



The Exponent

MARCH/APRIL 1997

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO WOMEN'S BUSINESS GROUP

UCWBG's Annual Meeting and Celebration

by Maureen Brown Thomas '87

The University of Chicago Women's Business Group held its Annual Meeting and Celebration on Thursday, January 16 at the University of Chicago Gleacher Center. Even though it was one of the coldest nights of the year, over 45 members came for the meeting and party.

Board members and sub-group committee chairs greeted the attendees with information about committee and sub-group involvement with the UCWBG.

The formal presentation started at 6:00, with Immediate Past President Lisa Kieres reviewing the group's progress in 1996 and recognizing the outgoing 1996 Board of Directors. Lisa also presented the Distinguished Service Award to Chandra



Debbie Wang, Lisa Kieres, and Elizabeth Foster

Greer, who has served the UCWBG in a variety of roles in past years, including President.

President Susan Miner presented her goals for the 1997 year, as well as highlighted the strategic plan that the Board has produced for 1997 and future years. She also introduced the 1997 Board of Directors.

After our business meeting, it was time to party! We enjoyed a buffet of heavy hors

d'oeuvres and a cash bar. The U of C's Jazz Ensemble provided the entertainment, and the several members won prizes donated by the Board members from our traditional raffle.

I'm not quite sure when the party broke up, but I think most of us had a great time—learning more about the UCWBG and the group's plans for 1997, networking with other members and making new friends.

Upcoming UCWBG Events

by Danielle Carrier '86

The Program and Career Management committees met on January 25 to identify events for 1997. The first events of the year include High Tea in March (see article on page 2) and a program in May examining the changing workplace, what it means for working women, and how we can prepare/take advantage of it. Other upcoming events include a one day spa event, hands-on internet workshop, member fashion show, and a mentoring program, in addition to our traditional networking dinner and annual meeting.

1997 is turning into a busy, exciting year and we hope everyone has an opportunity to attend at least one of the events. Details will be included in future communications. If you are interested in serving on the Programs or Career Management committees, have ideas for one of the proposed events, or have ideas for a different event, please contact either Danielle Carrier (Programs) at 630-954-3794 or Valerie Anderson-Lewis (Career Management) at 773-380-5753. We would love to hear your input!



Current and Past Presidents attending the Celebration: Dubravka Deppen, Suzanne Keers, Lisa Kieres, Susan Miner, Chandra Greer, and JoAnn Hinz



Susan Miner '93

President's Letter

by Susan L. Miner '93

It was wonderful seeing everyone at our annual meeting and celebration on January 16th. Despite the chilly temperature outside, around fifty members and guests shared warm experiences and toasted the new year. This evening was quite special as close friends

were catching up with each other while new friendships were being formed. Reflecting upon the evening's success, I thought about our UCWBG network. Amazing, isn't it? Our members lead such interesting lives and weave such interesting network webs. So personal yet so extensive.

Networking is very important to the livelihood of the UCWBG. Our 1996 membership survey results rated networking as the number one aspect of our mission. I am reminded of that "six degrees of Kevin Bacon" game. This game suggested that one can name any movie star and connect that person with Kevin Bacon with less than six other people. It really seems to work, and I wonder how it does work. Of course one does not have to be in the movie business to apply the six degrees theory.

We have all had the "it's a small world" feeling at times. I believe the underlying power of a network is its diversity. A more diverse network offers greater breadth and depth of expertise. In this regard, the UCWBG is a very powerful network. Our members bridge various industries and communities with one another.

There have been many times where I have met fellow UCWBG members through my personal and professional life. Last fall I was working on a corporate strategy project and learned that my colleague's wife is a member of the UCWBG. A couple of weeks ago, I received a telephone call and realized I was participating in a mentoring program with a fellow UCWBG member. I highly recommend utilizing and promoting our UCWBG network when possible.

We are very pleased to offer a network resource section in our directory this year. This is an effort to strengthen our knowledge and networking of each other. Please carry the directory wherever you go and use the resources. It is my hope that at the end of 1997 everyone will need a new directory because the old one is worn with use.

Please take advantage of all of the program offerings in March and April. The calendar has a complete listing. I look forward to seeing everyone at our next event—high tea at The Drake Hotel on Sunday March 16th. Oh, and for those who are wondering, my connection to Kevin Bacon comes from watching Apollo 13.

