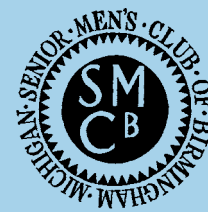


The Reminder

July 2009

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, Michigan



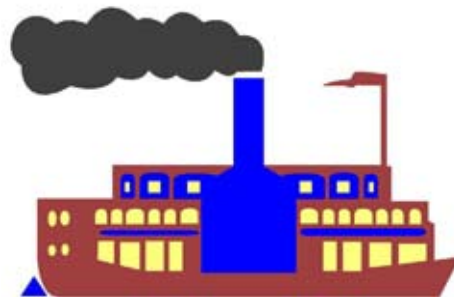
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Dinner Cruise Plans Expanded

The ever popular SMC Summer Dinner Cruise plans announced in the June 2009 *Reminder* have now been expanded to accommodate anticipated demand for additional space. Places for an additional 100 guests will be provided by booking a second section of the event two weeks later on July 29, 2009. This new date expands our capacity to 200. Remember, Dinner Cruise dates are now Wednesday, July 15, 2009 and Wednesday, July 29, 2009!



All members, associates and their ladies are invited for the beautiful evening trip to the Fogcutter Restaurant in downtown Port Huron and an enjoyable sunset ride on the popular Huron Lady II tour boat out onto Lake Huron. The Fogcutter will offer a delicious dinner with its spectacular 6th floor 360 degree view. Travel to Port Huron will be in two comfortable, air conditioned Parlor Coaches, driven by our favorite tour bus drivers.

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JULY PROGRAMS

JULY CHAIRMAN: Robb Mahr

- 3 NO MEETING
- 10 Robb Mahr, SMC Member *Transportation: Outlook and Perceptions*
- 17 Edsel B. Ford *The Revitalization of Detroit*
- 24 Chris Hansen, NBC News *How Outsiders See Detroit and Detroiters*
- 31 Susie Ellwood, CEO, Detroit Media Partnership ... *The Future of "The Detroit News" and the "Detroit Free Press"*

AUGUST PROGRAMS

NO MEETINGS

JULY DISCUSSIONS

JULY CHAIRMAN: Al Bosley

- 3 NO MEETING
- 10 Marty Reisig, Attorney *Alternate Dispute Resolution*
- 17 John Dziurgot, Gleaners Food Bank *Aspects of Food Banks in an Adverse Economic Climate*
- 24 Mike Brown, Detroit News *"Detroit News" and "Detroit Free Press" Problems and Internet Access*
- 31 Jaap Delevie, SMC Member *Desiderius Erasmus, Dutch Philosopher in the Age of Reformation*

AUGUST DISCUSSIONS

NO MEETINGS



New Members:

Theodore J. Schuster
2919 Waterloo Drive, Troy 48084-2683
248-643-7526
E-mail: TedSchuster@earthlink.net
Sponsor: Ken Brooker



David J. Underdown
437 Suffield Ave.
Birmingham 48009-4628
248-642-5337
E-mail: DouglasCleaners@hotmail.com
Sponsor: Paul Geiger



Clifford W. Prew
2727 Rambling Way
Bloomfield Hills 48302-4533
248-451-9311
Sponsor: Bill Straith



John A. Borden
2732 Melcombe Circle, Apt. 105
Troy 48084-3444
248-244-0343
Sponsor: Bill Straith



John Perryman
3328 Paddington Drive
Troy 48084-1241
248-645-0473
E-mail: perryman-john@att.net
Sponsor: Riggs Miller

Change of Address:

Fred Shaw
6100 Pawtucket Lane
Bloomfield Hills 48301-1763

John S. Wells, Jr.
2667 Pembroke Road
Birmingham 48009-5831

David W. Zimmer
6790 Telegraph Road, Apt. 113
Bloomfield 48301-3134

Harry Mitchell
3250 Walton Blvd., Apt. 224
Rochester 48309-1281

Richard A. Steele
4231 Stanley Court
Waterford 48329-4185

Life Member:

Paul C. Kennedy

New Associates:

Robert F. Stoner (Patricia)
3173 Tuckahoe Road
Bloomfield Hills 48301-2447
248-647-2763
E-mail: bluestone66@comcast.net
Sponsor: Alva Wood

