



JUNE 2024

The Lucky Bag

RICHMOND, VA COUNCIL NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES

THE NATIONAL AIR & SPACE STEVEN F. UDVAR-HAZY CENTER TOUR IS BACK ON FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2024

The Richmond Council had to cancel its trip to the National Air & Space Udvar-Hazy Center in February 2024, due to insufficient signups.

However, Westminster Canterbury Retirement Community has offered to join forces with us in hopes that enough people will sign up to make this trip a success. So, for all those who had signed up in February and were disappointed by the cancellation, here is your chance to go.

Navy League Members, if you have never been to this **outstanding** museum, we urge you to sign up for what promises to be a memorable full-day outing. Come view thousands of aviation and space artifacts, including the Space Shuttle *Discovery*, a Concorde, a Blackbird SR-71, and the Enola Gay in two large hangars, just to name a few of the many items on display. Galleries dedicated to the story of aviation and space exploration, over 3,000 artifacts on display, expert preservation, and restoration on view, and so much more.

We hope you will come join us as docent(s) educate us on a tour of this remarkable museum. (see page three for more pictures). ✍



The aircraft, F-BVFA is the 1st Concorde Air France exhibited by a museum in the U.S. and is the oldest of five in the Air France Fleet of World's only supersonic passenger jetliner.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, JULY 26, 2024
(Payment must be received by deadline date and with reservation form)

****Refund Policy (effective 2024): Cancellations will be accepted & checks returned UP TO and including the deadline date****

UDVAR-HAZY TOUR RESERVATIONS – FRI 9 AUG 2024

Name: _____ Tel. _____

Name: _____ Tel. _____

Email: _____

Total # of Reservations @ \$60.00 pp _____ Enclosed: \$ _____

Make check payable (and mail) to: Richmond Council NLU
P.O. Box 11201

N.L. Office (804) 355-7557 Richmond, VA 23230

Note: wheelchairs are available on a first come, first served basis

SCHEDULE

8:00 AM – Newton Bus Service departs

****NEW LOCATION****
Glenside Park & Ride
4069-4099 Crockett St.
Richmond, VA 23228

10:30 AM – Arrive at Museum / Free Guided Tour / Lunch on your own / Food services Available at Museum

3:30 PM – Leave Museum

6:00 PM – ETA Richmond

COST: \$ 60.00 - Includes: Snacks & beverages on the bus and driver gratuity.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By: Vaughan F. Dize



May was a very busy month, with six JROTC Award Ceremonies. (see pages five and six of this issue for pictures of these JROTC Award events).

Two of our adopted ships have upcoming change of commands. The **USCGC Legare** Change of Command Ceremony was recently held at sea. **USCGC Northland** Change of Command Ceremony will be held on June 7th .

Our trip to the Military Sealift Command **USNS** ship **Harvey Milk** was a great success. Future trips to MSC ships are planned.

To help reduce the number of canceled trips, we are excited to report that Westminster Canterbury (WMC) residents will be partnering with us on future trips.

Don't forget to sign up for our CDR Theodore G. Ellyson Summer Luncheon on June 19th. Our Guest speaker is Vice Admiral John B. Mustin, Commander Navy Reserve

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Office: 2015 W. Laburnum Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227

Telephone: (804) 355-7557

Fax: (804) 355-8788

E-mail address:

navyleaguerichmond@comcast.net

Website: navyleague-richmond.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NavyLeagueRVA

Editor: William W. McCathern, Jr.

Assistant Editor: Nancy G. Butler

Production Assistants: Billy L. Butler, John

A. Harler, M.D. and Patrick D. Harris

Photographers: Vaughan F. Dize, Nancy Butler and Maria Gallegos

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Force. He is the great-grandson of CAPT Henry C. Mustin (1874-1923), after whose family the Navy's destroyer **USS Mustin (DD-413)** and guided-missile destroyer **USS Mustin (DDG-89)** were named. Please mark your calendars and be sure not to miss Vice Admiral Mustin's presentation.

As of this writing, **USS Gravelly** is still in harm's way in the Eastern Mediterranean. Last report, **Gravelly** is due back sometime in July.

