



Orange County Valley of the Scottish Rite

# Scottish Rite News

Volume 4 Issue No. 4

Newsletter Date April 2018

**Remember SUPER BREAKFAST this SUNDAY !**

## Commander



### Fellowship

Definition from Google is: *“friendly association, especially with people who share one's interests.”*

#### *“friendly association”*

Last month I wrote about two aspects of Masonry that I really enjoy, decorum & etiquette. While that is still true, I can't neglect the most important piece, the people with whom we share the lodge and the experiences of being a Mason. Getting to know people has always been something I really enjoy. Our Lodge is filled with a diverse group of men. I'm talking about the diversity in age; there are young guys, middle age guys and old guys. You can decide which group I'm in but besides family gatherings I can't remember seeing such a healthy mix of age groups. Everyone gets respect in the lodge as they should. Look around the Lodge at the next meeting and enjoy our diversity!

We can't forget the second part of the definition, *“especially with people who share one's interest”*. I think we need to work on this second part so we can keep all the Brothers returning to the lodge each month. I don't know what our interests are, but WE need to know so everyone finds our Stated Meetings meaningful. Some people might take exception to this statement but there are still a lot of empty seats at the meeting, so I know we can do better. Degrees are one unique part of Masonry that might peak everyone's interest. An idea I heard from someone else, it would be great so see some of the degrees again. I wonder if the team that is heading to Oakland would be willing to perform a degree at a Stated Meeting? Please let me know what you think. Send me an email to [david@davidfrias.com](mailto:david@davidfrias.com).

I'm not sure if you are reading this before or after the Super Breakfast but I hope everyone has a great time on March 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 12:00pm and enjoys some great bacon!

Fraternally,

**David Frias, 32°**  
Commander

Be sure to visit our new Scottish Rite web site  
at [OCSCOTTISHRITE.ORG](http://OCSCOTTISHRITE.ORG)!

We need your email address so we can  
electronically send you the Scottish Rite News.  
Call the office at 714 543-7277 and give it to  
our Secretary or leave a message. Thanks!

## Orange County Scottish Rite Officers for 2018

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Orient of California



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Personal Representative of the  
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General Secretary

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**Hon. Dave Price, 32° KCCH**  
Asst. Personal Rep.

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**Hon. Scott Davis, 32° KCCH**  
Venerable Master

(714)457-7644  
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**Philip Liu, 32°**  
Wise Master

yungfanliu@yahoo.com



**David Frias, 32°**  
Commander

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**Brandon Cook 32°**  
Master of Kadosh

brandon.m.cook@gmail.com



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Hon. Jack Alastuey, 32° KCCH.....Tiler

**Orange County Valley Scottish Rite office: 801 N. French Street Santa Ana, CA 92701**

**Hours: Monday 10-2, Wednesday 10-2, Friday 10-2, Closed Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday**

**Voice (714) 543-7277, Fax (714) 543-9754**

**Stated Meetings First Monday of the month, 6:30 pm, dinner follows @ 7:15 pm (reservations requested)**  
**Anaheim DeMolay Center, 303 W. Lincoln Ave. Anaheim, CA 92805**

**The Valley of Orange County, Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry**  
**Southern Jurisdiction of the United States of America,**

**Office: 801 N. French Street, Santa Ana, CA 92701, publishes the Scottish Rite News monthly. No Subscription Price.**

**Bro. Mark Hoage, 32°, Editor. (951) 898-9335, email: mshusaac@charter.net or sasrnewsbulletin@gmail.com**

**All articles must be submitted prior to the 15th of the month.**

## General Secretary



### SECRETARY SEZ—

Well, my Brethren, one forth of the year is gone. How are you doing? And how are we doing? We are paying our bills, sending out the dues cards, mailing the birthday cards and keeping up with the requirements.

Report on dues. We have 290 paid members and 149 with a dues balance. Of that 149, 51 owe for 2017 as well as 2018. That represents almost 12% of our membership and they can be suspended for nonpayment of dues (snpd). I hope we don't need to do this.

