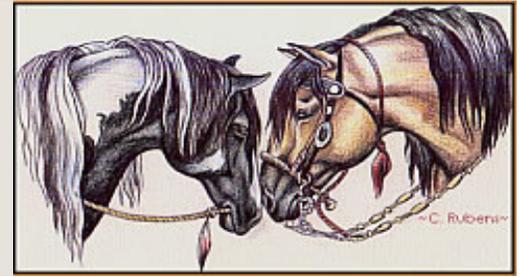


HORSES OF THE AMERICAS

VOLUME: 12

NUMBER: 3



Editors Notes:

As the new, *might I say new*, Newsletter editor you may see certain changes in format. One of the biggest is the program used to produce the newsletter. It is called Adobe InDesign and allows for the set-up of a template document (Just not the first time). My goal is to have the newsletter out and available prior to the events occurring and issue months.

The next is the articles that are going to be included, fresh changes to better inform our audience. I am trying to up your interest for both young and mature (we don't use the "Old" word) as well as new and existing members. Input is appreciated both good and bad, please be as constructive as possible. Articles suggestions would be spectacular as well as articles you write.

Included in this newsletter is a synopsis of who I am and how I got involved with this amazing breed of horses. This is because I need articles! No longer will the newsletter be held waiting on an article or event announcement. If you miss the deadline, well we'll just include it in the next issue.

That said, you are all probably wondering, "What deadline, did we have one before?" well yes there was but not followed strictly. So here it is, all articles and event, advertising, announcements or other stuff (funny pictures) are due on the last day of the month prior to the issue month so for the Fall issue, Sept-Oct-Nov, submissions cut off deadline is August 31st. Time is needed to produce and edit submissions.

With so much information out there I can find plenty to fill up our own encyclopedia. Enough said about the "Nitti Gritty", read on and hopefully enjoy.



Grumbings from a Grumpy Old Man:

The Future of our Horses Does History repeat it self?

The Livestock Conservancy News, winter 2014 issue has a very interesting article regarding our horses. If you aren't a Livestock Conservancy member and didn't get a copy, I think you can find it on the Livestock Conservancy web site. It goes in depth about the different strains that are at a point of being nonviable. And the ones that are viable, the strains that they recognize, are all listed as Critical. The breed as a whole, called Colonial Spanish are considered threatened.

Where does that leave us as owners, breeders, conservators? What is the future for our horses? What can we do? How can we, come together to try to save our horses. There are a few people that are working very hard to conserve different strains. We owe them a large Thank You. There are others, myself included, breeding for a type we prefer. There are many different ideas in breeding. As long as we maintain the breed standards, this is OK.

Is this method a problem? A friend says she breeds the best to the best and has been successful with many ribbons and awards over the years. Some breed for color, the LP project is an example. Bryant Rickman and a few others with the Choctaws have included the few Cherokee and Housateca's left, into them. There are programs for the Bankers and for the Santa Cruz horses. But these are all small groups of horses.

Somewhere in the late 30's or early 40's, Bob Brislawn and his brother Ferdinand, Gilbert Jones and Ilo Belsky came to realize that the Spanish Horses were virtually gone. The Brislawn's along with Gilbert Jones, Ilo Belsky, and a few others set out to save these horses. The SMR was formed in 1957 and it took until 1973 for the first 400 horses to be registered. In the 80's we talked about there being about 3500 Spanish Horses left. There is a lot of interest in the horses.

New people have become involved with the horses, some of these new people started breeding programs.

Another contributing factor is the economy, which got a little tough and suddenly there was a glut of Spanish Mustangs. The government got involved with the wild horses, the BLM and now they were dumping horses on the market for \$125.00. Hard to compete when they were using the name Mustangs too. And the government had more money to spend for advertising than we did. The tide turned again and people started seeing the difference in our horses,

The American Livestock Breed Conservancy has helped a lot and coined the name Colonial Spanish. Things appear to be improving and things got better, more people got involved and more horses were being raised and sold, and appreciated for what they are.

Then the economy dumped again, leaving many struggling with too many horses, too little money. We lost some of the bigger breeders to old age and death. Some others to money can't stay afloat with all the horses and no market for them. The question now is how many horses are left now?

