

April 2021

# http://gbflycasters.org

# Leader's Line

## by TinaLyn Sell, GBF President



Hello Members,

Can you believe it has been a year since our last face-to-face meeting? I do not know if I would recognize most of you if I saw you in a grocery store, with or without a mask. **Kim Lloyd** can attest to this. We have all been dealing with trying times over the last 12 months. It really goes to show you never know what can happen in life.

With the closure of many campgrounds, wildlife areas, and forest lands, Mother Nature has taken the opportunity to flourish and spread her wonder. With the coming of spring, I am confident, like me, you are feeling the itch to get out of the house and go explore. I ask, please take the time to appreciate and respect the hard work Mother Nature has put forth in giving us such wondrous sights. If you have not heard of the 7 principles of "Leave

No Trace," I challenge you to Goggle them. Let's be sure GBF is doing our part to work WITH Mother Nature, and leaving a better tomorrow for the next generation.

I am always just an email away if anyone needs an ear to bend or would like to make a comment regarding my message...FISH ON!

# Rancho Seco Fishout April 14, 2021

### by Doug Kytonen, Outing Leader

Fishing at Rancho Seco can be exciting with a variety of fish to catch: trout, bass, bluegill and crappie. There are many coves to work from one end of the lake to the other. The lake is great for float tubing, as no gas motors are allowed on the lake. Weather is great most days, with a breeze that comes up in the afternoon. This fishout is scheduled for the Wednesday after the Rancho Seco trout derby. SMUD brings in a large load of trout, including some trophysize rainbows for the derby, so there's a chance of catching a large one. Bring your tube, pontoon or pram. There aren't a lot of shore or wading locations, but there are some piers scattered around the lake to fish from.

A 5-6 wt. rod with floating or intermediate line, with wiggle tails, wooly buggers or streamers are you best bet. When the weather and water warms up later in the year, it can be a great lake for top water bass fishing early and late in the day. There are nice RV camping

# IN THIS ISSUE

Cameron Park Fishout	2 - 3
Classified Ads	6
Classroom Egg Program Update	6
Fly Tyer's Corner	9 - 12
Greenstone Lakes Fishout	3
In Memorium	3
Leader's Line	1
Monthly Schedule	2
Officers	13
Pickel/Leavitt Meadows Trip	4 - 5
Prosser Creek Reservoir Fishout	3
Rancho Seco Fishout	1 - 2
Rowing Adventure with Mike Bear	n 7 - 9
Spring Approaches	5 - 6

APRIL <sup>2021</sup>												
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#### Rancho Seco Fishout - Continued from page 1

spaces if you want to stay over and get an early start, or stay late and fish the evening. RV camping fees are \$25-\$40, based on the season. Check their <u>website</u>; day use is \$12/\$15 with a car top boat or pontoon.

#### Park hours: 7:00 AM - 3:30 PM

**Directions:** The most direct way to get there is Sunrise Blvd. south to Hwy 16 east, 2nd signal right turn on Dillard Rd., left on Clay Station Rd. to the end intersecting with Hwy 104, turn left to Rancho Seco Park.

I will be at the 1<sup>st</sup> boat ramp just to meet everyone at 8:30 AM. You can launch there, or go across the dam to the second ramp, or take the gravel road to the east end of the lake and launch from shore. As always, bring a Walkie Talkie on Ch.6 to keep in touch. See you there.

Any questions, contact me at <u>travelmaster@surewest.net</u>.

### Cameron Park Fishout, April 15<sup>th</sup>

#### by Ray Ito/Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leaders

Cameron Park Lake is a catch-and-release fishery (artificial lures only). The lake is managed as a recreational fishery for residents of, and visitors to, Cameron Park. The lake holds black bass, crappie and blue gill. Standard bass patterns such as woolly buggers, poppers, and leaches fished along the weed beds should

#### Cameron Park Fishout - Continued from Page 2

produce. There have been some large bass caught on previous fishouts. The lake can be fished by float tube, non-motorized boat (there is a small boat/pontoon launch area near the entrance), or from the shoreline.

