

**DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.**



# ***W3OK***

# ***CORRAL***

## ***JUNE 2009***

**Club Meeting June 4th At The 911Center**

**UP COMING EVENTS**

**June 27<sup>th</sup> & 28th – Field Day**

## **MEETING PROGRAM**

**"RocketMan"**

**by Dan Michael**

**An introduction to the fascinating and exciting world of Amateur Rocketry. And what it takes to successfully build and launch ENORMOUS experimental rockets.**

**Including discussion and video of recent projects. Brad / W3JXQ will show us how to employ ham radio tracking devices to recover them after each flight.**

**Kids Welcome!**



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S SHACK

For the first time in three years I decided to travel to Dayton, Ohio and the Hamvention, arguably the biggest concentration of Hams in one

place on the planet.

I was camping in a backpacking tent and the first night there were severe thunderstorms and a tornado watch. Nothing would keep the horizontal rain out of the tent and I woke up with everything soaked. But the flea market and dealers made up for any discomfort the night before.

The flea market had several acres of tailgaters. I was impressed with the amount of actual ham equipment that was up for sale. From Heathkit DX-40s to Collins S-line. I have never seen so many used Motorola commercial HTs in one spot before. One of these years I may actually see somebody buy one.

I decided to save some money and not buy the new D-Star mobile I was looking at. However when I added up the cost of the many small purchases in my backpack I found out no money was saved after all.

If you have never gone to Dayton, please try to make it at least once. I recommend that every ham should make the pilgrimage at least once.

de **AL / W3CE**

P.S. Try to set one day aside to visit the U.S. Air Force museum, it is well worth it.



## MINUTES FROM THE MAY 7th MEETING

**Called to Order:** by President Al / W3CE at 7:30PM

**Visitors and Guests:** Bill Mattis and Craig / KB3IYM

**Approval of April Minutes:** No Changes - 1<sup>st</sup> – Gary / N2AUO, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Bob / NE2C - Passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** No Changes - 1<sup>st</sup> Ray / W3TDF, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Carl / AA3IX – Passed

### REPORTS:

**Web Page:** Brad / W3JXQ Reported the addition of new listings on the web, a pictures section and others. The questions were raised as to the speed of the web page varying, and the need for a new map to our meeting location.

**Repeaters:** Barry / N3NVA has made repaired needed on the repeater, replaced the PA section.

**VE Session:** George / N3SQD – A special test session was held Tuesday May 5<sup>th</sup> for the Spring 2009 Technician Class which resulted in two new hams. The regular May session will be held Friday May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM.

**Club Station:** Al / W3CE - Station open every Wednesday 7 PM. Attendance has be exceptional.

**License Classes:** Bob / KE3AW reported a successful class interest this Spring, 9 Students, an improvement of last year.

**Membership:** Vic / N2OFF – 198 members. New members voted in; Lyle Meyers Jr./ KB3SXI , Leroy Cho / KJ4LZO and Craig / KB3IYM. 1<sup>st</sup> – Ed / AA3OU, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Bill / K3ANS. - Approved

**Up-Coming Events:** Barn Inventory, Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup> at 8 AM

Riley Hollingsworth presentation, July 9<sup>th</sup> at the Packard Labs on the Lehigh University Campus – Volunteers still needed!

Pennsylvania Dutch MS-150 Bike Tour, July 18 & 19<sup>th</sup>. Contact Bryan / AA3WM  
Volunteers need for this event,

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Lehigh Valley MS-Walk:** Howard / KB3RTB reported that 15 members assisted, and the walk was successful, for the most part.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**Safety Vests:** Howard / KB3RTB presented reflective vests available to members for emergency situations.

**Meeting Location:** Nancy Run Volunteer Fire Co. has a room available for our use at a reasonable price. Final decision not made at this time.

**Fund raising Committee:** Howard / KB3RTB will chair this new committee

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:20 by Al / W3CE

After a brief break, Al / W3CE presented a program on Fox Hunting with an assist by George / N3SQD  
Respectively Submitted; **Don / KC3II**, Acting Secretary.



