

SARASOTA
TECHNOLOGY
Users Group

MONITOR

thestug.org



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PRESENTATION | July 17 PM

We will be broadcasting it via Zoom.

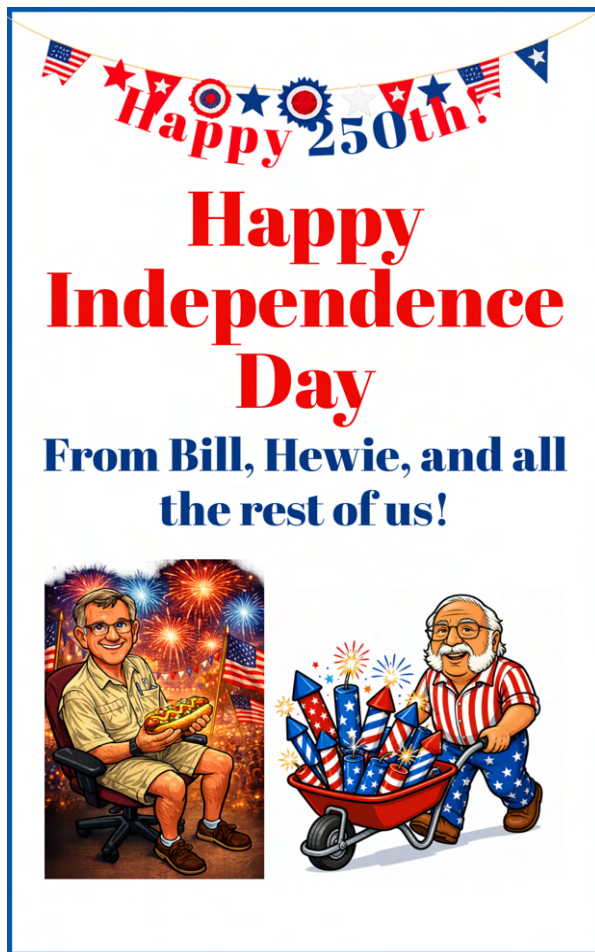
OPERATING SYSTEMS - WAIT? WHAT? THERE ARE HOW MANY DIFFERENT KINDS

by Dale Harrington

Most of us are familiar with a few operating systems, but what about all the others? One common thread connects them all: an operating system's job is always the same—to act as the bridge between a computer's hardware and the programs that run on it, managing resources so everything works together smoothly. The fact that this single concept has evolved into thousands of different operating systems says something remarkable about the many challenges computing has been asked to solve. Just how many operating systems are there? Do we even know? Let's take a look.

Dale Harrington enjoys helping Senior Citizens (and younger whipper snappers) productively use and enjoy computers and other forms of technology. Since 1994 Dale has been a member of the Board of Directors for the Mile High Computer Resource Organization (MiCRO), a 501(c)3 organization chartered to promote and deliver educational activities to users of personal computers. He wrote and presented numerous topics at MiCRO and other user groups in the Denver Colorado area. He developed course materials for and taught introductory computer courses to seniors at local community centers.





**More HELP
than ever!**

Sometimes you just need a little guidance.
And who better than the Refurb Crew?

That's why members can now get help one-on-one
at the Refurb Group's workspace at
3949 Sawyer Road, Sarasota
any Wednesday from 10 to noon

Bring your device. Bring your questions. Tell your
friends. For the simple cost of membership, \$30,
HELP is there for you for an entire year.

Read about the Refurb Shop and more at
stugsrq.com and thestug.org

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
STUG membership
for just \$30
and they'll get**

**SARASOTA
TECHNOLOGY**
Users Group



12 monthly Monitor e-Newsletters * Members Helping Members * Monthly Topics on Zoom * Monthly online Help Desk Q&A * Quarterly in-person get-togethers * Archives of past presentations * Youtube videos * Full Access to learning opportunities

BACK TO BASICS



TRAVEL TECH

Jim Cerny



Technology and travel not only go together well these days, but having technology with you on a trip is almost a necessity, especially if you are leaving the country. Here are some general Tech Travel Tips to help make your next vacation easier and more enjoyable.

