



# South Bay Apple MUG Macintosh

August 2014

Monthly CUPFUL for South Bay Apple Mac User Group Members

## Cloud Technology, in Translation

by Quentin Hardy, NYTimes

*A Glossary of Terms*

**Woot!:** Hurray!

**Migration:** Moving data and computing resources from one set of computers to another. Companies that shut down old-style data centers in favor of private or public clouds usually migrate data and applications to the new location.

**Cloud Computing:** A method of configuring and delivering computing power on demand. Individual servers and storage, along with networks and software applications, are pooled and shared by various devices like smartphones and laptop computers, allowing easier use and higher performance. Usage is frequently metered, like a utility.

**Private Cloud:** An instance of cloud computing by a single organization. It may be owned by the organization, or owned and managed by a third party.

**Public Cloud:** Cloud infrastructure provided for use by the general public, often as a rental service. It may be owned and operated by an academic, government or private organization. The biggest public clouds are believed to belong to Amazon Web Services, Microsoft's Azure and Google's Compute Engine. But there are many others.

**Noob:** Someone who is new to a subject.

**IaaS:** Infrastructure as a Service. Basic computing resources, such as computer processing, networking, data storage and operating systems, offered through a network connection. Consumers usually pay a fee for usage of the infrastructure, which they can configure, add software applications to or use to handle overflows in periods of heavy usage.

**PaaS:** Platform as a Service. A combination of infrastructure and basic computing resources used for coding and deploying software applications, usually for delivery over the Internet.

**AWS:** Amazon Web Services.  
[see Cloud Tech, p5]

## July 30 SBAMUG Meeting: Database Software

Joan King, our own database expert, will talk about her search for a replacement for Bento, which has been discontinued.

## Keeping it Simple

Back in the 1980s, Apple didn't design their products in house, but turned to design firm Frog. Frog founder Hartmut Esslinger has released a new book, "Keep it Simple," that features pictures of a number of forgotten Apple prototypes from that era. The Verge has posted some of Esslinger's photos, including prototypes for cell phones, tablets, and laptops. They range from ludicrous to downright prescient.

See story at <http://www.theverge.com/2014/5/28/5757414/apple-prototype-tablets-phones-laptops-from-the-80s-photos>

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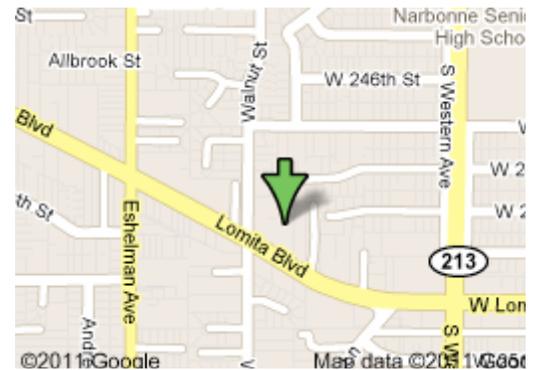


Meetings: Lomita Veteran's Hall,  
1865 Lomita Blvd, Lomita  
Mail: PO Box 432, Redondo Beach, CA  
90277-0432

Type to enter text

## Welcome to the SBAMUG South Bay Apple Mac User Group

Members, friends and colleagues are invited to attend our monthly meetings. The \$35 annual membership dues entitle you to receive this monthly newsletter by mail or online, plus many more benefits (page 8). To become a member or get more info please check our website.



Lomita Veteran's Hall,  
1865 Lomita Blvd, Lomita

## SBAMUG Monthly Calendar

July 30: Database Software

\*\*\*Read this newsletter online (active hyperlinks!) at <http://www.sbamug.com/newsletter.html>\*\*\*

### SBAMUG Meeting Format:

**6:30—7:30 p.m.** Questions & Answers and Sharing: *Everyone* is welcome, beginners encouraged  
**7:30—7:45 p.m.** 'iSocial' – shoot the Mac breeze with others over a cookie  
**7:50—9:00 p.m.** Announcements and Program  
*\*\*Refreshments provided; donations appreciated!*

