

The Maryland Orchid Society Newsletter

A monthly newsletter for the members and friends of the Society

November 2017



President's Message

The hustle and bustle of the holiday season is upon us. Let us not forget to take time to acknowledge, with thanksgiving, our many blessings. I wish all of you a Happy Thanksgiving! Spend some quality time with your orchids. For me, preening and pampering my plants is one way to relieve the stress that comes from all

the holiday "hustle and bustle". The rewards are great... spikes, blooms, fresh O2 to breathe and quiet (they don't talk back).

Speaking of thanksgiving, a hearty "thank you" to all MOS members who volunteered their time and energy in making our 2017 Annual Orchid Auction a winning event. I have said it before and I will say it again; it is the support and dedication of our members who make our society a great success.

Just in case you might forget, the program for the December 21st meeting is our "bring a dish" Holiday party, so come hungry. Please... let Barbara Buck (410-412-6294) know what you will be bringing to add to the feast. In addition, we will be announcing and celebrating our Members' Choice Awards for Leadership and Service along with the Presidents' Choice, Orchid Digest Award of Excellence.

Sarah



photo by Aaron Spence

Website: www.marylandorchids.org



Timothy Choltco of Harbinger Orchids



Tim has been a member of the Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania since the 1983 spring orchid show. He is a graduate of The Pennsylvania State University with a degree in Biology/Botany degree.

While at P.S.U. He studied the Aeridinae aka Vandeae (*Phalaenopsis*, *Vanda*, etc.) in his spare time. His independent studies lead to the publication 9-10 new orchid species of which 9 are currently accepted. Of note are *Trichoglottis lowderiana* named after Dwayne Lowder. *Tuberolabium phillipsii*, named after Andy Phillips of Andy's Orchids and *Vanda motesiana*, named after Dr. Martin Motes of Motes Orchids.

Presently his interests are primarily in the genera Bulbophyllum and Habenaria, but he dabbles in every bloody thing from Aerangis, Angraecum, Dendrochilum, etc. He recently submitted an article describing another new species of Habenaria in the Habenaria 'rhodocheila' complex. This will appear in the presentation.

Harbinger Orchids has been an idea since the 1990's. The aim was to provide new and wonderful species and hybrids. After many years of trials and tribulations, Harbinger Orchids in up and running. Presently the website is in its infancy. He feels it should be up and proper by mid November.

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October's Show Table Winners by Tom McBride

Novice

1. Hwra. Mini- Primi 'Harford' - Marc Kiriou

Home Grown

- 1. Blc. [(Toshie Aoki X Gift) X (Hawaiian Lightning X Chyong Guu Chaffinch)] - Bob Johnston
- 2. Tie C. walkeriana var. alba X L. anceps Wanda Kuhn Phal. Hybrid - Sarah Spence Hab. rhodocheila - Bob Travers
- 3. Tie Bulb. medusae Diane Elam Hab. errchmichaelii - Brenda Logan

Greenhouse

- 1. Sl. Orpetii 'SBO'- Clark Riley
- 2. Tie Bulb. A-doribil Anna Roth The Adamses Bulb. cuprea - David Smith
- 3. Pths. tonduzii Eric Wiles

Cattleya

- 1. C. walkeriana var. alba 'Pendentive' AM/AOS Bob Travers
- Tie Pot. Hoku Gem The Adamses Slc. Misty Girl 'Moon Light' - Bob Johnston Pot. Ceasar's Head 'Carolina Autumn' - Eric Wiles
- 3. Sl. Orpetii 'Orchid Height' Clark Riley

Phalaenopsis

- 1. Phal. Hybrid Sarah Spence
- 2. Phal. cornu-cervi 'Linda' HCC/AOS Mike Moran
- 3. Phal. micholitzii Aaron Webb

Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium

- 1. Paph. Mount Toro The Adamses
- 2. Tie Phrag. (Spot On X hartwegii var. baderi) Joel Graham Phrag. Chuck Acker - The Soykes
- 3. Phrag. Barbara LeAnn -Marc Kiriou

