# **Apple Barrel**

The Journal of the Houston Area Apple Users Group

#### December 2011

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"Ask the Experts": A Panel Discussion on Photography

Saturday, December 17th

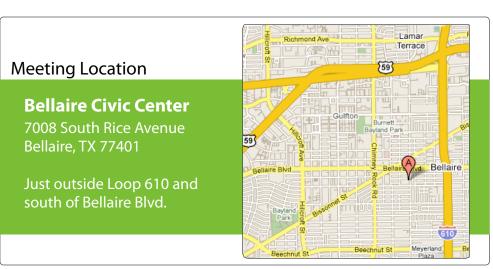
Are you unsure as to what digital camera to buy for Christmas? Do you have questions about what things like "ISO" and "aperture" mean? Are you wondering about what photographic opportunities exist in the Houston area?

The presentation this month is just up your alley! A panel of HAAUG photo enthusiasts will be on hand to answer YOUR questions related to photography.

The SIGs will start at 9am and the Main Presentation begins at 11:15. We'll see you there on the 17th!



P.O. Box 570957 Houston, Texas 77257-0957

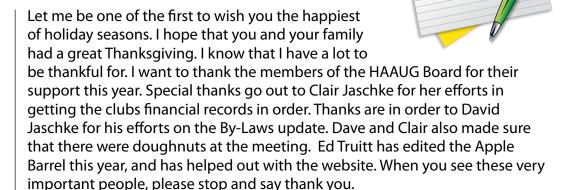


Volume 33 | Number 12

Members Helping Members Since 1978

# Boss HAAUG Speaks

Monthly Address from the HAAUG President



Dear HAAUG,

I would also like to extend a big HAAUG Thank You to Houston Chronicle columnist and blogger Dwight Silverman, for another great presentation on OS 10.7 (Lion.) I learned a lot about the changes in the user interface. It will take some study to really learn all of the ins and outs of this new version of the Mac OS.

The December meeting will be a panel discussion on Photography, just in time for the holidays. Also, we will be electing the new Board and approving the budget for the next year. I can tell you that your club is in good financial shape, thanks to our efforts to reduce our internet hosting costs and our meeting costs. We have had a small surplus for the past two years.

Except for the release of a few OS and Application updates, Apple has been quiet recently. They did release some speed bumped MacBook Air machines. Of course, this has not quieted the Apple rumor machine, which predicted the release of an Apple Television to another iPhone and iPad update. I have about as much inside information about Apple as some of the rumor mongers; but I think that Apple is trying to reassess where it needs to go in the post Jobs era. I'm sure that there is work going in both the Mac OS and iOS groups, working on plans that were in place before Jobs passing. It is significant that there have not been any major shake ups announced since Tim Cook was named CEO. The next major announcement should be the December (Holiday) Quarter results coming sometime in January.

Again I want to wish you the happiest of holiday seasons. See you on the 17th!

2 <u>www.haaug.org</u>

## M.Zuiko Digital 45mm f/1.8 Lens

Ed Truitt, etee@me.com



I have used, and been an advocate of, the Olympus PEN micro 4/3 camera system since Feb 2010, when I purchased my E-P2. However, no system is perfect: and a major weakness in the Olympus micro 4/3 system has been the lack of fast, prime (single focal length) lenses.

Fast lenses (those with a large aperture, such as f/ 1.8) are needed when you want a shallow depth of field (DoF), and are often used to produce images with a pleasing *bokeh* (where the background is out-of-focus, so as not to distract from the subject.)

Prime lenses have historically been considered higher quality than zooms. With the improvements in optical technology, this is no longer necessarily the case: however, prime lenses are often used for portraits, or by those wishing to simplify their camera setup.

Earlier this year, Olympus announced two new lenses: a 12mm f/2.0, and a 45mm f/1.8. While #1 on my list, the cost of the 12mm (\$799) is just too high for my budget right now. So, I picked up the 45mm (\$399 from Amazon), and have been using it for about a month.

Without this lens, the E-P2 is nice traveling camera. With it, new possibilities are opened up for the camera. I have been able to take photos in even less light then before, due to the larger aperture. I have been able to start taking advantage of the shallow DoF to draw attention to the subject. And, denied access to the "crutch" of being able to zoom in/out, I am having to work a little harder on getting the composition just right, which has improved my photography.