Submit suggestions for topics or speakers, or articles, ideas & original artwork for this newsletter by the last Wednesday of each month. Articles may be edited to fit space. Submit to: [pjmyerz@gmail.com](mailto:pjmyerz@gmail.com)

### Other Meetings:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sat. each month – SBAMUG Core Group, 10 a.m. Join Google+ SBAMUG community, or email: [info@sbamug.com](mailto:info@sbamug.com).
- Special interest groups (SIGs): Ask at the meetings or email: [info@sbamug.com](mailto:info@sbamug.com)
- Last Sat. each month - Northrop Grumman-Ham Radio & Computer Swap Meet, 7--11:30 a.m. Meet at SE corner of Marine/Aviation Blvd, Redondo Beach
- Los Angeles Portable Users Group: Mac OS X, iPhone, iPod, MacBook, etc., <http://www.lapug.org/>
- Find more: <http://www.apple.com/usergroups/>

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 Newsletter: Pam Townsend, Pete Myers, Bill Berks  
 USPS Liaison: CW Mitchell

### Membership Report – 122 members!

*Please wear membership card as your name tag*

**Thank You Member Renewals:** Jay Ankeney, Barry Henson, Michael Maiuri, Wayne Miyoshi, Russ Neglia, Andrew Paroczai, Jack Pearson, Richard Rodgers, Glenn Scoble, George Wilde, Joe Locascio, Gene Knell

If your name is not spelled right or your expiration date is wrong, contact [cwmitchell@sbamug.com](mailto:cwmitchell@sbamug.com) for a correction. Or contact CW for everything membership, dues and

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PD CD: August 2014  
Public Domain CD  
Presented by Jim Pernal

Last month's physical CD had to be placed on two CD's! Seems like shareware/freeware is continuing to increase in file size. Nine items this month.

**ABFRX9-3.dmg** "A better finder re-name" File, Photo, and MP3 batch re-namer. This update is bug fixes. OSX 10.7 or higher. Intel 64 Bit Shareware \$19.95

**BookletCreator-1.5.dmg** This utility lets you create booklets from PDF's. It re-orders pages, so that after printing and folding, it creates a booklet. Shareware \$19.95 64 Bit Intel OSX 10.6 or higher

**ccc-3.5.5.zip** Back-up/cloning utility similar to super-duper. Makes bootable clones of your hard drive. This update is bug-fixes and can now handle (by timing out quickly, instead of trashing around for hours) bad hard drives. 64 Bit Intel 10.6 or higher. Shareware \$39.95

**comiccollectorsetup.dmg** Catalog and organize comic collections. Can access online database to help you fill in information. Can export to iPhone, android, and iPad. A separate iPad app is available. Intel OSX 10.6 Shareware \$29.95

**Cyberduck-4.4.5.zip** Bug fixes in this update of a FTP and SFTP program. Lets you upload items to a website. Intel OSX 10.6+ required. Free

**DefaultFolderX-4.6.6.dmg** Utility program to enhance open and save dialog boxes in the Mac OS. Adds features like recent folders, last selected item and the like. Has been around even before OSX came into being! Shareware \$34.95 Intel 10.6.8+

**PerfectTablePlan\_5\_2\_0.dmg** Seating plans for wedding parties, or other events. Imports guest lists. Let you experiment with different table shapes and sizes. Intel 64 bit 10.5 or higher. Shareware \$29.95

**TextWrangler\_4.5.9.dmg** Text editor program that can handle general text, but has many features aimed at programmers. This update claims bug fixes. Intel OSX 10.6+ Free

**videobox\_4.0.7.dmg** Download flash videos and converts them to a native quicktime format, so you can view it on iPad or iTunes. (or even on your Mac without using flash!). Shareware \$15.00 OSX 10.6+ Intel required

CD for this month will be at the August 2014 meeting, labeled as the July-August CD. See you at the July meeting.

Jim Pernal PD Editor

## *Apple's 'Smart Home' Initiative Focused on 'Made for iPhone' Certification, Not Deep Integration*

by Juli Clover, MacRumors.com

Earlier this week, a report suggested Apple has plans to [unveil a new smart home initiative](#) at WWDC. This platform would allow the iPhone to directly control lights, security systems, and other household gadgets, with Apple giving third-party device makers official approval for integrated devices.

