

The SILVER STAR



Mercedes-Benz Club of America • Sierra Nevada Section • October 2022



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OCTOBER 5, 2022
FIRST WEDNESDAY DINNER
 (SEE PAGE 3 FOR DETAILS)



The Fox Brewpub

Scenic Drive to British-Style Brewpub in the Capital City

by Christy Dodson, Secretary

In early September, 27 members of the Sierra Nevada Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America journeyed to The Fox Brewpub in Carson City for the First Tuesday Drive and Dinner. Half of the group drove from Mercedes-Benz of Reno, while the other members traveled from the Carson Valley. Two couples that are members of the San Francisco Bay Area Section joined the Sierra Nevada group for this event. As always, the group was more than happy to accommodate

friends from the neighboring section. One of the attendees drove his brand-new Mercedes EQS to the event, and everyone was excited to see the luxury all-electric car.

Marcus Dodson was the host for this evening, and he led the cavalcade on a beautiful drive along Route 395 Alternate. The scenic road winds along the mountains on the west side of Washoe Valley and passes historic Bowers Mansion before turning into the four-lane Carson-Reno Highway.

(Continued on Page 4)

PRESIDENT'S EXHAUST



Wunderbar!

Offering Exciting Events This Oktoberfest Season

Summer may be over, but our Sierra Nevada Section has kept the festivities going with fun and exciting dinners and drives. This past summer, we enjoyed quite a few interesting, unique get togethers throughout Reno and the surrounding areas.

In early September, Christy and Marcus Dodson hosted the First Tuesday Dinner at The Fox Brewpub in downtown Carson City. The couple led the group on a beautiful drive along historic old 395, and it was refreshing to get away from the hustle and bustle of Reno in exchange for evergreen trees and roadside sheep. Then, in late September, Dee and Michael Garcia hosted a beautiful lunch at River Ranch Lodge and Restaurant in Tahoe City. There's no better place in the Sierra Nevada to watch the seasons change from summer to fall than on the banks of the Truckee River.

This upcoming Wednesday, the club is heading out to Sun Valley to have

dinner at Hobey's Steakhouse. We've enjoyed Hobey's before as a club, and I'm sure we're all excited to go back to this local treasure. Dust off your lederhosen, because Christy and Marcus Dodson are once again hosting the club at their home in Reno for an Oktoberfest party later this month. The Dodsons put together a marvelously themed event for last year's Oktoberfest, and we're all brimming with excitement to see what they have planned this year. Check out the flyers for these events later in this Newsletter, and reach out to Marcus Dodson if you'd like to attend one or both of them.

Our Star of the Year competition is in its final quarter, which means you have just a couple more months to get your recruitments in before the year ends. Also, please let one of the board members know if you have an idea for a dinner or a drive.

Gail V. Wells

Gail Wells
President



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SIERRA NEVADA MBCA FORMER PRESIDENTS

Marc Dodson • 2011
Gary Dyer • 2012 & 2013
Sherry Avilla • 2014
Don Williams • 2015 & 2016
Gary Dyer • 2017
Bill Shepherd • 2018 & 2019

The Silver Star is the official publication of The Sierra Nevada Section of MBCA, however, opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Sierra Nevada Section, MBCA, or its officers.

OCTOBER DINNER

**SIERRA NEVADA MERCEDES-BENZ CLUB
FIRST WEDNESDAY DINNER**

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HOBNEY'S

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THE THREAT OF RAIN
DIDN'T DETER THE GROUP
FROM DRIVING DOWN
TO CARSON CITY.

The Fox Brewpub

(Continued from Page 1)

On this particular drive, the club was able to see some herds of sheep and roving cows amidst the scattered evergreen trees that line the roadway. Rain

clouds threatened the group on its way to the restaurant, but thankfully the clouds held tight until everyone was safely situated under the outdoor

patio's large umbrellas.

The Fox Brewpub is a traditional, English-style pub that is located in the

(Continued on Page 5)

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EVERYONE ENJOYED THEMSELVES ON THE PATIO AT THE BREWPUB.

The Fox Brewpub

(Continued from Page 4)

Historic St. Charles Hotel right in the middle of Nevada's capital city. The St. Charles Hotel was built in 1862, just a few months after the Nevada Territory was established in 1861. From the very beginning, the St. Charles Hotel was popular with travelers and locals alike. In 1993, businessman Bob McFadden bought the hotel and spent \$250,000 in

renovations. Then, in 2007, the Lopiccolo family bought the hotel, and investor Jim Phalan opened the Fox Brewpub there.