Membership petitions (both new and affiliation) have been zero this year. What is going on? See if you can find Master Masons that desire further light in Masonry and tell them about our Valley. It's a good one and we would benefit from them becoming our Scottish Rite Brothers.

I look forward to a better report next month.

### Ill. Bob McNamara, 33°

General Secretary

## Editor



Greetings Brothers,

I would like to take a minute to tell you how wonderful our fraternity truly is. Two weeks ago I was in Tucson at a tradeshow with my wife. While returning to our hotel I noticed what I believed to be trash in the roadway in front of me, in reality it was a rock and by the time I realized this I was committed. The rock hit the exhaust pipe punching a hole in the engine block, bent the engine cradle, crushed the spare tire holder and the heat deflector between the exhaust and the gas tank. Stuck along the roadside and not knowing anyone in town or how long the repairs would take I called Ill. Dave Kussman, 33°, the most connected man in Free Masonry, and he put me in contact with a local Brother, Sid Luan. Sid made sure that plans were in place for me should I need lodging, repair facilities or anything else I might need. I never ended up needing touse the assistance but having a Brother, a friendly voice in the darkness helped my wife and I get through this traumatic event. I am forever grateful to my Brothers whithersoever dispersed.

I'm always looking for information and stories to pass on to our Brothers. If you have anything interesting lately or have written anything for another Masonic body please submit it hear as well to see if we can fit it in. Please submit any new contributions for the OC Scottish Rite Newsletter to me by the 15th of the month at [mshusaac@charter.net](mailto:mshusaac@charter.net).

Fraternally,

Mark Hoage, 32°

Editor

## Venerable Master



Welcome to the month of April, the first full month of Spring!

I want to start off by thanking every brother that made our Super Breakfast a success, especially Brother David Frias. Great Job Brothers! I also want to thank all the brothers that made it a success by attending, unfortunately I was unable to make it as I had to travel back to Boston for a business conference that weekend.

Last month I shared a Joke with you that I found on the Scottish Rite iPhone App. It seems that quite a few of you enjoyed that so I scoured the internet and found another one for you:

“One night (a long time ago in a jurisdiction far, far, away) a brother was heading home after indulging a bit too much at the festive board after his lodge meeting.

He was weaving a little across the path, steadying himself against the lamp-posts.

A concerned policeman saw him and walked over.

"Well sir, where are we going at this time of night, eh?" he asked.

The brother replied "I, officer, am going to a lecture on Masonry!"

Bemused, the policeman asked, "And just where are you going to hear a lecture on Masonry at this time of night?"

The brother replied, "From my wife!!!" (from the Masonic Lodge of Education website.)

Now for this month's Masonic tidbits: On April 4, 1778 Brother Voltaire was initiated in "Les Neuf Soeurs" Lodge in Paris, Worshipful Benjamin Franklin participated. On April 20, 1884 Pope Leo XIII issued a famous Papal Bull against Freemasonry, titled *Humanum Genus*, the encyclical specifically condemned certain practices of the Freemasons one of which being the promotion of public education which denied the Church's role and where "the education of youth shall be exclusively in the hands of laymen". April 28, 1738 Pope Clement XII issued the first Papal Bull attacking Freemasonry.

**Scott Davis, 32° KCCH**  
Venerable Master

## Senior Warden



### Retention - Does it Matter?

*A warm, rainy day - this is how it feels when friends get together. Friend refreshes friend then, as flowers do each others, in a spring rain.*

Jalāl ad-Dīn Rūmī 1207-1273

Fraternal greetings from the West, my brothers. Spring is in full effect and I hope you are enjoying this time of remembrance and renewal. It is a good time to renew old friendships and catch up with those who have slipped away. In the spirit of this notion, I encourage you to reach out to a Scottish Rite Mason who you haven't seen in awhile. Check in with him. Make sure he is ok. Maybe you can meet him for a cup of coffee or a meal and talk about old times.