Besides, I have been able to use it to create fun photos, like the one below:

I am really finding the 45mm f/1.8 a great addition to my micro 4/3 kit. Hopefully, I will be able to pick up the 12mm in the not-too-distant future, which will give me a good assortment (12mm, 17mm, and 45mm) of prime lenses.

In the meantime, I have created a real compact kit consisting of the camera, the 17mm and 45mm lenses, the VF-2 viewfinder, a spare battery, and several spare SD cards, all of which fit inside my <u>Blackrapid SNAPR</u> case.

(Photos courtesy Ed Truitt)



#### QuickTip

If you're a photographer, then you know that a cable release is a tool to take a picture without touching your camera. Now, the iPhone can do this, too.

iOS 5 introduced many new features for photographers. Among these is the ability to use the Volume up button to take photos. As a result, the Volume up button on your headphones also works to take photos! It seems perfectly obvious that it should after the fact, but it's not something most of us are likely to try.

This means, every iPhone includes a free cable release. This is *huge* for an iPhone photographer because the current shutter buttons aren't very good for keeping your phone steady. Interestingly, I've found that it's often much easier to get burst shots when using my headphones compared to just the volume up key.

Perhaps the best part is that this can be paired with Bluetooth devices! I'm not sure if every headset with volume controls will work (as the buttons need to map correctly to the iPhone), but if a Bluetooth headset can increase the iPhone's volume it should work.

What I have been able to confirm so far is that a Bluetooth keyboard is perfectly capable of acting as a remote. In addition, Joseph Linaschke over at ApertureExpert.com has said that his Bluetooth headset (cont'd on pg. 5)

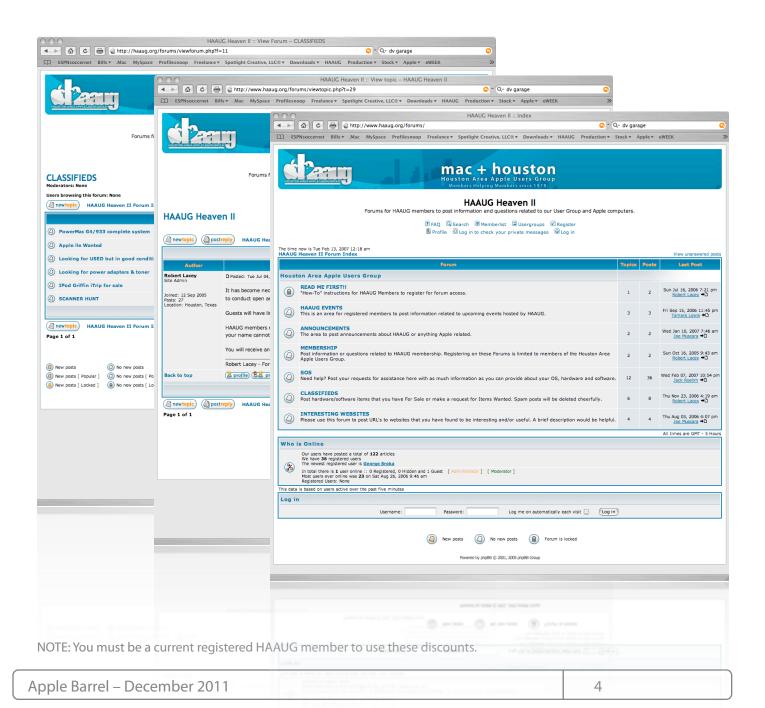
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HAAUG discounts can be found on the HAAUG Heaven forums.

## http://haaug.org/forums



## Classifieds

Products and support for the Macintosh community

Got a story, or photo you would like to see in the monthly edition of the Apple Barrel?

The Apple Barrel is always looking for good, meaty material for its monthly publication. If you have a personal story, review of a new product or just a funny or helpful thought, feel free to spread the word via the Barrel.

Submit your story, review or photos, etc. to: abe@haaug.org

#### QuickTip (from pg. 3)

works as well, but I'm not sure which model.

Using a wireless remote opens up even more possibilites, especially when considering that the remote will start and stop video capture, or take self portraits which don't have your arm in the photo.

Hope someone else will make use of this for their iPhone photos.

[**Ed. note:** I tested this out on my iPhone 4 using my Klipsch S4I earbuds and Camera+, and this works.]

http://hints.macworld.com/ article.php? story=20111122123156930

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If more or less space than specified is used within one year from the date of first insertion, the rate will be adjusted to the earned rate published here.