Before making reservations and leaving home, use the internet to search and compare your travel itinerary. Ask AI for suggestions on the best things to see and do at each destination. Get a quote from your travel agent, then compare it with other providers. Is there a better cruise line visiting the same destinations? Are there less expensive airline flights? Are meals included? Is it better

to book a tour before you leave, or wait until you arrive? In some cases, an Uber or taxi may get you to the same attractions for less than the cost of a tour.

Check with your bank or investment firm before you travel to make sure your accounts, cash, and credit cards are ready for use while you are away (see more below).

Your cell phone is truly your lifeline when traveling. If you are traveling overseas, consider purchasing an international phone plan for a few dollars a day to ensure your phone works and connects to the internet. Once connected, you can use your phone just as you do at home. Need directions in English? Driving or walking? Looking for restaurant or hotel reviews? Need a currency conversion? Want to translate a sign or have a conversation in another language? Your smartphone can handle all of these tasks. If you plan to use a new app while traveling, practice using it at home before your trip.

It is also wise to check with your bank or credit card company to see if they offer a credit card with no foreign transaction fees. Using the right credit card can save you money on service charges and currency conversion fees when traveling outside the United States.

Wear a money belt, and do not keep all your cash, credit cards, or valuables in one place. If a thief or pickpocket steals one item, you will still have access to your other valuables.

Take photos of your passport, driver's license, travel reservations, tickets, and other important documents. Store these securely on your phone or in cloud storage so they are available if needed. While many airlines still offer paper boarding passes, most travelers now use digital boarding passes on their phones.

On our recent travels, our smartphone proved to be absolutely essential. As the saying goes, "Don't leave home without it!"

APPLE NEWS



How to Share a Contact on iPhone THE FASTEST WAY!

Bill Crowe

Did you know you can share a contact directly from your iPhone without copying, pasting, or typing out someone's phone number or email address? The Contacts app makes it quick and easy to send your own contact information or someone else's with just a few taps.

WHY YOU'LL LOVE THIS TIP

- Learn how to share contacts on iPhone so you can send your own or someone else's contact card; no more typing out numbers!
- Customize which parts of the contact card you want to share; you can leave off the email address, phone number, first name, and/or last name.

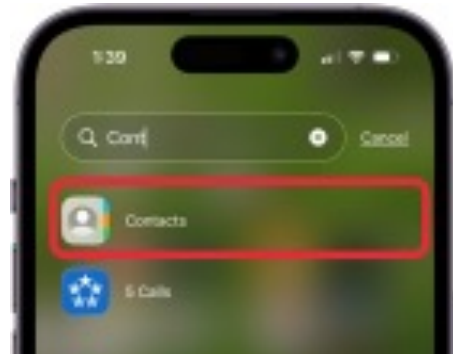
HOW TO SHARE A CONTACT ON YOUR IPHONE

System Requirements

We've gone over how to [create a contact group](#), how to [search contacts](#) on your iPhone, and [how to add a contact on your iPhone](#). When you add people to your contacts, a contact card is automatically created on your iPhone for each contact so that all of the contact's information is grouped into one place. This makes it simple to share or send a contact on iPhone.

HERE'S HOW TO SHARE A CONTACT ON IPHONE:

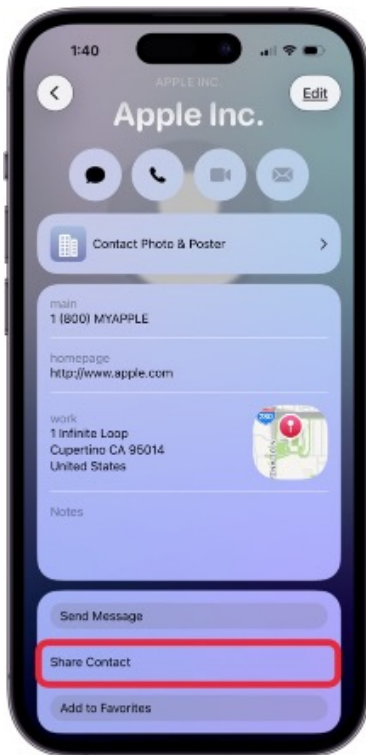
1. Open the **Contacts** app.