The friendships we make in Freemasonry are part of our life's treasures. We are so lucky to have such diversity in our masonic brotherhood. I can't think of another place where a 90 year old mason and an 18 year old mason can sit next to each other and meet on the level. What a great opportunity to meet with those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance. We have a duty, as stewards of our craft, to keep this chain going. The burden of this responsibility lies with us.

Together, we can improve this Valley and our bonds of friendship. Let's use Spring as a reminder to remember and honor those who have left us but also to renew our fraternal ties with those still around us. Let's make new friends and bring new friends to our Valley. The seeds planted today will bear fruit in the coming years. Together, we can make a difference.

**Mike Gowder, 32°, KCCH**

Senior Warden

Orange County Lodge of Perfection

## Wise Msater



Greeting Brethren,

Towards the end of each Stated Meeting the Wise Master asks the almoner to pass the basket of fraternal assistance around the lodge so that Brothers can put in a few dollars for the purpose of relieving our distressed worthy Brother masons, their widows and orphans. I have often seen Brothers feel embarrassed if they don't have an extra dollar to put in. I would like to ask all brothers in this situation to not feel embarrassed. These baskets are not passed around to collect a specific amount from the members, they are intended to collect whatever you feel you can afford to help your fellow Brothers. If you don't have an extra dollar to leave in the basket, please just put your hand on it and offer up a prayer or your best wishes to these Brothers and their families who need help. Your prayers are just as helpful to them as the money the others put in.

I wish you all have a great April and I look forward to see you in our April Stated Meeting.

**Yungfan "Philip" Liu, 32°**

Wise Master

## Master of Kadosh



Greetings Brethren,

While brushing up on my financial literacy, I recently found equilibrium in Howard Marks' The Most Important Thing Illuminated. In it, Marks expands upon an epiphany concerning contrarianism, "skepticism and pessimism aren't synonymous. Skepticism calls for pessimism when optimism is excessive. But it also calls for optimism when pessimism is excessive." How often in Masonic teaching are we reminded of the balance of competing forces and the importance of centrality? I believe this essential at maintaining a truly open mind at finding areas of opportunity within and without ourselves and in our own natural available universe. Marks applies his insights to the financial market and reminds the reader to remain steadfast and focused during extremes, but the moral is far-flung.

In the 27th degree we realize that the deepest truths can be revealed through the study of nature and the symbolism therein contained but equally important is the mention of balancing forces; attraction and repulsion which are, "antagonistic but not hostile" to each other which results harmonious balance. Going even further, these perpetual forces of nature host the divine exercise to develop talent, upon which arouses the utmost exertion of human genius. Our Venerable Valley has been chosen to perform this degree in Oakland at the end of June. Under the leadership of Honorable Brother Mike Gowder, I look forward to our participation.

*"The less prudence with which others conduct their affairs, the greater the prudence with which we should conduct our own affairs." ~Warren Buffett*

Or in other words, be contrarian. Brandon Cook

Sincerely,

**Brandon Cook, 32°**

Master of Kadosh

## Language Center News



*A Community Program of the Scottish Rite Foundation for Children  
with Speech and Language Challenges*

**Executive Director:**

Dr. Judy Montgomery, Chapman University

**Speech Language Pathologies:**

Leslie Sierra-Guzman, MA CCC-SLP

Chris Switzer, MA CCC-SLP

Laura Garcia-Maxey, MA CCC-SLP

[www.OCLanguageCenter.org](http://www.OCLanguageCenter.org)

Please support your Orange County Childhood Language Center by making  
an individual, group, or company donation.

**Support our Center by becoming a member:**

President's Circle: A donation of \$500 or more each year

365 Club: A donation of \$365 each year

Center Club: A donation of \$100 each year

**Supporters of the OC Childhood Language Center for 2018**



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Ill. Rick Wood, 33°	Ted Segerstrom, 32°
Ill. Bob McNamara, 33°	Samuel Brandes, 32°
Ill. Donald Tapia, 33°	Mike Selix, 32° KCCH
Ill. Pete Jantz, 33°	Cynthia Olsen & Michele Bakkila
Ill. Ray Godeke, 33°	Tom Olsen, 32°
Robert & Kathy Olsen	Art Salazar, 32° KCCH
Jim Andronaco, Sidepath	Nick Villasenor, 32°
Ill. James D. Nyfeler, 33°	David Kussman, 32° KCCH
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Dr. Mary Kennedy	Alfredo Molina 32° KCCH
Orange County Masonic Memorial Foundation	

**365 Club Members**

**Center Club Members**

If you are not a member of the OC CLC President's Circle, please  
consider your participation, as your donation of \$500 will assist  
one child for an entire year! You can make a big difference in their  
life with this donation. Please don't wait, become a member of our  
President's Circle today!

