Bothell High Alumni Association

Cougar Tracks

October, 1996 / Volume 2 - Number 2

P. O. Box 298, Bothell, WA 98041-0298

Olympic Medalist and Missionary - Author Featured in BHS Display Case.

The BHSAA started its second year of the display case at BHS in September when school resumed. The case features alumni who have had interesting careers since their graduation.

Tracie Ruiz Conforto, Class of 1981, a Double Olympic Gold Medalist in Synchronized Swimming at the 1984 Olympic Games in Los Angeles and a Silver Medalist in the 1988 Games in Seoul, Korea, is featured the first trimester. Since the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta concluded in early August, the Association thought it would be appropriate to honor its only Olympic Medalist to date.

Additionally, the display case will feature David Freeman, Class of 1955, an Ordained Minister, Missionary, and published author. In the course of forty years, David has traveled to fifty-five countries around the world and published three books. He has donated a copy of his first book to the high school library.

Profiles of Tracie and David are included herein. Take time to visit the display case, which is located just to the right of the door to the main office at Bothell High School. In addition to these featured alumni, it has information about the scholarships offered to BHS Seniors, pictures of our award winning float at the Bothell Fourth of July celebration, the winners of our first raffle for the scholarship fund, a sample of the license plate frame sold to raise funds, and a short article on Jessica Olsen, Class of 1996, Seattle Seafair Princess.

Please submit the names of alumni you think should be profiled in our case to feature their interesting career, public service, or other honors. Send their names and addresses to the association at the address listed in this newsletter.

TRACIE RUIZ-CONFORTO

The 1996 Summer Olympics, which just concluded in Atlanta, reminds us of Bothell's own 1984 Double Olympic Gold Medalist in synchronized swimming, Tracie Ruiz-Conforto.

Tracie was born in Honolulu, Hawaii and moved to Bothell at age five. While at BHS, she competed in gymnastics, which provided her with a solid athletic background to support her efforts in synchronized swimming. She received a full athletic scholarship from the University of Arizona to continue her education and further her swimming talents. The Olympics and her family "interrupted" her pursuit of a degree, but Tracie plans to obtain a degree in the near future.

Tracie competed in the 1984 Olympic games held in Los Angeles when synchronized swimming was added as a competitive sport. The world was introduced to the beauty, grace, and artistic nature of this athletic event. One can only imagine the many, many hours of practice needed to become the *Best in the World.*

A list of Tracie's swimming honors is displayed in the case at BHS, including four times as World Champion in synchronized Swimming and seven time AAU All American. The King county Pool in Bothell was re-named in honor of she and her partner, as the *Ruiz-Costie Pool.* Many hours of training were spent at this pool in the pursuit of a goal that resulted in being Bothell High's only Olympic Medalist. Tracie, her husband, Mike, and their two children, Michael and Jacqueline, now live in Woodinville. They own their own business, STAT Medical, a Redmond medical sales company.

DAVID D. FREEMAN

David Freeman was born in Hermiston, Oregon and moved to Bothell at age five, also. His life adventures have led him around the world to visit fifty-five countries. While at BHS, David had an interest in baseball, basketball, and football. However, his involvement in sports was limited because he had an after school job to help support his family and was also enrolled in night classes in his other interest, theology.

David says that two teachers at BHS were instrumental in inspiring him to follow the career path he would choose. One was history teacher, Paul Lorentz, who pointed out to him that maybe we just do not know all the answers, leading David to an interest in theology. His music teacher and choir director, Charles Asbury, inspired his love for music.

After graduation, David attended Northwest Bible College, Lutheran Bible Institute, Edison Technical School, and the University of Washington. His field of study was theology. His main interests in life became theology, medicine, and music. He says that theology won out and he does not regret the path he followed.

David has been an ordained Minister for forty-one years and a Pastor for seven churches. He has made a great contribution to society through his work as a Missionary. David spent twenty years in full time ministry with Glad Tiding Missionary, ten years in Africa, in Uganda, where his daughter and son were born, and three and one-half years in the Canadian Arctic. He also served three years as the Executive Director of Mission Update International, a telex information service for the Evangelical Church. His most cherished honor is a trophy presented to him by the Pastors of

36 congregations for his ten years of Missionary work in Uganda. It is engraved "To the Captain of the Team."

