The Nightcap

THE NIGHTCAP IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE 8804 TRADEWAY, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78217

HELP LINE - (210) 828-6235 ANSWERED 24 HOURS SPANISH HELP LINE - (210) 409-8524

BUSINESS LINE: (210) 821-6325 OFFICE HOURS: MON—9AM-7PM; TUE thru FRI—9AM-5PM
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VOLUME 42 NO. 11 November 2011



For complete information on events around the country and Canada, please check out 'Events' at www.aasanantonio.org.

2011

Nov 4-6: Corpus Christi, TX South Texas Hispanic Conference. 210 821-6325

Nov 24-27: Las Vegas, NV 45th Las Vegas Roundup. lasvegasroundup.org

Dec 8-11: Las Vegas, NV Stateline Retreat 2011. www.statelineretreat.org

2012

Jan 6-8: Galveston, TX SETA Convention. PO Box 3381, Bryan, TX 77805. Contact: txplumb57@yahoo.com

Jan 13-15: S Padre Island, TX District 27 Jamboree, 428 Saunders, Laguna Vista, TX 78578. Contact: davidspitx@hotmail.com

Jan 26-29: Las Vegas, NV WACYPAA—For info: www.wacypaa15.org

March 14-17: Yuma, AZ Seniors in Sobriety—See www.bit.ly/sisconference

The Bulverde Group

26th Anniversary BBQ

Wednesday November 9, 2011

Bulverde Community Center 6:45pm—Dinner

We respectfully request you bring a covered side dish or casserole…(Appetizer, Relishes, Salads, Veggies, Chips & Dips, Bread/Rolls & Butter, or Desserts, etc) in a disposable container. BBQ and beverages will be provided by the Group

Speaker—Stacy S from San Antonio, TX

District 01A Picnic @ Goliad

537 Avondale

November 19, 2011 3:00pm—8:00pm

Followed by a dance from 8pm-?

<u>Listen to talks by AA old-timers</u>:

Gail -36yrs @ 3:30pm—UNITY Bob-22yrs @ 4:30pm—RECOVERY Jim-31yrs @ 7pm—SERVICE

Eating BBQ from 3-6PM.

Thanksgiving Dinner 6pm—?

Bring your appetite and your dancing shoes

12-STEP: WHAT IS IT & HOW TO DO IT!

CENTRAL SERVICE OFFICE IS SPONSORING:

A panel discussion on the art of going on a 12-Step call.

Panel Members: Ardyn C, Bill R, Char, & Lefty R

Moderator: Wayne G

Location:

Hosted by the Serendipity Group 10929 Nacogdoches, #5

San Antonio, TX 78217

Sunday, November 13, 2011 2:00pm-4:00pm

Refreshments will be served.

CSO will be closed Thanksgiving and Friday, November 25

Central Service Office Volunteer Appreciation Party—See insert.

THE NIGHTCAP IS ABOUT, BY AND FOR MEMBERS OF THE AA FELLOWSHIP. OPINIONS EXPRESSED HEREIN ARE NOT TO BE ATTRIBUTED TO ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS AS A WHOLE, NOR DOES PUBLICATION OF ANY ARTICLE IMPLY ANY ENDORSEMENT BY EITHER AA OR THE NIGHTCAP. (Exceptions: Quotations from AA books, pamphlets, and the 12 Steps and/or 12 Traditions are reprinted with permission of AA World Services Inc. The AA Preamble, slogans, etc. are reprinted with permission of The Grapevine, Inc.)

MY HOME GROUP

We would like to run a series of articles about the groups in our greater San Antonio area. These groups are found in the cities and towns of Bandera, Blanco, Boerne, Buda, Canyon Lake, Castroville, Center Point, Comfort, Cotulla, Devine, Driftwood, Dripping Springs, Floresville, Fredericksburg, Gonzales, Hondo, Ingram, Jourdanton, Junction, Kerrville, Kirby, Kyle, Lake Hills, LaVernia, Lockhart, Luling, Lytle, Medina, New Braunfels, Pleasanton, Poteet-Strawberry, San Antonio, San Marcos, Seguin, Selma, Spring Branch, Stonewall, Universal City, Waelder, and Wimberley. Your article should be about a half a page, single spaced, and can be an informative article, historical, or just how you feel about your home group and what it does for your sobriety. Please send your article to CSO, Attn: Char, 8804 Tradeway, San Antonio, TX, 78217, or email to csosa@stic.net.