What can we do to save our horses? Bob & Ferdy Brislawn, Gilbert Jones, and Ilo Belsky were committed to saving the Spanish horses. They each had a little different idea of what a straight Spanish Horse was. At first they were able to accept the little differences in the horses.

As time went on, problems came up, differences became personal and the different registries came into being. What was a good Spanish Horse last year weren't the next year, wrong color, and wrong whatever. What can we do to overcome this problem? What can we do to be able to accept the MINOR differences in our horses?

What can we do to save our horses? We don't have the Brislawn's and the Cayuse Ranch or Gilbert Jones and the Medicine Springs Ranch to hold the seed stock for the rest of us. Does anyone really believe that if they were still alive, Bob, Gilbert and Ilo wouldn't be inspecting the horses to see if there was a straight Spanish horse that slipped by.

Over the years there were so many people and horses that became lost, not registering their horses, unhappy with minor issues? But they still kept their horses straight. Small groups of horses that have been isolated are the Santa Cruz, the New Mexico horses from from the Baca's, Mt Taylor and McKinley's. Yes there are some that have become polluted for different

reasons. Typically pollution caused by the ignorant government agency in charge of them. What can we do to save our horses, Or to make it more PERSONAL, What can YOU do to help save our horses. ***Or will we be the generation that fails the Colonial Spanish Horses and let them disappear?***

From the desk of Deanne Creviston:

Hey y'all welcome to southeastern Tennessee. Hope y'all are ready for the meeting? I've got some great things planned. For those coming in on Thursday and are in need overnight space for your horses, Mr. Jim Hall, may still have few stalls available? Friday night there will be Chili and cornbread for supper. For those who need a hotel room, Best Western has the best value for your dollar. There will be space available to tie your horses inside the barn. For those wanting to camp there is electricity at the Rhea County Fairground campsites for a small fee. The fairgrounds are providing the concessions on Saturday night and Sunday morning.

Saturday morning we will be having an open show using AIHR/HOA rules. It also is an AIHR/HOA point approved event. Judging will be done by Tommi Grey. The classes will be, Tejas Pleasure, Trail, Papoose, Indian Basket, Forest Escape and the Cherokee Ribbon race.

Saturday night is the dinner and business meeting. Bring your appetites we are going to have a down home southern barbeque. Dinner will include pulled pork, baked beans, potato salad and drinks. There will be a small charge for each person to help defray the cost of the meal.

Sunday for those who want to go to church there are several in the area. For anybody who wants to haul the short distance we can go the Chickamauga Battlefield to ride the eight mile loop. I can't wait to see y'all, and safe travels.

***14th Annual HOA Meeting
Oct 10-11-12; Dayton,
Tennessee
Rhea County Fairgrounds
Contact: Deanne Creviston***

Horse Gaits

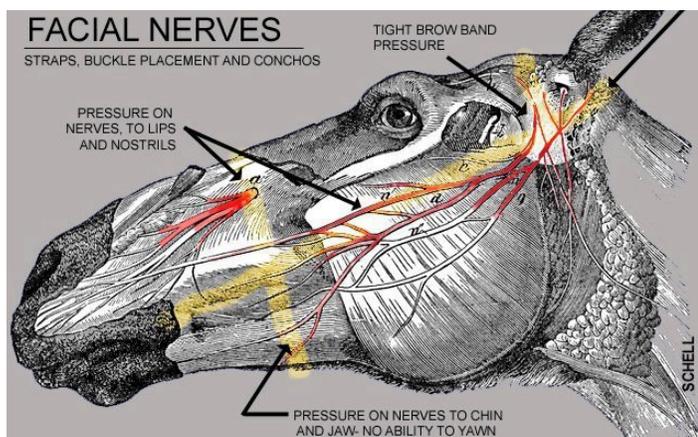
John Aulton, 2004

If your horse is doing an intermediate gait, here's what you do to identify that gait. Put the horse somewhere it can move around faster than a walk but not as fast as a canter. The gait, if it's there, will occur between these two speeds. Look at the horse as it moves and determine if a front and a rear leg moving in unison is diagonal or lateral. The way you look at the horse as you determine that is not based on when the foot hits the ground but when the foot LEAVES the ground. If the foot lift-offs are; diagonal, the horse is basically a trotter; lateral, he is a pacer.