David's additional credits are wide and varied. They include three published books and many honors and awards. He has two letters from Buckingham Palace regarding his published books. One is from the Queen of England and the other from His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales. A copy of his first book, *Six Lanes to Alaska,* is displayed in the case at Bothell High and he also donated a copy to the library. Since David holds a pilot's rating for multiple engine aircraft, many of his stories are about flying in the wilderness of Canada and Alaska.

As "President Emeritus" and co-builder of the Midnight Swinger's Golf Course in Tuktoyaktuk, the Northwest Territories, David also contributed to establishing the most northerly golf course in the world. It lies 200 miles above the Arctic Circle, is a nine hole course with sand greens, and the local rule is *Polar Bears have the right-of-way.*

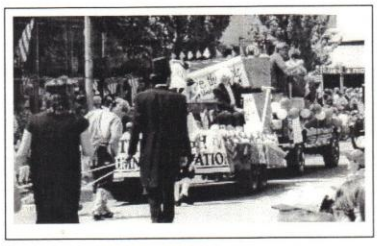
While continuing to be active in Ministry, since 1986, David has worked as the Senior Technician for Brink in Vancouver, B.C. where he lives with his wife, Velma.

- Chuck Kaysner
Class of 1963

Fourth of July Float Wins Again!

For the second year in a row, the BHS Alumni Association float won first place in the annual parade competition. The Theme for 1996 was "We the People..."

To tie into the theme, several important people throughout history followed the float, which displayed the signers of the constitution, represented by Bev Niemeyer Schmer, Art Gunderman, and A. D. Aos. Walking behind the float were Darryl Rongholt as Paul Revere, Don Rongholt as Benjamin Franklin, Rory Beauparlant as Daniel Boone, Shelby Eaton as Sacajewea, Michael Thompson as Abraham Lincoln, Donna Rongholt as Susan B. Anthony, Dorie Ross as a 1920's Flapper, Annette Eaton as Rosie the Riveter, Ian West as Elvis Presley, Sandee Magaw as a Hippie Flower Child, Ben West as an Astronaut, and Chris Hill as a College Graduate pulling a wagon representing the future.



1996 Fourth of July Float

We want to thank everyone who helped decorate, especially Dixie. Special thanks goes to Sharon and Michelle Hanson who returned from their vacation to help decorate, Don and Darryl Rongholt and Michael Thompson, who rented costumes at their own expense, Shelby Eaton, for her fine lettering on the "whole" Preamble to the Constitu tion, name tags, and wagon, and Bev and Bill Schmer for use of their garage and home, like last year. Additional thanks to Jim Magaw for the use of his trailer again this year and to Bud for towing the trailer with his truck.

We would like to see more alumni volunteers next year, as seven of the participants were not attendees of Bothell!

- Annette Ross Eaton
Class of 1956
- Sandee Eaton Magaw
Class of 1963

Association Helps With Class Reunions

One goal of the Association is to make contact with each class that has a reunion. The class is presented with a photo album with a decorated cover in blue and white, which is expertly made and cross stitched by Bev Niemeyer Schmer, Class of 1967, our Association President. The album is a showcase for reunion pictures now and in the future.

This summer the Association distributed newsletters and photo albums to the classes of 1936, 1946, 1951, 1956, 1961, 1971, 1976, and 1986.

A Reunion Information Night is scheduled at the Bothell Library at 6:30 pm on November 7, 1996. Any interested alumni are welcome to attend to obtain information about organizing a reunion. Representatives will be in attendance from varied sources that would be helpful in planning a reunion. These include the areas of music, photography, catering, and event locations, as well as companies that specialize in planning reunions. We will share our resources with each other. We hope to make this an annual gathering to give classes more resources in planning their reunions.

- Chuck Kaysner
Class of 1963

1st Association Treasurer "Retires"

The Association thanks Clare Graham Hardesty, Class of 1989, for all her hard work and support. Her contribution to BHSAA will be missed. Clare was the Association's first Treasurer and she also chaired the Homecoming Committee for two years and started our Alumni display case at the high school.

Dorothy Johns has assumed Clare's position as Treasurer for the Association, Royal Donelson will be acting as Homecoming chairperson, and Chuck Kaysner

has been doing a great job on the display case.