High Tea at the Drake Hotel

by Danielle Carrier '86

Here is a perfect opportunity to shake those winter blues. Join your fellow UCWBG friends for High Tea at the Palm Court in the Drake Hotel on March 16 at 2:30 pm. The Drake Hotel is located at 140 East Walton in Chicago.

The event's informal, more intimate setting will provide a great venue for meeting new people, catching up with friends, and practicing your networking skills. What a terrific way to spend a Sunday afternoon! Save the date and plan a trip downtown.

- Date:** Sunday, March 16
- Time:** 2:30 to 5:00 pm
- Place:** Palm Court in the Drake Hotel
140 East Walton, Chicago (312-787-2200)
- Cost:** \$25 per member/\$30 per guest
- RSVP:** By March 12 to UCWBG at 847-256-5804
- Call:** Shaun Fitzgerald at 773-296-2698 or Robin Leckinger at 630-898-5814 for additional information

The University of Chicago Women's Business Group 1997 Board of Directors

President:

Susan Miner '93
630-713-7587
slminer@lucent.com

President-Elect:

Dubravka Deppen XP-60
847-729-2903

VP-Administration:

Maureen Thomas '87
630-978-9432

VP-Finance:

Nancy Dschida '94
312-938-8778

VP-Programs:

Danielle Carrier '88
630-954-3794
carrier@msgate.uhc.edu

VP-Career Management:

Valerie Anderson-Lewis '95
773-380-5753

VP-MEMBERSHIP:

Tammie Miller '94
312-424-6186

VP-Internal Communications:

Vacant

VP-Marketing/Public Relations

Melinda Reck '95
630-495-8148

Immediate Past President:

Lisa M. Kieres '84
773-472-9366
lisa@cmcusa.org

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Elizabeth Duncklee '90
773-702-7405
elizabeth.duncklee@gsb.uchicago.edu

Director:

Mary Lynn Faunda '95
630-323-6351

UCWBG (voice mail) 847-256-5804

UCWBG fax 630-369-3773

UCWBG home page http://www-gsb.uchicago.edu/gsb/clubs/alumni/ucwbg_home.html

Entrepreneur Questionnaire

The entrepreneur subgroup of the UCWBG needs your help! To make our offerings as useful as possible, we need your input about what you want us to do. Whether you already own a business, are just beginning, or are still fence-sitting, we would like to know how we can assist.

Please complete the questionnaire below, and return to Diana Bartlett by March 31, 1997. You may FAX your completed questionnaire to 630-858-1890, or mail to 644 Hillside Avenue, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. Thanks!

1 The main area I would want the subgroup to focus on is (check only one)

- deciding whether or not to start a business
- early stage support (e.g., writing business plans)
- how to get specific functional expertise (e.g., finance, engineering)
- growing my business
- exiting the business
- other (please specify) _____

2 Business start-up decision-making support needed (check all that apply)

- access to other UCWBG members who have started businesses
- linkages outside the UCWBG (e.g., Kellogg women's group, MIT Forum, UC Entrepreneur roundtable)
- structured programs on the process of business formation, types of businesses, legal entities, rates of return, SWOT analyses, etc.
- creating, purchasing, and franchising options
- regular sessions of informal 'fence sitter' support groups
- sessions on 'making ends meet'
- sessions on dealing with family and life issues related to potential business formation
- what to expect in the emotional and self-esteem arenas
- other (please specify) _____

3 During early stage business startup, I want help in (check all that apply)

- analyzing the market
- become educated about the business itself
- writing a business plan
- obtaining financing
- deciding how long to stick it out
- product/service development
- creating a marketing plan
- manufacturing and production
- distribution and channel management
- analyzing the competition
- targeting customers
- building awareness
- networking
- most common early stage pitfalls and how to avoid them
- other (please specify) _____

continued on next page...

