



# Loon Calls

www.lakesylvia.org

Summer 2018

GREATER LAKE SYLVIA ASSOCIATION

## Invasive Species Activities

By Blaine Barkley

### Starry Stonewort

Partnering with Dr. John Rodgers from Clemson University and following his recommended treatment plan, Lake Sylvia used four treatments on Starry Stonewort (SSW) last summer, eliminating all starry “plant” material in the areas tested in the public access boat landing area. Areas outside the landing were also tested and no evidence of growing starry was found.



Starry Stonewort

Of concern, but not unexpected, was that in June of 2018, several small white bulbils, flower like looking “seeds” capable of starting new plants were found as well as some small early growth plants in the public access area. The bulbils were the result of growth from last summer and likely over-winter covered by sediment in the area of the boat landing.

- On July 11th, 2018 we completed the first of several likely treatments for this summer, each treatment capable of destroying all SSW material it contacts.

- After waiting about three weeks for any bulbils still buried in sediment to begin growing, we will use divers to search the 1.7 acre area that we treated as well as the lake bottom immediately outside the area of known growth which will give us a close look at any remain-

ing area to treat.

- With up to three more treatments planned this summer, we expect to tightly control SSW but it has never been known to be eradicated in any lake.
- In addition to monitoring and treating the public landing area, GLSA has hired professionals to search the lake for possible introduction of SSW into other parts of Lake Sylvia due to boats launched from private boat access points that failed to comply with the Wright County Ordinance requiring watercraft inspections in Annandale prior to launching a boat into Lake Sylvia, Lake John, or Pleasant Lake.

### Curly Leaf Pondweed

- Both East and West Lake Sylvia were surveyed this spring for curly leaf and areas approved for treatment by the DNR were treated in May.

### Eurasian Milfoil

- GLSA recently received a professional assessment of the need to treat it and it is currently under consideration. Last years treatment greatly reduced the areas that needs treatment.

*Invasives continued on page 3*

## Five Minutes to Help Protect Your Investment in Lake Sylvia

By Blaine Barkley

Lake Sylvia and all Minnesota Lakes need your help, and it will only take a few quick minutes for you to make a difference. A short note, letter, or email to your legislator asking them to do more to protect Lake Sylvia and all lakes from Aquatic Invasive Species will get their attention, which at the moment seems lacking for some. Protecting your investment while keeping Minnesota lakes useable by all is not a political

issue, it is an awareness issue. It is letting them know the issue is important to Minnesotans. Take those five minutes now and locate your legislator and their address by simply using this site to find your representative: <https://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/districtfinder>

By contacting them you are helping to draw attention to what Minnesota might best be known for, its’ 12,000 lakes.

If you have an extra few minutes, also send notes to Senator Bill Ingebrigtsen and

Jim Abeler thanking them for assistance and guidance to GLSA in their negotiations with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Senator Ingebrigtsen lives on a lake and understands the issues lakes are facing. While he might not be your legislator, he has helped GLSA and may be contacted at [sen.bill.ingebriigtsen@senate.mn](mailto:sen.bill.ingebriigtsen@senate.mn) Senator Abeler can be contacted and thanked at [sen.jim.abeler@senate.mn](mailto:sen.jim.abeler@senate.mn)

*Five continued on page 6*

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Al’s  
**Almanac**  
 by Al Ostlund

## 2018

### Precipitation

Jan. . . . .	.0.12"
Feb. . . . .	.1.32"
March . . . . .	.0.98"
April . . . . .	.2.79"
May . . . . .	.2.18"
June . . . . .	.4.17"
July 1-3. . . . .	.2.13"
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>.13.69"</b>

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### GLSA Committees

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Dave Wefring (Chair)
- Fundraising Committee  
Russ Fortner (Chair)
- Governance Committee  
Jim Gray (Chair)
- Membership Committee  
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Dave Wefring (Chair)
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Mike McNellis (Chair)
- Water Quality & Clarity Committee  
Mike Mischuk (Chair)
- Wildlife Conservation Committee  
Kent Davidson (Chair)

Please contact any chair to join their committee.