**For Information Please Contact - President**

**Frankie Rosario, 32° KCCH**

**Cell: 714-600-6914 - Email: [president@oclanguagecenter.org](mailto:president@oclanguagecenter.org)**

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## OC CLC Communication

### The 2018 RiteCare Golf Classic and Gift of Voice Gala Dinner

**Please save the date!**

**Monday, July 30th, the OC Child-  
hood Language Center will hold its  
2018 RiteCare Golf Classic Tourna-  
ment and Gift of Voice Gala dinner  
at the Yorba Linda Country Club.  
Registration information will be  
available in our newsletter next  
month!**

**OC Childhood Language Center**

**Office: 714-972-2646**

**Email: [info@oclanguagecenter.org](mailto:info@oclanguagecenter.org)**

## Language Center News



### Hello from the OC Childhood Language Center.

#### Spring has arrived

With spring in the air, the staff and kids are getting ready for an exciting Easter season. Engaging the kids in activities builds confidence and gives them the opportunity to participate in productive conversations with our staff and the Students from Chapman proving the critical speech services they desperately need.

#### More Exciting News

Since opening our center back in September, with the collaboration of Chapman University we have:

- Diagnosed 43 new children
- Conducted 85 hours of evaluation services
- Sustained an average of 60 kids in our program
- Provided 889 hours of Speech therapy Services

All of this happened without increasing our operating expenses. Congratulations to everyone, especially to you, our supporters for proving the financial assistance we need in order to sustain this program.

#### Our Board of Directors

I would like to thank our Board of Directors for working hard at managing the future of our Center. These women and men besides all being President's Circle Members, bring a wealth of experience from a broad range of professional and business backgrounds. Here is your board:

**Frankie Rosario**, President & Director of Information Technologies, Extron Electronics

**Dr. Judy Montgomery**, Executive Director & Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders Program at Chapman University

**Dr. Mary Kennedy**, Member & Professor, Chair, Communication Sciences and Disorders Program at Chapman University

**David Frias** - Vice President and Network Operations Manager, Extron Electronics

**Nick Villasenor**, Secretary and Financial Advisor, Morgan Stanley

**Anne Hertz**, Director of Public Relations and Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club of Cypress

**Mike Selix**, Member & President of MGS Unlimited Inc.

**Jim Andronaco**, Member & President of Sidepath Inc.

**Joseph Manning**, Member and President, Manning Law

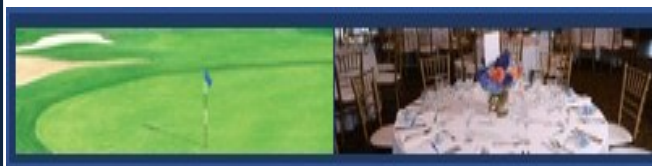
**Tom Olsen**, Member

**James McCallion**, Member & Lead Data Scientist, Lead Audit, LLC

**Don Tapia**, Founder / Emeritus Member

**Peter Jantz**, Emeritus Member

My sincere gratitude to all of you, and to our financial supporters, as together we ensure our children receive the services that are so important in their speech and communication development. Your support and commitment is second to none!



#### Save the Date

On Monday July 30th, the OC Childhood Language Center will be holding the 2018 RiteCare Golf Classic Tournament and the Gift of Voice Gala Dinner at the Yorba Linda Country Club in Yorba Linda. As you all know, this is our primary fundraising event of the year for the Language Center and one of the best ways our Scottish Rite Valley can support the mission of the Center.

