



MIDWEST MARINER



DIVISION 3, SWR

Issue 4 November 2015

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY**

EAGLE

The Coast Guard's Training Barque



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EDITOR'S NOTE: *The Table of Contents is "live linked" even though it doesn't show as the normal blue color with an underline.*

The MIDWEST MARINER welcomes all articles on Coast Guard and Coast Guard Auxiliary customs, traditions, heritage, history and current events. The right to decline any submission will be based on content. Articles and photos may be sent via email to the editor, Barbara Rhoades at: bcrhoades@centurytel.net.



DIVISION COMMANDER - 3

Diana Arisman

Honor, Respect, and Devotion to Duty

These words, known as the Coast Guard’s core values, are firmly rooted in the Coast Guard’s heritage and traditions and are foundation of “**Team Coast Guard**”. Although we’ve heard the words frequently, we don’t always hear their definitions.

Honor: *Integrity is our standard. We demonstrate uncompromising ethical conduct and moral behavior in all of our personal actions. We are loyal and accountable to the public trust.*

Respect: *We value our diverse work force. We treat each other with fairness, dignity and compassion. We encourage individual opportunity and growth. We encourage creativity through empowerment. We work as a team.*

Devotion to Duty: *We are professionals, military and civilian, who seek responsibility, accept accountability and are committed to the successful achievement of our organizational goals. We exist to serve. We serve with pride.*

The Auxiliary Manual stipulates that Auxiliarists adhere to these core values.

Auxiliary “membership hinges upon the demonstrated commitment to and practice of the Coast Guard’s core values: Honor, Respect and Devotion to Duty. These considerations are significant in the context and application of administrative discipline.” Auxiliary Chapter 1.F.1

Honor requires honesty and integrity, hence our words must be truthful and sincere; our actions guileless. Honor requires us to uphold all Coast Guard policies. Respect is the basis of all Auxiliary interactions. We must go beyond the Golden Rule of treating others as we’d like to be treated; we must embrace the Platinum Rule of treating others as they wish to be treated. Our words must be kind and courteous; our actions supportive. Devotion to Duty requires us to carry out our missions to the best of our ability and to adhere to the US Coast Guard Auxiliary Manuals in doing so.

As Auxiliarists, our behavior is a direct reflection of ourselves, our unit and the Coast Guard as whole. Therefore, we should not act in a manner that will discredit any of the aforementioned.



STAFF OFFICER REPORTS



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - DV

Katey Bernstein

Kaleidoscope



"An individual has not started living until he can rise above the narrow confines of his individualistic concerns to the broader concerns of all humanity"

-Martin Luther King, Jr.



"Ultimately, America's answer to the intolerant man is diversity."

-Robert Kennedy

Thoughts to ponder.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - FN

Charles Aten

ARE YOUR DISENROLLMENT'S IN?

I hope by now all Finance Officers have billed their flotilla members for 2016 dues. The reason for that is DSO-HR Alan Main had posted a date of October 15 for all disenrollment's to be into him. He needs to process and send them to DIRAUX.



The incentive plan to start early has always been to avoid the problem that several flotillas in our division have run into in past years. The problem is that they didn't have enough money in their treasury to pay the dues they owed. The problem of not enough money to pay dues came as a result of not starting efforts to collect dues soon enough.

It used to be we could wait until December but no more. By not starting back in August or even September, many flotillas find they are under pressure to dis-enroll non-paying dues members and hope they get off their rolls before the end of 2015. If these members are not dis-enrolled in time, the flotilla still has an obligation to pay dues.

I have had several conversations with DSO-HR Alan Main about getting the Change of Member Status form ANSC 7035 in on time because of all the expected changes from not only the 8WR but because DIRAUX also handles 8ER. The DIRAUX office needs time to handle all the 7035's they have to process before the end of 2016.

When Division 3 bills the flotillas for dues, the bill will be for \$44 per member. The division will retain \$5 and forward \$39 to the district to pay district and national dues.

