



# ***Military Officers Association of America***

**-- We Never Stop Serving --**

-- We Are One Powerful Voice --

*--- for every officer at every stage of life and career ---*

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## ***Heartland of America Chapter***

**\*\*\*\*\* August 2018 \*\*\*\*\***



***Omaha Deputy Police Chief Ken Kanger***

**"Life has no remote. Get up and change it yourself"**

(Deputy Chief Kanger subscribes to that one motto)

**-- Next Official Dinner Meeting, Wednesday, 15<sup>th</sup> of August --**

(see inside back cover for details)

Check out our website at  
[www.heartlandMOAA.us](http://www.heartlandMOAA.us)  
or call (402)339-7888

# The Bulletin Board

Is the Newsletter of the Heartland of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America. Content is from members, MOAA's [Take Action](#), [Legislative Action Center](#), and other military-oriented sources. Material used is public domain or attributed as to source and copyright. Our editorial policy is the same [non-partisan policy as MOAA](#).

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Lt Colonel Patrick L. Jones, USAF (Ret) Editor & Webmaster - (402)650-4457

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August 2018

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



**We did not have a July dinner meeting. The Chapter Board decided to have 10 meetings a year at Anthony's. In 2019, there will be no dinner meetings in January and July. One is the coldest month of the year and the other is prime vacation time.**

**We are making a slight modification to how we pay for our menu selections at Anthony's. Now, you will be writing your check to the chapter (not Anthony's) for the price of your meal selections. We believe this will be a more efficient, timely, and secure way to handle these payments. I want to thank our Reservations Chair Lt Col Ron Russell for developing these new procedures and Lt Col Pat Jones and Major Doug Pikop for their valuable assistance. Please see the more detailed information elsewhere in this newsletter.**

**Our August 15th speaker will be Omaha's Deputy Chief Ken Kanger who will discuss the role of the Police gang unit. On September 19th, Major General Rick Evans will speak on the progress on the new STRATCOM building. On October 17th, Mr. Jim Hegarty, President and CEO of the Omaha Better Business Bureau will discuss some ways to avoid being scammed. November 14th will be our ROTC Salute meeting and December 12th, our Holiday meeting. In addition, we should be learning the date for the Offutt Retiree Day which is usually held in October and in November, the Bellevue Veterans' Day parade.**

**We recently lost a long-time member and possibly the oldest, Col John F. Watters, USAF (Ret). Col Watters was 101 years old and a Bellevue resident. The World-Herald reported his career "stretched from horse-drawn artillery through strategic bombing and, with the Strategic Air Command (SAC), development of intermediate-range ballistic missiles that could rain destruction on the Soviet Union." In World War II, he flew 25 missions against Germany and then transitioned to the missile field with duties at Offutt AFB and then staff and command positions in England and California. We express our condolences to Col Watters' family and salute his wonderful career.**

Dan Donovan [d.donovan1@cox.net](mailto:d.donovan1@cox.net) 402-339-7888

## Programs

(from Ken McClure, Maj USA (Ret))

**August – Omaha Police program**

**Sept – M/Gen Mark Evans – new STRATCOM HQ**

**Oct – Better Business Bureau**

**Nov – ROTC cadets and cadre from Creighton, UNL, UNO**

### Changes Coming for TRICARE Retiree Dental

(Dean Kenkel CW5, USAR (Ret), 4 June from Benefeds.com)



Program Chair, Ken McClure

**on December 31, 2018, the Defense Health Agency's TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) will end. Don't worry! You can enroll in dental coverage for next year, effective January 1, 2019, but it will be under a different program, the Federal Employees Dental and Vision Insurance Program (FEDVIP), offered by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM).**

**Vision coverage is also available to you for the first time under FEDVIP. Retirees and their families, who were eligible for TRDP, and family members of active duty service men and women, will now be eligible to enroll in a FEDVIP vision plan, if enrolled in a TRICARE health plan.**

**You don't need to take action yet. However, if you would like dental and/or vision coverage next year, effective January 1, 2019, you must select and enroll in a FEDVIP plan during the next Federal Benefits Open Season. Open season is your annual opportunity to sign up for FEDVIP, and this year it runs from November 12 through December 10, 2018. Note: If you're currently enrolled in a TRDP plan, you will not be automatically enrolled in a FEDVIP plan for 2019. You must enroll during open season.**