Please note that our \$1,000.00 Raffle has been cancelled due to lack of response from membership. ✍

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Chaplain John A. Harler, M.D.

COME APART OR, YOU WILL COME APART



I live in a 55+ neighborhood. My new neighborhood is one of active seniors who enjoy being on the move. Every morning, as the sun begins to rise, men, women, and dogs are out walking up and down the sidewalks in winter, spring, summer, and fall. The activities list for owners is long and varied from chair aerobics, to line dancing, to pickleball. Between my various volunteer activities and those of the neighborhood, it is easy to stay busy all the time.

The fact is, we live in an ever-moving world, that never sleeps. With the ability to communicate twenty-four hours a day on a "smart device" that has become an extension of our fingertips, making time to be still is hard to do. As a side note, sleep deprivation is said to be a leading culprit in the growing number of dementia cases. So, what is one to do?

WELCOME ABOARD !

The Richmond Council Navy League is proud to welcome you as a member. In the weeks ahead, when you attend one of our Navy League events, please let the person at the registration desk know that you are a new member attending your first function.

NEW MEMBER

James J. D'Amico
Wayne E. Sine

Every person has the same twenty-four hours available; what we do with those hours is up to us. God, the Giver of time, instructs us to "Be still..." Prayer is one way to refocus our attention away from the "tyranny of the urgent." Leave your phone and other devices in another room, otherwise, you will be tempted to let these things reign supreme instead of the Lord, who seeks the very best for His creation.

Psalm 46:10 says, "**Be still and know that I am God.**"

The Lord Jesus always found time to come apart and "be still" in the presence of His Father.

Dallas Willard once said, "If you don't come apart for a while, you will come apart after a while." ✍

35TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

The Richmond Council is looking forward to gathering once again at the Hollows Golf Club in Montpelier, VA, on Wednesday, September 18th for a great day of golfing and reconnecting with old friends. The format is Captain's Choice, Best Ball. The number of players is limited to 124, so you should get your reservations early to ensure that you do not miss out. Registration starts at 10:30 AM. Lunch will be served at 11:00 AM and Tee Off will be at 12:30 PM sharp. (Rain Date: October 2, 2024).

If you can join us, go to our website at: www.navyleague-richmond.com, and print a copy of our Golf Brochure. Fill it out and mail it in with your check. (The Golf Brochure will also be included in next month's issue of *The Lucky Bag*).

WE NEED SPONSORS: Our annual golf outing is Richmond's **PREMIER fundraising event**. Please share your digital copy of *The Lucky Bag* with your friends and family and encourage their support.

WE NEED GOLFERS: We also encourage you to invite your friends and family to sign up to play golf. Get your foursomes together for a fun day of golf. The cost per player is \$90.00, which included a green fee, cart, lunch, snacks, soft drinks, and adult refreshments served by courtesy carts. ✍

SPONSOR

Vaughan F. Dize
George L. Feitig, Jr.

Photos from Navy League Trip to Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center – 02/24/2018



On July 20, 1969, Commander Neil Armstrong and Lunar Module Pilot Buzz Aldrin landed the Apollo Lunar Module *Eagle* and Armstrong became the first person to step onto the Moon's surface six hours and 39 minutes later, on July 21, 1969.

Nancy Butler and her dad, Ed Gibbons, admire the space suit worn by Commander Neil Armstrong on that mission.

Picture on right is the Lockheed P-38J-10-LO Lightning, one of the most successful twin-engine fighters ever flown by any nation. Lightning pilots in the Pacific theater downed more Japanese aircraft than pilots flying any other Army Air Forces warplane. (Udvar-Hazy Center website).



U.S. Army helicopter (H-60). The most versatile rotary-wing airframe that has served in the U.S. Military.



The first mission (STS-41-D) of Space Shuttle *Discovery*, flew from August 30 to September 5, 1984. Over 27 years of service it launched and landed 39 times, aggregating more spaceflights than any other spacecraft to date. (Wikipedia).



