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PRESENTATION | March 4 • 7 PM

We will be broadcasting it via Zoom.

WINDOWS PERFORMANCE TUNE-UP

Presented by Chris Taylor

If your Windows computer is getting sluggish, you don't have to reinstall Windows just to regain lost performance. Chris Taylor, President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group, will demonstrate and explain how to safely use many built-in and free third-party tools that can help speed up Windows.



About the Presenter: Chris Taylor



Chris Taylor worked for the Canadian federal government for over 36 years in user and server support, IT architecture, and IT security. He has been active in community groups for more than 40 years and is currently the President of the Ottawa PC Users' Group.

Chris has given almost 600 presentations at the Ottawa Public Library and more than 30 presentations to APCUG and APCUG member groups. He has written articles for GlassWire's Cybersecurity News and served on the Community Review Board for the SANS OUCH! newsletter.

Chris has been recognized 15 times as a Microsoft Most Valuable Professional. He also received the Ottawa Mayor's City Builder Award and the Ontario Volunteer Service Award in recognition of his volunteer efforts.

Mission Statement

It is our mission to bring to our members quality education in using today's personal technology products, and to provide to qualified Sarasota County citizens refurbished computer equipment.



MUSINGS



A PAST PRESIDENT'S MUSINGS

In just one month, from Thursday at noon on April 16 to Friday at noon on April 17, The Community Foundation will hold its biannual event known as The Patterson Giving Challenge. During this special 24-hour period, nonprofit organizations have the opportunity to receive generous public support to continue their important work.

During the Challenge hours, you may make a gift to our 501(c)(3) organization, the Sarasota Technology Users Group (STUG). For each donation made, STUG will receive a matching gift of the same amount, up to \$100 per donation, from The Community Foundation. These matching funds will help offset the costs of operating our Refurb Program.

Mike Hutchinson leads our Refurb Group. He and his dedicated volunteers work in the Refurb Shop restoring used computers so they can be given to those in need, many of whom are students in Sarasota. They use a variety of replacement parts to make these older computers reliable and ready for use. When the systems are fully updated with current software, they are distributed at no cost to individuals who otherwise could not afford a computer.

Computer parts, like everything else, have become more expensive in recent years.

Since 2004, Mike and his team of 10 to 12 volunteers have refurbished more than 25,000 computers. They work three days a week in a small rented shop near the corner of Bee Ridge and Swift Roads to accomplish this remarkable work.

You can make a meaningful difference by marking your calendar for noon on **April 16 through noon on April 17** and making a donation during those hours. Your gift will help keep our Refurb Group strong and continue providing valuable technology to our community.

Ann Ross

Director at thestug.org

BACK TO BASICS



WHAT IS A FILE TYPE?

Jim Cerny



Take a moment and think: What kinds of files do you use on your computer? Most people use only a few. You write documents (and emails), look at photos, maybe watch a video, or work with numbers in a spreadsheet. These are all different “types” of files.

To open a file, you need an app (software) that can work with that particular file type. The file “type,” also called a file extension, is part of the file name. It appears at the end of the file name as three or four characters after a dot (period).

If you create files on your computer, then you already have the app needed to open and work with them. But if someone sends you a file, or if you download a file from the internet, you may not have the right app to open it.

Let’s use photos as an example. There are several different file types that can store photos. Windows comes with two popular free apps that can work with photos: Paint and Photos (often called the Photo Viewer). The Photos app is usually the default app used when you click a photo to open it, and it can open several common photo file types. Paint can also open photo files, but it can do more: you can draw pictures or edit images. When you save an image in Paint, you can choose what file type you want to save it as.

This raises a fair question: Why are there different file types? Years ago, there were many word processing programs, and each one saved documents in its own unique format. If you didn’t have the same program, you couldn’t open the file. That was... not ideal. Today, programs like Microsoft Word can open many different document file types created by other programs.

So what does all this mean for you? Usually, you only need to think about file types when you try to open a file and get an error message saying you don’t have the right app. Sometimes the message will offer to download an app to open the file. Be careful. The app may not be free, or it may come with ads or other unwanted “extras.” It’s better to search online for information about the app before downloading it.