**FEDVIP is popular among Federal employees. The more than 3.3 million people already enrolled give the program high marks for quality and value. With 10 dental and four vision carriers to choose from, and some plans offering both high and standard options, FEDVIP offers great flexibility when selecting the right coverage for you and your family.**

<b>FEDVIP dental plans</b>	<b>FEDVIP vision plans</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Aetna Dental®</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Aetna Vision®</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Delta Dental®</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>FEP BlueVision®</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>Dominion Dental®</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>UnitedHealthcare Vision</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>EmblemHealth®</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>VSP Vision Care®</b></li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <b>FEP BlueDental®</b></li></ul>	

- **GEHA®**
- **Humana**
- **MetLife**
- **Triple-S Salud®**
- **United Concordia Dental®**

**Note: Plan details and rates for the 2019 plan year will be available in October 2018.**

**Active duty uniformed service members: The TRDP transition to FEDVIP doesn't impact you. Your dental and vision coverage will still be provided by TRICARE. And your family members will still be eligible to enroll in the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP). Your family members may benefit from this transition however, since they will now be eligible for FEDVIP vision coverage, if they are enrolled in a TRICARE health plan.**

**Federal and U.S. Postal Service (USPS) employees and annuitants: Your FEDVIP coverage, if already enrolled, and/or your eligibility to enroll will not be impacted as a result of the TRDP transition to FEDVIP. FEDVIP rates are reviewed and updated annually, if necessary. Although rates may be different based on the region where you live or the plan you select, they will be the same across eligible groups, including the newly eligible members of the uniformed services.**

**(From: Nebraska Veterans Coalition, Dean Kenkel CW5, USAR (Ret) [dkenkel@cox.net](mailto:dkenkel@cox.net))**

**Heartland Chapter member from Lincoln gets huge promotion!**

(Omaha World Herald -

**Brig. Gen. Wendy Johnson has assumed the top leadership position in the Nebraska Air National Guard, the first woman ever to hold that position.**

**Johnson took over as Nebraska National Guard assistant adjutant general for air from Brig. Gen. James "Bob" Stevenson at a ceremony in Lincoln. He had held the job since December. He will become deputy director of operations for joint electromagnetic operations for U.S. Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base.**

**Johnson, originally from Elba, Nebraska, enlisted in the Nebraska National Guard as an administrative clerk in 1984. She served with the 155th Combat Support Squadron in Lincoln, according to a Guard press release. Four years later, she was commissioned as an officer upon graduation from the Air National Guard's Academy of Military Science.**



**She later earned a bachelor's degree in elementary education. She went on to earn three master's degrees.**

**Johnson has held leadership positions in the Guard at the flight, squadron and group levels, the press release said, and is a former executive officer of the 155th Combat Support Squadron. She deployed to Qatar in 2007-08 in support of Middle East combat operations, one of several overseas deployments.**

**In April 2016, Johnson became the first female general officer in the history of the Nebraska Air National Guard. Most recently, she had served as the Guard's assistant adjutant general for joint operations.**

**"Quite honestly, I didn't see this coming and never expected to be at this point," Johnson said in a statement. "However, as leaders we are constantly preparing ourselves to move up to the next level of responsibility when the time comes."**

### **SAC Airborne Command and Control Association Reunion**

**(Dick Doolittle LtCol USAF (Ret) & other sources)**

***"The SAC Airborne Command and Control Association is the group of flyers and ground support people that supported the mission for over 20+ years. We meet every two years. I am the Chairman of the Association Reunion this year which will be held September 12-15, 2018, here in Bellevue. We expect more than 100 attendees. The Courtyard Marriott has already booked 18 rooms and we have a block of 25. Many come from this area and others will be staying with friends here. Norma Kathman, 402-250-7065, is one of the reunion committee that is helping with publicity. She is doing a great job and placing the notices in many different publications. She was a Communications Officer that worked for me when we were flying the "Looking Glass". She also is one of the volunteers at the SAC museum. Her husband Dennis was also a Communications Officer that worked for me and he is also working at the museum. General Hyten will be our guest speaker at the SAC Museum banquet on Saturday September 15. We have a variety of tours for the group."* – Dick Doolittle**