Entrepreneur Questionnaire (Continued)

4 My own functional expertise is in: _____

5 Thus, the additional functional expertise I would most need assistance with during the early stages of my business is (check all that apply)

- accounting
- finance
- engineering
- manufacturing
- information systems
- distribution
- marketing
- sales
- human resources
- legal
- operations
- real estate
- research & development
- product development
- other (please specify) _____

6 Services the subgroup could provide to assist in growing my business include (check all that apply)

- building awareness for my company
- providing leads to my company
- including me in a speaker's bureau
- regular business owner forums
- more goal-oriented networking
- providing a clearinghouse of all the entrepreneur services in Chicagoland (e.g., Women's Business Development Center)
- maintaining a cross-referral database for all UCWBG business owners
- other (please specify) _____

7 I need help developing and implementing a strategy for exiting my business (check all that apply)

- deciding when it's time to do something else
- assessing exit options (e.g., sale, closure, merger)
- implementing my exit option
- adjusting after exiting
- other (please specify) _____

Thanks for your input! If you would like to volunteer for any subgroup activities, please give us your:

name _____

phone _____ email _____

address _____

city _____ state _____ zip _____

Reintroducing the Breakfast Series

by Danielle Carrier '86

The Breakfast Series is back! Our first breakfast will be Saturday, April 19 at Ann Sather's Restaurant. Besides getting to know each other, we will spend time discussing meeting frequency, locations, discussion topics and possible speakers. Future meeting dates and locations will be included in the next Exponent.

If you are interested in the Breakfast Series and/or have ideas of locations, topics, or speakers, please let me know. You can reach me at 630-954-3794 or carrier@msgate.uhc.edu. Everyone is welcome, so call up a fellow UCWBG member you haven't seen in awhile and meet us for breakfast!

Date: Saturday, April 19
Time: 9:00 am
Place: Ann Sather's Restaurant (773-348-2378)
929 West Belmont (parking located behind the restaurant)
RSVP: By April 17 to Danielle, 630-954-3794 or carrier@msgate.uhc.edu

NOTE!

The Exponent is in transition. Call Dubravka Deppen at 847-729-2903 for information on articles for the May/June issue.

Volunteers Needed for Foundation

by Kathy Terman, '85

The Today's Chicago Woman Foundation is a not-for-profit charitable foundation that supports organizations that help women and children in crisis situations. The Foundation was established in 1989 by Today's Chicago Woman publisher and editor Sherren Leigh as a way of making a difference in the lives of those who often receive limited funding from other sources such as corporate foundations. This year the Foundation expects to double its fund-raising income and hence the funds available to fill grant requests from many well-deserving organizations.

The Foundation primarily supports small, neighborhood-based organizations with operating budgets under \$500,000. Organizations may use the grants to support operating expenses or to fund special programs. In the past, the Foundation has funded more than three dozen organizations, from battered women's shelters to rape counseling centers to crisis hotlines. In addition, the Foundation collects "wish lists" from grant requesters, which consist of non-monetary needs that the organizations might have. The Foundation helps grant requesters find needed office furniture or supplies, toys and books, and home needs, among others items.

The Today's Chicago Woman Foundation has a strong connection to the University of Chicago Women's Business Group. Three of the Foundation's current directors are members of the UCWBG, and several other members have served on committees.

The Foundation is looking for volunteers to serve on its Events, Development, and Site Funding committees. If you are interested in participating, or if you'd like more information about the Foundation, please call Kathy Terman, '85, at 312-394-8065.

Women Employed Twelfth Annual Conference

Date: Saturday April 5, 1997
Time: 8:30 am to 4:45 pm
Place: Holiday Inn Mart Plaza,
350 North Orleans, Chicago
Cost: Before March 17, Women
Employed members \$45*,
non-member \$60*
After March 17, Women
Employed members \$60*,
non-member \$75*
Theme: Pave your own Road in a
Changing Work World
Call: Women Employed 312-782-3902
For registration form and
information

The UCWBG will be co-sponsoring the Twelfth Annual Conference of Women Employed. The all day conference will include:

- The successful and accomplished entrepreneur, Ms. Hermene D. Hartman, founder and creator of N'DIGO, will keynote the conference. She will speak on the topic, "On Your Own: The Comprehensive Woman." As the president of her own public relations firm, founder of Black Expo, and the first woman Chancellor for the City Colleges of Chicago, Ms. Hartman has paved her own way.
- Workshops on career changes, managing in all directions, self marketing, creating your life, the power of language, getting paid what you are worth, your management potential, self-employment challenges and opportunities, and much more.
- Chicago's largest, most comprehensive networking opportunity where you will meet informally in small group discussions with successful women in over 30 fields.

