



THE BUGLE



Spring 2024

SAVING HISTORY, SAVING LIVES!

Volume 30, Number 2

39 YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG

BY JOAN OLIVER

The Western Reserve Fire Museum’s Firematic Flea Market has been in existence for 39 years and is still going strong. We had thirty vendors participate in and over 260 people attend the flea market this year. Being the first Saturday in March, the weather can sometimes be a little challenging, but the Gods were kind and we had sunny skies to begin the day with a high of 45 degrees. During the day we had a steady stream of visitors and many left smiling with their arms full after finding that special unique treasure.

The kitchen was busy selling donuts and coffee in the morning along with hot dogs, sub sandwiches, snacks and cold beverages. No one left hungry. The door prize this year was a beautiful shiny fire helmet. In the early afternoon, a variety of items donated by vendors were raffled off to a selection of lucky winners.

The Museum would like to thank Steve Hildebrandt and Bob Shimits for organizing the event once again this year; Diane Bauman for shopping and overseeing the kitchen with the help of Denise Devine, Vaughan Miller, and Dean Murad; Debbie Hubbard for overseeing the Museum gift shop table; Patty Poole for selling 50/50 raffle tickets; Jim Bell for staffing the Museum information table; and Larry Gordon, Kenny Rybka, Paul Sabataitis for working the Museum vendor table. A special thank you goes out to Chief Luke for allowing us to have the event at the FTA; Chief Schloemer, who heads up the Fire Training Academy ,for being such a gracious host every year and for all the extra help he gives us to make sure this event run smoothly; and Jimmy Bryne along with all the firefighters at the FTA who helped us all throughout the day.

We were able to have the Museum open again this year while the Flea Market was going on due to the willingness of volunteer docents consisting of Keith Devine, Frank Novak, John Sanders, and Danny Hayden to work that day. Thank you! We could not have done this without you.



Joan Oliver Photo

Busy Day at the Flea Market

PRESIDENT'S LOG

BY JOHN ZANGERLE

I thought that I had written my final President’s Log in 2012 - but I was wrong! I am at it again because, like many volunteer organizations, we end up “recycling” many of our officers and Board members. Consider this my appeal to our membership to step up and get involved with the Museum. We are a very viable and successful organization, but we have only one part-time employee so we must rely on our volunteers to both operate and govern the Fire Museum. Many of us, myself included, are aging out of a highly active role. We need a new generation of leaders. In this spirit, I am announcing that I am entering the Museum’s “drop program”.

As the new president, I want to start by thanking my predecessor, Jim Bell, for his six years of service. The Museum made great strides during his leadership and I intend to keep the ball rolling. I am pleased to start by announcing that we have received CFD approval following an inspection of the dormitory and the new egress corridor we built. The next step in obtaining our final occupancy permit is a Cleveland Building Department inspection which should occur soon. We have also just installed fire resistant blinds in the dormitory which make the room more usable for AV presentations and help deaden sound. In addition, we have just received two new lighted display cases which we will use in the dormitory. To top that all off, we are in the process of ordering scrims of historic photos to hang on the walls of the dormitory. These will also help with sound deadening while displaying our fire department heritage. (Continued on page 2, see Log)

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This newsletter is dedicated to informing the members and friends of the Western Reserve Fire Museum and Education Center of its activities and events.

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ANTIQUE FIRE ENGINE SHOW & SAFETY DAY SEPTEMBER 7TH

BY KENNY RYBKA

The Western Reserve Fire Buffs Association of Northeast Ohio and the Western Reserve Fire Museum will be hosting “Antique Fire Engine Show and Safety Day” at the Cleveland Metro Parks Wendy Park, 2800 Whiskey Island Drive on Saturday, September 7th from 10am – 2pm. Located on the shore of Lake Erie and the banks of the Cuyahoga River, Wendy Park offers fantastic views of the city and its waterfront.

Scheduled events include:

- Classic fire engine display with pumping demonstrations.
- Childrens activities and games.
- A demonstration by Cleveland FD’s fire boat “Marine 21” and a Metro Life Flight helicopter fly-over.
- MetroHealth Medical Center’s Trauma and Burn Injury Prevention display.
- Food will be available from the “Smokin’ Rock N’ Roll” food truck & the Whiskey Island Still & Eatery.
- Other public safety organizations have been invited to participate also.

