June/July 2017
Vol. 2017 Issue 3

Monroe County History Center

Museum
Research Library
Museum Store

History Center
202 East Sixth Street
Bloomington, IN 47408
812-332-2517
www.monroehistory.org

Hours
Tuesday — Saturday
10am — 4pm

Museum Admission
Adult — $2
Child (6-17 yrs.) — $1
5 yrs. & Under — Free
Member — Free

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Historian Staff
Copy: Erin Anderson, Emily Noffke, Hilary Fleck, Penelope Mathiesen, Rose Merrick, Martha Wainscott, & Linda Williamson

Monroe County Historian
Preserving the Past for Future Generations
Newsletter of the Monroe County Historical Society, Inc.

36th Annual Garage Sale Extravaganza
June 9th 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
June 10th, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
June 12th, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (Most items 1/2 price)

It’s Garage Sale time! Help your History Center raise over $80,000 again!
Great News! We have a car to sell. It is a 2007 silver GMC Acadia, a mid-sized SUV with 81,000 miles. It has been well cared for and looks good. Bids will be received until it is sold on Saturday, June 10th. Come take a look at the sale, and make a bid on the car before 2:00pm on Saturday, June 10th.

Located at the former RCA warehouse behind Cook Pharmica, 1300 S. Patterson Drive, this sale specializes in antiques, collectibles, dishes, glassware, toys, bicycles, jewelry, and much more. We look forward to seeing you there!

We also send a big thank you to everyone who generously donated to the sale and to those who work all year preparing the items for this big annual fundraiser.
Current Exhibits
Also available at www.monroehistory.org

Rechler Gallery:

*Nature, Wildlife, and Underwater: The Photography of Dr. Robert Wrenn*

Showcasing the work of local photographer Dr. Robert Wrenn, this exhibit highlights Dr. Wrenn’s love of nature and wildlife photography. From local subjects to acclaimed national parks, Dr. Wrenn’s photographs capture the beauty and wonder of our natural world.

Experience nature yourself in this exhibit on display June 2nd through October 16th.

Brown Gallery:

*Saving Grandma’s Attic: For Ourselves and Our Posterity*

Do you want to know more about museum conservation? Do you have questions about family heirlooms and how to take care of them? Visit the *Saving Grandma’s Attic* exhibit to learn more and to find resources to help you take care of your priceless family treasures. Exhibit opens May 23rd.

Hill Gallery:

*Artists of War: Perspectives of the Vietnam War from Both Sides*

During the Vietnam War, militaries from the United States and Vietnam appointed enlisted artists to sketch and paint what they saw around them including combat, communication technology, hardscapes, and landscapes. This exhibit features the art and stories of Truong Be from North Vietnam and Richard Nickolson of Indiana, USA.


Community Voices Showcase:

*Lakota Language Consortium*

Lakota Language Consortium (LLC) is working to save and grow one of the largest remaining Native American language groups, Lakota, for generations to come. LLC’s vision is to help tribal leaders and teachers build a lasting foundation – in linguistic understanding and diligent practice — for speaking, reading and writing vibrant Lakota. Visit the History Center this summer to learn more about the Lakota Language Consortium and how you can support this wonderful organization.

Exhibit on display in the Deckard Education Room May – August.
From the President

The Garage Sale is almost here! You won’t want to miss this annual event at the Cook Pharmica Warehouse on S. Patterson Drive. In addition to the sale and all of its treasures, it’s always fun to see so many members and friends of the Monroe County History Center. We extend sincere appreciation to all of the wonderful folks at Cook Pharmica for their support and assistance with the sale – our largest annual fundraiser!

The Garage Sale Committee works all year long to collect items, arrange and price them and of course works non-stop all through the sale. Many thanks to all of the committee members!

We want to extend a big thank you for the recent donation from Räke Cabinets through their support for nonprofits program! Hillary Detty, a very good friend of the Monroe County History Center, is now with Räke and brought the opportunity and the check in excess of $800 to us.