Any problems or questions, please contact SO-FN Charles Aten at 314-741-3467 or cwa-ten@sbcglobal.net.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - HR

Gloria Tobin

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION REPORT

We have now approached the last two months of the year. Our division's current membership figures are quite a step down from those of November 2014 which were 199 active members.

Our disenrollment figures are higher than ever. For a variety of reasons, including an increase in member dues, we have lost quite a few members. The loss of members is not surprising but certainly is not good news either. We now have to reverse this downward trend and create an upswing in our growth efforts for the remainder of the year and into next year. It is vital that we make a concerted effort to recruit new younger members and get them mentored, trained and qualified as soon as possible.



MEMBER GROWTH: Attracting/recruiting qualified and qualifiable younger members should be a high priority for all seven flotillas. We need to think outside the box for new sources to tap into.

One such recruitment possibility is to contact junior and four-year colleges. Request permission to post CGAux Recruitment flyers in the main Student Union Building on their bulletin billboards. Send all Fraternity and Sorority top officers an invitation to attend a flotilla meeting also. Be sure to emphasize to their non-boating members (or while boating) that there are many other areas besides boating in which members can contribute to the overall goals of the Coast Guard Auxiliary. There is something for everyone in the Auxiliary. The Student Affairs Office (Interfraternity and Panhellenic) on every campus might be an excellent source of contact to possibly obtain lists of all school Fraternities, Sororities and Student Clubs (their addresses, etc.). Give it a try. Any positive results will be welcomed.



RETENTION: In order to stop having disinterested members fall by the wayside, we must keep our existing members interested, trained and energized. Be sure to help those few members who feel dissatisfied with their flotilla relationships and don't feel wanted or appreciated. Strive to make them feel valued and become contributing members once again. If we meet this important challenge, we'll keep the number of additional losses to a minimum. We also need to conduct a brush-up program for our older veteran members.

All old motors become sluggish and must have a tune-up. People are the same and Auxiliary members are not exempt. Making sure that ALL of our members are brought up-to-date, by receiving the latest member training available and being encouraged to participate in flotilla and division functions, becomes a powerful retention tool.

IN CONCLUSION: Our goal for the next two months will be to continue to hold on to our experienced existing members, to recruit new younger members, train them well and keep any further disenrollments down to a minimum. I know that all of our FSO-HR officers in Division 3 will be keeping their eyes open for every opportunity to promote our Auxiliary programs and get all of our members involved.

It's been my privilege and pleasure to serve as your SO-HR officer these past years.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - IS

Barbara Rhoades

As we approach the end of the year, we are beginning to think more about whether or not we have turned in all our hours. Give them to your FSO-IS now so there isn't a last minute rush before the Awards Committee tells you the cutoff date.

Also remember, if you are checking in AUXINFO (everyone can get into AUXINFO. Simply logon as a guest) for information, there might be a difference between what you think you have and what is showing. For example, if you are thinking of the VEs you have done, you will be disappointed or overwhelmed depending on what you think you should have. AUXINFO show the number of HOURS you have done in VEs, NOT the number of VEs you have done.



Your FSO-IS will need to pull a mission detail report. And that will only tell you how many VEs you flotilla has done. You should have a copy of your VEs and you can check again what AUXINFO shows for hours. If the hours are correct, then the number of VEs you have done will be correct. It is simply a part of the total for the whole flotilla.

If your flotilla gives your hours to me to enter, you can check with your FC to see if they are done. Once I enter them, I write, in red, the date they were entered. Then I give the hard copy back to the respective FC. I do not keep any copies and cannot verify if a certain day/time/event was done. The FC will have the hard copy. Yes, I can go into AUXDATA and look for the date but looking at the paper copy you have will be faster and easier.

When writing up your hours, we should use quarter hours as a "break" of time. The following should be used:

- 1 minute to 14 minutes – drop the time to the last whole hour
- 15 minutes to 29 minutes - .25 of an hour
- 30 minutes to 44 minutes - .5 of an hour
- 45 minutes to 59 minutes - .75 hour

There shouldn't be any time that is .9 of an hour. We don't track our hours by six minute intervals.