*Gigaom* has some new information on how the smart home program will work, confirming that it is a fairly simple program that will certify both connected devices already on the market and upcoming devices under the existing "[Made for iPhone](#)" certification process currently used for iOS accessories like iPhone cables and gaming controllers.

The program will not include an Apple-made software interface that overrides the existing apps tied to current iOS-compatible home accessories like the Philips Hue lighting system or the Nest thermometer, and will instead focus on connecting devices via WiFi. There's also the possibility for voice control using Blue-tooth.

The MFi certification will essentially be used to notify consumers about which products will integrate well both with the iPhone and with other home automation accessories, suggesting the program introduced next week will feature several home automation product manufacturers that have agreed to work with the MFi standards for quality and compatibility.

Instead of worrying about hubs and what might work with other devices, consumers can look for the MFi label and be assured that they can pull their smart home setup together -- and control it from their iOS device.

It's technically possible that the user could control some device functions from a handset or tablet without opening the app, or that the app would open automatically based on a voice command or eventually through presence detection.

Look for more information on Apple's smart home initiative at the WWDC opening keynote.

## Apple to Begin Producing New, Bigger iPhones Next Month, Report Says

Yahoo Tech/Reuters

Apple's suppliers will begin producing larger versions of the iPhone in China next month, [Bloomberg reported](#). Apple is ramping up production of iPhones with 4.7 and 5.5-inch screen sizes, which may be shipped to retailers around September, the report said. The current iPhone, the iPhone 5s, features a 4.0-inch screen, measured from corner to corner. That's a far smaller display than competing smartphones from Samsung, whose Galaxy S5 has a 5.1-inch display. Analysts have prodded Apple to produce an iPhone with a larger screen: Surveys have shown [increasing desire for bigger smartphone displays](#), especially in the developing nations where Apple can grow its business.

Apple usually launches new versions of the smartphone line that drives half its business around the fall of every year. Many Apple-watchers expect the next iPhone, or iPhones, to arrive in September or October of this year.



*Blogger Sonny Dickson's iPhone 6 mockup shows the 4.7-inch phone next to the 4.0-inch iPhone 5s and the 3.5-inch iPhone 4s.*

The industry has speculated for some time now that Apple intends to design and sell a device with a larger screen, to fend off Samsung phones with much bigger displays that have proven popular in Asia and elsewhere.

Hon Hai Precision Industry will recruit over 100,000 people in mainland China to produce the newest iPhone from Apple, Taiwan's Economic Daily News reported on Monday, in what the report called the firm's largest single hiring spree in China. Fellow Taiwanese contract manufacturer Pegatron Corp will also expand its workforce in one mainland factory by 30 percent, in response to expected high demand for the new iPhone.

## CarPlay Review/Latest Update

by Salvador Rodriguez and Michael Liedke, LA Times

Apple is getting ready to hitch the iPhone to cars in a mobile marriage of convenience. The ambitious project, called CarPlay, implants some of the iPhone's main applications in automobiles so drivers can control them with voice commands, a touch on the steering wheel or a swipe on a display screen in the dashboard. It's expected to be available this summer when Pioneer Electronics Inc. plans to release a software update for five car radios designed to work with the iPhone. Alpine Electronics of America Inc. also is working on CarPlay-compatible radios for cars already on the road.

Earlier this year, Apple had announced that CarPlay would be supported by Ferrari, Honda, Mercedes-Benz, Ford, Chevrolet, BMW Group and 14 other automakers. Recently, Apple added Audi, Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep, Fiat, Mazda, Ram, Abarth and Alfa Romeo to the list of cars that will include CarPlay on future vehicle models.

Google Inc. is working with car makers to do something similar with smartphones running its Android operating system, but Apple Inc. appears to be further along in efforts to make it easier and safer to text, email, get directions, select music and, yes, even make calls while driving.