WOW! We are so grateful to Norm Deckard for the recent purchase and installation of new lighting for the MCHC building. The new energy efficient lighting is expected to reduce our electric bill dramatically.

Emily Noffke, our Research Library Manager, is moving to Wisconsin in mid June and while we are so sorry to see her go, we are grateful for her leadership and her accomplishments while with us. Best wishes, Emily!

As we prepare for the upcoming Bicentennial year for Bloomington and Monroe County, we urge you to join us for the many programs and exhibits and hope you’ll participate with our fundraising efforts, too!

Linda Williamson, President

Monroe County Historical Society is pleased to announce our platinum level members.

Smithville Communications, Inc.

and

Rick and Carrie Snapp

Calendar of Events

<table>
<thead>
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<td>♦ 9th, 8am-6pm, Garage Sale</td>
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<td>♦ 12th, 9am-12pm, Garage Sale</td>
<td>♦ 8th, 2pm, How to Tell a War Story</td>
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<td>♦ 12th-16th, Indiana History Summer Camp</td>
<td>♦ 11th, 7pm, Civil War Round Table</td>
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<td>♦ 13th, 7pm, Civil War Round Table</td>
<td>♦ 15th, 1pm, Arty Party</td>
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<td>♦ 20th, 4:30pm, Board Meeting</td>
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<td>♦ 17th, 10am-2pm, Garden Walk</td>
<td>♦ 29th, 1pm, HiStory Book Club</td>
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<td>♦ 18th, 10am-2pm, Garden Walk</td>
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<td>♦ 24th, 1pm, HiStory Book Club</td>
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<td>♦ 26th-30th, Hoosier Art Summer Camp</td>
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Collections’ Corner
by Hilary Fleck

Have you ever wondered how museums care for the artifacts in their collections? Have you ever wanted to know how to better take care of your antiques and family treasures? The Collections department is excited to present, in conjunction with all the staff at the History Center, a new exhibit focused on preservation. Saving Grandma’s Attic: For Ourselves and Our Posterity, on display in the Brown Gallery beginning May 23rd, will explain how museums such as the History Center preserve the artifacts in their collections and how to identify certain types of damage to artifacts. The exhibit will also show you how to best display and store your treasures at home and provide you with resources should your items need attention by professional conservators. Visit the History Center soon to see this wonderful exhibit!

Collections Special Request

The museum collection is currently seeking an antique dry sink and an indoor or outdoor water pump for display in our 1830s log cabin. If you would like to donate or loan a sink or pump for the museum’s collection and display, please contact the Collections Manager, Hilary Fleck, by email at collection@monroehistory.org or by phone at 812-332-2527 ex. 6.

The Teacher’s Desk

By Erin Anderson

We are gearing up for an exciting summer here at the History Center! We kicked things off with the sold-out Barn Quilt Workshop where much fun, laughter, and paint splatters were had. Check out the photo album on our Facebook page!

Our Gayle Cook Junior Historian Summer Camps are an excellent way to spend the summer! At press time, the registration date for Indiana History Camp has passed, but there is still time to sign your child up for Hoosier Art Camp. Campers, ages 8-12, can unleash their imaginations by learning about Hoosier painters like T.C. Steele, sculptors like Robert Indiana, fiber artists like the many weavers and quilters from Indiana, and photographers like the Bloomington Photography Club. Then, they will let out their inner artists by creating their own Hoosier-inspired art! Camp runs from June 26-30th. Register by June 12th. $150/camper includes snacks and t-shirt. Register today at http://bit.ly/MCHCCamp.

Do you know kids who like cookies? Do they like to paint, too? We have the perfect program for them. On July 15th from 1pm - 3pm we will be having an Arty Party! This is an instructor-led art class for children aged 4-14 and includes refreshments. The painting they will make is of Monroe the Bear in the Gentry Circus. Cost is $25 per child. Seating is limited, so contact us today to reserve your child’s spot.
Volunteer Spotlights

Monday, April 10 we were pleased to honor and thank our volunteers with lunch and a gift. This year Cassady Electric Company sponsored our Volunteer Appreciation event. The Cassadys, Mae, Mike and Randy, and 55 volunteers joined the staff at the History Center for the luncheon. We very much appreciate Cassady’s support for this event. IU’s Championship Catering again provided the scrumptious buffet lunch.

