

# The Germinator



PUBLISHED BY THE MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO  
 89 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE MAHONING VALLEY AND SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

## President's Message

The growing season has begun and let's hope the gardening gods grant us sunny skies, gentle showers and beneficial insects that get fat on pollen and pests. But whatever the weather, I hope our members will participate our club's activities and take advantage of its many benefits.

Our Spring Plant Sale, May 9<sup>th</sup> thru the 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Mahoning County Career & Technical Center is our organization's most important fundraising event. We'll not only need many volunteers to tend the greenhouse, but also to work on sale days. The layout of the MCCTC greenhouse doesn't allow for carts so members will have to help customers assemble their purchases and take them to their vehicles.

On June 5<sup>th</sup> we will hold our annual Plant Auction/Pot Luck Dinner at Boardman Park. It's a great chance to get deals on annuals and perennials, some quite unusual, while enjoying good food with friends. Plant something now to bring to the auction. And maybe you'll find a flowering or fruiting plant worth entering in our Horticulture Show in August. We really need better member participation in the show.

The Gardeners of America/Mens Garden Clubs of America, our national umbrella organization, will be holding its annual convention July 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> in Des Moines, Iowa. Some activities will be held at TGCA/MGCA headquarters in nearby Johnston. There are some great tours scheduled, a horticulture show and seminars conducted by talented professionals. See insert and Pg. 4.

For those of you fortunate enough to still have your mother with you, do something memorable for her on Mother's Day. And pause to remember those who sacrificed everything for our liberty on Memorial Day.

Sincerely; *Bruce Brungard*, President

## MGCY Spring Plant Sale

Mahoning County Career & Technical Center

7300 Palmyra Rd., Canfield, OH

May 9 - 11, 9am-6pm

*Get a jump on Summer with the best plants around!*

*Ask John Schinker, 330-799-6046, how you can help.*



*Good moms let you lick the beaters...Great moms turn them off first.*

*A Mom forgives us all our faults, not to mention one or two we don't even have.*

*God could not be everywhere, so he created MOTHERS.* page 1

## Membership Meeting

7pm, Wed., May 1

Fellows Riverside Gardens

Speaker: Olivia Dotson

2018 Scholarship Winner

Guests Welcome

## Board Meeting

6:30pm, Wed., May 8

Austintown Library.

All Members Welcome

## MetroParks In May

Artists Painting Landscapes	1-31
Boating Course	4
Warbler Walk	4
Naturalist Series – Trees	7
Hikes	8,31
Golf Shop Sale	8-10, 24-27
Spring Plant Sale	10-11
Photo Clique Hike	11,19
Book Discus: <i>Bushmasters</i>	11
Mother's Day Brunch	12
Flower Gardening Course	14
Family Outdoor Day	18
Traveling Naturalist	18
Birding The Sanctuary	18
Wildflower Walk	19
Chorus Of Croakers	24
Botanical Mornings	24

Check out more events at:

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

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*Helping our Valley to Grow Since 1930*

*We want to thank Olivia for her presentation and hope she will again apply for our scholarship if she decides to continue her education.*

### **New Member**

**Ron Fasano**, 4299 Glenwood Ave., Boardman, OH., 44512, 330-502-9989, [ronfio@msn.com](mailto:ronfio@msn.com). Ron is retired and enjoys urban and pollinator gardening, and growing flowers. His other activities include kayaking, jewelry making and woodworking. He is also a member of Flying High and ACTION.

Sponsor: Bob McGowan

*Welcome Aboard*

### **Olivia Dotson – Scholarship Winner**

Olivia, one of our 2018 scholarship recipients, graduated from Kent State Salem last fall with a 3.95 GPA in Horticulture. We were pleased to hear her presentation on Bleeding Hearts (*Dicentra*) at our April membership meeting.