### **17,000 MOAA Members Rallied Together to Prevent TRICARE Fee Increases**

**(by CAPT. Kathryn Beasley USN (Ret) - MOAA newsletter – 26 July)**

**It was a heavy lift to ensure Congress did not raise TRICARE fees - and the MOAA membership was utterly amazing. It was an all-hands-on-deck effort, and it paid off. The House and Senate came out July 23 with combined FY 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), which they negotiated the last several weeks.**

**MOAA was hyper-focused on a Senate-backed provision to significantly raise TRICARE fees for retired beneficiaries under age 65. We were pleasantly surprised to see the provision to end grandfathering and raise TRICARE fees did not make it in the final bill.**

Many in Congress also saw these increases as an erosion of military beneficiaries' earned benefits, which have been earned through careers of service and sacrifice. MOAA is grateful for the opportunities to meet with Congressional leaders to discuss the impact these fee increases would have had on millions of beneficiaries. Specifically, meetings with Senate Armed Services Committee Ranking Member, Senator Jack Reed (D-Rhode Island), Chair Mac Thornberry (R-Texas) of the House Armed Services Committee, Chair Mike Coffman (R-Colo.), and Ranking Member Jackie Speier (D-Calif.) from the Military Personnel Subcommittee, led to the support necessary to ensure these increases were not in the final bill. The critical exclusion from the legislation is an enormous success, and largely is successful thanks to the many MOAA members who took the time to write their elected officials. Congress' inboxes were flooded with over 17,000 MOAA-suggested messages explaining that yet another round of fee increases was unacceptable for TRICARE beneficiaries. This mass swell of grassroots support, combined with many thousands more messages from our partners in The Military Coalition, all culminated in shaping the conversation as the defense bill went to the conference committee.

While this victory may prove to be only a reprieve in the larger budget battles to come, it is indeed an important one. The mobilization of our MOAA members combined with a supportive Congress put the ball over the goal line. Thank your representatives in Congress for standing with us, [with a MOAA suggested letter](#).

### MOAA's and Heartland Chapter's Missions are the Same

The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, working to support military and their families at every stage of life. It actively petitions Congress on behalf of the military community on issues affecting the career force, the retired community, and veterans of the uniformed services. MOAA offers a wide range of personal and financial services exclusive to MOAA members. Whatever the stage of a career, MOAA membership delivers benefits geared specifically to you – and your family. You become part of the strongest advocate for our military and their families. Those with prior officer service in any of the seven uniformed services can become members. Consider joining today because every voice counts! You will be protecting not only your earned benefits but for all serving today. Our Heartland Chapter also focuses on state and local issues, interfacing with the Legislature and the Governor. We provide a really great environment for camaraderie and mutual support with our meetings, speakers, newsletters, website, and community involvement. You will feel like family.

**As MOAA does, WE NEVER STOP SERVING....**

***We are One Powerful Voice –***

***For every officer at every stage of life and career...***

***Join Us !! You will be glad you did!***



*Editor note: I was out of town and could not attend the June dinner meeting. I was impressed with the pictures Mark Hall used in his presentation. Lt. Offutt has that steely confident look we pilots must have! And, wow, what a sight that hanger and blimp made! Ha, I thought the Boeing E4B was big!*



