



The Seattle Garden Club

Member of The Garden Club of America

June 2011

www.seattlegardenclub.org



ANNUAL MEETING & AWARDS LUNCHEON

Broadmoor Golf Club

Thursday, June 2, 2011

11:00am - Receiving Line for New Provisionals, Social

12:00pm - Annual Meeting, Awards and Luncheon

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED/FESTIVAL SEATING

Please reply YES or NO by Friday, May 27
to Charlee Reed cpreed@msn.com 206-325-7033

Non-Subscribers to the Hostess Fund please mail a check for \$40.00
to Charlee Reed, 308 - 36th Avenue E., Seattle, WA 98112

AT A GLANCE

events of note coming soon

- | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| May 25 | Community Project Meeting , 10-11:30am
Laurie Ahern's |
| June 2 | Annual Meeting per information above |
| June 15 | Photography Shutter Walking Tour for
those registered - 10am |
| June 16 | In and Out Board Meeting - 10am
Sunset Club |
| June 21 | Take your photo on the Summer
Solstice - 9pm |

MEMBER SURVEY REMINDER

If you have not already done so, please complete the Member Survey (included in the May newsletter) and return it to Laurie Riley as soon as possible. This information is very useful for future planning. If you need another copy, please contact Laurie at laurieariley@msn.com or call 206-325-2514

And remember...it's never too late to sign up for one or two SGC committees!!



FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the early stages of planning for our May 2011 GCA Flower Show on the Seattle waterfront, a group of wordly wise SGC members gathered late one afternoon at Laurie Ahern's house to Think Nautical. They were offered some light refreshment along with (or in service to) a charge to brainstorm and free associate their way to a handy list of seaworthy terms. It was a naming opportunity. Our flower show needed a title.

In recalling now the combination of three parts optimism and one part trepidation with which our Enterprise was launched, I wonder if some names of famous ships were bandied about: *Endurance*, *Intrepid*, *Courageous*. Or did some veteran of flower shows past toy with *Disaster at Sea* or *The Perfect Storm*? I shall never know, for the long list of possibilities that emerged was as optimistic and anodyne as *The Good Shop Lollipop*. After a productive winnowing process by the full flower show committee, the talismanic and now iconic *Welcome Aboard!* emerged as the winner. What a friendly, serviceable and apt handle it proved to be for our 2011 GCA Flower Show. Perhaps in its straightforward openness and simplicity *Welcome Aboard!* masked the complexity and challenges of mounting a flower show. If that is so, then so too did the ease of manner of our Chairs Marilee Ahalt and Barbara Feasey. Everything about their leadership and demeanor signaled "Welcome Aboard!" I can only strive for the same simplicity and graciousness in saying on behalf of all SGC members: Thank you, Barbara and Marilee.

Now we move ahead to our Annual Meeting, a celebration and summing up of our 2010-2011 year. It has been a productive and satisfying nine months. The accomplishments of our membership under the Governing Board's leadership have allowed me simply to bask in reflected glory. You know from experience that SGC's officers and chairs of Standing Committees are unstinting in their efforts to stimulate in each of us the knowledge and the love of gardening, *writ large*. At our monthly meetings your board members have been as sage and statesmanlike in their deliberations as the U.S. Senate ... used to be. I am confident that I represent all of you in thanking each member of the Governing Board for her service to SGC. I know too that they are all proud and honored to have been entrusted for a time with the leadership of The Seattle Garden Club. Follow their example: if our Nominating Committee calls you next fall, do not pause to reflect. Just say yes and Come Aboard!

Finally, dear reader, *indulgent* reader, I know you will be happy for me to put down my pen and pick up my garden trowel (the ergonomically correct one, from India).

Catherine Roach, President

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

NOTICE OF MEMBERSHIP VOTE JUNE 2, 2011

The CP committee met on March 31 and approved the request from Dunn Garden for \$2,500. This money will be used to begin scientific testing and documentation of its heritage trees. In the next step of the granting process, the SGC Board was presented the project, which they also approved. Membership learned more about the project from representatives of the Dunn Garden on May 2 at the Horticulture meeting. **A vote of the general membership to approve this project will occur at the Annual Meeting at Broadmoor, June 2, 2011.**

Laurie Ahern, Chair

DUES NOTICE COMING YOUR WAY.....