Edward Sharples
541 W. Drayton Street
Ferndale 48220-2746
248-398-8223
E-mail: edwardsharples@ymail.com
Sponsor: Elson Spangler

William F. Penz (Janet)
4710 Hedgewood Drive
Bloomfield Hills 48301-1030
248-626-8978; E-mail: bpenz@aol.com
Sponsor: Michael Frank

Clifford Worthy (Mildred)
5655 South Adams Way
Bloomfield Hills 48302-4004
248-642-2953; E-mail: cliffwor@comcast.net
Sponsor: William Sprague

Death:

John A. Wenstrand (Life), joined March 1989

Resigned:

Associate **David L. Button**

Email Change:

Charles Basch---CMBasch70@att.net
Dennis Winowiecki---
DWinowiecki@hotmail.com
Thomas McNally--stagecrafterbobbie@yahoo.com
Louis DeMaris---LouisDeM@comcast.net
Jarold Peck---JLPeckhere@gmail.com
John Perryman---perryman-john@att.net

Phone Number Change:

Fred Shaw---248-626-3591
David Zimmer---248-737-8004
Harry Mitchell---248-608-4034
Richard A. Steele---248-420-8321

—Pete Kass, Membership Chairman
—John M. Steele, Database Chairman
—Bill Shaffmaster, Photography

Story Boards

You most likely have seen the attractive and very professional-looking story boards describing upcoming Special Events on ticket sale days. If you haven't done so, take a look at the board describing the Dinner Cruise events scheduled for July. This board is very well done, and is the work product of our resident artist John Wargelin. Many thanks, John, for your contribution.

Harold Stanton Honored



The Reminder is always proud to report when SMC members receive honors or awards or are recognized for outstanding achievements. We know our members have lives and activities outside the Club and often have leadership roles in contributing to the community.

Longtime SMC member Harold Stanton recently received a most notable honor.

At the annual conference of the United Methodist Church in Michigan, the Board of Church and Society established an annual award called the "Harold Stanton Peace With Justice Award."

This action recognizes Harold's 40 years of activity in Christian service and ministry. He will select the recipient each year based on criteria of efforts to eliminate the root causes of hunger and poverty in our society - what Harold describes as "the worst injustice in the world." Congratulations, Harold.

—Dick Harper

Annual Fund Drive



Thank you for your support of The Community House's 2009 Annual Fund Drive. Your response has been fantastic. To date, we are 42% ahead of where we were last year. Eighty more members of the Senior Men's Club have donated \$9,964 more than last year at this time. We are on our way to achieving 100% support. Thank you!

—Jack McLaughlin
SMC Special Projects

Piano Players Wanted



Can you "tickle the ivories?" The Master of Ceremonies Committee is looking for additional piano players for Friday meetings.

You would play either "America," "America the Beautiful," "God Bless America" or "The Star Spangled Banner." In addition the "Happy Birthday Song" follows. Sheet music is available.

So don't be bashful - your audience is waiting. Please contact Chairman Dick Hameister 248.646.6156, or dksmpr1@ameritech.net.

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Dinner Cruise Expansion

The Fogcutter is well-known for its outstanding choice of entrees. When you purchase your tickets, you will be asked to choose one of five offerings, furnished with the chef's choice of select potato and vegetable sides. Entree choices are: Cedar Planked Salmon; Lobster Ravioli; Chicken Fresco; Prime Rib of Beef (10 oz); Lake Superior Whitefish. A salad, beverage and dessert choice of key lime pie or raspberry sherbet will also be served. You will be asked to select your dessert along with your entree choice.

Departure from Birmingham will be at 3:30PM from the First Presbyterian Church parking lot. Travel to downtown Port Huron schedules us to arrive at approximately 5:00PM. Following our Fogcutter dinner, two buses will transport us to the boarding dock of the Huron Lady II. The Senior Men's Club group has exclusive use of the boat. The cruise takes us out on Lake Huron under the twin spans of the Blue Water bridges at sunset. Returning to the dock by nightfall, we plan to be back to our cars in Birmingham by approximately 9:45PM. Timing for both the July 15 and 29 dates will be the same.