I recently checked out a test version of CarPlay in a van equipped with a Pioneer radio designed to work with the iPhone. The demonstration through the streets of San Francisco convinced me that Apple is on the right track. The CarPlay system is bound to appeal to iPhone fans who spend a lot of time behind the wheel. It makes less sense for iPhone owners who, like me, spend more of their time walking and riding public transportation instead of driving.

If you want CarPlay, you will need an iPhone 5, 5s or 5c. An iPad won't work. The phones also must be running Apple's latest software, iOS 7.1. Free upgrades are available for older phones. If you already have one of Pioneer's five compatible radios, a free firmware update is all you'll need.

Otherwise, CarPlay's biggest drawback is the cost. If you want it in a car you already own, compatible radios from Pioneer sell for \$700 to \$1,400. After factoring in other required parts and labor, figure on spending \$900 to \$1,000 just to get Pioneer's least-expensive CarPlay system in your vehicle. That's more than the price of a new iPhone but cheaper than buying a new car with CarPlay built in.

[see CarPlay, page 5]

[Cloud Tech, from p1]

**API:** Application Programming Interface. A specification of how different software components can interact. Using a cloud API, a software developer can modify or customize a software application to suit the needs of a specific case. Companies are said to “open” their APIs when they want third parties to build new things on their product.

**SaaS:** Software as a Service. Software applications offered as part of a cloud infrastructure, most often on a rental basis to businesses and consumers. Customers do not manage the underlying infrastructure, and receive automatic software updates through a network connection.

**CDN:** Content Delivery Network. An interconnected system of computers in various locations that store duplicate copies of web content so it can be called up quickly.

**RFP:** Request for Price. A term used to define the expectations in a contract. A company may describe what it needs and then ask for bidders to say how much it will cost them.

**Service Provider:** An entity that provides individuals and entities access to the Internet or telecommunications services..

**Streaming:** Delivery of content, usually audio or video, to a connected device like a tablet. Netflix, for example, streams video to computers and Internet-connected televisions.

**Elastic Computing:** Growing or shrinking the amount of computing resources used to meet different levels of demand. Amazon, for example, sees high demand on its sites on Thanksgiving weekend and in the week before Christmas, and needs additional computing resources. A cloud system is elastic to the degree it can respond to demand changes.

**Distributed Computing:** A branch of computer science that deals with how two or more computers can solve problems by coordinated actions. Cloud computing is a complex specialized form of distributed computing. It is also used in things like multiplayer online games and peer-to-peer networks.

**Consumption-Based Pricing:** Selling software and computing resources based on the amount consumed, rather than at a flat rate. Also called utility computing.

**Effort:** In tech lingo, a way to describe spending time working on something; a synonym for work.

**Disruptive:** A term that applies to new technologies that changes an old way of doing things. Spreadsheet programs, for example, disrupted doing accounting with pen and paper.

**Connected Device:** Also called a Smart Device, an object connected to the Internet, usually to deliver and receive data. Connected devices may be phones and tablets, but increasingly include televisions and household appliances.

**Internet of Things:** The idea of an Internet on which millions of industrial and personal objects are connected, usually through cloud systems. The objects would deliver sensor information, and possibly modify themselves, to create overall management of a larger system, like a factory or city.

**Google Glass:** Computerized eyewear made by Google and now in wide testing.

**Soylent:** A new, white drink favored by some in the tech industry that is supposed to provide the nutrients of regular food.

[CarPlay, from page 4]

Pioneer's top-of-the-line CarPlay radio features a 7-inch screen that shows the iPhone apps for calls, contacts, music, maps and messaging when the device is plugged in with a cable. Other mobile music apps — including Spotify, Beats Music and iHeartRadio — are supposed to be eventually available on CarPlay too. Facebook, YouTube and other apps that show a lot of photos and video won't be available for safety and legal reasons.

The key to CarPlay's success may hinge on Siri, the iPhone's digital personal assistant. Apple has been striving to make Siri smarter and more versatile, an endeavor that CarPlay figures to put to the test.