To determine if it's performing an intermediate gait, look at either a diagonal or lateral pair of legs leaving the ground in unison. If the gait is diagonal, and the front leg hits the ground before the rear leg, the horse is doing a fox trot. If the gait is lateral, and the front leg hits the ground before the rear leg, the horse is doing a stepping pace. If the rear leg is being retarded excessively by usually over-stepping (rear leg taking a longer stride than front leg) and the front leg is still hitting the ground before the rear, he horse is doing a running walk. If the horse can continue the running walk at a higher speed comparable to a non-gaited horse's canter, the horse is doing a rack.*

There are different Spanish words for these same gaits, but they are the same gait regardless of the language used. There are also other English words for some of these, i.e., Indian Shuffle is the same as the stepping pace, but they do not represent any additional gaits.

*The single-foot is a faster gait than the running walk, but not as fast as the rack. At this speed, the horse will have one foot on the ground and the other three in the air. The single foot is also smoother than the rack.



Of The Great Sea King

by Tomlyn Grey

**“Come shout, come sing,
Of the great sea king,
and the fame that now
hangs overhead.
Who once did sweep
For the vanquished deep,
And drove the world before him.”**

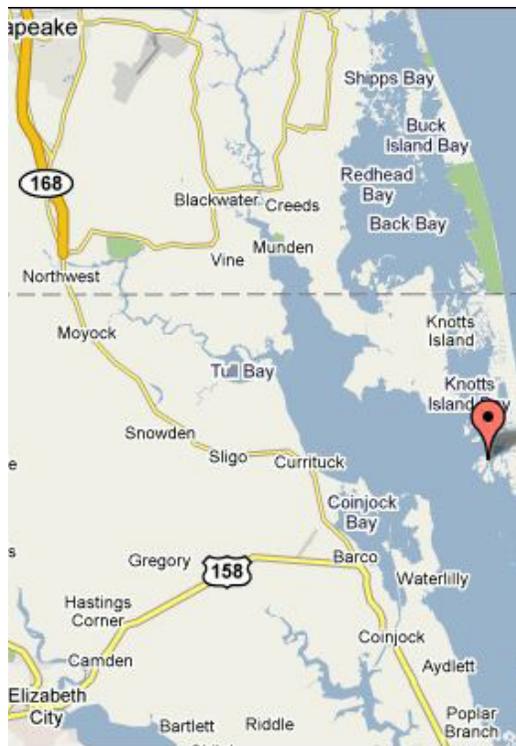
-The Sea King by Wolfstone



Wilburton, Oklahoma. Robber's Cave State Park in October of 2012. It's 6:30 AM on a Saturday morning and it is cold, the kind of cold that sinks into your bones and make even your healthy joints want to seize up and never move again. I'm staying with some friends this weekend as we compete in a Competitive Trail Ride sanctioned by the North American Trail Ride Conference or NATRC. This is my third ride of the year. This is the first time in years I've managed to make three rides which is the requirement to qualify for end of year awards, and it's been even longer since I've done it on one of my own horses instead of having my way paid to ride someone else's. I love this sport. I love the long miles in the saddle, and the skill it requires of both you and your horse. I love the people and the friendly atmosphere. But what I don't love is the early mornings. And on a day that's also cold, it's really hard to love much of anything.

To make matters worse, today I'm sick as well. My friend's living quarters trailer is very comfortable, but with no bathroom it means a trip out to the woods behind camp to empty my stomach of its contents. I've already been up about an hour, and in another thirty minutes they will be timing horses out on trail to start the day's journey off. The sun is up just enough to see well, but not nearly enough to actually break the horrible cold that's making me shiver uncontrollably. I never actually saw the temperature all weekend, but the heavy frost on the ground proves it did drop below freezing in the night. I stumble back to where Richard Widon and his daughter Callie, my hosts for this weekend, are holding my horse and I wonder why I put myself through this misery. Why do I want to get up at such an ungodly hour on a weekend when I feel so poor just to go freeze my backside off. For... what, exactly? Fun? How can anything be fun when you feel this miserable?