Dendrobium

- 1. Den. goldschmidtianum The Adamses
- 2. Den. Embri 'Purple Splash' Chris Zajac

Oncidium

- 1. Onc. Sweet Sugar 'Lemon Drop' The Dagostins
- 2. Colm. Jungle Monarch John Dunning
- 3. Tie Brs. Santa Ynez 'Harford' The Adamses Onc. Sweet Sugar 'Million Dollar' - Chris Zajac

Miscellaneous Hybrids

- 1. V. Pink Princess Brenda Logan
- 2. Tie Lep. Jmcalsa Val Lowe
- V. Hybrid Norma Lynch
- 3. Ascda. Su Fun Beauty 'Orange Belle' AM/AOS -Phuong Tran & Rich Kaste

Species

- 1. Bulb. masdevalliacum The Adamses
- 2. Tie Bulb. grandiflorum Bob Johnston
- Enc. cordigera Wanda Kuhn
- 3. Cyc. warscewiczii Arne Schon

Miniature

- 1. Ornith. gladiatus Eric Wiles
- 2. Gchls. dasypogon The Adamses
- 3. Tie Sl. Seagulls Crawfish Pie Clark Riley Ob. lycopodiodes - David Smith

First Bloom Seedling

1. Phrag. Red Wings - John Dunning

Fragrance

- 1. Onc. Sharry Baby Bob Johnston
- 2. Onc. Sharry Baby Marilyn Lauffer
- 3. Blc. Newberry Firehouse 'Mendenhall' Wanda Kuhn



The Judges Choice of the Evening

was... Sl. Orpetii 'SBO', exhibited by Clark Riley.

Thank You to our judges who were, Mary Chiu, Chris Zajac and Maria Zickuhr.

Our show table had an incredible display of 109 beautiful flowering plants.

A special **THANKS** to all that make our show table such a great success, it is truly breathtaking!



Maryland Orchid Society News and Surrounding Events

Judge's Choice

Sl. Orpetii from SBOE, shown by Clark Riley

I like little red things. Always have. In the Cattleya class, that would include Sophronitis coccinea, parent to a good portion of our modern red hybrids. But Sophronitis can be a fussy grower and is really small. Pairing it with more robust, but still bright parents can help. Laelia pumila has very large flowers for the plant size and when crossed with Sophronitis coccinea, gives a hybrid with the best of both — bright flowers of large size on quite stout plants — Sophrolaelia (Sl.) Orpetii. Orpet originally registered this cross in 1901. I have seven different clones of Sl. Orpetii.

This particular clone was purchased from Santa Barbara Orchid Estate in 2008. I grow it in an open cedar basket in a mix of bark, Sphagnum, granite gravel, Aliflor, charcoal, and perlite. The mix is well drained and long lasting. It hangs high in the greenhouse with no shade cloth. The section is the air-conditioned half, with maximum temperatures of 75°F in the day, 60°F at night, and 50°F minimum year round. It started as a single growth plant and now sports 10 growths. This clone differs from most others in having striking veins in the lip. It is possible that the Laelia parent was actually Laelia dayana rather than pumila, but Orpetii is what it was sold as.



Clark's Corner

How to Bid in an Orchid Auction

Most members see me on the auctioneer side of orchid auctions. But I am also an active bidder in orchid auctions — at MOS, other societies, and eBay. Here are some things I've learned over the years:

1. Be prepared to bid what a plant is worth. Auction plants should not be (and in the MOS case, are not) second rate plants. Auctions give us a chance to buy unusual or rare plants, often one of a kind. Do your research to see what a plant is worth. Ask. You may notice that plants, other than the very most common, seldom sell for less than my starting price.

2. Set a maximum price. In the presence of experienced bidders for a prized plant, prices can rise pretty heady really fast.

3. Get to the auction early or check regularly on eBay. Make a list. Be ready when the plant goes up.

4. Pay promptly. The societies depend on auction revenue for a significant percentage of their operating capital. Your eBay rating reflects your payment reliability.

5. Have fun. Auctions are a great place to see a huge variety of orchids and watch your fellow members compete for that something special.

