



South Bay Apple MUG

Macintosh

October 2018

A Monthly CUPFUL for South Bay Apple Mac User Group Members

You Took Lousy iPhone Photos. Here's How to Make Them Beautiful, by J. D. Biersdorfer

Not every shot on your smartphone will be Instagram worthy, but you can often salvage middling snaps with just a few taps. Here are six easy steps.

Step 1: Automatic or manual?

Say you were in Washington and snapped a photo of the Jefferson Memorial that did not come out the way you intended. The first thing to do is to go to Apple's Photos app, open the picture and tap the Edit button in the upper-right corner of the screen — when holding the phone horizontally. In iOS 11 on an iPhone 8, this takes you into the Edit mode, where the wand-shaped Enhance button in the upper-left corner can be used to brighten the image and enhance the color. (You can also edit photos when holding the phone vertically, and icon placement may vary by iPhone model and iOS version.)

But what if you don't like instant fixes? Here's where you take control. To really dive under a photo's hood, select the dial-shaped Adjustments icon on the right side of the screen, the third one from the top, below Crop/Rotate and Filters and above the [More menu for using third-party apps](#).

Step 2: Bring the light

Once you tap the Adjustments icon, you will see three main categories: Light, Color and B&W.

Touch a category heading to see all the elements of the image you can edit independently. Tap the name of a control for an onscreen slider to make your modifications.

In the Light category you can change the photo's Brilliance, a setting that can make the picture look more vibrant without intensifying the color saturation. You can also adjust the picture's overall Exposure. And you can fiddle with the amount of detail visible in both the Highlights (bright areas) and the Shadows (dark parts) of the image, as well as the Contrast, which is the scale difference between the photo's light and dark tones.

Finally, you can move the Black Point, which makes the contrast better in washed-out images by defining the point where the darkest part of the photo becomes totally black.

Step 3: Color your world

The Color category has preview sliders for adjusting the overall saturation, or intensity, of the color in the photo. You can also change the contrast between similar colors in the scene to make them "pop" more.

Does the picture have a noticeable green, pink, yellow or blue tint? Move the Cast slider to get rid of it. Want to summon your inner [Berenice Abbott](#) and convert your color photos into artsy monochrome shots? Select the B&W

Continued on page 4

Sep 26 Meeting

iCloud and More, by Kent McDonald

Kent will spend half of the presentation on understanding and mastering the capabilities of iCloud, something that has forever eluded him. The rest of the time will be spent on reviewing new accessories and announcements regarding Mac and iOS products and on shortcuts and tips for helping users to accomplish their tasks more efficiently on Macs, iPhones and iPads. All of this information will be based on the two most recent issues of MacLife.

Don't miss the meeting! See page 2 for details.

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Welcome to the SBAMUG South Bay Apple Mac User Group

Meetings: Lomita Veteran's Hall,
1865 Lomita Blvd, Lomita
Mail: PO Box 432, Redondo Beach,
CA
90277-0432
Phone: (310) 644-3315
Email: info@sbamug.com

Members, friends and colleagues are invited to attend our monthly meetings (usually the last Wed. of the month). 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 visit our website sbamug.com



Lomita Veteran's Hall,
1865 Lomita Blvd, Lomita

SBAMUG Monthly Calendar

Sep 26: iCloud and More
Oct 31: TBD

Other Meetings:

SBAMUG Meeting Format:
6:30—7:30 p.m. Questions & Answers and Sharing: *Everyone* is welcome, beginners encouraged

7:30—7:50 p.m. 'iSocial' – shoot the Mac breeze with others over a cookie*

7:50—8:00 p.m. Announcements

8:00—9:00 p.m Program

**Refreshments provided; donations appreciated!*

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

- 1st Wed each month – SBAMUG Core Group, 7:30 pm. Join Google+ SBAMUG community, or email: info@sbamug.com.
- 2nd Sat. each month - SMOG, 9AM in Costa Mesa, ocmug.org
- 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., lapug.org/
- Find more: <http://www.apple.com/usergroups/>

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Membership Report – 89 members!