Boeing B-29 Superfortress *Enola Gay* was the most sophisticated propeller-driven bomber of World War II, and the first bomber to house its crew in pressurized compartments. On August 6, 1945, *Enola Gay* dropped the first atomic weapon used in combat on Hiroshima, Japan.



On July 20, 2001, the X-35B Joint Strike Fighter was the world's first short takeoff, level supersonic dash, and vertical landing in a single flight.

MILITARY SEALIFT COMMAND SHIP TOUR - USNS HARVEY MILK

By: Pat Robson/Liaison-MSC

Deployed Navy ships must remain on-station to meet their missions. That means that once a ship reaches its assigned "zone", it must stay ready within that zone. There are no unscheduled calls to ports to refuel or to take on stores. So, if it can't go to get what it needs, the essentials must come to the ship.

That is the mission of the **USNS Harvey Milk, T-AO-206** (an oiler/supply ship) and other ships in the Military Sealift Command's Combat Logistics Force of support ships. The **USNS Harvey Milk** is one of the newest oilers in the MSC's 125 ship fleet. She entered service on 11 July 2023. She carries over three million gallons of fuel; some is diesel fuel; some is aviation fuel. In addition to fuel replenishment, the **USNS Harvey Milk** is capable of delivering food stores, including refrigerated food, and dry stores.

All of this happens while both ships are underway. The combatant remains on-station. The ships align on parallel courses and pass large hoses and cables between them and in a matter of minutes, the replenishment is complete. These functions are computer-controlled; thus they require a barely believable number of hands-on sailors to achieve them.

On Friday, May 3, 2024, thirty-two Richmond Navy League members and guests toured the **USNS Harvey Milk** pier-side in Norfolk. The ship's Master (a civilian), James White, graciously broke our cadre into three groups and assigned a senior officer, including Master White, to show and to explain to us each non-security area and function of the ship. Even though the ship is nine stories high (above the waterline), our guides moved at a climb-and-rest pace that allowed us to negotiate the hundreds of vertical steps.

We saw the massive hoses that deliver the fuel, the control tower for the helicopters used for vertical replenishment, the huge cranes that lift dry stores, and the new high-tech mooring lines (they brag about their mooring lines) that are stronger than the "old" lines at a fraction of the weight. We were taken to the bridge, the operational heart of the ship. It was an expansive space full of computers and instruments. Surprisingly, the ship's wheel for this 746-foot behemoth was about the size of a dinner plate. Computer screens have replaced our old, cherished paper charts. The engine

control room is one deck below the bridge. Its control panel is about 30 feet long and full of buttons on diagrams, lights, and computer screens to monitor and operate every function of the ship. And it is operated by ONE PERSON. Those who were interested, looked down into the engine room at one of the two massive, 11,000 HP diesel engines

that power this floating mountain.

The Richmond Navy League owes special gratitude to Ms. Lashawn Sykes, our MSC liaison, who pulled this entire excursion together. She was preemptively adjustable to ships' tasking changes, and she seamlessly coordinated all of our "that end" needs. 🇺🇸



USNS Harvey Milk (T-AO-206) arrived at Norfolk Naval Station April 16, 2024. The 746-foot Milk is the second ship in the John Lewis Class of fleet replenishment oilers that deliver fuel, food, supplies, repair parts and materials to U.S. Navy and allied ships while at sea. (General Dynamics NASSCO photo).



Aerial photo from the Control Room depicts the equipment utilized during fuel replenishment missions.



Thirty-two Navy Leaguers and guests returning to the bus after a very interesting tour on the USNS Harvey Milk.

EIGHT HIGH SCHOOL JROTC UNITS SUPPORTED BY COUNCIL TOTAL OVER 750 CADETS FOR 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR

There are three awards given to outstanding cadets from our eight JROTC units. These awards are:

TOP CADET AWARD

Cadet receives a certificate along with a check for \$100.00. Their name is placed on the permanent school JROTC plaque.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT YOUTH MEDAL AWARD

Cadet that maintains scholastic and military marks each year receives a Theodore Roosevelt Ribbon Medal and Certificate.