Clare has recently married. We offer our congratulations, but wish she hadn't moved so far away.

Congratulations to Clare and her new husband, Theron.

Class of 1946 Celebrates Golden Anniversary

We met on the evening of July 13, 1996 at The Wyndham Hotel in Bothell, which is on the site of the old Vitulli Farm. It was wonderful to see the classmates in attendance and remember all our good times. We looked through annuals, pictures of proms and photos from our previous class reunions... 10th, 25th, 40th and 45th.

What makes a class reunion special is that step back in time for each of us, to our own personal history. We can recall our "time of innocence" and how we thought we knew everything. We all shared a rare treasure and I remember it well.

We bowed our heads in memory of classmates who have died and I could see their faces as I read their names -- Frank Barney (big smile), Ruth Christianson, June Danielson (sweet smile), Earl Draper, Norman Gaston, Keith & Kenneth Himple (the twins), Lois Layton, Lois McDole, Lily Newberg (pretty long, blonde hair), Louise Nurell, Barbara Nellor (cheerleader), Chuck Nelson (red hair), Dick Odion, Erna Oppenheimer, Murial Payne, Westbrook Peterson, Ruthie Sodoroff (peppy & sweet), and my sister, Allene Settle, (musician & singer, cheerleader, member of the Swing Trio with Grace MacHay & Don Hampton, a joy of a sister). Ah yes, I remember them well.

We have all gone a long way down the path of life and the path is getting shorter. "As the days dwindle down to a precious few", those golden, sweet memories of yesteryear remain firmly in our hearts.

- Pat Settle Telquist
Class of 1946

A THANK YOU!

"Our 50th Class Reunion was July 13th and I came home so enthused that I wanted to write to everyone that attended; they all looked so good -- upbeat, friendly, and happy. Sure, at age 69, most of us have aches and pains, but all that was forgotten as we reminisced with friends. I'm grateful for the committee of classmates that put this together, for without them, we wouldn't have had this very special time.

I'm fortunate that my spouse, Hal, knows all my classmates but I do hope that the spouses that didn't know us had a good time, too. We had a silent time to remember those of our class who are gone. We talked about them, too... the funny and serious times. (Hope they heard us!)

Thanks for the opportunity to express my thanks in the alumni newsletter. I'm so glad I didn't let my added weight keep me home."

- Betty Berto Niemeyer
Class of 1946

Annual Pioneer Picnic Hosts Raffle Drawing

It was a beautiful day on July 21, 1996 when the annual Pioneer Picnic was held. Family members and friends came from near and far to celebrate Bothell's pioneers and honor the BHS Class of 1946, who held their 50 Year Class Reunion this year.

The Association wishes to thank everyone involved for allowing us to be a part of the Pioneer Picnic celebration. The BHSAA also thanks everyone who purchased raffle tickets in support of our annual scholarship fund, which allows the award of a $1,000.00 scholarship to a deserving student from Bothell High. The following ticket sellers deserve recognition and thanks for their efforts:

Bev Berto, Dorothy & Ted Johns, Bev Schmer, Dixie McGinnis, Diana Jones, Janet Fruchtl, Becky Schmer, Andrea Prater, Chuck Kaysner, Helen McMahon, Royal Donaldson, Sandy Magaw, Pat and Roy Telquist, Bud & Annette Eaton, Diana Stahl Schmer, and Diana Bailey.

SCHOLARSHIP RAFFLE WINNERS

1st prize:	Bill Schmer, Bothell Mini Cruise; Holland America
2nd prize:	Mary Fruchtl Richland Spirit of Washington Dinner Train
3rd prize:	Carol Brickel Mountlake Terrace Mariner Tickets

After the expense of the cruise and dinner train, $212.70 was raised as a donation to the scholarship fund. It is our goal to solicit donations for prizes the next time we do a raffle to limit expenses and increase our contribution to the fund. This year's event was successful, though, and we can gain from the learning experience it afforded us.

- Sharon Hildebrandt Hanson
Class of 1963

Historical Recollections

In 1945, the now famous Bothell High School Marching Band lost their equally famous director, Mark Hart. Mr. Charles Asbury, a music teacher, assumed the Band Directorship and carried on the tradition of winning accolades for appearances in such events as the Wenatchee Apple Blossom Festival and parades in both Seattle and Bellingham.