### GLSA Loon Calls Editor

- Stephanie Schaubman  
2stephm@gmail.com

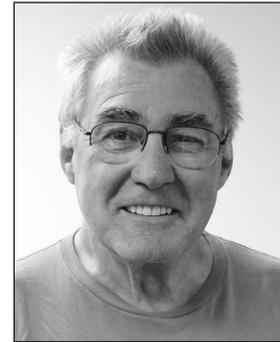
# A Few Words From Your President

Russ Fortner

Let me introduce myself, since this is my first letter as President of the GLSA. Aside from serving on the Board for 8-10 years, I have worked on many projects in the past: treating Milfoil and Curly Leaf in the beginning working with Blaine Barkley on the proposed John Creek filtration project to stop Zebra Mussels from coming from Lake John into our lake (until Zebras were found); and for the next two years working with Blaine to bring the Starry Stonewort story to everyone we could in the Annandale community and the Wright County Board in Buffalo. Blaine's and my efforts resulted in a grant from the Initiative Foundation for over \$600,000. You can see the result with the WRIP station in the business park in Annandale. I have also headed up fundraising, and founded and chaired the Golf Tournament the last five years to raise funds to fight AIS. After four years as Editor of Loon Calls, Stephanie Schaubman has taken the position of Editor (some would argue that my wife, Peggy Jo was the real editor, but I had the title) – thank you Stephanie! A couple of my successful ideas were Next Door Neighbor and the Winter Social.

I now look forward to taking care of Lake Sylvia as President of GLSA. At our first Board Meeting, I brought back the Welcome Wagon. If you have a new neighbor, or ones who have lived here a few years, please contact Lori Herman or Stephani Lind, as they are Co-Chairs of this new committee.

Continuing concerns: I believe we need to increase our membership; Eu-



raisan Milfoil, Curly Leaf, and Starry Stonewort weed treatment programs will be a yearly situation; Zebra Mussels, at this time, are not treatable – if and when a treatment is discovered, I assure you Sylvia will be on top of it; high water can be a problem for some residents - sadly the DNR comes into play on this and we are restricted as in most things by their rulings – keep in mind there is a 150' no-wake zone on the lake ALL summer.

The GLSA Board's Mission Statement is to "maintain and protect the lake." This means what is best for the lake is more important than any individual's desires. I encourage all Lake Sylvia residents to be members of the GLSA, and to volunteer. The only way to "maintain and protect the lake" is to continue to have great volunteers. Without them, we can't afford to fight AIS and keep our treasured lake what it's been in the past.

Please contact me any time you have ideas for improving communications, membership, or any other aspect that helps us take care of our lake.

## GLSA Event Calendar for 2018

**July 21** - Bd. Mtg. 9 a.m.  
Southside Township Hall  
8209 Co. Rd. 3 NW  
Annandale

**Aug. 11** - Bd. Mtg. 9 a.m.  
Southside Township Hall  
8209 Co. Rd. 3 NW  
Annandale

**Aug. 11** - Annual Picnic  
Chi Rho – 4-8 p.m.  
5750 Porter Ave. NW  
Annandale

**Sept. 8** - Bd. Mtg. 9 a.m.  
Southside Township Hall  
8209 Co. Rd. 3 NW  
Annandale

**Oct. 13** - Bd. Mtg. 9 a.m.  
Southside Township Hall  
8209 Co. Rd. 3 NW  
Annandale

All members are welcome to attend Board Meetings. To request a presentation to the Board, contact President Russ Fortner.

## What is 'Power Loading' Your Boat?

[https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/water\\_access/powerloading.html](https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/water_access/powerloading.html)

Please read the DNR article on power loading your boat and trailer, below. In addition to the information supplied by the DNR, please be aware that running your motor to power load your boat onto the boat trailer at the Lake Sylvia public access carries a very real risk to the lake. To-date, SSW, the most dangerous invasive species to hit Minnesota lakes, has been most heavily found growing in the area near the two docks put in by the DNR. Small pieces of starry stonewort or the bulbils (seeds) produced by this invasive species can be pushed far out into the lake through the prop wash due to power loading. Every instance of power loading adds to the possibility of spreading this invasive species into areas where it doesn't presently exist. On the front end of the boat is a winch with a crank, or in some cases a winch powered by a battery. Please use the manual or power winch to load your boat.

