



Letters from District No. 10

Free & Accepted Masons of Washington

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December 2011

You are cordially Invited
to the Open, 129th Annual Installation
of Officers of Bellingham Bay Lodge No. 44

Date: Friday, December, 16th, 2010

Time: Ceremony starts at 7 PM ~ Refreshments to follow.

Officers to be installed include: WM - Russ Weston
 SW - Mark Quenneville Sec-Treas—Ken Gass
 Chap - Kurt Adams Mar - Steven Harris
 SD - Arnie Hanson JD - Scott Sanders
 SS - Chris Huchel JS - Dick Zagelow
 Tyler - John Stafford

Location: Scottish Rite Hall at 1101 N. State St. Bellingham, WA

Stated Meeting Dates of the District Ten Lodges

Dec 1 st	Lynden Lodge - 7:30 pm
Dec 2 nd	Bellingham Bay - 7:30 pm
Dec 7 th	San Juan Lodge - 7:30 pm
Dec 12 th	Ferndale Lodge - Dark
Dec 13 th	Fairhaven Lodge - 7 pm
Dec 14 th	Nooksack Valley Ldg - Dark
Dec 15 th	Whatcom Lodge - 6:30 pm



Whatcom Lodge Report

Stated Meeting - Our stated meeting was held on November 17th with 18 brothers attending. WM Monte Thompson noted that the purpose of this stated meeting was to conduct the regular business of the lodge and to confer the FC Degree on Bro. Wade Balkman.

Business: Secretary John Browne reported that the Resolution to Amend the By-Laws, approved at the October 20th Stated Communication and forwarded to the Grand Lodge By-Laws Committee, was approved and signed by MW Michael Sanders, dated on Form 28 as November 4th.

Proficiency: Bro. Wade Balkman completed his EA Proficiency in lodge and did a very fine job. Prior to the opening of lodge, Bro. Tom Hastings completed his FC Proficiency before a MM's Committee, he is now ready for the 3rd Deg.

Degrees: The FC Degree was conferred on Bro. Balkman by WM Monte Thompson. The Working Tools were given by Tony Anton, the Middle Chamber Lecture was given by JW Jesse Petersen, the "G" Lecture by VW John Browne and the Charge was given by SW Terrell Goertz.

Petitions: The lodge has received a Petition for Affiliation from Bro. Brad Jackson, of Myrtle Lodge No. 89, Grand Jurisdiction of Michigan and hope to ballot on his petition soon. Brother Lionel Stone, who visited our lodge a month or so ago, has requested a Petition for Plural Membership. We hope to Read his petition at our December 12th stated meeting.

Dues Notices: Dues Notices went out in November and so far about a third of the brothers have responded. If for some reason you have not received your Dues Notice, please contact me so I can correct the mailing address I have for you. You may also bring your dues payment to our stated meeting on December 15th. My contact information is on the back page of this newsletter. Bro. Secretary—John Browne

Upcoming Degrees: & Prof: On Dec. 15th, Br. Trevor Kellow - his FC Deg & Br. Wade Balkman his FC Posting Lecture; on Jan. 5th, Br. Wade Balkman - his MM Degree. On Jan. 19th we will likely have another MM degree or FC degree.

Visitation: On Monday Nov. 28th 12 Whatcom Lodge Brothers assisted with the MM Degree for Br. Dave Weadon of Ferndale Lodge No. 264. WB Claude Weadon conferred the degree on his son, it was a great Masonic evening.

Next meetings—Our next Stated meeting is on December 15th, dinner at 5:30 pm & lodge at 6 30.

Fraternally, John Browne - Secretary/Treasurer, contact information is at the bottom of page 6.

Ferndale Lodge No. 264

Greetings to our Masonic Family. Ferndale Lodge will be taking a Winter Break from lodge business, we'll be Dark for December and January.

On Monday, November 28th WB Claude Weadon had the pleasure of raising his son, David, to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason. The Working Tools were given by WB Gordon Grahame, KS was VW Frank Juntunen, KH was WB James Hawley, the Drama Prayer was given by Bro. Terrell Goertz, the Master's Lecture by WB Jerry Mason and WB Claude Weadon gave his son the Charge. Twenty-six Master Masons attended, representing every Lodge in Whatcom County. The degree was well done and Br. Dave Weadon said he was very inspired by the support he received from the large turnout of brothers from the other local Lodges.