Gayle Cook presented Jennifer Borland with the Volunteer of the Year award. Jenn has a wealth of creative ideas which she shares and helps implement, including the puzzle fest which is now a well-attended annual event. Jennifer is always willing to volunteer in addition to being a member of the Education Committee and the Board of Trustees.

Saundra Taylor received this year’s Liz Knapp Library Volunteer of the Year Award. Re-housing and indexing the Research Library’s large probate records collection in the Research Library has been her main focus for a while. She also greets visitors to the History Center on some Tuesday afternoons and volunteers to assist patrons in the store at events.

Congratulations to Jennifer and Saundra!

Thank you to Sue Ellen Bowman, Linda Williamson and Dave Musgrave for watching over the History Center while we fill some recently vacated staff positions, including director.

A huge, heartfelt “Thank You” to our extraordinary volunteers.

We couldn’t do it without you!

Farewell Bob Dodd

On April 2nd, 2017 the Monroe County History Center hosted a farewell party in honor of Bob Dodd. Bob has been a volunteer at the History Center serving on the Board of Trustees, Library Committee, Cemetery Committee, and helping with the Canopy of Lights open house. We wish Bob all the best as he moves away from Indiana to be closer to his family.

Thank you for all of your hard work.
Contributors

March and April 2017

The History Center wishes to acknowledge and recognize those who provided financial gifts to support our operations in March and April 2017:

**Bronze Membership**
- ISU – The May Agency

**Supporter Membership**
- Kem and Mary Hawkins

**Founders’ Endowment Donation**
- Patricia Powell

**Donations**
- Nancy Calloway – in honor of Linda Williamson
- Linda Williamson – in honor of Dave Musgrave
- The Woman’s Club
- Cody and Michelle Gaither
- Lee Ehman

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**Welcome to Our New Members**

- Mike and Brenda Aschliman
- R.E. Hickman
- Jo Basey
- Kelly and Jonathan Richardson

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**Kroger Community Rewards check for January through March 2017 is $284.73.** We know you have a lot of choices when it comes to supporting an organization so thank you for choosing us! To link your card to the History Center, go to krogercommunityrewards.com. History Center number is 45993.
For your generosity, we thank you.

Thank you to Penny Mathiesen for sponsoring the Research Library’s subscription to Ancestry.com. Penny’s donation allows all patrons to conduct research on Ancestry for free while in the Monroe County History Center. Stop by the Research Library to start your own genealogy research today.

Thank you to Räke Cabinet & Surface Solutions for donating $815.56 from their Local Give Back program.

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Museum Store

Stop by the History Center Museum Store to see these featured titles.

**The Tao of Cooking**

A collection of recipes and menus from the legendary Tao Restaurant which was operated by the Rudrananda Ashram in Bloomington, Indiana. A vegetarian favorite!

**Slinging Doughnuts for the Boys**

The story of Elizabeth Richardson, a Red Cross Volunteer who handed out free doughnuts, coffee, cigarettes, and gum to American soldiers during World War II. James Madison uses Elizabeth Richardson’s personal letters to tell this exceptional story.
News from the Library
mchlibrary@gmail.com
Compiled by Emily Noffke and Penelope Mathiesen

Library Updates

Library Manager Relocating
On 9 June 2017, Research Library Manager Emily Noffke will be departing the History Center to relocate to Madison, Wisconsin, with her husband. She would like to thank the History Center staff, volunteers, and patrons for making her time at the History Center so enjoyable and rewarding. Megan MacDonald will start as Research Library Manager on June 5th.

Buildings and Houses
On 25 March 2017, Bethany Emenhiser and Emily Noffke delivered a talk on “How to Research Your Historic House” at the Monroe County History Center. Many of the attendees followed up with visits to the History Center’s Research Library to find information on their homes, using the Buildings and Houses Index, Bloomington city directories, land records, the Vertical Files, and other genealogical and local history resources.