The Fox Brewpub seated the group at one long table and a few smaller tables on the large outdoor patio. Umbrellas protected the group from the short burst of summer rain, and only a

few rogue droplets dripped onto some guests. Many people enjoyed nachos piled high with black beans, pico de gallo, jalapeños, beer cheese, and sour cream. Others opted for various gourmet burgers, fish and chips, and salads. Beers, wine, and cocktails peppered the tables, too. The Fox Brewpub brews its own suds, including its Buzzed Bee Honey Ale, Seamus O'Faolain Irish Red Ale, Hazy Street IPA, Double Hop Tahoe Double IPA, Kings Fall Pilsner, and many more.

The next First Wednesday Dinner is October 5 at Hobey's Steakhouse in Sun Valley, hosted by Christy and Marcus Dodson. To RSVP, contact Marcus Dodson at marcus@dodsonpublications.com or (775) 997-9901. Club dinners happen monthly, and there are opportunities to host for anyone who is interested. For more information and to sign up to host a dinner or an event, contact Gail Wells at blackswan342@gmail.com or (307) 763-1701. Stay up to date on future club events by searching for @SierraNevadaMBCA on Facebook.



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RIVER RANCH LODGE & RESTAURANT SITS RIGHT ON THE EDGE OF THE TRUCKEE RIVER.

River Ranch Lodge & Restaurant

Scenic Fall Drive & Dine at Historic Riverside Venue

by Marcus Dodson, Newsletter Editor

In late September, 26 members of the Sierra Nevada Section of the Mercedes®-Benz Club of America took the beautiful drive out to Tahoe City, California, for a riverside lunch. Dee and Michael Garcia hosted this drive and lunch event at the River Ranch Lodge and Restaurant.

Nestled on the shore of a celebrated bend of the Truckee River, this landmark restaurant was initially completed in 1888 and was first known as the Deer Park Lodge. It was a beloved watering hole for travelers and workers on the railroad, then fell into disuse when the Great Depression brought a halt to the



area's tourism. Over the next couple decades, the lodge and restaurant fell into disrepair, only to be revitalized with a new structure in 1950. During the 1960 Olympic Games at nearby

Squaw Valley, many foreign diplomats stayed at the lodge. Similarly, San Francisco area elites would make the lodge their headquarters when traveling to

(Continued on Page 8)



River Ranch Lodge

(Continued from Page 7)

Lake Tahoe for vacation. The property was purchased by new owners in 1972 and a major refurbishment transformed the venue into its current iteration as a timeless, cozy, wood-shingled lodge. While the original establishment maintained one large dining room, the current River Ranch Restaurant has a main dining room, a central bar, and a private dining room situated around a river rock fireplace. In the summertime, hungry kayakers, paddlers, and inner-tubers can be seen docking along the shore to re-energize on the riverside patio.

On this day, the group met in Truckee and took the scenic drive up along the winding river towards Lake Tahoe. Guests enjoyed the beautiful weather on the outdoor patio, and everyone chose dishes off the lunch menu. Some people opted for the fresh Caesar salad, which came with shaved asiago, croutons, and lemon. The shrimp ceviche was another hit, and it included sweet shrimp, red onion, avocado, cilantro, lime, and tostada. Several different sandwiches were ordered, including a spicy hot chicken sandwich, angus cheeseburger, and pulled pork sandwich. The famous River Ranch nachos were another standout hit, and they included a mountain of local corn chips, cheese, black beans, jalapeños, pico de gallo, sour cream, guacamole, and a choice of meat. Beers, wine, and assorted cocktails were available for those that wished to imbibe.

The next club event will be Oktoberfest, hosted by Christy and Marcus Dodson at their home in Reno on October 21. RSVP to this event by contacting Marcus Dodson at marcus@dodsonpublications.com or (775) 997-9901. Events happen monthly, and there are opportunities to host for anyone who is interested. For more information and to sign up to host a First Tuesday Dinner or an event, contact Gail Wells at blackswan342@gmail.com or (307) 763-1701. Stay up to date on future club events by searching for @SierraNevadaMBCA on Facebook.

