

VFW News

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Veterans Day 2008 in Woodstock

By Don Peasley,
VFW News Editor 1955-2002

On a pleasant November day marking the annual tribute to servicemen, the Woodstock VFW led the Woodstock community in its Veterans Day tribute at the Post Home on Tuesday, November 11.

Earlier that day, American Community Bank & Trust conducted a similar tribute at Lake Avenue and Catalpa Lane. Bob Schroeder, World War II veteran who is the bugler at many, many activities, opened the ceremony at the flagpole, playing To The Colors.

The ceremony inside included Schroeder's recollections of service aboard the USS Bole (DD755) in the Pacific war zone near Okinawa. Stephen Robson, credit analyst with the bank, discussed his experiences while on active duty with the Army in Iraq.

Dan Dreher and Cindy Luckey organized this fifth tribute to veterans and to

Annual Turkey Raffle dinner brings good turnout

By Matt Klos,
VFW News Editor

When you think of November, visions of turkey, potatoes, gravy, stuffing, fun and family come to mind. Many of us celebrated the formal Thanksgiving holiday on November 27. Several days prior, the annual Turkey Dinner and Raffle was held at the VFW Post 5040 on Saturday, November 22.

A fun night was had by many who ventured out. Although the crowd was a bit thinner than in previous years, people still had a lot of fun with the raffles of meat and turkey before the grand prizes were given out.

As in prior years, the Woodstock Little League (WLL) players, coaches, parents and siblings brought out a large team (33 people this year) to help serve dinner

thank men and women who have served or are serving in the Armed Forces.

At the VFW, Fred Noble, Commander, led the program in the VFW parking lot. Participants in the program included Pete Lockinger, chaplain; Diane Emery, Northwood Middle School student reading her essay honoring veterans; Joe Alger, representing the Patriot Riders; Bill Urch, Commander of the Woodstock American Legion; members of the VFW Honor Guard; and Woodstock Mayor Brian Sager.

Referring to the American flags around the VFW, Mayor Sager observed, "This flag is more than simply composed of thread, cloth and material with the colors of red, white and blue but is woven of

blood and sacrifice of those who paid the last full measure."

Sager urged citizens to support service men and women as they return home "and to recognize every day we have a responsibility to uphold in the smallest of acts the principles of service the flag represents."

It should be noted that leaders at Northwood Middle School and Olson Elementary School invited veterans to meet with students prior to November 11 with the goal of helping students become more familiar with actual experiences by those in military service.

Appropriate programs were conducted in conjunction with the open door to men and women of the Armed Forces.



Officials leading Woodstock's Veterans Day program at the VFW pause following the November 11 ceremony at the Post home on Throop Street. From left: Joe Alger, representing Patriot Riders; VFW Commander Fred Noble; Woodstock American Legion Commander Bill Urch; Pete Lockinger, VFW chaplain, and Woodstock Mayor Brian Sager. (Don Peasley Photo)

plates, pour coffee, clear tables, sell tickets, etc. Just like on the field, they did things fast. As my family and I were sitting down at our seats, WLL players and coaches were already asking how many dinner plate orders we needed and if we wanted water or coffee. Within minutes, turkey plates with fixings were brought out and we began eating. Excellent service

the WLL provided to the VFW. We are grateful to all WLL who were able to help out this year and volunteer their time in this event.

Although some of the prominent Turkey Raffle emcees of past years were not in attendance due to commitments and/or

See TURKEY DINNER, page 2.

Ladies Auxiliary, from the President

By Nyda Fogarty, President 2008-2009

Our 5th District President Sylvia Wilvert from Fox Lake came to our meeting on November 6th as the last time she was supposed to be present for our inspection she was in the hospital. She finished our report and has only two more inspections of Auxiliaries to do for the year. Sylvia has been having a long bout with cancer and she reported that it has gone to the bones and the liver. We feel very sorry to hear this horrible news and we had hoped for all she has been through that it was in remission. Our love, support and prayers go out to her.

