another. I really feel like in order for digital accessibility to really, really be driven forward, I feel like somebody needs to, like, lay down the law. And like, I'm thinking like, what if Apple were to all of a sudden just say, just to issue a mandate and say, if you want to have an app on our on iTunes, you have to go through an accessibility check. It has to at least work with with screen reader at some level in order to get that pass. What do you guys think about that?



Darcy Burnard 44:01  
Well, given all the trouble they're having right now with the App Store, and I don't think they do it right now.



Holly Anderson 44:06

yeah. What about I mean, there's certain apps that you I mean, that's actually becoming less now. But there are certain apps that can't be made accessible like games.

R

Ryan Fleury 44:19

Right, but let's say you download a Pizza Hut app or an Uber app, and it's got unlabeled buttons, there's no need for that anymore. No, no, no. Yeah, shouldn't be allowed.

D

Darcy Burnard 44:28

At the very least there should be an indicator like, you know, they have when you look at it, there's all these indicators, like it has in app purchases, it, you know, does all these different things. It can work with your iPad, if they had some sort of flag that like, if you want that app, to have the flag, it has to be it has to be accessible. And maybe if you're a voiceover user, and you do an app search, maybe the inaccessible ones don't even show up. But then I don't know because you're because you're right. It is it's very frustrating. It's sometimes seems like the bigger the company, the more likely it is to happen, which, you know, it seems like, you know, if you get if you get to talk to, like the independent app developers, you know, the one person companies that are making their apps, and if you can convince them, you know, accessibility that they get really enthusiastic, you know, and they do it just because the end, but then it seems like sometimes you have trouble with like I said, like your, your Domino's or your whatever, like the bigger companies, they tend to try and fancy it up.

H

Holly Anderson 45:31

And the more you fancy it up, the less accessible it becomes. I feel like it can, like, if you stay on Apple's path, so to speak, as far as you know, developing goes, if you use their tools, if you use their standards, chances are the app will be mostly accessible. If you veer from that path and you use something else.

D

Darcy Burnard 45:54

You know, it's about control and stuff like that, you get that kind of thing. And yeah, cuz if a lot of times, you know, you, again, going back to developers, if you talk to the they don't even realize their stuffs accessible, but they just used all the standard Apple controls and everything in it, stuff just works. So. But you're right, I think I think there there should be something, I think, you know, there's going to be some apps that just are never going to work by their nature, but more apps than you'd think. And even games like games in the last several years have come a long way. Like I know, there was that one thing that that

game, The Last of Us, The Last of Us Part two is apparently completely accessible. And it's like a big mainstream game that you know, people on PlayStation

R

Rob Mineault 46:41

Interestingly enough, like Microsoft has done a lot of work in this space. I mean, they've got they've made the the access inaccessible Xbox controller, and yeah, I mean, they're, they're sort of they sort of leaned into that space accessibility wise.



46:54

So yeah, yeah, Sony's done a lot to there's a lot of accessibility. I haven't I've been wanting to delve into it a little bit more with someone who knows, because I'm kind of out of the loop on that front. And I would like to talk to people who are more in the know, because, yeah, gaming accessibility has become huge lately.

R

Rob Mineault 47:16

Yeah, it really has. And I guess, I guess, for me to go to go back to the the App Store. I think that I mean, so obviously, you're right. I mean, there, there are just apps out there that just are do not lend themselves to be accessible, there's never going to be is there's never going to work, they're just too visual. But I feel like doing something like that even that if it's a badge that you get, or if it's you get into, like you can categorize apps by accessibility, is just gonna make it easier for for people who are browsing specifically for something that's accessible rather than downloading and then finding out that it's not accessible. But also, it's just I feel like the more that accessibility is in the face of developers and of the mainstream, the more likely the conversation is going to happen. And because I feel like maybe a lot of developers don't even know what accessibility is.