Sumitted by Dr. Clark Riley - House



Marilyn's Corner

New members:

Dante Brooks and Kevin Casin Monica and Frank Sparber Chris and Kim Bauer Karl and Jessica Deibert

> Submitted by Marilyn Lauffer - Membership



How Much Light Does It Need?

Are your plants getting enough light to keep them thriving through the dark months ahead? As daylight hours grow shorter it affects your indoor plants' growth and vitality. Most indoor plants need a minimum of 10-12 hours of light during the winter.

Plants that are weak, spindly and have pale leaves need to be moved closer to the light source. Leaves that are very warm to the touch, showing burn spots, turning black, or dropping off are a sign that plants are too close to the light source.

Indoor plants need to be watered more frequently because of limited root space and the heat from the lights and home heating systems.

Most indoor plants need a minimum of 10-12 hours of light in the winter and 14-16 hours in the summer. An automatic 24-hour timer to turn lights on and off is very convenient. For safety, I recommend a 3-prong plug timer that adapts to a 3-prong grounded outlet. A grounded, 3-prong timer (and extension cord) is required for most fluorescent fixtures. Check the maximum watt capacity on the timer. Do not exceed the capacity.

Turn plants in the window regularly to prevent them bending toward the light and growing lopsided. However, do not turn a flowering plant in bud. Remember the sun coming through your window can be intensified by the glass. White and light colored walls and ceilings reflect more light back to your plants.

Choose light fixtures with reflectors that have been engineered for plant growing as opposed to shop lighting, etc. Plant light fixtures are shaped to direct all the light downward, precisely over your plants. They are usually painted white to reflect light better.

Keep tubes, lamps and bulbs clean and replace as needed.

For more information:

You can find this article on Charley's Greenhouse link http://www.charleysgreenhouse.com/pgs2/newsletters/ 171102_newsletter.htm

Submitted by Laura Sobelman





Maryland Orchid Society 2017/2018 Calendar

November 16, 2017 - Monthly Meeting

December 21, 2017 – Monthly Meeting/ Holiday Party

January 12,13,14, 2018 – Rawlings Conservatory Show January 18, 2018 - Monthly meting January 25, 2018 – Board Meeting

February 2, 2018 – SOS Show Set up February 15, 2018 – Monthly Meeting

March 6-11, 2018 – Annual Spring Show and Sale
March 6–Set-up staging
March 7 – Set-up exhibits
March 8 – AOS Judging; Preview sale
3-6 PM
March 9 – 11 – Show opens to public
March 15, 2018 – Monthly Meeting

April 5, 2018 – SEPOS Show Set up April 14, 2018 – Spring Workshop April 19, 2018 – Monthly meeting

April 26, 2018 – Board Meeting

May 17, 2018 – Monthly Meeting June 21, 2018 – Monthly Meeting

Content for the 2017-2018 MOS Newsletter

is due at the end of the first week of each month. Please submit information to: barbarabuck2015@comcast.com **Deadline dates are as follows...**

*due December 9, 2017 for meeting on December 21, 2017 *due January 6, 2018 for meeting on January 18, 2018 *due February 3, 2018 for meeting on February 15, 2018 *due March 3, 2018 for meeting on March 15, 2018 *due April 7, 2018 for meeting on April 19, 2018 *due May 5, 2018 for meeting on May 17, 2018 *due June 9, 2018 for meeting on June 21, 2018

photo by Aaron Spence



(dluceroaosmembership@gmail.com).

American Orchid Society Education, Conservation, Research.

For newsletter editors:

Orchid societies are welcome to reproduce the AOS Corner, in whole or in part, in their society newsletters. We encourage promotion of AOS website use by your members.

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

Natural disasters seem to be effecting us all recently and we hope that this newsletter finds you and your family safe. Along with them they bring extreme challenges to our beloved orchids. Remember that the AOS is your resource where you can find a myriad of helpful information to aid your plants recovery. Below you'll find some more Hurricane tips that come from the AOS website at <u>Hurricane Season</u>. Remember to share what's working for your society members on the Affiliated Societies Facebook Page. We love when you share.