MCHC at IGS
Several Research Library volunteers from the Monroe County History Center attended the annual conference of the Indiana Genealogical Society, held at the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library on 8 April 2017. Michael Maben stepped down as IGS President after serving in that position for eight of the past ten years. Penny Mathiesen and Randi Richardson also attended the conference, which included sessions on African-American research, county commissioners records, and midwestern archives.

New in the Library
The following items have been recently accessioned:


Monroe County Health Department. Monroe County Death Records Index 2016. 2017. Gift from the Monroe County Health Department.

Richardson, Randi. 1865 Monroe County (IN) Tax Duplicates Index. 2017. Gift from Randi Richardson.


In the spring of 1926, Schmalz’s Department Store opened in downtown Bloomington just off the square at 213 North Walnut Street. Founder Roy H. Schmalz ran the business with his wife, Cecile Marie. Their son, Jim Schmalz, recalled spending time in the store as a child. Jim and his brother, Richard, “joined the store on a permanent basis in 1946, after attending school and serving in the military.”

Over the years, Schmalz’s inventory included a “full line of women’s dresses and shoes,” “name brands in men’s and boys’ wear, a complete shoe and boot department, work clothes,” and “the most complete line of sporting goods in the area.” Schmalz’s carried “a full line of fishing and hunting equipment and earned industry accolades such as ‘Firearms Dealer of the Year.’” It was “the first store east of the Mississippi to carry Levi’s” and the place to buy Boy and Girl Scout uniforms.

Roy Schmalz was an avid hunter who brought back big game trophies from his expeditions to Afghanistan, Mexico, the Soviet Union, the western U.S., and the Yukon. Some of these, including wall trophies and a Kodiak bear that stood over nine feet tall, were displayed in various locations throughout the store.

Roy Schmalz died on 9 August 1968. Jim Schmalz, who had “inherited his father’s love of hunting and the outdoors,” continued to run the store. He created a museum on the upper floor to display their trophies, as well as items from the Schmalz family’s large collection of antiques, tools, and housewares from days gone by, such as “a glass bread knife [and] a grease bucket used by pioneers to grease the axles on their covered wagons.”

The Roy H. Schmalz Memorial Museum opened in the summer of 1969, attracting 1,000 visitors during its two-day dedication. Over the following year, attendance averaged 50 per day.

Children were particularly impressed with the huge Kodiak bear. Along with the other animals, it “became as much of a tradition at the store as the quality of the inventory.”

Schmalz’s closed in December 1988. Among the artifacts that later came to the Monroe County History Center, the Kodiak bear is the most familiar. Other items now in our collection can be seen in the accompanying undated photograph. Mounted on the wall from the right: the pheasant, the cougar (now in our log cabin), and the buffalo head. On the wall from the left: the small deer head and the boar’s head next to it. To the left of the door in the rear: the yoke. And, of course, the Kodiak bear. Named “Monroe” as the result of a contest, he now greets visitors to the Museum at the History Center.

Notes

3. Ibid.
4. “Schmalz’s Celebrates.”
5. Asher.
6. Ibid.
8. Asher.
10. Ibid.
11. Asher.
12. Ibid.
13. Information provided by Hilary Fleck, Collections Manager, Monroe County History Center.
What injuries and illnesses did soldiers from Monroe County suffer from as a result of their service in the Civil War? Answers are available in an 1890 record book in the Research Library, entitled Veterans’ Records: Enrollment of the Late Soldiers, Their Wido-ows and Orphans, of the Late Armies of the United States, Residing in the State of Indiana, Monroe County (books for 1885 and 1895 are also available). Veterans were asked to supply various kinds of information, including their army rank, company, and regiment; their race; and their current place of residence. The last two categories for each veteran read as follows: “Injured while in service. Give nature of injury. State time and place” and “Contracted disease while in service. Give nature of disease.” The veterans’ responses provide fascinating evidence of the hardships they experienced in wartime.