Finally, with the new chain of leadership, I have been in contact with Gina Thorton. She has informed me that in doing VEs, we do not have to limit our reporting to two VEs per hour. If you take an hour to do a VE, then enter it as such. If you take a half hour to do one VE, then enter it as such.

Remember, DON'T KILL THE MESSENGER. I am only passing on what those up the chain of leadership tell me. As soon as I know of any changes, I pass them along. Come to a division meeting for the latest and greatest news.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - MT

Marilyn Aten

MEMBER TRAINING

By Marilyn Aten SO-MT



The most talked about members' course this year has been Mandatory Training and getting all members through the required eight courses by years end. How is your flotilla doing in getting everyone to complete all eight?

It hasn't been easy getting everyone to complete all required courses either at a flotilla training or doing them on line. I heard one flotilla has gotten all their members through all the eight required courses. Congratulations!

Now is the time for flotilla IS officers to check AuxData and pull up which Mandatory Courses each of your members has completed. This will help you find out how your members stand on getting these done. You will then be able to design a plan to help members get finished.

Also, it's important that these courses get reported into AuxData by your FSO-IS. Sometimes instructors think they have passed the class registration along for input only to find it in a stack of papers on their desk or still in their briefcase. Instructors need their hours reported as well to stay qualified.

Your flotilla members have participated in many activities over the year. It's important

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that all their activities get properly reported. They deserve credit for all the time they have devoted to the Coast Guard Auxiliary. You can make this an activity/training at your November meeting.

Member training is important. It's what keeps members up to date and active in Auxiliary activities. Now is the time to plan ahead to the first quarter of 2016 and what training members will need for scheduled programs such as PE, VE and PV.



DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - PA

Betty Zoellner

2015 BOATING SEASON HAS COME AND GONE!

Wow, the flooding finally leaves so we could get some boating in before the trees began to shed their leaves for the winter. Time sure does fly.



Before we know it we will be wishing for warmer weather, so while we are sitting near the fireplace and enjoying the holidays with family and friends, we can be thankful for all that we have as well as for our Auxiliary friends. We can reminisce about how we were able to assist boaters and non-boaters regarding water and boating safety.

The holidays will come and go just as quickly as they do every year. This means it is time for us to begin planning our strategies for Auxiliary Safety events. It is never too soon to start thinking and planning for 2016. However, before we step out and begin our assistance to the public, we need to be prepared with the correct information and proper training about what we are talking about.

With this being said, once again, here it is:

MY SOAP BOX!

I know I had this in the last issue of the Midwest Mariner, however, I will continue to have the SO-PB print the information below:

Members need to check out to the National Public Affairs website and at the very least read thru the Public Affairs courses. It is important that we are all **well versed** on what we say when speaking about the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Coast Guard, our district, division and flotilla.

We must represent ourselves appropriately and correctly.

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The New AUXPAO Manual has been posted on the National Public Affairs Website! There are three changes that we all must adhere to:

The descriptive words for Public Affairs Events are:

- EXHIBIT not BOOTH
- We STAFF (not man) an Exhibit
- Uniforms: Everyone is to be in the SAME uniform
 - (NO EXCEPTIONS) for any Public Affairs event.
 - It is always a good idea to review the Auxiliary Manual on uniform and accessory wear before meeting the public.

We must be the best with verbal presentations and look sharp in our uniforms.

Always keep in mind that we are **MARKETING** the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, U.S. Coast Guard, our district, division and flotilla!

NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK 2016

One last thing, if you did not make any plans for National Safe Boating Week for 2015. It is never too early to begin discussions at your flotilla meetings to do something in 2016.

Every mission we have committed ourselves to upon becoming a member of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary requires some sort of training. Public Affairs is a huge commitment and also requires training. So, as our busy season rapidly closed on us, what better time to start reading the courses on the National website or ask me for assistance.



I end with, I wish all a very Happy, Healthy Holiday Season! Even during the Holiday Season, we may find the opportunity to do our missions correctly and well versed.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS EVERYONE!