**Power loading** can cause damage to launch ramps that may not be visible from the surface of the water. "Power loading" is a term used to describe using the motor to load and unload the boat onto and off the trailer. Many of the state's 3,000 public launch ramps were not designed to sustain the forces generated by today's larger and

more powerful boats or the practice of power loading. Propeller wash creates a significant force that can erode the lakebed and create a large hole at the end of the ramp. Eroded material is often deposited beyond the ramp to create a mound, which can result in a barrier for launching and loading. Boats and equipment can incur damage if the boat or lower unit runs aground on the mound or if the trailer becomes stuck in the hole. In the worse cases, the end of the ramp could collapse, resulting in an unusable launch ramp. In low water conditions the mound created from propeller wash can obstruct launching and loading.

DNR crews have been busy rehabilitating damaged launch ramps statewide. Staff are repairing the holes and extending the ramps by adding additional concrete planks. When possible the mounds are leveled with excavation equipment. These launch ramp repairs are time consuming and expensive.

The DNR recognizes that some boaters are accustomed to power loading. However, it is preferable that boaters do not race their engines while on the boat ramp. Slightly more than idle speed should be all that is necessary to load and/or unload the boat. The best practice is for boaters to refrain from power loading and use the winch to load and unload their boat.

## Invasives

*Continued from page 1*

### Zebra Mussels

- Zebra Mussels currently have no known treatment.

### Other Aquatic

### Invasive Species

- Unfortunately, there are dozens of other invasive species in the Great Lakes slowly working their way to Minnesota Lakes. The nearest known one of concern is Spiny Water Flea. Like other invasive species, they degrade the aesthetic value of the lakes and have a serious negative impact on fish reproduction. Currently this new invasive is found as close as Lake Mille Lacs and is spread through movement of boats between lakes.

The **Wright Regional Inspection Program** that provides inspection and decontamination from sunrise to sunset seven days per week in Annan-



**Treating Lake Sylvia for AIS.**

dale is the law in Wright County pilot lakes, is totally free of charge and is our best defense against spreading new invasive species or more SSW within Lake Sylvia. Remember, all are welcome to return to the WRIP site for an inspection after leaving the lake, which makes you ready for your next launch into any of the three pilot lakes. However, **remember it is still your responsibility to inspect all your watercraft after leaving any Minnesota lake following the DNR motto: Clean, Drain, Dry.**

## Lake Superior – Lake Trout and the Sea Lamprey – an AIS Success

By Jim Gray

After a steep decline in numbers in the 1950s and 1960s as a result of predation by sea lampreys, lake trout in Lake Superior have made a remarkable recovery. That recovery has resulted in possession limits of three fish per angler and the re-opening of commercial fishing for lake trout on a limited basis.

The sea lamprey is an eel-like blood sucker that will attach to lake trout and drain them to the point of death. It is native to ocean areas and was first found above Niagara Falls in Lake Erie in 1921. Lampreys spread to Lake Michigan by 1936 and to Lake Superior by 1938. By the late 1930's the lake trout fishery was beginning to collapse, and by the 1950s the commercial harvest of lake trout had declined to 342,000 lbs. from 6.6 million lbs. in 1944. As a result of that rapid decline in lake trout, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service began a study of the lamprey's life cycle. That study showed that lampreys spend the first five years of their life in streams, then move to the big lakes for two years, where they feed on fish like lake trout, before returning to streams to spawn and then die.

With that knowledge, researchers began to search for a pesticide that would kill both juvenile and adults in the streams, while not doing harm to other species. By 1957, the researchers had found an effective pesticide to kill lampreys, but not other species. By the early 1960s, that "lampricide" was in use in streams all around the Great Lakes, and that program continues today. The lamprey population is reduced to about 10% of its peak, and lamprey wounds which were seen on 80% of lake trout in the past are now seen on less than 5% of lake trout.

