



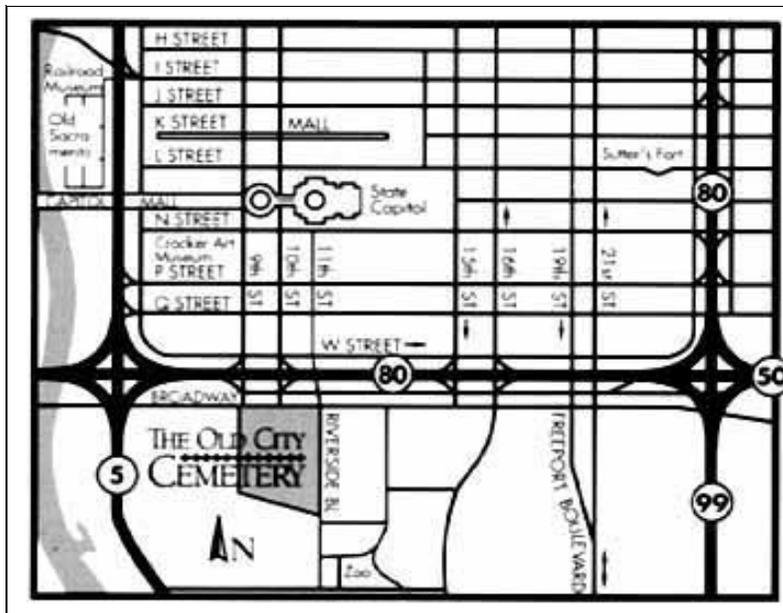
ALLIANCE UPDATE

APRIL 2016

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PCA 2016 ANNUAL MEETING August 25th & 26th Marriott Rancho Cordova

11211 Point East Dr., Rancho Cordova, CA 95742
Tel: (916) 638-1100



Hamilton Square Old City Cemetery

Thursday, August 25

We'll start our event with a guided tour of our Capital's oldest cemetery – Old City Cemetery. The tour will begin at 5:30 PM – meet at the main entrance on 10th St. & Broadway.

7:00 PM

Reception Dinner

at the Marriott in Rancho Cordova,

Friday, August 26, 2016

7:45 AM Registration

8:30 AM Meeting Begins



Registration information will be sent by mail.

Equipment show and Safety Meeting

Ray Young PCA Director

Vendors started arriving before the sun came up at the McMillan Center inside the beautifully groomed Fair Oaks Park. We couldn't have asked for a more picture perfect setting or day. The equipment rolled in flat bed after flat bed to everyone's pleasure. Vendors displayed everything from hand held grass trimmers from Baker Equipment Sales to our largest piece of equipment which was a New Holland excavator from Beeler Tractor.

Mark Marshall, Jennifer Peters and Betsey Downey, GSRMA Safety Team provided the safety training for all of the attendees.

Mark Marshall, with the assistance of the Brandon Garrison from Beeler Tractor and John Anderson, manager Madera Cemetery District lead the training session for the Backhoe safety. After the Safety presentation, it was obvious people were listening with amount and quality of questions that were asked.

Jennifer Peters presented our Heat Illness Prevention Safety Training. Again, the information is invaluable to all of us and I believe the timing is perfect as we are coming up to the hot part of our season. Once again with amount and number of questions asked it was obvious the audience was paying close attention and we are thankful for the participation of the Safety Team, Mark, Jennifer and Betsey.

I want to give a special shout out to Anthony Bertoldi and crew of Valley Truck and Tractor for providing lunch for all. Anthony fed over 100 people and it was some quality food, nothing like hamburgers and hot dogs cooked over a open flame. Fantastic, thanks Anthony.

The big winner of our Backhoe Golf competition was Gonzalo Vega from Fair Oaks Cemetery District who took home the Shindawa Hedge trimmer, compliments of Exmark Mowers, Mitchell Domingos, Sales Manager. Gonzalo showed off his skills in the highly taunted Backhoe Golf Competition. Many tried but failed the trial to maneuver a two-foot diameter ball between the 30-inch wide goal posts. The putting distance tested the skill of the contestants. Gonazlo was the champion. It was close but no cigar for the other two contestants that attempted to best Gonzalo on the complicated course.