Wouldn't it be nice to have more father & son degrees.

Masonic Leadership Association District No. 10

To be or not to be?

With 100% of District No. 10 Lodges present at the Monthly Meeting of your Masonic Leadership Association the meeting was called to order by President John Sleeth. After the normal business was completed, the inevitable subject came to the floor - Elections. The nomination committee reported that they could not locate any individual to assume the offices of the MLA. With the discussion appearing to be deadlocked, President John Sleeth turned the gavel over to the Secretary.

Brother John presented the following motion. "He moved that the rules be suspended and that all money in the treasury be distributed to all of the Lodges in the District and that the organization 'Masonic Leadership Association' be dissolved." This was seconded by VWB John Browne. For the next 25 minutes a very positive and forwarding thinking discussion by most of the brothers present. The dialog appearing to be going nowhere, Brother Richard Decima tabled further discussion until the January meeting. Each member present was tasked to return to their respective Lodges and discuss and/or look for any member willing to assume the officers of the organization and report back under no less penalty than having the organization disbanded for lack of leadership.

The January program on the use of the Rods in the lodge will be presented. Please encourage the attendance of the officers who may have the need to know.

John Sleeth, Acting President of MLA

Here is what ***Bellingham Bay***

has going on.

Friday, December 2nd – Stated: Open at 7:30

Friday, December 16th – Special: Open Installation of Officers for 2012.

2012 Officers-Elect

for

Bellingham Bay Lodge No. 44

WM: Russ Weston & **SW:** Mark Quenneville

JW: OPEN

Tr-Sc-Ed: Ken Gass

Cha: Kurt Adams & **Mar:** Steven Harris

SD: Arne Hansen & **JD:** Scott Saunders

SS: Chris Huchel & **JS:** Dick Zagelow

Tyl: John Stafford

Sec. Ken Gass

NWSC The holiday season is upon us again; how time flies when you're having fun. On Tuesday December 6, 2011 we will have our monthly dinner meeting at Jeckly & Hyde Deli and Ale House, 709 W. Orchard Drive. The Entree for the evening will be: Stuffed Pork Chops, Apple Sauce, Baked Potatoes, Gravy, Veggies, Fruit Salad, Rolls, Coffee, Tea & Dessert. All this for the cost of \$17.00 per person. Zem, Zem @ 6:00 p.m. Dinner @ 7:00 p.m. Meeting @ 8:00 p.m. Call Noble Ron Fine at 360-676-5747 for reservations or E-mail at Ron-Fine2@aol.com. DEADLINE IS THURSDAY DECEMBER 1, 2011!

Our new club blankets should be in by the meeting, if you want to order one the cost is \$60.00, let Noble Ron Fine know in advance. We also have the Shrine Club Bear for sale they are \$10.00 each. Don't forget that our Installation dinner is January 27, 2012 at the Maplewood Masonic Hall. Price for that Dinner will be \$25.00 a person, Prime Rib or Salmon plus all the fixings. New officers for 2012 are, President : Tim Springstead, 1st V. President : Claude Weadon, 2nd V. President Chuck Nelson, Treasurer: George Edwards, Secretary (Looking for someone to fill that spot; Noble Ron Fine is unable to due the job.). Sunshine Committee: Lady Sharon Fine & Noble Ron Fine, Board Members are Nobles, Bill Barquist, Skip Metzger, Chuck Loney, Ron Fine.

Now for Sunshine Committee, Noble Bill Taylor is in very poor shape, he's at the Life Care Center in Sedro Woolley. Noble Ted McQuiston is doing well Rm 64 west Alderwood Care Center.

Lady Sharon and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah. Drive safely out there.

Yours in Faith,
Ron Fine, Secretary.

Scottish Rite - Valley of Bellingham

Lodge of Perfection adds five more Perfect Elu's.

Howard Hanna, Robin James, Richard Decima, Alex Brunner and Jesse Petersen joined the Bellingham Valley Lodge of Perfection on November 16th. The next step in learning more about the mystic symbols of the Scottish Rite will be on January 18th with the conferring the 18th.