This defeat of sea lampreys as a threat to native fish in the Great Lakes is a source of hope for finding treatments for other types of Aquatic Invasive Species. The patience and persistence of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to find and apply an effective pesticide to kill sea lampreys is the explanation of their success, and is an example for the approach that will be necessary to find effective treatments for other Aquatic Invasive Species.



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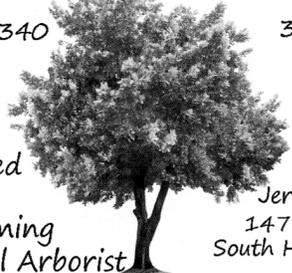
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By Anonymous Member

This needs to be said and acknowledged! Our Association, and rightly so, has been heavily involved in our AIS problem ... a serious one and well addressed by the GLSA Board.

However, recognition and an expression of gratitude to those volunteers who have managed to continue and extend our "Event Schedules" is long overdue. A big 'thank you' to those Chair Person Volunteers, and committee members who have donated their time and energy (plus occasional dollars) to continue these 'happy hours'! As follows:

- The Strubles: have taken it upon themselves to not only continue the traditional 4th of July Boat Parade, but create a spectacle of colorful and patriotic – decorated boats with 'goodies' being distributed to enthusiastic 'dock sitters'. It's one of our more memorable 'happenings' and deserves a 'thank you' from the entire GLSA membership!

- The Bullocks: for initiating what is now an annual fireworks display. They started the project on their own, and it was a sight to behold. Unfortunately, 'regulations' reared their ugly head and forced them to give up their generous contribution. However, its success and popularity filtered down to the GLSA Board and, by demand, the project was continued under the auspices of the Board, on a volunteered basis. Randy Wilson stepped forward and organized both the fundraising and fire-

works display, separate from GLSA financial support, and has enabled the 'event' to continue. Our thanks to the Bullocks for creating the process and to Randy for his efforts for continuation!

- The Annual Picnic: its origin back in the '80s consisted solely of a pot luck dinner at Camp Koinonia, just a social get-together. Along comes Rose Mary Nelson, and then Allison Barkley and Rhonda Brau, 'voila' an enlargement of the original concept ... a family picnic event with entertainment, juvenile fishing contest, et al. successful to say the least. Now we have Mike McNellis who has taken the reigns and continued this 'awesome' event. It's an avenue to socialize and get to know not only your neighbors but the entire membership. Our 'kudos' to them for the effort, time and consideration they put forth on behalf of the GLSA membership. And don't forget the 'helpers' – they have to remain nameless as I just don't know who they are!

- Winter Social Pot Luck: originated and conceived by Russ Fortner (more than likely with the help of Peggy Jo). It has developed into one of the more popular wintertime events! It has progressed into an annual affair and the 'originator' receives entreaties as to time and place, and most importantly, continuation! Purely social, pot luck, and we find that there a lot of good cooks on Lake Sylvia.

# Thank You!

Our thanks to Russ and Peggy Jo for not only the concept/idea but putting it all together.

- Golf Tournament: believe its origin/idea came from Russ Fortner. It has turned out to be a great addition to our event calendar. A fun time with questionable golf expertise, but a lot of laughs and camaraderie ... and culinary satisfaction with a great dinner offering. Again, our thanks to Russ, along with his committee.

To add: unless you have "walked the walk," in regard to volunteerism (such as the above mentioned events), it's difficult to relate to the amount of time, effort and consideration put forth on behalf of their projects ... and provided willingly without any expectation of acknowledgement, etc. We salute you and thanks to one and all for all you have done and accomplished!

In addition our compliments and 'thanks' to all who have contributed to the success of the Lake Sylvia Association, be it a volunteer, financial sponsor, in any manner, shape or form.

While this has been submitted by an individual, my contention is that it is representative of the GLSA membership, THANK YOU!

-Your GLSA Membership



• Save the date – **Saturday, August 11th GLSA Annual Picnic** 4-8 p.m. at Chi Rho

• See the color insert to learn how to identify AIS

• Welcome Wagon is back! See page 7 for details

• Welcome to our new board members: Lorie Herman, Stephani Lind and Rick Phipps

• We also want to thank Kent Davidson, Jerry Dock and Dave Wefring for all of their work while on the board.