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Number of insertions in a 12-month period determines frequency rate.

## Black and white rates (per issue):

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#### 1/2 Page Ad

**Dimensions:** 7.625" x 5" **Frequency:** 1X 90, 2X 85, 3X 80

#### 1/3 Page Ad

**Dimensions:** 7.625" x 3.375" **Frequency:** 1X \$75, 2X \$70,

3X \$65

#### 1/4 Page Ad

Dimensions: 3.75" x 5"

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#### 1/6 Page Ad

**Dimensions:** 5" x 2.5" **Frequency:** 1X \$40, 2X \$35,

3X \$30

#### **Business Card Ad**

**Dimensions:** 3.5" x 2" **Frequency:** 1X \$30, 2X \$25,

3X \$15

\* Dimensions of advertisements may vary as a result of document layout.

## Minutes

HAAUG Board of Directors Meeting – Saturday, October 15, 2017

**Location:** Bellaire Civic Center, 7008 South Rice Avenue, Bellaire, Texas.

**Attendees:** Philip Booth, Jim Connell, Michael Epstein, Clair Jaschke, David Jaschke, Michael King, Rick Roberts, Doug Smith, Ed Truitt, and Greg Wright.

**Call to order:** 12:49 p.m. by President Philip Booth, a quorum of voting members of the board being present.

General Announcments: Philip Booth announced that at today's General Meeting the revised By-Laws were presented to the membership for adoption, effective January 1, 2012. After discussion by the membership, Amy Denton moved that the membership adopt the revised By- Laws as presented to the membership at the meeting, and Grady Beaird seconded the motion. The members present at the General Meeting unanimously approved the revised By-Laws.

#### **MONTHLY REPORTS:**

**Secretary – Open:** The minutes of the board meeting held on September 17, 2011, were unanimously approved as submitted to the board.

**Treasurer – Clair Jaschke:** Clair Jaschke submitted written financial reports for September 2011 to the board. As of the end of last month, HAAUG had \$10,758.81 in its bank account.

**1st Vice President – Programming – Greg Wright:** Greg Wright reported that Reagan
Atkinson is scheduled to present a Digitial
Photography Update at the General Meeting on
November 19. If for any reason Reagan Atkinson
is not available, a panel of members will discuss
new developments in digital photography. The

Main Presentation at the General Meeting on December 17 will be "Cutting the Cable: New Ways to Watch TV, Part II." The Semi- Annual Swap Meet will be held on January 21, 2012. Bob LeVitus is confirmed for his annual "The State of Apple" address on February 18, 2012.

The board then discussed topics for future Main Presentations. Rick Roberts suggested requesting the organizers of the South by Southwest event in Austin, Texas, to provide a speaker who would explain why those interested in technology should plan to attend the event in March 2012. HAAUG member John Gaver has volunteered to give a presentation on publishing eBooks. Greg Wright is still pursuing a presentation to HAAUG by a representative of the local iOS programming group that meets at Houston Technology Center.

2nd Vice President Facilities – Doug Smith: Phil Booth reported that the has paid the rent for the meeting space for the remainder of the year and that the space is reserved for the third Saturdays of each month for each month next year, with the exception of April, when HAAUG has the meeting space reserved for the fourth Saturday (April 28, 2012). Phil will contact the City of Bellaire about the failure of the overhead projector at Bellaire Civic Center to work properly at today's General Meeting

Membership – David Jaschke: David Jaschke reported that HAAUG had 172 members at the end of September 2011, a decline of four members from August 2011. HAAUG had 197 members at the end of September 2010. One new member joined last month, and three members renewed their membership.

**SIG Coordinator – Open:** At the November General Meeting Phil Booth plans to start the

(cont'd on p. 8)

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## Minutes...

# 2012 Board

(cont'd from Page 7)

David Jaschke, Nominations Committee

new SIG called the "Lion's Den" to help members migrate to Mac OS X Lion.