D

Darcy Burnard 48:13

Yeah. And, and Apple's doing a pretty good job with that it I know, every year at their developer conference, because they have all the different sessions that if you know, if you're there live, you can go to them, but if not, you can watch them. There's always several, I think there were, I want to say at least half a dozen this year, maybe maybe more, maybe less all about accessibility. So they're really, they're really pushing it Now, obviously, a developer has to decide that that's a priority. And they, you know, go from there, but but they're pushing and I'm sure Microsoft and Google and all those companies are as well. You know, it's it's, we're definitely further like, it's at least, you know, somewhat

on people's radar in the mainstream now, where I didn't think it used to be and I think hopefully that just continues to increase.



Rob Mineault 49:02

Yeah, and I have to say that I think that we have Apple to thank for that. I think that they really, really made the word accessibility, much more of something on people's lips. Hey, let's talk about the podcast. Tell us a little about, about your podcast, how long you've been doing it and what you guys do over there.



49:22

Maccessibility has been going since 2009. And actually, before that, Holly and I had another podcast related called The Screen The Switchers and, and then, you know, Josh, who was a friend of ours started Maccessibility and we started, you know, getting involved with that. And it's basically just a roundtable discussion where anywhere from maybe three to six people, every two weeks, we just get on and we just talk about, you know what's happening in the world of Apple. Sometimes we branch out if there's something you know, really interesting going on. You know, Like, maybe we'll talk about the Amazon stuff or, or what but, you know, we kind of start out with Apple. But we can, we can go off on different tangents if mainly whatever any of us happen to be into accessibility wise or whatever. Like, I know, when Holly got her Orbit Reader, we talked a lot about that. You know, we've done different things over the years. And then we generally speaking, when Apple has an event, like when they announced new products, and they do like a live stream, we usually come on immediately following that and sort of give like a post, a post show recap kind of thing about, about, you know, what they did and what we thought about what they did and all that.



Rob Mineault 50:42

Yeah, well, we know that feeling, we often do that, too. We started talking about one thing, and then we end the end the show by the end of the show, talking about something completely different.



Darcy Burnard 50:50

So yeah, that happens a lot with, with what we do, we try and stay on topic, we usually have a list of topics we start with and

H Holly Anderson 50:56  
For a while it was either we were talking about the Orbit Reader, or TikTok,

D Darcy Burnard 51:01  
We were about TikTok a lot and Clubhouse for a little while.

R Rob Mineault 51:08  
See that but I mean, that's the great thing about the podcast format is that there really is no format, you can kind of just do what you want to do and put it out there in the world. And if it gets accepted, it gets accepted.

D Darcy Burnard 51:22  
Exactly.

R Rob Mineault 51:23  
But hey, speaking of spinning off into other subjects, you did mention an Orbit Reader. So I'm curious to know, as you How are you finding the Orbit Reader?

H Holly Anderson 51:33  
I really like it. It does have some disadvantages, but considering its cost. I very much like it. I had at the very beginning, I did have some issues, I had to get it replaced. I had one of the first ones in it had some pin issues, and sometimes there are that. But I think that happens with a lot of braille displays, because you have so many moving parts. And I think it's one of those things because it's the new kid on the block. I think you often hear about the bad over the good. Right? And for the cost. I think it's a really good, solid machine. And I really like it.

R Rob Mineault 52:16  
I really feel like that is really important technology, because it's about time that some of these electronic Braille devices have come down in price.

H Holly Anderson 52:25

Yeah, they have been ridiculously expensive. And, you know, you can get a 40 cell they have a 40 cell one now for \$1300. Which is, you know, extremely awesome, because \$5000, you know, that might get you a 40 cell display. So we I really like what they're doing.

**S** Steve Barclay 52:48

Yeah, we often talk about how, you know, education. There's not enough opportunities for kids to learn Braille and education. And I think having a Braille display there, that's half the price certainly can't hurt.

**D** Darcy Burnard 53:02

Well, yeah, I mean, like, more and more. I have to imagine education, things are digital, right? Like all the material that kids get, like, a lot of times at some schools, kids get laptops, or iPads or whatever. Yeah. And I think I think if Braille has, if Braille is going to survive, there needs to be affordable braille displays, because you're just not going to have everything on paper like you used to have. It's just like, it has to be braille displays.