If you need help with a file type, you can look it up online. Here are a few common file types:

- **.txt** – Plain text file
- **.doc / .docx** – Word document
- **.pdf** – Document format often used for printing and sharing
- **.jpg** – Image or photo
- **.xls / .xlsx** – Excel spreadsheet
- **.mp3** – Audio
- **.mov** – Movie or video

In some programs, you can also save a file as a different file type. This can be helpful if you need to send a file to someone who can't open the original type but can open another.

Hopefully this doesn't feel confusing. Most of the time, you won't need to worry about file types unless something won't open. If that happens, try searching online for: "How can I open file type .xxx?" Or ask the person who sent it if they can resend it in a different file type you can open. Either way, don't let a file type stop you from getting your work done.

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6524B S. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota
sales@dcisrq.com www.dcisrq.com
(941) 925-2215



HELP DESK
Got tech-related questions or issues?
Join us at 6:30 p.m. before our
monthly meeting to get help from
our experts.
STUG members welcome to attend!

APPLE NEWS



9 hidden Siri commands you probably don't know about AND THEY'RE ACTUALLY USEFUL

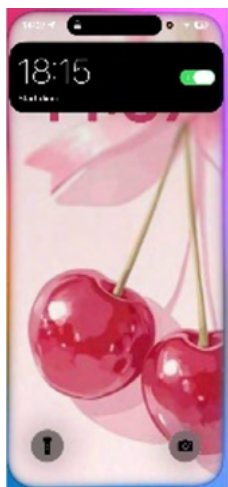
Bill Crowe

Siri can do far more than most people realize. There are voice commands built into your iPhone that handle everyday tasks faster and more conveniently than tapping through menus. The difficulty, at least for many of us, is discoverability. Unless someone tells you these features exist, you may never find them on your own.

The difference between Siri being frustrating and being helpful often comes down to knowing which commands actually work. Here are nine worth trying.

1. SET ALARMS AND TIMERS INSTANTLY

Creating an alarm through the Clock app requires several steps: open the app, select Alarms, tap the plus sign, set the time, and add a label if needed.



Instead, say:

"Siri, set an alarm called Start Dinner for 6:15."

The alarm is created immediately with the exact time and label you requested. The same applies to timers. Simply say, **"Siri, set a timer for 12 minutes,"** and it begins at once.

2. CREATE REMINDERS WITH LOCATION TRIGGERS



Siri can create reminders in a single step. Say, **"Siri, remind me tomorrow at 9 a.m. to pay the water bill,"** and the reminder is set with the correct date and time.

Even better, Siri supports location-based reminders. For example:

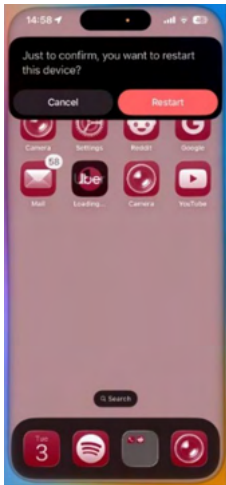
"Siri, remind me to take my medication when I get home."

Or:

"Siri, remind me to pick up a birthday card when I leave work."

As long as your Home and Work addresses are saved in your contacts, the reminder will appear when you arrive or depart.

3. RESTART YOUR IPHONE



When your iPhone becomes sluggish, restarting it often resolves the issue. The required button combination varies by model.

Simply say, **"Siri, restart my phone."** Siri will ask you to confirm. Tap **"Restart,"** and the phone reboots without needing to remember any button sequence.

4. IDENTIFY SONGS PLAYING NEARBY



Siri includes built-in Shazam functionality. There is no need to download a separate app.

Say, **"Siri, what song is this?"** while music is playing. Siri will identify the song, display the title and artist, and offer to open it in Apple Music.

This works particularly well in restaurants, stores, or at live events.

