



Tim Stewart,
CEO/Manager

Nuclear Expenses Being Returned in “Special Refund”

On behalf of the Clark Electric Cooperative’s Board of Directors, I am extremely pleased to announce that Clark Electric Cooperative has received a cash refund from Dairyland Power Cooperative in the amount of \$837,894.11. The Clark Electric Board of Directors took action at our January 2013 board meeting to authorize the processing of this “Special Refund” directly to our members. The “Special Refund” will be mailed by the middle of March of this year.

This refund is the result of a recent damage award received by our wholesale power provider, Dairyland Power Cooperative, based on the federal government’s ongoing breach of contract regarding Dairyland’s shut-down of the La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor (LACBWR) facility. The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 gave the government responsibility for storage of the nation’s

spent nuclear fuel, with a deadline of Jan. 31, 1998, to begin accepting the fuel. Dairyland returned funds to Clark Electric Cooperative and its 24 other member cooperatives, based on costs incurred from 1999–2006. Therefore, the “special refund” returned to Clark members will be based on 1999–2006 patronage.

The court decision awarded Dairyland damages based on costs incurred through the end of 2006. Included were expenses for removing the Reactor Pressure Vessel while the fuel was still in the storage pool, the beginning of the dry cask storage process, costs related to Private Fuel Storage and partial costs related to SAFSTOR, the program that ensures the spent fuel is stored safely. The U.S. Court of Federal Claims issued its original decision in Dairyland’s favor in December 2009; however, the appeals process took an additional three years. ■

A Good Friend and Strong Leader **Goodbye to Director Clarence Hoesly**

Our sympathy to Sandy Hoesly and family on the loss of Clarence Hoesly, who passed away on February 6, 2013. Clarence served the members of Clark Electric Cooperative for 15 years as a director, nine years as secretary–treasurer. Clarence joined the Dairyland Board of Directors as Clark Electric’s delegate in June 2003. While at Dairyland, he served on the Executive Committee from 2006–2011 and served as treasurer for three terms. He also served on the following committees: Resolution & Bylaws, Labor, Finance, and Policy, Procedures and System Operations. Clarence’s leadership, dedication, guidance, and friendship have left an everlasting impression on our organization. He will be truly missed. ■



Scholarships Available

Clark Electric Cooperative is once again offering scholarships to graduating students from participating high schools in our service area. One \$1,000 scholarship will be available for a student from each school or group of schools in our service area.

To be considered for the scholarship, the student’s parent or legal guardian must be a member of Clark Electric Cooperative and currently receive electric service at their primary residence from Clark Electric Cooperative.

Applications are available from high school guidance counselors, online at www.cecoop.com, and at the cooperative office, 124 N Main St., Greenwood.

All applications must be returned to the cooperative office by 5 p.m. Friday, March 8, 2013.

If you have any questions, please contact Tracy Nelson, administrative assistant, at 715-267-6188 or 1-800-272-6188. ■



Plan to Attend Your Annual Meeting on April 11

Clark Electric Cooperative's annual meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2013, starting at 9:30 a.m. at the Loyal American Legion.

The annual meeting is an important event for the cooperative. Members will hear reports about the cooperative and the electric industry, review financials, and elect their representatives to serve on the board of directors.

Members will be asked to elect two directors for three-year terms. Director terms expiring or vacated this year are those for Ronald Schmidt from the Town of Brighton area and for the late Clarence Hoesly from the Town of York area. Nominations are taken from the floor of the meeting. The cooperative's bylaws establish the minimum qualifications for being a director. A copy of the bylaws is available on the cooperative's website at www.cecoop.com or by contacting the business office at 715-267-6188. If you have any additional questions about becoming a director, please contact our CEO/General Manager Tim Stewart at the business office.