Schertz-Cibolo: I became sober in a rehab center and moved back to the area after 80 days. I wanted to get my 90 in 90, so I consulted the on-line meeting schedule and found a couple of groups that would fulfill my goal. The first group I tried had a few nice women, but the men were stand-offish and seemed sexist. The moment I walked into the Schertz-Cibolo Group I felt at home. The people cared greatly for newcomers and still do. I felt important to their recovery and accepted despite my past. The group number fluctuates but I now feel as if I am one of the regulars. People ask me for advice where I used to be doing the asking. My group is a comfortable place to grow and progress. I can work the Steps with my helpful sponsor guiding me to do the next right thing. Sounds a little hokey, but it's why I love my group.







Where I choose to call home: <u>Universal City Group</u>, Monday and Thursdays at 8:00pm. My sponsor always "suggested" that having a home group was important, not just a group that I went to but also one I have a voice in. My home group is small. We tend to be mature (in age). HaHa! There's a lot of long-term sobriety. We have an active group conscience that's welcoming and flexible about new ideas. We are people that truly care about each other. Absences don't go unnoticed, assistance is always available, and hugs abound! We laugh a lot and don't take ourselves too seriously. Generally we all contribute at most meetings. We are diverse and have different perspectives on things, which means I almost always hear something I need to hear. It only took a few visits to this group before I knew I was "Home."

Kris J—home group member

CHANGES/FOLDED GROUPS

Last Call, 8609 Wurzbach, Bldg P, will now be meeting at 12:30am, Friday and Saturdays.

The Boerne Women's AA Grp is now meeting at 6:30pm on Tuesdays, and 10:00am on Saturdays. Their location is 410 N Main S, St Helena's Episcopal Church, Boerne, TX.

The **Highland's Group** will meet at 6:30pm on Wednesdays at Saint George's Church on West Avenue, 6904 West Avenue.

New schedule for **Canyon Lake Solutions** Group:

THE SOLUTIONS GRP $^{\c L}$, meetings at First Baptist Church, 13085 FM 306, 830 964-3457, **78133** (one mile W of 2673 on S side of FM 306, across from Canyon Lk Taco Stand)

TUE: 12:00am O-Disc WED: 12:00pm C-Disc

New Schedule for the **Spring Branch Grp**:

SPRING BRANCH GRP meeting at Spring Branch Community Center, 9996 FM 311, Corner of Hwy 281 & FM 311/Red Door (Former Spring Branch Fire Dept) 78070 (POC: 210 508-3202)

MON: 7:00am O-Disc Happy Hour TUE: 7:00am O-BB Happy Hour 12:15pm O-12x12 Noon Group WED: 7:00am O-Disc Happy Hour 7:00am O-12x12 Happy Hour THU: 12:15pm O-Disc Noon Group FRI: 7:00am O-Disc Happy Hour 7:00am O-Disc Happy Hour SAT: 7:00am O-Disc Happy Hour SUN:

SPANISH Intergrupal 210 533-9770 Mon-Fri / Noon-5pm

> **SPANISH** Help-line 210 409-8524

THINGS WE CANNOT **CHANGE**

Patty T passed from this world October 1, 2011.

Patty was a member of the Club 12 Ladies Meeting on Wednesdays at 2pm.

Patty had 33 years of sobriety, and will be missed.

Thank you... to the Family Fun Fair & Weekend in SA

Committees for an outstanding event. I was unable to attend this year because of needing to represent the office at a national seminar in Tucson. I heard about all the fun you had, especially those that worked at the booths. I have always marveled at the devotion and commitment of this committee over the years. The committee has been used by me many times as an example of what service looks like. Thank you for your dedication to the Central Service Office. -Char

September 2011 CONTRIBUTIONS TO CSO

See insert for group contributions.