5. TAKE QUICK NOTES WITHOUT TYPING



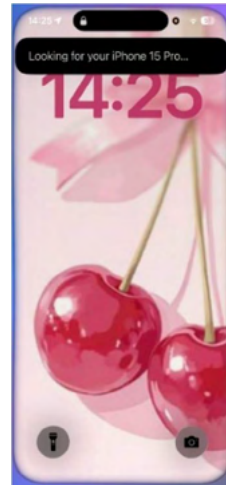
If your hands are busy, Siri can capture your thoughts.

Say, **"Create a note,"** followed by your message. Siri will create a note in the Notes app with exactly what you dictated.

This is especially helpful while cooking, driving, or

when you simply prefer not to type.

6. FIND YOUR MISPLACED PHONE



If your phone is nearby but out of sight, try saying, **"Siri, where are you?"** Siri will respond verbally while playing a sound.

You can also say, **"Siri, find my phone,"** and it will emit a louder pinging sound, making it easier to locate.

This works as long as the phone has battery life and is within hearing distance.

7. LOCK YOUR PHONE WITH YOUR VOICE



If your phone is across the room and you need to secure it, say, **"Siri, lock my phone."**

The screen locks immediately and will require Face ID or your passcode to unlock again.

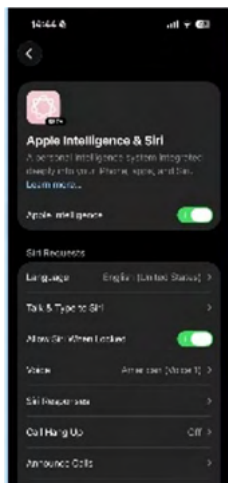
8. HEAR YOUR UNREAD MESSAGES



Say, **"Siri, read my unread messages,"** and Siri will read them aloud, including the sender's name.

You can reply using your voice as well. This feature works particularly well when you cannot look at your screen.

9. CHANGE SIRI'S VOICE OR ACCENT

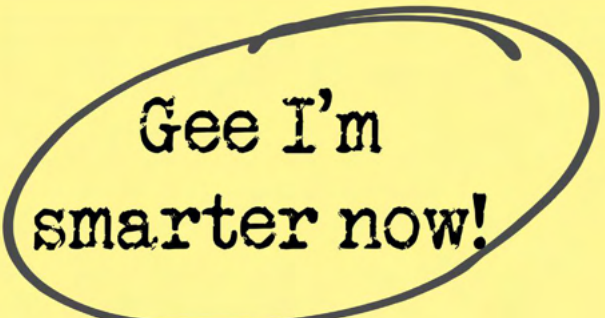


You are not limited to the default Siri voice.

To change it, go to **Settings**, then **Apple Intelligence & Siri**, then **Voice**. You may choose from several accents, including American, Australian, British, Indian, Irish, and South African. Some options also include a gender-neutral voice.

Personalizing Siri's voice can make the experience feel more comfortable and familiar.

These simple commands can save time and make your iPhone easier to use. Often, the key is simply knowing what to ask.



Gee I'm smarter now!

Sometimes it pays to reread past issues of STUG's Monitor newsletter.

Why, just a moment ago, I was wondering how to do something... and there it was in a 5-month old Monitor. Guess I kind of glossed over that tip because I didn't need it then.

But I'm smarter now... and that tip helped me save hours of internet searching. Thanks, STUG!

Full disclosure: The tip was in an article that I wrote.
Good thing I'm smarter now, huh?

Explore past monitors
 @ thebug.org/publications2.html



new member
FEBRUARY '26

Larry Feldstein | Harry Hauser | Cheryl Jobe
 Danielle Lewis | Delly Parkham

GENERAL MEETING FOR FEBRUARY WAS HELD VIA ZOOM WITH 69 MEMBERS PRESENT.

203 people attended our various Zoom meetings and classes in the month of January 2025.

TOTAL STUG MEMBERSHIP COUNT

February 2026 - 203

Visit <https://www.youtube.com/@sarasotatechnologyusergrou459> to view recordings of past STUG meetings and classes!