We will meet at the lake parking area at approximately 9:00 AM. The park opens at 7:00 AM, and closes at dusk. Entry fee to the park is \$3 for GBF members, \$2 for seniors 62 and over. However, in past years entry has been free, as there was no attendant on duty. This should be a prime time to catch bass and bluegill. We hope you can join us! Refer to the <u>fishout template</u> on the website for additional details.

### Greenstone Lakes Fishout, April 21st

### by Wendell Edwards, Fishout Leader

Once again, **Tony Hamamoto** has given Granite Bay Flycasters members an opportunity to fish the private lakes of Greenstone. Thank you, Tony! Those big bass and bluegill will be waiting. This is a very popular fishout year after year, and because this is a private lake, we are limited to a maximum of 20 members. Sign ups have started, and will close April 15<sup>th</sup>. You may sign up via email to wendelledwards@icloud.com, or via the message board at <u>gbfcasters.org</u>. I expect that there will be more than twenty sign ups, and if this happens, we will use the lottery system to determine who attends and whom I will contact and confirm your attendance.

Directions and further details can be found <u>here</u> on the fishout template. A word of caution, "Should we not get some good rains in the near future," this fishout will be cancelled because of weeds and lack of water.

### Prosser Creek Reservoir Fishout, April 28th

### by Doug Kytonen, Fishout Leader

Prosser Creek Reservoir is relatively new to our stillwater list of fishouts; it is located just outside of Truckee off Hwy 89 north. At the first traffic circle, turn right on Prosser Creek Dam Road to the lake, where we will meet at 8:30, just off the road in the Alder Creek Cove Area, to launch our tubes. There are other areas and boat launches at or near the campgrounds.

The surface temps are starting to warm up, and as a result, fish are moving deeper into the water column. For trout, go early or late in the day. When the trout quit eating, then switch to smallmouth bass. Smallmouth love trout flies, and any that I mentioned for the Truckee River will work. Indicator nymphing and sinking lines will get you down in the zone. Early and late in the day, try a Stimulator on the surface.

This lake is a 5 MPH reservoir, with more kayakers and paddle boarders than any other watercraft. Fishing pressure is light, but should produce some trout or bass action for us. It is always fun to try new locations and not the same old places time after time. If you have a venue that you would like to share, set up a fishout and lets go fishing.

Further fishout details are here on the fishout template, or contact me at travelmaster@surewest.net.

### In Memoriam

The club lost a valuable and long-term member (joined in 2006) with the unexpected passing of **Dick Shannon** on March 4<sup>th</sup>. He was an active member and contributed to GBF in many ways as Librarian, co-host of many fishouts at Rancho Murieta, plus participating in the Classroom Egg Program. With his friendly and quiet personality, he was a true gentleman who loved fly fishing and golf next to his family. In his honor, the club donated \$150 to the Firefighter's Burn Institute at the family's request.

## Pickel/Leavitt Meadows Backpacking Trip April 30<sup>th</sup> - May 2<sup>nd</sup>

#### by Joey Nizuk, Fishout Leader

Leavitt Meadows and Pickle Meadows sit around 7,200 feet of elevation in the Toiyabe National Forest nestled among Jeffrey Pines alongside the West Walker River in the Eastern Sierra's south of Bridgeport. This area is scattered with many productive sierra trout lakes and the West Walker River. Such lakes are Poore Lake, Lane Lake, Secret Lake and Kirmin Lake which, at one point, was considered one of the most premiere west coast trophy Brook Trout Lakes. In recent years, Kirmin Lake has not been too productive (if at all) because of raising water temperatures in years past, but Fish and Game have been working on restoring this lake to its glory, and this might be the year! This three day/two night backpacking trip will take us through beautiful wilderness where we can fish the West Walker river and a handful of backcountry sierra lakes. Depending on the route, we might start in Levitt Meadows, Pickle Meadows or near the Sonora Pass/395 junction and hike through, or in a loop, starting and ending in either of these locations. Expect to hike about 10 - 12 miles over 3 days.



**Directions:** Take highway 50 East toward Lake Tahoe, and then take CA-89 South toward Markleeville, and from Markleeville continue on CA-89 South toward Hennan Lake over Monitor pass to US 395 South, going toward Bridgeport to the Sonora Junction at CA-108 West and US-395 South.