The funding generated during this event provides the financial support required to run our award-winning program. Please remember, that for the non-golfing crowd, the Gift of Voice Gala dinner live and silent auction event at the Yorba Linda banquet facility is a great way to have fun too. We are working on getting our Web Site ready to start accepting reservations, but keep an eye, by visiting the [www.oclanguagecenter.org](http://www.oclanguagecenter.org) site. Registration for both events will become available soon!

Until next time and thank you once again for helping us provide the Gift of Voice to our children.

**Hon. Frankie Rosario, 32° KCCH**  
Chairman, President of the Board of Directors  
**Orange County Childhood Language Center**

## OCSR 2018 Calendar

### 2018

- April**      2nd—Stated Meeting 6:30 pm  
                     Renewal & Remembrance  
                     Observance  
                     8th—LA Masonic Service Bureau  
                     Breakfast, LAX Hilton 8:00am
- May**        7th—Stated Meeting 6:30 pm  
                     Scholarship Awards Night  
                     12th—Quarterly Advisory Meeting  
                     DeMolay Center 8-10 am  
                     19th—Celebrate the Craft 4-7:00 pm

### Toys for Covina Program

At our June 2017 Stated Meeting we adopted the Child Advocacy Program at the Covina Masonic Home. In support of this action, Ill. Rick Wood has asked that each Brother bring a toy valued at \$10+ for kids ages 4-17yrs to the next few Stated Meetings.

### April Dinner Menu

Caribbean Tri-tip

Pineapple Cocoanut Rice

Jamaican Corn Puffs

Dinner Rolls

Endive Salad

Bread Pudding

### New Dinner Fees for 2018

It was decided at the Quarterly Planning Meeting that the cost of Stated Meeting Dinners would increase to \$14.00 for everyone. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the OC Scottish Rite Office at: (714) 543-7277.

### Century Club

Our current Masonic Year has started off with two members joining for 2018—Glen Woody, 33° and Bob McNamara, 33°. Ill. Glen has now cumulatively donated \$1000 and will receive his gold pin at a Stated Meeting. The Century Club donations fund office expenses and equipment. The office recently had its computer give out and we were able to purchase a new one. David Frias, 32° helped with the set up and we thank him.

## Masonic Enlightenment

### May Brotherly Love Prevail and Every Moral and Social Virtue Cement Us

Robert G. Davis, 33° G.C.

Every Mason will recognize the above declaration as the epilogue of the closing prayer given at almost every lodge meeting. It was penned by William Preston in 1772.

It is an admonition for toleration.

Frederico Mayor, in an address dedicating the Beit-Hashoah Museum for Tolerance in Los Angeles in 1993 said; "...our ability to value each and every person is the ethical basis for peace, security and intercultural dialogue." Albert Pike stated it even more poignantly in the 10° degree by declaring that without toleration "we are mere hollow images of true Masons, mere sounding brass and tinkling cymbals." The fact is that a peaceful future depends on everyday acts of kindness and respect. It is a lesson every Freemason knows well.

Among all the teachings Masonry imparts to its members, none is more important than championing the ideal of toleration in all things. In the book of lectures for the symbolic lodge, we read; "By the exercise of Brotherly Love we are taught to regard the whole human species as one family; the high and low, the rich and poor; who, as created by one Almighty Parent, and inhabitants of the same planet, are to aid, support and protect each other. On this principle, Masonry unites men of every country, sect and opinion, and conciliates true friendship among those who might otherwise have remained at a perpetual distance."

It is a teaching that desperately calls us to action today.

The history of much of the world is a saga of deep ethnic divisions, regional conflicts, religious zealotry, and economic hostilities among peoples. Intolerance, jealousy and greed have fragmented almost every country in the world. There was a time when people came to America seeking asylum from such human suffering and strife. The altruistic nature of democracy has made the United States a multi-cultural society. Now the same divisions that have caused so much suffering and loss in the rest of the world are becoming manifest in the freest country on earth. We are becoming a nation filled with mistrust and animosity.