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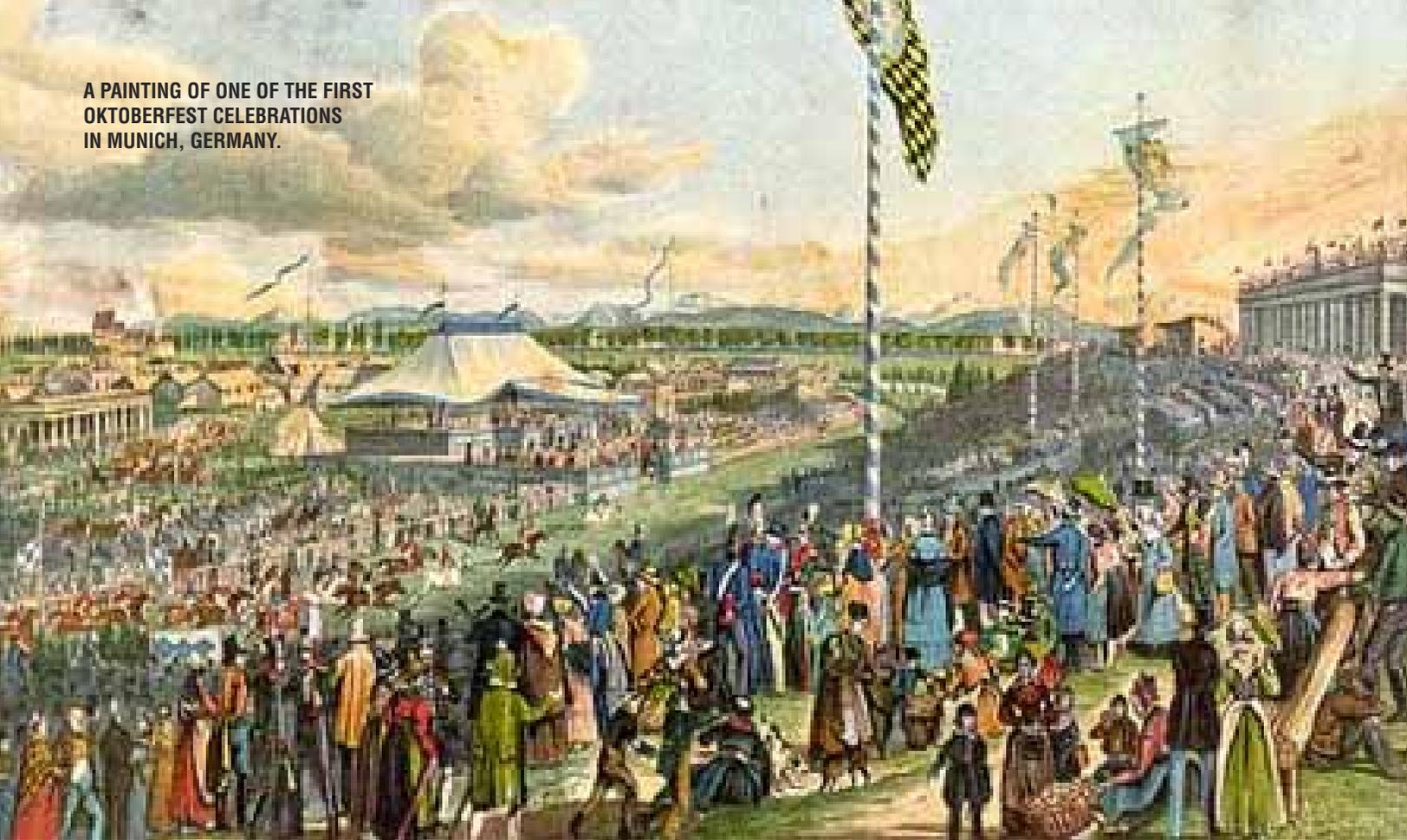


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A PAINTING OF ONE OF THE FIRST
OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATIONS
IN MUNICH, GERMANY.



Oktoberfest History

Beer Festival & Folk Celebration in Munich, Germany

by Ali Turner, Reporter for the Automotive Industry

Oktoberfest is a multi-day folk festival held annually in Munich, Bavaria, Germany from mid-September to the first weekend in October. More than six million people, including Germans and international travelers, descend upon the festival's fairgrounds. Visitors enjoy amusement rides, shopping, games, traditional German food, and, of course, beer. In fact, Oktoberfest attendees consume around 7 million liters of Märzenbier per year.

The history of this famous event goes all the way back to October 12, 1810, when Crown Prince Ludwig married the Princess Therese of Saxe-Hildburghausen. The future King Ludwig I invited all of the citizens of Munich to attend a celebration in honor of his wedding, and it was held in the fields in front of the city gate. To this day,

these meadows are named Theresienwiese as a dedication to the princess, but are now colloquially known as the Wiesn, which means meadows in German. The following year, in 1811, an agricultural fair was added onto the new annual festival, and the duration of the event was lengthened. This allowed the citizens and farmers to take advantage of the longer and warmer days of late September.