Pickel/Leavitt Meadows - Continued from Page 4

**This is a backpacking trip**, so be mindful of proper gear, supplies and fitness for a 3 day / 2 night trip, and plan to hike about 8-12 miles. **Weather permitting**, I will be setting up a Zoom call about 2-3 weeks out from the trip to discuss weather, route and packing, along with overall trip coordination/planning. Over the past 10 years, the weather for the first weekend in May has been clear, with the average lows being about 25-30 degrees; average highs about 60 degrees, and the daily average around 45-50 degrees. It hasn't snowed in the past 10 years on this weekend, and has only rained twice about .3"

<u>I've posted detailed info regarding flies, tackle, etc. here on the fishout template on the website</u>. If you're interested or have any questions contact me at <u>joey.nizuk@gmail.com</u> to sign up.

# Spring Approaches!

by Chris Kight

I want.

I NEED.

To walk an old path along a creek that others have created before me in search of wild trout.

To stand in the creek and pause...

Listening to water sounds around me as the birds sing in the woods—planning my approach.

To figure out how to get close enough to a certain pool that's on the other side of the river.

Continued on Page 6



Spring Approaches - Continued from page 5

Select just the right fly for this moment of fishing, and tie it securely with a much-practiced knot.

Read the water and "KNOW" where a fish must be.

Toss my fly with a practiced cast and stand alert as it drifts right past that particular little boulder.

Enjoy the surge of adrenaline as I feel the tug of a surprised fish when it grabs the fly I tied in the quiet winter months while imagining this moment.

Shout out loud in victory as I bring this natural wonder to the net.

Hold the wild trout in my hand and drink in the beauty of this little creature that brings me such joy, peace and wonder as I prepare to release it.

Take a breath and luxuriate in the happiness of this moment.

Share the story of my fishing adventures with my flyfishing friends who fully understand the allure, the joys and camaraderie of fly fishing.

Sit at home after a day on the water, tired, sore and satisfied as I plan the next trip.

## Classroom Egg Program Update

#### by Frank Stolten, Program Manager

With the pandemic curtailing classroom instruction everywhere, many teachers participating in the egg program chose to set up their aquarium (which GBF provided) in the classroom and continue to have their students participate remotely via Zoom. That allowed them to keep with keep up with changes as the eggs develop quickly.

One teacher was creative and set up a virtual aquarium at the American River Nature Center in Coloma and documented the entire process from egg delivery to release of the salmon fry. She recorded a series of 12 short YouTube videos and posted them on their channel. They bring the textbooks to life and I think you'll find the videos very interesting to see their actual development in each stage during their 4 weeks in the aquarium.

Here are a few of the most significant videos:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQQSawNLo8s&t=52s

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gx\_vqPUXfUE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=trPji446LnI

### **Granite Bay Flycasters Classifieds**

To place a classified ad, you must be a member in good standing of the Granite Bay Flycasters. Classified ads will run for only one issue of The Leader, unless the seller requests it to run longer. Submit your listing to: **editor@gbflycasters.org.** All ads must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's Leader.

### Rowing Adventure with Superguide Mike Bean

by Chris Kight

Mike is one of those valuable resources that come with membership in GBF. When I heard that he was offering to teach GBF members to row a drift boat, I threw my name in the hat immediately, and was lucky enough to be one of the first, along with fellow GBF member and drift boat owner **Gary Gale**—to be chosen for the first "go" with Mike tutoring GBF members to learn the skills necessary and, just as important, how to be safe—while enjoying this aspect of fly fishing.

Because the weather is still "iffy" in February, we scheduled the first day of this two-day tutorial on a clear day. Our day on the American was brilliant with bright blue skies and moderate temperatures.

Gary and I left a car at the bottom of the run, (Rossmoor Bar boat launch) and drove upriver to meet with Mike at Sailor Bar Boat Launch.



Mike's first task of the day was to hand us a page about this "GBF Drift Boat Clinic" that is mostly about safety. His handout has information about debris in the river, avoiding getting the boat pinned, how to avoid swamping the boat, handling a stuck anchor, controlling the oars, etiquette and safety in dealing with other boats, and trying our best not to interfere with wading fishermen that will be along our route, as well as what EXACTLY to do in the event of a lightning or hail storm.

