

Spring 2017

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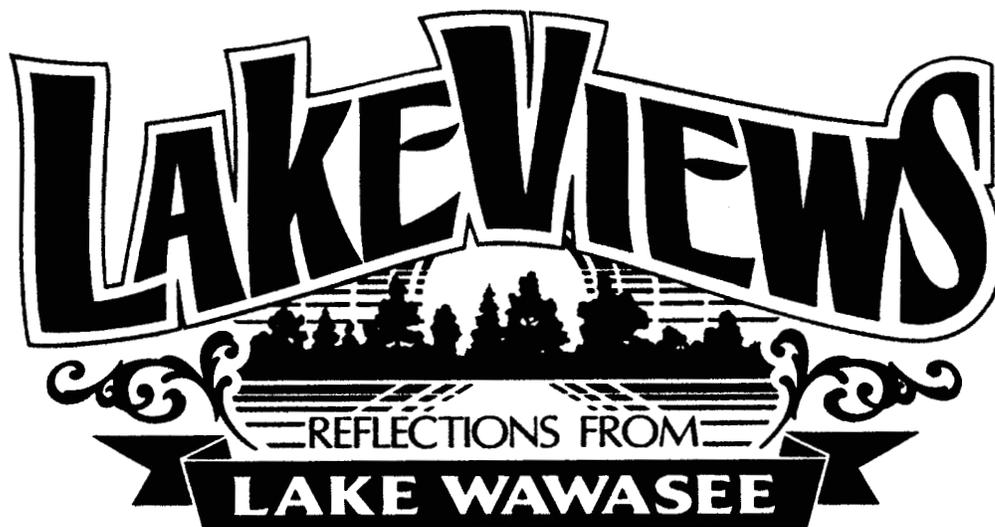
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At The Helm — Spring 2017

By Kay Young, WPOA President

As I am sitting here looking at the lake the first full week in March, I would "normally" be looking out at the frozen surface of Wawasee. Not so this year!

We had a VERY short winter to say the very least. The ice will have been gone for well over a month by the time you receive this newsletter and many of us are seeing spring flowers pushing out from the ground and even a few piers have been going in. Instead of snow we have had rain. For those of us who are here all winter it has been an easy winter but we are still looking forward to the warmer, longer days of spring and summer.

Despite the strange weather, the WPOA has been busy working on our summer plans. If you have not paid your dues for 2017 you still have time to get that check in to Janet so that you will receive your *NEIGHBORS* book (by mail, to your permanent address) this spring, see page 7. But don't delay; the cutoff date is coming soon. The books will be going out around the fourth week of May so be sure we have the correct address to send it to if you will not be at your permanent address (winter address).

The calendar for the year is filling up with lots of exciting events that we hope you will be able to enjoy. The June Breakfast with our Syracuse Lake neighbors will once again be at the Oakwood Resort. It's always a fun morning of seeing old friends and meeting new ones as well as getting updates from many of the philanthropic groups of our area that are there as well.

Mark your calendars for Fireworks! On July 1 they will be exploding over the lake once again this year! Want a fun evening on the Lily pad? August 10 is the date of the annual dinner. And these are just a

few of the things we have planned for the coming summer months. Check the calendar in your *NEIGHBORS* book for more of the local events.

While we usually do not post obituaries in *LAKE VIEWS* this past winter we have lost three people that have been not only important to Wawasee and Syracuse but who were personal friends of mine. With the passing of Ed Dahm, Kim Conrad (and her son Steven) and Danny Griffith, the lake and the area have lost people that loved life as well as our lake.

Ed and the entire Dahm family have been an important part of the lake for many years. My personal contact goes back more than 50 years with the family and especially Ed. Ed loved Wawasee and instilled that love of the lake in his children as well who will carry that legacy forward. I never saw Ed when he did not have a smile on his face and a good word to say about anyone and everyone. He will be missed by many of us.

The tragic death of Kim Conrad and her son on Christmas Day still seems unreal. Kim touched thousands of people in this area. As a teacher she was on her second generation of students having had the parents and now their children. She was a coach, a mentor, a Realtor, wife, mother and just recently a Grandmother. Most of all she was a dear and trusted friend to many of us. Plus she loved the lake! All was good when Kim was around.

