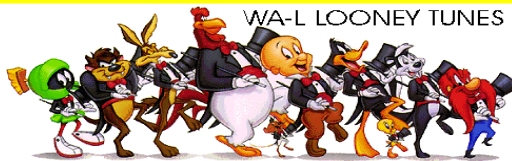




Official Newsletter of
Chapter WA-L
Tri-Cities, Washington
"The Looney Tunes"



Gold Wing Road Riders
Association
Region I — WA District
October 2009

ACME TIMES

Phantom Writer

September started off with the Idaho District Rally in Kamiah, ID with a decent size group from Chapter "L". The weather was great. The campgrounds were perfect. Many riders from Washington, Montana, Wyoming, Iowa and Idaho attended. The town had a festival on the same weekend and we were invited to join in their parade. For the light parade, the town turned off the street lights. The 30 or 40 bikes really glowed in the dark. The town's people lined the streets and were pointing at the bikes. But the parade was a little short.

The dinner with Chapter "M" was nicely put together. Twelve members from CH. "L" met with three members from CH. "M" at Snipes in Sunnyside. The only problem was someone told CH. "M" to be there at 5 PM and told CH. "L" it was at 4:30. Oh well, it was a good meal.



Ten members (Gary, Joyce/Phil, Janet/Mike, Beth/Mike, Bob Goodman, Ann and I) joined together and headed up to the Country Mercantile for an Ice Cream Social.

October is training month. Some of your staff will be in Buckley, WA having fun and trying to learn something.

.....Continued on page 2.

Rider Education

We Get It.

By Tom Denny, WA-L Rider Educator

The frost, as they say, is on the pumpkin. That means cool weather riding is here and cold weather riding is just around the corner. We've been riding in the summer heat for a few months now so it is time to re-evaluate and start packing warmer clothing with us. This time of year it can be freezing in the morning and mid seventies by afternoon. You could get frost nip and sunburn on the same day! Layers that you can put on and just as importantly, take off are the way to go. Layering is always a good idea when considering riding apparel. Pack several pairs of gloves; light ones for warmer temps and insulated ones for colder times. Heated gloves are another option as is heated clothing in general. Yes, it is expensive but how much is your comfort, safety and health worth?

One thing we always need to be aware of is our old nemesis, dehydration. "But it's cold outside" you say. Correct, but when the temperature goes down, so does the relative humidity and that is what will dry us out. It's just as important to drink plenty of clear fluids when the weather is cool or cold as it is when the weather is hot. Dehydration is insidious; it will sneak up on you. The problem is that it affects your ability to make decisions so by the time you become dehydrated you may not have the ability to realize it. Making appropriate decisions is what riding a motorcycle is all about and losing that ability is dangerous to both the rider and those around them. Experienced riders will make sure that they maintain their hydration every time they ride. One rule of thumb is that if you don't need to go, you know, when you stop for fuel you are probably not drinking enough clear fluids. Remember the signs of dehydration? Dry mouth, dizziness, headache and muscle weakness are common for mild to moderate dehydration.

.....Continued on page 2.

Phantom Writer... continued from page 1.



Some of the subjects are Computer Basics (that's for me), Communications, Geocaching, Back Seat Drivers (actually it's called "Images from the back seat"). Plus a few others. Therefore, there will be "NO" meeting this month.

See you in November.

Alex Piper, CD

F4cdfantom@aol.com



Janet Turner celebrated her status as "Birthday Gal" at the dinner ride in September.



We welcomed some long time WA-L members to the September meeting that we hadn't seen in years.

Rider Ed... continued from page 1.

Who wants to ride with a headache? Keep in mind that thirst is not a good indicator of hydration. You can be dehydrated and not be thirsty. Extreme dehydration warrants immediate medical attention. Look for lack of sweating, little or no urination (or urine that is dark in color) and sunken eyes. The subject may be irritable, confused, have low blood pressure, a rapid heartbeat or fever.

Hypothermia is the danger that most people associate with riding in cool weather and it certainly is one of the things we have to be wary of. Like dehydration, hypothermia affects our decision-making ability and may sneak up on us unannounced. Long-term exposure to cool temperatures can slowly cool the body to the point of hypothermia. Elderly people can become hypothermic after prolonged exposure to indoor air temperatures as warm as 65°F and sitting in the wind on a motorcycle in air temperatures of 45-50°F for long periods can definitely cause anyone to become hypothermic if they are not dressed properly. Remember the signs of hypothermia? The first sign is going to be shivering, your body's attempt to warm its self internally. Then look for the "-umbles", as in the Stumbles, Mumbles, Fumbles and Grumbles. The problem as I see it is knowing whether these signs are caused by hypothermia or age. Let's face it, some of us already stumble, fumble, mumble and grumble! Consider the context of the behavior to determine if it is significant.