The first Bothell High School Band had been organized in 1937 with a total complement of seventeen members. By 1939, the total membership had grown to sixty-seven. The war years depleted the organization drastically, but Mr. Asbury managed to re-establish it and by the early 1950's had a full sixty member band, of six files and ten ranks, with a full complement of majorettes and a drill team!

Immediately following World War II, Bothell's elementary, Junior High, and High School's enrollment totaled 1,296 students, with an average class size of twenty-nine. Additional teachers, an expanded curriculum, and a larger budget made Bothell High School a more desirable educational facility, drawing students from further afield than ever before. Plans that were only dreams of high school Principal, Mr. Hilby, were now deemed more practical for the construction of a new, modern high school building to replace the obsolete (and somewhat dilapidated) structure that had been erected in 1923. I vividly recall Mr. Hilby's complaints as to how difficult it was just to keep the old building clean.

The old high school had only cost $31,000. to build. The new high school, completed and occupied in 1953, obviously cost considerably more. Although the exact figures are not available, the new gym alone, which was completed in 1956, cost $465,525!

By 1947, the course of Auto Mechanics was re-established in it's own shop. During World War 11, the former Auto Mechanics classes had terminated due to gasoline and tire rationing. In September, 1947, the Bothell High student newspaper, *The Cougar*, was expanded in page size, permitting more column inches of print and advertising than ever before. In that newspaper, it was noted that many students from Bothell High had traveled to the Puyallup Fair via a special Northern Pacific train carrying 375 people from the Bothell train station. It is bound to make anyone envious to know that the round-trip fare to the fairgrounds and back was a paltry $2.19!

As the High School faculty faced a new decade, an enlightened and active School Board voted for, and obtained, budgets for the school system that attracted excellent teachers from around western Washington and the country, as well. As late as 1938, for example, the Woodinville Principal's salary was as low as $102. per month; not a very attractive inducement for the profession. If that wasn't bad enough, any female teacher that married at the time, was instantly dismissed! As a result of the School Board's new direction, Bothell High School became an academic giant that was equal in renown to it's athletic achievements.

Many proud alumni have attended the school and left with both cherished and amusing memories. One that comes to my mind is the crazy, hysterical laughter of Don Mortensen whenever Mr. Hilby was introduced to the student body. Can anyone who ever heard that in the forties forget it? If any of you are in contact with Don today, ask him if he can still laugh like that.

Former BHS students contributing to the information contained herein include Gladys Rian Fisher and Joan Mayes Robinson. I am also indebted to the book, Slough of Memories", compiled by Fred Klein and the Northshore History Boosters for the wealth of information it provides.

- Bill Corbin
Class of 1944

BHS Alumni World Sailing Trip in Progress

You may remember from our last newsletter that BHS Alum, Karen Thorndike, Class of 1960, had made plans to sail solo around the world. As of this date, she's well on her way.

Karen has coordinated a continuing correspondence with students at many schools during her trip as an educational experience for them. They offered their best wishes by signature on a sail:

Karen displaying the sail signed by local students

Karen sailed from San Diego, California in July to begin her 30,000 mile voyage. Among other experience, she takes with her expertise gained from being a member of the first American all female team to participate in the Victoria-Maui International Yacht Race, in 1988 . Her ship, *Amelia*, had sailed

Karen, with her ship, the Amelia.

with it's former owner to England, France, the Mediterranean, Russia, Ireland, and across the Atlantic to the United States. Built in 1985, it has it's own expertise!

At this time, Karen is in Hilo, Hawaii, where her mother, Eva Bartelson Scholl, (BHS Class of 1932) and other family visited her. She is headed for Tahiti, across the South Pacific, around the horn, and to the Falklands.

If you would like to support her endeavor or get additional information about the venture, contact Kathie by phone at (206) 284-6360 or fax at (206) 284-2354.

If you have access to the internet you may follow her position at:

http://goals.com/amelia/track/current.hfm

or read her daily journal at:

http://goals.com/america/reports/pastport.htm

-Bev Niemeyer Schmer
Class of 1967

Beverly Campbell Berto Honored at 1996 Homecoming

We are off to a good start on planning for Homecoming, 1996 on November 1st. Royal Donelson is the committee chairman and Bev Schmer is the co-chairperson. Please call her at (206) 488-8260 for information or if you wish to volunteer. The Association will have two booths this year, so be sure to sign in and receive your *goodies*. Also, look for reserved seating in the stands.