If you have an upcoming show, remember to check out the "Guide to a Successful Orchid Show" which can aid even the most experienced to stay organized and on-track while planning a show. Getting started early is essential to your success and makes the entire process enjoyable for all. If you're considering a "Kids' Corner" in your show we want to help promote the love of everything orchid in young eager minds. Recently, we were made aware of "Orchid-gami". They're really lovely and very good quality. Check them out on the North America Native Orchid Center website. You can download a pdf to see what they look like. If you want you can use scissors. There is a list of 11 orchids currently available as pre-punched, creased,double side printed cardstock for \$.50 each. (price discount is available for bulk orders)It's a fun activity developed to raise awareness about conservation and ecology of native american orchids and in our experience the kids love them.Don't forget to check out the AOS Kids' Corner for ideas. E-mail your included activities for children to Sandy Stubbings, AOS Education Committee Chair, to: sstubbings@comcast.net.

Thanks for all the pics that you are sending in for the Instagram feed. It's really wonderful to seesuch a variety of everything orchid that's enjoyed around the globe. Please continue to send your photos and short videos to: americanor-chidsociety@gmail.com. Be sure to send a short caption explaining your photo. Also, if you are bilingual and can include your caption in English plus your other language(s)—it will help with our universal outreach.

Don't forget to check-in on our Facebook Group Page for Affiliated Societies of the American Orchid Society. Our administrator, Chad Brinkerhuff, monitors the feed and is a great resource for all that the AOS has to offer. Keep us up to date on what's going on at your local society and let us know how we can help you. If he doesn't have the answer you need, he will find it for you.

Also, remember we have an updated List of Speakers to help you plan society meeting programs. You will now find the Affiliated Societies link on the home page under the "About Us" heading. Here's the link to check it all out: AOS.org

Hurricane Season is still not over... here are some more useful tips:

(Please note that the AOS does not endorse the use of any specific chemical agents. If you choose to follow recommendations given by a contributor make sure to adhere to all local, state and federal laws in the use of these agents. Take the time to learn how to use them safely and follow manufacturers usage instructions.)

What to Do Before, During and After a Storm

by Sue Bottom, sbottom15@gmail.com

Routine Activities During the Summer – The heat and humidity of summer are upon us, we've got orchids growing outside and they love the afternoon storms. Here are some things to think about:

• Coarse Potting Mix – may be a good choice so if we get afternoon showers every day, the pot will drain and the roots will have the air they love so much around them. Even if you add bark or coconut husk to your mix for a little moisture retention, the clay pebbles or lava rock, charcoal, expanded perlite, etc. in the mix the will help the pot drain quickly. The coarser the mix, the more it has to be watered so if it does not rain, you will have to water every couple of days. The extreme would be to use no mix at all, such as when an orchid is mounted or grown in a basket, but without rain you will be watering daily. A sphagnum or pure bark based mix may be much too water retentive to grow successfully outdoors when you cannot control when and how much rain the plant receives.

• Precautionary Sprays – are used by some growers to prevent the ubiquitous critters, bacteria and fungi from damaging your plant; other growers choose only to spray when a problem is detected. If you choose a precautionary spray program, choose one day that you can remember, say the first of each month, and spray with a combination insecticide, a miticide and a fungicide all in one, like Bayer 3 in 1, Orthenex, Safer 3 in 1 etc., using label instructions. Spray early in the

morning or late in the afternoon when temperatures are lowest. Spray all the exposed surfaces, pseudobulbs and the bottom and top of the leaves, but avoid spraying the flowers to prevent spotting of your glorious blooms.

• Cattleyas – are big favorites with their beautiful and fragrant blooms. Keep an eye on:

• Pseudobulb Sheaths- The papery sheath on a pseudobulb (known as a catophyll) protects the new growth from the sun and chewing insects. As the pseudobulb matures, sometimes a space develops between the pseudobulb and the sheath that can accumulate water and if it stays wet for an extended period of time, it will be a home for rot. Gently peel it down so the pocket of water can drain freely.