Look for your dues notice in June. This will also be your opportunity to update or change your listing in the Yearbook as it relates to name, address, phone, cell phone and/or email address.

Barbara Anderson, Treasurer

ATTENTION! PLEASE RSVP OR ACT NOW!

- RSVP to Charlee Reed by 5/27 for the Annual Meeting at Broadmoor
- RSVP to Catherine Roach for the Board meeting and lunch on 6/16 at The Sunset Club

EAST MONTLAKE PARK

Late April work parties at the park pruned back old ferns and dug up blackberries to clean the area for an annual dressing of woodchips. Volunteers included: Hotie and Cahill Hard, BJ Anderson, Catherine Allan, Hope Stroble, Janet Footh, Jenny Wyatt, Juliet Romano, Bob and Sue Blethen. May 1st, 11 Sigma Chi Fraternity members in an Environmental Awareness Class at UW volunteered for four hours and moved 15 yards of wood chips to circle each plant. This will provide moisture retention and weed control for the new plants. With extra time remaining, they made a major dent in the last blackberry bramble along the border of the park and cut wrist-sized clematis plants at the base of trees in the adjacent park area. This will greatly help reduce the spread of weed seeds across our reclaimed area, and it improves the view of Lake Washington! The young men were assisted by Susan Pollock and Abby Blethen, age 6 ½, who pulled horsetails, outlined paths with sticks and helped her Grandma Sue. This week we logged 79 volunteer hours at the park! Pretty impressive!

The Army Corps of Engineers placed orange fencing around the park for Opening Day of Boating Season, May 7. Hundreds of people lined the Montlake Cut to watch the crew races and boat parade. Our park looked so great and is a beautiful addition to the Lake Washington Ship Canal! You should all be very proud!!

Catherine Allan has been a huge supporter of the park and really came through for us mid-May. While walking her dog beside Highway 520, between Evergreen Point and Hunts Point, she noticed a blooming Amelanchier alnifolia or Serviceberry, which is one of the trees SGC is focused on for the GCA Centennial Tree Project. There were also several other plants we are looking to include at the park: Snowberries, Vine Maples, Native Strawberries and Indian Plum. All were close to the walking path! The bulldozers of the highway department were plowing down everything in their path adjacent to 520 to the West. Workers gave permission to remove plants inside the area to be destroyed inside the orange fencing ¼ mile away.

I got a call from Catherine, grabbed my shovel and gloves and we set out on a search and recovery mission. We took the plants straight to the park, planted them and top dressed them with wood chips! Many thanks to Catherine and her quick response in recognizing an opportunity for our park!

May 11th, Traci Tenneson and Jane Harder joined Sue to begin "Potting Up at the Locks!" We brought plenty of one-gallon square pots and placed our well-rooted, newly propagated plants into individual pots to be cared for at the Locks during the summer months. These will be planted in the park next fall! This is VERY EXCITING stuff!!

We are always looking for more native plants so always keep us in mind. Also remember that fall is truly the best time to plant as we don't have water available at the park. If you can keep plants until then, it would be most helpful. But do contact Sue if you have something available that could work! Do visit the park to enjoy the maidenhair fern, native bleeding heart, Amelanchier, Foam flower and newly emerging Vancouveria! There is always something beautiful to enjoy at our park.

More propagation workshops are in the planning stages! Keep watching your emails! Many thanks to everyone for your continuing support at East Montlake Park! Look for the related article in this issue for a more specific report on our previous propagation efforts.

Great news: The Conservation Committee has volunteered all their plants for East Montlake Park from their flower show exhibit. Thank you so much Carol Eland, Juliet Romano and committee. Congratulations on your award!

Sue Blethen

VISITING GARDENS - SUMMER GARDEN VISITS

If you will be travelling this summer, why not visit private gardens of GCA members? This is a unique opportunity available to you as a perk of your GCA membership. GCA Visiting Gardens is set up to help you arrange gardens to visit in many locations throughout the country. Please allow as much advance notice as possible. Contact Laurie Riley or Burnley Snyder for further information.

WELCOME ABOARD!

SGC 2011 GCA FLOWER SHOW IN REVIEW



Welcome Aboard! Celebrating Maritime Seattle, our GCA Flower Show, enjoyed accolades from exhibitors, judges and the general public.