TECHNICAL THOUGHTS



SMARTPHONE CAMERA, A VERY USEFUL FEATURE

Phil Sorrentino



Having a camera with you at all times is very convenient. How many times do you pull out your smartphone and take a picture of something, sometimes because you need to remember it, and sometimes just because you can? Considering the brief history of the smartphone and how it has become something everyone “must have,” the idea of including a camera in a communication device was a stroke of genius. (And I have always wondered who should get the credit for the idea of having two cameras: a front camera for regular photos and a rear camera for selfies.)

The smartphone is only about 18 years old, and now 91% of all the people in the United States and 54% of all people in the world (about 4.3 billion people) have one. As most of us know, the genius behind the modern smartphone was one of the founders of Apple Inc., Steve Jobs. The Apple iPhone was released in 2007 and Google Android phones followed in 2008, though an iPhone with selfie capability did not appear until the iPhone 4 in 2010.

One of the best apps on your smartphone, in my estimation, is the Camera app. The Camera app gives you control over the two cameras on your device. In the app, there are two basic controls: one to select which camera (front or rear) and the other to choose between photo or video. (I always encourage people to take a lot of videos, but please keep them short; 10 or 15 seconds is usually enough.) There may also be some additional controls such as zoom or “burst” mode, if these are available on your specific smartphone. For the amateur photographer, there are usually settings similar to old-fashioned camera controls, often behind a settings (gear) icon. Most of these controls are set to usable default values, so unless you are familiar with terms like resolution, focus, aperture, and depth of field, it is probably best to leave these settings alone.

With the Camera app and the smartphone’s user manual, you have all the information you need to take as many photos and videos as your particular phone can store. We use our phones to take pictures of people, places, events, babies, puppies, and, of course, plenty of pictures of “my child / grandchild” who has just graduated from college magna cum laude. That is exactly what the Camera app is so good for. The next time someone asks to see a picture of your favorite person, pet, or vacation spot, you can simply pull out your smartphone and show them. The photos are probably all there, right on your phone: “I’m sure it’s here somewhere; just let me scroll back.”

Smartphones used to be limited by internal memory. Not so long ago, 32 GB was considered a lot of memory, but today many smartphones have 128 GB, 256 GB, or more. We can do some quick

estimating to see how many pictures you can store on your particular smartphone.

The typical size of a photo taken with a smartphone depends on the camera's resolution and settings. As an estimate, a 12-megapixel photo with a resolution of around 4000 x 3000 pixels results in a file size of approximately 3 to 5 MB in JPEG format. (Higher resolutions or RAW formats can produce much larger files, and videos can use even more memory, depending on their content and length.)

If you use 5 MB as an average size for a picture stored in memory, then you can store about 200 pictures per gigabyte of internal memory. So, let's do a little calculating: if you have 50 GB of internal memory that can be used for pictures, that is about 10,000 pictures.

Keep in mind that internal memory is used by everything that is loaded onto the smartphone: the operating system, apps, pictures, videos, and documents. The core of the operating system may be around 6 to 8 GB and, with preinstalled apps, this could go up to maybe 15 GB. So let's say the first 15 GB will be used by the operating system and its built-in apps.

All apps that you download and install must also go into internal storage. With a little guesswork, if the average number of apps on a smartphone is 100, and half of them are preinstalled, that means you need space for about 50 additional apps. If the average size of an app is 40 MB, then about 2 GB would be needed for those added apps, bringing the total for the operating system and apps to about 17 GB.

From this example, using many estimates, you can see that you would need a smartphone with more than 17 GB of internal memory. That means the smallest amount of memory you should choose in a smartphone would be 32 GB, but that would leave only about 15 GB for pictures. In this example, if there were no videos, that would limit you to around 3,000 pictures, which is still a fairly large number. A good conclusion here is that, in my opinion, 32 GB is the minimum internal

memory for any smartphone purchase.



Google Photos Icon



Apple Photos Icon

Now, if you have taken a large number of photos, how do you look at them? The first answer I usually get in class is "Photos," and that seems to be the way most users view their pictures. The Photos app is the default app for viewing pictures on both the iPhone and an Android smartphone. The name is the same, but they are different apps connected to different servers.