• If you would like to receive your Loon Calls electronically, please contact Lisa Peery, Membership Chair – [uragoodboy@gmail.com](mailto:uragoodboy@gmail.com)

• Please send the New Editor Steph Shaunaman any articles or News Flash items for future issues. She can be reached at [2stephm@gmail.com](mailto:2stephm@gmail.com)

## Stranded Boat?

Contact these volunteers if you need stranded boat assistance. This information is also available on the GLSA website at [lakesylvia.org](http://lakesylvia.org).

• East Lake: Russ Fortner, 612-867-5470 (cell) or 320-274-8228 (home); Matt Johnson, 612-210-3131 (cell), 320-274-5146 (home)

• West Lake: Blaine Barkley, 763-516-7931 (cell), 320-274-5804 (home); Chris Hector, 952-239-8103 (cell)

• Channel: Don Nelson, 612-961-1000 (cell) 320-274-7177 (home)

Political Contribution Refund Application Program: <https://cfb.mn.gov/citizen-resources/board-programs/public-subsidy-of-campaigns/political-contribution-refund-program/>

Minnesota lakes need you to take five minutes now and do your part make legislators aware of an issue impacting everyone and thanking those that have helped us.

## Are You A GLSA Member?

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE FIGHTING AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES.

The future health of our lake literally depends on it.

**-Thank you!**

## Five

Continued from page 1

For those of you that might not be aware of your ability to help a legislator with a financial campaign contribution and be reimbursed by the State of Minnesota for doing so, please see the following site explaining the

## 4th of July Boaters Did Not Let the Weather Dampen Their Spirits

By Carla Struble

It was a tense morning on July 4th at the Struble cabin as everyone watched the radar and most current weather updates, trying to decide if the boat parade would have to be postponed. Thanks to Tysann Forsman and Jim Struble, for keeping everyone informed via the GLSA website and Facebook. At noon, it appeared the storm was going to go around us, so the decision was made to proceed and begin the parade a half hour later at 2:30 p.m. The boaters gathered outside the channel on the east lake and received their boater bags with a few little goodies and a boater registration card that they turned in later for a prize drawing. Once the parade began, it was not long and the sun started to peak out from behind the clouds and it was a beautiful day on the lake as we watched the smiles and excitement of children as the parade boaters passed by throwing out water toys, footballs, beach balls, candy and freezies. A great time was had by both boaters and those on shore watching as the parade passed by their dock.



The GLSA annual 4th of July Boat Parade was in doubt because of the weather, but a half hour late start didn't dampen the fun.

Approximately 30 boaters participated of which 25 made it through the entire length of the parade. There were 5 prize drawing gifts given out with the grand prize being a Lilly Pad. Another gift was also given out for the best decorated dock. Parade participant boats threw out 4,000 bags of candy, 1,000 water toys, 500 footballs, 300 beach balls, and a freezer full of freezies. A great time was had by one and all. It was an-



Fourth of July smiles.

Lining up at the channel on the east lake.

other Lake Sylvia memory maker! Next year, if anyone wishes to help with the parade, please get in touch with Jim or Carla Struble. Jim started packaging candy in mid-April of this year after the big snowstorm and finished up mid June.

This parade does not happen without numerous volunteer hours and generous financial gifts of both corporate sponsors and individual donors. All the money used to procure items for the parade comes from private funding. There are no monies taken from the gen-

eral fund of the GLSA.

We again wish to thank our corporate sponsors Anchor Dock and Lift, EMSCO, HydroSweep by Safeshore, and Spilled Grain. Thanks also goes out to those private residents who made financial contributions to the parade and asked to remain anonymous. We thank Tim Schmidt for agreeing to be our MC for the parade. He did an awesome job once again.

We hope to see you all out there again next year!

## Annual Golf Tournament

July 14 was a great day for golf. Blue skies and a slight breeze, not too hot, but warm enough with little humidity. The tournament had 120 registered golfers and 20 hole sponsors. Attendance was down slightly from last year, but the hole sponsors were up. The tournament started at 10 a.m. and by 3 p.m. the meal service was started. Five hours was perfect. We might have stumbled over the perfect number of players to allow smooth play.