This year's "50 Years Out of BHS" honored alumni is Beverly Campbell Berto. She was born on February 28, 1911, daughter of Amy Miller Campbell and Oliver Campbell. Her great grandparents were the pioneers, Mary Ann and David Bothell. Bev graduated from BHS in 1931 and married James Berto, also a BHS graduate. The couple owned the General Petroleum gas station on the corner of what is now Speedy Glass. Later, they owned the Bothell Hardware, now approximately the site of the Photo Establishment. Bev also owned and operated the Dime Store on Capital Hill from 1955 through 1973., but always supported the Northshore community where she has lived most of her 85 years.

Beverly Campbell Berto

She was nominated for her devotion and sense of commitment to the community. Bev has been a member of the Bothell Historical Society for 14 years. Up until about a year ago, she hosted special tours and held the museum open on weekends. She offered a special touch for visitors by reminiscing of her days playing in the house with her cousin, Gladys Worley.

Bev has attended most of the BHSAA meetings and activities since its beginning, supporting the organization in any way she could. She even attended that cold homecoming game last year! She has pride in her Bothell heritage and the Northshore community. Bev is now widowed, but has a devoted family, many of whom also graduated from BHS.

Her family represents four generations of Bothell High graduates including:

Bev - '31 and Jim Berto - '27
their daughter,
Betty - '46 and Hal Niemeyer - '45
their daughter,
Bev - '67 and Bill Schmer - '63
their son,
Matt - '90 and Diana Schmer - '90

Bev's son, James Berto also graduated from Bothell in 1950 and his wife, in 1951. Their daughter, Terry, '76, and her husband, John Roth , '75, graduated from BHS, as well. Their son, Jim, and his wife, Kim Luhn Berto, '75, are employed by the Northshore School District.

Additionally, Bev's grandsons, Dick ('66) and Mark ('87) Niemeyer, and great grandchildren, Becky ('89) and Adam ('92) Schmer are BHS alumni

Bev now has six grandchildren, eleven great grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild.

Her dream is to see the year 2000 and participate in its celebration. She'll only be 89 years young!

Alumni Association Officers & Board Members

President:
Chuck Kaysner - '63

Vice President
Dixie Petersen McGinnis - '55

Secretary
Sharon Hildebrandt Hanson-'63

Treasurer
Dorothy Denning Johns - '52

1996 to 1997

Membership Chair
Diana Washkuhn Jones - '55

Publicity Chair
Pat Settle Telquist -'46

Reunion Chair
Vacant

Homecoming Chair
Royal Donelson - '44

1996 to 1998

Fourth of July Chair
Sandy Eaton Magaw - '63

Board of Director Seat
Bev Niemeyer Schmer - '67
Helen Anderson McMahon - '36

Committees

Scholarship
B-Z Sundstrom Davies -'74

Pioneer Picnic
Sharon Hildebrandt Hanson-'63

History of Recollections
Bill Corbin -'44

Newsletter
Bev Niemeyer Schmer -'67
Carole Wikel Johnson - '67

Membership Climbs

The Association has 337 members and 63 lifetime members... a total of 400! This is only a beginning, though, and we need more members. All alumni are encouraged to renew their own memberships and solicit new members. It could make a great gift!

Your renewal date is now on the right side of your address label. If you are due for renewal, it will be highlighted in yellow. This will be the last newsletter we can send to those who had renewal dates in July, 1996. Please fill out your form and send it in right away.

Additionally, if each member could bring in only one new member each year, what a huge organization we could have! Look for the membership form in this newsletter.