## Selection of Membership

<p>When you join MOAA, you become part of the strongest advocate for our military's personnel and their families. The stronger our membership is, the stronger our voice becomes. Consider joining today because every voice counts. Three membership levels to meet the needs of all Officers.</p>	 <b>BASIC</b>	 <b>PREMIUM</b>	 <b>LIFE</b>
<p><b>Features of each Membership level</b></p>	<p>No-cost electronic Membership designed for today's junior officers.</p>	<p>Full access to MOAA's career resources, countless discounts on products and travel, &amp; access to all of MOAA-exclusive pubs &amp; news updates. <b>Full access to a wide variety of member benefits for today's career officer.</b></p>	<p>Receive all the benefits that PREMIUM membership has plus exclusive privileges and benefits.</p>
<p><b>Membership Dues</b></p>	<p>Free</p>	<p>1 year - \$43, 2 years - \$79 3 years - \$105</p>	<p>Dues are based on your current age</p>
<p>Support of critical advocacy efforts to protect the benefits of the entire military community.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Electronic access to several of MOAA's news updates.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>Discounts on products and travel.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>Career transition resources</b> MOAA helps transition efforts by hosting career fairs, resume critiques, training sessions &amp; much more.</p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>Expert advice on your military pay &amp; benefits</b> MOAA's team of highly trained professionals can help you receive the military benefits you've earned through one-on-one counseling.</p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>Financial planning and investment advice</b></p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>Military Office magazine</b></p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>Access to all MOAA-exclusive publications</b></p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>Scholarships, interest-free loans, &amp; grants</b></p>		<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>MOAA Chapters</b> Take advantage of the opportunity to get involved &amp; meet fellow officers in your community. A PREMIUM or LIFE membership makes it easy.</p>	<p>Dues vary by Chapter.</p>	<p>New chapter members receive a voucher good for one year of chapter dues.</p>	<p>New chapter members receive a voucher good for two years of chapter dues.</p>
<p><b>Bonus travel rewards and discounts</b></p>			<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>Initiation fee waived at the Army and Navy Club of Washington, D. C.</b></p>			<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>Protection for your spouse</b> Membership benefits transfer to your spouse should something happen to you.</p>		<p><b>SURVIVING SPOUSE DUES</b> 1 Yr - \$40   2 Yr - \$72   3 Yr - \$95</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>



The Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) is the country's leading organization protecting the rights of military servicemembers and their families. Those who belong to MOAA not only lend their voices to a greater cause, but they also gain access to extensive benefits tailored to the needs and lifestyles of military officers. MOAA members proudly hail from every branch of the uniformed services. To them, we have made the same promise that they have made to their country: Never Stop Serving.

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Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Branch of Service \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_  
 Active  Retired  Former  Reserve  National Guard  Surviving Spouse  
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*(MOAA values your privacy and will not sell or rent your email address to third parties. You will receive e-communications from MOAA and your local chapter as a benefit. Visit [www.moaa.org/email](http://www.moaa.org/email) for details.)*  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_  
*Your spouse has access to all of your MOAA member benefits.*  
 Chapter Name \_\_\_\_\_

### LIFE Membership Dues

Dues are based on your current age.

50 and under	\$762
Age 51-55	\$718
Age 56-60	\$678
Age 61-65	\$620
Age 66-70	\$551
Age 71-75	\$474
Age 76-80	\$389
Age 81-85	\$297
Age 86-90	\$210
Age 91-95	\$130
Age 96-100	\$79
Age 101+	FREE

For LIFE or PREMIUM options, choose one of the following payment methods:  
**Payment in full**

Enclosed is my check.  
 Visa  Discover  MasterCard  AMEX  Charge my card \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

For LIFE only, consider E-Z Pay with 10 convenient, interest-free installments  
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Enclosed is my check payable to MOAA for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (1/10th of my dues)  
 Charge my credit card in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (1/10th of my dues)  
 Visa  Discover  MasterCard  AMEX  
 Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Check here to have your credit card automatically charged monthly for the remaining installment payments.

Dues to MOAA are not deductible as a charitable contribution for federal tax purposes.  
 Annual membership dues include a \$12 subscription to Military Officer magazine.

### PREMIUM Membership Dues

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Send To: **MOAA, PO Box 1488  
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For faster service,  
 call (800) 234-MOAA (6622)  
 or visit [www.moaa.org/join](http://www.moaa.org/join).