2. Tap the contact you want to share.



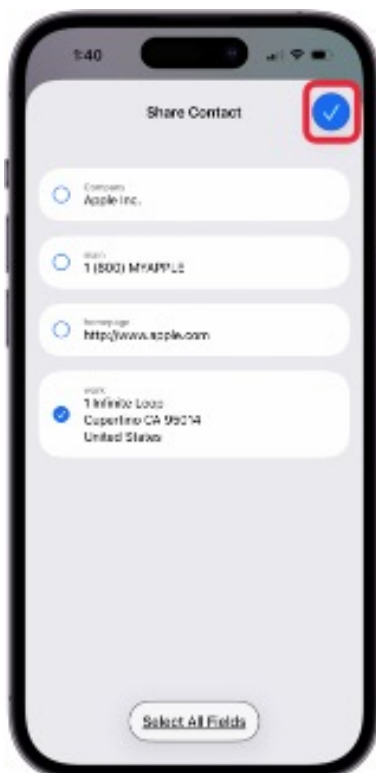
3. Scroll down and tap **Share Contact**.



5. Choose how you want to share it, such as by Messages, Mail, [AirDrop](#), or another available option.



4. If you do not want to share all of the information, [tap the blue checkmark](#) next to any item you wish to remove from the contact card.



6. Select the recipient and tap **Send** icon.



That's all there is to it! Instead of typing out a phone number or email address, you can send an entire contact card in just a few seconds.

Now you know how to send contact information on iPhone to recipients using the contact card on your phone! It's never been easier to share a contact on iPhone. For more tips about the Contacts app and Phone app, check out our free [Tip of the Day](#).

Complements and courtesy of iPhone Life



Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

JUNE '26



Susan Chamer | Jeffrey Glassman



GENERAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (JUNE)
 Held via Zoom with **32 MEMBERS PRESENT.**



TOTAL MONTHLY ATTENDANCE
311 PEOPLE attended our various Zoom meetings and classes in the month of June 2026.



TOTAL STUG MEMBERSHIP COUNT

207

June 2026



VIEW PAST RECORDINGS!
youtube.com/@sarasotatechnologyusergrou459
 Visit our official channel to view recordings of past STUG meetings and classes.

{ ADVERTISE WITH US }

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 Sarasota, FL 34277-1889

COMPUTER TUTOR

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 20+ years Experience

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941-377-9373

321-279-5866

computertutor24@comcast.net

06

TECHNICAL THOUGHTS



Ultra High Definition TV DO I NEED ONE?

Phil Sorrentino

Ultra High Definition Television (UHDTV) seems to be the latest advancement in television technology. Digital TV became the standard in the United States on February 17, 2009, when the country switched from the nearly 70-year-old analog television system. By now, most of us have digital flat-panel TVs in our homes, many of which are capable of displaying High Definition Television (HDTV).



The term High Definition refers to the digital format and resolution that the TV can display. Digital TV is delivered in several formats. The most common, and highest quality, are 1080p, 1080i, and 720p. The numbers (1080 or 720) indicate the number of horizontal scan lines, from top to bottom, that make up the picture.

The letter "p" stands for progressive scanning, meaning every line of the picture is displayed in sequence: line 1, line 2, line 3, and so on. This differs from the interlaced format, such as 1080i, where every other line is displayed first (the odd-numbered lines), followed by the even-numbered lines. Progressive scanning produces a smoother, sharper image, especially during fast-moving scenes, although it requires faster processing circuitry. Interlaced scanning is a carryover from the early days of television when broadcast bandwidth was limited.

SO, WHAT IS ULTRA HDTV (UHD)?

A television screen is typically a rectangle with a 16:9 aspect ratio. (For comparison, older analog CRT televisions had a 4:3 aspect ratio.) The aspect ratio describes the relationship between the width and height of the screen.

A standard 1080 HD screen contains 1,920 horizontal pixels and 1,080 vertical pixels, for a total of 2,073,600 pixels. Regardless of the physical size of the television, a 1080 HD display contains that same number of pixels. As screens become larger, those pixels also become larger, which can

eventually make the image appear less sharp or slightly grainy. Increasing the pixel density solves this problem.

For large-screen televisions, UHD is exactly what is needed. UHD doubles the number of pixels in both directions, resulting in $3,840 \times 2,160$ pixels, or four times the total number of pixels found in standard HD. UHD is often referred to as 4K, although true 4K used in the motion picture industry actually has a horizontal resolution of 4,096 pixels.