OUR LIFE IN PICTURES

If you are under 55, you simply won't understand...





DIVISION STAFF OFFICER - VE

Dan Rhoades

Summer came and went. We had high water and floods on the rivers but we got out there and did vessel exams anyway. At the end of October, Division 3 had 272 exams reported in AUXINFO. I remind everyone to make sure all VEs are recorded.

The importance of our efforts of inspecting powered and paddle craft is very hard to measure. We all know a vessel properly equipped and maintained sometimes makes the difference between a small problem and major issue. All the VE officers can take pride with the knowledge that we have helped almost 300 people have a safe 2015 boating season.

Please review the recall advisory on inflatable PFD below:

September 24, 2015

Recall Advisory Notice for Mustang 3183 and 3184 Inflatable PFDs Containing Fluorescent Green Inflation Bladders (US)

PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT RECALL ADVISORY IN ITS ENTIRETY.

In keeping with Landfall's commitment to the highest level of quality and safety, we are notifying the public of an urgent recall advisory recalling certain Mustang Survival Inflatable Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs) that were manufactured between September 2014 and September 2015.

Effective immediately, users are advised to inspect your Mustang Survival PFDs and, if you have a PFD impacted by this recall advisory (as noted below), **DO NOT USE** and immediately return the affected PFD to us as there is a risk that the bladder may tear when the lobes are flexed apart while fully inflated.

WARNING: IF THE BLADDER IS TORN IT WILL NOT PROVIDE ANY FLOTATION PROTECTION IF USED WHICH CAN RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.



The following Mustang Survival products **MAY** be affected:

- **MD3183** and **MD3184** Deluxe Inflatable HIT™ PFDs
- **MD3188 HIT™** Work Vest

If you have one of these model PFDs, follow the steps below to determine whether your PFD is impacted by this recall.

- Determine if Your PFD is Affected
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Download

For Steps **1** through **5**, please refer to the approval label sewn on your PFD and look for the markings shown in **Fig.1**.

STEP 1: Look for model number on the approval label (**shown at 1.**) If it matches one of the model numbers listed above, proceed to **Step 2**.



Step 2: If your device is marked **Made in Canada (shown at 2)**, proceed to Step 3.

Step 3: If the MFG DATE (**shown at 3**) is any date from **Sep2014** to **Sep2015** inclusive, proceed to **Step 4**.

*If you answer **NO** to any of **Steps 1** to **3**, then your PFD is **NOT** impacted by this recall.*

Step 4: If the bladder in your device is **FLOURESCENT GREEN (NOT Yellow/Gold)** as seen below in Fig.3, proceed to **Step 5**.

Step 5: Check to see if your device has a stamp as (**shown in Fig.2**) below. If it does not, proceed to Step 6.

 <p>Fluorescent Green</p> <p>Bladder AFFECTED go to STEP 6</p>	 <p>Yellow/Gold Bladder</p> <p>Your device is NOT part of this advisory</p>
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MUSTANG SURVIVAL PFDs WITH THE QA PASS STAMP (SHOWN AT 4) ARE NOT AFFECTED BY THIS RECALL. (SHOWN IN FIG.2 BELOW)

Step 6: DO NOT USE the PFD as it is impacted by this recall. Immediately contact **MUSTANG SURVIVAL'S** Customer Service directly. You do not need to contact **LANDFALL** as **MUSTANG SURVIVAL** will handle the repair as follows:

- **Contact Mustang Survival Customer Service at:** 1-800-526-0532 between

the hours of 7:30am-4:30pm PST, or email productadvisories@mustangsurvival.com, to obtain specific return shipping instructions.

- Your PFD will have to be returned to **Mustang Survival** for repair.
- PFDs impacted by this recall will be repaired at **NO COST TO YOU**. Once repaired, the PFD will be safe to use and returned to you.

If you have questions, please first refer to the **Frequently Asked Questions** in the next tab. on our website at: www.mustangsurvival.com/advisories. Mustang Survival appreciates your attention to this important matter.