Early morning riding this time of year can provide for some nasty surprises in the form of frost or ice on the road. So-called "Black Ice" can be particularly nasty as it is invisible under most conditions. Too bad, if it were black perhaps we could see it and take evasive measures. . Fall is also when the trees turn color and drop their leaves. It might be pretty but mix morning dew with leaves on a shaded corner and you have a recipe for disaster. I can't imagine much that is going to be more slippery than wet leaves sitting on top of a thin layer of ice.

Keep in mind that it gets dark earlier this time of year and it is easier to get caught out in it. Have a clear face shield, clear goggles or clear safety glasses with you so you don't

Next page

have to ride in the dark looking through tinted lenses or shield. Wearing your sunglasses at night only works in the song.



This time of year school starts back up. Children are going to and from school from now until early next summer so watch out for them as well. Children are unpredictable and one can never know when they might dash out in the road into traffic. Young people just don't pay attention to the world around them like adults. They may not be my or your kids but it is guaranteed that somebody will be upset if you hit one of them with your motorcycle.

Frost nip/frostbite are seldom seen but are certainly possible when the air temperature is below freezing and bare flesh is exposed. Frost nip/frostbite is most common in toes, fingers, nose and cheeks. Stage one (Frostnip) shows as white or pale yellow patches, with a strong burning sensation when tissue is re-warmed. Frostnip will result in temporary loss of sensation in the affected area for up to one year. High cholesterol, smoking, chewing tobacco, diabetes or other circulatory problems can exacerbate its onset and make one more vulnerable. Appropriate dress and monitoring of potential problem areas is the way to avoid this painful and unnecessary injury.



Sitting around talking with my non-riding friends about the hazards of cool/cold weather motorcycle riding they seem confused about why we do it. They ask, "Why not just drive your car and avoid all those problems with slick roads, hypothermia, dehydration, frost nip, school kids, early darkness, etcetera?"

They don't get it.

Ride safe.



2010 Census Cautions

Be Cautious About Giving Info to Census Workers
by Susan Johnson - August 3, 2009 12:07 pm

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft.

The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way, as workers have begun verifying the addresses of households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The big question is - how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? BBB offers the following advice:

If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions.

However, you should never invite anyone you do not know into your home.

Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census.

While the Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, it will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers nor will employees solicit donations.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, they will not contact you by Email, so be on the lookout for Email scams impersonating the Census. Never click on a link or open any attachments in an Email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

For more advice on avoiding identity theft and fraud, visit www.bbb.org.

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Oregon's Covered Bridges

By Della Heideman

Fall is a great time to ride... a bit chilly in the morning so you bundle up a little more, but often clear and sunny and warm in the afternoon. It can be more touch-and-go in the Willamette Valley of Oregon, but we were lucky! On September 25th, Loren and I, and Mark and Sherry Bridge met up in Arlington, Oregon and rode west into the afternoon sunshine with plans to ride around the valley and check out some of the covered bridges of Oregon.

Oregon has the largest collection of covered bridges in the West and one of the largest in the nation. The covered-bridge-building tradition in Oregon dates from the 1850s. I had researched the bridges and their locations on the internet and we were looking forward to finding them!

We camped out at the **Knox Butte RV Park** in Albany, Oregon where Wanda Scheler was an excellent hostess and park owner. We set up the tent trailers, plugged in the electric blankets, and walked across the street to the restaurant for dinner. Dominoes completed the evening, and we headed off the bed under a clear sky and bright moon.

Saturday morning brought an early start... we were headed off to **Novak's Hungarian Restaurant** for breakfast with **GWRRA Oregon Chapter J...** the Albany chapter. We enjoyed the visit and the food. The top came off the pepper shaker onto Loren's breakfast, and Sherry dubbed him "Pepper" for the rest of the weekend. Not a bad nickname I suppose.



Group riders take a break near Sisters, OR

After breakfast we joined in a ride heading east over Hwy 20 to Sisters, then back via Hwy 242 and McKenzie Pass. This was a real treat. We love new roads and great views. But Hwy 242 offered a spectacular surprise. **Dee Wright**

Observatory is an observation structure at the summit of McKenzie Pass in the Cascade Mountains. The structure is an open shelter constructed with lava stone. It is located in the midst of a large lava flow, and offers an exceptional view of numerous Cascade peaks. There are also viewing windows cut to specifically highlight the neighboring mountains. These "lava tube" viewing holes allow visitors to easily identify the different Cascade peaks. There is also a 36 inch (90 cm) diameter, bronze azimuth-like "peak finder" on the observatory's roof to help visitors locate nearby geologic features as well as the surrounding mountain peaks.



