

# CAMP NEWS

Capital Apple Mac Performa User Group • Augusta, Maine

## April Meeting

Our next meeting takes place at 6:30 p.m. on April 9 in Room 11, Buker Community Center, 22 Armory Street, Augusta. Due to the recent disruptions in our meeting schedule, we don't have a program planned. But don't let that deter you from showing up: who knows what may happen!

## Note-Worthy

Over the last several months I've become an enthusiastic user of Evernote. What with my new scanning abilities (see main article), I wondered if there was a way to scan documents directly into Evernote. Turns out there is: [Veritrope](#) has posted a [free Applescript application](#) that creates an Evernote import folder on your Mac. Whenever you drag, save or scan a document to the folder, the app (1) prompts you to tag the doc and select a notebook, (2) stores the doc in Evernote, and (3) removes the source file

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## Review: Epson XP-810

**"Small-in-one" shines with features, tech**

by Jeffrey Frankel

Since retiring last June I really felt the need for enhanced scanning and copying capabilities that my 13-year-old, one-sheet-at-a-time portable flatbed scanner couldn't deliver. Plenty of all-in-one inkjets have an automatic document feed for this purpose, but not many sport a full-function duplexer capable of printing \*and\* scanning \*and\* copying double-sided documents automatically from the ADF. Also, most all-in-ones print business quality, not photo quality output. What I wanted was a photo printer with the paper-handling smarts of a high-powered office machine.

In the Epson XP-810, I found it.

The XP-810 is part of Epson's Expression line of inkjet devices. As opposed to the standard four ink tanks of a business inkjet, the XP-810 sports a fifth tank for photo black. Most dedicated inkjet photo printers contain six or more tanks. But in my very limited photo printing so far, the XP-810 produced output equal to that of the six-tank, circa-2008 HP Photosmart D7460 that it replaced.



The XP-810 occupies a compact, 15" x 13" inch footprint and has more flip-out components and internal chambers

from the import folder. It works like a charm. But if this isn't enough for you and you're in the market for a new scanner, you can spring for the [ScanSnap Evernote Edition](#) from Fujitsu, which costs \$495.

More news on the Notes front: Microsoft recently released a version of [OneNote](#) for the Mac. OneNote has been part of MS Office for Windows for many years and has been available on iOS since 2010. With this latest release, the app is free for both Macs and PCs. OneNote appears to be amazingly robust. You can create a presentation-worthy note by dragging around text boxes, photos and tables much like a page layout app. For a first-look review, check out [this article](#) on macworld.com.

## Cell Phone Wars

Verizon, my wireless provider, recently doubled the monthly data allowance on most of its plans at no extra cost to consumers. My limit rose from 1 Gb to 2 Gb. Inasmuch as I rarely use anywhere near 1 Gb each month, I'm considering saving \$10 per month by dropping down to what is now the 1 Gb plan. Verizon's move is yet another promotion unleashed by the major carriers since the Department of Justice blocked the proposed merger of AT&T and T-Mobile in 2011. I can't think of a better demonstration of the benefits of competition among top-tier providers in the telecommunications industry. ☀

than a magician's cabinet. There are four media inputs: an all-purpose letter-size paper tray, a dedicated photo paper tray that easily adjusts for 4 x 6, 5 x 7 or larger size paper, a single-sheet rear feeder for heavy stock, and a dedicated tray for printable compact disks. A major space-saving feature is the output tray, which remains hidden until you print and can automatically retract upon shutdown. You can connect via USB 2, 10/100 Ethernet, or 802.b/g/n wireless. The XP-810 can also create its own dedicated network for wireless printing if an existing wireless network isn't available.

The XP-810 offers full-featured printing, scanning and faxing from either a computer or direct from the device itself, and full-featured copying from the device. For example, you can copy double-sided to double-sided, double-sided to single-sided, or single-sided to double-sided, just like on an office photocopier. It was also a snap to fax a document from the XP-810's scanner bed: all I had to do was unplug a phone line from a desk phone, plug the line into the XP-810, and enter the fax number on the touch screen.

Epson's software suite is extremely robust and allows advanced users to tweak to their heart's content. In scan mode, you can also bypass Epson's software by scanning directly into Apple's Preview or Image Capture applications if you wish.

One minor limitation of the Epson software is that you cannot initiate a scan directly from the printer to a Mac; to scan to a Mac, you must initiate the scan via the Epson Scan application from the Mac itself. On the plus side, you can scan directly from the device to a thumb drive or SD card plugged into the device, or directly from the device to any number of cloud services. It was easy to configure the XP-810 to scan to my Dropbox account. And as noted above, the ADF has double-sided capability in print, scan, copy and fax modes—a rarity in the XP-810's price range.

The Epson Connect software gives you two options for printing remotely to the XP-810 over the internet when you're away from home. For the greatest degree of control you need to install the printer driver directly on the computer you'll be printing from. However, you can also email documents and photos as attachments from *any* computer directly to the XP-810 for printing—that's right, you assign the device its own email address. Now I can't say that I see myself needing to print in this fashion, but it sounds pretty cool. The XP-810 can also print from iOS and Android devices, although I didn't try this out.

I printed/copied somewhere between 150-200 black and white pages before the black cartridge gave out. I recall reading somewhere that the yield from replacement cartridges may be higher because the initial cartridges need to prime the printer upon setup. At any rate, I quickly learned that running large copy jobs through an inkjet is needlessly costly. I would have been much better off scanning the documents to a file and then printing the file on my laser printer. Flowers along the path.

I bought the XP-810 at BestBuy on sale for \$150; \$150 also seems to be the everyday selling price for this item on Amazon. The first unit I purchased started outputting a vertical line on anything printed, scanned or copied from the ADF; BestBuy cheerfully gave me a replacement.

Other reviews of the XP-810 you may find helpful are:

[http://www.computershopper.com/printers/reviews/epson-expression-premium-xp-810-small-in-one-printer/\(page\)/2#review-body](http://www.computershopper.com/printers/reviews/epson-expression-premium-xp-810-small-in-one-printer/(page)/2#review-body)

and

<http://www.pcworld.com/article/2048270/epson-expression-premium-xp-810-small-in-one-review-do-it-all-printer-offers-best-photo-quality-for.html>. ☼