The vast majority of men included in the Veterans’ Records book served in the Civil War, but a few fought in the Mexican-American War of 1846–1848. The injuries incurred during that conflict, all at Buena Vista, Mexico, include: “Wounded in right arm and hand,” “Wounded in right knee,” and “Gunshot wound in back.” R. S. Judah from Salt Creek Township reports, “Arrow shot in right foot in Intosh, Texas in the fall of 1851.” Judah must have been stationed at Fort McIntosh along the Rio Grande, fighting Indians on the western border of Texas in the years following the Mexican War.1

Battle wounds suffered by Civil War veterans run the gamut of body parts. We find, for example, veterans “Wounded in right hand,” “Wounded in right arm,” and “Wounded in right elbow.” Injuries on the left side of the body include: “Gunshot wound in left thigh, left lumbar region, and left knee. Feb. 27, ’64, at Buzzard Roost, La.” and “Wounded in left arm at the battle of Antietam, Md.” Andrew T. Massey of Bloomington identifies the type of ammunition that struck him: “Wounded at Spotsylvania C. H., Va., May 12, 1864, left thigh, Minnie ball, 3 buckshot, and something else.” John Campbell, also from Bloomington, suffered numerous injuries in multiple battles: “Wounded 3 times right side arm and leg at Battle of Antietam, Md. Wounded at Gettysburg, Penn. in left arm, and left arm broken at Resaca, Ga.”

Injuries to the head and face include: “Injured in head by bursting of shell June 15, 1864”; “wounded at Pittsburgh Landing [Tenn.] by concussion of shell causing brain trouble”; “Lost one eye and the other affected at Nashville, Tenn. in 1865”; and “Upper jaw broken near Columbia, Tenn.” Hands and feet were also affected, as we find in reports of “Gunshot wound in ring finger of left hand”; “Right thumb lost at Chickamauga [Ga.]”; and “Wounded in great toe at Shiloh, Tenn., April 7, 1862.” The toll on the legs from extensive marching is documented in accounts of “Varicose veins from hard marching from Goldsboro to Raleigh, N.C.” and “Left leg diseased on a forced march.” Among the more unusual problems, George Pate of Salt Creek Township was “injured in right ear by a stick.”

Besides battle wounds, many soldiers suffered from accidents, often involving methods of transportation. Mules seem to have been especially unruly mounts, as we find men “Injured by mule falling on me in 1862”; “Injured in right arm by being thrown from a mule at Nashville, Tenn., Feb. 1864”; and “Injured in back by mule throwing me.” S. E. Payne of Salt Creek Township was “Injured in right knee by being thrown from wagon near Carversville, Ga.” and John Hall of Ellettsville was “Injured by being run over by a hand car in Ga. in 1865.” Other accidents include “Barrel of sugar rolled back on my hand while loading it” and “Injured in right leg by falling off a log, Jan. 1865 at Richmond, Va.,” perhaps confirming the adage that falling off a log is easy to do.

More soldiers died from disease than from battle wounds during the Civil War, and the number one killer was dysentery, caused by unsanitary conditions in camps, including latrines dug too close to streams, which contaminated the water supply.2 Among Monroe County veterans, far and away the most common illness reported is chronic diarrhea, often accompanied by piles (inflamed hemorrhoids), both of which are symptoms of dysentery. After diarrhea and piles, the third most common complaint is rheumatism, which at the time could refer to a multitude of joint and muscle pains caused by wear and tear to the body. In some instances, the term probably means rheumatic fever, a complication of strep throat or scarlet fever that can cause damage to the heart.3 Numerous veterans report “Rheumatism resulting in heart trouble.” Other illnesses mentioned include measles, typhoid fever, and malaria. Samuel W. Collins of Bloomington developed “Measles at Camp Chase, Ohio, Apr. 1862 from effects of which has never fully recovered.”