Birthday: Vanaie H \$ 36.00 **Total Birthday** \$ 36.00

Individual: Office Kitty \$ 26.20 CSO Rep Mtg \$ 10.80 Pat B \$500.00 7th Trad/8802 Sharing Session \$ 10.00

7th Trad/8802 **ADIR** \$ 6.00

Board Mtg \$ 4.00 **Total Individual** \$557.00

Memorial: **Total Memorial** \$0.00

Correction

TTTTT

The memorial contribution listed in last month's Nightcap for Raymond G, should have read that the \$30.00 contribution was made by a member of the of the Community Group.

Thank you.

Winner's Club **November Activities**

Every Sunday Football on Snack Bar TV starting at kick-off time.

04 Game Night 8-Midnight

24 Thanksgiving Dinner 12-3pm

26 Birthday celebration: 7:00pm-Potluck 8:15pm-Meeting

COMING SOON

Monthly Service Manual Meeting. The first meeting will be in January. Be watching for details in the December Nightcap!

Chairing Open and Closed Meetings

Everyone Welcome!

What's the difference?
If there is a real difference, why?
Are the groups you attend doing it "right?"
Is there even a "right way" or "wrong way?"
Do they do it better where you came from?

District 16 Workshop Saturday, Nov 12, 2011 2pm-4pm

> Creekview Office Complex 8600 Wurzbach, #702 San Antonio, TX 78240

<u>Speakers</u>: Our Delegate, Char, and panel member Kim C along with others.

District 16 volunteers will provide refreshments!

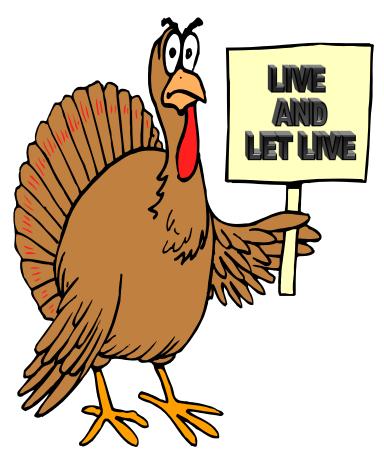
Please assist us by informing your Central Service Office of your current accessibility status.

At your meeting place:

- Is there designated parking for disabled persons?
- Is there a ramp for wheelchair access, when entrance requires the use of stairs?
- Do the doorways have a minimum clearance of 32 inches and thresholds lower than 3/4 inch?
- Are the hallways at least 36 inches wide?
- If there is an elevator, are the call buttons 48 inches or lower?
- Is the elevator entrance at least 36 inches wide, with a 51 inch deep and 68 inch wide car?
- Is there a 36 inch wide, obstacle-free path to the bathroom?
- Are the bathroom stall entrances at least 32 inches wide; is the stall at least 56 inches deep by 60 inches wide?
- Is the toilet seat 17 to 19 inches from the floor?
- Does the toilet stall include grab bars? http://www.ada.gov/stdspdf.htm

San Antonio Central Office (210) 821-6325

Winner's Club Movie Night Movie Night In the Snack Bar October 15, 2011 6:00pm Bring your favorite movie!



VOLUME 42 ISSUE 11 THE NIGHTCAP PAGE 5

District Meetings

SAN ANTONIO DISTRICTS

<u>District 01A:</u> DCM-Joni W (210 674-6523) Monthly meeting is held at 8600 Wurzbach, #702, Creekview Office Complex, the 2nd Sunday, 3:00pm.

<u>District 16</u>: DCM-Mike D (210 632-3364) Monthly meeting is held at 8802 Tradeway, the first Sunday at 3pm (next to CSO).

<u>District 17</u>: DCM-Robert P (210 241-8421) Monthly meeting is held at the Serendipity Group location, 10929 Nacogdoches, #5, the third Saturday of each month at 9:00am.

District 18: DCM-Jerry S (210 590-4832) District meets the 2nd Sunday each month, 3:00pm, 8600 Wurzbach, #702.

SAN ANTONIO SPANISH DISTRICTS

District 01F: DCM-Tomas R (385-7817) Monthly meeting is held at 3814 S. Flores, #2, the 2nd Sunday, 1:00pm, en espanol.

<u>District 28</u>: DCM-Carlos C (508-0229) Monthly meetings are held at 935 New Laredo, #2 San Antonio, TX 78211, the 2nd and last Thursday, 7:00pm, en espanol.