Trynton Cassady from Live Oak Cemetery District was the champion in the highly technical Cowboy Horseshoe Toss. It takes some real technical know how to throw those horseshoes with the prescion that these conestants did. You should of seen the form of some of these contestants. It would thoroughly baffle you how someone could contort their body into that configuration

just to through a toilet seat!!!! It is legendary to say the least!!

Once more I want to send a special thanks out to Art Leonard from Orland Cemetery District and Kelly Ehrman, Roseville Cemetery District for their help to co-sponsor this event, couldn't of done it without them. Thanks to you both and your District's for allowing you to participate.

Also without the Vendors we would not of had any or the great raffle prizes we were able to have to raffle off. Thanks goes out to them in particular.

I would be remiss if I didn't give a shout out to the Fair Oaks Recreation and Parks District here in our great community for allowing us the use of one of their beautiful facilities, McMillan Center. Big thanks to District Superintendent Maureen Zamarripa, Katy Coss Recreation Superintendent and Dan Williams Park and Facilities Superintendent.

Just a shout out to all the folks not named, but had a hand in helping to put this great event together and it is my deepest hope that we can keep this going for the benefit of all the Vendors and Cemetery Districts for the future.





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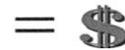
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PCA NOMINATING PROCESS

Each year, prior to the annual meeting, the PCA Nominating Committee will select nominees for the Board of Directors.

All potential nominees are contacted by a member of the nominating committee to secure their consent to be placed on the ballot. They will also be informed as to the responsibilities involved as a member of the team.

Although the nominating committee has the responsibility to select nominees, other nominations can be made from the floor at the annual meeting provided the qualifications of Article V Section 3 of the by-laws are met.

ARTICLE V: BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Section 1. Number

The Board of Directors shall consist of seven (7) members.

Section 2. Service

The term of service shall be two (2) years with four (4) directors elected on each odd numbered year and three (3) directors elected on each even numbered year.

Section 3. Qualifications

At the time of nomination and election each nominee for the Board of Directors shall be a member of the administrative staff or of the governing board of a Corporate or Associate member. No more than one member may be elected from any one Corporate or Associate member.

Section 6. Nomination and Election of the Board of Directors

The nominating committee will select nominees for three (3) or four (4) positions on the Board of Directors. It will, at least thirty (30) days before the annual meeting, send to each Corporate and Associate member, the names of the nominees selected. **Nominations may be made from the floor at the annual meeting. All nominees must agree to serve prior to being nominated.**

Madera Regional Safety Training Day

John Anderson
Vice-President

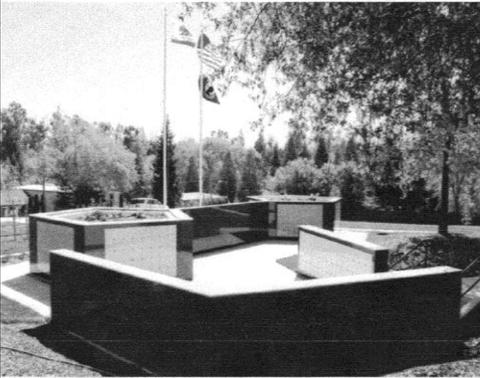
Madera Cemetery District along with Golden State Risk Management Authority held a Regional Safety Training Day on February 10, 2016. We had a great turnout with 14 Cemetery Districts represented with 62 people attending. Three breakout sessions were given. Harassment-Employees responsibility was presented by Mark Marshall- GSRMA. Lawnmower Maintenance & Safe Operation was presented by Robert Ohannesian- Grasshopper. Lockout Tagout was presented by John Anderson- Madera Cemetery District. These Safety Training Days provide a great opportunity for your employees to learn and become more aware of Safety in the Workplace. GSRMA provides this service to its members and is a great way to get to know other Districts in your area and to learn more about what they are doing to provide a safe work environment.