Coming soon on December 21st will be the Valleys Annual Holiday Dinner. This 6:30PM dinner is open to all to come and celebrate in their own way the annual reoccurrence of this event. Do to the limited amount of seating in the Banquet room, it is suggested that you make your reservation early to Ron Fine...RonFine2@aol.com.

At the next stated meeting of the Valley, December 7th we will be remembering our Countries past and planning for our Valleys future. All 14th degree Scottish Rite Masons are encouraged to attend in the planning of the Valley of Bellingham's future. For those who enjoy a 6:30 dinner prior to the 7:30 pm meeting, we request that you let Ron know... RonFine2@aol.com. This way we will have plenty of food.

We are presently receiving petitions for the next Scottish Rite Class. If you are interested in joining, let me know and I will be please to assist you in the application procedure. Remember, there is no memory work required for Master Masons to continue your Masonic Education in Scottish Rite.

John R. Sleeth 32 o KCCH
General Secretary of the Bodies AASR - Bellingham Valley
1101 N State St Ste 100 Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 733-1103 secretary@scottish-rite.com

Evergreen Assembly No. 17 - Rainbow Girls

Evergreen Assembly's December Events:

Saturday December 10th - Annual Rainbow Tolo in the Expo Building at the NWWF. The "Outta This World" dance is from 8 to midnight and we are looking for more chaperons, security, and parking help! Please contact Wendy @ 920-4370 for more information.

Tuesday December 13th - Regular Meeting/Christmas Party at the Nooksack Masonic Center. We'll be celebrating the holiday with Santa, friends, and family and deciding on our annual donations.

Saturday December 17th - Rainbow Informational Meeting/District Christmas Party. We will be getting together with Mt. Vernon and Coupeville Assemblies at the Mt. Vernon Masonic Center for cookies, a gift exchange, and caroling.

Tuesday December 27th - No regular meeting.

Upcoming Events:

January 10th - Regular Meeting/Step Up and Elections

January 21st - Installation of Officers

January 24th - Regular Meeting

Jenny Southwick
Assistant Mother Advisor

Note to Whatcom Brethren from one of you.

Brethren: I write to inform you that there is a member of our Lodge that has asked me for money, and then refused to even acknowledge the debt. He took complete advantage of my desire to help a brother, and he may do the same to you. I will not name him; suffice it to say that you should be cautious about a brother approaching you for a loan. It is sad that one of our own has violated his oath, but I felt obligated to warn each of you of this approaching danger.

*Four Seasons fill the measure of the year;
There are four seasons in the mind of man:
He has his lusty Spring, when fancy clear
Takes in all beauty with an easy span:
He has his Summer, when luxuriously
Spring's honied cud of youthful thought
He loves to ruminat,
And by such dreaming high
Is nearest unto heaven:
Quiet coves his soul has in its Autumn,
When his wings he furlerth close;
contented so to look on mists in idleness,
O let fair things pass by unheeded
As a threshold brook.
He has his Winter too of pale misfeature,
Or else he would forego his mortal nature.
~ John Keats*

Request from a Rainbow Girl:

Evergreen Assembly No 17 is hosting a Tolo Dance on December 10, 2011 at the fairgrounds in Lynden!

We are in need of Chaperones to help with patrolling the parking lot and helping us keep the youth who attend safe. Please contact Taylor Beal or Kristin Beal at [253.326.2222](tel:253.326.2222) or klbeal4rainbow@gmail.com if you are able to volunteer and help us out! Thanks.

Do you know a girl between the ages of 11 and 21 who wants to have fun, learn some incredible lessons, and would benefit from being a Rainbow Girl? If so please contact, Kristin Beal/Taylor Beal at klbeal4rainbow.com or [253.326.2222](tel:253.326.2222) so we can reach out to her and invite her to an event!

Thanks so much ,
Taylor Beal
Evergreen No. 17



Notes from Lynden Int. Lodge No. 56

Charles Cunningham installed as Master

On October 29th VWB Charles Cunningham was installed as the 124th Worshipful Master of Lynden International Lodge No. 56 by VWB Marion Windell.