SURROUNDING DISTRICTS

<u>District 01E</u>: DCM-Mike P (210 464-2691) Rotating monthly meeting on the 3rd Saturday. Call for location.

<u>District 02:</u> DCM-John B (721 467-2141) or jbourgeois67@yahoo.com. Monthly meeting is held at 2pm the second Sunday of each month. Spring Branch Grp location, corner of Hwy 281 & FM 311 in the fire house building.

<u>District 12</u>: DCM-Tommy F (830-456-0233) Monthly meeting rotates on the 2nd Sunday each month, and is held at 2pm. Call for location and directions.

WHERE TO SEND DISTRICT CONTRIBUTIONS

District **01A**PO Box
San Antonio,

Treasurer 29594 TX 78229

District 16

Call Mike D for address (210 632-3364)

District **01E**Call Mike P for address (210 520-2849)

District 17 PO Box 33774 San Antonio, TX 78265

Group Conscience Meetings Acceptance Last Sunday 6:00pm Colonies North... 1st Monday..... 7:00pm Goliad... 2nd Sunday..... 11:15am Group 12... 1st Tuesday..... 6:45pm Free at Last As Needed Freedom... 3rd Monday..... 7:15pm Grupo Paz y Sobriedad 3rd Wednesday... **TBA** Highland... As Needed Keep It Simple Last weekday each month Lackland Pyramid... As Needed New Downtown... 1st Saturday... 1:30pm Rush Hour... 1st Wednesday... 6:45pm Sane and Sober... As Needed Schertz/Cibolo... Last Saturday... 1:15pm Seeds of Grace As Needed Last Monday... Serendipity... 6:30pm Spring Branch Last Thursday 1:15pm Stay in the Solution Last Saturday 1:10pm Universal City... 2nd Monday 8:00pm Walzem Road... As Needed 1st Wednesday. Woman's Big Book... 8:00pm Young and Done... 1st Thursday.... 9:30pm

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Central Service Office Reps:

Telephone After-Hours Service Committee: Coordinator: Carolyn M (288-2699). Alternate Coordinator: Christi B (213-7239)

Outreach Committee: Chair: Vacant. Committee meets the third Monday at CSO, immediately following the CSO Rep meeting at 6:00pm

CSO Archives Chair: Sylvia O (821-6325)

INTERDISTRICT/SAMSO:

The Interdistrict meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of the month, 4:00pm, 8600 Wurzbach, #702. Members include DCMs, Committee Chairs, GSRs and all alternates.

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Archives: Pat S

CFC: Ingrid G (326-4932) imgamble@yahoo.com

Grapevine:

Carie C (887-6649) or ctrevina@aol.com—Grapevine meetings held at 8802 Tradeway (next to CSO) the second Sun of each month, 2:30pm.

PI/CPC: Jim L (695-5117) or jblarkin@swbell.net

Treatment: Rosemary M (422-3520) (maysews@yahoo.com) Monthly meeting at 8802 Tradeway (next to CSO) the first Sunday, 5:00pm.

Bi-Lingual: Art C (978-4726) hablosamso@gmail.com

Newsletter: Tomi B-A (newssamso@gmail.com)

Treasurer: SAMSO, PO Box 17953, San Antonio, TX 78217

THERE ARE NO CSO REP MINUTES AT THIS TIME.

PRESENTATION: DIVERSITY IN A.A. The Hand of A.A. — Inclusive Never Exclusive

Virginia R., Southern Indiana (May 2011)

In his writings about the early days of Alcoholics Anonymous, Bill Wilson recounts tales of fear and intolerance, membership rules and regulations ostensibly geared to protect groups from anything or anyone that might upset the A.A. lifeboat. At one point Central Offices asked groups to send in their membership rules for a review. It was determined that had all the edicts been in force everywhere at once, very few could have complied.

Groups ultimately survived and learned to not be afraid of what a particular type of newcomer might do to sully A.A.'s reputation or effectiveness. In an August 1946 article (*The Language of the Heart*, p. 39), Bill explains that if alcohol is an uncontrollable problem for the newcomer and he or she wishes to do something about it, that's enough for us. We wish to deny no one his chance to recover from alcoholism. We wish to be as inclusive as we can, never exclusive.

