

District 'C'ronicle

HAMILTON DISTRICT 'C'
'C'ronicle
SILVER AWARD
2016, 2017

December 2018

Hamilton Masonic District C

Edition No.123

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From our District Deputy Grand Master

Greetings Brethren:

It seems Mother Nature forgot that Winter is not supposed to arrive for a few more weeks ! With frigid November temperatures and early snow it looks like we are in for a long cold Winter, so I recommend getting out to Lodge for a healthy dose of warm brotherly fellowship!

The results from our Fall Divine Service are now being made available, and from all accounts it was a strong success with approximately 100 in attendance representing 20 lodges within the three Hamilton Districts.

Generous contributions were collected for the Board of Relief fund, which allows the Board to provide assistance to those in need in our community. Congratulations to The Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602 for best attendance and winning the Travelling Bible for another term.

I had the pleasure of making my official visit to Temple Lodge No. 324 on Nov 13th and witnessed an initiation and memorial service. Congratulations to Brother Cristiano Da Silva on becoming a new member of the Craft!



Another official visit this month was to The Electric Lodge No. 495 on Nov 21st where an initiation was exemplified very proficiently. Both meetings were very enjoyable and well attended by visitors, and I thank both Lodges for their warm hospitality.

On a fraternal visit to The Buchanan Lodge No. 550, R.W. Bro Tom Marshall made a presentation on the purpose and progress of the new Dyslexic Learning Centre and was presented with a donation from the brethren of Lodge for this worthy endeavor. On another fraternal visit to Harodim Lodge No. 513 I witnessed a moving memorial service and also the Initiation of their first candidate! Congratulations to Harodim Lodge's newest member - Brother Connor Gage on taking the first steps of his Masonic journey!

The Installation of the W. Master and Officers at Westmount Lodge No. 671 was on Nov 27th, and congratulations to W. Bro Doug Bennie and his Installing Board for a job well done, and best wishes to the new Master W. Bro. Erwin Burgraff and his line officers for a rewarding year ahead.

I want to thank the brethren of Valley Lodge No. 100 for inviting my wife and myself to their annual Christmas Dinner / Dance, which was extremely enjoyable, and it was obvious a good time was had by all who attended.

Wishing all brethren and their families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, and may the Great Architect continue to bless us with health and happiness! Let us ever be mindful of those in need during the holiday season, and do our utmost to assist and relieve their necessities

Fraternally

R.W. Bro Robin John Colville



Centrepiece from the Valley Lodge Christmas Dinner



The **DISTRICT 'C'HRONICLE** is published monthly in Hamilton, Ontario and is available for download on the district website at <http://www.hamiltondistrictmasons.org>. Please forward submissions to this newsletter through the contact details on our website.

Please note: The opinions and views expressed in any article in the District 'C'ronicle are those of the writers and therefore do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Grand Lodge. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions

From the Grand Master



At this time, each year, with the short hours of daylight, the lower temperatures and the cool rain, I am reminded that November is a month of contrasts. First, we enjoy the beautiful colour of the trees which last for such a short time, contrasted with the sadness of the memories brought to mind by the loss of men & women who, from yesterday till today, stood in the defenses of our freedom whether at home or across the sea.

On November 11, at the eleventh hour, Masons from all over Ontario will participate in Remembrance Services, either in their Lodges or in their communities. Your Grand Master will be with you, as I have been asked to attend Sarnia District Service. My reminder to you is that, in your Lodge there are many Veterans young and old. Take the time to thank them and then listen to them as they relate what it was like to be young, to leave home for the first time and to suddenly become man on the day of their first military action. Always remember those who never came home. As one last reminder, check with your Lodge Veterans to see if they need assistance to attend the local Remembrance Day Services.

We will never forget!



The contrast for me, this month, has been the enjoyment of attending a number of Investitures of the new Grand Lodge Officers who were announced at Grand Lodge this year. It is an honour for your Grand Master to recognize outstanding Masons whether they were a hard working District Secretaries or a Mason who was conferred an Honorary Grand Rank. We know these are often inherited from the many traditions in the Craft and the old English guilds for duties which they have done and will continue to do. The privileges will be great, the opportunities will be many, and the rewards will be immense and unimaginable. Brethren, enjoy your year as a Grand Lodge Officer. When I have been given the opportunity to speak, at receptions or meetings, I have often spoken on social media and its many benefits. I have also identified a black cloud which, in my opinion, hangs over social media as it relates to Ontario Freemasonry.