The iPhone Photos app looks in the DCIM internal folder for pictures to view, and similarly, Android Photos also looks in the DCIM folder. Within that DCIM folder it finds the "Camera" folder, which is where the photos taken by the device's cameras are stored. (DCIM stands for Digital Camera Image.)

Note: On an Android smartphone, if you want to see screenshots or pictures that you saved from an email or text, you will have to look in other folders within the Android folder structure. If you want to view those other pictures, you will need to use a different picture viewer because Android Photos does not "know" about these other folders; it only knows about the "Camera" folder in DCIM.

So, by using the Camera app to take and save photos and the Photos app to view them, you have a complete photography lab right in your pocket. That is why the smartphone has become such a "must-have" device.

Help Desk Q n A's



BLUETOOTH ISSUES

A question was raised about using Bluetooth wireless devices. Your device (computer, iPad, etc.) must have Bluetooth turned on so it can search for nearby Bluetooth signals, usually within a range of a few yards. When you turn on a Bluetooth device (such as a speaker, keyboard, or mouse), your main device should detect the signal and connect to it automatically.

However, if you have more than one similar device, you may need to select the specific device you want to connect. Another person mentioned that it is possible to overload a device with too many Bluetooth connections at the same time. If this happens, you may need to disconnect some devices so the others will work properly.

CUTTING YOUR TV CABLE

Overall, several people recommended "cutting the cable" to reduce entertainment costs. The internet now provides many free and "cable-like" services (apps and streaming providers) that may cost much less. Not one person attending said they regretted canceling cable and using only internet streaming for their entertainment.

Another person recommended the website [suppose.tv](#), which can help you compare cable and streaming options. You can also search online to compare the internet and cable services available in your area. Cutting the cable is certainly worth considering.

Before our regular monthly meeting on Zoom, we offer the "Help Desk" from 6:30 to 7 p.m. for anyone to ask questions. Our January session brought up some interesting questions and opened up some great discussions. One advantage of our Help Desk is that you will get different answers and several ways to approach your issues.

PLEASE JOIN OUR NEXT HELP DESK SESSION A HALF HOUR BEFORE OUR REGULAR MEETING (THAT IS, FROM 6:30 TO 7 P.M.).

DON'T MISS OUR NEXT HELP DESK SESSION

Join us **30 minutes before our regular monthly meeting** to get your tech questions answered!

NEXT HELP DESK:
Wednesday, March 4
6:30 – 7:00 PM (Eastern)
Via Zoom

Bring your questions, share your insights, and learn something new.



COMPUTER TUTOR

Debbie Salerno
 Computer Engineering Degree
 20+ years Experience

Support & Training For:
 Microsoft, Apple, or Android
 Computers, Smart Phones, & Tablets
 Network all of your Technology
 Remove Virus & Spyware
 Backup & Data Recovery

On or Off Site
 Service

941-377-9373
321-279-5866
computertutor24@comcast.net



the REFURB GROUP

In January 2026, the Refurbishing Project **refurbished 205** computers. In addition, **1 computer was repaired**. For **2026**, the Refurb Project has **refurbished 205 computers** and **repaired 1 computer**. Since its inception, the Refurb Group **refurbished** a total of **25,220 computers**.

Equipment was donated to individuals referred by many organizations. Some of the organizations that benefited from donations this month include:

Sarasota County School students | Children's Guardian Fund
The Patterson Foundation | Goodwill

If you know of a person that needs a computer, but cannot afford to purchase one, he/she should write a letter or send an email to the Refurbishing Project explaining his/her situation (include a phone number for questions that may arise). The letter will be evaluated to see if the individual qualifies for a computer.

Emails should be sent to refurb@theSTUG.org

Write the letter to: STUG Refurbishing Project
3949 Sawyer Rd., Sarasota 34233.

Donations can be dropped off at the Refurbishing shop (941-539-7401). It is located at the address above. A map and additional information is available on our web page: www.thestug.org/refurb.html

PC REFURBISHING Project

As a continuing part of STUG's contribution to the community, the Refurb Group accepts donated computer equipment for refurbishing and updating. All equipment is cleaned and restored. These items are then donated to other non-profits and individuals in the community who might otherwise be denied access to technology due to economic limitations.