H17028C1P

## Local Membership Form



Heartland of America Chapter  
Military Officers Association of America  
P.O. Box 1756  
Bellevue, NE 68005-1756

### LOCAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(Heartland Chapter members must also be a National MOAA Member)

Membership:  Initial or  Renewal

Annual local dues  \$20.00  \$10.00 (new ones after 1 July)  Aux. \$5.00

Benefactor Donor: \$50, \$100 or more \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ MI \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(H) \_\_\_\_\_ W \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Service \_\_\_\_\_ Retired  NOAA  USPHS

Active Duty  Regular  Reserve  Nat'l Guard  Former Officer

Spouse's Name \_\_\_\_\_

National MOAA Membership # \_\_\_\_\_ Life Member?  Yes  No

Brief Bio: (entered service: branch: assignment summary: Interesting career anecdotes:

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Chapter Officers for more info:** President Dan Donovan - 402-339-7888, **Ask about Membership:** Lou Zuccarello - 402-739-3521, **Programs:** Ken McClure - 402-504-8796, **Surviving Spouse Affairs** - Paula Muth - 402-292-1663, **Legislation:** Paul Cohen - 402-491-3551, **Treasurer:** Rene Dreiling 402-740-3127, **ROTC:** Brook Stafford - 402-916-9759, **Personal Affairs:** Paula Muth - 402-292-1663, **Hospitality & Reservations:** Ron Russell, 402-297-4244, **Webmaster & Newsletter:** Pat Jones - 402-650-4457

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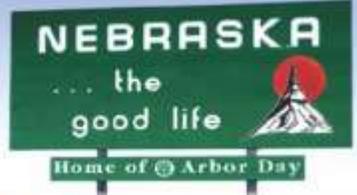
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### **May They Not Be Forgotten:**

I mean the men and women who have answered the call and paid the ultimate price so that we and future generations could have the freedoms so cherished by human beings. We must ever be vigilant and prepared to defend our way of life against those who would deny it. Callous politicians, power hungry egoists, corrupt individuals, adversarial religions, and even our latest self-oriented generations pose grave threat to the preservation of what many take for granted. Every citizen should take a few moments from time to time and reflect on the benefits we have in our country. They should give thanks to those who have served and preserved our way of life.



Hopefully, they will also pledge to do their part to keep it so. - pj

### **Wandering Mind of An Old Retired Guy**



Hey....., we "older folks" are finally getting recognized.... We are getting our own special road crossing signs..... But, how will the drivers react???



**"GOOD FRIENDS ARE THE RARE JEWELS OF LIFE  
DIFFICULT TO FIND AND IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLACE!  
TODAY IS THE OLDEST YOU'VE EVER BEEN, YET THE YOUNGEST YOU'LL EVER BE,  
SO ENJOY THIS DAY WHILE IT LASTS."**



**Dinner Reservations**  
**(for Members and Invited Guests)**

Date: **Wednesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

After dinner, our speaker will be Omaha's Deputy Chief Ken Kanger who will discuss the role of the Police gang unit.

**Remember the expression, "The more, the merrier"? We ask you to make our meetings better, with your presence. We strive to provide a good meal, a stimulating program, and camaraderie. We'll do our best to provide the first two, but only you can increase the camaraderie we share. Please attend.**

Time: Social Hour – 6PM

Dining Hour – 7:00PM

Place: Anthony's Steakhouse

7220 F Street – Omaha

Meal selections are as follows:

8oz Sirloin w/Baked Potato & Roasted Vegetables - \$28.90  
\_\_\_\_\_ - *With Vanilla Ice Cream* - \$31.90\_\_\_\_\_

Baked Salmon w/Pasta Alfredo & Roasted Vegetables - \$28.90  
\_\_\_\_\_ - *With Vanilla Ice Cream* - \$31.90\_\_\_\_\_

Strawberry Pecan Spring Salad w/Chicken - \$18.40  
\_\_\_\_\_ *With Vanilla Ice Cream* - \$21.40\_\_\_\_\_

RSVP: Lt Col Ron & Sharon Russell

Tel: 402-297-4244

[heartlandmoaa@hotmail.com](mailto:heartlandmoaa@hotmail.com)

Please specify names of attendees, meal choices and include a phone number in case we need to contact you.

**Reservations should be in by Monday night before the dinner! If you must cancel your reservation, please call Ron at (402) 297-4244 prior to 4:00 pm on the day of the event; otherwise the chapter will be charged if you are a NO-SHOW and we will have to send you a bill for the cost.**

**[New check writing procedures,](#)**

**[use our stamp which will be provided at sign-in](#)**  
**OR....**

**MAKE YOUR CHECK OUT TO MOAA HEARTLAND CHAPTER,**

Dress: Business attire or as appropriate



Sharon and Ron Russell

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