In the past, gossip would slowly travel through the community from mouth to ear. However, in the world of the internet, with social media and the likes of facebook, twitter and others, anything can be written based on little known fact, hearsay or gossip.

As Grand Master, I continue to remind you that we have all promised to personally uphold a Brothers good name and to repel others who would slander his good name. This is the first and great lesson of Masonry. I implore you as Man and Mason to always remember and practise this lesson.

From time to time your Grand Lodge is asked by the Brethren to make a decision on a variety of subjects. I assure you, all decisions are not taken lightly, nor are they done by one man, in fact, all senior Grand Lodge Officers contribute to the final decision. We often seek advice from the Management Committee and the Past Grand Masters and thereby assuring that the decision rendered is for the good of Freemasonry in Ontario.

Beginning in January 2019 in this corner of the Communique and continuing for the next four months I will begin a discussion on the future of our Grand Lodge based on where we were; where we are now and where we may be going. Some might call it a Blueprint for the Structure of Grand Lodge based on the following:

- a) Continuity of our Senior Grand Lodge Officers
- b) Election & Term Length DDGM
- c) Regional election of Board of General Purpose Members
- d) Annual Communication where, length, voting

*If we are willing to learn and not change
then no one can help us!*

*If we are willing to learn and change
then no one can stop us!*

Paul E. Todd Grand Master

From the Deputy

Brethren,

Our Strategic Plan holds a vision of where we want to go and a solid plan of how to get there – for both Grand Lodge and individual Lodges! This year we have aligned the Committees of the Board of General Purposes with the pillars of the Strategic Plan. Your Board Members have outlined how they will work toward these goals.

The Community Outreach Committee is headed up by R.W. Bro. Jamie Ireland. Under his purview are three Committees: Youth Initiatives, Brock University Partnership and Public Awareness. The Strategic Initiative which all these Committees strive for is to create opportunities to demonstrate Masonic values within our communities and convey a positive and accurate perception of Freemasonry.

The Youth Initiatives Committee liaises with the three Masonic youth organizations: DeMolay, Rainbow for Girls and Job's Daughters. Sadly, the last operating Job's Daughters' Bethel in Guelph has closed due to lack of youth members, and lack of adult supervisors. The youth need the support of adults from the Eastern Star and the Masons in order to function. And remember, the youth organizations are not training grounds for Freemasonry but rather training grounds for life.

As not all communities have these youth groups the Committee also supports other organizations that help to build the moral and social skills of young people: Scouts Canada, Girl Guides and 4-H in particular. Take a moment to consider what *your* Lodge can do to support the youth of your community.

The Brock University Partnership is a unique endeavour for which our Grand Lodge is becoming known around the world. The academic world has a window on what we really do, and contacts to verify that, and we benefit from the professional research on our institution. Last month we heard an excellent presentation by Dr. William Moore of Boston University. The next Sankey lecture is scheduled for Sunday March 24th, 2019. The Speaker will be Professor Chernoh Sesay Jr., an Associate Professor of Religious Studies at DePaul University, speaking on Prince Hall Freemasonry. Of course, we are inviting our Prince Hall brethren to attend. But the Partnership has engendered more than just lectures. Brock has started an undergraduate course of Freemasonry and fraternalism. And we were pleased to announce the creation of an endowed scholarship, enabled by funds raised by M.W. Bro. Raymond S. J. Daniels. The scholarship will be made to an entering graduate student at Brock University who demonstrates academic excellence and who is earning a Masters of Arts in History. Preference will be given to a student studying Freemasonry/ fraternalism. The first scholarship will be presented sometime in 2019.