Donations accepted:

Computers on the Windows or Apple platforms — including desktops, laptops, monitors, printers, tablets*, smartphones*, and peripherals (such as hard drives, CD/DVD readers/writers, and other computer-related items) — are accepted.

* *Tablets and smartphones are reset to factory settings and all data is deleted.*

Donations Return to the Community:

If an individual or non-profit needs computer equipment and cannot afford to purchase it, the Refurb Group may be able to help.

To request equipment, please write a letter or email explaining your situation to the address below. Be sure to include:

- The specific need (e.g., schoolwork, office work, basic internet use, etc.).
- A statement confirming that purchasing a computer is not financially possible.

- A phone number where you can be reached for any questions or updates.

Your request will be reviewed, and if accepted, equipment will be provided as available.

Komputers for Kids:

The Refurbish Group also manages the Komputers for Kids program. Laptops donated by the Sarasota County Schools are refurbished and provided to Sarasota County public school students.

How to contact the Refurb Group:

By telephone: 941-539-7401

By mail: 3949 Sawyer Road, Sarasota FL 34233

By email: refurb@theSTUG.org

<http://www.thestug.org/refurb.html>

To drop off a donation or to pick up a computer that is ready:

Shop Location: 3949 Sawyer Road · Sarasota, FL 34233

Hours: Mon-Wed-Fri 10:00 am - 12 noon

(Please call ahead just to be sure someone is there.)

The Refurb Project and the Sarasota Technology Users Group, Inc. (STUG) are a 501(c)(3) non-profit educational organization. Under current IRS rules, financial and material contributions are considered federally income tax-deductible. A receipt for each donation will be provided upon request.



THE UN-EXPERT

KATE HOLMES

WHAT I LACK IN TECH KNOWLEDGE
I MAKE UP FOR IN ENTHUSIASM.

AudioPen

I have started a new project: transferring my handwritten collection of journals onto the computer. I am not the fastest typist, so I found a solution that truly delights me. I hope I have not already shared this with you. If I have, please forgive the repetition. I had never considered using a phone app such as AudioPen for a project of this size, but it has worked remarkably well. Perhaps you have something you would like to convert to digital form?

Enter AudioPen, a helpful AI tool designed to organize scattered thoughts. In today's world, where we are surrounded by constant information and distractions, it can be difficult to keep ideas in order. AudioPen offers a simple solution.

This handy app is especially useful for anyone who finds it challenging to organize ideas. It is intuitive—simply speak, and the app converts your words into clear, readable notes.

No special skills are required. You do not even need to be a native English speaker. With just a few taps, you can begin speaking while the AI converts your thoughts into text. Its simplicity is its strength. Whether you are recording journal entries or capturing ideas as they come to you, AudioPen makes the process easy. The app does require microphone access.

HERE IS HOW IT WORKS:

1. Record your voice.
2. The app transcribes your recording into cleaned-up text, removing "ums" and

"ers."

3. Select the Rewrite option to adjust the tone or style—casual, email, or even formal language.
4. Or use the text exactly as transcribed, as I am doing for my journal entries.
5. I have included an example of a transcript and how it can be refined. (As a Prime member, I also have access to translation features, which may not be included in the free version.)

AudioPen offers a free version that allows you to record up to three minutes at a time and store up to ten notes, which is more than adequate for capturing ideas or reminders. The paid version allows recordings of up to 15 minutes, unlimited note storage, and the ability to upload audio files. Paid users can also assign tags for easier searching.

While free users may edit transcripts manually, paid users can generate automatic summaries. Additional features of the paid subscription include improved search capability, shareable summary images, enhanced formatting, adjustable summary length, and the ability to pause recordings.

You may explore the app at [Audiopen.ai](https://audiopen.ai).

This article was written with some assistance from TechCrunch.