SO, DO YOU NEED A UHD TV?

The answer depends on several factors, including how far you sit from the television and whether enough UHD content is available for you to enjoy.

There is a relationship between screen size and viewing distance. The farther away you sit, the smaller the screen appears. Many experts recommend a viewing angle of about 40 degrees for an immersive experience. For a 55-inch HDTV, that generally translates to a viewing distance of about 9 feet, although anywhere from 7 to 10 feet is considered comfortable for most homes.

If you have a large family room or dedicated media room, a larger television may be desirable. As screen sizes increase, the benefits of UHD become much more noticeable.

Another important consideration is the availability of UHD content. HDTV is still the standard for most broadcast and cable television, and there may not be another major broadcast upgrade for some time. Ultra HD Blu-ray discs are available, but much of today's UHD content is delivered through internet streaming services.

Services such as Netflix, Hulu, and Amazon Prime Video already offer a growing selection of UHD programming, provided you have a fast enough internet connection.

So, if you have a large viewing room, a high-speed internet connection, subscriptions to UHD streaming services, and a little extra room in your budget, a UHD television may be an excellent choice.



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!

DISCOUNT COMPUTERS, Inc.



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(941) 925-2215





the PC REFURBISHING Project

Your donations—whether technology or financial contributions—help us provide “like-new” devices that open doors for children, young adults, and others in need of technology for education, employment, and staying connected with family and friends. Thank you for your support.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE 2026 GIVING CHALLENGE SUPPORTED BY THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND THE PATTERSON FOUNDATION

Your generous donations to the 2026 Giving Challenge for the Sarasota Technology Users Group’s Refurb Project exceeded the amount collected by the STUG Refurb Project in 2024. Donations from \$25 to \$100 were matched by the Patterson Foundation. The total collected, including matching funds, exceeded \$10,000.

These funds support many nonprofit groups that serve not only children in local schools, but also adult community members, including senior citizens who cannot afford a computer and adults seeking training, advanced degrees, or certifications. All of these groups will continue to benefit from your support and our volunteer work. On their behalf, thank you for helping improve the lives of people in our local counties.

These funds will support STUG Refurb Project operations, including office and repair space, the purchase of parts such as new hard drives and batteries to refurbish technology to “like-new” condition, and the distribution of necessary computer technology to individuals and nonprofit groups throughout our counties.

In May 2026, the Refurbishing Project **refurbished 154** computers. In addition, **0** computers were **repaired**. For **2026**, the Refurb Project has **refurbished 874 computers** and **repaired 5 computers**. Since its inception, the Refurb Group **refurbished** a total of **25,889 computers**.

Refurbished machines are distributed to individuals referred by partner organizations. In May 2026, key recipients included:

Sarasota County School Students | Goodwill
The Patterson Foundation | CareerSource

REQUESTING A REFURBISHED COMPUTER

Individuals or nonprofits in need may apply by submitting a letter or email that includes:

- A description of your need (e.g., schoolwork, job searching, home use, communication)
- A statement confirming financial hardship
- A phone number and email address for follow-up

Email requests to refurb@thestug.org, or mail to:

STUG – Refurb Project
3949 Sawyer Rd.
Sarasota, FL 34233

Applications will be reviewed to determine eligibility.

DONATING EQUIPMENT

Donations may be dropped off at the Refurb Shop (please call ahead to confirm availability: 941-539-7401) at the address above. If your device has a passcode or key, please provide it so we can properly reset the equipment.

Additional details and a map are available at: www.thestug.org/refurb.html

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.

Computers for Kids:

The Refurbish Group also manages the Computers 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 Refurb Project plays a critical role in bridging the digital divide, providing access to technology for children, young adults, and seniors. We are proud to have surpassed 25,000 refurbished computers distributed to individuals, families, and organizations in our community.