We welcome all classic fire apparatus owners to attend. More information will be available soon.



Layout of Muster at Wendy Park

LOG

(Continued from Page 1)

This year started off with our annual meeting, followed by our very successful Flea Market. I want to thank all the volunteers who made it possible. Speaking of activities, just look at the calendar of events in this issue and you will see that we have so much going on this summer. In addition, we will be hosting the new CFD cadet class at the Museum this May and have multiple Scouting activities planned. The date will be set shortly for our annual Luau fund raiser late this summer. In cooperation with the WRFBA group of fire apparatus owners we will return to co-sponsoring a fire engine muster in September at Wendy Park in Cleveland.

At our last annual meeting, and in the last issue of *The Bugle*, we requested that members agree to receive *The Bugle* electronically if they are able. This is a big help with printing and mailing costs and I am pleased to report that a number of our members agreed to electronic delivery. I want to remind anyone who can do this to contact Joan Oliver at the Museum so we can continue with this conversion to mostly electronic delivery.

By the time you read this article the installation of our new exhibit will be well underway. See the related article in this issue of *The Bugle*. Changing exhibits is a huge undertaking requiring lots of volunteer help and could not be done without their support and the work of the exhibit committee. Finally, I want to wish Paul Nelson a speedy recovery. He was hospitalized and is now rehabilitating. It is hard to imagine a Museum newsletter without thinking of Paul who was our longtime editor and Museum historian and has continually provided historical articles for *The Bugle*. Paul’s contribution to both the Museum and the newsletter is immeasurable.

2024 CLEVELAND FD MEMORIAL MOTORCYCLE RALLY

BY JIM BELL

Sunday, May 26, 2024, marks the 20th anniversary of the Cleveland Fire Department Firefighters Memorial Ride. This ride is held to remember those members of CFD who have given the ultimate sacrifice and to raise money to continue the maintenance and upgrades to the memorial. As usual the Fire Museum will be in attendance to support the efforts of our brothers and sisters. The museum will be running the food tent and have hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hotdogs, french fries and beverages for sale. Motorcycle line-up begins at 8:30AM by the Firefighter’s Memorial on Lerner Way by the Brown’s Stadium, memorial service at 10:30AM, rally departure at 11:00AM. It is an escorted ride ending at the Rock N’ Roll Harley Davidson. Please join us for this important event.



Rich Bowman Greets Riders

ADDITIONAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR SCOUTS

BY JIM BELL

As part of the Fire Museum's ongoing commitment to fire safety and prevention education we recently hosted two groups of Boy Scouts. On Saturday March 23 the museum welcomed a large contingent of Scouts and their parents as the young men and women worked on achieving their Fire Safety merit badge. The program consists of a classroom session learning about fire science and fire safety facts and statistics, combined with a hands-on session learning home fire safety, campground fire safety, use of a fire extinguisher and stop-drop-and roll.

On April 13, the museum hosted a pack of Cub Scouts for a fun day. The Cubs toured the Exhibit Hall, Fire Alarm Office, had a fire safety demonstration in the Education Wing and played games. The fire safety demonstration was led by museum volunteer and retired Cleveland firefighter, Keith Devine.

The Fire Museum is available to Scouting groups of all ages. We would be happy to provide a fire safety program or host a visit with your troop or pack. Programs or tour can be set up by contacting the museum at 216 664-6312.



Joan Oliver Photo

How to Escape Safely from a House Fire

LIFESAVING SEVERE WEATHER AND TORNADO TIPS

BY JOAN OLIVER

Lately, there have been a wave of severe storms and tornadoes that have cropped in our region and throughout the state. It is important to be prepared when severe weather conditions occur. Here are some safety tips that not only address tornadoes, but also flash flooding and thunderstorms as well:

1. Never drive through a flood – Driving through a flood is one of the worst decisions you could make in severe weather. It can be difficult to tell how deep the water is and it only takes 1 foot of water to float a car or small SUV. Once your car floats you have lost control. Also, floodwater can wash roads away and once floodwater is moving you could easily be swept downstream by the water's force.