Danny Griffith, part of the Griffith family at the marina grew up here, made his living here and left all of us way too early. Again, he was someone who when you saw him he had a smile on his face and a good word for all. There will be a missing smile at the marina this year.

I know there are many more of our "Neighbors" that have passed this year and to each of you we send our sincere thoughts and prayers as you begin an-

WACF enters 26th year of protecting Wawasee

By Heather Harwood
WACF Executive Director

As the Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation begins our 26th year, we remain committed to guard against threats to our watershed. We look forward to seeing you at the Education Center this year – come and visit us for Earth Day events, Lake Talk and Eats and Watershed Adventures. Go to www.wacf.com for updates on events, watershed photos, conservancy news and our own WACF radio.

Thank you to all who joined us at our Annual Christmas Lighting event! If you missed it this year, try to join us next year - the first



Friday of December.

I've recently returned from the Annual Indiana Lakes Management Conference (ILMS) and wanted to share a highlight: Greg Bright, author of WACF's Diagnostic Feasibility Study reported on the Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) of lakes in Indiana. The IBI is a way to use biological data to measure the environmental

health of rivers and lakes by evaluating 12 different measurements (metrics).

Some of the lakes examined were in poor ecological condition with few fish, low variety of fish, dominated by 'carnivores' (tolerant species) that were often diseased. In contrast, some of the lakes were 'quite healthy', and among the best were Wawasee, Jimmerson (Steuben County) and Hoffman Lakes (Kosciusko).

We are looking forward to another busy season on the lake. Here are some recent WACF Highlights:

- The US Fish and Wildlife Service has awarded WACF a grant for invasive plant removal on the WACF Bushong property (Gordy Lake) for invasive plant removal. The USFWS is enthusiastic about invasive removal work in the 10-lakes area,
- The Harkless Foundation has awarded WACF a grant of \$7,000 toward the WACF outdoor amphitheater seating (north of the Ruddell Pavilion),
- Watershed Improvement Grant Program – is a new program providing grants to landowners along areas of concern in our watershed,
- The Martin Creek Drainage project (from the Middle School to the Martin Pond) will begin soon. Kosciusko County Community Foundation has awarded WACF a grant in partnership with project neighbors to improve runoff in the Martin Creek – Leeland subwatershed.

Let us know your questions or comments. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Upcoming events: Earth Day Events and celebration on April 22nd at the Education Center. Registration begins at 7:00 am.

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other season at Wawasee. Your days here will not be the same, but as you build new memories with your families we know that those special days of the past will also be there to enrich your lives.

As Kim would say, *"It is all good,"* and we are looking forward to a summer at Wawasee that is all good for all of us!

And if you're lucky enough to be at the lake you're lucky enough

Disney on Wawasee theme of 2017 Flotilla

The Wawasee Flotilla will celebrate its 56th parade during the 2017 Fourth of July weekend, with this year's theme of "Disney on Wawasee."

What are your favorite Disney Movies: Toy Story, Snow White, The Incredibles, Pirates of the Caribbean? Entrants are invited to decorate their floats, piers, and cottages to show their Disney spirit.

In another big change, the Flotilla will move around the lake in a counter-clockwise direction this year.

The Flotilla will take place on Sunday July 2, and will start in front of the Wawasee Spink Condominiums. Entrants will gather in front of the Spink at 12 noon and the parade will begin at 12:30 p.m., again circumnavigating the lake in a counter-clockwise direction.

To be eligible to win an award, entrants must register. Registration forms will be available at local retailers and Team Tuttle Mortgage, or you can call 574-457-3775 or email

hollytuttle@yahoo.com to have one sent to you. You may also register the day of the Flotilla at the Judges' boat.

This year's awards will include the coveted Commodore Cup, DNR, Wawasee Property Owners Association, Neighborhood, Youth, Wawasee History, Most Patriotic, Commercial/Business, Non-Profit, Best Wooden and Antique Boats, and Most Original.

Awards will also be given for the best on-shore displays and there will be "People's Choice Award" determined by Facebook voters.

The Flotilla Road Race will be on Tuesday, July 4, at Lakeside Park in Syracuse.