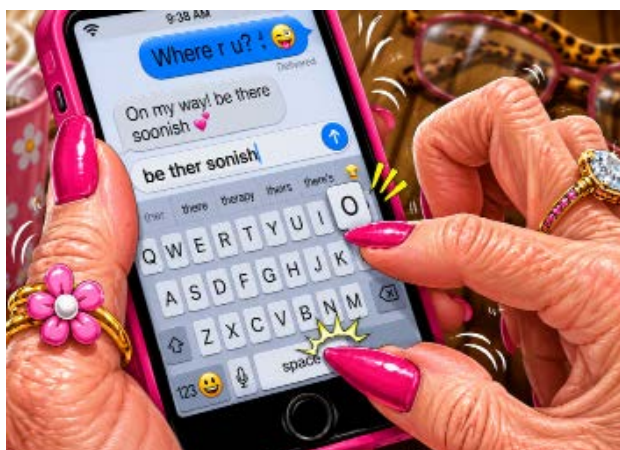


THE UN-EXPERT KATE HOLMES

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

Senior Texting Acronyms

If you own a Kindle that was made before 2014, you may have heard that Amazon has stopped "supporting" these older devices. This news might sound alarming, but don't worry — your Kindle is not suddenly going to stop working. Let's clear up what this really means for you and your reading life.



YEAH, YEAH... WE GET IT

Typing everything out is for dweebs. To be a cool GOAG (Grownup of Advanced Years), you've got to know your acronyms. So, here's a refresher:

FWIW – Forgot Where I Was

BTW – Bring the Wheelchair

DWI – Driving While Incontinent

LOL – Living on Lipitor

OMG – Oy, My Grandchildren! (or "Oy, My GAS!" depending on the context)

IMHO – Is My Hearing Aid On?

WTF – What's Today's Fish?

TGIF – Thank Goodness It's Four (4:00 p.m. - Early Bird Special!)

FYI – For Your Indigestion...

JK – Just Kvetching

TTYL – Talk To You Louder

WIWYA – When I Was Your Age

BFF – Best Friend Fell (or Best Friend's Funeral, depending on the context)

ATD – At the Doctor's

FYI – Found Your Insulin

LMDO – Laughing My Dentures Off

JULY 2026

Classes & Workshops

All classes are free for current members.

Class REGISTRATION

All classes are on Zoom unless otherwise noted.

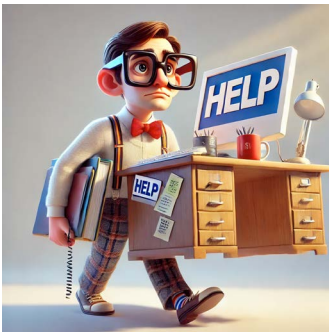
Notice

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

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 problems!

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.

WINDOWS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

JULY 14 (SUNDAY 1:00 PM - 2:45 PM (EST))

The next meeting of the CFCS-STUG WinSIG is Sunday, July 14, 2026, at 1:00 pm. The meeting opens at 1:00 PM ET. You must register 1 time at <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEvc6grz8qGdyZenMWbknhMmKkQP8Rq01->

The Windows Special Interest Group is a joint meeting between CFCS and STUG. It covers all things Windows, along with other general computer topics. This SIG has been meeting for more than 25 years and is held on the second Sunday of each month.

The meeting is followed by the main meeting of the Central Florida Computer Society, and all STUG members are invited to stay using the same Zoom link.

iPHONE & iPad CLASSES

SATURDAYS IN JULY

10 AM - 12 NOON ET

INSTRUCTOR: BILL CROWE

Bill is continuing his classes by building on basic iPhone and iPad skills. These classes are designed for both beginners and experienced users. Even experienced users pick up new tips and discover features they may not have known about.

Tell your friends about this series so you can learn the basics together or build on the knowledge you already have. All classes are held on **Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to noon Eastern Time.**

To receive a Zoom invitation, you must register by email at wtcrowe@verizon.net at least one day before each class. Please include your first and last name, along with your email address.

All classes will be held Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Eastern Time.

How to Register:

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

Include:

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

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

July 4, 2026 – No Class

July 11, 2026 – Apple Mail

July 18, 2026 – Calendar

July 25, 2026 – Siri and Maps

LET'S TALK AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE)

JULY 24 (FRIDAY 1 PM - 2 PM)

"Let's Talk AI" is for anyone who understands, or wants to better understand, what all the excitement surrounding artificial intelligence is about. We discuss AI tools, prompts, and many of the services now available for everyday use. We also explore how your favorite apps are beginning to incorporate AI features.

To receive the Zoom link, please email Hewie at hewie@hewie.net.



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.