The officers for 2011/2012 are:

Worshipful Master - Charles Cunningham

Senior Warden - Travis Graddon

Junior Warden - Christopher Boodey

Treasurer - Eric Bauer

Secretary - Richard Decima

Senior Deacon - Jerry Mason

Junior Deacon - Troy Luginbill

Chaplain - Larry Dodson

Marshal - Donald Aho

Senior Steward - Claude Weadon

Tyler - Howard Hanna

WM Cunningham is extending an invitation to all District 10 brethren to visit Lynden International Lodge. Stated Communications are on the 1st Thursday of each month at the Ferndale Masonic Center. A meal will be served at 6:30 PM. The Lodge will be tiled at 7:30 PM. Please come!

WB Dick Decima ~ Secretary

1st Annual Nooksack Valley Lodge TABLE LODGE

Good things sometimes can start off small and grow with each new year. The Nooksack Valley Lodge's First Annual Table Lodge was a small success and it was fun. The food good and plentiful and most importantly the fraternalism was wonderful. Attendance was about twenty Masons in number and the Table Master was RWB Dean Heine-mann, our Deputy Grand Master.

Dinner was steak, nicely broiled by WB George Edwards, mashed potatoes, Leslie Mason's famous Caesar salad, Oh, and homemade cheesecake for dessert. Our wonderful wives served the dinner, so a special thanks goes to them for their excellent service.



We do have a number of souvenir cannons, like the one at left, available for those who would care to purchase one. The cost is \$5. If interested please Call VW Frank Juntunen at (360) 966-4406 or email at: oscar26charlie@earthlink.com

Nooksack Valley Lodge No. 105

Our last Stated Meeting was held on Wednesday, November 9th and we had a fair attendance. Dinner was wonderful as was the fellowship with our wives and ladies.

The business of the lodge was completed in due form: bills enumerated and approved for payment, committee reports given but there were actions required in respect to petitions. There were a couple of notable pieces of new business. The first was an authorization to change banking institutions, from a large national entity to a more local one, which has a branch in Everson. The item was the reactivation of the Nooksack Valley Vocational Education (scholarship) Committee, which oversees Ronnie's Fund. The three principle lodge officers are automatic members: WM Tim Springstead, SW Michael Beaudry and JW Gordon Grahame. In addition VW Frank Juntunen was appointed to a 3 year term, VW John Browne to a 2 year term and WB Jerry Mason to a 1 year term as Trustees. These appointments were approved by a vote of the lodge.

Activities: "On November the 11th WM. Tim Springstead travelled to Vedder Crossing BC Canada to lay a wreath on behalf of the Lodge in remembrance of all the fallen Brethren during all the war's from Canada and USA".

Calendar of Events:

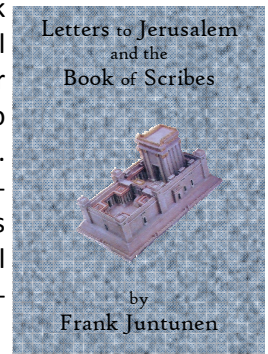
Dec 6th (Tues): Members of Nooksack Valley Lodge travel to Mt. Zion Lodge to return the Traveling Gavel.

Dec. 7th (Wed): Nooksack Vocational Education Committee meets at 7 pm at the Nooksack Masonic Center.

Dec. 13th (Tues): Rainbow Christmas Party at the Nooksack Valley Masonic Center, at 6 pm.

Jan. 2nd (Mon): New Year's Party at Nooksack Valley Masonic Center. At 6:45 pm. Bring your favorite munchie.

Fund Raiser for Ronnie's Fund. Ronnie's Fund provides for Vocational Education Scholarships for local students. Your assistance is welcomed so we can continue serving our local youth. Nooksack Valley Lodge offers this wonderful Masonic related short story by our own VW Frank Juntunen: Letters to Jerusalem and the Book of Scribes. This book is available for a \$10 donation to Ronnie's Fund. This makes a Great Holiday Masonic Gift! Call VW Frank Juntunen at (360) 966-4406 or email at: oscar26charlie@earthlink.com



GRAND LODGE – WHAT IS IT?

RWB Dean W. Heinemann
Deputy Grand Master

When you refer to “Grand Lodge” who are you really talking about? Are you talking about the Grand Lodge office in Tacoma; are you talking about the Grand Lodge Elected Officers; are you talking about the membership that attends the Annual Communication. The Washington Masonic Code is very specific as to who Grand Lodge is and what are its powers (WMC Sec. 1.03 Const. & WMC Sec. 1.04 Const.).