2. Flooding can happen from rain elsewhere – Large scale river flooding can occur days after a heavy rain and heavy rains & thunderstorms over mountainous terrain can send fast moving runoff cascading down the slope. So, know how to get to higher ground immediately if a flash flood warning is issued.

3. There often is more than one round of severe weather in a given day – It is common to have a morning round of thunderstorms with heavy rain and strong wind followed by an afternoon or evening round of thunderstorms with tornadoes, damaging winds and hail. Until the National Weather Service clears your area don't assume your in the clear.

4. Tornado sirens aren't designed to be heard indoors – Tornado sirens are meant to warn those outdoors to seek shelter. You should have multiple ways of receiving National Weather Service watches & warnings.

5. Tornadoes can occur in severe thunderstorm watches and warnings - Just because the National Weather Service issues a severe



thunderstorm watch or warning that doesn't mean there isn't also a threat of tornadoes.

6. Take shelter for severe thunderstorm warnings, too – Severe thunderstorm warnings deserve your attention just as much as tornado warnings. There were 10 times the number of reports of damage due to strong thunderstorm winds or wind gusts than the number of confirmed tornadoes in the U.S. Lightning strikes from thunderstorms are also dangerous and can strike 15 miles away from the actual storm. So, if you hear thunder head for cover immediately.

7. You may not have much time to seek shelter – Typically, the National Weather Service warnings give you sufficient lead time to seek shelter, but you might not have much time if storms are moving fast. So seek shelter immediately when receiving a severe thunderstorm or tornado warning.

8. Wear a helmet and shoes when taking shelter - Helmets can protect your head from flying debris. Getting under a heavy table or covering yourself with a mattress can also provide some protection. If your home is damaged, a good pair of shoes can protect from debris with sharp edges such as broken glass or nails. Plus, with heavy home damage, you might not be able to find your shoes.

NEW EXHIBIT COMING IN JUNE

BY JOHN ZANGERLE

Change is always difficult, particularly when it involves moving large fire engines. Despite this obstacle, our new exhibit will be opening in June. The new exhibit is entitled OHIO - THE HEART OF FIRE APPARATUS MANUFACTURING. The exhibit will tell the story of Ohio as the location of the first successful steam fire engine in this country. That steam engine, manufactured in Cincinnati just before the Civil War, led to the creation of the first paid fire department in the United States in that city. The exhibit will carry this history through the turn of the 20th century when Ohio had Ahrens in Cincinnati and Seagrave in Columbus providing apparatus throughout the country. Moving forward, Ahrens-Fox and Seagrave continued as two of the Big Three fire apparatus manufacturers in the US. They were competing with American LaFrance of Elmira, New York. Our exhibit will show how other smaller Ohio manufacturers also made apparatus and explain that today the Sutphen Corporation in Columbus has become one of the nation's largest.

The rest of the Ohio story will show the many Ohio fire equipment companies that supplied everything from the first rubber lined fire hose (Goodyear) to nozzle and hose fitting manufacturers. In addition, we will show Ohio companies that manufactured items ranging from alarm equipment to turnout gear, apparatus chassis, and engines.

One of our new exhibit items is already on display, a working Buckeye Roto-Ray. The Roto-Ray, introduced in 1930, was the first



Buckeye Roto-Ray in Action

moving illuminated warning device mounted on fire apparatus. It's spinning red lights were more likely to alert traffic of the approaching emergency vehicle. They were manufactured by the Buckeye Iron & Brass Works of Dayton. Very popular on the East Coast, Buckeye Roto-Rays were in use until the 1960s. You can now watch a Roto-Ray in operation. A special thanks to member, Ken Rybka, for taking this Roto-Ray out of the Museum's collection and restoring it to full operation.

As our current exhibit ends, I want to extend a heartfelt thanks to Tom Doyle of the Little Whiz Museum in Medina and Steve Hildebrand of Bay Village, who loaned us their beautifully restored horse drawn fire apparatus to make our existing exhibit so successful.

MUSEUM TAKES PART IN CLEVELAND HISTORY DAYS

BY JOAN OLIVER

Cleveland History Days is an annual celebration put on by the Canalway Partners, highlighting Cleveland's rich legacy. It takes place from June 20 to June 30, 2024 at various locations across Cleveland. During this event visitors can participate in history tours, listen to lectures, and marvel at the major contributions that have shaped Cleveland into what it is today. It's a fantastic opportunity to explore the city's heritage and learn more about its past.