Please wear membership card as your name tag - you may notice your first name is in larger letters on your card - so it can be used as a name tag at the meetings.:)

Welcome New Members:

Thank You Member Renewals: Barry Henson, Nancie Silver, Jerome Ginsburg, Glen Terry.
If your name is not spelled right or your expiration date is wrong, contact cwmitchell@sbamug.com for correction. Or contact CW for everything membership, dues and benefits. Please watch for your renewal letter, then sign and date it and return it with \$35 check (in enclosed self-addressed envelope) or bring letter with payment (cash, check, PayPal) to meeting.

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This is the September shareware article. Six items this month. Three from the App store this month; the other three all have links to the vendor's website.

Airmail 3.6.1: This is an email client. Clean and fast is the claim. Support for iCloud, Exchange, Gmail, IMAP, POP2, Yahoo, AOL etc. Requires OSX 10.10+. \$9.99 App Store

Bartender 3.0.47: Organizes your menu bar apps. Re-arrange, hide them, or add to the bartender's bar. Great if you have lots of these apps. OS 10.12+ \$15.00 <https://www.macbartender.com>

Default Folder X 5.2.6b6: Bug fixes in this latest version of a utility to enhance open and close dialog boxes. OSX 10.10+. \$34.95 <https://www.stclairsoft.com/DefaultFolderX/index.html>

FileMorph 3.0: Application for batch renaming files and file attributes. \$10.00 OSX 10.13+ Intel <https://www.codebykevin.com/filemorph.html>

GPX viewer 2.94: Lets you view GPX files exported from many GPS devices. View waypoints, routes, and tracks. Send waypoints to Apple Maps program. OSX 10.10+ \$0.99 App Store

Songbook 3.1.2: Manages your song collections. Handles lyrics and chords. Chord libraries for guitar banjo, ukulele, and other instruments. OS 10.8+ \$10.99 App Store

See you at the September meeting.

Jim Pernal PD Editor

Everything You Need to Know About SMS & MMS on the iPhone, by Sam Costello

You've probably heard the terms SMS and MMS come up when discussing text messaging, but may not know what they mean. This article provides an overview of the two technologies. While it's specific to how they're used on the iPhone, all phones use the same SMS and MMS technology, so this article applies generally to other phones, too.

What is SMS?

SMS stands for Short Message Service, which is the formal name for text messaging. It's a way to send short, text-only messages from one phone to another. These messages are usually sent over a cellular data network. (That's not always true, though, as in the case of iMessage discussed below.)

Standard SMSes are limited to 160 characters per message, including spaces. The [SMS standard was defined in the 1980s](#) as part of the GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications) standards, which were the basis of cellphone networks for many years.

Every iPhone model can send SMS text messages. On early models of the iPhone, that was done using a built-in app called Text. That app was later replaced by a similar app called Messages, which is still used today.

The original Text app only supported sending standard text-based SMSes. It could not send images, videos, or audio. The lack of multimedia messaging on the [first-generation iPhone](#) was controversial, since other phones already had them. Some observers argued that the device should have had those features from its debut. Later models with different versions of the operating system

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Hamburger Menu



You have probably used this menu (or button), but perhaps didn't know what it is called.

The hamburger, sandwich, hotdog, pancake, tribar (or triple bar) double oreo or options button is a [button](#) placed typically in a top corner of a [graphical user interface](#). It takes the form of an [icon](#) that consists of three parallel horizontal lines, suggestive of a list. The names refer to its resemblance to the layers in a [hamburger](#), a pile of [pancakes](#), or three [hotdogs](#).

Selecting (tapping or clicking) this button results in a [menu](#) being revealed (sliding out or popping up), which distinguishes it from a menu bar, which is always on display. Use of this icon as a graphical shortcut originated in order to save space on smaller devices (like smartphones).

gained the ability to send multimedia messages. More on that in the MMS section later in this article.

Messages App & iMessage

Every iPhone and iPod touch since **iOS 5** has come pre-loaded with an app called Messages, which replaced the original Text app.

