

The Age of Me

There can no longer be an assumption of cooperation, between friends, communities, businesses, countries, the military branches, your co-workers or you and your government.

Narcissism is the goal of the digital age; and disuniting us is the result, and that process is appearing completion, and doesn't appear solvable absent divine intervention or a general, highly reduced resetting of the influence of human beings over the Natural Environment.

That was the purpose and, indeed, ultimate function of desktop computers sold by IBM and Apple in the 1960's, and ongoing with the prominence of cell phones, a built-out world network, satellites, microwave towers, and perversely, facebook.

It's not like they didn't tell us, Right?

"Computers will empower the individual," Bill Gates and Steve Jobs told us; we should have thought more about what that means, before planning anything, whether for an individual, a company, cities, countries or military organizations.

The recent attack by Ukraine using plywood drones built in garages to take out 10-15% of the Russian Air Force proves the assumption.

And BTW, for the price of an aircraft carrier you can build many MILLIONS of drones.

Although no one can argue that digital devices haven't connected all of us, philosophically, you could also say they have separated us, too: we don't need to drive to the store to get avocados and a 6-pack of beer and have to SPEAK WITH ANYONE anymore; they'll drop them off at your house in a couple of hours, for a reasonable fee.

And now you can video chat with your health care provider, or easily work remotely using an IP camera, a remote screen and/or cell phone.

And, yes, now YOU can build a plywood drone in YOUR garage using best-of-breed plans downloaded freely from the Internet, and hell, launch it against a noisy neighbor (and it doesn't matter how many guns that person owns), and take out HIS (let's be fair here--or HER) whole block, easily--especially if you are retired, have a lot of plywood left over from your roof repair, time on your hands, and someone just denied your insurance claim for whatever.

The digital age has SEPARATED us from each other, aided and abetted by the Internet's tendency toward disinformation and conspiracy.

Scary, huh?

Perhaps this is preparing us to live in Space or on other planets, although we're not going to Mars anytime soon, in fact; because of global warming we're not going there at all.

Get your shots, visit and treasure your friends and neighbors and put down the cell phones when you do.

Sincerely,

Chris