The winners of the 2018 tournament:

- 1st place – Tammy and Dan Diepenbrock, Red Peterson, and Myron Morris



There were 120 registered golfers at the tournament.

- 2nd place – Brian and Brooke Mueller, Jeff Haugen, and David Aschenmacher

- 3rd place – Kent Davidson, David Young, Josh Harmala, and Todd Lundeen

A new game was introduced on the putting green called "Bullseye." It was a great success with all golfers participating.

A great time was had by all.

## The GLSA Welcome Wagon is Back!

The GLSA and its Membership Committee are reviving the Welcome Wagon. If you know of a friend or neighbor that is new to the lake, please let us know so we can welcome them and reach out with a variety of information on the lake and the local area. Or if you have neighbors who moved to the lake in the last 3-4 years

check with them to see if they have joined and are receiving the newsletter.

Thank you!

- Lisa Peery – uragoodboy@gmail.com – 320-274-6655
- Lorie Herman – loriejher@gmail.com - 952-836-7470
- Stephani Lind – splind@comcast.net – 612-710-1316



# GLSA Annual Picnic

by Mike McNellis

Plans are well underway for the GLSA's Summer Picnic for August 11th, 2018, at Camp Chi Rho. This is the same location as the last few years. We would like to see more kids this year. Plan now for the 11th so all kids and grandkids can enjoy the lake and family time.

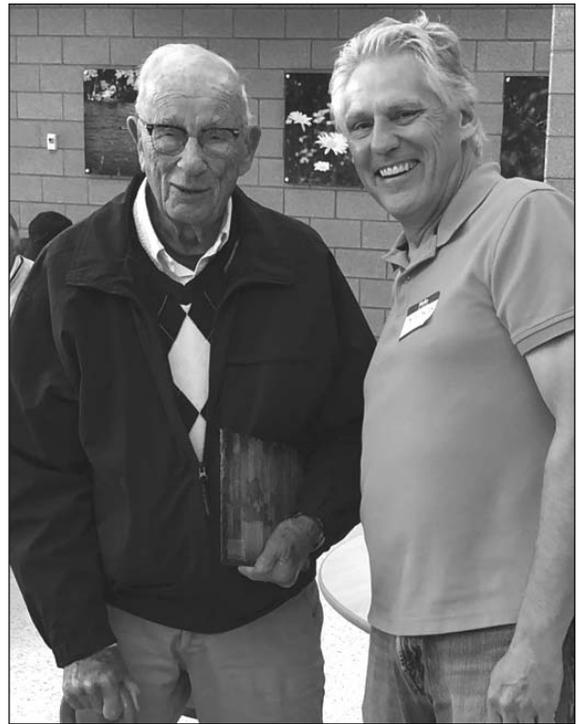
A traditional picnic meal will be catered by Camp Chi Rho. Meals will be ready to serve at 4 p.m. We will have Spilled Grain Brew house beer at only \$1 donation per glass for adults 21 and over like we had last year. There will be Free Root Beer floats for all. We will have a 65- foot long blow up obstacle course for the kids or healthy adults. Pony rides will also be offered for kids in the required weight restriction. Prizes will be awarded to the winners of the fishing contest. Awards can be picked up at the fishing contest table. The Raffle will also be held the same as last year. Items have

values up to \$100. Winners of the raffle items must be picked up the night of the event. Any item not picked up will be held and re-raffled next year. The music this year will be provided by the band Wondercure. They will be playing the same good mix of songs that was enjoyed last year. The band will start playing at 5 p.m.

### Ticket pricing:

\$17.50 for ages 14 and up  
\$10 for ages 8 to 13  
7 and younger are free

Please register by mail, or online at the GLSA website before August 1st. We need to provide numbers to the camp for planning the food.



## Lifetime Achievement Award

At the 2018 GLSA Annual Meeting, Dick Anderson was presented with a GLSA Lifetime Achievement Award. He was honored for his role as cofounder of GLSA and his lifelong efforts to protect and improve the quality of Lake Sylvia.

**Mission Statement:**  
*To Protect and Improve  
Lake Sylvia*

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