In previous years the Blood Donor Committee fell under this pillar. As highlighted, in last April's Communique, we feel that this Committee has served its purpose and no longer is really needed. Masons are involved with charitable work in their community, through their faith communities, United Appeal etc. without Grand Lodge doing anything to "organize" such activity. All we were doing as a Grand Lodge Committee was

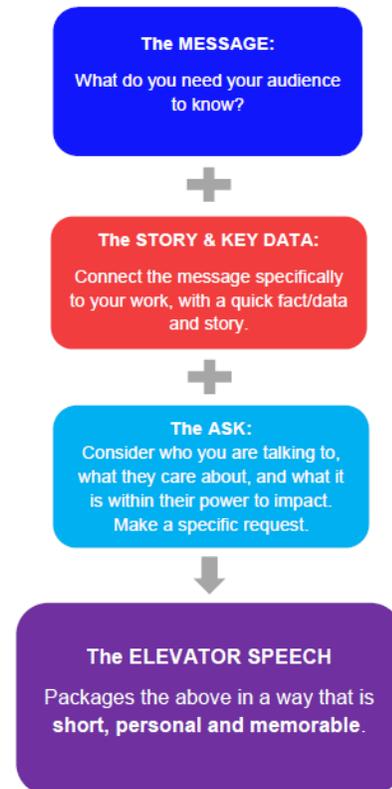
collecting statistics - statistics that we knew were incomplete and meaningless, and so we disbanded this Committee.

Donating blood saves lives but collecting statistics does not. I hope you and your Lodge continue to donate blood, plasma and organs, and continue to help the Canadian Blood Services by sponsoring and/or working at clinics.

The Public Awareness Committee has been tasked with taking a fresh look at our relationship with the world. They have just started their task but they have already come up with some pertinent themes: We must take back control of our message and not leave it to the Internet. We should all develop and rehearse an "elevator speech" so when asked what we do as Masons, we can immediately give a good answer. To prepare, you may ask yourself: "*Who are we?*" "*Why am I a Mason?*" "*How does Freemasonry benefit society as a whole?*" Watch this Committee for more good ideas as they progress this year.

That is the Community Outreach Pillar, working hard on their present focus of engaging our communities and future focus of managing our image in our community..

David J. Cameron Deputy Grand Master



An elevator speech a message intended to spur decision makers to action. An elevator speech must be short, specific, and memorable. It is important to have your elevator speech rehearsed and ready because you never know when you'll have an opportunity to use it!

<http://www.ala.org/advocacy/advocacy-university/school-library-resources/elevator-speech>

Dates to Remember

December 2018

Installation of Officers

Ionic Lodge No. 549
Wednesday December 5, 2018
Tyle 7:30 pm
MCH

D.D.G.M. Homecoming

Buchanan Official Visit

Buchanan Lodge No.550
Thursday December 6, 2018
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm
Hillcrest



Installation of Officers

Hugh Murray Lodge No. 602
Tuesday December 18, 2018
Dinner 6:00 pm, Tyle 7:00 pm
MCH



Saturday, December 1st, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Hamilton Scottish Rite

4 Queen Street S., Hamilton, Ontario
Great fun for all, bring your family and friends,
Everyone is welcome !!!

Children \$5.00 – Age 3 to 12 / Adults \$10.00
For tickets call 519-751-1965 or
Email: kwall45@hotmail.com

January 2018

Installation of Officers

Seymour Lodge No. 272
Tuesday January 8, 2019
Tyle 7:30 pm
Ancaster

DDGM Official Visit

Harodim Lodge No.513
Thursday January 24, 2019
Dinner 6:30 pm, Tyle 7:30 pm
MCH

Hamilton Masonic District 'C' Mid Term Meeting

Saturday January 12, 2019 9:00 a.m.
at the Ancaster Masonic Hall.

The Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts

Saturday, January 19, 2019

Breakfast Meeting
Masonic Centre, Hamilton
\$15.00 cost for breakfast

**Speaker: District Deputy Grand Masters
Hamilton 'A', 'B', 'C'
Topic: Semi-Annual Report**

Craft Association of the Hamilton Masonic Districts

Tuesday, January 29th 2019, 7:15 p.m.
R.W. Bro. Charles Wood from Grand Lodge
Shriners Club at 82 Melvin Ave.
All Masons welcome



MasoniCH.I.P. program

Scout House
West 5th & James Street
Sunday January 27, 2019
Noon – 4 p.m.