PERSERVERANCE AWARD

Cadet recognized for overcoming adversity during the year receives a Richmond Council Navy League Challenge Coin and Certificate.

HERMITAGE HIGH SCHOOL MCJROTC

Liaison - Adam "Jay" Fiedler, M.D.
President Vaughan Dize Assisted



Cadet 1st Lieutenant An Quynh Pham received the Cadet of the Year Award *and* the Theodore Roosevelt Medal Award and Certificate.



Cadet LtCol Casey Stapleton received the Perseverance Award.

VARINA HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC

Liaison - James R. Dageforde, M.D.

Cadet of the Year was awarded to
Cadet Lieutenant Noah Fernandez.



Cadet Petty Officer Second Class
Laila Egerton received the Roosevelt Medal Award and Certificate.

MECHANICSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC

Liaison - Thomas T. Hassell, Jr.

Cadet Lieutenant Valerie Tumlin received the Top Cadet of the Year Award.

Cadet CPO Austin Andrews received the Roosevelt Medal.

SN Ronna Watkins received the Perseverance Award.

J.R. TUCKER HIGH SCHOOL MCJROTC

Liaison - John A. Harler, M.D.



Cadet Captain Natalie Sherlock received the Top Cadet Award.



Cadet 2nd Lt. Chloe Chedester received the Roosevelt Medal Award & Certificate.



Cadet Private Alyssa Scholte received the Perseverance Award.

HIGHLAND SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC

Liaison - George L. Feitig, Jr.



Cadet Sergeant Major Duane Gary received the Top Cadet of the Year.



Cadet Sergeant Arlyn Giddings received the Roosevelt Medal and Certificate.



Cadet PFC Rylee Wilkins received the Perseverance Award.

JAMES RIVER HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC

Liaison – Gary K. Riffle, Sr.



Pictured above left to right: Cadet Seaman Felix C. Levy received the Perseverance Award; Cadet LTJG Angel M. Gatto received the Roosevelt Medal Award; Liaison Gary Riffle, and Cadet LT Sophia R. Lurey received the Cadet of the Year Award.

PATRICK HENRY HIGH SCHOOL NJROTC

Liaison – Patrick D. Harris

Cadet Petty Officer 1st Class Aliana Cooper received the Cadet of the Year Award.

Senior Cadet Commander Lindsey Gholson received the Roosevelt Medal and Certificate.

GOOCHLAND HIGH SCHOOL MCJROTC

Liaison - Jay Fiedler, M.D.
President Vaughan Dize Assisted



Cadet Samuel Farkas received the Cadet of the Year Award.



Cadet Greyson Grant received the Roosevelt Award and Certificate.

NAVY TALENT ACQUISITION GROUP (NTAG) CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY AT THE VIRGINIA WAR MEMORIAL APRIL 26, 2024

The Change of Command Ceremony is part of the rich heritage of naval tradition. Custom has been established that this ceremony be formal and impressive – designed to strengthen that respect for authority vital to any military organization.

Parading all hands at quarters and public reading of official orders was designed to ensure that only the authorized officer held command and that all aboard were aware of the authenticity of his or her orders.

The heart of the ceremony is the formal reading of official orders by the relieving officer and the officer being relieved. Command passes upon the utterance by the relieving officer of the words, “I relieve you, ma’am” and the officer being relieved responding, “I stand relieved.”

The change of command is unique in the world today in that it is the transfer of total responsibility, authority, and accountability from one individual to another.

The simple ceremony reflects the dedication of free men and women serving their nation proudly. (NTAG COC Program 2024). 🇺🇸



Mechanicsville High School NJROTC Color Guard presents the colors before the Change of Command Ceremony.



Outgoing CO CDR Shannyn W. Fowler received a plaque for her two-year duty from CDRE Jon Rigby (Commander, Navy Recruiting Region-East) to her right, with incoming CO CDR Seth L. Harbin to her left.



NTAG Sailors attending ceremony at Virginia War Memorial.

Picture to the left: New Commanding Officer CDR Seth L. Harbin with Council’s President, Vaughan Dize.

