

# MOSQUITO BYTE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE MOSQUITO VOLUNTEER FIRE ASSOCIATION

MOSQUITO



Volunteer Fire Association

Volume 34, No 1

October 2020

## Chief's Report

by Chief Jack Rosevear

Summary: This month has gone by quickly with many projects in progress. We continue to work on grant management and refining our grant expense tracking. This month has been a reminder of how serious fire season can be. Each new year in the State seems to break new records for acreage and structures burned. The tremendous losses due to lightening activity in August also reminds us that the critical fire season months area still ahead.



The opening of the Mosquito Bridge on 8/27 was welcome news. Based on our evacuation procedures, we will maintain road control on Mosquito Road to the bridge to ensure that vehicles leaving are not oversized or pulling trailers. A fire might also be impacting Mosquito Road leading to the bridge; in that case we would maintain road closure until relieved by law enforcement personnel. Based on our procedures, the Airport remains the primary temporary safe refuge area for residents to go to in the event of evacuation. Keeping the roadways clear for emergency vehicles to get into our community will remain a priority.

We have recently received important donations from SCPOA, MVFA and the Swansboro Pilots Association. The SCPOA Board generously donated \$2,500 towards the purchase of Automatic Defibrillators (AED). The Swansboro Pilots Association generously added \$500 for a total of six AEDs and an additional training AED. These AEDs are compatible for both adults and children. The MVFA recently generously donated \$1,200 for the purchase of badges for our personnel. We appreciate how our Community supports us. An incredibly special thank you to the MVFA, Swansboro Pilots Association and SCPOA.

On 8/2, Engine 275 deployed to the Stagecoach Fire in Kern County (assigned to Riverside incident before arriving there and being diverted) and returned on Friday evening 8/14. On Saturday 8/15 at 10:20pm, Engine 275 responded again with four other districts to the Loyaltan Fire (47,000 acres) in the Tahoe National Forest above Truckee. The engines responded initial attack to the fire and upon arrival worked all night and following day. Crews fought intense and dangerous fires over the next few days. After receiving lightning and rain the strike team was shifted to the Plumas (North) Complex (62,000 acres) on 8/19. After arriving at the Quincy Fairgrounds, the engines were assigned to protect structures at the Claremont Fire. The crews experienced intense fire during their assignments and as the incident subsided, they were released and returned home on Saturday 8/29. Engine 275 spent almost a month on the road assisting communities in need, protecting lives, and saving homes. We thank B/C Schwegler, Capt. Alyssa Sample, Engineer Jeff Schwegler, Firefighters Greyson Dillender and Devin Hern for their extraordinary and courageous work. Everywhere Engine 275 went they represented the Mosquito Community with distinction. I also thank our superb staff who stayed behind to make sure our District was well covered.

I am pleased and proud to report that retired Fire Chief Leo Chaloux, will be rejoining our ranks to assist us on several important projects, including the development of our volunteer program, recruitment from the community. Chief Chaloux will also be assisting as a volunteer Battalion Chief on emergency incidents at various times. His knowledge and expertise of emergency response to the community is well known and respected.

Community based volunteers are essential to the Fire District's emergency response. We have already interviewed four community members who are interested in joining the District. One is a new community member; two are volunteers who were with the District previously and one with radio expertise willing to assist us with alternative communications during critical events.

Volunteer Firefighters: Our four active volunteers continue with their training and experience. Two of the four participated in the strike team response. Firefighter Greyson Dillender staffed Engine 275 on both strike team deployments with B/C Schwegler. Firefighter Devin Hern was with the engine on the second deployment to the Loyaltan and Claremont Fires. The experience and training provided during these deployments cannot be understated relative to the skills and confidence these young men bring back to the District. A third volunteer assisted us with night staffing at the Station. A special thanks to Assistant Chief Todd Hern for his many hours of coverage and leadership while engine and crew were out of the District. Todd's value to the District and our emergency response to the community cannot be overstated.

Support Group: The Support Group is always excellent, strongly assisting us with responses and other projects. The Group had their monthly training on Saturday September 1. They covered the new firefighter rehabilitation function, radio training and helicopter landing zone management. On September 15, the Group perform a drafting/water tender refill operation at Catfish Lake. This area (Buckboard) lacks adequate water supply for firefighting. The joint training with Support Group and firefighting staff had the opportunity for personnel to review firefighting procedures and effective water tender refill operations.