**H** Holly Anderson 53:26

Yeah. And it's nice, because the orbit, you know, also can be a note taker. And, you know, for under \$800, you can have a notetaker, you know, book reader. And it's just, it's really, it's really great for education and for other things. I mean, it's a little noisy, but so was the Perkins Brailler. Back in the day it's not any noisier than that thing was. And I used it in school and I liked it.

**R** Ryan Fleury 54:05

Let me ask you guys this Apple I think has an event in October normally don't they?

**D** Darcy Burnard 54:11

Sometimes September, sometimes October they there's rumors that there may be two this year.

**R** Ryan Fleury 54:15

Last year, they had three in the fall. So have we heard rumors or rumblings about what might be announced?

**H** Holly Anderson 54:20  
Probably new phones and new iOS? Well, we know new iOS. We're pretty sure new Watches really everything. Probably new iPad Airs, which I bought one of those in March but that I knew that was coming.

**D** Darcy Burnard 54:37  
Apple is in a lot of ways. You know, they do all these innovative stuff, but in a lot of ways, they are kind of predictable, like, um, for I think since maybe 2010 or 11. You know, new phones have come out in the fall. So it's, it's fairly it's fairly realistic to expect that now. I know that There were some things a while ago, there were some rumors that things were slowed up because of like manufacturing was slowed up because of COVID and all that. So, but I bet we see that in the fall of it we see new and that there may be new Macs too. I mean, they have that whole M1, M1 Max that and they haven't completely replaced the Intel ones yet. So I wouldn't be surprised to see more of those.

**R** Rob Mineault 55:22  
Like, I often think does Apple like to really like just gobsnacked people. I just kind of wonder, are they just gonna just gonna throw that in a left field one time? Or are they going to actually plan for that? And it should be interesting.

**H** Holly Anderson 55:40  
I think it's getting harder for them to completely gobsnacked people. I think they I think they're a lot more loose lipped than they used to be coming used to you never hear anything about, you know what's coming. But now it's almost like the leaks happen before the event. And if you look at those sites, then you're never surprised. I

**D** Darcy Burnard 56:03  
if you look at the iPhone, the iPad and the Apple Watch, all of them were announced about, you know, six months or more before they actually came out. And that's, I think that's because, you know, once they start being manufacturer, there's going to be leaks, right? So I suspect if, if anything new like that comes out, we'll hear about it. And then they'll say like, you know, you'll, you'll be able to get it next year, you'll be able to get it in a few months or whatever.

**R** Rob Mineault 56:31  
So it could be it could be also that, you know, they they kind of let things leak because they want to see what kind of reception it's getting. I'm sure that the Google guys were like oh my god, like we thought we, we thought this Google Glass thing was gonna go great. We made 10 million of them. What are we doing?

**H** Holly Anderson 56:55  
Usually Apple isn't first in a in a product space. They're usually they usually wait for other companies to come in and make the mistakes. And then they come in and they release something that's better. Whether that's what they do here or not, I'm not sure. I mean, the Google last came out, but we haven't really heard of a lot of other companies releasing, you know, glasses yet. So I don't know whether they want to be

**S** Steve Barclay 57:15  
There are tons there tons. Yeah, I mean, there are some Yeah, yeah. None of them have any accessibility features. So they don't really make it into our space. But maybe that's it. Yeah, there are lots and lots of smart glasses out there that are floating around there. They're just not, you know, they're not going anywhere right now. Because they don't have any, you know, big company like a Google or an Apple.

**H** Holly Anderson 57:39  
Maybe it will happen soon.

**S** Steve Barclay 57:41  
It could happen. It could definitely happen.

**R** Rob Mineault 57:43  
Yeah. And I think that when it does happen, I mean, I think that in order for something like that to be successful, it really does need to tie into that idea of the ecosystem, right? Like if your glasses tied to your phone, which is tied to your ..