**Sponsored by
Temple Lodge No. 324.**



Around the District

The Masonic Past Masters' Association of the Hamilton Districts Breakfast Meeting



Michele Davis, representing Spectrum Cannabis, gave a very informative and interesting presentation on CANNABIS 101, to a well attended Breakfast Meeting of the Past Masters' Association of the Three Hamilton Districts, on Saturday morning November 3, 2018.

<https://spectrumcannabis.com/international/en>

D.D.G.M. Official Visit

Temple Lodge No.324



D.D.G.M. Official Visit

The Electric Lodge No.495



Installation of Officers

Westmount Lodge No. 671



Veteran Jubilee Medal

The Veterans Jubilee Medal is presented in recognition of long service to an Ontario Mason who has completed fifty years of continuous membership in good standing. The word Veteran is used in the broad sense: a person of age and experience. A jubilee is the commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of an important event.



W.M. George Jones of Ancient Landmarks / Doric Lodge No. 654 Recognizing W. Bro. Ed Mallard

Masonic Essay Contest 2019

The Education Committee announces the Annual Masonic Essay Contest. Open to all Masons of the jurisdiction, who are members in good standing

Essay Contest Theme:

Which of the three degrees has made the largest personal impact upon your life? Please tell your story.

Essays to be submitted to The College of Freemasonry at masonic.college@gmail.com

- Only essays in **doc** or **docx** formats will be accepted.
- The essay length is a maximum of 1200 words.
- All quoted sources must be identified in an included bibliography.
- The bibliography won't count towards the word count.
- Submissions will be accepted until **March 1, 2019**.

The Top 3 essays will be published in The Ontario Mason Magazine & posted on Grand Lodge website.

1st Place Prize:

- The author will be entitled to complete The College of Freemasonry "Masonic Arts & Sciences" course at no cost (or he may give his prize to another brother).
- Free ticket to the Grand Master's banquet at Grand Lodge and reserved seat at a front table.
- Essay published in The Ontario Mason Magazine.

2nd Place Prize:

- The author will be entitled to complete The College of Freemasonry "Masonic Arts & Sciences" course at no cost (or he may give his prize to another brother).
- Free ticket to the Grand Master's banquet at Grand Lodge and reserved seat at a front table.
- Essay published in the Ontario Mason Magazine.

3rd Place Prize:

- The author will be entitled to complete either The College of Freemasonry "Past Master's" course or "Aspiring Worshipful Master's" course at no cost (or he may give his prize to another brother).
- Free ticket to the Grand Master's banquet at Grand Lodge and reserved seat at a front table.
- Essay published in the Ontario Mason Magazine.

For more information contact: masonic.college@gmail.com

Freemasonry in Hamilton Series

MASONRY ON THE MOUNTAIN Part 4

Part 3 The Masonic Centre Oct. 2018

Part 2 Sept. 2018

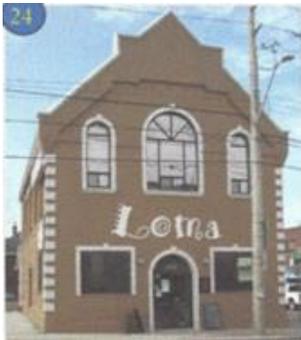
Part 1 August 2018

Submitted by R.W. Bro. Wayne Elgie

Early in the year of 1919, a few Master Masons on the rural mountain top conceived the idea of forming a Masonic lodge in their neighbourhood to avoid the necessity of members having to go either to the city or to lodges at a considerable distance in the rural district. They received permission from W. Bro. James Isaac Buchanan of Pittsburgh, son of Isaac Buchanan, to call it **The Buchanan Lodge** in honour of the Buchanan Family, who were early pioneers of the district and highly esteemed citizens. Isaac Buchanan (July 21, 1810 – October 1, 1883) was a businessman and political figure in Canada West. He was also an international merchant, first president of the Hamilton Club, founder of Hamilton and Toronto Boards of Trade, forerunners of the modern Chambers of Commerce, founder of the regiment that later became the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry and who in 1873 sold the property on James Street North for the James Street Masonic Hall building.