SGC was awarded several prestigious commendations and awards including: Judges commendations for our schedule, staging, clerks and three horticulture classes: Nautical Natives Afloat, Mosquito Fleet (waterwise plants) and Par's "An Old Salt".

Our Conservation exhibit received the *GCA Marion Thompson Fuller Brown Conservation Award* for an outstanding conservation exhibit of exceptional educational and visual merit, which increases the public's knowledge and awareness of our environment.

Horticulture Class 31, Mosquito Fleet (waterwise plants), was awarded the *GCA Ann Lyon Crammon Award* for an outstanding education exhibit which increases the knowledge and appreciation of plants, gardens or landscape design.

The Preview Party was a smashing success with 300 guests and a lively and competitive "Three Sheets to the Wind" Men's challenge class. Revenue from the party is just under \$45,000 with expenses still being tallied.

Approximately 300 people viewed the exhibits on Friday while the show was open and free to the general public.

Welcome Aboard! Co-Chairs Marilee Ahalt and Barbara Feasey express enormous gratitude to our committee chairs and volunteers for creating a spectacular, educational, award-winning and FUN Show!

INCEPTION & PLANNING . . .



Marilee Ahalt & Barbara Feasey
take the helm



Will the Maritime Event Center
measure up?



Fun with the maritime theme



Some of the
Steering Committee

GETTING IT ALL TOGETHER . . .



Jo Anne Rosen
staging the show



Catherine Roach, Noreen Frink
& **Mary Turner** help with the
photography display



Carolyn Kitchell works
on her miniature entry



Tyler Weber, Eric Greenwood
& **Casey Tucker** lend some
brawn to the process



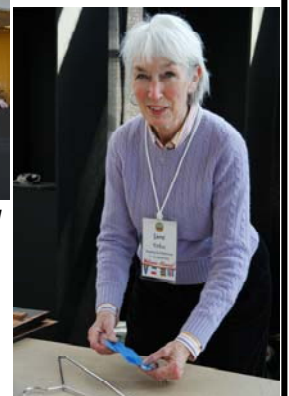
Debbi Wilson & Nancy Bain
await entries for passing



Barbara Hamachek
prepares to greet the
judges



Barbie Snapp helps
with display



Jane Yerkes
staging the show



Suzette de Turenne & Sis Woodside enjoy lunch before clerking



Conservation members worked hard to present an award-winning display



Diana Neely, Sherrill Elliott & Sheila Wycoff Dickey work on cut specimens



Carol Henderson preps an entry with Angel Clark's advice



Kristie Ratzlaff & Carey Abbott Davis work on their entry



Catherine Allan prepares the cut specimen bottles



Judy Thomas & Jo Anne Rosen install their entry



Carlyn Steiner readies the awards



Hotie Hard works on her arrangement



Judy Phillips welcomes guests with a smile



Got bugs? Laurie Riley inspects an entry

PREVIEW PARTY . . .



Barbara Pringle & Dorothy Strong



Stew Riley with Paul & Laurie Ahern



Charlee & Paul Reed



Barbara Feasey, Catherine Roach & Marilee Ahalt



Noreen & Fritz Frink

Mary Turner & Iris Wagner

MEN'S CHALLENGE CLASS . . .



Leonard Yerkes & Don Rosen



Charlie Morse & Bob McCall



Charlie Nolan & Ted Wagner



Don Dahlgren & Bill Bryant



Jay Henderson & Christopher Davis

TAKING IT ALL APART . . .



Peggy Wilton & Marilee Ahalt



Christine Davis & Vicki Neumann



Carol Henderson & son, Jay Henderson



Catherine Parker & Barbara Hamachek



Pam Green



Nowhere to go but home . . .