**The next MFPD Board meeting on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 am via telephone conference. Contact the station at 530-626-9017 prior to the meeting for more information.**

## **Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)**

by MVFA Board of Directors

The campground at Finnon continues to be very busy; the board has decided to temporarily close it in November for a number of maintenance projects. 3 Goats Farm has been selling their produce in the Pavilion at Finnon for the past several weeks. It has been so nice to get great locally grown fresh produce in such a convenient location. MVFA has purchased the old generator from the fire station and is having it installed at the diner. This will make it so much easier for Frank to continue to operate when we have power outages. Two very successful disc golf tournaments were held at Finnon recently, the disc golf volunteer crew was able to get the 27th basket finished and cleared in time for use. The course is popular and both

tournaments attracted a large number of people who were able to enjoy the course while being appropriately distanced from each other.

The bears have unfortunately discovered the new location for the dumpsters is very convenient for them and have been having regular parties. Bear proof lids will be ordered as well as using a variety of bleach and ammonia to try to discourage them.

The recycle program at the fire station has been doing well. The last run produced almost \$500. The Chief had asked MVFA to cover most of the cost of new badges for the firefighters, with this last recycle income the board agreed to cover the entire cost.

There will be lots of projects to do out at Finnon this fall and winter. All work is done by volunteers and more are always welcome. If you would like to come join us in maintaining this wonderful asset for our community and fire department please contact a board member, come to a meeting or send an email to [mvfa95667@gmail.com](mailto:mvfa95667@gmail.com). We can use all the help we can get from handyman services to weed eating, tree trimming, mowing and so much more so please come join the fun.

**You are welcome to attend the MVFA Board meeting on Thursday, October 1st at 3:00pm at the Finnon Lake Pavilion**

### **MVFA Harvest Festival**

by Linda Heyart

MVFA is planning an October Harvest Festival to be held at the campground, with the large area people can easily keep appropriate distance and wearing masks can be made fun with a contest. The Crafters will be there! We are looking forward to a great fall event at Finnon Lake campground on October 17, from 10 am to 3 pm. We plan to have some Halloween, Fall and Christmas items for sale. We are looking forward to seeing friends and neighbors come to join us along with 3 Goats Farm and a lot of our other artists and crafters on the hill. MVFA will be providing a free lunch as well. There will be no Day Use fees for participants of this event. Remember money made from the Crafters goes into a special Fire Station 75 fund for non- budgeted items requested by the Chief. Come join the outing, masks are required. It would be fun to see some originally crafted masks that day.

### **SCPOA Report**

by Kim Purcell

This is the August and September report due to the date change of the August meeting. The August meeting was changed to a later date in hopes of getting current financial reports. Treasurer, David Blain, expressed frustration in the inability of the management company to provide current financial information as well as their inability to send out the annual financial review within the required time. The board requested a solution for these problems going forward. September financial information was finally current. There is a surplus this year so far of just over \$40K due to several factors including decreased payroll, no use of contingency funds and not having to pay for grant. David is still recommending returning to the members the excess at the end of the year.

The new mower and trailer were picked up and have been in use and Kevin has done over 300 hours of chipping including cleanup on Dogwood. The EID water that has been used to keep the water level at Dyer up has been turned off, about 3 million gallons of water was added over the summer. The first spraying of the roads will occur in October, signs have been purchased that are large enough to read and will be posted at all entrances to roads to be sprayed. The date will also be posted on social media when known.

The grant for clearing brush and trees has been completed with almost \$500K in in kind work done. Several more grants are being looked at in hopes of making this a fire wise community. Several projects were suggested for the common areas including additional picnic table at Trout Lake, bench by horseshoe pits and additional white fencing at Trout Lake. The board approved an additional \$3k to complete the fencing along Mosquito at Trout Lake.