ADOPTED SHIPS UPDATE

(Note: these reports may be edited to fit space available)



USS Normandy (CG-60)
CO: CAPT Errol A. Robinson
XO: CDR Adam J. Samson
CMC: CMDCM Andrew Conover

George L. Feitig, Jr., Liaison
Dennis Biggs, Ass't Liaison

Ahoy Richmond Navy League!

USS Normandy is enjoying summer-time in the Atlantic Ocean while in route to the 6th Fleet Area of Responsibility as part of a service deployment. She is steaming towards Cherbourg, France where she will conduct ceremonies with the French Military and Veterans

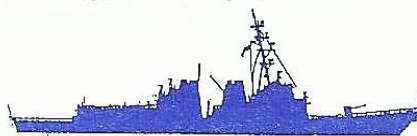
Normandy report cont. on page 9



USS Carter Hall (LSD-50)
CO: CDR Steven E. Grey
XO: CDR Brittany N. Lynn
CMC: CMDCM Benjamin Cruz

Pat Robson, Liaison

Carter Hall is currently in port deploying on short exercises. ✍



USS Gravelly (DDG-107)
CO: CDR Brian C. Sanchez
XO: CDR Greg Piorun
CMC: CMDCM Timothy Bickerton

Courtney Mustin, Liaison
Patrick Harris, Ass't Liaison

Pictures of **USS Gravelly** while deployed to the U.S Naval Forces Central Command / U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations to support maritime security and stability in the Middle East. ✍



USS Gravelly on April 28, 2024, at Souda Bay, Crete.



EMERGENCY SERVICES AT SEA

April 2024, Sailor's practice fire hose handling during a damage control drill aboard **USS Gravelly** in the Red Sea. (Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Jonathan Word).



May 15, 2024 - Deployed to the Red Sea with the *Eisenhower* Strike Group. USS Gravelly 5-inch gun.

USS Normandy ship report cont. from page 8

of D-Day to honor the 80th anniversary of the invasion.

Normandy completed an arduous Continuous Maintenance Availability (CMAV) to make her mission ready for her service deployment. After a successful completion of Aviation Certification (AVCERT) and various other certification validations, **Normandy** transited to participate in the inaugural Fleet Week Miami along with the **USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75)**, **USS Bataan (LHD 5)**, and **USS Leyte Gulf (CG 55)**. At Fleet Week, **Normandy** opened her brow to the public conducting over 120 tours to over 2500 civilians to teach visitors about the Navy's and **Normandy's** role in the modern era. Sailors participated in over 200 community relation events in the Miami-Dade area and sported their dress whites while on some hard-earned liberty.

After Fleet Week, **Normandy** transited to Naval Station Yorktown to on load ammunition in preparation for deployment and said goodbye to MAC Javines as he transitions to shore duty. Numerous sailors including ENS Clancy, CS1 Johnson, QM2 Novak, IC3 Carcamo, and SN Moralesrodriguez were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal by Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group 2, for their contributions to Fleet Week. Additionally, LCDR Barksdale, LT Byrne, FCACM Busby, and ITCS Jentgens earned the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal. With their continued efforts, team **Normandy** continues to professionally and smartly execute the Nation's business. 🇺🇸

Very Respectfully,
ENS Dane Hamilton, PAO



USCGC Northland (WMEC-904)
CO: CDR Andrew Dannelly
XO: LCDR Patricia Green
COB: GMC Matthew Winters

Vaughan F. Dize, Liaison

Greetings from **USCGC Northland** !

Northland is quickly approaching the end of a productive heavy maintenance period. Over the course of several months, Northland's crew oversaw maintenance and repair to critical habitability, machinery, and safety systems.

This work will help extend Northland's service life, so that cutter and crew remain always ready to answer the call. Following **Northland's** departure from dry dock, the crew will ready the cutter for an exciting summer deployment focused on supporting our allies and enforcing living marine resource regulations.