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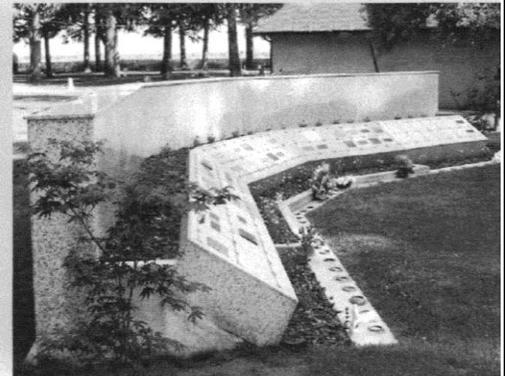


"We have been very pleased with the last three niche projects constructed by Cordeiro Vault Company. Their attention to detail during design and construction has been impressive. They have also assisted us in competitively pricing the niches for our cemetery district."

*Ray Young, General Manager
Fair Oaks Cemetery District*

"Working with Cordeiro Vault Company over the last several years on four different niche projects at Gridley-Biggs Cemetery District has been a pleasant experience. Their professional staff and the quality of the finished product is the reason we would not hesitate to use their services in the future."

*Pat Teague, District Manager
Gridley-Biggs Cemetery District*



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*Arnie Brinton, Manager
Cottonwood Cemetery District*

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TRUSTEE = ONE VOTE

This is a reprint of an article by
Attorney Robert W. Hunt

One of the most common issues encountered by board members of public agencies is how to function within the boundaries of their powers.

Every trustee should undertake his or her duties with the understanding that he or she may act by casting a single vote.

Cemetery district trustees are expected to educate themselves about cemetery district laws, practices, business, and operations generally, and to keep themselves informed about the details of their own districts, all while remaining within their legal powers and not micromanaging staff and employees. It is unquestionably a difficult balance to achieve.

So what are a trustee's powers, duties and obligations?

A cemetery district trustee is a member of a three- or five-member board of trustees. The board acts on behalf of, and is subordinate to those it represents—the residents and taxpayers of their district. Cemetery district boards are not subordinate to the county Board of Supervisors. The board owes a fiduciary duty to the district itself, not to any other agency.

The board's function is to control and manage the organization. As a practical matter, boards set direction, policy, and strategy, and to raise, manage and preserve the finance resources of the organization. Typical duties of boards of trustees include:

- governing the organization by establishing broad policies and objectives; □ selecting, appointing, supporting and reviewing the performance of the agency's senior manager; □ ensuring the availability of adequate financial resources; □ approving annual budgets; □ accounting to the stakeholders for the organization's performance; and

- setting the salaries and compensation of agency employees.

Typically the board chooses one of its members to be the chairperson, who holds whatever title is specified in the bylaws. Boards delegate the operation of the district, and the authority necessary to carry out that responsibility, to managers and other staff.

The powers of the board are vested in the board as a whole—not in individual trustees. Trustees have strict obligations and standards of care in the exercise of their duties—these are the fiduciary duties that trustees owe the residents and taxpayers

of their districts. The duties apply to each trustee separately, while the powers are those of the board jointly.

A trustee's basic function is to act as a member of the board—that means casting his or her single vote in a duly noticed and properly conducted meeting of the board. A trustee's duty is to act with ordinary care and inquiry in his or her decision-making. A trustee must perform his or her duties:

- in good faith (i.e., sincerely and honestly); □ in a manner the trustee believes to be in the best interests of the district; and □ with such care as an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would use in similar circumstances.

Inherent in all of these concepts is the obligation to be informed, to educate oneself about the agency, its operations, similar agencies, law governing the agency's operations, and all matters which are necessary to make informed decisions.

Unless particular power is specifically conferred upon a trustee in the district's bylaws, a trustee has no power to:

- enter into contracts or make agreements on behalf of the district; □ commit the district to any course of action; □ to give direction to employees of the district; □ to make decisions or take action on behalf of the district; □ to authorize the expenditure of district funds or make purchases for the district; □ to discipline or reprimand employees; □ to speak on behalf of the district; and □ other such actions taken independently without board authorization. "Ultra Vires"

"beyond the legal power or authority of a person" - Individual trustees taking actions "ultra vires" may unilaterally incur liability or obligation for the agency, but may also incur liability for his or herself.