## APRIL 2009

### D.L.A.R.C. EXPENDURE REPORT

#### Expenditures:

Telephone	17.68
April Meeting Space	25.00
Stationary Supplies	45.53
Equipment & Liability Insurance	<u>437.00</u>
<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>(525.21)</b>

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Pete Varounis / NL7XM**  
 Treasurer / D.L.A.R.C.

#### JUNE 2008 QUICK CHECK CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local	<b>3</b> DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>KX3Q</b> )	<b>4</b> DLARC Meeting	<b>5</b> <b>NO V.E. SESSION</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 10 Meter Net 28.430 1600 Local	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local	<b>10</b> DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>KC3II</b> )	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 10 Meter Net 28.430 1600 Local	<b>15</b> Newsletter Articles due	<b>16</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local	<b>17</b> DLARC RACES/ARES Net ( <b>N3SQD</b> )	<b>18</b> Executive Committee Meeting	<b>19</b> Newsletter goes to Webmaster	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 10 Meter Net 28.430 1600 Local	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local	<b>24</b> DLARC RACES/ARES Net( <b>KA2QYS</b> )	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>FIELD DAY</b>
<b>28</b> <b>FIELD DAY</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> D-Star Net 147.165 1900 Local				

***William N. Goodman, CPA***

**Certified Public Accountant  
 Licensed Insurance Agent  
 Mortgage Loan Officer**

**K3ANS**

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 Independent Representative**

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[ademave.worldventures.com](http://ademave.worldventures.com)

**YOUR AD COULD BE HERE!** Your business card here for a ridiculously small monthly fee. A space this size is available for a listing, like the ones above. For more information Contact Pete / NL7XM at [nl7xm@arrl.com](mailto:nl7xm@arrl.com)

## NOTICE

All members will need to produce their 2009 DLARC Membership Cards to access the July 9th Program with Riley Hollingsworth without having to pay admission. Because seating is strictly limited, there will be no exceptions. So, find yours now because only a certain number of Guest tickets to meet capacity will be made available.

This notice is being given with plenty of time to locate yours to present it in order to gain free entry. Guests and anyone without a current Membership Card will pay a nominal fee so the DLARC may recover some of the costs of arranging this Special Presentation.

## JUNE CONTESTING AT THE OK CORRAL



June 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> --- SEANET Contest  
June 13<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> --- ARRL VHF QSO Party  
June 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> --- All Asia CW Contest  
June 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> --- ARRL Field Day



## FIELD DAY

Hello Everyone!

The Birds are singing, the fish are jumping and the sun is shining down on the Lehigh Valley.... That can mean only one thing... Spring is in the air! If Spring is here, can ARRL Field Day be far behind? NO ! It can't !!! Just a reminder, my personal favorite event will be held **June 27th and June 28th** this year....We need you! Come help us set up, come operate, come help us take down. What ever you can do will be greatly appreciated. Enjoy the great outdoors of Upper Northampton County. Feel the self satisfaction of quickly erecting radio stations and talking across the country. Rub elbows and chat with some of the area's most distinguished Hams. Form a bond and create memories that will last forever. Well perhaps I'm being a little dramatic, but, at least stop by and have a bite to eat and a cup of coffee.

What ever the case, we'd love to see ya! Don't miss the fun.... Be there !!! Thanks!

de Tom / KB3IUE

## MAY MEETING PROGRAM



Fox Hunting was the topic of this months meeting program, presented by Al / W3CE. The program began with an ARRL Video on the subject showing a club in Massachusetts that holds a fox hunt every Saturday morning. Their choices of antennas and mobile setups. Al continued with applications where fox hunting techniques could be used. Also basic rules of fox hunting and the recommended items to be included

in your fox hunting kit. Al and George / N3SQD showed the antennas that they use for the fox hunting. Al's was a commercially available yagi known as an "Arrow" antenna and George's was a home brew yagi using tape measure replacement tapes and PVC pipe. This design can be found at

[http://home.att.net/~jleggio/projects/rdf/tape\\_bm.htm](http://home.att.net/~jleggio/projects/rdf/tape_bm.htm) At a date sometime this summer, still to be determined, the DLARC will hold a fox hunt.