Mark and Sherry Bridge at Dee Wright Observatory

But the best was yet to come. Heading west on Hwy 242, down the mountain from the observatory is a fantastic section of twisty road, with switchbacks and tight turns—a real bikers dream! And we didn't even know it existed. What a rush! We saw so many motorcyclists all enjoying the same route riding in both directions! We even saw a couple of **Piaggio Scooters** headed up the hill. They've got two front wheels—narrow, not like a regular trike—that both lean into corners. Now that was an unusual site too. Check them out on the web at

<http://www.piaggiouusa.com/innovation.php> .

We split up mid afternoon, and while the local riders headed home, we headed west on Hwy 126 and sought out our first covered bridge—the **Belknap Bridge (1966)**. Built over the McKenzie River in Lane County, the Belknap is the fourth covered bridge at the site. Lane County was the first in Oregon to build covered bridges on a large scale. Today, the county has more surviving covered bridges than any other county west of the Mississippi River, a total of 17 bridges, including 14 that are still open to traffic. There has been a covered bridge at the Belknap Bridge site since 1890 and it was

hard to get good pictures because of all the traffic.



Loren riding across Belknap Covered Bridge

Our next bridge was the **Goodpasture Bridge (1938)**. Near Vida, Oregon, it is the second longest covered bridge and one of the most photographed covered bridges in the state. By now we've figured out that some of the prettiest pictures of these bridges are from the side... and that's where the water is—not the road.



Loren, Mark, & Sherry on Goodpasture Covered Bridge

We stopped and enjoyed a nice dinner in Cedar Flats, just east of Springfield, then rode back to camp from some late evening beverages and more dominoes.

Sunday brought more excellent riding weather and took advantage of it. We went out to breakfast then headed north towards Scio, Oregon and **Hoffman Covered Bridge (1936)**. Spanning Crabtree Creek, Hoffman was built primarily with hand tools, the upper timbers show adze marks where workers shaped them by hand. All of the bridges we saw were painted white except one. We took pictures, checked out the man and dog playing in the

river below and headed out for our next photo op. After a few turnarounds and backtracking, we found our first (and only) red bridge—**Shimanek Covered Bridge (1966)**. It's the fifth bridge on the site since the late 1800s—having fallen victim to floods and high winds and other natural disasters over the years.



Shimanek Covered Bridge near Scio, Oregon

We stopped and took pictures at **Hannah Covered Bridge (1936)** where during the summer months the bridge is a popular spot for swimmers often jumping from the bridge into the deep pool beneath. After that we found **Larwood Covered Bridge (1939)** and the Larwood Wayside Park, and took more pictures. We stopped in Scio for a cold drink, a short rest and directions before continuing on to **Gilkey Covered Bridge (1939)**. Gilkey was repaired and underway major reconstruction in 1998 due to damage caused by an overloaded vehicle.



Loren and Della at Gilkey (ha—no bridge picture!)

We called it a day for bridges and headed west to ride up to the top of **Marys Peak**. At 4097 feet, it's the highest peak in the Oregon Coast Range. On a clear day at the top of the peak, you can see the cities and suburbs of the Willamette Valley, as well as the Cascade Range.

While riding through Philomath, we came up behind Daryl and Margaret Rainbolt—riders from the Saturday group ride. They were headed up Marys Peak also. We stopped and visited at the bottom, again at Parker Creek Falls, part way up, and again at the top. Margaret, Loren and I hiked a ways up from the parking lot, but didn't try for the top. The haze and smoke in the air limited visibility. Another photo op of course, before heading down and finding dinner at the end of another great riding day.



Loren & Della Heideman, Daryl & Margaret Rainbolt, and Sherry and Mark Bridge at Marys Peak, Oregon

Monday morning arrived—our last riding day before heading home and back to reality. We decided to ride up Hwy 20 again, continuing our trek to find covered bridges. We finally found **Weddle Covered Bridge (1937)** in a park in Sweethome, Oregon. Saved from demolition and resurrected with funding through the Oregon Covered Bridge Program, Weddle Bridge, across Ames Creek, is now closed to traffic and is the site of many weddings and community events.