This year the Museum will taking part in Cleveland History Days. We have partnered with the Soldier's and Sailor's Monument and the Cleveland Police Museum to offer a walking tour on Wednesday, June 26, 2024. The tour is entitled "Walk the Beat with Cleveland's Heroes". It is a family-friendly walking tour that follows a day in the life of Cleveland firefighters and police officers from the 1890's who also served during the Civil War. The tour will start at the Fire Museum and include visits to Soldier' and Sailors' Monument and the Cleveland Police Museum. The tour will take an hour and a half and two time slots are available. The first is 1:00pm- 2:30pm and the second is 1:30pm – 3:00pm. The tours are free, but registration is required. Anyone interested can register on the Cleveland History Days website by scanning the QR code.



HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT – CFD ENGINE 13

BY KENNY RYBKA

Our Bugle series, Hiding in Plain Sight, continues with this article on the history of former Cleveland Fire Station 13's original firehouse.



WRFM Archive Photo

Old Station No. 13

A new firehouse was built in 1877 on Broadway Ave near Pershing for the newly established Cleveland Engine Company Number 13. It was assigned a steamer, named the "James Hill," which was a Silsby first-class rotary-power engine purchased in September 1867. The steamer was previously assigned to Engine Company Number 2.

During the year 1881, sliding poles were introduced in the Department, the first one being put in use at No. 6's house in March of that year. The original poles were made from wood, and on account of the heat generated by the friction when sliding down quickly, were imperfect for the purpose intended; therefore, iron was substituted. It is unknown when the iron poles were added to Engine 13's house.

In May of 1906, twenty-nine years after the firehouse was opened, Hook and Ladder Company Number 10 was established and began sharing the Broadway Ave quarters with Engine 13.

The firehouse remained active for over 100 years. Both companies moved a few hundred feet across the street to a new station at 4950 Broadway in 1981. Cleveland EMS took over the old firehouse and used it as a base for a short time after that.

The building remained unoccupied for a few years until 1988, when it was purchased from the City of Cleveland by Susan Garofoli and her husband for \$14,500. Sue was the owner of Garofoli Design which had been operating in Brecksville since 1985. The business specialized in producing interior signs, had outgrown the space required, and Sue and her husband felt that the old firehouse was a perfect fit for their needs.

The city gave the new owners one year to complete the building's restoration and conversion from a former firehouse to a place of business. Work began in the spring of 1988 and included the

removal of old plaster, plumbing and wiring. During this period, old CFD journals were found in the attic, the oldest going back to 1901. All of those were donated to the Western Reserve Historical Society at the end of 1988. Remnants of straw and hay from the former loft were found during interior demolition.

The firehouse had one staircase leading upstairs and an additional staircase needed to be installed to meet code. This required taking over part of one of the apparatus bays and cutting out a portion of the first-floor ceiling. Other renovations included new office space, a kitchen, and restrooms for the upstairs, upgrades to the building's exterior and adding a production area in the remaining apparatus bay. The 2 fire poles and original staircase were left intact. The fire pole mechanisms are still operational to this day.



Kenny Rybka Photo

Original Columns & Poles Still Intact

After many months of hard work and approximately \$125,000 in restoration costs, a party was held at the firehouse on December 31st, 1988. Approximately 450 invited guests attended. Garofoli Design officially opened for business at their new location on January 1, 1989.



Kenny Rybka Photo

Station 13 After Renovation

Sue remarried in 1996 and the company's name was changed to SGD Design Inc. Sue Olson still operates the business today from the old firehouse with her partner David Bornhurst.

Many thanks to Sue for allowing me to tour her classic firehouse, for sharing her renovations stories and providing the before and after photos.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: KEITH DEVINE

BY JIM BELL

In this issue of The Bugle, we shine our Volunteer Spotlight on Keith Devine. Keith volunteers as a docent and jack-of-all-trades, as he jumps in every time he is asked for help.