Another common complaint is deafness, usually caused by loud artillery, as in the case of James Rose of Polk Township who suffered “Loss of hearing by bursting of shell at Shiloh.” Nebemiah Summer of Richland Township, however, “Wounded in jaw while asleep at Lebanon, Ky.” A few veterans express being afflicted by “nervous prostration” or “nervous debility.” Given the current prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder among military veterans, it is surprising that so few of those who fought in the Civil War report such psychological problems. The reason may be that these were not understood by the medical establishment at the time, and they were often stigmatized as signs of weakness or diagnosed as a physical ailment such as heart palpitations.4 Some of the more unusual afflictions include “Catarrh and blood disease caused by impure vaccine virus put in my arm in Apr. 1864, at Knoxville, Tenn.”; “Atrophy of testicle”; “Loss of teeth result of salivation bronchitis”; and, deviating from the diarrhea trend, “derangement of bowels and stomach resulting in constipation.”
Many veterans provide a woeful litany of health problems: “Heart trouble, stomach trouble, rheumatism, piles, diarrhea, catarrh of head”; “Chronic diarrhea, piles, rheumatism, nervous prostration, heart disease, and general disability”; and “Had measles, got cinders in eyes, lung trouble, rheumatism, blood poison.” John A. Alexander of Bloomington suffered from both battle injuries and disease: “Ankle crushed at Nashville, Tenn. Wounded in arm at Clautsville [probably Klotzville], La., Apr. ’64. Injured internally. Pass blood almost constantly. Have not been well since wounded at Clautsville, La.” Still, these were the men who survived their battle wounds and illnesses. However ravaged these veterans were by their war experiences, thousands more met with worse fates.

Besides battle wounds, accidents, and illnesses, the weather was a source of hardship for Civil War soldiers. Several complain of sunstroke, as Joseph Hough of Van Buren Township does when he reports, “Sunstroke on march from Risaca to Cartersville, Ga.” More common, however, are complaints of cold, many of which are quite poignant: “Got cold”; “Like to froze”; “Got cold and hardly got over it”; and “Like to froze, took cold, and not well yet.” The most unusual weather event recorded is Bloomington resident Marion Todd’s account: “Lightning struck at Mobile, Ala. 1863.”

The 1890 Veterans’ Records book identifies men from the eleven townships of Monroe County who fought in the Civil War and a few earlier conflicts and offers a valuable glimpse of their physical suffering during and often long after the wars had ended. This handwritten document has recently been transcribed. It will soon be available for consultation as a printed, hardback book in the Research Library and will also be for sale in the Museum Store.

Notes


Monroe County Index to Will Book 6

By Randi Richardson

The Monroe County Clerk’s Office stores the county’s original will books off-site. As of March 2017, they are available only by appointment made well in advance. Fortunately, however, genealogical researchers have another alternative in some instances.

Will Book 6 has been completely digitized, including the index, and is available online through Ancestry, a subscription website.1 The only known way to access it as of 2017 is to enter a name included in the index which will bring up two results in a category titled “Wills, Probates, Land, Tax & Criminal.” One of the results will be an image of the name in the index; the second result will be an image of the will document. Some of the wills have been typed, the remainder are in script. All are very legible.

Names noted in the index, and the seven will makers overlooked in the index, have been compiled into a database available online to members only at the Indiana Genealogical Society (IGS) website: www.Indgensoc.org. Membership in the Society is $30 annually and includes access to nearly 2,000 searchable databases, at least eight for each of Indiana’s 92 counties. Free access to the IGS website is also available through many libraries. A five-page, hard copy of the database index is available in the Research Library at the Monroe County History Center.

Note

1. Free access to Ancestrylibrary.com is available in the Monroe County History Center’s Research Library.
**Membership Form**

**Annual Membership Levels**

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**Check if you are interested in:**

- [ ] Volunteer Information

**Send to:**

**Monroe County History Center**

202 East Sixth Street

Bloomington, IN 47408

**Method of Payment**

- [ ] Visa
- [ ] MasterCard
- [ ] Discover
- [ ] Check

**Credit Card #**

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**Expiration Date**

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