Then, he had a list of things to learn and remember when rowing, including where to point the boat to avoid danger, keeping the weight centered when moving around the boat, assessing

river conditions, and various other bits and pieces that would help us enjoy our float trip safely and in good shape.

My desire to join this activity was my interest in learning everything I can about fly fishing. There are so many different activities and aspects to our sport, and there is so much to learn that makes the entire subject so enjoyable to me so, actual rowing experience on a drift boat will be valuable to me whether or not I ever decide to buy a boat. I'll be more helpful when taking a guided trip, and can even chip-in on the rowing if the Guide would like to toss in a line.

Gary, on the other hand, was a veritable sponge—because he has a boat, he knew what questions to ask and what skills to practice to greatly enhance his skills to use when piloting his own boat. So both of us advanced our knowledge and experience, and had a truly enjoyable time.

Mike had us help launch the boat to get familiar



with using the trailer as the first action of the day, and then started us out with an easy gradient, rowing around the quiet lagoon at Sailor Bar launch for a while, just learning the basic rowing strokes.

#### Rowing Adventure - Continued from page 7

Then, he took us out into the current, giving a few instructions and pointers, and rowing through the first little rough water patch before putting us in the rowing seat to learn the ropes.

We received a river-reading tutorial as we drifted, and Mike pointed out many places both large and small that would have been difficult or impossible to reach on foot—drifting 5 or 6 miles of river allows you to view every single little spot. No motor! Great way to access the waterway.

The boat is so well designed that it was easy to row—I didn't expect that with 3 men and our gear on board but, darned if it doesn't go where you point it!

There are situations when you're entering swift water where the current will try and take the boat where IT wants you to go, but Mike was great about instructing us how to negotiate those areas.

One very smart rule is that when you see white water up ahead (or any obstruction or large tree, etc) that is difficult to read from the river, row to the bank, get out and walk down to observe the flow, see where there might be large boulders, see where the current will try to push you into the outside bank as it enters a large bend, and how to avoid those pitfalls—where to enter each run, which way to have the boat oriented (you can go forward or backward, you can point the boat downstream and go faster through flat/boring sections, and you can point the boat upstream and row steadily to keep the boat suspended in the current and allow the fishermen to cast repeatedly to a particularly juicy spot). It is definitely NOT exhausting to do so, although by the end of the day, you know you've been working your upper body!



At the end of our 5-hour drift on the American, we drove up to retrieve the truck and trailer and, while loading up the boat, rehashed the day a bit, and talked about the next trip. One time out would have been great, but Mike really cares about helping you build proficiency and skill enough to go out on your own, so he took us out twice.

The following week we met at Sycamore Ranch Boat launch to leave a car, and drive up to the Highway 20 Bridge on the Lower Yuba. This was a somewhat shorter run, and Mike suggested that we do the run to practice our skills, and then get the trailer and do it again to get in some fishing! We didn't argue with him about THAT great plan! It was another beautiful winter day, with mild temps and plenty of warm sun.

There was less quiet-water and more faster sections on the Yuba, and we made great use of what we learned the previous week, negotiated our way downriver easily, and we employed our newfound skills in how to negotiate tricky spots and stay out of trouble.

We saw quite a few Skwala that day, and couldn't resist casting some Skwala dries on our first run. We had our lunch at the bottom of the drift; I waited with the boat while Gary drove Mike up to the put-in to retrieve the truck and trailer, and we loaded-up and did it again—this time we fished the "juicy" looking spots.

I did hook up (briefly) a couple of times (man I felt clumsy, having seldom used dry flies, but vastly improved my casting and mending on this second trip). Doing this second drift made for a long day, and after learning a lot about where the fish like to hide in the Yuba and doing plenty more rowing, we drifted into the takeout at Sycamore Ranch with the soft fading light of sunset.

#### Rowing Adventure - Continued from page 8



Mike has all the qualities of a great guide. He wants you to learn, succeed, cast-well, catch fish and, most importantly, have fun, and all that was accomplished.

Gary will agree with me that if you have the opportunity, try and get out with Mike. It's a really fun experience, and you'll gain in many ways.