## 2009 LEHIGH VALLEY MS WALK

Members of the Delaware-Lehigh Armature Radio Club provided radio commutations for the 2009 Lehigh valley MS Walk that took place at the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Baseball Stadium.

The walking course was 3 miles long, it started at the stadium went around the LSI building and ended back at the stadium. DLARC set up a tent to get public exposure, Ken / N3IYX and Howard / KB3RTB were at the tent along with Tracy, Brandon / KB3SXG and Carissa. But the people who get the big thank you are the members who were along the course, they are, Charlie / W3OPA, Al / W3CE, George / N3SQD, Ben / KB3CTX, Bob / KE3AW, Bob / NE2C, Brian / KW3K, Lyle / KB3SXI, Charlie / N3WXO, Peicheng / AB3FY, John / N3INJ and if there is any one I missed I apologize.

de Howard / KB3RTB

## VE TEST SESSION

There will not be a test session this month. The next session will be July 10th at 7:00 PM at the Northampton County 911 Center. Pretest registration is required. Contact George / N3SQD at [george@bioserv.com](mailto:george@bioserv.com) or Al / W3CE at [w3ce@arrl.net](mailto:w3ce@arrl.net).



**TWO BIRDS - ONE YOUNG AND ONE OLD -- W3TDF and FRIEND**

## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS OF ELECTRICAL SAFETY

1. **BEWARE** of the lightning that lurks in the undischarged capacitor lest it cause thee to be bounded upon thy backside in a most ungentlemanly manner.
2. **CAUSE THOU** the switch that supplies large quantities of juice to be opened thus tagged, so that thy days may be long on earth.
3. **PROVE TO THYSELF** that all circuits that radiate and upon which thou workest are grounded, lest they lift thee to a high frequency potential and cause thee to radiate also
4. **TAKE CARE** that thou use the proper method when thou takest the measure of high voltage, that it not incinerate both thee and the meter, for verily, though thou hast no account number and can not be replaced, the meter does have such and shall bring great woe upon the Purchasing Department.
5. **TARRY NOT** amongst those who engage in intentional shocks, for they are surely nonbelievers and not long for this world.
6. **TAKE CARE** thou tamper not with interlocks and safety devices, for this shall incur the wrath of the seniors, and unleash the fury of the safety engineers down upon thy head and shoulders.
7. **WORK NOT** with energized equipment for if thou dost, thy buddies will surely be buying beers with out thee and thy space at the bar will be filled by another.
8. **VERILY, VERILY**, I say unto thee: never service high-voltage equipment alone; for electric cooking is a slothful process and thou mightest sizzle in thine own fat for hours before thy maker seethe fit to end thy misery and draw thee unto his fold.
9. **TRIFLE NOT** to radioactive tubes and substance, lest thou commence to glow in the darkness like unto a lightening bug,
10. **COMMIT THOU** to memory the work of the prophets, which are written in the Instruction Books; they give thee the straight dope and steer thee away from error.

## NEW MEMBERS

Come shake hands and greet our new members. Welcome them to our club. Lyle / KB3SXI, Leroy / KJ4LZO and Craig / KB3IYM

## MONTHLY BRAIN TEASER

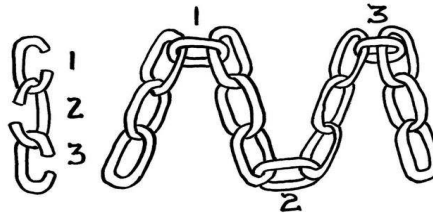
"A special prize awaits the first Club Member to submit the correct answer to this month's Brainteaser to the Treasurer via E-mail. He must be present at the next Meeting to receive it, or it goes unrewarded. Officers, Board members, and Brain Teaser Authors are not eligible to win." de **NL7XM**

## MAY BRAINTEASER WINNER

Bill Fahs / NC3P submitted the 1st correct solution to the May BrainTeaser. It came in at: 5/5/2009 8:13:12 PM Eastern Daylight Time

### May BrainTeaser Answer

Only 45 cents. Take one of the groups of three links and break each one (cost: 15 cents.) Then use each link to join two of the other segments (cost for three welding jobs at ten cents: 30 cents.)