AUDIOPEN EXAMPLES

Here is what I recorded—the transcript of my

rambling thoughts, with the “ums” and “errs” automatically edited out. (And there were quite a few of them!)

I’m sitting here by the pool, thinking about my upcoming trip, and I need to remember a few things. First, I need to decide what I’m going to wear to New York and how to pack everything so I can take only a carry-on. I’m not paying those airline fees they charge all the time. And I must not forget a coat—we Floridians sometimes forget that it’s cold elsewhere.

What else? I need to go to the post office to have my mail held, put timers on the lights, and give the neighbors a key in case there is a problem. Of course, I should also leave them my cell phone number. Then I need to remember to reconfirm my flight—if I recall correctly, that must be done 24 hours in advance. I wonder whether George will take me to the airport. I could call Uber, but it’s about \$40 to \$45 plus tip to SRQ. Perhaps I can persuade George with some marble brownies. That might work—they’re his favorite.

I believe that covers everything. Oh, I also need to pick up a few gifts for the family. My brother Rick would likely enjoy a science fiction novel, though he reads so much that he may already own the newest ones. As for my nephew’s wife, I have not met her yet, so I’m unsure what to buy. Scented candles seem rather predictable. I will think of something. In any case, I am looking forward to this trip.

Then I asked Audiopen to create a list from those wandering thoughts. Here is the clear, straightforward result:

- Decide what to wear to New York.
- Pack everything in a carry-on to avoid airline fees.
- Remember to bring a coat; it will be cold.
- Visit the post office to have my mail held.
- Set timers on the lights.
- Give the neighbors a key and my cell phone number.
- Reconfirm my flight 24 hours in advance.
- Ask George to drive me to the airport, or consider Uber (about \$40–\$45 plus tip).

- Consider bringing George marble brownies as an incentive.
- Purchase gifts: a science fiction novel for Rick and something appropriate for my nephew’s wife.

EXCITED ABOUT THIS TRIP!

And, because I am always trying to improve my German, I asked Audiopen to translate my rambling thoughts into German. The result falls somewhere between a direct translation and a more organized summary:

- Am Pool sitzend, denke ich über meine bevorstehende Reise nach.
- Zuerst muss ich überlegen, was ich in New York tragen werde.
- Dann packen, sodass nur ein Handgepäck nötig ist – keine zusätzlichen Gebühren.
- Nicht vergessen: einen Mantel mitnehmen; wir Floridianer unterschätzen oft die Kälte.
- Die Post anhalten oder aufbewahren lassen.
- Zeitschaltuhren für die Lichter einstellen und dem Nachbarn einen Schlüssel sowie meine Handynummer geben.
- Den Flug 24 Stunden vorher bestätigen.
- Überlegen, ob George mich zum Flughafen bringt oder ob ich ein Uber für etwa 40–45 Dollar plus Trinkgeld nehme.
- George könnte ich mit Marmor-Brownies bestechen; das ist seine Lieblingssorte.
- Geschenke für die Familie besorgen: einen Science-Fiction-Roman für meinen Bruder Rick.
- Für die Frau meines Neffen noch ein passendes Geschenk finden; Duftkerzen sind zu klischeehaft.
- Ich freue mich auf diese Reise.

MARCH 2026

Classes & Workshops

All classes are free for current members.

Class REGISTRATION

All classes are on Zoom unless otherwise noted.

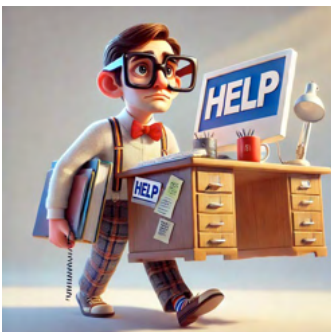
Notice

A calendar with all our classes, workshops, and forums is available from a link on our website's [home page](#).
Click on [Monthly Education Calendar](#).

HELP DESK

HOSTED BY JIM CERNY AND OTHERS

HELD BEFORE OUR REGULAR MONTHLY ZOOM MEETING



Do you have a tech-related problem or question? Then join us at the **Help Desk**, where all STUG members are welcome to ask our panel of experts for assistance. You're also welcome to join just to listen in and learn something new that might help you avoid future issues!