Figure-1.

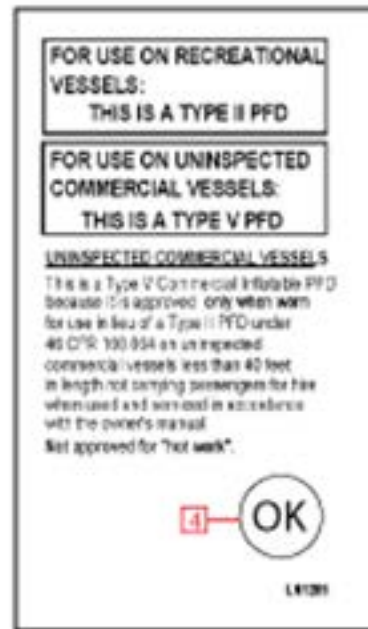


Figure-2.

David Starr, Commodore 8th Western Rivers Region

The October/November 2015 issue of BoatUS Magazine has a pretty good article titled, “The Coastal Picket Forces”, discussing just how close World War II enemy activity was to our shores. The magazine leads the article as “During World War II, a ragtag armada of recreational boaters patrolled the American coasts, and became the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary”.

There is a good slideshow (via online extra) of gulf coast wrecks, especially the torpedoed passenger ship, SS Robert E. Lee, and U166, the German submarine that torpedoed the Robert E. Lee, and was then depth charged and sunk by a Coast Guard patrol boat accompanying the Robert E. Lee. Both wrecks are within 2 miles of each other.

FLOTILLA COMMANDER REPORTS



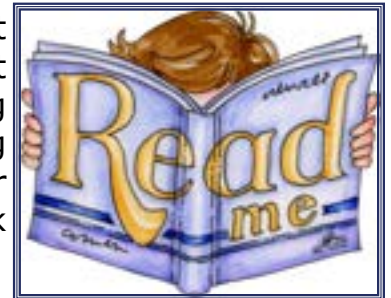
FLOTILLA VICE COMMANDER - 34

Marilyn Aten

FLOTILLA COMMANDER'S BRIEF

Having recently been elected Flotilla Commander for Flotilla 34, I decided to do a little research about how to get started in my new position. Turns out there is a whole section in the new Auxiliary Flotilla Procedures Guide but still not exactly what I was looking for.

I've been in the Auxiliary a few years and have accumulated a lot of files with a variety of information that needs some clearing out and shredding every once in a while. I was doing just that (making room for new files) when I came across what I had been looking for in the new Flotilla Procedures Guide. It was a "FC's Briefing" or a "FC's Year at a Glance" written by COMO Steve Reams first back in 1999 and then again in 2003.



I was looking for how to get started as a new or recycled Flotilla Commander. Believe it or not my new job doesn't begin January 1; it begins in October, three months earlier. So there is a lot of work to do before the new job even begins.



The first three things to do are get with the new VFC to make plans for the New Year, like meeting locations, PE classes, VE stations, PA events, member training and seminars to keep members up-to-date. I also need to figure out what sort of goals to set for the year. If we have goals, will our flotilla do better than last year? Analysts say goals set the tone and lead the way for success. I guess we'll have to set some goals.

Now we have to appoint our staff. How did last year's staff do? Were they successful? Did they attend meetings? Did they give a report at meetings? If the answer is no or not so good, do we have someone qualified to replace them? Or do we keep things status quo? Lots of questions to think about.

If we have to replace anyone, it must be done gently. We don't want to ruffle anyone's feathers. Yet, maybe they want a change too. Will a few changes freshen our perspective? Do we have new members that want to get more involved and would be qualified for a staff position? So much to think about and discuss with my new VFC.

How many staff positions are there that need to be filled? A lot including SR, FN, IS, MA, MT, PA, PB, HR, MS, NS, PV, OP, PE and VE. Can I combine any of these together? I really want to get as many members as I can involved.

I didn't realize there was so much to get together before January 1, 2016 when my new job starts.