We Thank Our *Welcome Aboard* Officers:

Admirals, Vice Admirals and Captains for their generous support

Laurie & Paul Ahern

Marilee & Gordon Ahalt

Mr. & Mrs. Gordon F. Ahalt

Barbara Anderson

B.J. & Steve Anderson

Phoebe & Lucius Andrew

Alison Andrews

Ann & Milt Bohart

Betty Bottler

Barbara Feasey & Bill Bryant

Barbie Snapp & Phillip Chapman

Barbee & Jim Crutcher

Sheila & Charley Dickey

Alice Foreman

Mary Ellen & Pat Hughes

Kathy Lea

Dinah & Bob McCall

Susan Moseley

Diana Neely

Eleanor & Charlie Nolan

Molly Pengra

Barbara Pringle

Vicki & Gary Reed

Catherine & Thurston Roach

Dabney Rohrbach

Hope Stroble

Dorothy Strong

Iris & Ted Wagner

Lyn White

Peggy Wilton

Ann Wyckoff

SGC IN THE COMMUNITY -PROPAGATION EFFORTS

Recently Traci Tenneson, Jane Harder, Hope Stroble and I evaluated the January propagation efforts. About 1/3+ had not survived due to calcification at the stem cut, aphids, our first efforts and who knows what all else. It could have been bad timing or a watering issue for that particular species of plant. Some plants propagate better at different times of the year.

We were able to pot up the deciduous plants that survived this very cold and wet winter. **All of the evergreen ones** still need at least another month to increase their immature roots. They are still too small and fragile to be placed in pots. We left approximately 150+ plants potted in one-gallon square pots. May they grow over summer for fall planting!

What did NOT make it :

Corylus cornuta, Beaked hazelnut (only a few made it)
Holodiscus discolor, Oceanspray (only a few made it)
Omlaria cerosiformis, Indian Plum--none
Rhamus purshiana, Cascara tree--a couple
Ribes sanguineum, Red flowering currant--a few
Salix hookeriana, willow--none
Sambucus racemosa, Red elderberry (only one made it)

Still to be potted when rooting improves:

Arctostaphylos ovatum, evergreen huckleberry
Arctostaphylos uva-ursi, Kinnikinnick
Garrya 'James Roof' and Garrya eliptica, 2 varieties of Coast silk tassel bush
Leucothe davisae, Coast laurel

BRAVO everyone! Now, let's get to planning what we need to propagate next! The timing to make it all happen, the plants, and you wonderful volunteers that get it done! We REALLY want to try Amelanchier alnifolia as both first attempts failed. We were told that it does best when propagated in June so let's give it a go!

Sue Blethen

LAKES, LANDS....A LEGACY

The Garden Club of America Annual Meeting

The GCA Annual Meeting was held in Indianapolis April 28-30. we were privileged to represent the Seattle Garden Club as delegate and President-Elect. Also attending from our club were Diana Neely, National Judging Chairman, and Pam Green, Chairman of Visiting Gardens. Our meeting was comprised of a number of informative sessions having to do with GCA and club business and wonderful speakers, including our "own" Dan Hinkley and Cameron Davis, Senior Advisor to the Environmental Protection Agency.



Laurie Ahern & Laurie Riley

Four distinguished gardeners were welcomed as Honorary Members of GCA, including Brent and Becky Heath of Brent and Becky's Bulbs. The Marin Garden Club, founded in 1931, was welcomed to Zone XII as the 200th Member of GCA.

Numerous Awards were acknowledged, including The Urban Farm and Produce Stand in Wilmington, DE, winner of the Founders Fund Award, and the GCA Medal of Honor, bestowed upon Diana Fish, Carmel-by-the-Sea GC for outstanding service to Horticulture.

Our Zone XII dinner was held in a fabulous private home "event lodge" surrounded by lovely country gardens and hosted by two Indianapolis GC members. We were also treated to a wonderful evening at the Eiteljorg Native American Museum and a luncheon and tour of the Indianapolis Museum of Art and gardens. It was a most memorable experience and Indianapolis is an impressive, well-planned city with lots of open spaces and parks. Thanks for the opportunity!

Laurie Riley & Laurie Ahern



GCA HAPPENINGS

GCA Library Book Opened the Door to Amateur Gardeners

On a recent college tour in New York City with my son, I was hoping to make a detour to the Library at Garden Club of America's headquarters. A copy of Henry Andrew's *Botanist's Repository* is housed in a temperature controlled room there and available, upon request, for viewing. This ten-volume book was published in London between 1797 and 1812. Andrew himself drew, engraved and hand-colored each print and then wrote about the plant's virtues. Because the volumes were relatively inexpensive and readily available, the popularity of amateur gardening soared after it was published. People were able to identify plants and their best growing conditions.



