It’s New Year’s resolutions time! Often long lists. By end of first quarter if not sooner, typically the baby is thrown out with the bathwater. Done! Until next January.

I have one resolution. One only: To become more tolerant to the myriad of behaviors that DRIVE ME CRAZY. (Note: First one to say “short trip” is in serious trouble.) LH tells me I’m turning into a crotchety old lady. So be it.

Initially, I had planned to share only my issues related to my love/hate relationship with technology. Then I decided to select the top item in each of 10 categories with only one being technology, and save the rest for another day. Then I realized there are far too many related to technology and reverted back. So here goes:

Hope’s Top 10 Technology Things That DRIVE ME MAD!

#10: Dictating texts/emails: Certainly a time saver except when it writes something that makes me sound like I am crazy. When I said, “I will meet you and Ellen for lunch...” it wrote “I will need to chew alien for lunch....” Unique cuisine. Which brings me to...

#9: Autocorrect: This function should be shot. I know I’m in good company on this one. When have you had it write something rude or incriminating? I’ve always been spelling challenged. Autocorrect, I thought, would be my new BFF. Oh contraire my sweet! It is my worst nightmare. Which leads into...

#8: Autocorrect that isn’t so smart and doesn’t pick up on a missing letter: There are lots of “X rated” examples not suitable for a family friendly publication. Use your imagination. I know – read it before I hit “send.” If only this was a perfect world that wasn’t spinning so fast.

#7: People talking on their phones LOUDly: They’re invading everyone’s personal space in the room/mall/plane/restaurant. Which brings me to...

#6: Using speakerphone in public areas: Seated in the cafeteria at Mayo Clinic between tests, I suggested to not one but to two people within less than 30 minutes that their conversations might best be kept private. Each responded initially like a deer in headlights. One couldn’t figure out how to take it off/speakerphone.

#5: “Reply all” on emails: What makes anybody think anyone wants to be included in their back and forth conversation? (Google, “BP caught in hilarious...” for one that may have set a world record.) Holiday greetings have gotten out of hand with everybody wishing the initial sender “You too.” The initial sender replying, “Thanks!” And on it goes. Who are these people?

#4: Showing “cc” to everyone on the email instead of “bcc” when forwarding endless jokes and political diatribes – including the last dozen forwards – so now everyone has everyone’s (spelled MY) email, which no doubt has something to do with...

#3: Receiving email from people I don’t know. Now I’m on their “friend” email blasts. Who are these people?

Enough with computers, smart phones that aren’t so smart, etc. On to my nemesis, television:

#2: Having to use several remote controls to watch a @#$%&!@# program and remembering which remote does what. So when you land on an “error” screen implying that you (I!) are/am a dummy because you (I!) pressed the wrong button on the wrong remote, what to do now? Is there a man in the house?

On to my #1 pet peeve, which is a stretch to relate to technology, but here goes: When people in social situations say, “Call me.” It’s 2015. I thought the phone worked both ways. Silly me.

Resolution made. Wishing you a stress free year! May all of your resolutions be realized!

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