Our new fire Chief Jack Rosevear asked if the board would consider a donation to purchase AED's (automatic defibrillators) which would be placed in each vehicle at the department. The pilots group was committed to purchase one, Tom Best made the motion and all were in favor of board using the annual donation to the department to purchase the rest of the needed units. All units had arrived by the September meeting and are currently in each vehicle.

The next meeting will be held October 29th at the maintenance shed

## **Crafters**

by Linda Heyart

Unfortunately, it has been decided to take a temporary hiatus from Crafters through the end of 2020. We will reassess and see where we are after the New Year. We know everyone misses our monthly meetings but staying healthy is the priority. This situation is temporary and better days are ahead.

## **Birding at Finnon Lake**

by Dave Angelo

The next Bird Watching event will be held on October 10th at 9:00 A.M. We will meet at the Day Use Parking area on the North side of the dam, just past the Boat Launch area. Everyone is welcome to attend. There is no day use charge to attend this event. Here are the results for the August 8<sup>th</sup> event.



1 Canada Goose

10 Mallard

6 Wild Turkey

1 Pied-billed Grebe

1 Calliope Hummingbird --

Very small

45 American Coot

1 Great Blue Heron

1 Green Heron

12 Turkey Vulture

1 Belted Kingfisher

18 Acorn Woodpecker

2 Black Phoebe

3 California Scrub-Jay

1 Common Raven

15 Violet-green Swallow

5 Bushtit

3 American Robin

2 Spotted Towhee

10 Brewer's Blackbird

Number of Taxa: 19

## **Manland Meeting**

by Richard Paradise

ManLand is a men's ministry that meets for breakfast on the second Saturday of the month at Frank's Diner at Finnon Lake at 7 A.M.

We are comprised of many Christian backgrounds and gather to encourage one another and are thankful to live in such a place as the Swansboro and Mosquito community. We realize that we are living in some perilous times that call for an example of His love and a striving for a renewed sense of unity. We are not a church but a fellowship of men building new relationships. It's good to have an anchor and good friends at such a time as this! "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalms 133:1

## **Three Goats Farm**

by Chelsey Shanks

Our farm family wishes to thank this community for the support and turnout we received this year at our weekly market stands. It was wonderful to meet so many kind community members and nourish your families. Looking forward to seeing you at the start of market season in the spring! In the meantime hope to see you at the MVFA Harvest Festival! We will be hosting a silent auction of some GIANT pumpkins as well as providing a last chance to pick up some goods from the farm stand for the holidays before the fields go to sleep for winter. Thanks again, it has been great growing with you all this season!

## **Franks Diner**

by Frank Ethridge

"Anyone could see that the wind was a special wind this night, and the darkness took on a special feel because it was All Hallows' Eve." Ray Bradbury, American Author



It's October! Looking forward to fun events and happenings around Mosquito? We have two events for us to enjoy. There will be a Harvest Festival on the 17th of October at Finnon Lake and on Saturday October 30th there will be Spooky fun down at Dyer Lake at 5:30. Keep an eye out on social media for more details.

### **Wednesday Family Night Specials**

- 7<sup>th</sup> - BBQ Chicken
- 14<sup>th</sup> - Stroganoff
- 21<sup>st</sup> - Sweet and Sour Chicken
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Blood and Worms (Spaghetti and Sauce)

**Veggie options are available**

**All specials are \$10.00**

**5:00pm – 8:00pm**

### **Frank's Diner Hours:**

Wednesday-Friday 11 am - 8 pm

Saturday-Sunday 8 am - 8 pm

Monday – Tuesday Closed

(530) 409-1977

[www.franksmosquitodiner.com](http://www.franksmosquitodiner.com)

## **Recipe of the Month    Pumpkin Soup**

Let's get in the Halloween/Fall spirit and make some yummy soup for those chilly nights ahead.