TIMELINES

- 15 October Disenrollment due to DSO-HR Alan Main. Change of Status ANSC form 7035
- 1 November End Daylight Savings Time
- 11 November Veteran's Day
- 26 November Thanksgiving
- 4-6 December Flotilla Commanders Academy (FCA)
- 15 December Deadline for Annual Unit Officers Report to DIRAUX ANSC form 7007

P.S. I asked DSO-HR Alan Main, "What do flotillas do that missed your cut-off date for disenrollments? Is there another date or are they just out of luck? Alan's reply was, "Send the disenrollment papers to me ASAP and I will get them to the DIRAUX office. It will be up to them if they get them processed in time. Usually they do their very best to get it done."



FLOTILLA COMMANDER - 3-13

Mark Zoellner

3rd Quarter Report

As the year draws nearer the end and a New Year will soon begin, we need to reflect on the last few months.

The 3-13 MT Team (as we like to call us affectionately) has made great strides. In the last three months, we have elevated the status of three members, two in 3-13 and one Division 8 member to AUXOP. This means that out of 16 active members in 3-13, we have seven AUXOP.

To make things even more awesome, we have two members within one class and two members within two classes of obtaining AUXOP.

The second part of the Member Training equation is that ALL members have now completed all eight Mandatory Classes. Congratulations to them all. AND, we are within seven ICS classes of having everything completed.



We have our 9th annual Veteran's Day Parade in Florissant coming up on the 8th of November and our 2nd attended (3rd scheduled, thanks to sequestration) Health and Safety Fair at Mallinckrodt on the 3rd of November.

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Our annual Flotilla Holiday Party is coming soon and is always a blast. We are looking forward to the New Year and Change of Watch and Awards affair. But, for the most part, we did well for 2015. We will finish up with 160 VSC's and about 50 PV's and four new members with their packets all ready to go. Come Jan 1st, here we go.



Betty Zoellner was elected FC for 2016 and R. Keeler Steensgaard, the FVC (COS). They will make a great duo as in the past.

All have a great Thanksgiving and Holiday season.

We will see you again after the 1st!

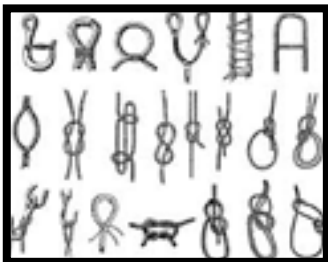
OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

Member Training Never Ends By Marilyn Aten SO-MT

It may be August and many of us have already completed training new members or even current members that were looking to get involved with a new Auxiliary program.

Congratulations to all FSO-MT's that have gotten members out of reyear. And even gotten members involved in new programs. The best way to keep members is to find a program that interests them to assist the Coast Guard in promoting safe boating. Train them and develop a way for them to utilize this training.

As we head into the Fall of the year, it's important to remember that training is ongoing and should never stop. Use your meeting training time this Fall to do some in-depth training. Extend members' knowledge beyond the ABS class with the more extensive subjects found in the BS&S books. I'm sure some members still have some books around. There should be PowerPoints out there to aid in the training.



Do a class on knot tying. That is almost a lost skill that all of us should be proficient in doing.

Keep your new people looking to become crew or coxswain qualified active so they can move along to complete their tasks.

Continue to use this Fall time of the year to keep members interested in the Coast Guard Auxiliary and their many activities.



EDITOR'S NOTE: The following poem was sent in by Gloria Tobin.

The Dash

by Linda Ellis copyright 1996

I read of a man who stood to speak
at the funeral of a friend.

He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning...to the end.

He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke the following date with tears, but he said
what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time
that they spent alive on earth.
And now only those who loved them
know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own,
the cars...the house...the cash.
What matters is how we live and love
and how we spend our dash.

So, think about this long and hard.
Are there things you'd like to change?
For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough
to consider what's true and real
and always try to understand
the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger
and show appreciation more
and love the people in our lives
like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect
and more often wear a smile,
remembering that this special dash
might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is being read,
with your life's actions to rehash...
would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent YOUR dash?

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