Siri serves as CarPlay's central nervous system, taking email dictation, reading incoming text messages out loud, and scrolling through the system for song requests or genres of music. Summoning Siri can be done by touching a button on the steering wheel or CarPlay's display screen. Although CarPlay also responds to touch, the system is at its best when Siri is doing most of the work.

I got only a half-hour demo of CarPlay, too little time to determine whether Siri will be up to the job. Within minutes of getting in the car, Siri couldn't retrieve the correct address for a requested San Francisco restaurant. Instead, CarPlay listed several other places with the same name, so Siri apparently at least heard the request correctly. The omission of the requested restaurant may have reflected shortcomings in Apple's database of local businesses.

Beyond that, Siri performed flawlessly, reading back incoming texts, composing and sending emails and playing the role of disc jockey when asked to play the music of specific artists such as AC/DC. It took only a few seconds before "Back in Black" blasted through the stereo. Even a question about Arnold Schwarzenegger, a name that can be difficult to decipher, didn't stump Siri. If Siri is able to consistently handle those kinds of challenges, CarPlay could make the iPhone an even more indispensable mobile device.

## Smartphones Embracing ‘Kill Switches’ as Theft Defense

By Brian X Chen; Bits, NY Times

By next summer, most new smartphones may no longer be quite so attractive to thieves. [Microsoft](#) and [Google](#) said Thursday that phones using their operating systems — including handsets produced by big names like Samsung, [Nokia](#) and Motorola — will have a so-called kill switch that can render the devices unusable after they have been reported stolen. [Apple’s iPhone](#) has had a kill switch, called Activation Lock, since September.

The plans for additional security measures come on the heels of new data in New York, San Francisco and London that law enforcement officials believe supports their long-held belief that a kill switch will make smartphones less appealing to thieves, particularly those who intend to resell them on organized black markets.

Comparing data in the six months before and after Apple released its anti-theft feature, police said iPhone robberies in San Francisco dropped 38 percent. In London, they fell 24 percent.

In New York City, robberies (which typically involve a threat of violence) of Apple products dropped 19 percent and grand larcenies of Apple products dropped 29 percent in the first five months of 2014, compared with the same time period from 2013, according to a report from the New York attorney general’s office, which included data from the [New York City Police Department](#). By comparison, thefts of Samsung products increased 51 percent in the first five months of 2014, compared with the same period a year ago, the report said.

Samsung introduced a kill switch for its Galaxy S5 device in April, so it will be some time until its effect on theft rates can be evaluated. A kill switch is software that lets consumers lock down a phone after the device has been reported stolen; users can reactivate the phone only with the correct password or personal identification number. That makes it difficult to sell on the black market.

“The introduction of kill switches has clearly had an effect on the conduct of smartphone thieves,” [Eric T. Schneiderman](#), New York’s attorney general, said in an interview. “If these can be canceled like the equivalent of canceling a credit card, these are going to be the equivalent of stealing a paperweight.” Over the last year, lawmakers across the country have pushed for stronger anti-theft features on smartphones. In May, Minnesota became the first state to require a kill switch on all smartphones sold there. In California last month, senators [passed a bill](#) requiring phones sold in the state to include the anti-theft technology. That bill still requires approval from the governor of California, [Jerry Brown](#).

Earlier this year, over a dozen companies, including Apple, [AT&T](#), Google, Samsung Electronics and [Verizon](#) Wireless, [committed to offering free anti-theft software](#) for cellphones by summer of next year. Microsoft [said](#) that it

would introduce a kill switch in a future software update for its Windows Phone operating system. Google will also be introducing one in the next version of Android, said Matt Kallman, a Google spokesman. Combined with Apple’s iOS, these three operating systems control 97 percent of the smartphone market, according to [comScore](#).

Other factors could have contributed to the decrease in iPhone thefts. Police and tech companies have tried harder over the last year to educate consumers on additional security measures to protect phones, like setting up passcodes, which can make it harder to gain access to devices so that they can be erased and resold.

In a statement, Apple said that its kill switch software, [Activation Lock](#), was aimed at preventing unauthorized access to users’ iPhones and iPads. Apple also said that Find My iPhone, a software feature for tracking lost or stolen Apple devices, has been available since 2009.