### **INGREDIENTS:**

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil                    | 4 c. low-sodium chicken broth             |
| 1 large onion, coarsely chopped                   | Kosher salt                               |
| 4 cloves garlic, minced                           | Freshly ground black pepper               |
| 4 lb. pumpkin (any kind but preferably sugar pie) | 1/2 c. heavy cream, plus more for garnish |

### **DIRECTIONS:**

1. In a heavy soup pot or Dutch oven over medium heat, heat oil. Add onion and garlic and cook until golden.
2. Meanwhile, halve, peel, and scrape out seeds of the pumpkin. Cut into chunks.
3. Add pumpkin chunks and broth to pot. Season with salt and pepper. Bring to a boil, uncovered, and then reduce heat to a simmer. Simmer until pumpkin is fork-tender, about 30 minutes.
4. Remove pot from heat and, using an immersion blender, blend mixture until smooth. (Alternatively, let soup cool, then blend in a blender.) Stir in cream and season to taste.
5. To serve, ladle soup into bowls, add a swirl of cream, and garnish with pepper.

Let's have some fun this fall and join in with a smile.

## **MVFA SWAG**

by Maryann Haywood

The Holidays are fast approaching so consider purchasing some MFVA wearables. MVFA offers your choice of Mosquito T-Shirts and Sweat Shirts in a variety of sizes and colors, Tote Bags and Local Phone books are also for sale at Frank's Diner during normal business hours or at MVFA sponsored events. Custom orders can be taken and delivered on the next re-order schedule. For custom orders, contact Mary Ann Haywood at: 530-622-5477



|   |         |                                |         |
|---|---------|--------------------------------|---------|
| <b>T-Shirts S-XL</b>  | \$20.00 | <b>Hooded Pullovers S-XL</b>   | \$35.00 |
| <b>T-Shirts – XXL</b>   | \$22.00 | <b>Hooded with Zipper S-XL</b> | \$40.00 |
| <b>Crewneck Sweatshirts S-XL</b>  | \$30.00 | <b>Hooded with Zipper XXL</b>  | \$42.00 |
| <b>Crewneck Sweatshirts XXL</b>   | \$32.00 |                                |         |
| <b>MVFA Grocery Tote Bags are:</b> 1 for \$4.00 or 3 for \$10.00 or 4 for \$12.00 |         |                                |         |

## The 2019 Mosquito Phone Book

by Adam Reisner

The Mosquito Phone Book contains information on our Mosquito/Swansboro area such as, Who Are They (MVFA, MFPD & SCPOA), Helpful Area Phone Numbers, a Timeline History of Mosquito, Mosquito Fire Department History & Other Useful Information, Map of our Area, and Residential & Business listings. The Phone Book is available at the Mosquito Fire Station 75 at 8801 Rock Creek Road (530)626-9017 or Franks Diner for \$5 per copy. The Mosquito Phone Book is published every 2 years. For changes to the Phone Book, email us at [mosquitophbook@gmail.com](mailto:mosquitophbook@gmail.com) or mail the information to: MVFA, phone book 9009 Orval Beckett Court, Placerville CA 95667. Residential and business listings are free to list.



Please drop off bags from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at the Fire Station. Please consider this option when you organize your recycled materials.

**(Sorry, Glass bottles do not have CRV so we cannot use them)**

NOTE: Lids/Caps on plastic and glass CRV containers **MUST BE REMOVED** before they can be redeemed. If you have a chance and can remove the lids, it will sure help the recycle volunteers.



**MVFA THANKS YOU!**

### CLASSIFIED ADS

(Classified Ads are free to all paid subscribers)

#### WANTED

##### **LOCAL ORGANIC FARM**

Seeks manure source, specifically goat, sheep, chicken, llama or alpaca. Please contact Ryan at THREE GOATS FARM. (530) 497-4279 or [farm3goats@gmail.com](mailto:farm3goats@gmail.com) (0000)

#### MEETINGS

##### **MOUNTAIN FELLOWSHIP**

Meet new friends, get refreshed and restored. Join us for challenging Bible study, fun events and worship here in Mosquito. We meet Sunday mornings 10 am at 3342 Stope Drive and throughout the week. Check our website [mfom.net](http://mfom.net) or call (530)295-0503. (0621)

#### SERVICES

##### **HARP TEACHER**

Have you always wanted to play the harp? There is now a Harp Teacher in Swansboro. Over 20 years' experience teaching children and adults. I have a few harps available for rent. For more Information, please call 530-344-1531 and ask for Paula or e-mail: [harppaula@gmail.com](mailto:harppaula@gmail.com). (1220)