***If you include this newsletter article with your conference registration and mention the UCWBG, you may take \$5.00 off your total cost.**

Mothers' Network

Date: Thursday February 27
Time: 7 pm to 9 pm
Place: Northbrook.
Topic: Brainstorming the Family-Friendly Workplace.
Call: Susan at 847-940-0579 for information and directions.

Date: Monday April 7
Time: 7 pm to 9 pm
Place: Hinsdale. *Note New west location! Right off the 294 Tollway!*
Topic: Transitions: Work to home, home to work, somewhere in between...
Call: Susan at 847-940-0579 for information and directions.

Last Meeting

On Wednesday January 8 we met at Susan Smoley's house in Arlington Heights to discuss Building Your Child's Self-Esteem. Everyone agreed that it's an important issue with no clear-cut answers. We considered the current debate on the "feel good" vs. "achievement-based" approaches. An example of the feel-good approach is making each child a "star" in his or her classroom for one day—the idea of "you are special just for being you".

An example of the achievement based approach is the new perspective on praise and rewards. Many "experts" now hold that you shouldn't praise your children, and that true motivation and self-worth need to come from within, not be based on external rewards.

If I could draw a conclusion from our lively and far-ranging discussion, it would be that we came down more on the side of the "feel good" approach. Our moms think that it is very important to tell children that they are special and that you love them, repeat it frequently, and not be sparing with praise. The world is a tough enough place and children need all the emotional support we can give them.

One concern about this approach is the danger of turning out self-centered children. However, there are ways to mitigate this risk. For example, the "Star for the Day" routine teaches that everyone deserves his or her time in the spotlight. Reciprocity, and giving as well as getting, are important lessons, apart from the self-esteem benefits.

West Group

Date: Wednesday, April 2
Time: 6:30 pm
Place: J Alexanders
1410 West 16th Street
(630-573-8180)
RSVP: By April 1 to Karin
Call: Karin Janowski at 312-661-6985
chpg91a@prodigy.com or
Danielle Carrier at 630-954-3794
carrier@msgate.uhc.edu.

The next meeting of the West Group will be Wednesday, April 2 at J Alexanders. The restaurant is located across from Oak Brook Mall, just east of Route 83 in the same complex as Borders. If you have questions or need directions please contact either Karin or Danielle.

The West Group is a newly formed UCWBG subgroup. We meet on a bimonthly basis over a Dutch treat dinner to refine and practice our networking and mentoring skills. We share work and personal experiences and offer each other friendship and companionship and an opportunity to get to know one another better. All UCWBG and prospective members are welcome to join us. If you would like to be on our phone/fax notification list, please let us know when you make a reservation. A lot of our meetings have been in the Oak Brook area, but we are open to suggestions.

The West Group will be part of a joint event with the North/Northwest Group and the Consulting Roundtable on Thursday, May 22. The speaker, Joanne Gucwa, has an MBA from Kellogg's Executive Program. Location of the event will be announced at a later date. Contact Karin Janowski for more details.

Future dates for the West Group are Tuesday June 3, Wednesday August 6, Thursday October 2, and Wednesday December 3.

Experienced Members Group

The kick off meeting of the Experienced Members Group was held on February 10th. The group's mission is to ensure that the UCWBG remains relevant as members progress through their careers and their lives as we take new directions. If you are interested in joining this committee or have questions about its purpose, call Lavina Gross at 630-323-0400 (work). If you would like to join the group, or to participate in a focus group (one session) at a location near you, please call Lavina.

North/Northwest Group

Date: Tuesday March 11, 1997
Time: 6:30 pm
Place: Edwardo's, 240 Skokie Blvd.
Northbrook, IL, 847 272-5222
RSVP: By noon Monday, March 10, 1997
to: Pam Russell 847-295-9568

The North/Northwest Networking Group will meet for its second networking dinner of the year on March 11, 1997. Join us for this opportunity to meet fellow alums and get to know them better. Dinner is dutch treat.

Three newcomers to the group: Elizabeth Foster, Susan Holt and Myrna Newman, joined us for the January meeting. We look forward to seeing them and other new members at future meetings.