Further east, **Short Covered Bridge (1945)** spans South Fork of the Santiam River. We had passed Short Bridge on Saturday, but the group didn't stop, so we made a point of coming back to find it. The Short Bridge is the sole survivor of the covered bridges which crossed the South Fork of the Santiam River and is one of the few remaining in the county to have a wooden shingle roof. We had no trouble taking pictures here... slow traffic day I guess. There was also "Short Bridge Ghost Town" across the road, so we stopped and took more pictures there! It isn't authentic, but we had fun checking it out.

Ready for some riding, we headed east to the junction with Hwy 22 and turned north. We stopped in Idanha, Oregon at the Idanha Grill for coffee and cookies (sad

face—no pie), visited with the waitress and the proprietor, and then hit the road again. We rode past Detroit, Gates and Mill City, and stopping in Stayton, Oregon to check out the **Stayton-Jordan Covered Bridge (1998)** in Pioneer Park. Prior to 1986, the Jordan Bridge spanned Thomas Creek in neighboring Linn County several miles east of Scio. When Linn County announced the aging Jordan Bridge was to be replaced a covered bridge preservation company was formed, and the bridge was rebuilt over the Salem Power Canal to serve as a foot bridge connecting two parks. Unfortunately, the bridge caught fire when Christmas lights ignited the roof. Local citizens toiled through-out 1997 and 1998 to construct a new covered bridge which incorporates glue laminated members for added strength and was dedicated in September 1998.



Della at Stayton-Jordan Bridge

We didn't squeeze any other bridges into this year's vacation. But there are so many more bridges and new roads to ride that I think we'll do it again.

Everything was fun... well, maybe not getting my hard cider spilled down my front at McMenamins in Corvallis during dinner, but I survived. I smelled like a brewery, and was pretty much the evening's entertainment for the rest of the late diners, but I dried fast (and froze) on the ride back to the RV park. We met new people, saw spectacular scenery, and enjoyed the bridges (Bridges?!).



HALLOWEEN DANCE

We just wanted to get a reminder out to all the Chapter Directors that our Halloween Dance is coming up soon - Saturday, Oct. 24th!

You can get the Halloween flyer off the GWRRA Washington district web site.

Thank you,

Chuck and Nancy Cal-
dara
GWRRA-Q CD



Editor's Note: The flyer is a very big file, so give it time to download. (6MB)

HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Senior Biker Bar



PONDERISMS

- I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.
- There are two kinds of pedestrians: the quick and the dead.
- Life is sexually transmitted.
- Healthy is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.
- Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing.
- Have you noticed since everyone has a camcorder these days no one talks about seeing UFOs like they used to?
- Whenever I feel blue, I start breathing again.
- All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?
- Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, 'I think I'll squeeze these dangly things and drink whatever comes out?'
- If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a song about him?
- If quizzes are quizzical, what are tests?
- If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?
- Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?
- Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?
- Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?
- Do you ever wonder why you gave me your email address?



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2009 Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

- 6 WA-L Staff Meeting 6:30p Mid-Columbia Library
- 10 NO REGULAR MEETING: Social Breakfast at the Sandstone Café, downtown Kennewick 8am
- 10 District Leadership Conference in Buckley
- 11 WA-L Monthly Gathering—Cousins in Pasco
- 17 WA-L Ice Cream Ride to the County Cupboard in Dayton, WA. Leave King City Truck Stop/Pasco at 10am
- 23-25 WA-F All Motorcycle Mall Show - South Hill Mall
- 24 WA-Q Halloween Dance in Puyallup
- 24 WA-L Lunch Ride (Pending Hours/Cost) Roosters Pendleton OR. 1515 Southgate Pl. 541-966-1100
Leave 27th and the Highway at the station at 11am

NOVEMBER

- 7 WA-L Veteran's Day Parade—West Richland
8AM Breakfast at Richland Moose Lodge in West Richland
Staging for the Parade starts at 8:30AM
- 9 WA-L Staff Meeting 6:30p Mid-Columbia Library
- 11 WA-B Veterans' Day
- 14 WA-L Monthly Gathering—Cousins in Pasco

DECEMBER

- 12 WA-D Festival of Lights in Montesano
- 13 WA-L Monthly Gathering—Cousins in Pasco
- 13 WA-L Christmas Party—TBA



The Richland Moose proudly recognize America's Veterans. To celebrate, the Lodge and Chapter will be hosting a breakfast on November 7, 2009 ❖ 7:30a.m.-10:00a.m.

Join us for pancakes, scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy. **VETS EAT FREE!!!**
\$5.00 Adults, \$3.00 5 yrs and under.