• Flower Sheaths. The flower sheath likewise protects the emerging flower and it also provides structural support for the flower stem, but sometimes the extended moisture can cause the flower to rot in the sheath. You can split the sheath and gently peel it down to allow air movement. When you do this, secure the pseudobulb to a stake with a tie strap and then stake the flower stem to the same stake. This will allow the flower to develop for its best presentation.

• Phalaenopsis-are gathering their strength now for the next blooming season. Make sure to repot all phals that need repotting this year before the end of June, so the plant can grow, reestablish and give you great blooms next spring. If you have a summer bloomer (such as those influenced by Doritispulcherrima or the Amboinentsis section), wait until February to repot.

• Dendrobiums, Oncidiums and Vandas – are growing like mad this time of year. Unless there is an obvious problem, let them do their thing!

Before the Storm –The tropical storm is coming and we can expect gray rainy weather for a week. Before it happens:

• Precautionary Spray – with a stepped up fungicide/bactericide, try one containing quaternary ammonium compounds like Consan or Physan, hydrogen peroxide, or copper like Kocide, liquid copper, Phyton, etc. Copper is very effective for bacterial infections but it should not be used on dendrobiums or plants in bloom and it should be mixed with alkaline water with no fertilizer so the solution does not become acidic.

• Monopodial Orchids – like phalaenopsis and vandas, will tend to hold water in the crown of the plant so you may want to turn the pot or basket on its side to prevent water from accumulating in the crown and causing crown rot.

• Removable Cover- could be installed over your orchids if your set up would allow it. A pre-engineered system with rolled plastic film or polycarbonate sheets could be set up to prevent all that rain from waterlogging the plants.

• High Winds – if it is more than a tropical storm and high winds are predicted, you may want to bring your orchids into the garage or another safe haven. If this is not possible, place the plants low and on their sides. Try to prevent contact with the pathogens in the soil, lay down a protective piece of plastic or something similar before placing your orchids on it. Beware of lost tags, you can wire them to the plant or better yet have dropped a second tag into the bottom of the pot when you repotted last time.

During the Storm- Stay inside and congratulate yourself on your preparations.

After the Storm- The storm is over and normalcy is returning. Return your plants to your normal set up, then:

• Inspect – all your plants carefully for any signs of mechanical damage or orchid diseases and treat any problems you find quickly. If a plant is diseased, isolate it from your other plants until it is healthy again to prevent spread.

• Black Rot –The insidious, fast growing orchid killersPythiumandPhytophtormust be treated immediately. You must quickly cut away the soft, black, rotting tissue until you find healthy growth and then find some of the very expensive fungicide like Heritage or Subdue to apply to the remaining orchid.

• Bacterial Rot –If you see sunken or black spots on the orchid, take a fresh bottle of hydrogen peroxide out of the medicine cabinet and apply it to the damaged area. You can spray or pour it on. Apply it full strength if the plants are wet or dilute it to 50% strength if your plants are dry.

• Protective Spray –with a fungicide/bactericide. This is the most important protective spray because hurricanes carry with them all sorts of unusual fungal and bacterial spores. Your plants have been exposed to conditions very conducive to fungal and bacterial infections and they need a boost. You can use one of the sprays containing quaternary ammonium compounds like Consan or Physan or one of the hydrogen peroxide solutions like ZeroTol. Daconil is a generally available fungicide that is very effective on a broad range of fungal pathogens and copper is effective on both bacterial and fungal pathogens. Dendrobiums and some of the thin leaved orchids are sensitive to copper, so be careful. You will also find this article on the AOS website:

http://www.aos.org/blog/general/getting-ready-for-hurricane-season.aspx

UPCOMING WEBINARS

Town Hall Meeting from Ecuador with George Hatfield - Wednesday, November 8, 2017 @ 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT Open to All

Find out the exciting things happening with the AOS. Don't miss the AOS Town Hall Meeting & Board Meeting from the WOC22, in Guayaquil Ecuadorwith George Hatfield, AOS President. Register now using this link: https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/8409334692352712705

American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton

Thursday, December 14, 2017@ 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT Open to AllWOC22, in Guayaquil Ecuadorwith George Hatfield, AOS President.