Since those early days the A.A. pendulum has done what pendulums do – swung to the opposite extreme. In many quarters of our Fellowship there exists the notion that A.A. can help all kinds of people with all kinds of problems. Perhaps this came about because we want to share our exuberance for sobriety and a new way of living with the whole world; or perhaps it's due, as the joke goes, to treatment centers with only one van. Or maybe we're simply not passing along our Traditions to newcomers.

I'm not so sure that we did ourselves any favors by coming up with a shortened version of the Twelve Traditions. The short form is what's read at most meetings and often the only version members know. Consequently, our Third Tradition is often interpreted as "just say you don't want to drink," whether you drink or not. Yet the long form of that Tradition clearly states that our membership ought to include all who suffer from alcoholism, with alcoholism being the important word. Often our Responsibility Statement is interpreted as a mandate for saving the world: When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help; I want the hand of A.A. always to be there. The logic that follows is that our Twelve Steps work for all sorts of addictions. After all, look at how many Twelve Step programs exist today.

What is ignored is the need for identification. If the Steps were all that was needed for recovery, we could sit at home and work them alone. Meetings would be irrelevant. But it doesn't work that way. A necessary part of our recovery is identifying with other human beings who have been where we've been, done what we've done, and felt what we've felt . . . and have recovered. How can someone who doesn't have a problem with alcohol, but doesn't want to drink, identify with the alcoholic? Would I go to Gamblers Anonymous to treat my overeating? To Overeaters Anonymous to learn how to live, one day at a time, without crack cocaine? The Steps may be the same, but it's not the same. Related? Probably. But not the same.

Encouraging non-alcoholics to participate in A.A. creates problems for alcoholics and for the individual who is not addressing his or her real problem. By not guiding them to a program that more specifically addresses their problem, we may be signing their death warrant. As Bill says in *Problems Other than Alcohol*, "It has been learned *that there is no possible way to make non-alcoholics into A.A. members.*" Membership, no. But we can welcome them as observers at our open meetings.

Bill goes on to warn that our first duty as a society is to insure our own survival; that we must avoid distraction and multi-purpose activity; and that an A.A. group, as such, can't take on all the personal problems of its members, let alone the problems of the whole world. When our primary purpose gets muddled with talk of drugs, pills, white flour, nicotine, or anything other than alcohol, what happens to the alcoholic? There are programs specifically for people with those other problems. But what about the alcoholic? Where will he go? Who can he find to identify with?

Of course, one who is an alcoholic *and a* drug addict; an alcoholic *and a* compulsive eater, are always welcome. As individuals, there's no reason we can't be useful by working with outside groups. Bill reminds us that "in A.A., the group has strict limitations, but the individual has scarcely any."

A.A. groups have fallen apart because a few well-intentioned members insist that although the person isn't an alcoholic, she should stay because for today, he or she doesn't want to drink. I've seen a group censure their G.S.R. for taking a nonalcoholic aside to explain that it was a closed meeting for alcoholics only. Upholding the Traditions is not an easy or popular stance to take in today's A.A. Those who do are often characterized as rigid and out of touch with today's reality or as uncaring and fearful bleeding deacons. I call them

mber Birthday

Group Twelve:

1 year

Charles S Molly B Rodney T Pete C Cameron M Daniel McN Stephanie R

2 years

Raphael M James K Ram L Marc C

3 years

Delwin C Mark G Beth H Johnny J Kim C Thomas S Doris K

4 years

Sally A Evelyn B Michael B Jesse L Sergio O Marilyn M

5 years

Andrew McK Jeff H Michael R Pam F Michael McC James P Abby L Will R

6 years

Lance K Daniel D Bradley F Robin H Brandv K Michele McC

7 years

Katherine V Karen R Briggs R Angela C Robert B Steven Q Bill H Thomas B Michelle B Terri G

Group Twelve (cont) 8 years

Teresa M Ivan B Victoria R Michael A Stewart B

9 years

Joseph E John B Mike B Jolene D David B Kelly T Ashley P Damien A

10years

Mike B Clarence H James L Pete B Harry A Mike W Carolyn H Tom G James S

11 years

Kim S Richard B Kevin G Jay G Robert K John W Charles F Sal R Raquel P Tammy DeG Mark S Karen B Diane M-J Audra S Avery N Reggie P Claude H Gregory G Donna N Shannon L