At the end of the 19th century and into the early 20th century, large dance floors and gaming areas were replaced by dedicated spaces for guests, musicians, and beer booths. It wasn't until 1960 and beyond, however, that Oktoberfest became the truly humongous festival that it is known as today.

Oktoberfest currently has 17 large tents and more than 20 small tents that are wooden and built for use only at the festival. The large tents seat thousands

of people, both inside and outside. Until the early evening hours, orchestras in the tents only play brass music, usually traditional folk music, and it is kept at a reasonable volume. The concept of this quiet Oktoberfest began in 2005 as a way of being amenable to families and elderly attendees. After dinnertime, pop and electric music styles are permitted, which often lead to rowdier behavior than is seen in the daytime and afternoon hours. The smaller tents mainly serve traditional German foods, such as schnitzel, pretzels, wurst, and roast chicken.

Interesting fact, even though daily attendance is over 350,000 people, there are no trash bins in public areas at the festival. At the 1980 Oktoberfest, a pipe bomb was set off in a dustbin near the toilets at the main entrance. Because of this incident, no bins are used. Each

(Continued on Page 13)



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ONE OF THE LARGE TENTS THAT SEAT MANY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE.

Oktoberfest History

(Continued from Page 11)

night the waste is picked up and the grounds are cleaned before the next day's guests arrive. Over its more than 200-year history, Oktoberfest has only been canceled 26 times. Reasons have included wars, cholera outbreaks, and the recent COVID-19 pandemic.

Since 1935, a parade of breweries has taken place, led by the mayor of Munich and followed by the decorated horse carriages and floats of the breweries and the music bands from the beer tents. After the parade, the mayor opens the first beer barrel and exclaims

"O'zapft is!" or "It has been tapped!" Next, 12 gunshots are fired, signaling to the restaurateurs that they are permitted to begin serving beer.

The Reinheitsgebot, or purity order, is a series of regulations adopted in Bavaria in 1516 that limits the ingredients that may be used to brew beer. According to this historic law, the only ingredients that can be used are water, barley, and hops. In recent decades, Bavarian brewers, frustrated with their inability to keep up with the global growth of craft varieties, voted in favor of a revision to this law that allows other natural ingredients.

For Oktoberfest, only beer conforming to the Reinheitsgebot that is brewed within the city limits of Munich may be served. The breweries that conform to this criteria are Augustiner-Bräu, Hacker-Pschorr-Bräu, Löwenbräu, Paulaner, Spatenbräu, and Staatliches Hof-

(Continued on Page 14)



CROWN PRINCE LUDWIG & THE PRINCESS THERESE.



Oktoberfest History

(Continued from Page 13)

bräu-München. Traditionally, the Oktoberfest beer was only brewed in March, or März, and fermented in a cold cave during the summertime to be

tapped in the fall. This Maärzbeer, or March beer, can vary from pale to amber to dark brown, and typically contains between 5%-6% alcohol by

volume. These historical regulations may have morphed, but the balanced, sweet, full-bodied beer remains.

(Continued on Page 16)



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Sierra Nevada Section Crossword Puzzle

das Oktoberfest...



ACROSS

- 3. Pretzel's shape symbolizes when a person's arms are this
- 5. Origin of Oktoberfest
- 6. Dress worn by many women at Oktoberfest
- 10. Name of the fairgrounds
- 11. Symbol of Bavaria
- 13. Person who opens Oktoberfest
- 14. State that Munich is in
- 17. Popular sweet treat
- 18. A ride at the carnival
- 19. Animal that was raced at early Oktoberfests

DOWN

- 1. What happens on the first Sunday of Oktoberfest
- 2. Name of the king and groom at the wedding
- 4. Leather shorts worn by many at Oktoberfest
- 7. Large fall festival in Munich
- 8. You can hear them at Oktoberfest
- 9. Month when Oktoberfest begins
- 12. Approximate number of people who attend
- 15. German word for a pretzel
- 16. Where you can get food and drinks
- 17. Popular food at Oktoberfest

Puzzle answers can be found on the following page.



Oktoberfest History

(Continued from Page 14)

Since 1892, the festival's beers have been served in glass jugs, or Maßkrug. This handled drinking vessel is commonly called a beer mug and it holds a full liter of liquid, or 33.8 oz, also known as a Maß. Beer steins, on the other hand, are made of stoneware. The dimples on the mug are said to soften the bitter taste that can often accompany a traditional Munich-brewed beer. Over the course of one 16-hour shift, an Oktoberfest waitress can haul as much as 2,250 lbs. from



the filling stations to the tables. With each Maßkrug weighing five lbs., Oktoberfest waitresses are known for having some seriously strong arms and can usually carry as many as ten mugs at a time.