Lifetime Members

We appreciate everyones support and membership. We want to honor & especially thank those that went the extra mile to support the association with their lifetime commitment. Thanks to:

Bailey, Diana, '68
Barnhart, Shirley, '53
Barrett, Esther, '37
Bender, Larry, '68
Berto, Beverly, '31
Dehate, Grace, '46
DeYoung, Al, '47
Edwards, Harold, 50
Frisk, Richard, '79
Fruchti, Janet, '63
Gossan, Edith, '39
Grier, Craig, '65
Hanson, Sharon, '63
Hatt, Sharon, '60
Haupert, Loraine, '54
Henninger, Frederic, '50
Hofstad, Karen, '58
Hulbert, Toni, '59
Jacobus, Elizabeth, '40
Johns, Dorothy, 52
Johns, Ted , '49
Kaysner, Charles, '63
Kirk, Jack, '59
La Vigne, Cecilia, '62
Lewis, Elisabeth, '27
Liston-Riggs, Rosalind, '76
Lynd, Ruth, '35
Maderious, Jean, '41
Martin, James, '66
Mattox, Joan, '50
McAllister, Bill, '42
McMahon, Helen, '36
Minor, Melissa, '95
(scholarship recipient)
Motomatsu, Toshiko, '40
Nequette, Corinne, '53
Nicholas, Marion, 38
Niemeyer, Richard, '66
Nilsen, Deanna, 90
Olson, Virginia, '36
Ormbrek, Kenneth, '67
Passey, James (Dex), '44
Poage, Karen, '74
Poage, Stuart, '74
Powell, Garner, '51
Prater, Andrea, '63
Pratsch, Marion, '43
Raupach, Audrey, '45
Rough, Paul W., Jr., '53
Schmer, Bill, '63
Schmer, Bev, '67
Schneider, Marian, '42
Staggs, Patricia, '49
Tebb, Ellene, '50
Van Berkem, Thomas, '65
Van Dalen, Susan, '71
Vitus, Vicky, '62
Vixie, Kyle, '96
(scholarship recipient)
Walker, Gene (Harold), '50
Walther, Bonnie, '45
Warner, Thomas (Bob), '47
Wright, Barbara, '62
Wulf, Nick, '69
Yngvason, Johanna, '96
(scholarship recipient)

ALUMNI DIRECTORIES

We have some extra directories available at the cost of $65.00 each. If you would like one, complete this form, clip it out and return to our P. O. Box:

Name_____ Phone (____)_____

Address_____City_____State____Zip_____

No. of directories_____ at $65.00 each - Amount Enclosed:_____

LICENSE PLATES

We are making an aggressive effort to raise money for the association. License plate holders are available at the cost of $15.00 each.

Name_____ Phone (____)_____

Address_____City_____State____Zip_____

No. of license plates____ at $15.00 each - Amount Enclosed:_____

(The license plate frame says *Alumni* on top & *Bothell High School* on bottom; these make great gifts!)

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION
BOTHELL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

_____

Last Name First Name Middle Initial Maiden Name

_____

Street Address City State Zip Code Phone No.

_____ _____

Class Year Spouse's Name Dollar Amount Enclosed

We are looking for help. Please identify those areas in which you wish to volunteer.

____ Social Activities	_____ Membership List	_____ Newsletter
____ Scholarship	_____ History of School	_____ Display
____ Homecoming	_____ 4th of July	_____ Other, (list)

Mail to: Bothell High School Alumni Association;
P. O. Box 298, Bothell, WA 98041-0298

- Yearly: $10.00 • Lifetime: $100.00
- Alumni couples require separate applications & dues

List other ways you wish to contribute:

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Name_____

Address_____

City_____

State_____ Zip_____

Class Year_____

Yearly is $10.00 per person
Lifetime is $100.00 per person

Enclosed is _____

Year____Lifetime____Membership

Mail to: P.O. Box 298
Bothell WA
98041-0298

DATES TO REMEMBER

All Upcoming Association meetings will be held at Alexander's Restaurant in Bothell:

8:30 am: breakfast
9:00 am: meeting

Regular Meetings:
Oct. 12, 1996
Nov. 23, 1996
Jan. 18, 1997
Feb. 15, 1996
March 15, 1996
April 12, 1996
May 10, 1996

Board Meeting:
Jan. 13, 1996

Homecoming Meetings:
Sept. 23, 1996 7:00 pm
Bothell Library
Oct. 23, 1996 7:00 pm
Dixie's Clubhouse
7301 N.E. 175th

Nov. 1, 1996 is Homecoming

Reunion Information Night:
Nov. 7, 1996 6:30 pm
Bothell Library

P. O. Box 298
Bothell, WA 98041-0298

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