"Conflict of duty and interest"

As fiduciaries, the trustees may not put themselves in a position where their interests conflict with the duties that they owe to the agency. The law takes the view that good faith must not only be done, but must be manifestly seen to be done—the law will not allow trustees to escape liability by asserting that his or her decision was in fact well founded.

Remember:

- POWER is held by the board as a whole—not individual trustees

- Trustees have DUTIES and OBLIGATIONS □ A trustee may act only by CASTING A VOTE in a meeting of the board

- A trustee must EDUCATE and INFORM himself or herself

- A trustee may NOT TAKE ACTIONS UNILATERALLY without board direction

- A trustee may not directly involve himself or herself in the day-to-day operations of the district = MICROMANAGING



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STRENGTH IN SAFETY

Betsey Downey,
Safety and Loss Prevention Specialist
Golden State Risk Management Authority

Here at GSRMA, we pride ourselves on the knowledge that our Safety and Loss Prevention Programs help our valued members stay safe. Awareness and commitment to safe work practices can only improve operations at your cemetery, and your quality of life outside of work.

For instance, take proper lifting. It's one thing to get a job done quickly by yourself, but understand you assume a risk when you do so. First the obvious: you risk injuring yourself if your body mechanics aren't proper. Do you lift with your knees and not with your back each and every time, no matter the size and shape of the item or location of the work? Do you move your feet only once the item is securely in your grasp, or do you twist your torso and move your feet at the same time?

Second, a not so obvious aside on asking for help: you miss an opportunity to call on a co-worker and foster teamwork. People who ask for help are not weak. In fact, asking for help is a skill and takes strength. For some of us, asking for help is not easy! So next time you are tempted to lift an awkward or heavy item, picture spending your valuable free time in a medical office or worse, being couch-bound when you could be enjoying a favorite activity or your family. And then, call a co-worker to assist you. You might save yourself, and your district, valuable time and money.

If you would like more information on Safety and Loss Prevention Programs, please contact Betsey Downey at bdowney@gsrma.org or by calling (530) 934-5633.





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A good number of our members are public cemeteries ranging from multi-site entities with as many as 20 employees and a full time administrative staff, to small entities run with only a small volunteer board. We are proud to provide them and all of our members not just competitive insurance rates, but a solid, respected risk sharing pool, a variety of useful benefits and the highest level of personalized service.

We “work” for California public cemeteries by:

- *Being responsive to busy, multi-tasking cemetery professionals.*
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- *Achieving “Accredited with Excellence” by the California Association of Joint Powers Authorities.*
- *Processing our claims in-house.*
- *Providing a wide range of valuable services to members at no additional cost.*
- *Implementing loss prevention and training incentive programs.*
- *Packaging the best mix of coverage and services from first class partners.*

More than 120 public cemeteries of all sizes and from all regions of California are covered through Golden State Risk Management Authority. If you are not already a GSRMA member, we invite you to contact us and take a look at the comprehensive coverage and services that we offer California public cemetery districts.

For more information please contact:

Jennifer Peters or Naomi Whatley at
(530) 934-5633 or memberservices@gsrma.org
Visit our website at www.gsrma.org



CREMATION IS NOT GOING AWAY

Mel Lewis
Cordeiro Vault Company

Currently statewide cremation rate in CA is 64%, with many areas are in the 80-90% range. I, personally, feel that the rate will reach 75-80% statewide by 2025. As the rate continues to rise, it will have (or already has had) a major effect on the way you do business. Not only does it affect the cemetery, but also all of the vendors you deal with on a daily basis. All cemeteries are micro markets, depending on the cultures, ethnicities, and socioeconomics in the general area. There are currently districts in the PCA organization where the cremation rate is less than 30% and districts that are over 70%. We all realize that the act of cremation is not going away and we need to address the issues that the disposition of cremated remains will pose in the future. The Districts need many types of final disposition with many price points for the consumer to find that "comfort level" they are searching for to make the final disposition of their loved one's cremated remains. Some of the PCA member districts are doing a good job creating new and different types of disposition with a variety of prices. We are experiencing an increase in the cremated remains being taken home with final disposition waiting for a later date. This act will affect your annual case load and certainly your revenue stream. As this problem grows I would suggest that the Trustees limit the number of interments allowed in one grave to two people. There is tremendous liability in allowing multiple persons to be buried in a grave - most problems (and lawsuits) come from the multiple generations involved and who has burial rights to the grave in question. Changing the cemetery regulations to limit the number of interments to no more than 2 remains will help elevate the liability attached to this practice. Just because the cemetery district has allowed multiple interments in a grave for years, does not mean that this practice continue indefinitely. The Trustees need to control this issue by making adjustments in the regulations.