She is presently working at Pemperton Landscaping dividing her time between maintenance and learning from the business' landscape designer. Olivia isn't sure if and when she will seek a bachelor's degree, but becoming a landscape designer is definitely in her future.



As we see from this image, these beautiful flowers come by their name honestly. The attractive mounded foliage with arching stems produces its blooms in spring. Depending on the 8 accepted species, colors include pink, red, yellow and white. Use them for borders, containers, specimens and cut flowers. They are deer and rabbit resistant.

The varieties Olivia mentioned include 'fernleaf' which grows to 12-24" tall by 18-24" wide; 'old-fashioned' that are 24-36" tall and 18-30" wide; and 'Dutchman's breeches' that when mature reach 8-10" by 6-12". <https://garden.org/plants/bleeding-hearts> has a complete list of varieties and descriptions.

Like fellow members of the poppy family, they prefer moist but not overly wet soil, cooler weather and partial shade. Best planted in spring, they do best in well-drained soil rich in organic matter with a pH range of 6-6.5. Water when weekly rain is less than one inch. Deadhead to encourage new blooms. After the first killing frost, cut plants down to 1-2 inches. Divide when dormant.

### **Spring Breakfast**

Vice President Tom Arens came up with a novel idea for our Spring Breakfast – a Show & Tell session where members share their favorite gardening secrets and favorite tools. It was an entertaining way to relax and digest a very good meal. Perhaps reminded of our March meeting maple syrup presentation, someone thought to bring the real thing for the pancakes.

Tom showed us a serrated-blade saw/trowel combo gardening tool. Early settlers would have loved it - cut down trees, clear the land and till the soil with one tool. He also had some good container gardening advice: Line with adult diapers for water retention; put gravel in the bottom to deter tipping; and excess space in large containers can be filled with old Styrofoam.

Tom Liggett brought dwarf tomato plants perfect for container gardening. Dwarf varieties with varying colors and sizes have been developed beyond being hybrids and are available at [www.victoryseeds.com](http://www.victoryseeds.com). We will have an article on the subject in an upcoming *Germinator* issue.



He also told of how Italian horticulturalists tried to teach farming to Zambians who didn't practice agriculture. They taught them how to grow tomatoes, peppers and zucchini. The potential harvest was very promising until when, one night, a herd of 200 hippos ravaged the garden. That's why Zambians don't do agriculture.

Don Brown, here at port arms, showed us a lithium battery-powered 10" chain saw that can be converted



into a pole saw. We were concerned when he dropped it and it didn't work at first. He found the problem and the surprisingly quiet saw buzzed away. Don seems sold on cordless electric tools. He also has a battery-powered tiller and leaf blower.

*Continued on Pg. 3*





*Spring Breakfast continued from pg. 2*

Terry Voland showed us the green eggs that go with Dr. Seuss' ham. He also had blue, brown speckled and small, silky eggs, and identified the breed of each chicken. He noted that turkey egg yolk is like gelatin rather than runny like a chicken's.

Rex Luckage gave a brief demonstration on 5 ways to propagate house plants. They include division and taking cuttings. A jade plant can be started with a single leaf but some stem must be attached. Ginger plants can be cloned by planting a piece of root having an eye like a potato. *Sorry if you missed a fun way to spend a Saturday morning.*

## ***Fertilization Basics***

Like vitamins, fertilizers supplement essential soil elements like nitrogen and phosphorous that enable photosynthesis. If elements in the soil are already in sufficient supply, adding fertilizer may disrupt the ecosystem resulting in abnormal growth.

Slow release granular fertilizers, as opposed to synthetic water-soluble supplements, distribute nutrients in a controlled manner. While more expensive, slow release granulars don't need to be applied as frequently, and don't leach polluting elements that plants don't absorb into the environment.

The initial application of slow release fertilizer should be worked into the soil to a depth of 4-6". Small amounts can be mixed into planting holes or added to rows as you seed or install seedlings. During the growing season, lighter applications can be done to the top inch of soil in crop rows, perennial beds and around the drip lines of trees or shrubs. Applications should be watered in and conform to label instructions.