There has been and probably will continue to be this perception that Grand Lodge is someone else, that Grand Lodge is something else and they do nothing for us. The Jurisdiction of Washington is large and very diverse. We have about 16,000 Masons and 183 Lodges that are located in the downtown sections of major urban areas, in medium sized cities and towns, in small rural towns and in unincorporated areas. To adequately grasp this diversity, it is necessary that one travel to these areas. By traveling outside our immediate areas, you will discover that even though the scenery will change the Brethren remain constant. We all have a common experience that we can share and celebrate. This is the joy of traveling.

Grand Lodge attempts to serve the whole fraternity but it is a two way street. It is extremely important that communication flows in both directions for this to work effectively. It has become increasingly frustrating for me to get up to date information concerning Lodges and their activities. Please review the information that you have provided to Grand Lodge regarding your lodge location (no PO Boxes), stated meeting dates and times and contact information. Consider having a lodge web site; the Technology Committee will help with creating it and if you already have one review it and keep the information up to date.

Grand Lodge provides administrative tools and assistance to the Lodges and to the membership of the jurisdiction. Grand Lodge provides a diverse number of committees that are tasked to perform a variety of functions. Grand Lodge provides a clearing house for ideas and best practices that can be used in the Lodges and Districts. Grand Lodge provides a framework to allow the craft to learn and practice the teachings of Freemasonry. All this comes at a cost. That cost is referred to as “per capita”; that sum required to be paid by the Lodges which are set annually by the Grand Lodge for each enrolled Master Mason with some exceptions (see WMC Sec. 7.03 B.L.). \$17.00 per member per year is a very small price to pay for the operation of the organization we call Grand Lodge; that’s 33 cents per week per member.

Lodges should serve a variety of roles; membership, education, mentoring new members, community involvement, family involvement. Successful lodges fulfill these roles for their members. In 1998, a survey of Masons raised in the previous 5 years was conducted with those who were considered inactive. In the survey, these Masons were asked why they were inactive and, what would help them get active? One of the reasons identified is that Masonic Lodges don’t always deliver what they promise. Which means that the lessons of Masonry were not communicated and explained to the new Mason beyond him getting his degrees, also in some cases the fellowship talked about and expected just wasn’t there.

It is time for each of us to make a commitment to our Lodges and to our Brothers; A commitment to become more active in Lodge meetings; A commitment to become more involved in the activities of our Lodges, our Districts and our Grand Lodge. We are in this together and together we can leave this Fraternity better than we found it.

WASHINGTON MASONIC CODE Sec. 1.03 Const.

“Members. Members of the Grand Lodge shall consist of the following:

1. Past Masters of chartered Lodges of this Grand Jurisdiction, while members therein,
2. Masters and Wardens, or their duly appointed proxies, of the chartered and duly constituted Lodges of this Jurisdiction; and Members of Lodges of this Jurisdiction who are Past Masters of any other Jurisdiction which is in fraternal communication with the Grand Lodge of Washington. **Rev. 1990”**

Washington Masonic Code Sec. 1.04 Const.

“Powers. The powers of the Grand Lodge are legislative, executive, and judicial, and are limited only by its own Constitution and Laws and by the Ancient Landmarks of Masonry.”

Washington Masonic Code Sec. 7.03 B.L. Revenue for the General Fund.