Registration begins at 7:00 AM and race starts at 8:00 a.m.

The Flotilla Fundraiser Cruise will be on Saturday, August 12, from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. aboard the S.S. Lillypad II.

Please visit our website for updated information at www.wawaseeflotilla.com.



Chautauqua announces programs for 2017

By Tammy Cotton
Chautauqua-Wawasee Pillar Manager

Chautauqua-Wawasee/Oakwood Foundation has been busy all winter; creating a new website, adding staff and planning a very eventful season for families in and around the Lake Wawasee area. Welcome with me our two new part-time staff members; Vicky Bernheisel and Brittney Dudeck.

The Oakwood Foundation board and Chautauqua-Wawasee staff are excited to announce the 2017 Calendar of Events. Chautauqua stands on its' four pillars: Arts, Education, Recreation and Religion. Our goal is offer programs and events that fall within those pillars.

The season kicks off with the RemedyLIVE, Get Schooled Tour, which will take place at each of the area high schools in April.

In May, which is "Mental Health Awareness Month," we will be hosting a week-long "Family Series," touching on issues such as mental health and substance use disorder, Trends N Teens, Human Trafficking, Foster Parenting and more!

In June, the annual Wine, Cheese, Chocolate & Brew event will take place at the Oakwood Event Center, as well as, the "Teen Comedy Improv Camp."

In July we are bringing back the Fort



Chautauqua-Wawasee
SYRACUSE, INDIANA

Wayne Philharmonic for the annual "Pop's Concert," and adding a new event, an iPhone Photography Seminar which will be fun and informative.

The last weekend in August will be our Annual Oakwood Fine Arts Festival.

October will be full of great events and activities, the Purdue Varsity Glee Club is returning to the Oakwood Event Center, the Lillypad Fall Color Tour and a full "Chautauqua Week", which is an all-inclusive event exploring all four pillars.

Chautauqua will then end the season in November, with the First Annual Chautauqua Celebration.

For dates, times and to register for these events, go to www.chautauquawawasee.org, our new website that will be launching this month!!! You may also call staff at 574-377-7543 or 574-377-7789

Wishing you all a fun and safe 2017 Summer on Lake Wawasee.



Important Wawasee Web sites

Wawasee Property Owners Association
www.wawaseepoa.org

Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation
www.wacf.com

Wawasee Flotilla
www.wawaseeflotilla.com

Chautauqua Wawasee
www.chautauquawawasee.org

Syracuse/Wawasee Trails
www.syracusewawaseetrails.com

Wawasee Yacht Club
www.wawaseeyachtclub.com

Oakwood Resort
www.oakwoodresort.com

Center for Lakes and Streams
www.water.grace.edu

Kosciusko County Cancer Care Fund
www.cancerfundkc.org

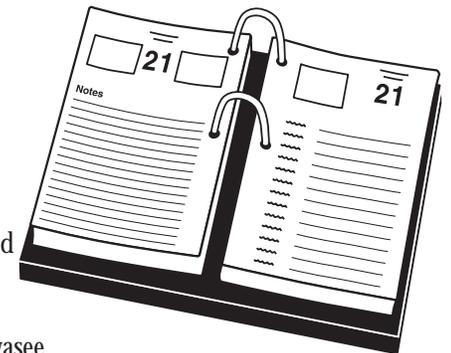
Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum
www.syracusemuseum.org

Wawasee Navy SEAL Foundation
www.wawaseenavysealfoundation.org

To have your web site added to this list, please contact the editor at jim.kroemer@gmail.com.

2017 Calendar

- April 1 WPOA membership due
- April 22 WACF Earth Day
- May 13 Artisans and Farmers Market begins
- May 19 Cruise-In Car Show
- May 20 WPOA Board of Directors Meeting
- May 30 Neighbors Directory mailed
- June 3 WACF Lake Talk and Eats
- June 10 WPOA Board of Directors Meeting
- June 24 WPOA/SLA Annual Breakfast- Oakwood
- June 24 WACF Mudtastic Classic
- June 24 Wooden Boat Show — Oakwood
- July 1 WPOA Annual Fireworks — Lake Wawasee
- July 1 WACF Bug Catch
- July 2 Flotilla — Disney on Wawasee
- July 2 Ft. Wayne Philharmonic Pops Concert — Oakwood



Recycling rainwater can help our lakes

By Dr. Nate Bosch, Director,
Center for Lakes & Streams

Humans have collected rainwater for millennia. Natural wetlands have collected rain for even longer.