It was not a nice day for our Veterans Day observance but even so a large crowd attended this event and a very good ham dinner afterward. Mayor Brian Sager gave a nice talk about our Veterans and honoring them. The Commander of the American Legion, Bill Urch gave a reading.

Our Christmas Party will be on December 4th at 6 pm. The Auxiliary will furnish the ham. Bring a LARGE dish to pass, some wrapped white elephants for prizes and a \$5.00 wrapped new gift for exchange. The Auxiliary will furnish plates, napkins and plastic silverware for the food.

Due to bad weather we usually have in January and also because it's New Year's Day, the Auxiliary voted to not meet the first Thursday in January. The next meeting after the Christmas Party will be on February 5th. Chris Gehrke is Chairman of the party and will be assisted by Barbara Gehrke. Three free dues for the next year will be given away if your current (2008-09) dues are paid up and you are present for the party.

It was reported by the Treasurer that not even half of the membership on the roll is currently paid up. You are delinquent if they are not paid up by December 31st. Please pay your dues now to be up to date and come to the party.

Our best wishes go out to Mishlers' and Gaylords' who have had health problems.

Thank you to all the those that donated pies on Veterans Day. You helped to make the dinner a complete meal.

Happy Holidays and have a wonderful New Year!

Turkey Dinner

Continued from Page1

health issues (Bob Gaylord, Don Sword, etc.), Brian Ritter stepped up in the roll of emcee for the evening and did a wonderful job of announcing the raffle numbers, status on paddle wheel ticket sales, etc. While Brian was working the stage, WLL coaches and VFW members helped to work the floor selling meat and turkey raffle tickets.

Besides the paddle wheel ticket raffle, a 50/50 drawing was held right after dinner. Additionally, Sue Lackey was in charge of a smaller raffle that was set up in the bar area. Here you could buy a ticket and place it in one of several ticket cans beside which was a Thanksgiving Holiday



Sue Lackey sells tickets for holiday items to be raffled off at the Turkey Raffle Dinner on November 22. (Matt Klos Photo)

themed prize that could be won. Prizes ranged from candle holders to a serving plate. Prizes were awarded before the grand prize Turkey Raffle tickets were announced.

After several rounds of paddle wheel drawings, the grand prize Turkey Raffle prizes were awarded. This year's prizes went to:

1st Place \$200:
Ron Haldeman

2nd Place \$100:
Robert Korslin

3rd Place \$50:
Alan Muir

40 turkeys were then raffled off. Tickets were plucked from the ticket barrel by three eager helpers (Sarah, Jessica and Aidan Klos) and read by Brian Ritter. Those in attendance claimed their turkeys right outside the entry to the VFW.

This being one of the VFW's biggest fund raisers of the year, Post 5040 wants to thank everyone involved that helped with this event. From those that sold and bought tickets, did the manual prep of moving tables and setting up, those that cleaned up, the kitchen help, the bartenders that worked to ensure everyone was taken care of, and many more...THANK YOU! And last but not least, Becky Gillespie who coordinates the behind the scenes part of this: ordering food, cooking turkeys, kitchen manager, etc. What you do is so often overlooked and forgotten sometimes. THANK YOU!

† Chaplains report †

By Pete Lockinger

Current Members on the Sick List

- LaVerne Emricson
- Glenn Fringer
- Bob Gaylord
- Dean Mishler
- Jack Meyers
- Ashley Wilson

Please keep these members in your thoughts and prayers as we come into the holiday season. They can use some cheering up and words of encouragement as they recover from their illnesses.



The front office that is adjacent to the VFW is once again available for rent. If you know of any business that would like to rent this, please contact the post at 815-338-5040.