Apple Barrel Editor – Ed Truitt: Ed requested that articles be submitted to him no later than Saturday, November 5, for the November Apple Barrel, and Saturday, December 3, for the December Apple Barrel. He has not heard from Tamara regarding the progress of the work on back-coding for the new website. Ed and Phil will contact Tamara.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**HAAUG Night at the Aeros:** Phil Booth reported the Aeros have offered HAAUG group tickets (minimum of 15 people) at a cost of \$11 to \$35 per ticket. Phil will send out an email to the membership to determine interest in the offer.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Budget Committee:** The Budget Committee submitted a proposed budget for 2012. After discussion, the board approved the proposed budget for 2012. The proposed budget will be submitted to the membership at the December General Meeting. The board also approved the proposal of the Budget Committee to simplify HAAUG's dues. Effective January 1, 2012, all memberships will be \$35 per year, except for student memberships, which shall be \$10 per year and limited to students enrolled full time at a high school, community college, or university.

Adjourned: 1:40 p.m.

The following list of candidates has been placed in nomination for election to the HAAUG Board of Directors for the 2012 term:

President: Phil Booth

Vice-President: Greg Wright

**Secretary:** Jim Connell

**Treasurer:** Clair Jaschke

Membership Chairman: David Jaschke

Media and Communications Administrator:

**Ed Truitt** 

Director-at-Large, Position 1: Mike

**Epstein** 

Director-a-Large, Position 2: Mike King

# **Upcoming Events**

#### Houston Area Apple Users Group 2011 Officers and Directors

## President Phil Booth

1st Vice President Programs Greg Wright

2nd Vice President Facilities **Doug Smith** 

Secretary Lyda McGhee

Treasurer

Clair Jaschke

Director-at-Large 1
Jim Connell

Director-at-Large 2

Michael Epstein

Director-at-Large 3
Michael King

Director-at-Large 4
Rick Roberts

Apple Barrel Editor

**Ed Truitt** HAAUG Heaven Sysop

Membership Chairman

David Jaschke

SIG Coordinator **OPEN** 

Immediate Past President

Matt Willmore

Boutique Manager Barbara Long

Webmaster

HAAUG Hotline Phil Booth

Mentor Program - OPEN -

Publicity Chairman Jim Connell

Vision Committee Chairman

Joe Fournet

Volunteer Coordinator

Senior Advisor **OPEN** 

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Apple User Group Liaison **Doug Smith** 

## Saturday, January 21st, 2012

#### **Semi-Annual Swap Meet**

Bring your gently-used tech stuff to sell or swap, and while you're at it you might find something you can't do without!

**Location:** Bellaire Civic Center | Map online at www.haaug.org

## Saturday, February 18th, 2012

#### Bob LeVitus presents "The State of Apple"

Our favorite local Mac personality will visit us to give his annual "State of Apple" address.

**Location:** Bellaire Civic Center | Map online at www.haaug.org

## Saturday, March 17th, 2012

#### To Be Announced

Stay tuned for the announcement. Coming Soon!

**Location:** Bellaire Civic Center | Map online at www.haaug.org

### Locations, Directions + Parking

#### **Bellaire Civic Center**

7008 South Rice Ave. • Bellaire, TX 77401

The Bellaire Civic Center has been a great location asset of HAAUG for the past 4 years and includes many amenities such as wireless internet and both open and closed spaces for Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings and other functions.

Find out the latest news on future HAAUG meetings...

www.haaug.org/meetings.htm

# **STARTRONICS**

George McKenzie <u>Macintosh/IBM Services, Maintenance & Repair Specialist</u>

> 4141 SW Freeway Suite #470 Houston, Texas 77098 713-524-5646 FAX 713-524-4635

# December 2011 Event Schedule

	Main Room	2nd Room
9 a.m.	The Lion's Den	ios
10 a.m.	Mac 101	Digital Photography
11 a.m.	Club Business	
11:15 a.m.	Main Presentation: Panel discussion on photography, moderated by Phil Booth	
1 p.m.	Clean-up	Board of Directors meeting; followed by social time, and lunch

Main Presentation: A panel of HAAUG photo gurus answers your questions on photography.

**The Lion's Den: Phil Booth** - Our newest SIG, focusing on Apple's newest cat.

**iOS: Doug Smith** - iPad, iPhone and the apps that make our lives better.

Mac 101 & Fundamentals: Jonathan Magnus - The SIG for basic to advanced Macintosh topics.

**Digital Photography: Andrew Polk** – Bring your cameras, bring your photos and we'll discuss what makes a great photo.

Ad hoc: Groups are welcome to use the casual spaces to meet on other topics. Scheduled SIGs take precedence.