Fast-acting synthetic fertilizers are usually applied bi-weekly to annuals and container plants to promote fast growth and increased blooming. They should be poured around the soil rather than on the plants.

Because plants absorb nutrients through leaf pores as well as roots, organic foliar sprays like compost tea can be very effective. They should be applied bi-

weekly to vegetables, and flowering and fruiting trees and shrubs. Be sure to spray the underside of leaves as they are more porous. Never use a sprayer that has previously applied herbicides.

Woody plants and perennials require few nutrients when dormant so apply fertilizer as soon as they break dormancy in spring. Stop applications after the first fall frost. While food crops benefit from early fertilization, some feed more heavily than others and require more regular applications. Knowing each plant's needs is important for effective fertilization.

It is generally beneficial for granular fertilizers to be applied before a good rain because nutrients are carried more quickly to roots. Foliar sprays should be applied on dry days in either early morning or early evening when the leaves have time to absorb them. Don't spray foliar on extremely hot day as the plants are subject to burning.

**Compost Tea** is a liquid brewed to extract and maintain the microorganisms and soluble nutrients found in compost. Proper preparation and application will result in healthier plants better able to resist pests and diseases.

The benefits include: Soil nutrients are kept within reach of roots lessening the need for fertilizer; Improves moisture retention lessening need to water; Beneficial organisms improve soil structure; Loosens clay soils and helps sandy soils retain moisture; Roots stimulated to grow deeper; When sprayed, beneficial microbes help prevent diseases; Combats the negative effects chemical fertilizers and herbicides have on beneficial organisms; Can be fine-tuned to address specific conditions and plant needs. Insert attached.

### **Compost Tea Recipe for Vegetable Crops**

Fill a 5 gal. bucket with water and allow 24 hrs. for chlorine to evaporate.

Put a large handful of compost, a handful of garden soil, 2 handfuls of straw, and 3-5 leaves of a healthy plant in a tightly tied tea bag able to hold 5 lbs. of dry ingredients and place it into the water.

Add 1 cup fish hydrolysate and 1 cup seaweed extract (both available at garden centers) directly to the water.

Place fish tank aerator in the bucket and brew for 36 hrs. Optimum temperature should be 68-72 degrees.

Dilute 3 parts tea with 1 part water and apply with a sprayer in morning or evening to avoid burning plants. Straining with cheese cloth may be necessary.

Apply immediately after brewing as the tea will quickly lose its effectiveness.

Clean equipment thoroughly as harmful bacteria may breed. Hydrogen peroxide or ammonia are good agents.

Source: [old\\_farmers\\_almanac@yankeepub.com](mailto:old_farmers_almanac@yankeepub.com)





**The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs of America  
2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION  
JULY 15 - 16 - 17 Des Moines, IA**

**CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**2019 REGISTRATION FEE:**

**THROUGH JUNE 1: \$230.00 per person**  
**JUNE 2 or after: \$280.00 per person**

**WIN a FULL REFUND of your \$230.00  
Convention Registration Fee!**  
 All registrations postmarked on or before June 1, 2019  
 will be entered into the drawing held at the convention.

**CANCELLATION FEE:**

**AFTER JUNE 1: \$ 50.00 per person**

Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Preferred Badge name: \_\_\_\_\_

TGOA/MGCA Club or Member at Large: \_\_\_\_\_

Club City & State: \_\_\_\_\_

Handicap or other Special Needs: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Medically Required Diet: \_\_\_\_\_

Vegetarian Meals Preferred: \_\_\_\_\_

Banquet Entrée Choice – Select one: 1. Iowa Pork Chop   
 2. Grilled Salmon  3. Champagne Chicken

DRIVING?  or FLYING?