While [the Messages app](#) lets users send text and multimedia messages, it also includes a feature called iMessage. This is similar to, but not the same, as SMS:

- SMS messages are sent through phone company networks. iMessages are sent between iOS devices and Macs through Apple's servers, bypassing the phone company.
- SMS messages are only sent over cellular networks. iMessages can be sent over cellular networks or Wi-Fi.
- SMS messages are not encrypted, while iMessages are protected with end-to-end encryption. This means that they can't be intercepted and read by third parties like phone companies, employers, or law enforcement agencies. For more on digital privacy and security, read [Things To Do on Your iPhone to Stop Government Spying](#).

iMessages can only be sent from and to iOS devices and Macs. They're represented in the Messages app with blue word balloons. SMS sent to and from non-Apple devices, such as Android phones, don't use iMessage and are shown using green word balloons.

iMessage was originally designed to allow iOS users to send each other SMSes without using their monthly allotment of text messages. Phone companies generally now offer unlimited text messages, but iMessage offers other features, like encryption, [read-receipts](#), and [apps and stickers](#).

What is MMS?

Files sent via MMS count against both the sender's and the recipient's [monthly data limits](#) in their phone service plans.

MMS for the iPhone was announced in June 2009 as part of iOS 3.0. It debuted in the United States on Sept. 25, 2009. MMS had been available on the iPhone in other countries for months before that. AT&T, which was the only iPhone carrier in the U.S. at the time, delayed introducing the feature due to concerns over the load it would place on the company's data network.

Using MMS

There are two ways to send an MMS on the iPhone. First, in the Messages app the user can tap the camera icon next to the text-input area and either take a photo or video or select an existing one to send.

Second, users can [begin with the file they want to send and tap the sharing box](#). In apps that support sharing using Messages, the user can tap the Messages button. This sends the file to the iPhone's Messages app where it can be sent via MMS.

MMS, aka multimedia messaging service, allows cellphone and smartphone users to send each other messages with images, videos, and more. The service is based on SMS.

Standard MMS messages can support videos of up to 40 seconds, single images or slideshows, and audio clips. Using MMS, the iPhone can send [audio files](#), ringtones, contact details, photos, videos, and other data to any other phone with a text messaging plan. Whether the recipient's phone can play those files depends on that phone's software and capabilities.

<https://www.lifewire.com/what-is-sms-mms-iphone-2000247>

iPhone Photos, from page 1

category and adjust the intensity, tone, grays and grain in the image. For a more automatic approach, tap the Filters icon on the Edit screen to try out new looks.

Step 4: Straighten up and cut the clutter

Many photos improve instantly if you cut out distracting elements and tighten the framing. Tap the Crop tool icon and drag the corners of the white box around the part of the picture you want to keep. Want the traditional Instagram square crop? Choose an aspect ratio by tapping the icon that looks like a stack of squares in the bottom-right corner.

The Photos app may automatically straighten the image so horizontal and vertical elements in the scene are roughly parallel to the edges of the picture. If it doesn't — or you want to make your own changes — slide your finger on the protractorlike dial on the right to find your preferred alignment.

Step 5: A step too far?

Sometimes it's easy to go overboard — or maybe you were just experimenting anyway. If you are dissatisfied with your work, hit the Cancel or Reset button while still in the Edit mode to undo an adjustment.

Even after you have saved an edited picture and change your mind about it, Photos lets you restore the picture to

iPhone Photos, from page 4

its unedited state. Just open it again, tap the Edit button and choose Revert to Original.

Step 6: Save and post (or print)

When you are happy with all your changes, tap the Done button in the upper-right corner of the Edit screen. Voilà, that saves your newly enhanced photo.

Read the full article with photo illustrations at: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/29/technology/personaltech/iphone-photos-make-beautiful.html>

Cable's Answer to Cool New Streaming Services? Soaring Internet Prices, by David Lazarus

The good news: More “skinny bundles” of pay-TV channels will be available to consumers as a growing number of households abandon fat programming packages and seek cheaper online streaming options for home entertainment.

The bad news: Analysts say cable and phone companies, quickly adapting to this new reality, will keep jacking up internet prices to make sure your monthly bill stays sky-high.

The dual changes reflect the two sides of the telecom marketplace. On the one hand, consumers are making their voices heard in their embrace of new technology to avoid paying for hundreds of channels they may never watch. This signals the gradual demise of a business model that has allowed pay-TV companies to take advantage of people for decades.