Keith was born in Cleveland in 1953 and has a twin brother. In 1963 the Devine family moved to Fairview Park and Keith went through the local school system, graduating from Fairview Park High School. After graduation Keith attended Cleveland State University and Cuyahoga Community College. In Spring 1977 he took the entrance exam for Cleveland Fire Department. In November 1977 Keith was hired by Cleveland Fire. Keith attributes two observations to his involvement in the public safety sector. The first is watching his father during his career as a Cleveland police officer. He was struck by his father's commitment to helping others and working to make Cleveland a safe city. The second memory is from when Keith was around eight years old. There was a house fire in the neighborhood, and he remembers watching the firefighters work hard to battle the flames and make sure the occupants were safe and uninjured.

After graduating from the CFD Fire Academy he was assigned to Engine 11. From Engine 11 he was transferred to Engine 30 and then did a short stint in the Fire Prevention Bureau. After the FPB, Keith was transferred back to Engine 30 where he retired from

in June 2007. During his time in the FPB, Keith honed his skills at presenting fire safety demonstrations for all age groups, a skill that has proven useful at the Fire Museum.

Keith is married to his wife Denise, and they have one daughter, Melissa, who carries on the public service tradition as a first-grade teacher.

In his retirement, Keith enjoys weekly golf outings with his fellow "old-timers", delivering for Meals on Wheels, gardening, and helping his neighbors. Keith and Denise also established a scholarship fund in the Fairview Park schools for students who want to pursue a career in public safety. Keith best described his beliefs as being able to "help others" and be the example for the younger generation to continue to see opportunities to help others and make our world a better place. Thank you, Keith Devine.



Joan Oliver Photo

Keith Devine

APPARATUS DAY SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, JULY 13TH

Saturday, July 13, 2024 is Apparatus Day at the Museum! So, come down and join us from 10am – 2pm. There will be a mix of fire trucks by various manufacturers, restored and original, on display on the front plaza in front of the Museum. Hotdogs, popcorn and beverages will be available for visitors to enjoy while looking at these beautiful pieces of firefighting history. There will be activities for the children as well. Our 2024 exhibit "Ohio the Heart of Fire Apparatus Manufacturing" will be on display in the Mandel Gallery. Museum tours will be available. Standard admission rates apply. Join us for a fun day for the whole family.



Jim Bell Photo

Trucks Lined Up and Ready for Viewing

BIRTHDAY PARTIES GAIN MOMENTUM AT MUSEUM

In April, we had two more children celebrate their birthdays at the Fire Museum. Each enjoyed a fun-filled day with family and friends that they will remember for the rest of their lives.

Children seem to love the Fire Museum. Whether it's putting on turnout gear and roll playing or ringing an alarm or bell. With that in mind, what better way to celebrate your child's birthday than here at the Museum. Birthday parties are conducted in our Education Wing which is always closed to outside visitors while the party is in session. Birthday parties are priced at \$300 for up to 25 people, that includes children and adults. Each party is assigned to a coordinator and firefighter. The coordinator will handle the set up and all the details to make sure your event runs smoothly. The firefighter will instruct the children on fire safety and give them a tour of the Museum, which will be tailored to the age of the child. The first hour of the party will be spent playing, being instructed on fire safety and a tour. The second hour will be the birthday party where they enjoy food, have some birthday cake and open presents. For further information or to book a party call the Museum at 216-664-6312.