Richland Moose Lodge
5828 W. Van Giesen
West Richland
509-967-3350

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Janet Turner	Oct 1
Bill Gowey	Oct 2
Vicki Carter	Oct 4
Cheryl Davidson	Oct 6
Diana L Meyer	Oct 7
Don & Christine Eide † †	Oct 10
Roy & Vicki Carter † †	Oct 11
Donald Eide	Oct 12
Gary C Hart	Oct 14
Tom Didway	Oct 15
Della Heideman	Oct 15
Ron Davidson	Oct 16
Sheri Bridge	Oct 17
Lloyd Finley	Oct 20
Duane & Pat L Shults † †	Oct 22
Don Brock	Oct 25
Jerry Myhres	Oct 25



Veteran's Day Parade

Chapter L will be riding in the Veteran's Day Parade in West Richland again this year. The route will be the same as last year, for those who joined us. All of our members are encouraged to join in the ride, or just come and cheer on the parade participants from the sidelines.

The Moose are holding a breakfast this year and we'll join them at 8am; staging starts at 8:30 but I'm hoping to make arrangements to have the bikes parked where we'll stage so we won't have to move them after breakfast. I'll get this information out to you via email as soon as I get it confirmed.

We will meet at West Richland Moose 5828 W. Van Giesen, West Richland at 0800 on Saturday, November 7 for breakfast. Vets Eat Free, \$5.00 for Adults and \$3.00 5 and under.

The Parade begins at 09:30. The route is 1.6 mile long and is the same route they used last year.

Please contact me either by email or phone if you will be able to attend.

Michael R. Messinger
mr1vette@charter.net
509-582-4560

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Lined leather chaps. Size 5xl. Great condition. Black. Call Della 541-422-7166 or email magentamomma@hughes.net

FOR SALE: 2007 CF MOTO V3, Automatic Motorcycle. Water cooled. 4 stroke. Has about 2304 miles, AM/FM radio, Cassette player, MP3 input, disk brakes front and rear. All in new condition. Bike new was \$3898 plus tax. Selling due to college expense needs. Asking \$2,850.00 or best CASH OFFER. Comes with rear top trunk (shown) with optional passenger seat (if you were to take the trunk off). 509-366-6504 or email lcolt@hotmail.com for more pictures. Any scooter store or motorcycle shop in town can work on this bike. It is really inexpensive to drive and maintain!



FOR SALE: 2004 1800 series Gold Wing with 62,000 miles—magenta w/cargo trailer to match. Extra chrome, custom pin striping, CD player with 6 disc changer, CB Radio—we are asking \$15,500. Contact Jerri and Mike at soulmender@verizon.net or 509-946-9785.



Sale items are listed for three months. If you sell your item sooner, please email the newsletter editor. If you need your item listed longer, you need to email and request an extension.
Magentamomma@hughes.net

FOR SALE: 2008 Road King Classic, 1800 miles, black, loads of extras, True dual exhaust (Vance and Hines). Stage 1 down load and air cleaner.
\$23,000 invested.
Asking \$18,500.
Royce:
hog07@charter.net



FOR SALE: 2007 250cc cruiser. Burgundy and deep blue metal flake paint and LOTS of chrome. Windshield, bags, forward mounted controls, 4 gallon gas tank, 5 speed transmission and shotgun exhausts. Coming up on 2500 miles so the tires look almost new. Does 70-75 on the freeway and gets around 60 miles per gallon. Clean title in hand; tabs through July 2010. Price reduced for a quick sale - \$2500 firm.
dnsanders@embarqmail.com 509-786-4836 Home.
Danny_R_Sanders@rl.gov 509-373-7166 Work



FOR SALE: 1997 Gold Wing GL1500 SE. Midnight Blue with less than 50 K miles. Extras include 6 disk CD changer. Contact Don at (509) 531-7849. \$ 8500.00. Bike may be seen at 1588W 21st Place Kennewick WA



FOR SALE: Gold Wing Parts for GL1000, GL1100, GL1200, GL1500 and GL1800. Call Gene Myers at 586-9947 or 947-5993; email harddhatt1@gmail.com.



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WA-L GATHERINGS

Chapter L — The Looney Tunes

We get together on the second Saturday of each month at 8:00 AM for breakfast at Cousins Restaurant on Road 68 in Pasco, WA . After breakfast we discuss the business of the Chapter, share news and safety information, and have fun!

Please join us.



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Gold Wing Road Riders Association

Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge

<http://www.gwrra.org/>

Melissa Nordeoff, Executive Director

Region "T" Staff

<http://www.bigskyregioni.org/>

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Assistant Directors	Mike & Peggy Hudnell
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Region I Ambassadors	Ed & Mozelle Edwards
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<http://www.gwrra-wa.org/>

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Washington Chapter "L"

Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge

<http://www.gwrra-wa-l.org/>

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