At the same time, the near-monopoly power that many cable and phone companies enjoy for high-speed internet service allows them to continue dictating terms, setting prices far beyond the cost of maintaining or improving broadband networks.

“We’re in the middle of a massive reinvention of the industry,” said telecom analyst and consultant Jeff Kagan. “Everything is changing.” He noted that pay-TV service is no longer the main source of revenue for many cable companies — it’s internet. To maintain growth, therefore, these companies have to keep raising internet prices. “This is the only way to keep shareholders happy,” Kagan told me.

In a recent report, investment bank UBS estimated there will be 24 million streaming-TV subscribers by the end of 2022, or about a quarter of all pay-TV customers. This reflects the growing popularity of Netflix, Hulu, Amazon Prime and other online services, along with skinny-bundle providers such as Dish Network’s Sling TV and AT&T’s DirecTV Now.

It’s long been an open secret in the pay-TV business that consumers were being forced to shell out for many more channels than they desired. According to Nielsen, the typical pay-TV subscriber watches only 17 channels on a regular basis. Service providers routinely defended their high monthly bills by saying it wasn’t their fault — blame those darn TV networks that keep boosting programming costs.

That excuse no longer holds water as streaming and skinny bundles take hold, making the average \$100 cable bill increasingly indefensible. So the industry has switched to saying internet-loving customers are now paying primarily for network upgrades.

“We’ve invested in adding capacity and increasing speeds,” said Sena Fitzmaurice, a spokeswoman for cable giant Comcast.

Brian Dietz, a spokesman for NCTA-the Internet & Television Assn., an industry group, said average internet prices actually are lower than they were three years ago and speeds are increasing. “That is a good-news story for consumers,” he said.

In fact, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, internet prices were down just 0.4% last month from three years before and they’re now clearly on the upswing. Since April, internet prices have risen 4%.

And while speeds are indeed getting faster, the United States still lags much of the developed world. A recent study by Cable.co.uk, a British research firm, found the average U.S. internet speed is 25.86 megabits per second, which is a far cry from world leader Singapore (60.39 Mbps), and behind the likes of Sweden (46 Mbps), Belgium (36.71 Mbps) and Spain (27.19 Mbps).

Meanwhile, the study found that the average American pays \$66 monthly for high-speed internet service, compared with \$55 in Canada, \$41 in Britain and \$34 in Germany. As with healthcare, Americans pay more and get less than their economic peers.

A big reason for that: lack of competition. “In most parts of the country, there are only one or two companies providing broadband internet,” said Jimmy Schaeffler, a telecom analyst with the Carmel Group. “They’re a monopoly or a duopoly, and the consumer be damned.”

A recent report by the Federal Communications Commission found that “broadband is not being deployed to all Americans in a reasonable and timely fashion,” and the speed many internet customers receive “may be roughly half of advertised speeds.”

The National Digital Inclusion Alliance reported the other day that AT&T and Verizon are charging some internet customers broadband rates even in areas lacking sufficient infrastructure for broadband speeds.

A recent survey by Consumer Reports found that only 38% of cable subscribers are “very” or “completely” happy with their service. The vast majority, in other words, see plenty of room for improvement.

Paul Gallant, a former FCC official who is now an analyst with Cowen & Co., said cable companies routinely justify their higher prices to telecom authorities by pointing to yearly increases in internet speeds, even if customers see no difference in service quality. “It’s a pretty shrewd argument by the industry to keep regulators out of their business,” he said.

Yet even though every analyst I spoke with said internet prices will keep rising for the immediate future, there’s reason for hope.

Continued on page 6

Internet Prices, from page 5

The big wild card in coming years is the rollout of 5G wireless networks — superfast service that could make high-speed cable and phone lines obsolete, especially in big cities. This could allow the likes of AT&T, Verizon and Sprint — and maybe even Google, Facebook or Amazon — to offer wireless broadband internet that can compete with the speed and reliability of cable. And that should be a real wake-up call for the cable industry. It's been a long time since they've had to actually compete for your business.

"Cable companies now have an immense amount of pricing power," said Corey Barrett, a senior media analyst at research firm M Science. "That changes when a Google or some other player steps in." Faster speeds and competitive prices? Now *that* would be a good-news story for consumers.