Mike will be up in Idaho guiding on the Snake River come spring and summer, and I plan to join him for some high-quality guided fishing. Why would I go with anyone else now that I have a friend that is an experienced guide, and one of the many true gentlemen that one meets in the flyfishing world?

## Bill Carnazzo Fly Tyer's Corner (Taken from the Article Written in April 2012)

## Fly Patterns - Bill's Articulated Golden Stonefly



Bill's Articulated Golden Stonefly

### Materials:

Hooks:	<b>Rear:</b> #16; <b>Front:</b> #8-both hooks should be 2xL, w/bent shank & straight eye
Thread:	Amber 8/0, or similar thread
Articulating	
Material:	4x Monofilament
Beads:	Small glass amber beads
Tail:	Amber goose biots
Front Hook	
Shroud:	Burn orange dubbing or fine hair such as Temple
	Dog
Abdomen:	Amber dubbing
Ribbing:	Fine copper wire
Legs:	Dark soft hackle, such as Starling
Wing case:	Mottled golden stone color Thin Skin
Thorax:	Same as abdomen

### Description

Last month we featured an updated version of the 12-Step Stonefly. This month we're going to stretch a bit and take on something a bit more challenging—an articulated stonefly nymph. Articulated flies are becoming much more popular. There are even dry fly patterns out there that use an articulated format. We'll try that in a future article. For now, we'll concentrate on subsurface flies.

The interesting thing about articulation is that it can be applied to virtually any nymph or streamer / baitfish pattern, such as a Wiggle Nymph, a Woolly Bugger, or even a Clouser Minnow. I intend to beef up my still

### Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 9

water arsenal with a bunch of articulated versions of the usual suspects. How about an articulated Sheep Creek Special? Think about it and come up with your own ideas. That's part of the fun of fly tying—we don't have to follow someone else's ideas in lock-step fashion.

Often the most effective flies are those that originate in the mind of "Joe Flyfisher" who notices something on the stream, or just plain brainstorms and experiments. The articulation technique will be the same for any fly you choose to transform, but for now let's try it on a stonefly. I've chosen the Golden Stone just because that's a popular spring bug. You can use whatever other colors strike your fancy. We're also going to build this fly as a soft-hackle version. Optionally, use mini size rubber legs instead. The method for attaching the rear hook to the front hook is one that I learned from Kelly Galloup at the tying class on the day after our Granite Bay Flycasters annual dinner. He uses wire to create the attachment for his large flies; for this fly (and probably any small fly) it is probably best to use monofilament.



# **Tying Instructions**

For best viewing: (1) Maximize your Computer Screen Window. (2) Type "Ctrl + or -" to enlarge or contract the photograph display. (3) Use the Horizontal and Vertical Scroll Bars to scroll right and up/down to display larger photos on your screen.

- 1. Smash the hook barbs on both hooks unless you are using barbless hooks. Place the smaller rear hook in the vise. Tie the thread in just above the point of the hook and move the thread forward to near the hook eye, and back to the same point
- 2. At that point, tie in the amber biot tail. It should extend to the rear of the body no more than 1/3 of its length.
- 3. At the same point, tie in a short segment of fine copper wire



Steps 1, 2 & 3



Steps 4 & 5

- 4. Dub the body all the way to the front of the hook, leaving only an eye-width of open shank behind the eye..
- 5. Rib the abdomen and tie off the wire at the front of the body. Whip finish, and you are done with the rear hook.

### The Leader

### Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 10

- 6. Cut a 10" piece of monofilament and run one end of it through the eye of the smaller hook. Even up the ends of the mono, and push both ends through two of the amber glass beads. Slide the beads down to the eye of the rear hook.
- 7. Place the front hook in the vise and cover the shank with thread. Holding the mono tightly with both strands together, tie it in on the far side of the hook making sure that the mono is positioned so that the loop at the rear hook eye is standing straight upward, perpendicular to the eye of the rear hook. This will ensure that the rear hook rides upright.
- 8. Holding the beads and the rear hook pull on both strands of the mono until the beads rest against the hook bend; they should rest there in a slightly loose manner so that the rear fly can move around in the current. Now wrap tight thread turns back to the bend and leave the thread there.