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**  
**2019 TGOA Convention Fund**

**MAIL REGISTRATION AND CHECK TO:**  
**David Moody, 2019 Convention Registrar**  
**2022 Westwood Acres**  
**Fort Dodge, IA 50501**

**QUESTIONS?:** *David Moody @ 515-576-6021*  
*Lee Olson @ 641-430-1036*

**EARLY ARRIVAL INFORMATION**

**July 12 - July 14:** Begin your vacation early  
 Take advantage of the Holiday Inn room rate  
**Sunday, July 14:**  
**4-8:00 pm:** Convention registration and  
 Hospitality open  
**6-8:00 pm:** Hort. Show entries accepted

**WORKSHOP/SEMINAR INFORMATION**

**MONDAY, JULY 15**

- 1. Monday AM: 11:15 - 12:15**
- Succession Planting for Vegetable Gardens, with Jenny Quiner
  - Diversify You Landscape with Edibles, with Beth Waage, Naturalist
- 2. Monday PM: 1:30 - 2:30**
- Succession Planting for Vegetable Gardens, with Jenny Quiner
  - Diversify You Landscape with Edibles, with Beth Waage, Naturalist
- Too large to be a Shrub...Too small to be a Tree, with Jeff Iles
- 3. Monday PM: 2:45 - 3:45**
- Horticulture Shows: Good-Better-Best Ideas and Practices, with Peggy Moody

**TUESDAY, JULY 16, TOUR TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY, JULY 17**

- 4 Wednesday PM: 11:30 - 12:40**
- Gardening for the Soul, with Judy Stevens
  - Where are my Bees?, With Pat Ennis
  - When is a Weed not a Weed?, with Ed Lyon

**WANT TO STAY A BIT LONGER?**

**July 18 through July 20:**  
 Continue your vacation in Iowa with the  
 Holiday Inn room rate.

FOR CONVENTION REGISTRAR USE ONLY

Registration Number \_\_\_\_\_

Check Number \_\_\_\_\_

Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

Date Processed \_\_\_\_\_



# The Gardeners of America / Men's Garden Clubs of America

## 2019 NATIONAL CONVENTION

### JULY 15 - 16 - 17 Des Moines, IA

#### CONVENTION AGENDA

##### SUNDAY, JULY 14:

**4-8:00 pm:** Convention registration and Hospitality open.  
**6-8:00 pm:** Horticulture Show entries accepted.

##### MONDAY JULY 15:

**6:30-10 am:** Bennigan's full breakfast.  
**7:30-10 am:** Horticulture Show entries accepted.  
**8:00-10 am:** Convention registration and Committee meetings as scheduled.  
**10:00 am:** Attendee WELCOME meeting, and announcements.  
**11 am-12:30 pm:** Horticulture show judging with.  
**11:15 am-12:15 pm:** **1<sup>st</sup> Seminar session.**  
1. Jenny Quiner Succession Planting for Vegetable Gardens, with  
2. Beth Waage, Naturalist. Diversify You Landscape with Edibles  
**12:30 pm – 1:15 pm Lunch With Fun.**  
**1:30 – 2:30 pm:** **2<sup>nd</sup> Seminar session.**  
1. Jenny Quiner Succession Planting for Vegetable Gardens, with  
2. Beth Waage, Naturalist Diversify You Landscape with Edibles  
3. Jeff Iles Too large to be a Shrub...Too small to be a Tree  
**2:45 – 3:45 pm 3<sup>rd</sup> Seminar session.**  
1. Peggy Moody Horticulture Shows: Good-Better-Best Ideas and Practices.  
2. Open Round Table Attendee Ideas.  
3. Open Round Table Attendee Ideas.  
**5:30 - 6:30 pm Social Hour with cash bar.**  
**6:30 pm: Dinner, Photography Show, Horticulture Awards, Fun**