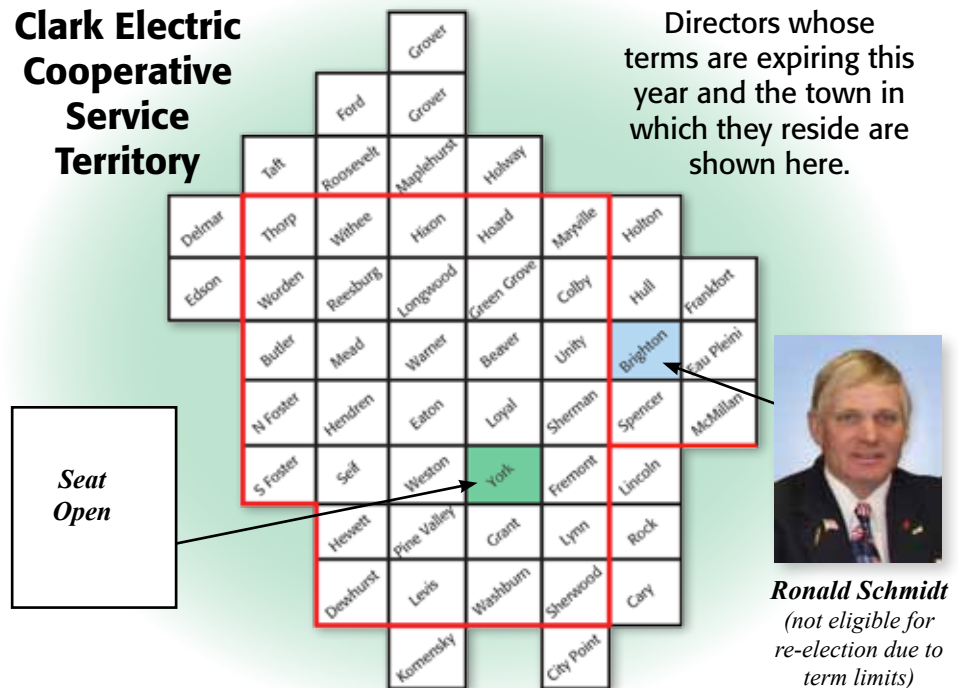
Directors are expected to attend

the monthly board meeting; represent the cooperative in state, regional, and national affairs; and take advantage of NRECA educational opportunities such as classes, seminars, and workshops. Directors need to read, study, and analyze a lot of information throughout the month to keep informed on the electric industry as a whole.

Directors will spend approximately 20-35 days a year in performance of their duties.

Plan to attend the annual meeting, enjoy a nice meal, register for door prizes, and help conduct the business of your electric utility. Member involvement is critically important to the success of your cooperative. ■

Clark Electric Cooperative Service Territory



Ronald Schmidt
(not eligible for re-election due to term limits)

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Dairyland Power Cooperative Annual Meeting

11 Delegates and 4 Alternates needed

Representing your cooperative and your fellow members at various meetings is an opportunity that we ask our members to participate in every year. The Dairyland Power Cooperative Annual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 5, 2013, in La Crosse.

By attending and being a delegate for your cooperative, you help keep Clark Electric Cooperative strong and prosperous. If you would like to represent Clark Electric Cooperative at this meeting, please contact Tracy Nelson, administrative assistant, 715-267-6188 or 800-272-6188, by Monday, April 1, 2013.

Daylight Savings Time March 10, 2013

If you are on our Time-of-Day Rate, you probably have a time clock controlling devices. Remember to switch the time clock on these devices forward one hour for Daylight Savings Time on Sunday, March 10, 2013. It is important that your time clocks are reset to avoid using electricity during peak times, resulting in a higher-than-normal electric bill.

MOMENTS IN TIME

A History of Clark Electric Cooperative

CEO/GM Dick Adler retired from Clark Electric Cooperative in January 2005 after almost 45 years of service. Following is an excerpt from Adler's farewell address as it appears in the January 2005 Manager's Column of the *Wisconsin Energy Cooperative News*.

Final Words From CEO/GM Dick Adler

In my career, one person has been so influential that I cannot begin to tell how much I learned from him — Harland Bergemann. Harland became general manager in 1964 and we worked very closely for the next 14 years. Harland is the type of people-person who always considers the members and who owned this business first. If an idea wasn't good for the vast majority of the members, it soon disappeared. Working with a union contract was just that — a contract to be abided by. If we or the employees didn't like something, we lived by it and waited to try to change it in the next negotiations. He taught me to listen and not interrupt or interpret before all the facts were known.

Don't try to know it all — that's where the professional engineers, attorneys, state and national organizations can help. Support the organizations that we need for the jobs we can't do by ourselves. Well, Harland and I were a great team, and eventually in the mid '70s he hinted that maybe I should prepare for the general manager position. Oh no, I told him, as I really enjoyed the office routine and the coming of computers and such. Well, in later 1976 we talked again and he said, "I really need to know — give it some thought." Well, I did and



Dick Adler and the board of directors, shortly before Adler's retirement: Clarence Hoesly, Tony Jarocki, Ron Schmidt, Chuck Bena, Wilmer Griepentrog, Vern Kowalewski, and Howard Schultz.



the big questions I had was, "Could I work for someone other than Harland Bergemann?" The answer was, "Probably not," so I told him I would go for it.

Harland retired in February 1978 and I have been at the reins since. My office manager then was Marty Hillert Jr. from Granton, who was following my footsteps, learning and studying as he went. Marty eventually left to become a general manager in Minnesota and later became manager of Adams-Columbia Electric Cooperative in Friendship, Wisconsin. We still see each other at various meetings and seminars. Yes, we are still learning.

So now I am the CEO/GM, and I continue to be blessed by some great board of directors with leadership that anyone would envy. Presidents of Clark Electric under whom I served were Louis Dux, Ralph Woik, Dick Eibergen, LeRoy Fravert Jr., and Anthony Jarocki. They, of course, were supported by a host of dedicated directors, all of whom I was proud to be associated with.

The board has been very progressive and cost conscious, always looking out for our members. In tough times and when rates needed to be adjusted, you'd better come prepared and informed. Although rates have been increasing the past number of years, it is for good reason, but we must be watchful as to what the members can afford. Traditionally, electric costs have been way under inflation and that is the reason for only asking for what we really need. Throughout my career, most of the increases have come on the wholesale level; however, inflation hits at our doors just as it does our members.