Please join Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education and Science Officer, who will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send your questions to stillilsch@cox.net by Sunday, December 10th.

Register now using this link:https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2847045007049760515 **Note:** After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

WHAT ARE WEBINARS? Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN'T MAKE THE DATE? The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.

YOUR SOCIETY CAN EARN FREE AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS:

Encourage new membership to AOS. Affiliated societies can now earn a one-month extension of their AOS society membership for each new AOS member that they refer (note: membership renewals don't count). For now, the only way to take advantage of this program is to download and print the AOS Membership Application Form, check the box "yes" to indicate that you are a member of a local orchid society, most importantly fill in the NAME of your orchid society, and mail the completed application and payment to: AOS, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Florida 33156. With twelve new AOS members, your affiliated society can have a FULL YEAR OF FREE AOS membership! Be sure to have membership applications with your society's name already filled in and available at your club meetings!

Remember to let your members know, we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources at their disposal making growing orchids even more enjoyable and successful.

Digital Access To Over 350+

past issues of Orchids magazine extending back to 1932!

Deadline is November 30, 2017 for Dillon/Peterson Essay Prize

Please remind your society members that the AOS is still accepting entries for the 2016 Gordon W. Dillon/Richard C. Peterson Memorial Essay Contest. They should let their imaginations run wild and the winner will receive a cash prize and certificate suitable for framing.

This year's theme is: Species or hybrids?.

Which do you prefer and why? Do you grow hybrids because of their cultural adaptability and reliable blooming (sometimes more than once a year) or do you grow species because of the challenge and diversity? This is a chance to show off some of your favorite orchids as you use them to illustrate your points!

Membership in the American Orchid Society is not necessary to enter the contest. **The deadline is November 30**, **2017.** The winning entry, if any, will be published in the June issue of the following year.

Contest Rules:

- The essay must be an original, unpublished article.
- The contest is open to all persons except employees of the American Orchid Society and their immediate families.
- Submissions must be no more than 5,000 words in length.

• Manuscripts must be submitted in English, typewritten and double-spaced or submitted in Word or other compatible electronic format. Submissions will be judged without knowledge of the identity of the author. The decision of the judges is final. If no entries meet the expected criteria of excellence, the award will be withheld.

• Artwork is not necessary for entering this competition.

Non-winning entries will be returned to the contestant if requested. Such entries are eligible for resubmission in subsequent contests. These non-winning entries will also be considered for publication by the editor of Orchids and may be used in Orchids or other AOS publications including the AOS website.

Email all entries to Ron McHatton at rmchatton@aos.org. Paper submissions should be mailed to the Dillon/Peterson Memorial Essay Prize at AOS headquarters: Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Florida 33156. THE NOVEMBER ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- Orchids Illustrated Gymnadenia
- Genus of the Month Trichocentrum
- The New Refugium Botanicum Cattleya schilleriana
- Dendrobium section Spathulata hybrids
- A Novice's Adventure in Hybridizing
- OrchidRoots.org
- Further demystifying Fûkiran (Vanda [Neofinetia] falcata)



Vanda falcata 'Mi Suegra Mercedes' HCC/AOS; Photographer: Irma Saldaña

ALSO FEATURED IN ORCHIDS MAGAZINE!

16-page award gallery of breathtaking pictures of recently awarded orchids.

RECENT ORCHID AWARDS PICTURES ON THE AOS WEBSITE:

See fabulous pictures of the most breathtakingly beautiful orchids receiving awards from the AOS! Visit the new "Latest Orchid Awards" page on the AOS website to enjoy these stunning photographs! Click on the thumbnails to see them in larger format. *Free to members and nonmembers.*



Cattleya violacea (Semi-Alba Flamea) 'Mirtha Isabel' FCC/AOS; Photographer: Glen Barfield

Let's grow together, Denise Lucero

Submitted by Valorie Lowe - AOS/ODC Representative

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