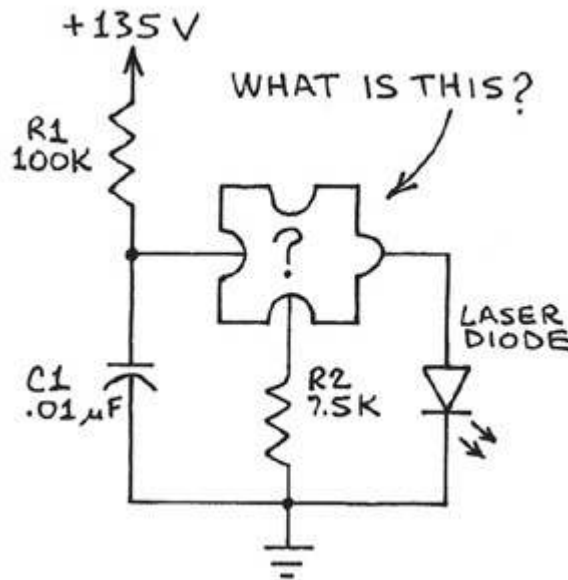


## JUNE BRAINTEASER

### What's the Missing Component?

The circuit in Figure 1 drives a near-infrared laser diode with a stream of fast rising, 20 amp pulses with a duration of about 50 nanoseconds.

R1 controls the pulse rate. C1 controls the pulse duration.



**Figure 1. High-current pulse generator for driving a laser diode with very brief pulses.**

What is the component concealed behind the puzzle piece? Before revealing the answer, here are some hints.  
Puzzle Hints. R1 and C1 form a classic RC circuit in which C1 is charged through R1. C1 is quickly charged to the supply voltage, and this applies more than 100 volts to the mystery component.

By now it should be evident that the mystery component is some kind of switch that allows the voltage on C1 to discharge through the laser diode. But what component can switch more than 100 volts? And how is it triggered? A power FET is an almost ideal 3-terminal switch, for it has a very low on resistance. But a power FET will not work in this circuit.

Certain kinds of miniature switching vacuum tubes might work in this circuit. But the mystery component is a solid state device.

## FUTURE MEETING PROGRAMS

July 9<sup>th</sup> **"Riley Hollingsworth - LIVE!"** An exclusive engagement by special invitation, an evening with K4ZDH live and in person. A rare local appearance by former Special Counsel for the Spectrum Enforcement Division of the FCC's Enforcement Bureau. DLARC's 2009 Keynote Speaker, Mr. Hollingsworth will engage us with the compelling challenges he confronted during his famous tenure of enforcing PART 95, followed by a Q&A session. This event will be held at a location to be announced, as many hundreds from NY and NJ who can't travel to Dayton are expected to attend. Seating is limited, so advance ticketing will be required. Information will be made available here well in advance. All are welcome.

August 6<sup>th</sup> **"Traffic & Weather Data Retrieval."** Special guest appearance by WFMZ-TV 69 News Traffic Center IT Manager, J.C. Kelleher will explain how tons of streaming data are collected and sorted to bring you the latest information you need in order to know how to dress and which roads to avoid. If you are curious about how remote meteorological devices and strategically placed traffic cameras scattered around the Lehigh Valley deliver raw live reports and images to the Newsroom and then on to your television, you will find this Program to be very interesting and satisfying!