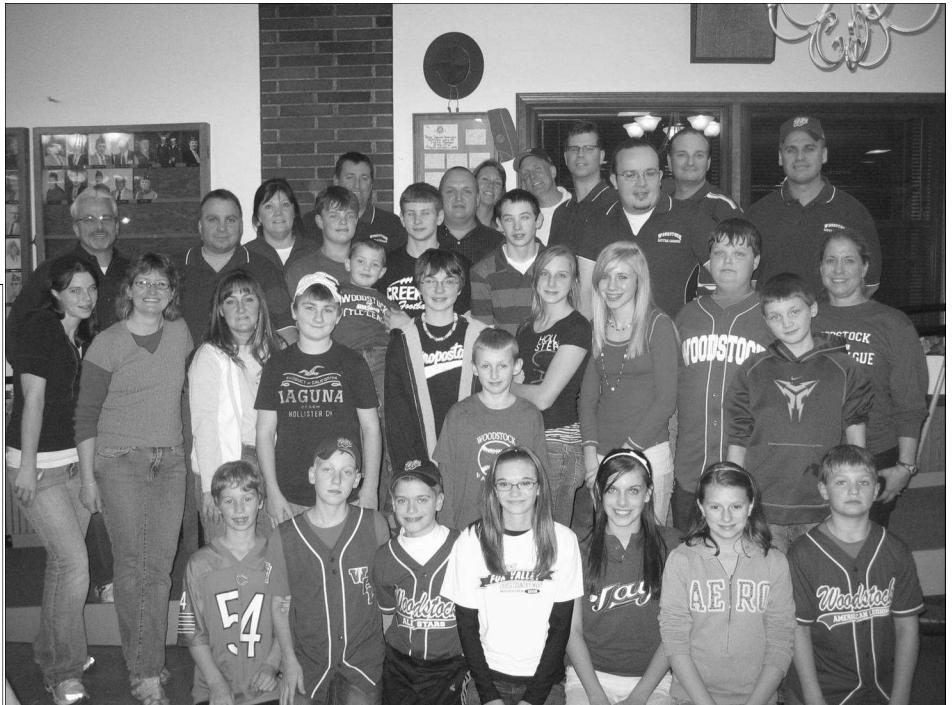
Tables begin to fill as patrons await the start of the turkey dinner meal to be delivered and the raffle events to begin. (Matt Klos Photo).

Becky Gillespie (left) glances up to see who's in the VFW kitchen. Kitchen helpers continue to mix, stir and prepare the turkey dinner menu items that will be served. (Matt Klos Photo).



Turkey Raffle and Dinner Nov. 22, 2008

The Woodstock Little League volunteered coaches, players, and family members to help with serving and cleanup at the VFW Turkey Dinner on November 22. Front row: Grant Lalla, Troy Barger, Dylan Nerland, Jennifer Baier, Dakota Nerland, Sarah Baier, Gavin Scott. Middle row: Melanie Link, Mandy Chonos, Brenda Grisolia, Cameron Grisolia, Ryan Grisolia, Ben Chonos, Hannah Swaford, Ashleigh Lalla, Langdon Scott, Mike Chonos, Lori Nerland, Back row: John Link, Pat Grisolia, Mary Scott, Augie Scott, Darrin Chonos, Matthew Chonos, Alan Hafer, Todd Scott, Anita Barger, Allen Young, John Barger, Gary Lalla, Will McKay, Scott Baier, and Jay Nerland (Matt Klos Photo).



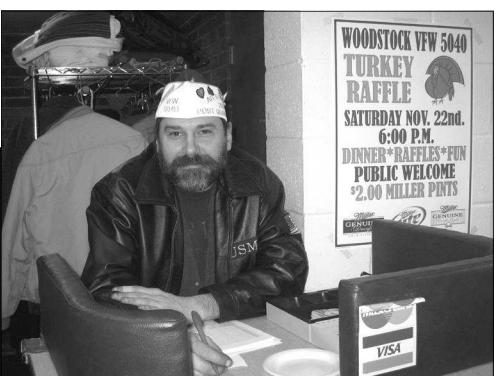
With the help of Anita Barger from the Woodstock Little League spinning the paddle wheel (below left), Turkey Raffle Dinner emcee Brian Ritter (below right) kept the paddle wheel drawings moving from one series to the next, raffling off meat and turkey prizes in each series. (Matt Klos Photo).