The HAAUG SIG Coordinator is currently open. If you would like to volunteer to be the SIG Coordinator, please see any member of the Board of Directors.

# Got Junk?

Computer recycling opportunities in the Houston area

## Houston area recycling centers:

#### **Environmental Service Center**

11500 South Post Oak Road • Dial 311 or 713-837-9130

#### **Westpark Recycling Center**

5900 Westpark • Dial 311 or 713-837-9130

#### **Goodwill COMPUTER WORKS**

12230 Westheimer Houston, TX 77077 281-589-1215

## **Commercial electronics recyclers:**

#### ScrapComputer.com

350 W. 38th St., Houston, TX 77018 • 713-691-9995

\*\*Accepts all computer-related items free; offers free pickup for large amounts.

#### Altech Metals, Inc.

10612 Hempstead, Building A • 713-680-9325 \*\*No TVs or monitors

#### ARM Trading, Inc.

2476 Bolsover, Suite 557 • 713-665-0213

#### Compucycle

620 W. 6th St. • 713-866-8021

#### **ONYX Environmental Services**

Baytown • 1-800-624-9302

#### **Houston Computer Recycler**

6102 Brittmoore, Suite N • 713-937-3334

#### **Recycle America Waste Management Asset Recovery Group**

2102 Atascocita Road, Humble • 281-540-8900

#### **Eagle Electronics**

10612 Hempstead, Building A • 713-934-8585

#### QuickTip

You can press and hold any of the hotkeys on a Mac keyboard to temporarily



keyboard to temporarily view that function.

Here's a cool trick that could be useful if you use hotkeys or keyboard shortcuts to activate Mission Control, the Dashboard, or Launchpad (i.e. F3/F4).

You might be used to tapping a hotkey once to activate that function and then tapping it again to deactivate (i.e. F3 for Mission Control). However, if you press and hold a hotkey, without releasing, that particular function will only remain active for as long as you hold down the key. For example, press and hold the Mission Control/Exposé hotkey, and it will disappear as soon as you take your finger off the key. Give it a try!

While holding the Mission Control key, you can still select windows, or create new Spaces using the mouse. This works with keyboard shortcuts too, such as Ctrl+Up, the default keyboard combo for Mission Control).

Incidentally, if you're annoyed the Show Desktop mouse gesture has gone in OS X Lion, you can simply hold down Command and tap the Mission Control/Expose hotkey. That will do the same thing.

[crarko adds: I tested some of these on my old MacBook, and they work fine. I'm sure the utility will be even greater with the full size keyboards.]

http://hints.macworld.com/ article.php? story=20111122062640943

## Become Part of the Action

Join or renew your membership with the one and only Houston Area Apple Users Group today!

## Join Online With a Credit Card:

Paying for your membership online with a credit card is secure, fast and easy!

Visit **www.haaug.org/join** for details on joining.

## Join by Mail:

Please fill out and complete the following form. Send a check or money order payable to HAAUG and mail it to the address shown below. First year dues are \$45 and renewals are \$40 per year thereafter. Memberships are available for full-time students at \$25 per year, including the first year. Associate memberships are also available for \$25 per year.

Your membership card will be mailed to you. You may pick up your starter kit at the next HAAUG meeting.

First:		_Las	_Last:		
Company:_					
Address:					
City/State/	Zip:				
Home Phone:		_Wo	rk Phone:		
Email:					
Type Of Co	mputer:				
Membershi	p:				
			Renewal (\$40.00) Two Year Renewal (\$70.00) Student (\$25.00) <i>Requires Student ID</i>		
Check #	<del></del>	Me	mber # (if renewing):		
How did yo	u hear about HAAUG?				
Do you know someone who would be interested in joining HAAUG? Y   N					
Would you be willing to volunteer in HAAUG?					
Mail check HAAUG P.O. Box 57					
r.U. DUX 3/	10331				

#### QuickTip

When rolling the pointer over the message dividing line four new instant selections appear for trash, reply, reply all and forward.

If you roll the pointer over the message dividing line four instant selections popup for Trash, Reply, Reply All and Forward.

This can be somewhat useful and avoids a trip to the tool bar or menus, especially if you are in a threaded message with numerous responses.

I never noticed this behavior before for the Mail client, and thought it was worth a mention.

[crarko adds: I looked in Snow Leopard and couldn't reproduce, so I assume this is indeed new behavior in Mail 5.]