To attend, simply join the **monthly Zoom meeting early at 6:30 p.m. (EST)**.

If you have any questions about the Help Desk session, please contact **Jim Cerny** at: jimcerny123@gmail.com.

BASIC WINDOWS CLASSES

MARCH 10 AND 24 (TUESDAY 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (EST))

INSTRUCTOR: JIM CERNY

Questions and comments are always welcome during class. Improve your Windows knowledge and share what you know with other STUG members in these classes - they are useful for ALL editions of Windows.

The **March 10** class will cover file types, also known as "file extensions." Learn why file types exist, what they do, and how they affect the way your computer opens and saves files. Participants are encouraged to share their own experiences working with different file types.

The **March 24** class will focus on the Desktop. The starting screen in Windows is called the Desktop. It includes app icons, a search area, a notification area, and more. Learn how to use the Desktop effectively for your everyday computer needs.

If you have attended any of these classes in the past, you will receive a reminder email from Jim with the Zoom link. If you would like to attend for the first time, please contact Jim Cerny at jimcerny123@gmail.com.

WINDOWS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

MARCH 8 (SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM (EST))

The next meeting of the CFCS-STUG WinSIG is Sunday, March 8, 2026, at 1:30 pm. The meeting opens at 1:00 PM ET. You must register 1 time at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEyce6grz8qGdyZenMWbknhMmKkQP8Rq01->

The Window Special Interest Group is a joint meeting for CFCS & STUG. It covers all things Windows and other general computer items. This SIG has been meeting for over 25 years. The meeting is the 2nd Sunday of the month. The meeting is followed by the main meeting of the Central Florida Computer Society and all STUG members are invited to stay for that meeting using the same link.

iPHONE & iPAD CLASSES

SATURDAYS IN MARCH

10 AM - 12 NOON ET

INSTRUCTOR: BILL CROWE

Bill is continuing his classes from the his classes some of the most used Applications.

The classes are for beginners and experienced users. The experienced users always get a few tips and new information they did not know. So, tell your friends about the series so that you and they can learn the basics and/or improve upon their knowledge about these devices.

All Classes will run Saturday mornings from 10 to 12 Eastern Time.

Tell your friends! It's a great opportunity for everyone to build or refresh their Apple skills.

How to Register:

To receive your Zoom invitation, please email wtcrowe@verizon.net at least **one day before each class**.

Include:

- Your **first and last name**
- Your **email address**

*If you have attended one of Bill's classes within the past 6 months, you will automatically receive the Zoom link — **no need to email again.***

Class Schedule:

- **March 7** – AI
- **March 14** – Student Q and A
- **March 21** – Health and Wellness Applications
- **March 28** – Communications (Translate, Voice Memo, LinkedIn, X)

LET'S TALK AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE)

MARCH 27 (FRIDAY 1 PM - 2 PM)

Let's Talk AI is for those who understand—or want to understand—what the fuss is about with AI. We will talk about tools, prompts, and some of the many services available for using AI. We will also discuss how your favorite apps are now integrating AI. To receive the link to the Zoom meeting, please email Hewie at hewie@hewie.net.

Have a scaredy-cat friend?

They have a computer but don't use it? Are they afraid of "breaking" it? Maybe they don't understand all it can do?

And you can't always coax them or coach them?

Gift them a full-year
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for just \$30
and they'll get

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Users Group

Every Tuesday from 10 - Noon

We can help with those "how do I" or "it will not do what I want" questions that so often plague us during our daily usage of these devices. There will be 2 volunteers to help on a first come first served basis. We won't be fixing hardware problems.

Members are invited to make a donation of their choice to help defer the cost of the space rental. Not a member yet? Join the club then and there for is \$30/year, cash or check.

Get hands-on help with tech questions and issues.



**At STUG's Refurb
location, 3949
Sawyer Road (just
south off Bee Ridge)
Sarasota**

Starting 01-06-26, every Tuesday unless it's a holiday.