Ticket sales for this event started on Friday, June 19 and will continue on subsequent Fridays until all 200 tickets are sold. The ticket price is \$52 per person which includes all charges and gratuities for the event. See you on the bus!

—Tom Clapp, Mike Clement, Riggs Miller,
Clarke Thornton

Groups



Classic Movie Group

The 1934 classic, "It Happened One Night" starring Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert will be shown at 1:00PM on Monday, July 13.

A romantic comedy, it was the first film to win all five major Academy Awards (Best Picture, Director, Actor, Actress and Screenplay).

This is one of the earliest examples of Director Frank Capra addressing the social issues of the time and was a perfect complement to his faith in the common man that made all his films both spirited entertainment and an uplifting experience. It was a combination of many ideas, emotions and social perceptions of American society in the thirties.

But it was also a showcase for a number of new and innovative film techniques and sound advancements such as the "moving camera" that was not fixed on a box but on a moving crane. He also developed the technique of "back projection of images" whereby a scene is filmed previously and played in the background while the actors perform the scene in front of the projection. For example, back projection is used for car scenes to give the impression that the actors are driving but in reality they are on a sound stage.

Capra also incorporated the use of a "wipe" in this film—the technique of moving left to right and fading in or out to change a scene or show elapsed time allowing for a more constant stream of events. He also used another camera trick to show a change in feeling within Clark Gable's character for Claudette Colbert's character by depicting her in a different light. His technical wizardry with film was undoubtedly a product of having a B.S. in chemical engineering from what is now the California Institute of Technology.

Frank Capra's senses of faith and idealism were reflected by their being expressed in his films - more about them in the announcements during the SMC business meetings.

—Augie Perrotta



Investment Group

The annual SMC Stock Game is over, with strong performances by many of our member entries. Each contestant started with an imaginary \$100,000 and each picked up to five stocks. Overall, we did very well. The market, as measured by the Dow Jones average, was down 8.2% during the contest period. The average member portfolio was up 8.6%, with 40 of the 62 entries plus for the contest period. We do know something about investing!

Member Ted Chapekis rode a resurgent Ford Motor Co. stock to first place, doubling his investment money. George Miller finished second, Bob Bazzell was third, with Tom Buescher fourth. Unfortunately, Ted didn't make the voluntary \$10 contribution to the prize fund - hence all he received was a certificate for first place, while George, Bob and Tom split the cash. We will do it again in the fall. Stay tuned.

The next Investment Group meeting will be on Wednesday, September 9 at 2:45PM. Jim Williams will update us on estate planning and tax issues.

—George Miller



Book Reading Groups

On Wednesday, July 1 at 10:30AM, we will be discussing "American Creation" by Joseph Ellis. Ellis guides us through the decisive issues of this nation's founding, and illuminates the emerging philosophies, shifting alliances, and personal and political foibles of our now iconic leaders - Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Hamilton, and Adams. Ellis argues that the American Revolution was, paradoxically, an evolution—and that part of what made it so extraordinary was the gradual pace at which it occurred.

On Monday, July 20 at 3:00PM, we will be discussing "The Big Bang" by Simon Singh. Simon Singh is a perfect guide to explain why cosmologists believe that the big bang is an accurate description of the origin and evolution of the universe. This book tells the story of the many brilliant and eccentric scientists who fought against the establishment idea of eternal and unchanging cosmos.

Drop in. You will enjoy a session. The meetings last about an hour and a half.

—Ted Chapekis



Thursday Golf

The Thursday Golf League leaders, after posting a minimum of 6 scores, are led by Top Gun Kirby Callam at 40.6 followed by Leprechaun Jim Doyle with 41.0 and The Golden Greek Ted Chapekis with a 42.0. Special mention goes to Ironman John Kary who is shooting his age - his average of 45.1 equates to 90.2 for 18 holes.

The Scrambles game will be held on July 9. Each Scrambles player will pony up \$3 and the league will match \$3, for a pot of \$6 per player. The pot will be split 50/30/20% to the top 3 finishers. Handicaps will be used. Get your teams together. Players may opt out of the Scrambles and play a straight game.

The Thursday Golf Tournament will be held on August 20, 27, and September 3. There will be three (3) flights and prizes will be awarded to the top 3 winners in each flight. Calculations of winning scores will be based on the best two (2) consecutive rounds played.