12 years

Arnie C Thomas W Danny R Steve K Jesus M Royce S Roy H Jack H Charles D Brain B David G Claire A Eugene B

13 years

Quinn W Ralph F Tom G James S Group Twelve (cont)

14 years

Delfina H Gwen K Wesley Y Don S Amv P Steven M Guevino P Wendy S

15 years

Abel V Thomas H Michele D Dianne S

16 years

Audrey Z Lenzie C Donald M

17 years

Lefty R Keith W Trey S Nicholas B Michael H Ralph Q

18 years

Valerie P

19 years

Charlie N Bill W Kirsten P

20 years

Carole J

21 years

Cheryl H

22 years

Sam K Narce D Duncan MacM Kitty B Mary P Norman L

24 years

Julie W-W Gene W Fred S

25 years

Judy K Terry H Norman G David G

26 years

Patrick T Humberto C Group Twelve (cont) 27 years

> Julie M Ronnie M Alan/Marge A

29 years

Ollie S John H

30 years

Pat B

31 years

Anne G Sherry F-D

34 years

Fred M Carl C June V

35 years

Al A

36 years

J.B. B

37 years

Chuck S

Keep It Simple:

Catarino J-8yrs

Lackland Pyramid:

Annette R-1yr

Serendipity:

David B-2yrs Tom P—3yrs Julie G—3yrs Gina—11yrs Harold R-24yrs

Schertz/Cibolo:

Daniel G-1yr Jeff T-1yr Jim F-1yr Shane P—1yr Gina G—2yrs Lucinda 3yrs Barry T-4yrs Trish E-4vrs Shirley M—5yrs Jeff M—6yrs Louie B 17yrs Eldon M29yrs

Spring Branch:

Michael W-1yr Hollie A-1yr Pat W-2yrs Piper V—2yrs Karen M—2yrs Alan S—9yrs Lucky W-28yrs Don C-36yrs

Winners:

Lisa D-22yrs

Woman's Big Book:

Josie C-8yrs Anita A-14yrs

Young and Done:

Tommy M-4yrs Becky S-9yrs Rene R—10yrs

Young & Golden Years:

Allen R-20yrs Rita D-33yrs



GROUP BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

<u>Last Sunday</u>: Free at Last (Cake & Coffee)

Last Monday: Alamo Heights, Freedom, Young and Golden Years (O-

First Tuesday: New Downtown (O-Spk) 7:30-9pm

Last Tuesday: Valley Hi, Santa Fe, New Acceptance, Life Support, La

Last Wednesday: Oblate, Woman's Big Book, Northwood, Stay in the Solution

Last Thursday: Goliad, North San Pedro, Stahl Rd, Acceptance, Universal City, Sane and Sober (Open), Spring Branch (7am & 12:15pm)

Last Friday: Pearsall (Come As You Are), Colonies North, El Libro Grande, Rush Hour, Group 12, Marymont, HALT @ Tezel Road, SW Loop (4th Friday), Hondo, Seeds of Grace (open mtg-last Fri), Keep It Simple

Last Saturday: Schertz-Cibolo, Lambda, Winners Club, Serendipity, Pleasanton

Still taking resumes for the Central Service Office Manager position.

There is still time to apply for the Central Service Office Manager's position. The cutoff date is November 7th. The Board of Trustees is currently reviewing resumes and preparing for interviews. The job will start December 1, 2011 with a one-month training process, followed by a three-month probationary period. The salary during this time is \$26,000.00 to be reviewed by the Board at the end of the probationary period. There is no insurance included for the position at this time. There are annual cost of living raises to be considered by the Board. There is a one week paid vacation for the first year, and a two week paid vacation each year thereafter. The manager is reimbursed for business use of automobile expenses incurred on a per mile basis at the current State and Federal rate. Year-end bonuses are considered by the Board for each employee.

THE NIGHTCAP E-MAIL SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Send to: Central Service Office of San Antonio 8804 Tradeway San Antonio, TX 78217

or

Office: 210 821-6325 Fax: 210-822-4491 csosa@stic.net

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