Joan Oliver Photo

Dad & Birthday Boy Pose for Picture

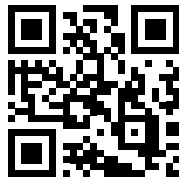
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **Sunday, May 26, 2024** – Cleveland, OH. 2024 Firefighters Memorial Ride starting at the Cleveland Firefighters Memorial next to the Browns Stadium. Staging from 8:30am – 10:30am. Ceremony 10:30am. Processional Ride 11:00. Registration begins March 1st. For the most up-to-date info go to www.firefightersmemorialride.com or check Museum website at www.wrfmc.com.
- **Saturday, June 1, 2024** – Morrow, OH. Miles Greenwood Historical Fire Apparatus Society 51st Annual Fire Engine Muster, Firematic Market and Safety Day, 9am – 3pm. Oeder's Lake, 1369 E US Route 22. Drafting and demos. Flea market & vendor space available. For more information contact Larry Flynn at l.flynn60@yahoo.com or 513.266.7413.
- **Tuesday, June 4 - Saturday, June 8, 2024** – York, PA. The Old Fire Farts of York County, PA is Hosting the SPAAMFAA Summer Convention & Muster. Host hotel is Four Points by Sheraton York 1650 Toronita Street, York, PA. Phone 717.846.4940. For more info go to www.spaamfaa.org.
- **Saturday, June 15, 2024** – Cleveland, OH. Dalmatian Celebration. 10am – 2pm on the plaza in front of the Museum. Honoring the Official Firehouse Dog featuring Dalmatians from the Western Reserve Dalmatian Club. Hotdogs, Popcorn & Beverages. Games for the children. All Dalmatians welcome! Anyone who brings a Dalmatian will receive (1) free admission to the Museum. Tours available. Standard admission rates apply. For more information visit Museum website at www.wrfmc.com.
- **Saturday, July 13, 2024** – Cleveland, Ohio. Fire Apparatus Day at the Museum. 10am – 2pm. Join us for a celebration of all fire apparatus. A mix of fire trucks by various manufacturers restored and original on display in front of the Museum. Hotdogs, Popcorn & Beverages. Museum tours available. Standard Museum rates apply. See website at www.wrfmc.com or call 216.664.6312 for more information.
- **Friday & Saturday, July 26-27, 2024** – Frankenmuth, MI. Great Lakes Frankenmuth Muster, 27th Arnniversary. Friday night - dinner. Saturday - parade and muster. Heritage Park. Headquarters hotel – Bavarian Inn. For more info contact Bill Rausch 248-625-8924 or www.gliafaa.org.
- **Saturday, August 31, 2024** – Dayton, OH. Miami Valley Antique Fire Apparatus Association's 27th Annual Antique Fire Apparatus Show/Muster. Carillon Historical Park, 1000 Carillon Blvd. For more information visit their facebook page <https://tinyurl.com/y75s93v8>

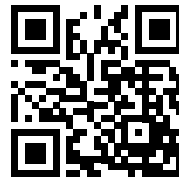
You can use the QR codes listed below to access the websites referenced in the Calendar of Events



www.wrfmc.com



www.spaamfaa.org



www.gliafaa.org



Miami Valley Facebook

CFD TRIVIA

BY JOHN ZANGERLE

Q: What is the most common type of dwelling fire and how does CFD refer to it?

A: The most common type of dwelling fire is a kitchen fire referred to over the radio by CFD as “meat on the stove.”

The characterization of kitchen fires varies regionally. In Boston and Chicago the terminology is “a pot of meat”. In New Orleans kitchen fires are referred to as “a pot of beans”. Detroit calls kitchen fires “a careless cook”. New York City calls a “10” code and a kitchen fire is a 10-26 for “food on the stove”. If you have some other local favorites, please pass along the information and we will add it in a future issue. In colonial history kitchen fires were so common and so destructive that the kitchens were often located in separate out buildings detached from the primary house.



Joan Oliver Photo

Keith Devine Demonstrates Putting out a Stove Fire



**Western Reserve Fire Museum
at Cleveland, Inc.**

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**Dates to Remember
Firefighters Memorial Ride, May 26
Dalmatian Celebration, June 15**

**Don't Throw
That Away**

The Fire Museum is looking for fire related photos, articles, artifacts from Cleveland and all of the Lands of the Western Reserve as we preserve area fire history.



Dalmatian Celebration, Saturday, June 15th

Please come join us! The Museum is having a Dalmatian Celebration, Saturday, June 15, 2024 from 10am – 2pm. That day we will be honoring Dalmatians, the official Firehouse Dog & Mascot. Dalmatians are welcome to this event and to partake in our doggie splash pool and doggie treats. There will be treats for humans as well, hotdogs, popcorn and cold beverages. There will be games and activities for the kids as well as fire safety lectures. If you bring your Dalmatian with you, it will entitle you to (1) free admission to the Museum. It should be dog gone fun and we hope to see you there!

The Bugle is a publication of the Western Reserve Fire Museum and Education Center. The entire contents © by Western Reserve Fire Museum at Cleveland, Inc.

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