##### **FACE PAINTING**

I'm available to do face painting for parties or events. \$40 an hour. Call: Dee at 642-2333 (0721)

##### **WELDING & FABRICATION**

Steel, Stainless Steel, Aluminum. Certified to military standard. Call (530) 621-3300 (0621)

## SIERRA SHIELD FIREARMS & TRAINING

Mention MOSQUITO BYTE and get 25% off CA CCW Class. Also, receive FREE box of ammo with each firearm purchase. [www.SierraShield.com](http://www.SierraShield.com) or call [530-387-0110](tel:530-387-0110). (0621)

## VHS VIDEOS CONVERTED TO DVDs

Have any family vacations, precious memories or baby pictures on videos? I can copy them to DVDs. Call Dee at (530) 642-2333. (0721)

## UNIQUE JEWELRY

Handmade jewelry using recycled aluminum cans, and more. To view, call Dee at 642-2333. (0721)

## FLORIST ON THE HILL

Your source for fresh, local, organic and international flowers. All occasions deserve flowers. Call me 530.295.0503 Elaine Galvan for a specially made arrangement or buy individual blooms to brighten your day. Always delivered FREE on the hill! (0621)

## Hangtown Range

1540 Broadway,  
Placerville Tuesday –  
Saturday 9 to 8 and Sunday 10 to 5 with 10  
Indoor Shooting and 8 Archery Ranges,  
Firearms and Recurve Bow rentals, Milo  
Virtual Shooting Range w/ live fire  
ammunition, Archery and Handgun  
classes, CCW classes, One on One  
training, Basic Pistol Classes, Women's  
Classes. Call 530-497-5443 for more  
information. (0621)



## Area Web Links

Mosquito Volunteer Fire Association (MVFA)  
Finnon Lake Recreation Area  
Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD)  
Swansboro Country Property Owners Association  
Mountain Fellowship in Mosquito  
Mosquito Fire Safe Counsel



## Mosquito Creek Outfitters

3000 Mosquito Road, Placerville, Tuesday – Friday 9 to 6, Saturday 9 to 5, El Dorado County's premier source for the best hunting, fishing, archery and outdoor products. Mosquito Creek Outfitters is always stocked with the best gear to accompany you wherever you may roam. 530-621-4500 (0621)

## HANDCRAFTED GLASS ITEMS

Birdbaths, flowerpots, plates, bowls, etc. Also, handmade wooden jewelry boxes. Affordable and unique. Studio open most days; call first. Do your gift shopping here on the hill! Call Pam or Dave Angelo at (530) 621-3688. (0321)

## REAL ESTATE SERVICES

Live the American Dream: the ownership of a home and a little acreage to call your own! Sally Long Johns, your resident Mosquito Road Realtor, will help you buy or sell any property in El Dorado County! You can reach me at [www.mosquitoadneighbors.com](http://www.mosquitoadneighbors.com) or (530)295-4641 or toll free (866)SALLYRE, [snlongjohns@yahoo.com](mailto:snlongjohns@yahoo.com). (0000)

## NOTARY SERVICE

I'm a mobile Notary Public living here in Mosquito. I am experienced in all areas of notary work including loan packages, real estate transfers, etc. Call Elaine Galvan at (530)295-0503 (0621)

<http://www.gomvfa.org>  
<http://www.finnonrecreationarea.com/>  
<https://mfpd.us/>  
<https://scpoa.info>  
<http://mfom.net>  
<https://mosquitofsc.org/>



Due to the current Covid-19, the October calendar of events and meetings listed below may change at any time. Contact the organization's for the current status.