ADDRESSING THIS TOPIC ABOVE OPENS THE WAY FOR DISTRICTS TO GENERATE MORE REVENUE FROM THE CREMATION DISPOSITION. THIS WILL BE NECESSARY TO KEEP THE DISTRICT HEALTHY FINANCIALLY IN THE YEARS TO COME.

NOTE: Churches are now becoming more aggressive in placing columbariums at the Church. It is a "throw back" to the old church graveyard. The Episcopal, Presbyterian, Lutheran, and Catholic denominations are the most active. Most of you have Churches in your cemetery proximity and

they could become competition for cremation disposition. We, as a group, can help each other by discussing new ideas and concepts that are working in your cemetery.. Use the PCA venue to freely and openly discuss the issues we face. Looking forward to seeing all of you at the annual PCA conference in August.

WHAT'S SO SPECIAL ABOUT SPECIAL DISTRICTS

Copied from Fourth Edition
Senate Local Government Committee, Oct. 2010

Special districts are not state government. Special districts are local agencies which deliver specific services to specific communities. Operating under state laws, special districts are autonomous government entities that are accountable to the voters or landowners they serve. State officials, however, oversee special districts. For example, special districts must send their annual financial reports to the State Controller's Office. Districts must also follow the state laws for special taxes, bonded debt, public hearings, public records, and elections.

• **Special districts are not** county governments or cities. Counties and cities are general purpose governments. Counties and cities perform a broad array of services to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all their citizens. Special districts are limited purpose governments. Special districts can provide only the services allowed by state law and supported by their residents. Sometimes county supervisors or city councils are special districts' governing boards, but those districts are legally separate local entities.

SOME PCA FACTS

The PCA has 102 member districts.

Of these districts

52% 0- 50 interments per year
18% 51- 100 interments per year
17% 101 - 200 interments per year
4% 300 - 400 interments per year
1% over 400 interments per year

The 102 PCA member districts employ 365 full and part time employees

637 FORGOTTEN MEN BURIED IN THE FOLSOM PRISON CEMETERY

Sacramento Union 10-25-1953

A prison is a city behind walls – and in prison as in a city, death as well as life is a part of the routine to be met. Men die of violence in prison, and of natural causes – 637 men lie buried in the hillside cemetery of Folsom Prison overlooking the American River. In neat rows stand the grave markers, the older ones of granite, the newer ones of painted wood, memorials to forgotten men who died while paying their debts to society. Folsom Prison Cemetery is as old as the prison itself, but who was the first man to be interred there, or why he died, is lost in the musty records of another century. The identity of all who are buried there is known, but it is not known for sure which of the graves actually is the oldest. No exact date is known as to when the cemetery first was established, but it probably was in 1880, the same year the prison was built. The original prison cemetery was located where the prison dairy now stands. It was moved in the 1920s to its present location to make room for expansion of the actual prison plant. It is a neat, well-kept cemetery, and although too high on the river hill for water to be brought to it without excessive cost, the cemetery is much neater and better kept than many public cemeteries in rural areas. Graves were marked with stone, with the prison number of the deceased chisled into it, in the days when a prison stone yard was maintained. Since the prison rock quarry has been closed, plain white wooden markers, with the prisoner's name and prison number, have been used. Actually the number of deaths that occur in a jail of 2300 inmates, such as Folsom Prison, is much lower in ratio to population than in a town of the same size. This is due to the fact that most inmates are of an age range that covers their most healthy years, the fact they are given the best medical attention, have good food and good living conditions. The average age of a Folsom prison convict is 38. There is no infancy death rate nor high death rate due to extreme old age. Actually the number of persons buried in Folsom Prison Cemetery is only a token number of the deaths that have occurred there over its 73 years of existence. The bodies of the majority of men who died there have been claimed by families or friends and given outside burial. The death rate now also is lower at the prison than ever before. When death of a prisoner occurs, his family, if he has one, is notified. Arrangements can be made for outside burial, just as if he had died outside. If the body is not claimed in due time, it is embalmed and given regular burial in the prison cemetery. Humanitarianism always has played a large part in Folsom Prison administration, even in its earliest days when it was known as the toughest prison in the west. It got that reputation of toughness from the caliber of its inmates, not from the caliber of the treatment accorded them. No prisoner buried here, whether hanged for murder, killed in riots, or in a fight with other inmates, ever has been buried in quick-lime as was once done at early day prisons in the East. There never has been mutilation of a body at Folsom Prison. In the earlier days of the prison, it is true there were no religious services or burial rites for the dead. Men who died were placed in wooden caskets with a shroud and just buried. Religious rites and funeral services were inaugurated in 1929 under administration of Warden Court Smith; but, in reality, it was Bill Ryan, now associate