The answer is waiting for me when I break clear of the brush, and he's attached to the reins in Callie's hands. CWH The Sea King is my Corolla stallion. All of 12.2 hands, he looks little even beside Callie's Napoleon Solo who breaks 13 hands easily, and yet my little King carries himself like the royalty he's named after. His winter coat is thick but still a shiny sorrel even in this weather, making his white, red, and flaxen mane look more like fire than anything else. His ears are up and his eyes are bright, and while he's very excited and very eager to start the 15 mile ride of the day, he stands perfectly still and watches me with big, soft eyes, which wordlessly share his concern for me. He is the reason I mounted up that morning. It wasn't merely the idea of how disappointed he'd have been not to go out, or even how much money I'd loose on expenses and entry to get here, but the fact that he deserved to be out there. And soon his happiness rubs off on me. Once we get on the trail, he trots out across the Oklahoma rock as though he'd been raised on in instead of wind swept beaches. His eara were up and his tail was out and all he cared about was going down the trail. Within the first couple of miles I felt human again, and soon I was even enjoying myself as much as he was – he'd shown me the joy, the reason I loved this so much again just be being him, by being a show off and just generally happy to be alive and going somewhere. He deserved to show off on the trail. He deserved the chance to prove that he was truly something very, very special.



King was born off the coast of North Carolina to one of the few strains of Colonial Spanish Horses that still get to run wild and free as their ancestors did. The tourist town of Corolla, NC is located on the Outer Banks and, like many neighboring towns, includes the sorts of things most people have come to expect: pavement, shopping malls, restaurants, time share houses on the beach, you name it. But travel far enough down the beach and you will find the fence line that leads off into to surf and marks the end of the payment. The houses and mansions on this side of the island require a 4x4 vehicle to get to and do not allow for enclosed yards. Here you can see where the grasslands and beaches meet, where trees and dunes collide, and where wild Spanish horses live hand in hand with human elitists and modern conveniences. On any given day a person can walk out and see young foals playing in the surf or a stallion and his harem dozing in the shade of mansions on stilts.

They are the remnants of Spanish settlers, left behind by shipwrecks and innovations now centuries past, and the survivors of hurricanes and so-called "progress" that threaten their home and lives even today. They pose no danger to anyone who treats them precisely as they are, wild animals roaming in their natural home. And yet they are constantly under attack.

Like their cousins the American Mustang managed by the Bureau of Land Management, it seems the government has made it their mission to do away with the wild horses. There is a train of thought that teaches there were no horses in North America until the Spanish arrived, and so the US Government views all wild horses as an "invading" species despite the fact that most wild horse strains have been perfectly happy and lived in perfect unison with their environments for hundreds of years. In the case of the Corolla Horses, it is the US Fish and Wildlife Services who pose the problem by constantly wanting to restrict the herd's land with fencing and demanding lower herd numbers.



Already the Corolla herd is on the brink of genetic collapse due to their isolation and constant cut-backs of the herd size. What's worse is that for decades people would chastise the horses, thinking them to be mongrels and mutts that weren't good for anything but taking up space. Attitudes like this have led to many attacks and slayings of the horses by civilians visiting the island. Local architects and business continue to develop the horse side of the island with more concern about revenue than lasting effect on the environment and the horses. This same development often causes injury and illness to the horses. It's into this turbulent scene that the Corolla Wild Horse Fund steps in. They are the advocates and care takers of the Corolla horses. They help educate local people and visitors on correct treatment of the horses and local laws, as well as fight the government for the wellbeing of the horses when needed. They also rescue hurt and sick horses from the island to nurse them back to health. That's where King came from.

No one is really sure how his left hock got so torn up and infected, but chances are good it was in a fight with another stallion. So obscure was his injury at first that the CWHF called him "Mystery" when he was removed from the island for veterinary care. His leg was almost unusable, but after weeks of therapy and doctoring he made a full recovery. Sadly, any horse that is removed from the island becomes



exposed to new diseases and human interaction, meaning that once they leave they can never go back. So instead, after his recovery King was placed with us here at Karma Farms in Texas to be our stallion in our Corolla off-site breeding program. Working with him and our other Corollas, it became very clear to me that the CWHF was doing very important work – these were very special horses, and they needed to be saved.