On June 23rd, 1919, a meeting was held in the Barton Township Hall, at 612 Upper James St. which had been rented for one year. At this meeting the lodge was instituted and the dispensation from Grand Lodge was presented by the D.D.G.M., the R.W. Bro. Judge John G. Gauld. On September 2, 1920, Buchanan Lodge No. 550 was constituted and consecrated and the lodge hall dedicated for Craft Masonry. Since it was located outside the southern boundary of the City of Hamilton, Grand Lodge granted all city lodges and Buchanan, concurrent jurisdiction. Thus Hamilton Masonic District No. 8 contained 26 lodges. By December 1929, arrangements were made to purchase the Hall, where the lodge remained until 1984 when it was sold to become a restaurant and Buchanan Lodge moved to the new Hillcrest Temple on Mohawk Road.

Current picture at the original site of Buchanan Lodge, with the lodge hall on the second floor and banquet hall and facilities on the first floor.



Hillcrest Lodge building 1920 was at 538 Concession Street .

Early picture of Concession Street circa 1915



Current Google map picture of Concession St.

By December 30, 1921, there was enough masonic interest to institute a second masonic lodge on the centre mountain near the brow. Thus **Hillcrest Lodge** became a most active lodge initiating some 20 candidates in its first five months, in the newly renovated 3rd floor lodge hall, with accompanying dining-room and anti-room. The ceremony of constitution and consecration took place on October 17, 1922. Hillcrest Lodge No.594 remained on Concession Street until selling their hall and purchasing new facilities on Mohawk Road in 1995. The DDGM recommended that it was time to divide the 30 lodges into 2 Districts which came to fruition in 1923.

A second lodge in the Hillcrest Lodge Hall named **Composite Lodge No. 667** was instituted in 1951, and constituted and consecrated on October 3, 1951 by M.W. Bro. T.H.Simpson. It transferred to the new Hillcrest Temple on Mohawk Road, surrendering its Charter in May 2013.

A second lodge named **Westmount Lodge No.671** was also instituted on September 23, 1952 in the former Buchanan Masonic Hall, and constituted and consecrated by M.W. Bro. T.H. Simpson on October 15, 1953. Westmount transferred to the Hillcrest Temple when the Buchanan Hall closed.

With the dedication and cornerstone laying ceremonies by M.W. Bro. D.I Greenwood on May 27,1995 Hillcrest Lodge left its former facilities on Concession Street to the newly renovated Salvation Army building at 257 Mohawk Road West. Presently, Hillcrest No.594, Buchanan No. 550, Westmount No. 671, The Electric No. 495, Dundurn No.475 and Mount Olive No.1, Prince Hall Freemasonry established in 1852, hold their meetings at the Hillcrest Masonic Temple.



Festive Greetings

Merry Christmas! Happy Holidays!

A selection of goodwill greetings are often used around the world to address strangers, family, colleagues or friends during the end of year season. Traditionally, the predominant greetings of the season have been "Merry Christmas", "Happy Christmas", and "Happy New Year". In the mid-to-late 20th century more generic greetings such as "Happy Holidays" and "Season's Greetings" began to rise in cultural prominence,

The greetings and farewells "Merry Christmas" and "Happy Christmas" are traditionally used in English-speaking countries, starting a few weeks before Christmas

"Happy Holidays" (along with the similarly generalized "Season's Greetings") has become a common holiday greeting in the public sphere. The phrase "Happy Holidays" has been used as a Christmas greeting for more than 150 years.

Below are a few of the year end festivities to consider

NOVEMBER 2018

- 7 Diwali – (Sikh - Jain – Hindu) - (Festival of lights)
- 8 Jain and Vikram New Year
- 12 Birth of Baha'u'llah - Baha'i
- 15 - Dec 24 Nativity Fast Orthodox Christian
- 21 Mawlid an Nabi - Islam
- 22 Thanksgiving USA
- 23 Guru Nanak Dev Sahib birthday - Sikh
- 25 Christ the King - Christian
- 26 Day of the Covenant - Baha'i
- 28 Ascension of 'Abdu'l-Baha - Baha'i
- 30 St. Andrew's Day - Christian