warden of Folsom Prison, who was responsible for the first funeral services ever held here. The first regular funeral came about when one of the prison's "old timers" a lifer known as Pop died of natural causes. Pop had spent a lot of years behind the walls of Folsom. He played on the prison baseball team in his younger days, and he was a sort of friend and counselor to countless prisoners and was well liked by the prison staff. On the occasion of his death, a delegation of prisoners came to Ryan, who then was a captain, and asked if a few words could be spoken beside the casket. Ryan agreed, but he went further than that – he contacted a Catholic priest in Roseville, for Pop was of the Catholic faith, and asked if the priest would conduct services. Rosary and mass were held in the prison chapel, the result was well received by both prisoners and Warden Smith. Shortly after, the practice of holding funeral services and graveside rites for all who were to be buried in the prison cemetery was inaugurated. Prisoners who are friends of the deceased now attend services in the prison chapel, but for security reasons, they are not allowed to attend the graveside rites. Folsom Prison now has two chaplains, Father Patrick J. Gilligan of the Catholic Faith and Rev. John Dunlop, Protestant. A Jewish rabbi divides his time between Folsom and San Quentin Prisons, and on occasion ministers of other faiths are brought in for services or to administer last rites. Today the bodies of all who are buried here are embalmed, and each man is buried in a new suit of clothes. The prison chapel itself, in which funeral services are held, is a plain, unadorned stone building on the outside, but its interior would do credit to churches in any community. In fact, its muraled walls probably are more beautiful than could be found in many of the finest churches in the largest of cities. The murals, done by a prison artist, were termed by a visiting priest from the Vatican as "real masterpieces." A huge mural of the Last Supper over the church altar was painted by a man sent to prison for murder, and who, although he since has been released, now is serving another term in a Texas penitentiary. The faces of the 12 apostles in the mural are the faces of 12 prisoners who posed for the painting. Every effort is made by prison officials to turn remains of the dead over to the families, and quite often men are buried in the cemetery not because the members of the family wish it so, or have abandoned them, but because they do not have funds for outside funeral expenses. Many times men originally buried in the prison cemetery have been later moved to public cemeteries by their families. Only a few of the men who die in prison actually have been renounced by their families in recent years. "At the turn of the century," said associate Warden Ryan, "the word 'convict' seemed to have a greater stigma attached to it than it does now, and many more families in those days renounced claim to the bodies of a deceased prisoner." Persons who have relatives buried at Folsom can visit the graves, but they seldom do. Only once or twice a year are there requests from a member of a convict's family to visit the cemetery where he is buried, prison officials said. Although in the early days of Folsom Prison, and as late as 1927, there were women prisoners serving sentences there, but not a single woman ever has been buried in the prison cemetery. There never were many women, and only one or two deaths. Their remains were immediately claimed by relatives. It may not be nice to think of dying behind the granite walls of prison, of burial in an anonymous prison grave, but the public may rest assured that those unfortunates who do die there are given a decent and respectable burial.



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