As we prepare **Northland** to depart drydock and sail on patrol, we also prepare to say goodbye to shipmates and welcome new **Northland** crewmembers. Of note, after two years of steady guidance from CDR Dannelly, he will be relieved by CDR Brian Gismervik on June 7th. CDR Dannelly will remain in the Hampton Roads area to attend senior service school at the Joint Forces Staff College. While we will miss CDR Dannelly and his leadership, we are excited to welcome CDR Gismervik, who is reporting from USCGC Midgett in Honolulu,



USCGC Legare (WMEC-912)
CO: CDR Justin Strock
XO: LCDR L.H. (Hank) Deatrich
COB: BMC Cody Johnson

Thomas T. Hassell, Jr., Liaison
Thomas A. Jennings, Ass't Liaison

Thank you all for the extremely warm welcome to **Legare**. I am impressed with the pride and the professionalism of this crew. Thank you for what you do to support this crew every day!

A great second week is underway full of training, qualifications and our first port call. We conducted small boat operations, damage control drills, engineering casualty control drills and ended the week with a transit up Narragansett Bay for our first port call in Newport, RI. It may have rained and been a little chilly, but the crew enjoyed exploring the town and the surrounding areas. Some even ventured as far north as Boston! Another big week of training coming up this week! 🇺🇸

Very Respectfully,
CO CDR Justin W. Strock



CO Greenwood bids a warm farewell to Council's liaisons, Tom Hassell & Tom Jennings.

Hawaii, and his family.

Beyond work, **Northland's** crew is taking advantage of our drydock time to bond and get to know new crewmembers. Recently, **Northland's** engineering department attended a Norfolk Tides baseball game to eat some hot dogs and build camaraderie. The other departments of the ship will soon be 'catching' a game as well!

Our extended time inport is a blessing and has really given our crew time to catch up with family, and work on old/new hobbies.

We are deeply grateful to the Richmond Chapter for their unwavering support, which plays a crucial role in our operations. Until next time, fair winds and following seas! 🇺🇸

Very Respectfully,
LTJG Tyric Burge, PAO



Delivery of deployment goodies to USCGC Legare. L to R: New XO LCDR L.H. (Hank) Deatrich; Liaison Tom Hassell, new CO CDR Strock and Liaison Tom Jennings.



Tom Hassell presented CO Greenwood with an artist's meticulously detailed rendition of USCGC Legare.

Thank You Sponsors!


Your Financial contribution to the Richmond Navy League provides Funds for programs supporting those serving in the United States Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Council's Youth Programs; The Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the Local Navy and Marine JROTC Units.



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MC**



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HOUSTON-HOLICKY-SITTER LUNCHEON

DATE: Tuesday, June 11, 2024

PLACE: Publix / 2nd Floor
Community Meeting Room
2250 John Rolfe Pkwy
Henrico, VA 23233

TIME: Doors open 11:15 AM / Program begins at Noon

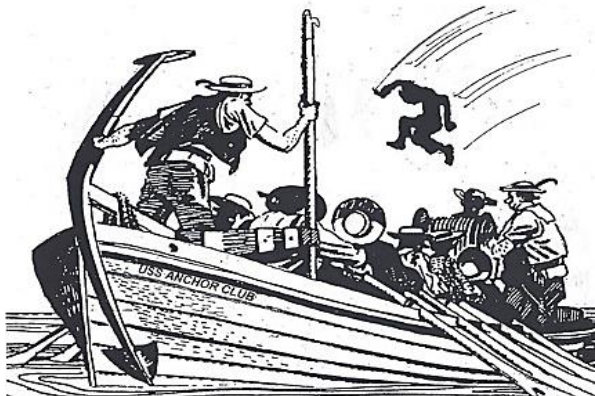
SPEAKER: Rear Admiral Steve Isreal, USN (Ret.)

TOPIC: Virginia Family's Perspective during the Civil War



**RICHMOND, VIRGINIA COUNCIL
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE U.S.
P.O. BOX 11201
RICHMOND, VA 23230**

**OFFICE: (804) 355-7557 FAX: (804) 355-8788
EMAIL: navyleaguerichmond@comcast.net
WEB SITE: www.navyleague-richmond.com
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Thanks for jumping on board !!!

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