**H** Holly Anderson 57:55  
They should do a mask, then people might actually wear them.



- R** Ryan Fleury 57:58  
Yeah. It'd be a \$400 mask. Bluetooth speakers, you know. Yeah.
- R** Rob Mineault 58:07  
That's that's the answer.
- H** Holly Anderson 58:09  
No glasses, do a mask.
- R** Rob Mineault 58:11  
Get that idea to Shark Tank right away.
- R** Ryan Fleury 58:27  
We'll have to talk offline at some point. You guys can try and sell me on a Mac.
- R** Rob Mineault 58:34  
We've already got it that you're already the Benedict Arnold. He already went to an iPhone.
- R** Ryan Fleury 58:39  
So iPhone and Apple Watch. Apple Watch. AppleTV
- R** Rob Mineault 58:44  
Yeah. So go join Maccessibility.
- S** Steve Barclay 58:49  
Yeah, we'll find we'll find somebody else to do all the work on our podcast.
- R** Ryan Fleury 58:54  
Good luck with that. And that's the end of AT Banter.

- R** Rob Mineault 59:00  
No, No, I'm just kidding. Like, honestly, my my view and on the whole, I think I honestly, I think that the whole Apple versus Android thing was silly to begin with. I think or whatever works for people is great. I think they're both everybody's doing a great job. Just keep driving that accessibility ball forward. And yeah, use whatever you want to use. So there you go. That's a positive note. There again. I found it
- H** Holly Anderson 59:27  
There you go. My dog also agrees.
- R** Rob Mineault 59:30  
Alright, guys, well, listen. Thank you so much for joining us. Where can people find Maccessibility if they would like to check it out?
- D** Darcy Burnard 59:39  
You can go to [maccessibility.net](https://maccessibility.net) or just search for Maccessibility in your pod catcher of choice and you should be able to find it. We're also Maccessibility on Twitter. And when we do our live streams, we use the hashtag #volive so like that's how you know during the show, people can ask questions or whatever. So any any or all of those ways will get you Maccessibility.
- R** Rob Mineault 1:00:04  
Man, you know what, I'm pretty sure Ryan is going to pick your brain later about a live stream because he's been trying to get us through a live show forever
- R** Ryan Fleury 1:00:12  
Just got to get you guys on board that or I'll just do it myself. Screw you.
- D** Darcy Burnard 1:00:16  
It's fine. It's we don't always get a lot because the time we do it, we kind of do it in the middle of the afternoon. So we don't always get a lot of listeners we get them more after one of the apple events and it's a lot of fun because, you know, you get questions, you get comments from people listening.

- R** Rob Mineault 1:00:38  
Why just I think our audience would be like one guy named Shan, who would?
- D** Darcy Burnard 1:00:45  
Sometimes we only get one listener. So yeah, we do.
- H** Holly Anderson 1:00:50  
We'd love our listeners. Oh, yeah, absolutely.
- S** Steve Barclay 1:00:53  
And we do love Shan
- R** Ryan Fleury 1:01:01  
Alright, guys, it's been an absolute delight. Thanks for coming on and talking to us about Apple. We'd love to have you on again.
- D** Darcy Burnard 1:01:09  
Yeah. Thanks so much. It was a pleasure.
- R** Rob Mineault 1:01:13  
Well, so I guess I'm a little disappointed that we didn't I don't think we we converted anybody today to Android. But I guess I wasn't expecting.
- R** Ryan Fleury 1:01:21  
Yeah, I think I think these guys are hardcore partisans. I don't think they're, I don't think they're switching? No, not not those two.
- R** Rob Mineault 1:01:28  
But no, you know, honestly, I think the best thing, the best thing for this whole debate about Android versus Apple, you just need to put it to bed to end it. Like who cares? It's every everybody just get along with anybody. I'm, I'm sick of things being so divisive these

days.



Ryan Fleury 1:01:47

Well, it's like Darcy said, we've said in the past, you know, whatever tool works best for you and your situation, use that tool. And a lot of us need multiple tools in our toolbox. So there's nothing wrong with that.



Rob Mineault 1:01:59

Yeah, but I mean, I think that, you know, the important thing is that we can all come together and No, we can't



Steve Barclay 1:02:05

Stop it, Ryan. Oh, I Oh, you're bringing the world together. Here. Just want to point out that on Android.com there is a heading called make the world accessible screen readers speech to text and some of the newest ways to experience the world your way.