##### TUESDAY, JULY 16:

**6:30-9: am:** Bennigan's full breakfast.  
**9:00 am:** Gather for the Tour Day, and board buses  
**10:00 am:** Des Moines Botanical Gardens  
**Tour Lunch**  
Additional Gardens, public and private  
TGOA grounds Reception and Activities  
**4 - 6:15 pm:**  
**6:30 pm: Iowa BBQ Dinner in Terra Park with Memorial Service**

##### WEDNESDAY, JULY 17:

**6:30-9: am:** Bennigan's full breakfast  
**8-11 am:** General membership meeting  
**11:30 am-12:30 pm:** **4<sup>th</sup> Seminar session.**  
1. Judy Stevens Gardening for the Soul  
2. Pat Ennis Where are my Bees?  
3. Ed Lyon When is a Weed not a Weed?  
**12:45 – 1:45pm Heartland Lunch.**  
**2 - 3:00 pm: Follow up of Executive Committee and Board of Directors Meetings**  
**3 – 4:00 pm:** Horticulture Show teardown  
**5:30 – 6:30 pm: President's Reception and banquet.**  
**6:30 – 9:00 pm: Banquet, Guest Speaker and Award Presentation**





TGOA/MGCA in 2019

## We Dig It!

July 15-16-17

**2019** - The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America celebrates **87** years as a national organization AND the headquarters celebrates its Golden Anniversary, 50 years at 5560 Merle Hay Road in Johnston. It's also Johnston's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Incorporation. We'll celebrate together.

The Holiday Inn Hotel and Suites, 4800 Merle Hay Road, Des Moines, IA 50322 is ready for us with renovated rooms and refreshed spaces. The confirmed room rate is \$99/night and is available for three days before and after the convention. The hotel is less than one mile from TGOA. We will visit and use the headquarters for several events.

*Monday, July 15:* Registration. Submit your entries for the Member Horticulture Show by 11:00 am. Greet other attendees, old friends and new. Meetings, workshops and seminars complete the day.

*Tuesday, July 16:* Tour Day will include a visit the Des Moines Botanical Gardens, a vibrant, seven-acre public garden in the heart of downtown Des Moines, [www.dmbotanicalgarden.com], the TGOA headquarters and smaller garden gems. Just around the corner from TGOA we will relax in Johnston's new 200-acre Terra Park, home to an eight-acre stocked fishing lake, native plantings and accessible play structures.

*Wednesday, July 17:* Business meetings are on the schedule along with workshops and seminars.

*Other tidbits:*

**CONVENTION HORTICULTURE SHOW.** It's not too early to be planning your entry ideas for the third annual show.

How about a little hands-on dirt work? Lets invite the neighborhood to participate in seminars, workshops and the Tour Day as space allows.

**ARE YOU A HISTORIAN?** Do you have a cache of TGOA/MGCA items to share? Do you have the earliest convention patch? Other convention memorabilia? The Gardener or early newsletters with historical information? TGOA/MGCA is just a few years from its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. To help build toward that celebration, will you share letters, documents, photos and items for the archive?

**WHO-HOW-WHERE-WHEN?** Watch for additional details in the March-April national newsletter and the currently under-construction TGOA/MGCA website.



**WIN a FULL REFUND of your \$230 Convention Registration Fee!**

All registrations postmarked on or before June 1, 2019 will be eligible for the Convention drawing.

WE look forward to your visit to Des Moines and Johnston, Iowa in July!

*Central Iowa Gardeners of America, Gardeners of North Iowa, Iowa TGOA Members at Large*

# The Germinator

May 2019

Thank you to the MGCY Friends for their Civic Fund donations.  
Members are urged to give them a visit.