The Stonycroft outing will be held on Tuesday, September 15. Cost of this outing remains the same as last year at \$35 each. If you wish your foursome to include certain partners, the committee will do as much as possible to fulfill those requests. However, the first priority of the committee will be having competitive foursomes based on handicap. Reservations (\$\$\$) will be taken by the committee beginning July 2.

Monday golfers may use their Lincoln Hills handicap for all Springdale outings.

Complete rules for Scrambles, the Tournament, and the Stonycroft outing will be posted on the bulletin board during the Friday meetings. If you have questions contact any committee member. Hit them square!

—Chuck Travers

How Many Husbands?

John O'Brien claims this is a true story. He says that he was at a social event recently where a woman he didn't know came up to him, and after a few minutes of conversation said, "You know, you look a lot like my third husband." John was somewhat taken aback and after a pause said, "How many husbands have you had?"

The woman replied, "Two." At that point John's wife, Jody, arrived to save him!

Associates Monday Golf

June has been interesting. The number of players is increasing. The prizes are accumulating. The weather is improving (finally). And Cliff Dean is back and shooting in the 40's. Welcome back, Cliff.

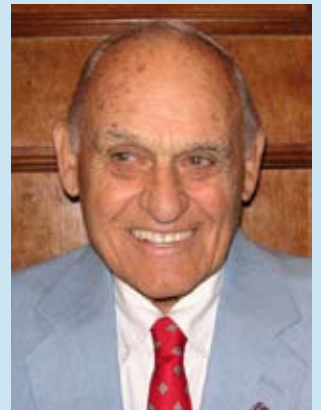
Our most recent "closest to the pin" winners were Bill Dahlin and Al Wood. We had a "wash-out" on June 8. Thirty-five stalwart players teed off but only fourteen were able to finish. Rain checks were issued to those eligible to be used at Lincoln Hills, but it was decided not to extend the season. Thus, as of now, we will play through August 24.

A four-man team scramble is scheduled for July 20. More details will be available on Monday golf days.

—Bill Spreitzer

Jack Fawcett Honored

Life member Jack Fawcett recently was honored by the Board and Friends of the Birmingham Historical Society. Jack, who has been a Club member since 1995, received the prestigious Heritage Award from this society. This award recognizes people who have made significant contributions to preserving the history of the community.



He was a long-time employee of the City of Birmingham, including a stint as a parking meter monitor. Jack even wrote a book about these experiences entitled "Parking for a Nickel." All proceeds go the Birmingham Historical Society. Congratulations, Jack!

—Dick Harper

From a Church Bulletin

This evening at 7PM there will be a hymn singing in the park across from the Church. Bring a blanket and come prepared to sin.

How Many Girlfriends?

Recent headlines feature Governor Mark Sanford of South Carolina and his liaison with a lady from Buenos Aires. That reminds me of Judge Beer.

While on Oakland County Jury Duty, at lunchtime with a fellow juror, I visited various courtrooms to see which judges had approved installation of TV cameras in their courtrooms and which had not. We also visited the court library.

In moseying through the library, I spotted a large framed set of pictures of every judge who had served on the Oakland Circuit Bench. One was Judge William J. Beer, and, pointing to the judge's picture, I whispered aloud to my fellow juror, "There's the judge who had two families." At that, a young man standing behind a counter about six feet away spoke up, saying, "Yes, that's dad."

I was horror struck, but later when I had opportunity to talk with the young man out in the hallway, I asked, "Were you aware of the other family?" He said, "Yes, I knew the oldest daughter of the other family."

Judge William Beer, while an Oakland County Circuit Judge, had maintained two households. He had nine children in all, three by his first wife and six by his secretary. He led a double life for years until the two families were discovered after one of his children died.

—Chuck Kirkpatrick

Attendance Check-In

We recently experienced a somewhat unusual occurrence at a Friday meeting. Attendance was reported at only 133 - a number clearly below the actual number of attendees present, which looked to be in the 170-180 range.

Several observers noted two factors apparently producing this undercount, likely related to the recent elimination of meeting attendance requirements. First, some attendees were seen picking up name cards but not actually checking in. Others bypassed the check-in procedure completely and took seats, sans name cards, in the back room.