DIRECTIONS COMING FROM THE:

SOUTH: Take Route 94 North to Route 41 North. Exit at Dundee Rd. West. Turn right at the stoplight (Skokie Blvd). Proceed north to the restaurant. The restaurant is on your left.

NORTH: Take Route 41 South. Exit on Lake Cook Road-West. Turn left at the stoplight (Skokie Blvd). Proceed south to the restaurant. The restaurant is on your right.

WEST: Head east on Dundee Road or Lake Cook Road. From Dundee, turn left on Skokie Blvd. and proceed to restaurant. The restaurant will be on your left. From Lake Cook Road, turn right on Skokie Blvd. The restaurant will be on your right.

Our third meeting of the year is scheduled for May 22. Save the date! This will be a joint meeting with the West Group and the Consulting Round Table. The topic of Joanne Gucwa's presentation will be "How I Built My Consulting Business - Technology Management Associates." Arrangements for location are still in progress. Check the next issue of The Exponent for details!

New Members as of 2/4/97

Katherine Albin, Chicago, IL
First Chicago Capital Markets

Barbara Allen, Barrington Hills, IL
Quaker Oats

Kathleen A. Bailey, LaGrange, IL
Reynolds Metals Company

Nancy Pochis Bank, Chicago, IL
The J.S. Group

Martha Barrett, Chicago, IL

Rose Brintlinger, Columbus, IN
Commings Engine Company

Julia A. Bristow, Evanston, IL
First Chicago NBD

Amy Bryant, Chicago, IL
Hamilton Communications Group

Mary L. Burke, Chicago, IL
Harris Trust & Savings Bank

Susan M.S. Chang, Hinsdale, IL
Moriane Valley Community College

Sara Coffou, Chicago, IL
CoffouKanzler & Associates

Alice Conners, Park Ridge, IL
Business Strategies

Cindy Ferguson Cruise, Glen Ellyn, IL
Motorola, Inc.

Elizabeth K. Davis, River Forest, IL
Arthur Anderson LLP

Mary E. Devine, Frankfort, IL
Devine/Arendt Consulting

Sherry Donnelly, Chicago, IL
Everen Securities, Inc.

Jill Eckluno, Chicago, IL
RB&H Financial Services, L.P.

Diane M. Fitzgerald, Arlington Heights, IL
The Fitzgerald Group

Carole Johnston Forgan, Lake Forest, IL

Nancy J. Foster, St. Charles, IL
LaSalle Northwest National Bank

Susan Freehling, Chicago, IL
Freehling Pot & Pan Co.

Kathleen Goetsch, Lake Barrington, IL
ZurichAmerican Insurance

Karen O. Gould, Highland Park, IL
Ameritech Corporation

Paige A. Greve, Chicago, IL
Coopers & Lybrand

Trisha Gross, Darien, IL
Lawson Software

Marybeth Herkes, Naperville, IL
Bank of America

Susan M. Holt, Mt. Prospect, IL

June Houston, Chicago, IL
Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago

Aloma Jackson, Richton Park, IL
Xerox Corp.

Susan L. Kane, Park Ridge, IL
Softer Lite Window Company

Wendy R. Katz, Deerfield, IL

Mary Elizabeth Kehl, Chicago, IL
ABN AMRO

Tamara Kelling, Naperville, IL

Stephanie Knell Klein, Chicago, IL
Leo Burnett

Claire Alison Baldikoski Koeneman
Chicago, IL, The Financial Relations Board

Cindy Lester, Chicago, IL

Bonnie Lucas, Lincolnwood, IL
Niles Township High Schools

Christine Ludwig, Chicago, IL
United Airlines

Julianne Markow, Chicago, IL
Sara Lee Corp.

Peggy K. Matson, Arlington Heights, IL
Motorola

Kathryn McCabe, Chicago, IL
Red Flash Internet

Kelli S. Mock, Chicago, IL
Anderson Consulting

Marianne Murphy, Chicago, IL
United States Gypsum

Myrna J. Newman, Glenview, IL
Heads and Threads Company

Elaine Oberweis, Aurora, IL
Oberweis Dairy, Inc.