Ancient civilizations collected rainwater in cisterns, clay pots, and irrigation ditches

Events and happenings at the Syracuse Community Center and Lakeside Park will no doubt be included in the "Our Town: Syracuse" segment WNIT will produce this summer. Volunteer videographers are encouraged to submit video for the project.



WNIT calling videographers for 'Our Town: Syracuse'

WNIT Public Television is now accepting volunteer videographers from the Syracuse area, through July 7, to help bring to life the unique story of Syracuse for the upcoming documentary, "Our Town: Syracuse." The showing will premiere on WNIT on Monday, August 21.

Anyone interested in contributing is encouraged to contact WNIT Senior Producer/Director Brenda Bowyer at the WNIT public television station.

WNIT's "Our Town" series is all about the towns and the people within them who help tell the stories of what makes their special corner of the world unique. Each individual series shows everything from historical sites to traditional high school hangouts, churches, downtown, restaurants, great traditions and other special places known to the local residents.

What sets the "Our Town" series apart from other documentaries is the towns' sto-

ries are told through the eyes of the people who live and work there.

Wetlands absorb and clean natural water, but recently natural wetland functions are being utilized as assets to domestic yards and gardens. This new incorporation of rain barrels and rain gardens borrows from what wet-

lands have been doing in natural ecosystems for many years. The use of rain barrels and rain gardens also provides a solution to recycle the water produced in large rain events on Lake Wawasee.

Rain barrels collect rainwater from gutter and downspout systems around residential homes and business buildings. They typically have a screen on top to keep debris from entering the barrel as well as to keep mosquitoes from using the barrels as breeding areas. A hose spigot at the bottom of the barrel allows water to flow out of the barrel under pressure due to gravity. Rain barrels come in a variety of styles and can be homemade or purchased from most local home and garden retailers.

Rain gardens are installed in low areas of yards or landscape beds where water enters from driveways, roofs, or lawns. Naturally occurring local plants that tolerate wet conditions are planted in these gardens to allow quick uptake of water during rain events. These plants typically require no maintenance or watering and can add aesthetic value to landscaping.

Rain gardens can be created in any shape or size, depending on the desired look and function. These gardens can also be designed to either allow for the accumulation of water or to encourage the water to quickly drain into the soil.

This recycling of water not only has the potential to add to a property's beauty while saving time and money on gardening, but it also helps protect local lakes and streams. Springtime rain events can quickly wash soils, nutrients, and pollutants from rooftops, yards, driveways, and streets into local waterways.

Rain barrels hold back some of this water for later and more controlled use. Rain gardens absorb much of this water and clean and purify the water as it drains into the soil and is absorbed by plants.

If you are interested in starting your own rain barrel project, visit lakesfestival.org to register for the Clean Waters Partnership Rain Barrel Workshop at this year's Lakes Festival. This workshop will teach you how to make, install, and maintain your very own rain barrel that you get to take home with you!

Let's help Lake Wawasee and its surrounding streams by recycling our rainwater.

This videotaping and editing results in a one-hour documentary reflecting the emotional ties of the people who live, love and are passionate about their town. In the end, if they have done their job correctly, their town becomes "Our Town: Syracuse," at 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 21, on WNIT channel 34.1.

For more information, contact Bowyer at bbowyer@wnit.org or (574) 675-9648, ext. 316.

Trails gearing up for busy spring, summer

By Megan McClellan
Executive Director, Syracuse-Wawasee Trails

The groundhog said six more weeks of winter and I am holding him to it!

That means it should warm up this week and Spring should come, and stay this time. I am especially anxious for Spring this year because of all the fun events we have planned, as well as finally getting a safe pedestrian crossing of SR13 in Wawasee Village.

A new event we are starting this year is a "Couch to 5K." We were very excited about the turnout and enthusiasm of the Winter-Warm-Up runners, but I also heard many people express that they would love to do a 5K but just were not runners.