Pat Ritter takes a quick break from preparing the next round of paddle wheel drawings to be sold on the floor. Pat had the important job of making sure that prizes were accounted for, money matched series tickets sold, and keeping track of what tickets. (Matt Klos Photo).



Thom Gillespie waits at the entrance of the VFW in the lower stairwell, selling turkey dinner tickets to guests as they came into the VFW. (Matt Klos Photo).



Membership has its benefits

As a VFW Member, you are entitled to membership benefits. There are a lot of perks that are offered members and sometimes it's good to review what's available.

Going into the new year, maybe it's that time of year when you are looking at insurance plans or gathering paperwork for the upcoming tax season. In these tough economic times, maybe some of these benefits can help save a few dollars for you in the coming year. This is a listing from the Veterans of Foreign Wars website. See

www.vfwbenefits.com for more information.

Recreation and Travel

The VFW knows how hard you have worked and we want to help you plan a getaway. Hotel/Motel discounts nationwide:

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 - Avis/Budget: 1.800.331.1212 code #9935000
 - Hertz: 1.800.654.2200 code CDP #164126
 - National Car Rental: 1.800.CAR.RENT code 5180005

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- member ID: VFW
- password: FREEDOM

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 - Deposit Program 1.800.528.0387 code EA14869

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www.vfw.org ->membership benefits->DELL

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Bob Schroeder, bugler, stands near the flag-raising ceremony as American Community Bank and Trust observes Veterans Day at the Woodstock bank on Lake Avenue Thursday, November 11. (Don Peasley Photo)

Holding his bugle, Bob Schroeder kneels by a plaque at the base of the American Community Bank and Trust flagpole. The plaque reads: "A Grateful Nation Remembers." This memorial honors all American Veterans who, although separated by generations, shared a common, undeniable goal - to valiantly protect our country's freedom. The American Veteran - forever a symbol of heroism, sacrifice, loyalty and freedom." The plaque was dedicated November 11, 2006 by American Community Bank & Trust. (Don Peasley Photo)



Students at Olson Elementary School welcome veterans to a special Veterans Day program at an all-school assembly. Students enjoyed welcoming their relatives to this event. From left: Gail Perkins, principal; Specialist Christopher Lehmann, 4th JCSE; Thomas Monfeli, Olson student in Renee Simes' third grade class and cousin of Spec. Lehmann; Virginia Siwinski, Thomas' mother; Mark Altergott, Thomas' stepfather; and Bob Schoeninger, friend of the family. Specialist Lehmann is stationed at McDill Air Force Base in Tampa Bay, Florida. (Don Peasley Photo)

Woodstock Mayor Brian Sager: Veterans Day Tribute at the VFW November 11, 2008

Recorded by Jim Shoemaker and preserved by Don Peasley

What a privilege to welcome you here today on this important day, this Veterans Day celebration. It is altogether fitting as a nation we pause from our busy schedules at the 11th hour on the 11th day of the 11th month to honor, to remember, and thank those individuals, men and women who were called to service and who answered that call by putting on the uniform of the Armed Services, to uphold the values and principals which as a nation we consider to be so dear.

As we look around today we are honored to be in the presence of our veterans, and we recall and remember those who continue to serve yet today in areas of dan-

ger around the world.

We also stand here surrounded by the flag. The flag is, for those of us who have not served, a symbol of pride in our nation and rightly so. I would suggest to you, however, that to those men and women who proudly serve, this flag means something more. It is more than simply composed of the thread of cloth and material with its colors of red, white and blue, but it is woven of the blood and the sacrifice of those who paid the last full measure.

As our veterans view this flag, they consider that sacrifice, and they also consider the fact it is a symbol to them of service to country. It will be for many of them the drape for their last journey.

It is important to us, those of us who do not serve, those of us who rely upon these brave men and women who do answer the call, to consider the sacrifice they have given so we can enjoy the privileges of freedom and rights that we have every day.