Print from *Botanist's Repository* of "Cactus grandiflora"

The *Botanist's Repository* is still referenced today, especially when garden enthusiasts grapple with correct plant identification. From pictures, I note that the engravings are carefully and beautifully done. My son had other dreams for our limited time in the city, so I was not able to view it. However, should you be in New York City, these lovely volumes that propelled amateur gardeners, await you!

Carey Davis Abbott

PHOTOGRAPHY... "A MOMENT IN TIME" ...JUNE 21

The Photography Committee will once again undertake capturing a "Moment in Time" on the Summer Solstice.

We encourage ALL Seattle Garden Club members to bring out your cameras and take a photo

WHEREVER you are at 9:00pm on June 21

and then submit your photo to our website for all to enjoy!

Don't forget to let us know where the photo was taken!

A reminder email will be sent closer to the time.



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The Membership Committee is pleased to welcome into active status those who have successfully completed their requirements as Provisional Members:

Carey Davis Abbott
Gayle Harris
Kristie Ratzlaff
Dabney Rohrbach

Additionally, we are pleased to announce that the following women have accepted our invitation to join the Seattle Garden Club:

Susan Ashmun Sue started the Blue Ridge Garden Club in the 1990's and now lives in the Highlands where she and her husband restored the Olmsted designed garden at their home. Their garden has been included in many garden tours, including the GCA Northwest tour in 2009. Sue has lived in Seattle for 27 years. She is a devoted gardener and flower arranger and is known amongst her friends for her "creativity, dedication and enthusiasm."

Susan Rosling Brickman Susan is described by her friends as "very enthusiastic about whatever she attempts, responsible, steady, fun and organized." She has recently renovated her garden which is a continuing interest of hers. Susan is active in the Beverly Lambert CHMC Guild. She has lived in Seattle all of her life and has many friends in the Seattle Garden Club ...you may have seen her at our Holiday Luncheons.

Maggie Mangham Maggie is originally from Vermont where she learned gardening from her mother who created a large garden which some SGC members have visited. She is a nurse and an athlete, a tennis player, and a skier and was heavily involved at Lakeside School when her children were there. Now they are in college, and Maggie has time to develop her interest in her garden, the way her Mother did. Maggie has many friends in the Seattle Garden Club.

Peggy Paige Most Peggy Paige is the daughter of long time Seattle Garden Club member, and last year's SGC Bronze Medal winner, Peggy Wilton (Mrs. William L. Wilton). Peggy Paige is currently historian for the Colonial Dames in the State of Washington, and also occasionally helps long time family friend Carol Henderson with flower conditioning in her garage when Carol has large flower arranging projects - like the Colonial Dames' Centennial Anniversary Meeting last fall.

Barbara Peterson Barbara is an avid visitor of gardens often taking advantage of the Open Garden Days of the National Garden Conservancy. She is a member of Northwest Horticultural Society. Barbara has chaired and participated in many programs at the Sunset Club and understands what makes a Club work. Barbara has been described as 'positive', 'poised', 'gracious' and 'organized'...as well as being someone who has a great desire to learn new things.

Sarah Robbins Robinson Sarah is another daughter of a long time SGC member, Lexie Robbins, whose garden has long been a highlight and a joy in her Madison Park neighborhood; so Sarah comes by gardening naturally. Sarah is on the board of the Seattle Tennis Club, Forest Ridge School, and was an Event Manager for a special event held at Seattle Center by Conservation Northwest. Sarah has many friends...in and out of the Seattle Garden Club.

Susan Titcomb Suzy is a member of the Lake Washington Garden Club; she is also a Master Gardner. She is a tennis player, bridge player, knitter, Seattle Art Museum docent, and has served as a Board member of the Seattle Children's Theatre. She is interested in conservation, and has taken many classes in photography. Suzy has many friends in the Seattle Garden Club, who describe her as having "an infectious sense of adventure".

Roxanne Wiley Roxanne has a wide reaching background and interest in gardening. She has been a Master Gardener for over 20 years. She also has been a part-time partner in a retail plant business. She often travels with her mother to Great Britain and Europe to visit gardens. Her mother and her grandmother were members of the Cincinnati Garden Club. With all that gardening background, what her friends first mention if asked about her possible participation in the Seattle Garden Club is her "unfailing congeniality".