Ryan Fleury 1:02:25

Ryan. Alrighty.



Rob Mineault 1:02:27

Now the only problem I see with it is it looks like - oh, no, link is different. The link is titled learn more, but it does lead you to an accessibility page.



Ryan Fleury 1:02:38

Good job.



Rob Mineault 1:02:40

Apple also is really good at presentation and marketing. And you know, they've, so they're going to be better at that stuff, for sure. It's going to make it look more shiny. It's definitely going to be presented in a way that is super clear to people. So they do have that advantage, too.



Ryan Fleury 1:03:03

But they but even you know, Microsoft, you know, Microsoft for the last few years has done a big, big, big marketing push on accessibility. It's on Twitter. It's on the web. You know, Microsoft is in people's faces now touting accessibility, very similar to Apple, but you still don't see Google, I don't think promoting accessibility as much as the other big companies. Yeah. And I don't know why that is. You know, Apple seems to come up with a product, leave it for a couple years and then kill it, right?



Rob Mineault 1:03:33

I don't know. I just want to get those glasses. I really, I want, I want some glasses in my life. I think I'm ready for it. I wasn't ready for the Google Glass like everybody else. But I feel like I'm ready for it. Now I want a wearable glass on an AR. I want a heads up display in my vision at all times.



Steve Barclay 1:03:59

want something that'll scan people's faces and tell me their names. I mean, just think of all the great stuff that's coming.



Rob Mineault 1:04:06

They just have to they just have to figure it all out. And I feel like there. There's somebody in a basement somewhere in the Apple laboratories, and I'm assuming is underground. That you know what, they're working on this stuff.



Ryan Fleury 1:04:19

And some will never see the light of day.



Rob Mineault 1:04:23

How great would that be if it could be privy to all those ideas that didn't go anywhere?



Ryan Fleury 1:04:28

Yeah, absolutely.

**R** Rob Mineault 1:04:29  
Like, I wonder if there's like a room somewhere where some guys like working on X ray vision. Oh, probably. That'd be cool. Yeah, yeah. Yeah, exactly. Remember those Remember, you used to see the ads in the comic for X ray vision, X ray glasses and you could see through clothing and stuff. we all ordered a pair.

**R** Ryan Fleury 1:04:52  
I remember the what was the sea creatures what were they called? monkeys?

**R** Rob Mineault 1:04:56  
The sea monkeys?

**R** Ryan Fleury 1:05:00  
Yeah, yeah, little people, little family.

**R** Rob Mineault 1:05:06  
Pictures or little monkeys swimming around with crowns on and stuff. Yeah, yeah, exactly. They were just like that.

**S** Steve Barclay 1:05:14  
Hey, but then hey, we're the generation that bought pet rocks.

**R** Ryan Fleury 1:05:17  
Yes. Yeah. And then it could come back though, like a decade or so ago.

**S** Steve Barclay 1:05:24  
Then there there were furbies.

**R** Ryan Fleury 1:05:26  
Yep.

R Rob Mineault 1:05:27  
Man, very impressionable marketing. Yeah, start like, you know, these days, I think everybody is so desensitized because there's so much marketing it hit some, it's hard to, to get a trend like that going. It's it's also hard to explain to people how he, like, really, we weren't stupid. We weren't impressionable. We just didn't have the internet. Like, we didn't know. Like, look, you see an ad in a comic book for sea monkeys. Your assume that this is gotta be true. Like they wouldn't, they can just put lies in comic books and just sell you brine shrimp and not sea monkeys. Like we had no idea. We had no way to fact check things. So we just had to take people on their word. And that led to some, you know, bad purchases.

R Ryan Fleury 1:06:18  
Such as simpler time.

S Steve Barclay 1:06:20  
Indeed.

R Ryan Fleury 1:06:22  
We believed what we could buy off the back of comic books.

R Rob Mineault 1:06:28  
Yeah. How do we get into sea monkeys? We started talking about Apple and how we should..