The natural reaction to diversity is to isolate ourselves in our own culture. It's a kind of "out of sight, out of mind" mentality. It is easy to believe that we can't get hurt if we stay within our own group. We can't get into trouble if we don't participate. Undeniably, as Freemasons, we receive much personal joy from being together in the tiled spaces of our lodge, free from the strife of the world, protected by the

contract of love we pledge to each other; without regard for geographic or political or cultural boundaries.

But that peace of mind, that collective will to love each other, that feeling of trust and security we share, that identity we have as brothers does not come from without us. It comes from within. It happens because we integrate the lessons we learn in our lodges, chapters, councils, and consistories into our own psyche. We become what we have been taught. We choose to live the tenets of our Order. We choose to improve ourselves in Masonry. We make a conscious choice that we are going to be special men; that we are going to distinguish ourselves from the rest of the community.

And that happens when we practice the brotherhood of man out in the world as well as in our tiled recesses. Everyone benefits when they have direct access to real examples of moral and social virtue in and around them every day. That is the impact Freemasonry was designed to have on the world.

With people now migrating to America in record numbers, steady and ubiquitous examples of moral and civic virtue are more important than ever. We must now acknowledge that everyone who has perceived themselves as 20th century American-born citizens are rapidly becoming a minority. This perception is strong across every culture. National unity will never be possible if we feel threatened by every group outside our own. We cannot remain an island of brotherhood amid tyranny, intolerance and hatred. Our own way of life is being threatened. We all intuitively know that the time has come for all Americans to make a little sacrifice and effort toward a greater cause. As Masons, we are obligated to fight against tyranny wherever and whenever it exists. It is our task to stop the bullying in the world. The question is where do we begin?

Since (as the saying goes) you can't teach an old dog new tricks, it seems the only chance we have of achieving and maintaining a sense of national unity at home is to develop a healthy learning environment among our children that will give them a full cross-cultural understanding. And such understanding will not just happen. To communicate and learn from one culture to another takes entire families out of their comfort zone. To achieve a reconciliation of idealistic, ethnic, religious and cultural differences between the old ways and the new will require an extraordinary feat of will and learning. In most cases, toleration itself has to be learned to be practiced.

*Continued on page 11*

## Masonic Enlightenment *(cont. from page 10)*

That is where we as fraternal men come in. In fact, the Scottish Rite was made for such a mission. If the Rite is indeed a great power, it is so because influence is power; and will is power. The teachings of the Rite answer these kinds of questions: What kind of society might we have if we were to achieve a culture of peace? How much would such a culture manifest itself in our family lives, communities, state and national politics and international relations? What relationship exists between tolerance and peace? Can human rights be realized without a social commitment to tolerance? Is there a significant relationship between human rights and democracy? What are our own personal and community concerns about the issue of tolerance? How do our concerns relate to tolerance on a global scale? How can we contribute to promoting a tolerant world?

If our own history is a guide, Freemasonry gains civic and social relevance when it stands up for what it stands for. There can be much value in sharing our values with the cross-cultural world in which we live. We may not have the numbers to be a national voice all at once. But we still have a voice. We can at least take the lead in diagnosing the kinds of intolerance which hinders the world; and then pledge, individually and corporately, to do whatever is necessary in educating the next generation of adults that tolerance is indeed the most reasonable means to peace. This task begins at home.

It seems like such a worthy mission—to stand on what we stand for.

*(Extracted from the Oklahoma Scottish Rite Mason, September 2014)*

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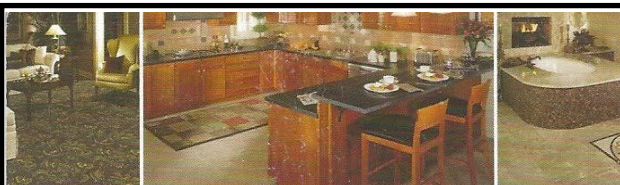


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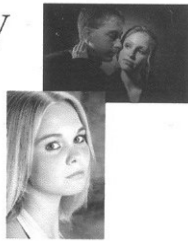
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