Please arrive early for the Annual Meeting to meet and greet our new class of Provisional Members.

CONSERVATION REPORT

Dear Seattle Garden Club Members,

It has been a pleasure to chair the Conservation Committee for the past two years. I really appreciate the women who held this position before me, as well as all of the kind words of support that have come my way. I look forward to the next two years under the fantastic leadership of Hotie Hard.



The GCA's Conservation 'umbrella' envelops such a large range of issues that in the beginning it was hard to know where to start. I'm sure I've bounced around a bit: from native pollinators...to fixing our broken food system (a la Michael Pollan)...to reducing our consumption of 'stuff'...to protecting the laws that keep our air and water clean and safe...to learning how we can all help protect our own local waterways with rain gardens, etc, etc... However, it has been a fascinating journey and I have loved all that I have learned.

I hope that each of you will consider every little thing that you do to reduce waste around your own home as deserving of a mini-conservation award -- whether it be carrying your own bags to the store, being a diligent 'composter', doing laundry during off peak hours, or not falling for the latest 'convenient' cleaning tool ("Swiffer Wet Jet"!).

Furthermore, I hope that when you read the newspaper or listen to the news your mind perks up when the topic is related to conservation and the environment. Eventually, the more you know about something, the more likely you will be to care enough to get involved -- which could include contacting your state or national representatives....or spreading the word to friends and family.

So...go to a farmer's market [Fresh - Local - Fun — Neighborhood Farmers Market Alliance](#) this summer, or better yet, grow some of your own edibles. Subscribe to Sightline Daily [Sightline Daily - Northwest News that Matters](#) to get the local environmental news. Consider becoming a member of a local environmental organization such as The Environmental Priorities Coalition [Washington's Environmental Priorities — Environmental Priorities Coalition](#) and then heed the call when they have an email writing campaign. Most of us have a computer which makes it a lot easier to let our elected officials know how we feel...because if we don't tell them, then they will only hear from lobbyists who are paid to keep things going their way. Of course, going to see your representatives in person is even better. I have already pledged to attend Lobby Day in Olympia next year. I hope you'll consider joining me!

Juliet Romano, Conservation Chair

REMAKING A NEGLECTED ORCHARD

BY NATHANIEL PERRY

It was a good idea, cutting away
the vines and ivy, trimming back
the chest-high thicket lazy years
had let grow here. Though it wasn't for lack

of love for the trees, I'd like to point out.
Years love trees in a way we can't
imagine. They just don't use the fruit
like us; they want instead the slant

of sun through narrow branches, the buckshot
of rain on these old cherries. And we,
now that I think on it, want those
things too, we just always and desperately

want the sugar of the fruit, the best
we'll get from this irascible land:
sweetness we can gather for years,
new stains staining the stains on our hands.

GARDENER'S CORNER



Thoughts for June:

- Care for container plants with regular fertilizing, watering and deadheading throughout the growing season. Hanging baskets need immersing once a month to wet soil completely.
- Weed before they set seed. Apply organic mulch around plants to reduce watering and emergence of new weeds.
- Keep baiting for slugs and snails.
- Prune lilacs, forsythia, rhododendrons, and azaleas after blooming.
- Plant sunflowers, cosmos; stake taller perennials.
- Root Weevil problems on rhodies? Wrap a 3 inch band of foil around base approximately 6 inches up from soil. Then wipe band with (sticky) Tanglefoot. Keep all branches from touching the ground.
- Keep hummingbird feeders filled. Wash thoroughly before each refill to prevent mold.
- Water lawn deeply, or let lawn go dormant and water just once a month. Avoid using fertilizers in hot, dry weather. Mow regularly to prevent weed seed spread.
- Enjoy the fruits of your labor all summer long!

Janet Footh

Looking Ahead...

Sept 22 Annual Fall Picnic
 Diana Neely's Home
 11:00 social; 11:30 meeting
 12:00 lunch

HAVE A WONDERFUL SUMMER!

CHOOSE TO CONSERVE! RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER BY E-MAIL!

If you are currently receiving this newsletter via U.S. Mail, and are able and willing to receive it via e-mail, please let me know.

Suzette de Turenne, Communications Committee Chair



Seattle Garden Club

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