R Ryan Fleury 1:06:35  
We thoroughly diverged. We should wrap this out. Before we go any further further. We'll do a decade show again.

R Rob Mineault 1:06:42  
Yeah, we should do totally do that. But I do want to like do a little bit of a plug for next week's show cuz it's a little bit of a special show and especially given the Steve's back. And I don't know this might be news to Steve too. But hey, we're doing a Good News Show next week. And don't be to be warned me about it. Okay, good. Yeah. Okay, good. Well,

we got Yeah, so that's something that everyone can look forward to next week. We're taking a break from talking about serious stuff and, and bad news and talking only about good news. So and Steve will be running that.

**S** Steve Barclay 1:07:16  
Well, you got to keep in mind what I consider good news. Other people might consider bad news because, you know, Schadenfreude and stuff.

**R** Rob Mineault 1:07:26  
No, really? No. I don't even know what that word means.

**S** Steve Barclay 1:07:31  
It's a German word. It means gaining sort of visceral pleasure from other people's suffering.

**R** Rob Mineault 1:07:42  
Of course, it's a German word. No, I'm just kidding Germans. We love you.

**R** Ryan Fleury 1:07:48  
Yeah, I was gonna say you better take that back.

**R** Rob Mineault 1:07:50  
We do totally take it back German Germany you've you've

**R** Ryan Fleury 1:07:53  
Send all hate mail to ... rob at cowbell@atbanter.com

**R** Rob Mineault 1:08:04  
They make great chocolate. The World's Finest chocolate.



- S** Steve Barclay 1:08:10  
And great beer
- R** Rob Mineault 1:08:12  
Yeah, beer, Oktoberfest! Good stuff. Thank you. Thank you for giving Oktoberfest to the world.
- S** Steve Barclay 1:08:17  
Yeah, let's let's solve your little conundrum here by flattering Germans with you know, just broad generalizations.
- R** Ryan Fleury 1:08:26  
I mean, some excellent food ... schnitzels
- R** Rob Mineault 1:08:36  
Those are kind of gross. Do they have any Potato dishes?
- S** Steve Barclay 1:08:55  
Now starting to remind me more and more of that episode of Fawlty Towers
- R** Rob Mineault 1:09:02  
"Don't don't talk about the war"
- S** Steve Barclay 1:09:05  
"You started it! No I didn't, you invaded Poland!"
- R** Rob Mineault 1:09:11  
Okay. I don't often check our stats to see if we have a lot of German listeners.
- R** Ryan Fleury 1:09:21

I'm keeping the original.

**R** Rob Mineault 1:09:25  
This will haunt me for when I'm running for Chancellor of Germany.

**S** Steve Barclay 1:09:31  
Yep. Yeah, pretty much.

**R** Rob Mineault 1:09:35  
All right. Well, listen. Oh, wait, hold on. We got to do now we have more work to do. Hold on. Uh, hey, Ryan.

**R** Ryan Fleury 1:09:42  
Rob.

**R** Rob Mineault 1:09:43  
Where can people find us?

**R** Ryan Fleury 1:09:45  
They can find us atbanter.com

**R** Rob Mineault 1:09:48  
They can also drop us an email if they so desire at cowbell@atbanter.com.

**S** Steve Barclay 1:09:55  
And we are all over the social medias because we are so sophisticated and stuff. So you can find us on Facebook, you can find us on Twitter. And you can find us on Instagram.

**R** Rob Mineault 1:10:08  
I do have to say that I'm really really, really, really, really super thankful that we did not

have social media when we were growing up all my lives. I feel like my Facebook feed just would have haunted me for the rest of my life. I mean, it would not have been pretty. I would have not want my life documented forever on the internet. When I was 14, no, 14 and 18. No, 14 and 30.



Steve Barclay 1:10:34

Let's just gonna be safe. I'm thinking about 12 to 50. Up until I got off Facebook.



Rob Mineault 1:10:48

All right, well, that is going to about do it for us this week. Big thanks to Darcy and Holly for joining us and we will see everybody next week.