It is important for us to recognize that

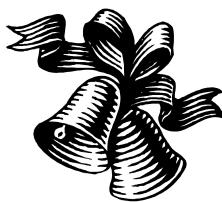
just as our veterans and service men and women around the world have answered the call to service that see the flag as a symbol of that call recognize the call that we too can hear and which we too can respond. It is a call for all people and all individuals who call this country home to stand forward to support our fine service men and women around the world yet today and veterans as they return to this country--to provide honor, gratitude and support they need and also to recognize that everyday we have a responsibility to uphold in the smallest of acts, the principals and foundations of service this flag represents.

Today we are honored to celebrate such service of our men and women in uniform. We commend them. We honor and respect them, and united we pray for the safe-keeping of those who continue to serve today.

God bless our veterans and God Bless this country.

A few holiday greetings for all our VFW and Auxiliary members...

*Happy Merry Days Now
& Next Year!
- Betty Thiede -*



*To All Our Friends
May Christmas
Bring You The Blessings
Of Peace, Hope, Love
And Good Health
- Jim and Bette Stone -*


Marine Corps League
McHenry County Detachment 1009
Meets every 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:30 PM
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*From our family to yours,
we wish you a wonderful
and Merry Christmas! May
this holiday time bring fond
memories of days gone by
and create new memories for
children, grandchildren,
new friends, and new love.*



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*'Tis the season to say
much more than 'Have a nice Day!'
It is time for thanks, also giving -
of love, and help for our veteran's living.
These together are a noble cause
in keeping with God's laws!
- Bob Schroeder -*

December 2008

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Post Normal Operating Hours (unless noted otherwise - closing times vary depending on patronage) ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Closed	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 9:00 pm	3:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1 Memorial Day Committee 7 pm Little League 7 pm Girls Softball 7 pm VFW Board Mtg. 6:30 pm	2	3	4 VFW Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm (Ladies Auxiliary Christmas Party at 6pm. Ladies, please bring a dish to pass.)	5 Friday Dinner Special: Salmon Loaf (\$8) and Stuffed Pork Chops (\$8) 5 - 7:30 pm Lightning Raffle 7 pm	6 Saturday Raffle 4 pm
7 <i>National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>	8 VFW Officers Mtg. 7 pm American Legion Post 412 7:30 pm <i>War Declared on Japan (1941)</i>	9 <i>Cub Scouts - 7 pm</i> <i>Celebrity Bar Tender Night, 7-9 pm</i>	10 <i>Human Rights Day</i>	11 <i>Germany and Italy Declared War on US (1941)</i>	12 Friday Dinner Special: Prime Rib (\$12) 5 - 7:30 pm Lightning Raffle 7 pm	13 Saturday Raffle 4 pm
14 VFW Meeting 15 6:30 pm - Dinner (VFW Members Only) 7:00 pm - Floor mtg. Deadline for January 2009 VFW News items <i>Bill of Rights Day</i>	16 Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County 7:00 pm	17 Marines 7:30 pm Marines Auxiliary 7:30 pm	18	19 Friday Dinner Special: BBQ Ribs (\$10) 5 - 7:30 pm Lightning Raffle 7 pm	20 Saturday Raffle 4 pm	
21 <i>Winter Begins</i>	22 Marines Tailgate Party 8pm - 12pm <i>First Day of Hanukkah</i>	23	24	25 Merry Christmas 	26 <u>Dinner will NOT be Served</u> Bar will be Open Lightning Raffle 7 pm Kwanza	27
28	29	30	31 VFW will be open regular hours <i>Official End of WWII (1946)</i>	1 Happy New Year 2009! 	2 Friday Dinner Special: Salmon Loaf (\$8) and Stuffed Pork Chops (\$8) 5 - 7:30 pm Lightning Raffle 7 pm	3 Deployment Party for Anne Brophy (will be deployed for year long tour) Details will be posted at the VFW



From the Editor's Desk

By Matt Klos,
VFW News Editor

As another year comes to a close, I hope you had the chance once or twice to come down for a visit to the VFW this past year. If not, I hope you got a glimpse of some of the events through pictures and printed words in our newsletter. There are many people that you can thank for that, from those that provided ideas for stories, those that took pictures at events and sent them to me, and of course Don Peasley who always seems to be at the right place,

at the right time and gets the story.