September 3<sup>rd</sup> **"Recruiting Kids for Amateur Radio."** World Radio Magazine columnist, Dayton Hamvention Youth Forum Leader, and New York City Public School Teacher, Carole Perry / WB2MGP was the first in the United States to teach an exclusive Ham Radio curriculum for 30 years as a way to introduce science, math and geography to her Middle School students. Recently elected a Board Fellow of RCA, Carole single-handedly licensed hundreds of kids by administering exams at the end of each term. Come and meet a legend in person. Carole's successful methods to attract "tweens" into our amazing vocation are time proven. Kids of all ages are absolutely encouraged to attend this exclusive DLARC engagement.

October 1<sup>st</sup> **"E-M-E / Moonbounce Communications."** Dr. Roger Rehr / W3SZ will describe his long, well documented and successful experience with this amazing mode. Wonder what it takes to bounce a signal off the "Big Cheese", Mother of all satellites? How much power, and how big an array do you need? How do you aim that thing? Can you actually work DXCC off the moon? What frequencies can you use? Does the moon have to be full? What if it's cloudy? You mean, I can do this with a Technician Class License? ...You got questions? ...Boy, do we got answers! Come early for a seat or you'll be standing up for this one.

November 5<sup>th</sup> : **"Portable Ops From the Road."** What special considerations must one confront when Operating Portable while traveling across North America in a travel trailer with the XYL, 3 dogs, a Yaesu 897D and a Black Widow antenna system? Join us as we ride with W3SQ / Mel & Co., through MI, MN, ND, SD, WY and the Grand Canyon; Alberta and many southern Civil War Battlefields. Lighthearted discussion, liberally sprinkled with lots of photographs will include setting up in campgrounds near lakes, deserts and mountains. Listen as oblivious campers trample the radials and bears trespass through the campsite! Just wait till you hear how kids try to take the antennas to use as fishing poles!

December 3<sup>rd</sup>: **"Annual Christmas Party!"** Throw caution to the wind and hide the bathroom scale until after St. Valentine's Day. There's no better DLARC Program than this one, where socializing with good friends while sharing great food and talk IS the presentation. Bring a dish or dessert, paper goods or soft drinks. Make handy a few copies of your recipe to share with your new admirers. (Keep a sharp lookout for the famous and anonymously prepared "Rum Balls!")

## WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

<http://www.solarcycle24.com/>

All your solar and aurora needs in one place. Up to date and time information on band conditions.

## HELP THE ENVIRONMENT

Donate your old, empty printer ink cartridges to the Club for recycling. Any brand, model, size or shape; color or black. Please bring them to the meeting in a leak proof ziplock type baggie and give them to the Treasurer. This simple act can help your Club by reducing recurring expenses, and make you feel a lot better about our environment.

## **JUNE PONDERINGS**

Experience is what enables you to make a different mistake the next time.  
You know you're growing older when the fortune teller offers to read your face.  
Minor operation: One performed on someone else.  
Test tube babies are in a glass by themselves!  
Social Security Checks: Month-to-Month Resuscitation.  
The person who snores the loudest always falls asleep first.  
A sweater is something a kid wears when his mother feels chilly.  
A man can always predict the joys of married life by listening to his fiancée talk to her younger brother.  
A desk is a wastebasket with drawers.  
Confidence is going after Moby Dick with a rowboat, a harpoon, and a jar of tartar sauce.  
Need more closet space? Marry off a daughter.  
If everything went well today, watch out for tomorrow!  
Whatever hits the fan will not be evenly distributed.  
The hardest thing in the world is to know how to do something, and keep quiet while you watch someone do it wrong.

## **HOME CAR CARE REMEDIES**

Make a paste of baking soda and water and use it to clean the outside of the windshield.  
Remove bird droppings by gently rubbing waterless hand cleaner, such as Purell, into the spot with an old rag, letting it sit for a few minutes, then rubbing it off.  
Saturate road tar with linseed oil, let soak for a few minutes, then wipe off with an old rag.  
Keep used fabric-softener sheets in the car to wipe off the dashboard, clean air vents and polish the rear view mirror

## **LIGHTNING FACTS AND FICTION**

Lightning is far more dangerous than most people realize. It kills 50 to 75 people annually in the US and injures between 500 and 750.