While we no longer have minimum attendance requirements, we do wish to maintain attendance records for historical purposes, and as a measure of the appeal of individual speakers and program subjects. In addition, monthly program chairmen often cite attendance statistics to attract and motivate potential speakers.

President Bob Pullar has announced our intentions in this regard at recent meetings, asking that attendees check in and display name cards. He also has asked the Sergeant at Arms Committee to monitor this situation at meetings, and that *The Reminder* carry this notice.

—Dick Harper

Lloyd Reuss Honored

Another Senior Men's Club member has been honored for his contributions to society, which epitomize the "rendering of service" element of our mission statement.



Lloyd Reuss, who was inducted to full membership earlier this year, recently received the prestigious Rubies of HOPE award from Focus: HOPE. Lloyd, who had a distinguished career with General Motors, has long been an active supporter of many charitable organizations. He has been a strong advocate of urban education through Cornerstone Schools, Lawrence Tech and Focus: Hope, and has provided guidance and fund raising skills to such organizations as Cranbrook, Orchestra Hall, the Detroit Symphony and Lawrence Tech. Congratulations, Lloyd!

—Dick Harper

Member Support

We wish to acknowledge and thank four more members with e-mail who have asked us to discontinue regular mailing of *The Reminder*. As has been noted, the e-mailed issue arrives a week earlier and is in glorious color. So thank you Larry Pazol, Dave Donegan, Dave Ladd and Dave Brown. Any more out there? Please tell John Steele one copy of *The Reminder* is enough!

In addition, one more Life Member - Cap Hall - has made a voluntary dues contribution to financially support our Club. Thank you Cap! And thanks to Mrs. Lois Giagalas who made a postage contribution for *The Reminder*.

—Dick Harper

Endowment Fund

A 50/50 raffle will be offered at the SMC Picnic on Friday, August 28. Bring some extra dollars to support your fund. With the stock market recovering, it's time to start planning a contribution to the Club's legacy.

—George Miller

Annual Picnic at the Yacht Club

The Senior Men's Club will return to the Pontiac Yacht Club for our annual picnic on Friday, August 28. The festivities start at 10:30AM with a variety of games including a few new ones and a special interest car display.

Lunch will be at 12:00PM and this year we are pulling out all the stops to have a very special meal. How about an authentic pig roast, with the meal prepared on site by one of the area's premier picnic food vendors! Maybe you'll just want to watch the master pig roasters in action. For those who prefer something else, grilled chicken will also be available. Sides will include baked beans, potato salad, macaroni salad, tossed salad, bread, drinks and, of course, ice cream.

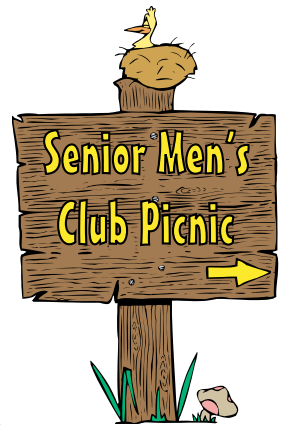
The entertainment starts at 1:00PM with the ever-popular Straw Hat Band. They did such a great job last year that we are bringing them back this year. After the entertainment there will be a drawing

for prizes: discounts at local, upscale restaurants. All in all, it will be a memorable way to end the summer with good friends from the Senior Men's Club.

Ticket sales will begin on July 17. The price is \$25. Maps to the Pontiac Yacht Club in Keego Harbor will be available. Share a ride to conserve parking space.

Bridge players, please bring your own tables and chairs.

The annual picnic is the longest running activity at the Club, with the first picnic about 50 years ago, and this year's picnic will be one to remember – don't miss it! See you on August 28.



—Picnic Committee

Mike Clement, Tom Clapp, Tony DiMarco, John Ellis, Bob Gualdoni, John Horiszny, Riggs Miller, Bob Pullar, Stu Shuster, Don Upward, John Wargelin

Automation Alley Tour a Winner!



The recent Automation Alley special event trip was both a sell-out and a great success. Actually, it almost wasn't a sell-out, with one anonymous member arriving late as our bus was departing.