It takes a lot of help from many individuals to keep our VFW working. Both our paid and volunteer help keep the doors open to the membership and public alike. I noticed at the Turkey Raffle that we had the usual older crowd of some of our long time members from the VFW and Auxiliary, but it was intermingled with younger people that just stopped in for a quick turkey dinner and drink before heading to other engagements on the square. Some of the younger crowd were invited friends, children of members, etc. And that's how our events should look like.

2009 looks to be an interesting year. We

have a tough economy that each of us will continue dealing with and a new president that will be taking office. Your own Post 5040 I'm sure will be feeling the effects of the economic downturn that has gripped the US and other countries as well.

As we come into this Christmas season, remember those that have less and are less fortunate. If you have the chance to help out your community through giving and donations, give with a willing and grateful heart. Your gift of donating time and skills goes a long way for some of our community organizations.

I wish you all a wonderful new year in 2009. See you in January!

Honor the dead by helping the living.

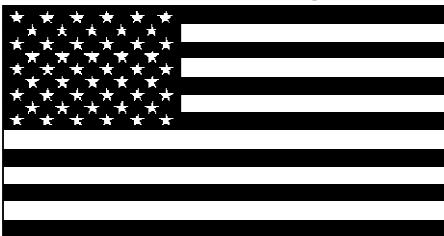


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- email: vfwpost5040@att.net



This month's issue:

- Veterans Day Around Woodstock
- Turkey Raffle Dinner Report and Pictures
- Holiday Greetings
- VFW Benefit Listing
- More inside...

Upcoming Events:

- December 4: Auxiliary Mtg. and Christmas Party
- December 15: VFW Mtg.
- December 22: Marine Corps Tailgate Party
- December 25: Christmas!
- January 1: Hello 2009!
- January 3: Anne Brophy Deployment Party

VFW POST 5040, WOODSTOCK
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WOODSTOCK VFW NEWS

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Junior Vice Commander	Ed Lumpf	(630)-460-8812
Quartermaster	Thom Gillespie	(815)-338-6826
Chaplain	Pete Lockinger	(815)-338-6449
Service Officer	Ted Biever	(815)-338-9292
Judge Advocate	Dick Glawe	(815)-385-3156
Post Surgeon	Harold Irwin	(815)-338-1264
Officer-of-the-Day	Denny Burrs	(815)-338-7014
Adjutant	Alan Belcher	(815)-338-7689
1 Year Trustee	Larry Dhom	(815)-338-4134
2 Year Trustee	Brian Ritter	(815)-276-4802
3 Year Trustee	Arnie Doerfert	(815)-385-2923

Board of Directors 2008 - 2009

President	Bud Porter	(815)-338-4781
Vice President	Hank Enstrom	(815)-337-5856
Treasurer	Thom Gillespie	(815)-338-6826
Director	Charley Mathey	(815)-338-5374
Director	Bob Gibson	(815)-338-4142
Director	Russ Freeman	(815)-338-3414
Director	Mike David	(815)-338-5341
Director	Don Sword	(815)-338-0068
Director	Fred Noble	(815)-338-5655
Club Manager	Becky Gillespie	(815)-338-6826

Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 5040 Post Officers 2008 - 2009

President	Nyda Fogarty	(815)-338-1759
Senior Vice President	Bonnie Kagel	(815)-648-4958
Junior Vice	Viola Brown	(815)-338-1446
Secretary	Christine Gehrke	(815)-338-3533
Treasurer	Barbara Gehrke	(815)-338-1546
Chaplain	Karen Wells	(815)-338-4821
Patriotic Instructor	Lois Freund	(815)-338-5261
Guard	Rose Mary Hellstern	(815)-338-0653
Conductress	Christine Gehrke	(815)-338-3533
1 Year Trustee	Lois Freund	(815)-338-5261
2 Year Trustee	Geraldine Salyers	(815)-206-3910
3 Year Trustee	Irene Brown	(815)-459-3483

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