Lightning also is a lot more common than most people realize. Every year in the US between 24 and 30 million lightning strikes hit the ground.

At least 95% of lightning deaths occur outdoors. If you see lightning get inside your home or a large building immediately.

Is it dangerous to talk on a phone during a thunderstorm? Corded phones are extremely dangerous during a storm. Home phone lines are protected with surge devices, but these defenses can be overwhelmed should lightning hit a nearby power pole. Someone dies every few years while talking on a phone during a lightning strike. Portable (cordless) and cell phones are safe to use during a thunderstorm.

Should you unplug your computer and TV during a storm? No, not during a storm. Electronic devices should be unplugged before a storm arrives. A few years ago, a man in Phoenix unplugged a device at the precise moment when lightning struck. He was thrown across the room. It's a good idea to protect electronic equipment – Stereos, TVs, computers etc. -- with surge protectors. Good quality ones typically cost between \$50 and \$100.

Can you get electrocuted in the shower or bath? There was a report a few years ago of someone who was killed by lightning while taking a shower. Faucets, knob and other metal fixtures are natural conductors of electricity. So is water. A lightning strike that hits your house or even comes close – could potentially carry enough electricity indoors through these natural conductors to cause injury or death.

How safe are you in a car during a thunderstorm? A fully enclosed metal topped vehicle is generally safe. A convertible with a vinyl or cloth top is not safe. The metal topped vehicle may protect for the same reason that building do – the lightning travels through the framework and to ground. Even if you happen to be touching a metal component, such as a door handle. Most of the electricity would flow around ( not through ) you. Some people think it's the rubber tires that make a car safe. Not true, a few inches of rubber can't possibly "Ground" a car.

## **MEMBER LICENSE CHANGES**

Brandon Miller passed his Technician test and now KB3SXG – Howard / KB3RTB upgraded to Extra

## FYI

The winner of the May door prize was Ken / N3IYX

The EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA District 2 ARES Net meets every Wednesday at 1930 hours local time. (Just after the DLARC Net ) On 147.255 (pl 162.2). And linked to 449.375 on Blue Mountain, 443.350 in Allentown and 147.180 in Berks County.

The OK Corral is an organization publication for the purpose of informing members of the D.L.A.R.C. Of educational and training opportunities, club events, relevant news articles and a monthly calendar of daily activities, meetings and dates. Every member of the D.L.A.R.C. Is welcome to contribute articles of interest to this newsletter. Opinions, items of interest, and even suggestions towards the improvement of newsletter and/or the DLARC itself would also be accepted, a sort of "Letters to the Editor" section.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2008 – 2009 OFFICERS

President – Al Wiemann / W3CE ----- w3ce@arrl.net  
Vice President – George E. Wieland III / N3SQD ----- george@bioserv.com  
Secretary – Charles Lazarchak / W3OPA ----- w3dea@snycomp.com  
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Jeff Fehr / KX3Q ----- kx3q@arrl.net

### PHONE NUMBERS FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE DLARC CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEBSITE / MEMBERSHIP LISTING

### CLUB MEETINGS

All regular meetings of the D.L.A.R.C. Are held on the first Thursday of each month at  
7:30 PM at the Northampton County 911 Center.  
TALK IN ON 146.700 (PL 151.4 )

### THE W3OK TRUSTEE --- DON REAMER / KA3JWE

**The W3OK Corral is published monthly and is the Official Publication of the  
DELAWARE LEHIGH AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.**

### ARES, RACES AND DLARC NET

All Radio Amateurs are welcome to participate in the ARES, RACES and DLARC net. This net meets Wednesday at 1900 hours local time, on the W3OK Repeater 51.76, 146.70 and 444.90 ( pl 151.4). With an alternate frequency of 145.11 ( 151.4 )

### THE NEWSLETTER STAFF

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