| <b>October 2020</b>   |               |                |   |  |  |  |
|---|---------------|----------------|---|--|--|--|
| <b>Sunday</b>   | <b>Monday</b> | <b>Tuesday</b> | <b>Wednesday</b>  | <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>Friday</b>  | <b>Saturday</b>  |
|   |               |                |   | <b>1</b><br><b>MVFA Board Meeting</b><br>3:00pm Outside Pavilion @ Finnon Lake | <b>2</b>   | <b>3</b><br><b>MFPD Support Training</b> 10:am   |
| <b>4</b><br><b>MFOM</b><br>Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am-Noon, See website  | <b>5</b>      | <b>6</b>       | <b>7</b><br><b>Frank's Family Night</b> – BBQ<br>Chicken                            | <b>8</b><br><b>MFPD Board Meeting</b><br>10 am via Tele-conference             | <b>9</b>   | <b>10</b><br><b>Manland Men's Fellowship</b><br>7 am Frank's Diner<br><br><b>Bird Watching</b><br>Finnon Day use area<br>8:00 am |
| <b>11</b><br><b>MFOM</b><br>Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am-Noon, See website | <b>12</b>     | <b>13</b>      | <b>14</b><br><b>Frank's Family Night</b> -<br>Stroganoff                            | <b>15</b>  | <b>16</b>  | <b>17</b><br><b>MVFA Harvest Festival</b><br>10-3 Finnon Lake Campground   |
| <b>18</b><br><b>MFOM</b><br>Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am-Noon, See website | <b>19</b>     | <b>20</b>      | <b>21</b><br><b>Frank's Family Night</b> -<br>Sweet and Sour Chicken                | <b>22</b>  | <b>23</b>  | <b>24</b>  |
| <b>25</b><br><b>MFOM</b><br>Mountain Fellowship Gathering, 11am-Noon, See website | <b>26</b>     | <b>27</b>      | <b>28</b><br><b>Frank's Family Night</b> -<br>Blood and Worms (Spaghetti and Sauce) | <b>29</b><br><b>SCPOA Board Meeting</b><br>7:00 PM Dyer Lake Hall              | <b>30</b><br><b>Halloween @</b><br>Dyer Lake<br>5:30pm | <b>31</b>  |

The MOSQUITO BYTE is mailed first class to subscribers each month. A subscription is \$15.00 per year, with a two-year maximum pre-pay. Please mail your check, payable to MVFA, to 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville, CA, 95667. The deadline for advertising and articles is the 19<sup>th</sup> of each month. It is also posted on the [www.goMVFA.org](http://www.goMVFA.org) website each month.

Editors have the right to edit, limit, or refuse any article submitted for publication. Authors are responsible for article accuracy and their opinions do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the MVFA Board of Directors or the editors.

MVFA is organized as a non-profit tax exempt entity and is funded entirely by grants, donations, fund raisers and rents and fees at Finnon Lake - which it owns. MVFA receives no tax revenues, nor any dues money from SCPOA. As per IRS mandate, MVFA gives no cash nor has any financial connection to any non-501(c)(3) organization or to the Mosquito Fire Protection District (MFPD). MVFA has no paid employees, and operates primarily with volunteers who donate their own time and often their own money to make our community a better place. If you would like to enhance your membership in MVFA, please become a volunteer. MVFA is a 501(c)(3) organization and donations may be tax deductible. A letter stating your donation will be provided on request. Send your donation to MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct., Placerville CA 95667.

MVFA values and promotes voluntary efforts in our community. MVFA continues to carry on the work begun by its predecessors many years ago. If you have any questions about MVFA, please attend the MVFA Board of Directors meeting on the first Thursday of each month at the Finnon lake pavilion located at Frank's Diner at 3:30pm. At the meetings, you have the opportunity to obtain correct and updated information about MVFA and its committees, legal obligations at Finnon Lake and events and volunteer opportunities. Mosquito residents may request a copy of approved MVFA Board meeting minutes by emailing your name and address to [mvfa95667@gmail.com](mailto:mvfa95667@gmail.com), or by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: MVFA, 9009 Orval Beckett Ct. Placerville CA 95667.

#### ADVERTISING POLICY

There is no charge to subscribers advertising in the MOSQUITO BYTE. Ads must be limited to 7 column lines maximum. Please email ads for the Classified Section to Rob Kirkpatrick at [mbyte.editor@gmail.com](mailto:mbyte.editor@gmail.com). Ads in the "Free", "For Sale", and "Wanted" categories will run for three months unless the submitter requests it to be removed or extended.

The MOSQUITO BYTE accepts ads from subscribers without endorsement.

The MOSQUITO BYTE and other updates are posted each month on the [www.gomvfa.org](http://www.gomvfa.org) website.  
No copyright infringement is intended.

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9009 ORVAL BECKETT CT  
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