King proved his weight in gold his first year out. Many Corollas that are adopted after being rescued are often used as family horses, pleasure trail horses, and exhibition horses – very few get to be campaigned in a competitive discipline. In our first year we concentrated mainly on Indian Horse Shows and, though being green, he still placed in the Top Ten adult horses in the Tejas Indan Horse Club for the year. Amongst his first year wins included a very prestigious 1st place ribbon at the AIHR/HOA National Show – the Champion "O" Aged Stallion award – against such well known and beautiful horses like Building a Mystery and Northern Song. But many people in this circuit had become familiar with King and his unique background very quickly. It wasn't until our second year, when we started NATRC for the first time, that I discovered how strong his influence truly was.

I have been doing NATRC on Colonial Spanish Horses my entire life, and so the riders of Region 4 are very familiar with us and our horses. But never had they seen anything quite like my little sea horse. "He's so well mannered," is a common comment we heard, with many people being very shocked to learn he's a stallion (he's been seen falling asleep when standing next to mares before). Often we will also hear of how smart he is (he loves to show off how he can bob for apples), or how sweet (as he often loves to be cuddled and hugged), as well as how pretty. But unlike in Tejas where many people had seen Corollas before, only here did we often get the question, "What is he?"

This then opened the door to the full explanation of King's rich heritage and his strain's dire need. Many times after talking to these folks they would be intrigued and concerned enough to not only want more information, but some folks would actually want to do something to help. On one occasion, after King and I helped rescue a lady who'd taken a terrible fall and broke her arm, I heard her say of King, "You know, maybe I should get a horse like that." Of course, it didn't hurt that King was actually very good at it.



At Wilburton, he finished the ride and placed second in a full class, adding to the third and previous second to his tally. With only three rides, he still placed fourth overall in NATRC's Region 4, which consists of Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas. And that is only his second year in NATRC. This was to be his third year, but tragedy struck. In June I suffered a head injury that kept me unable to work for 2 months, and my already stretched budget became non-existent. Any chance of making any rides this year went completely out of the window. After that I was also forced to purchase a new vehicle, and with each hurdle my dreams on campaigning King and promoting the Corolla horse seemed to get further and further away.

But in 2014, you can help us make a difference. I have started a crowdfunding campaign to help me take King to NATRC rides in the 2014 season. We've had donations that have assured we can make it to one ride so far and maybe even two, but without your help our year will stop there. For every ride that King makes more people are exposed to the Corolla horse and more proof is made that they are anything but "mongrels". They are not "throw away" horses. They are a beautiful and rich piece of American History. My goal is to prove that by earning King a National Championship in NATRC. I can do the work, the conditioning, the training – I can even get up and ride on a freezing day when I'm sick and go tackle the miles. But I can't pay all of the costs associated. Please help us help the Corolla horses. To donate to King's NATRC fund, please go to <http://www.gofundme.com/4y89r4>.

And please don't forget the people who are on the front lines protecting and caring for these horses. If this article has intrigued you at all about the Corolla horses, please check out the Corolla Wild Horse Fund at <http://www.corollawildhorses.com/>.

This story is not done. This is a story in the making. Be a part of our story and help us find our happy ending – not just for King, but for all Corollas.



Me and Miranda the Miracle in my life.



I was trying to decide what should be written as an introduction, you see for me it's sometimes difficult to talk about myself to strangers let alone write an article. Well I'm just going to have to pull up my britches and get over that.

Let us start with why I got involved with horses at the age of 50 (oops just dated myself). In 2006 strange things started happening to me physically and cognitively that just couldn't be passed off as fatigue or the flu I just got over. It began with a strange burning itch and tingling in the heel of my right foot. It moved from the inside of my heel to the outside, and then strangely it would switch feet. I went to the doctors who had no clue what was happening. It went away and then one night it was so bad it hurt to even bear weight on the foot so off to emergency room we went. There was a follow-up visit with the doctor who again just scratched their head totally confounded, then it dissipated on its own.

About a month after that I woke up and noticed my left eye appeared to be dim like someone had turned down the power. I continued "on my way to work but as the day preceded my vision in the left eye continued to go dimmer until finally all I could see was a black spot in the center of my eye, I could make out images peripherally but not straight out.



Red Fred Qtr Horse #1
"What rope! I didn't do anything to a rope."