“Apple has led the industry in helping customers protect their lost or stolen devices,” said Trudy Muller, an Apple spokeswoman. She said Activation Lock “can help you keep your device secure, even if it is in the wrong hands, and can improve your chances of recovering it.”

Samsung said in a statement that it would continue to work closely with the carriers, Mr. Schneiderman and George Gascón, San Francisco’s district attorney, toward preventing phone theft.

The CTIA, a trade organization for the wireless industry, had been resistant to calls for legally requiring kill switches. But Jamie Hastings, vice president of external and state affairs for CTIA, said Thursday that the group was helping solve the problem of phone theft by offering resources that educate consumers. For example, it created a website, [beforeyouloseit.org](#), that has information about anti-theft apps people can install. “We remain committed to helping law enforcement and consumers deter smartphone thefts,” Mr. Hastings said.

Mr. Gascón has been one of the most vocal supporters of a kill switch. He and Mr. Schneiderman collaborated to form the Secure Our Smartphones initiative to press businesses to create a technical way to dissuade thieves from stealing phones. Mr. Gascón said plenty of work remained. He said he hoped all manufacturers would include a kill switch turned on by default on all smartphones so consumers did not have to figure out how to use it. In the iPhone, for example, it is not turned on by default. “Many consumers might not be tech-savvy enough to do this,” Mr. Gascón said. He added that he still thought it was necessary for there to be laws requiring kill switches in phones, similar to how seatbelts eventually became legally required inside cars.

## Terrible Tech Annoyances That Should Be Illegal

by Rafe Neeleman, Yahoo Tech

**Pasted text must default to “no formatting”.** If you copy text from a website and want to paste it into an email or another document, you get mismatched formatting. Henceforth, pasted text shall inherit the formatting of the document into which it is being pasted, unless the paster holds down some special option key to override that behavior. The way copy/paste works now is the reverse of common sense.

### Printer ink to get consumer advisory labels

The most expensive liquid you can buy is not gasoline, champagne, or even fancy perfume. It's inkjet printer ink, packaged into a little disposable printhead. It works out to about \$8,000 a gallon. Those absurd prices drive the retail costs of printers down to the toy category. But people should know what they're in for. From now on, printer advertisements shall include estimated yearly ink cartridge costs, just as refrigerator labels come with yearly energy costs. And printer ink cartridges shall be sold on a dollars-per-ounce basis, so we're all aware of what we're spending money on.

### CAPTCHAs shall be banned

CAPTCHAs are these dumb things:



They are readability roadblocks on websites. They're supposed to prevent automated spammer software from signing up for fake accounts, but it's a losing game. Computers are getting smarter all the time. Humans are not. In order to make CAPTCHAs too hard for computers to read, they've had to become too hard for *humans* to decipher. It's time for them to go.

### Proprietary power bricks: Illegal

We now have several devices per person, and it's nearly impossible to keep them all paired up with the power adapters they came with. From now on, all small electronic gizmos shall be powered by USB cables, so you can charge them either from your computer or with a ubiquitous USB power plug adaptor. In fact, in Europe, there's already a [common charger law](#). Progress! Let's bring that law to the United States and extend it to all small electronics, not just mobiles. (By the way, it's too bad Apple's Lightning connector is proprietary, since it provides a better user experience than micro USB, but perhaps when [USB Type C](#) comes out, Lightning will finally have a worthwhile competitor.)

### Non-removable batteries: Banned

A technology product can last nearly indefinitely, but a chemical battery (at least today) has a limited lifespan. Once you start using a product with a lithium-ion battery, it starts to degrade. To keep the product from becoming obsolete before you're done with it, batteries shall be easily replaceable.

We are not tyrants, though. We will not decree that all batteries must be under cheeseball snap-on covers. Just that a normal human, with a standard tool (maybe a jeweler's screwdriver), will be able to replace a device's batteries without requiring a technical degree or a trip to an Apple Store.

# PERIODICALS

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Special interest: \_\_\_\_\_

Devices you use most: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about SBAMUG: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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