Read the full article at: <http://www.latimes.com/business/lazarus/la-fi-lazarus-ridiculous-internet-costs-20180814-story.html>

Apple Pay Looks Hugely Successful, by Ashraf Eassa

For a while now, Apple (NASDAQ: AAPL) has been talking up its fast-growing [services business](#). It's not hard to see why. Services, which includes "revenue from Digital Content and Services, AppleCare, Apple Pay, licensing and other services," is Apple's second-largest segment by revenue (behind the iPhone).

More importantly, services are becoming a larger part of Apple's overall revenue mix over time, and that should bode well for Apple's bottom line. In the most recent quarter, the segment made up 17.9% of sales, up from 16% in the year-ago quarter. As this growth continues, services performance will continue to increase the company's margins, according to comments made by company CFO Luca Maestri.

One service that has been quite successful for Apple has been its mobile payments service, Apple Pay. On the company's July 31 earnings call, management shared some encouraging information about Apple Pay that investors might want to pay attention to. Let's dive in.

More than 1 billion transactions

"Well over 1 billion" Apple Pay transactions occurred during the June quarter-- tripling the number of transactions that took place in the same period a year ago.

"To put this tremendous growth in perspective, this past quarter we completed more total transactions than great companies like Square and more mobile transactions than PayPal," Apple CEO Tim Cook explained.

The momentum doesn't seem to be slowing, either. Cook further disclosed that the rate of growth in Apple Pay transactions during the June quarter accelerated from what the company saw in the prior quarter.

Apple receives a small percentage of the value of each

transaction made with Apple Pay, so this growth in transaction volume goes directly to the company's bottom line.

More markets, broader acceptance

Per Cook, Apple Pay "is now live in 24 markets worldwide with over 4900 bank partners," and the company is looking to bring Apple Pay to the German market "later this year."

Beyond just adding new markets to the mix, Apple is working to expand Apple Pay acceptance. "In the U.S., eBay is beginning to enable its sellers to accept Apple Pay and CVS Pharmacy and 7-Eleven will roll-out Apple Pay acceptance in locations nationwide this fall," Cook explained.

The idea here is simple: The more places that Apple's customers can use Apple Pay, the more transactions each customer is likely to make using the service, potentially driving revenue and profit growth for its services business.

Transit and peer-to-peer opportunities

Cook called out transit as "another important area of growth" and told investors that "Apple Pay can be used with iPhone and Apple Watch to quickly and conveniently ride public transit in [12 metropolitan areas](#)."

Back in December of 2017 with the introduction of iOS 11.2, Apple augmented Apple Pay with the capability to "send and receive money with friends and family quickly, easily, and securely."

"Apple Pay Cash, our peer-to-peer payment service, is already serving millions of customers across the U.S. less than eight months following its launch," Cook asserted. This is a good start, but Apple must continue to work to bring Apple Pay to other markets. Just over half of Apple's total revenue comes from outside North America, so to really move the needle, Apple must seek out markets outside the United States.

Investor takeaway

Apple's services business continues to be an impressive source of revenue growth for the company, and within Services, Apple Pay appears to be doing quite well. The company is making the right moves by bringing Apple Pay to new regions and more locations. New feature additions like Apple Pay Cash can also serve to sweeten the deal.

Although the Apple Pay opportunity is interesting because of the additional revenue it can bring to the table, it might also be a way to further lock users into the iOS ecosystem. If users become accustomed to using Apple Pay Cash to transfer money, it will increase the switching cost of moving away from the

iPhone because users would need to adopt not only a new phone ecosystem but also a new payment platform. In this way, Apple Cash and other Services both diversify the company's revenues and strengthen the company's core iPhone business.

<https://www.fool.com/investing/2018/08/15/apple-pay-looks-hugely-successful.aspx>



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PS Form 3526, July 2014 (Page 2 of 4)



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Current level of Mac expertise

_____ Beginner _____ Intermediate _____ Advanced

How did you hear about SBAMUG?

I would like to help with the club. Please contact me at:

Comments: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

**Bring your Application and Fee to our General Meeting
at Lomita Veteran's Hall
or Mail to our PO Box (see page 2 for our address)**