Waitresses, restaurant staff, and visitors wear traditional Bavarian attire to Oktoberfest. Women can opt to wear a dirndl, which is made up of a blouse, dress, and apron. The bodice is very fitted, and the dress typically goes to the knees. As for hairstyles, women commonly wear their hair in beautiful and playful braided plaits, either as a crown around the head or as a ponytail. Men can wear lederhosen, or leather pants, which can be accessorized with suspenders. Lofelrs are essentially calf warmers worn below the knee, and are ultimately coordinated to the rest of a man's attire.

Every fall, Munich buzzes with excitement as locals and travelers anticipate one of the country's most legendary annual events. For Germans, Oktoberfest is a symbol of the rich and proud history of Bavaria.



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SIERRA NEVADA

Oktoberfest

Crossword Puzzle Answers

Across

3. Crossed
5. Wedding
6. Dirndl
10. Theresienwiese
11. Lion
13. Mayor
14. Bavaria
17. Cookies
18. Roller coaster
19. Horse

Down

1. Parade
2. Ludwig
4. Lederhosen
7. Oktoberfest
8. Musicians
9. September
12. Six million
15. Brezel
16. Tent
17. Chicken

ITEMS of INTEREST

The National Automobile Museum

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- Members get ½ off admission into the facility, and the discount applies for any guests, during normal business hours.

- Members can request free guided tours of the museum, subject to the availability of the tour guides.

- Members receive a 10% discount at the National Auto Museum gift shop.

The museum has our member list on file, so just tell the cashier your name and that you're a member of the Sierra Nevada Section of the Mercedes-Benz Club of America.

The National Automobile Museum is located at 10 South Lake Street in Reno, (775) 333-9300.

EVENTS

October 5, 2022: Sierra Nevada MBCA First Wednesday Dinner, hosted by Christy & Marcus Dodson, Hobey's Steakhouse, Sun Valley, Nevada. To RSVP, contact Marcus Dodson at marcus@dodsonpublications.com or (775) 997-9901

October 21, 2022: Sierra Nevada MBCA Oktoberfest, Christy & Marcus Dodson's home, 1840 Wendy Way, Reno, Nevada. To RSVP, contact Marcus Dodson at marcus@dodsonpublications.com or (775) 997-9901

November 1, 2022: Sierra Nevada MBCA First Tuesday Dinner, hosted by Gail & Vencil Wells, Chi, Reno, Nevada. To RSVP, contact Gail Wells at blackswan342@gmail.com or (307) 763-1701

December 2022: Sierra Nevada MBCA Christmas Party, hosted by Ray Rich, location & date to be determined. To RSVP, contact Ray Rich at rayrich@sbcglobal.net or (775) 560-9592

January 3, 2023: Sierra Nevada MBCA First Tuesday Dinner, hosted by Gail & Vencil Wells, Pietro's Famiglia, Sparks, Nevada. To RSVP, contact Gail Wells at blackswan342@gmail.com or (307) 763-1701

July 28-29, 2023: Hot August Nights, Virginia City, Nevada. www.hotaugustnights.net, (775) 356-1956

August 1-6, 2023: Hot August Nights, Reno, Nevada. www.hotaugustnights.net, (775) 356-1956

August 2-3, 2024: Hot August Nights, Virginia City, Nevada. www.hotaugustnights.net, (775) 356-1956

August 6-11, 2024: Hot August Nights, Reno, Nevada. www.hotaugustnights.net, (775) 356-1956

Video of the Month

Oktoberfest Gals...



If you want to work as a waitress at Oktoberfest, you have to have a strong set of skills. You must be friendly if you want to get your fair share of tips. You also have to possess incredibly strong arms. These gals can walk up to 12 miles per day, and a load of filled beer mugs can weigh upwards of 65 lbs. To watch the short video click on the link below or scan the QR code with your smart phone.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EqW9Zy-iU8s>



IN CLOSING

Bier

Oktoberfest's Main Attraction

by Marcus Dodson, Newsletter Editor

(Editor's Note: The following story may have absolutely nothing to do with Mercedes or automobiles, but we feel it's interesting nonetheless. If you have a humorous or interesting story you would like to submit for this column, call us at (775) 997-9901.)

Sure, you might tell yourself that you want to go to Oktoberfest to experience authentic Bavarian culture. The multi-day festival has plenty of folk music, delicious German food, and interesting outfits. However, we all know that the majority of people go to Oktoberfest for the beer, and maybe catching a glimpse of the scenery.



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LIFESAVER
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WHAT PUMPKIN SPICE?
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