Desperately I got on the phone trying to locate an ophthalmologist that could see me right away. There was one in the next town over that just had a cancellation and I jumped at the appointment. This wonderful ophthalmologist was very positive and told me what was going on with my eye was called Optic Neuritis and that it would dissipate with no medical intervention. It is sometimes brought on my stress and fatigue and not very often by other neurological issues. He recommended I take the rest of the week off and gave me a doctor's note, but also advised I consult my medical doctor so he was aware of the diagnosis. Well gee what did he mean by this?? For those of you, who know me well; also know that when I feel there's not something quite right, I start digging. I worked in the medical field and was very knowledgeable about where to research and what to look for. So that's just what I did. To make its long story very short, by guiding my medical team it was discovered I had Multiple Sclerosis or MS and I *wallowed in self-pity for 6 long years*.

Now many of you may be thinking "Why is this crazy lady talking about her medical issues when this is a newsletter about the Colonial Spanish Mustangs?" So this is where the connection is made.

In 2012 my neurologist sat me down and basically told me my balance was shot due to core body muscle loss, which was affecting my walking ability and causing me to loose muscle strength in my legs. My arms were no better as I was not doing anything to strengthen my body. I had gone through physical therapy and the outlook was grim. She then clearly told me I could either continue on my current path or I could pull up my big girl panties and start to fight back the best way to gain what I had lost was on the back of a horse. She then took me down to a room where this mechanical saddle sat and turned it on to show me how it worked, the cost was \$500. I was thinking "Yeah right this thing is going to fix me."



Cally (Calico) Qtr Horse #2
"Immovable Object meets Stubborn Force."

Later that month I was on Facebook and saw an ad pop up on one of my pages about a horse that was for sale for \$300 and I started thinking, "Could this really work, how could I own a horse when I lived in town. How could I care for a horse when I really hadn't done anything with horse since I was 15." Over the next 3 months and some trials which of course follow the errors! Like the first time I rode this \$300 horse mounting was no problem it was the dismounting I didn't get so well and the only thing I could think of was to fall off the horse. So I fell off the horse (who calmly looked down at me as if asking what I was doing on the ground). My first thought when I hit the ground was OMG did I break something! So I lay there taking a mental check of my body and then I burst out laughing thinking "I still bounce at 50...I still bounce at 50".

I went through 2 quarter horses, 3 falls and over \$1000 in 3 months, was this worth it? REALLY worth it? Hell yes I am worth it and determinedly put both horses for sale on Craigslist. I ended up trading them for a round pen and \$300 thinking I could sell the round pen and start over. I went back to the lady I bought the first horse from and explained what happened and desperately asked her if she or someone she knew had a horse that would fit my needs. This wonderful, colorful lady, who you all know so well, was Vickie Ives. (Next installment will begin my life with the Colonial Spanish Mustangs, when God sends me Miranda)



Horses Currently For Sale

Midnight Waltz, HOA 1866, out of
Delightful Dancer by Dancin Fire

Foaled 4-8-2008, well started
under saddle.



Dancin Wind, HOA 1898, foaled
5-2-2009, out of Yuane by
Dancin Fire, well started,
still intact



**Crooked
Fences
Acres**

**Tom & Della
Norush
Attica,
Indiana
765-762-6628**



Angel of Fire, HOA 1958 out of Wind blown flame by Dancin Fire,
foaled 5-2-2012





Karma Farms

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Promoting America's First Horse-- the Colonial Spanish



Vickie Ives and Tomlyn Grey

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Tommi--(903) 503-8611

Visit us at www.karmafarms.com

and at Karma Farms on Facebook

Giant Herd Reduction Sale!!

Ms Vickie needs hip surgery and must reduce the Karma Farms herd size while she recovers.

No serious offer will be refused!

Contact Karma Farms for information in regards to any horse you are interested in .

Please Keep Sending in your articles & ads!

HOA Newsletter Deadlines:

Winter Issue (Dec-Jan-Feb)
deadline: November 30th,
out by December 15th
Spring Issue (March-April-May)
deadline: Feb 28th
out by March 15th
Summer Issue (June-July-Aug)
deadline: May 31st
out by June 15th
Fall Issue (Sept-Oct-Nov)
deadline: August 31st
out by September 15th

HOA NewsLetter Ad Rates

Full Page = \$50.00
1/2 Page = \$35.00
1/4 Page = \$25.00

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