1. Every Lodge shall pay into the treasury of the Grand Lodge in support of Grand Lodge general activities the following:
 - A. Ten dollars (\$10.00) for a charter granted to a new Lodge,
 - B. Twenty dollars (\$20.00) for each petition approved for conferral of the degrees;
 - C. One dollar (\$1.00) for each degree conferred during the year,
 - D. One dollar (\$1.00) for each member enrolled during the year by affiliation, in Lodges charging an affiliation fee,
 - E. Ten dollars (\$10.00) for each petition for affiliation from a member of some other Jurisdiction, unless the petitioner, through prior membership, has contributed to the Masonic Home Fund, Masonic Home Endowment Fund or General Fund of this Jurisdiction; and
 - F. A sum to be set annually by the Grand Lodge [but not to exceed seventeen dollars and no cents (\$17.00) which amount will increase two dollars (\$2.00) each year until twenty-five dollars and no cents (\$25.00)] for each enrolled Master Mason, except those whose dues are remitted or not required for any reason. One Dollar of this amount shall be designated for the official publication of the Grand Lodge, one dollar shall be designated for Masonic Public Relations, and one dollar shall be designated for contribution to the George Washington Masonic Memorial Association. The exceptions are: **Rev. 2011**
 - a. A Mason who is supported at the expense of the Lodge or Grand Lodge,
 - b. A Mason whose dues are permanently waived by the Lodge because of inability to pay the same, c. An honorary member who is not also an active member and who resides outside this Jurisdiction,
 - d. An honorary member for whom any other Lodge of this Jurisdiction is liable for Grand Lodge dues, 7-2 [**Rev. 2011**]
 - e. A fifty-year member whose Lodge has remitted his dues; and,
 - f. A member of a Lodge of Research, who holds dual membership in another Lodge of this Jurisdiction.
 - G. The Grand Master may establish a fee to cover the cost of providing the Grand Lodge mailing list or labels for those purposes approved at the Annual Communication. **Rev. 1999**

BMC = Bellingham Masonic Center on W. Maplewood ; FMC = Ferndale Masonic Center;
 FHMC = Friday Harbor Masonic Center; NMC = Nooksack Masonic Center; SRH = Scottish Rite Hall

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 First Advent	28 (November)	29	30	1 L # 56 stated meeting 7:30 pm W #151 - Spl. Comm	2 BB # 44 - stated 7:30 pm.	3 San Juan #175 Open Installation of Officers.
4 Second Advent	5 Hesperus Com-mandery No. 8 - 7:30 F-OES #223 7:30 p. (FMC)	6 ML-OES # 58 (BMC) 7:30 pm Feast of St. Nicholas Day	7 SJ # 175 - stated 7:30 p. (FHMC) V of B Scottish Rite: Dinner at 6:30 pm & Stated Mtg at 7:30 pm. Pearl Harbor Day	8	9 Bethel # 25 at 7 pm.	10
11 Third Advent	12 F # 264 - Dark, see you on the 2 nd Monday of February, 2012 Bellingham Council No.16 R&SM - 7:30 p	13 F # 73-stated 7 pm. (BMC) Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (FMC)	14 NV # 105 - Dark V of B Scottish Rite: Education Night at 7 pm	15 W 151 - stated dinner at 5:30 lodge opens 6:30 pm.	16 BB 44 Open Installation of Officers. Officers open Lodge at 6:30, Ceremony starts at 7 pm. (SRH)	17 MLA - Dark, see you on 3 rd Sat. in January of 2012
18 Fourth Advent	19 Bellingham Chp Royal Arch - 7:30 p. F-OES # 223 7:30 p. (FMC)	20 ML-OES # 58 7:30 p. (BMC) Hanukkah Begins - Sundown	21 SJ # 175 - Spl. 7:30 p. (FHMC) V of B Scottish Rite: Education Night at 7 pm	22 Bellingham Temple Assoc Mtg at 7.30 pm Winter Solstice	23	24  Christmas Eve
25 Christmas Day 1 st Day of Christmas	26 F # 264 - Dark Boxing Day 2 nd Day of Christmas	27 F # 73-Spl. 7 pm. Evergreen RB # 17 7 p. (FMC) 3 rd Day of Christmas	28 NV # 105 - Dark V of B Scottish Rite: Corporation Mtg at 7 pm Executive Mtg at 8 pm 4 th Day of Christmas	29 5 th Day of Christmas	30 6 th Day of Christmas	31 ***New Year's Eve*** 7 th Day of Christmas

**"Time is like the water in a river...
 that which has passed
 will never be touched again."
 Author is Unknown.**



The Whatcom Brothers send their wishes for
 A Very Happy December Birthday!
 To:

- December 12th - Bro. Karl Kern
- December 13th - WB. Edward McAllister
- December 31st - Bro. Richard Johnson

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John Sleeth (Ext 301)

To contribute to this newsletter please send your letter, comment, historical fact, poem or calendar announcement, by the 20th day of each month, to:
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