DECEMBER 2018

- 2-24 Advent - Christian
- 3-10 Hanukkah - Jewish
- 6 Saint Nicholas Day - Christian
- 8 Bodhi Day (Rohatsu) – Buddhist
- Immaculate Conception of Mary Christian
- 12 Feast day - Our Lady of Guadalupe-Christian
- 16-25 Posadas Navidenas - Hispanic Christian
- 21 Yule / Solstice
 - Litha - Wicca/Pagan / Christian / Aboriginal
- 24 Christmas Eve - Christian
- 25 Christmas - Christian
 - Feast of the Nativity - Orthodox Christian
- 26 Zarathosht Diso (Death of Prophet Zarathushtra) - Zoroastrian
 - St Stephen's Day – Christian
 - Boxing Day Commonwealth
- 26 - Jan 1 Kwanzaa - African American and Pan-African holiday celebrating family, community and culture, Seven life virtues are presented.
- 31 New Year's Eve

Source: <http://www.interfaith-calendar.org/>

Passport

Raising a Son – In -Law



R.W. Bro. Tom Marshall submitted the following for our Chronicle Passport series.

"I attended Manatee Lodge No. 31, A. & A. M., Bradenton, Florida on Saturday October 6. I took part in the degree for my son-in-law as I did the raising on the 5 points of fellowship. The degree is obviously different from our Ontario version and the dress code is significantly different. Only the officers are dressed in white jackets, everyone else is casual."

He mentioned that other than officers, all the masons grab an apron from the drawer and wear it. When Chuck came in, he was wearing no apron at all. The officers are the only ones with a regular apron with white jackets. The Master has his hat. The ruffians were in costume. Most of them are wearing golf shirts and casual pants. "Of course it is Florida."



From left to right: R.W. Bro. Thomas Marshall, Past District Deputy Grand Master, Hamilton District C. Master Mason Chuck Knapp and Degree Master / Worshipful Master Tom Carter.

R.W. Bro. Thomas Marshall is Brother Knapp's Father in Law and made the trip from Canada to see him Raised. It was our honor for him to attend our degree.

From the Editor



"Merry Christmas" appears on the world's first commercially produced Christmas card, designed by [John Callcott Horsley](#) for [Henry Cole](#) in 1843

Brethren,

...And suddenly it is December, with all the year end planning and celebrations that come with it.

A thank you to R.W. Bro. Elgie for his 4 part (to date) review of Freemasonry in Hamilton. It is astonishing to see how far Hamilton has come in 100 years.

Also it was great to get a submission for our Passport Series from R.W. Bro. Tom Marshall. It is interesting to see how Masonry is carried out in other jurisdictions.

We ask the readers to please consider dropping us a line, or sending us a facebook entry to include in future Chronicle editions

Hoping everyone of our readers has a happy end of year. We value your opinions and feedback. Watch for a reader's survey in the upcoming weeks.

S&F
Glen



IN MEMORIAM

R. W. Bro. David George Midgley

Westmount Lodge No. 671

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above in his 74th year on
November 18, ,2018

W. Bro. Robert L. Armit

Harodim Lodge No. 513

Passed to the Grand Lodge Above in his 88th year on
November 18, ,2018



**In Life Respected, In Death Regretted. We Shall
Cherish Their Memory in Our Hearts.**

Masonic Service & Celebration of Life

The WM, Officers & Brethren of Westmount Lodge No. 671, request you join us Tuesday, December 11th, 2018 at 257 Mohawk Rd West for;

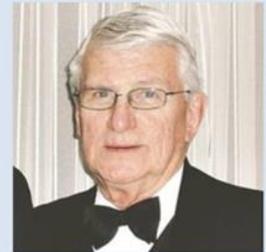
7:00 P.M. Masonic Service

7:30 P.M. Toast & Celebration of Life of our brother, R. Wor. Bro. D G Midgley.

There will be a light meal & refreshments

For information contact Robert P Beres, robert.beres@sympatico.ca

In lieu of flowers donations to St. Stephen-on-the-Mount Anglican Church will be collected and presented to the family.



R. Wor. Bro. David G MIDGLEY

Passed away suddenly at his home on Sunday, November 18, 2018 at the age of 74. Beloved husband of 49 years to Judy, dear father to Todd (Tricia) and Trevor (Monique). Loving grandpa to Kaitlyn, Nicholas, Jenna and Lindsay.



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W. Bro. Brian Thomas

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