Mike Clement launched the proceedings with a well prepared script covering the origin and history of Automation Alley. It all started when L. Brooks Patterson learned that although a number of high tech companies were locating in Oakland County, we had no national reputation in this regard. He

commissioned a consultant report which indicated that Oakland County was in a strong third place nationally, trailing only Silicon Valley in California and the Boston Route 128 area. L. Brooks recognized our potential and convinced 41 area high tech companies to provide financial support for the creation of Automation Alley. Today, more than 1000 companies in eight counties make up the Alley.

Our first stop was at Alley headquarters in Troy, where 20 dedicated staff members work on Automation Alley projects. We then moved along Big Beaver Road, past the GM facilities near Pontiac and up Lapeer Road, passing many Alley companies which Clement described as we progressed. We arrived at the Indianwood Golf and Country Club, where we first viewed the impressive clubhouse featuring a beautiful bar imported from Europe, stained glass and a massive fireplace. A great lunch followed, with Committee Chairman John Zabriskie introducing Keith Aldridge, General Manager of Indianwood, who discussed the upcoming 2012 US Senior Golf Tournament. John then introduced L. Brooks Patterson who provided his perspective on the origins, status and future of Automation Alley.

Overall, this was a most impressive and successful special event. Congratulations to the committee team, especially Chairman John Zabriskie and Mike Clement, and to John Horiszny, who described highlights on our return route. It was a fascinating day.

—Chuck Kirkpatrick

Mystery Lyrics

We came very close to stumping the panel with our June musical challenges. Only two readers, Dale Parker and Clay Gordon - evidently big time Frank Sinatra fans - recognized that this lyric line:

*Romance with me on
a crowded floor*

is from the Sinatra hit song "Come Dance With Me." This is the lead tune on the album of the same name, which featured the Billy May Orchestra. In addition, Bob Seeley and Clay Gordon were the only ones to remember that Benny Goodman's closing theme was the appropriately named "Good Bye." Goodman closed his radio performances with this number.

Let's hope we do better this month. These mystery lyrics, suggested by Dick Porter, are from a tune we all know and love:

*Now it catches the gleam of
the morning's first beam*

*In full glory reflected, now
shines on the stream*

Can you name that tune?

As noted previously, we are running out of big band theme songs to challenge readers, but here is one more. Can you remember the theme used by Glen Gray? (might not be socially correct today).

—Dick Harper



CLUB DATES TO REMEMBER

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, July 14, 9:30AM

Reminder Deadline: Friday, August 21

Games

Bowling: Wednesday, 10:00AM at Thunderbird Lanes (practice)

Bridge: Tuesday, 9:00AM and Friday after lunch

Golf: Thursday, 9:00AM at Springdale
Monday, 7:30AM at Lincoln Hills

Special Events

Dinner Cruise, Wednesday, July 15 and July 29, 3:30PM

SMC Picnic, Friday, August 28, 10:30AM

Group Meetings

Book Reading Groups: Group A: Wednesday, July 1, 10:30AM

Group B: Monday, July 20, 3:00PM

Classic Movie Group: Monday, July 13, 1:00PM

Camera Group: No July meeting

Investment Group: No July meeting

Computer Group: No July meeting

All events at The Community House unless otherwise stated.

SMC on the Web:

<http://www.communityhouse.com/getInvolved/interestGroups/SeniorMensClub.html>

Google Group: <http://groups.google.com/group/SMCBirmingham>

THE REMINDER

A monthly publication of the Senior Men's Club of Birmingham, which meets on Fridays at 10:30 AM at The Community House, 380 South Bates Street, Birmingham, Michigan 48009.

Officers for 2009 are: Bob Pullar, president; Irv Poston, first vice president; John Flintosh, second vice president; Chuck Kirkpatrick, recording secretary; Dave Schwartz, corresponding secretary; Bill Sprague, treasurer; Richard Shirley, assistant treasurer; Dennis Kozak and Walter Schrift, officers at large; Bill Crabtree, parliamentarian.

THE REMINDER includes: Dick Harper, editor; Chuck Kirkpatrick, Bill Reilly and Dick Davis, associate editors; Bill Shaffmaster and Tom Booth, photography; Lee Trumbull, computer layout; Bob Jordan, mailing.

Senior Men's Club of Birmingham
380 South Bates St., Birmingham, MI 48009
www.communityhouse.com



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