**AMISH MARKET**  
6121 South Ave  
Boardman, Oh. 44512  
330-248-7034  
www.theamishmarket.net

**BAIRD BROTHERS**  
7060 Crory Rd  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-3122  
info@bairdbrothers.com

**BLOOMING CRAZY**  
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Youngstown, OH 44512  
330-758-8131

**BERNARD DANIELS LUMBER**  
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Canfield, Oh 44406  
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Yo., Oh 44514  
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800-852-5243  
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330-402-7303  
buckeyetherapeuticmassage.net

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330-799-5569

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1419 Youngstown-Kingsville Rd  
Vienna, Oh  
330-539-5500

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**FIVE POINTS  
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www.kridler-gardens.com

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Youngstown, OH 44514

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Youngstown, Oh 44515  
330-799-2059

**MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF  
YOUNGSTOWN**  
123 McKinley Ave  
Youngstown, Oh 44509  
www.mgcy.org

**PARKS GARDEN CENTER**  
9010 Youngstown-Salem Rd  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-7278

**PETITTI GARDEN CENTER**  
5509 South Ave  
Boardman, Oh 44512  
330-788-0733  
www.petittigardencenter.com

**PITMOSS**  
2603 Duss Avenue  
Ambridge, PA 15003  
724-385-0413  
www.pitmoss.com

**ROBERT MCGOWAN, LPL  
FINANCIAL**  
MGCY Member  
3736 Boardman-Canfield Rd  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-2320

**SAM'S WEDGE INN**  
1685 S. Raccoon Rd.  
Austintown, Oh 44515  
samswedgeinn.com

**RICHARD STATES**  
MGCY Member

**RICHARD STATES**

**VERNON'S CAFÉ**  
720 Youngstown-Warren Rd  
Niles, Oh 44406  
330-652-1381  
www.vernonscafe.com

**VILLAGE QUILTS**  
17 W Main St  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-0545  
www.villagequiltscanfield.com

**WAGS N WIGGLES RESORT**  
7910 Akron-Canfield Rd (224)  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-702-9247

**WALLYGRO LLC**  
Kansas City, MO 64116  
1.877.796.6559  
hello@wallygro.com

**WHITEHOUSE FRUIT FARMS**  
9249 Youngstown-Salem Rd  
Canfield, Oh 44406  
330-533-4161

**WILD BIRDS UNLIMITED**  
90 Boardman-Canfield Rd.  
Youngstown, Oh 44512  
330-629-2473

**THE YOUNGSTOWN PLAYHOUSE**  
600 Playhouse Lane  
PO Box 11108  
Youngstown, OH 44511-1108  
(330)-788-8739  
www.theyoungstownplayhouse.com



# The Germinator

Men's Garden Club of Youngstown Ohio  
c/o Newsletter Editor  
123 McKinley Ave. • Youngstown, OH 44509

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



## calendar of events



- May 1.....General Meeting.....FRG ..... 7:00 pm
- May 8.....Board Meeting .....APL ..... 6:30 pm
- May 9-11 .....Spring Plant Sale.....MCCTC.....9:00 am - 6:00 pm
- June 5.....General Mtg/Plant Auction .... Boardman Park..... 6/7:00 pm
- June 12 .....Board Meeting .....APL ..... 6:30 pm
- July 3.....General Meeting.....FRG ..... 7:00 pm
- June 10 .....Board Meeting .....APL ..... 6:30 pm

## Please Join Us!

The purpose of The Men's Garden Club of Youngstown is to create a better understanding of gardening and to encourage and promote the beautification of our community. In order to meet this endeavor, several civic projects are completed each year.

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the D. D. Davis Center at Fellows Riverside Garden. Members receive a monthly newsletter, "The Germinator," which has timely gardening hints, club news and other local and regional horticultural events. Members also become members of The National Men's Garden Club of America.

Membership is open to residents of the Mahoning Valley and surrounding communities with an interest in gardening.

To join, contact us at: **Men's Garden Club of Youngstown Ohio**



% Membership Committee  
123 McKinley Way  
Youngstown, OH 44509



or on our website at [www.mgcy.org](http://www.mgcy.org)

## THE MGCY 2019 OFFICERS

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Vacant

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