Steps 6, 7 & 8



Steps 9, 10, 11 & 12

- 9. At that point, tie in a piece of fine copper wire, and return the thread to the rear of the hook.
- 10. Form a small dubbing loop and fill it with some of the burnt orange dubbing. Spin the loop and wind the noodle around the hook, making a small ball about 1/8" in length. Stop there—don't dub any farther forward.
- 11. Using the amber dubbing, dub the abdomen area of the front hook—meaning from the front of the burnt orange dubbing to a point on the shank that is 1/3 shank length behind the eye and stop there.
- 12. Tease out the sides of the dubbed abdomen slightly and wrap the copper wire forward in even turns, to the front of the abdomen. Tie off the wire there.
- 13. Cut a tapered piece of Thin Skin that is approximately 3/16" in width at the widest end, and about ½ " long. Pull the material from the backing. You will notice that one side is shinier than the other—you will end up tying it in with the shiny side down (when it's pulled over the top, this will put the shiny side on top). Tie the narrow end of the Thin Skin in at the front of the abdomen and wrap it down rearward over the dubbed abdomen; this step insures that there will be no "gap" between the dubbed abdomen and the thorax. The wide end of the Thin Skin should now be facing rearward.



Step 13

Continued on Page 12

Fly Tyer's Corner - Continued from page 11

14. Begin dubbing the thorax area just ahead of where the Thin Skin was tied in. Use up half of the space between the front of the abdomen and the hook eye. At that point, tie in a soft hackle feather such as Starling, in soft hackle style. Take 3 complete wraps of the hackle and tie it off. Now continue dubbing the thorax, using the dubbing material to sweep the hackle slightly rearward. Dub to a point that is about one eye width behind the hook eye-in other words, don't crowd the eye.







15. Grab the Thin Skin and pull it forward over the thorax, stretching it a bit as you do so. Tie it off behind the hook eye. Form a small head and whip finish. Apply a tiny drop of super glue at the head.

Step 15

# Tying Tips

- 1. Be sure to leave at least 1/3 of the front area of the hook for the thorax. This is true for all nymphs, and is especially essential for the proper construction of this stonefly pattern or any pattern where you are using a wing case.
- 2. When cutting out your pieces of Thin Skin, give them a slight taper so that when the material is tied in at the rear of the thorax area, the narrower end will end

up at the rear of the thorax. This will give the shell back a tapered look, to match the taper of the abdomen.

Admittedly, this sounds complicated, but it really isn't; once you crank a few you'll find that's true. Have fun, and....see ya on the creek.

Enjoy, and see ya on the creek...!!!



he Leader

Granite Bay Flycasters 8757 Auburn Folsom Road, #2842 Granite Bay, CA 95746-9998

#### **Granite Bay Flycasters**

**Mission:** The organization is dedicated to conservation of fish habitat, advancement of the art of Fly Fishing, and good sportsmanship.

**Meetings:** General club meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Granite Bay Activities Center on the shores of Folsom Lake. For directions, check http://gbflycasters.org.

Doors open between 6:00 P.M. and 6:30 P.M for socializing and fly tying demonstrations. The business portion of the meeting begins at 7:00 P.M. The main program gets underway after a short refreshment break and usually involves a guest speaker and slide show, or other presentation. All meetings are open to the public and visitors are encouraged to attend.

**Membership:** Applications are available on-line at **http://gbflycasters.org** and at general meetings. Single membership: \$30; Family memberships: \$35; and youth (under 18): \$10. There is also a \$12 name badge charge for all new members. Membership is prorated throughout the year. For membership information, contact Mike Bean at 208-244-1153, or visit the website at **http://gbflycasters.org**.

**The Leader:** To send articles, photos, ads and other materials, please e-mail to: Frank Stolten at **editor@gbflycasters.org**. Please put **GBF Leader** in the subject line. Deadline for materials is the 15th of each month. Please notify if address change

### Officers, Directors and Committee Chairs

President - TinaLyn Sell

President - Thatyn Sen						
916-765-9265	gbf-president@gbflycasters.org					
VP Membership - Mike B	ean					
208-244-1153	gbf-membership@gbflycasters.org					
VP Conservation - Ed Llo	yd					
949-939-0540	gbf-conservation@gbflycasters.org					
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949-212-8545	gbf-secretary@gbflycasters.org					
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