> http://hints.macworld.com/ article.php? story=2011081709453290

Houston, TX 77257-0957 Attn.: Membership Chairman

# Membership Benefits

Enjoy the benefits of being a HAAUG member.

#### **Monthly Meetings**

This is where the excitement begins. On the third Saturday of each month, members of HAAUG meet for a day filled with activities, including presentations by major software and hardware vendors, special interest group (SIG) meetings, public domain software libraries, raffles and much, much more. Swap Meets are held twice each year, in January and July.

#### **Software Libraries**

HAAUG maintains public domain and shareware libraries for the Apple II, Macintosh and Newton systems. HAAUG also distributes system software for the Macintosh (7.0.1 and earlier), Newton and all Apple II series computers. HAAUG has been designated by Apple Computer to be the Central United States Repository for Apple II Software.

#### **Bulletin Board System & Internet Link**

HAAUG Heaven is our 24-hour meeting place with several gigabytes of downloadable software, helpful information and discussions on all topics of computing, all accessible at rates from DSL speeds down to 33,600 bps.

#### **HAAUG Heaven**

HAAUG Heaven provides each member with an internet e-mail address allowing exchange of world-wide electronic mail. Many discussion topics and many internet newsgroups make the answers to your questions as close as your keyboard.

#### Club Magazine

Club and industry news, meeting information and special member offers are published in our monthly newsletter - The Apple Barrel. The Barrel's content is also available to members on HAAUG Heaven in Adobe Acrobat format.

#### **Mentor Program**

The HAAUG Mentor Program puts people with hardware, software, system or network problems in contact with volunteers who can provide solutions. Contact with the mentors can be made through the HAAUG Hotline, HAAUG Heaven, e-mail or at the monthly meetings.

#### Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

People with common interests, including Macintosh and OS X basics, Newton, iOS, internet, games, educational computing, databases, publishing, graphics, desktop video, programming and more gather for in-depth discussion, product demonstrations, tutorials and general knowledge sharing.

#### **HAAUG Hotline**

Call the HAAUG Hotline at 832-305-5999 for the latest meeting information and to leave voice mail for officers.

#### Lots of Fun & Friendships

HAAUG is a not-for-profit volunteer group founded in 1978, three years before there was an IBM PC. Approximately 300 members enjoy the benefits of HAAUG. We range from beginners to experts, but we all know the secret to making our computers more valuable - a HAAUG membership.

Learn more about the benefits of HAAUG membership at www.haaug.org.

The Apple Barrel is a monthly publication of the HOUSTON AREA APPLE USERS GROUP (HAAUG) P.O. Box 570957 Houston, Texas 77257-0957.

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If you are interested in joining HAAUG, please call the HAAUG Hotline at (832) 305-5999 or sign up via our web site at www.haaug.org.

Annual membership is \$45 for new members, \$40 for renewing members, \$25 for student members and \$25 for associate members (out-of-state members who receive the Apple Barrel through e-mail only). The Hotline is also the Mentor line if you need help. Guests are welcome to attend one or two meetings to get acquainted with HAAUG, but participation in certain presentations and activities may be limited to members only. HAAUG is an independent support group of Apple product users and is not affiliated with Apple Computer, Inc. The following are trademarks of Apple Computer, Inc., Apple, Apple II, Apple IIGS, eMac, Macintosh, iMac, iBook, iPod, iPhone, iPad, PowerBook, ImageWriter, LaserWriter and the Apple Logo. All other brand names mentioned are registered trademarks or trademarks of their respective holders, and are hereby acknowledged.

## Review: stash for iPad shoulder bag

Doug Smith, tadsmith@swbell.net

I've already been through three bags for my iPad, but I wish I'd found this one first. STM offers the Stash model for iPads and other 10" tablet devices. The Stash is a shoulder strap optional bag with plenty of room in two pocket rich zippered compartments for accessory cables, devices and plenty of padding in its third iPad compartment. If it had been there on day one, it would have left Best Buy with my iPad and saved me a lot of shopping. The Stash is available in Black and Berry and lists for \$55. The price at Amazon.com is \$42.23 at this time.



STM offers options for all your devices, from sleeves to messenger bags to rolling bags.



Check out all the offerings from STM Bags at <a href="http://www.stmbags.com/">http://www.stmbags.com/</a> to, as the folks at STM say, "protect your digital cargo."

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