If this is you, the Couch to 5K could be the answer. You and a group of new friends will meet on Tuesday evenings (5:15-6 p.m.) this Spring (April 18 - June 13), talk with a coach about proper running techniques and safety, and then go for a 20-minute walk together. You will be asked to repeat the walk twice more during the week.

The next week, there is a little running mixed with the walk. Gradually, over nine weeks, you work your way up to being able to run for three miles. If you would like to participate, please RSVP by calling (513-835-5631 cell) or e-mailing (ed@syracusewawaseetrails.com) Megan McClellan.

The Tails and Trails community dog walk will be back for the third year. This very popular Spring walk will take place on



The main Syracuse-Wawasee Trails construction project this Spring will be constructing trail along Pickwick Drive where it crosses State Route 13. The project has been designed and permitted and a contractor has been chosen. Once the trail along Pickwick reaches SR 13 on either side, INDOT will install a pedestrian light at this intersection.

Saturday, April 22, leaving from the Syracuse Community Center. This is a great opportunity to experience the five-mile Syracuse Lake Loop trail. Bring your pup or play with those brought by others. Keep an eye on our website and FaceBook for all the details.

The main construction project this Spring is constructing trail along Pickwick Drive where it crosses State Route 13. It is designed, permitted and we have a contractor. Once the trail along Pickwick reaches SR 13 on either side, INDOT will install a pedestrian light at this intersection. You will see this much anticipated improvement

first thing in the Spring.

Fundraising continues for the Conklin Bay Boardwalk and Trail. Over the winter, we received all the necessary permits (DNR, Army Corps of Engineers, and INDOT). The only thing delaying construction now is a need for donations from people like you. We have applied for several grants but they want to know that this is a project the community supports. Even if you can only give a small amount, every contribution counts to show these large foundations how much a safe, beautiful trail means to this community.

We are looking forward to a fantastic year but none of this is possible without your ongoing and generous support. When you make your tax-deductible contribution, you will be helping us build and maintain trails in 2017 and beyond.

For more information or to become more involved, please check out our website (www.syracusewawaseetrails.com) where you can sign up to receive our quarterly newsletter, either by e-mail or post. Be sure to "like" us on Facebook to be in the loop on trail construction and events.

Our meetings are also always open to the public: third Monday of the month, 6 p.m. at the director's office, 801 North Huntington St (above the Down Under).

Happy Trails!



The Tails and Trails community dog walk will be back for the third year. It will take place on Saturday, April 22, leaving from the Syracuse Community Center.

Summer youth history club returns to museum

The Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum's popular Youth History Club will return this summer, with a full schedule of events and programs for elementary and middle school aged kids.

The club will be in session weekly beginning June 1. For more information and fees, please contact Jamie Clemons, museum director, at (574) 457-3599.

Here is the schedule:

Thursday, June 1 — Archaeologist Cathy from IDNR

Thursday, June 8 — Tree Identification with Dr. Jerry Riffle

Thursday June 15 — Nautical flag code and knot tying

Thursday, June 22 — History of Sailing with Jeff Herdrich

Thursday, June 29 — Grave Markers: His-

tory Embedded in Stone

Wednesday, July 5 — Constructing and Throwing the Atlatl

Tuesday, July 11 — Golfing Through the Years at Wawasee

Tuesday, July 18 — Museum Picture Seek-N-Find

The museum will also feature new exhibits this spring and summer.

From April through June, local artist Betty Harkless Appenzeller and her oil and watercolor works spotlighting iconic places around the lake will be featured.

Syracuse High School graduates will enjoy the museum's collection of graduation class pictures and related memorabilia during the month of June. Early July always features t-shirts, pictures, and souvenirs from the annual flotilla on Lake Wawasee.

July and August will showcase our local golf courses including a portion of Don Byrd's

vintage golf club collection.

Cottage owners in Oakwood Park, Pickwick Park, and Vawter Park will also present a program highlighting their 100-year-old homes this summer. The Oakwood Park presentation is scheduled after the annual members' meeting on June 24. Ann Vanderford Garceau, co-author of *Images of America: Syracuse and Lake Wawasee*, and Mary Hursh will moderate the monthly programs.