Valerie Vogt Pape, Arlington Heights, IL
Kemper Insurance Companies

Nancy A. Rix, Downers Grove, IL
Ernst & Young LLP

Dina B. Ross, Chicago, IL
Ungaretti & Harris

Nancie Ruder, Chicago, IL
Leo Burnett Company

Ellen Rudnick, Riverwoods, IL
Pacific Biometrics

Susanne B. Rutherford, Chicago, IL
Ennis, Knupp & Associates

Diane Bryant Sampson, Aurora, IL
225 West Wacker Drive

Henrietta Saunders, Glenview, IL
First Chicago NBD

Anne Silverman, Chicago, IL
U.S. Robotics

Helene Bak Slowik, River Forest, IL

Martha J. Stevenson, Chicago, IL
Advantis

Carolyn T. Stewart, St. Charles, IL
NICOR

Leigh Ann Stouffer, Oak Park, IL
Wells Lamont

Patricia Gentile Strobel, Chicago, IL
KPMG Peat Marwick LLP

Margaret Swanton, Chicago, IL
Tactics, Inc.

Betsy J. Tandy, Chicago, IL

Roberta S. Walker, Naperville, IL
Mitchell, Vaught and Walker, Inc.

Nicole S. Williams, Glencoe, IL
R.P. Scherer

Connections

Shawn McGuinness Gavin '89, and her husband are pleased to announce the arrival of their second son, Matthew Craig Gavin, born December 19, 1996.

The UCWBG is still looking for a Vice-President of Internal Communications. This job involves producing the Exponent, and working with the Programs Committee to arrange coverage for UCWBG events. Call Dubravka Deppen at 847-729-3819 or Susan Miner at 630-717-8604 for information and details.

Connections

**Has a special event occurred in your life?
Have you been/will be a guest speaker, started
in a new company, been appointed to a board
of directors, started expanded family, etc.?
We'd like to include the information in the
next issue of The Exponent "Connection"
section. Please write to UCWBG, 1805 North
Mill Street, Suite A, Naperville, IL 60563-1275
or fax changes to 630-369-3773.**

- New Address Promotion or Award
 New Job Accomplishment

Name _____

Day Phone _____ Class Year _____ Campus 190 XP

Please describe any change in the space below

Calendar

February

- 27 Mother's Network meeting in Northbrook.
Contact Susan at 847-940-0579.

March

- 2 West Group Networking dinner.
Call Karin Janowski for details, 312-661-6985.
- 9 Girl Scout Career Day, sponsored by the UCWBG & Junior League of Chicago, 1-5 pm.
Contact Tammie for details, 312-424-6186.
- 11 North/Northwest group networking dinner, 6:30pm, Edwardo's Restaurant, Northbrook.
Call Pam Russell at 847-295-9568 to RSVP.
- 12 UCWBG Board Meeting, 6:15-9:00 pm, Gleacher Center
- 16 High Tea, Drake Hotel, Chicago.
Contact Danielle for details 630-954-3794.

April

- 5 Exponent Deadline. Call Dubravka Deppen at 847-729-2903 for details
- 5 Women Employed 12th Annual Networking Event.
Keynote Speaker: Hermene D. Hartman.
Please Contact Valerie 773-380-5753 for details.
- 7 Mother's Networking meeting, Hinsdale. Contact Susan at 847-940-0579.
- 9 UCWBG Board Meeting, 6:15-9:00 pm, Gleacher Center

MAY

- 14 UCWBG Board Meeting, 6:15-9:00 pm, Gleacher Center
- TBA University Career Management Conference
- 22 North/Northwest Group, West Group, Consulting Round Table joint meeting. Speaker Joanne Gucwa.
Call Pam at 847-295-9568 for details.

The Exponent is published bi-monthly

Send calendar listings to Melinda Reck, 15 East 13th Street, Lombard, IL 60148-4562, fax 630-495-8148.

Call Dubravka Deppen at 847-729-2903, before April 1st for details if you are planning on submitting an article.

Contributors

Susan Miner '93	Maureen Thomas '87	Melinda Reck '95
Diana Bartlett '83	Danielle Carrier '86	Kathy Terman '85
Pam Russell '80	Karin Janowski '90	
Diana Carpenter '82	Elizabeth Duncklee '90	



The University of Chicago Women's Business Group

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Forwarding Address Correction Requested

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