To help us preserve local history, individual, family, and corporate memberships are available. If you have artifacts, objects, documents, books, audiovisual or digital materials or photographs relating to the history, culture, and people of Syracuse, consider donating them to our museum for preservation and display. Monetary donations are also accepted and appreciated.

The museum is located in the Syracuse Community Center, 1013 N. Long Drive.



Boat-In Worship begins 48th year

Boat-In Worship will begin its 48th year this Memorial Day weekend, with weekly worship services on Lake Wawasee in front of the Oakwood Resort and Inn starting Sunday, May 28.

The theme for this year's series of 15 services is "Let There Be Light."

Boat-In Worship is presented by 10 cooperating area churches. Services, which include special music, began at 8:30 and last a half hour.

Worshippers are invited to come by boat, bring lawn chairs and sit on land or board the SS Lilypad.

The series will last through Labor Day weekend, with the last service on Sunday, September 3.



Mark your calendar now for the return of the Wooden Boat Show. It will be Saturday, June 24, at the Oakwood. Classic wooden boats from all over the Midwest are expected to be on display, along with some of the beauties that call Lake Wawasee home. The show has been an every-other-year event since the Oakwood reopened four years ago.



It's time to pay 2017 WPOA dues

Statements reminding WPOA members to pay their annual memberships were mailed out in January and are due by April 1.

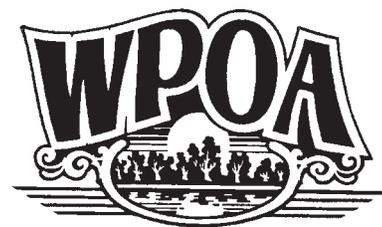
Janet Hartley, administrative officer of the Wawasee Property Owners Association, reminded LakeViews readers that only residents who have paid their \$75.00 annual dues will receive the Neighbors directory, listing all Lake Wawasee property owners and residents.

Remember, WPOA is your voice

with Indiana state government, the City of Syracuse, the DNR, the Kosciusko County Sheriff's Department, the board of Zoning Appeals and other lake associations.

Additional benefits include:

- We liaison with WACF (in fact they were created by WPOA when members saw a need for greater conservancy efforts.
- Lake safety is our high priority. We patrol the lake in boats owned and managed by WPOA.
- We provide continuing support for the development of the Syracuse/Wawasee Trails project.
- We provide and maintain the "pump and dump" stations at the public boat launch to help keep our lake clean.
- We provide funding for educational projects in local schools.
- We provide street lights at many



dark points around the lake for safety.

- We have developed, installed and maintain dry hydrants for continued fire protection around the lake.
- We saw the need and helped develop severe weather warning systems around the lake.
- We develop, coordinate and implement the annual Fourth of July Fireworks display.
- We print and distribute a newsletter four times a year.
- Your directors are your neighbors, volunteering many hundreds of man hours to make all this happen at a reasonable cost.

**Please send
all correspondence
regarding LakeViews to
Jim Kroemer, editor,
at jim.kroemer@gmail.com**

Please tear off and return: to WPOA • P.O. Box 427 • Syracuse, IN 46567

WPOA DUES RECEIPT (\$75.00 per year)

Name: _____

Home Address: (City, State & Zip Code) _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Lake Address: (City, State & Zip Code) _____

Pier No. _____

Lake Phone: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Check No. _____ Check Date: _____

Lake Patrol Boat Replacement Fund: Amount of Contribution \$ _____

Credit Card Payment: Discover MasterCard Visa    

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date (MMYY) _____

V Code Number: _____ **Total Due: \$** _____

Card Holder Signature: _____

Home Address, City, State and Zip Code: _____

Phone No. _____

Lake Patrol Boat Replacement Fund: Amount of Contribution \$ _____



Warm temperatures in late January and early February brought spawning Crappie into the channels of Lake Wawasee about a month earlier than usual. Adam Kroemer, of South Bend, caught this 13-inch beauty on the last day of February.

WPOA now on Facebook



The Wawasee Property Owners Association has officially joined the 21st Century. We now have a page on Facebook.

Please like our page so you can get updates as they appear.

WPOA also now has a PayPal account so you can make donations or pay your dues that way in the future.

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