I have tried diligently to maintain a financially strong organization. We have some of the lowest debts and electric rates of any electric cooperative in Wisconsin. Our system is constantly being rebuilt and maintained to the specifications of the Rural Utility Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Your board of directors has selected Tim Stewart as my successor, and I feel very good about leaving the business guidance to him. We ►

Clark Electric Cooperative

General Manager Tim Stewart, left, with former General Managers Harland Bergemann and Dick Adler.



have spent countless hours together these past five months to cause a smooth transition. Tim does have a big job of filling the upcoming retirements that will be occurring in the next couple of years.

So now what? I will not say good-bye. I am not leaving, only now I won't have an office and I will be at the call of Tim Stewart. I will stop in but give no advice unless asked for. What are my plans? Some traveling. I'm on the executive committee for Farm Technology Days in Clark County 2005, on the board of St. Mary's Memorial Fund, coordinator for Greenwood Festivals, Inc., and chairman of the Bransititer's Old Streets of Greenwood Museum.

Special thanks to my management staff: Bob Moseley, director of operations; Donna Abel, office manager; John Knox, director of member relations; Rick Suda, line superintendent; and recently retired Harry Johnson and

all the employees. You are doing an outstanding job and you have made me proud over the years. Eighteen years of achieving safety accreditation is quite an accomplishment, as it is a team effort.

A big thank you to the board of directors — not only the present directors but also those who served in the past. Thank you for the challenge, your kindness, and for not interfering. I always looked forward to board meetings because of the great support I received. You entrusted the operations to me, which were not always perfect, but you gave me the tools to assemble a great staff of people to work for the members and meet their expectations.

Lastly, thank you to the members for your understanding when the lights were out, including the times when there were persistent problems and outages may have occurred more than once in a short period of time.



For the first time, all seven directors received the Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate at once in 2003.

2003–2006

January 2003 – Donated \$1,000 for welcome signs for City of Greenwood.

The members of the Board of Directors all receive the Credentialed Cooperative Director certificate. This marks the first time that all seven directors are certified as a CCD at one time.

Safety First, a statewide loan and grant program, is initiated. The purpose is to assist dairy farmers with the cost of rewiring projects and to promote safety.

April 2, 2003 – Howard Schultz and Charles Bena are elected to the Board of Directors.

May 7, 2003 – Dick Adler notifies the board of his intent to retire January 5, 2005. Board starts the recruitment process in September 2003.

December 3, 2003 – Board approves investment of \$20,000 into CRC.

May 7, 2004 – Board hires Tim Stewart as CEO/GM. Stewart begins his duties July 27, 2004.

June 2004 – The Wisconsin Public Service Commission rules in Clark Electric Cooperative's favor to continue serving Our Lady of Victory Hospital at Stanley. Xcel Energy filed a complaint against the cooperative with the PSC because they felt the area where the new hospital was built belonged to their service area.

Greenwood Fire and Ambulance presents the board a plaque in appreciation of the support that Clark Electric Cooperative provides in allowing employees to respond to emergencies.

December 2004 – Clark Electric Appliance and Satellite Inc., creates and endows the Adler-Clark Electric Community Commitment Foundation. The Foundation was established to strengthen local communities by helping not-for-profit and community organizations fund projects that will enhance the quality of life of local residents of this area.

January 2005 – CEO/GM Dick Adler retires after almost 45 years of service.

February 1, 2005 – Board approves nine bylaw amendments for consideration at the next annual meeting (all amendments pass).

March 4, 2005 – The classroom is completed in the incubator building and has a tenant ready to move in.

April 26, 2005 – The Farm Technology electric infrastructure is installed. Mike Ruff is appointed director of operations and Kevin Sterlan is appointed assistant line superintendent.

Thank you for all your support at the annual meetings, which I plan to attend in the future. So, I'll be around, only not in the operations. So there is no need to say "good-bye," only "we'll see you soon again."

Dairyland to Partner in Wausau Plant

Dairyland Power Cooperative announced in January 2005 that it would have a 30-percent ownership share in a new power plant near Wausau, under an agreement between the La Crosse-based generation and transmission cooperative and Green Bay's Wisconsin Public Service Corp.

Subject to regulatory approvals and financing, the agreement, signed at the beginning of December, would provide Dairyland with at least 150 megawatts from the new state-of-the-art coal fired plant, which would be among the cleanest in the nation.

The new plant location is the fourth unit on the Weston power plant site just outside Wausau, where generation facilities have been operating since 1954.

Farm Technology Days

Farm Technology Days were held at the Malm Rolling Acre farm located in Clark County on July 12–14, 2005. The event drew more than 30,000 to the area to view one of the largest farm shows in the country.

As the host utility, Clark Electric Cooperative has



The Touchstone Energy balloon and "Speedy," the WildBlue Internet trailer, were on hand at the 2005 Farm Technology Days held at the Malm Rolling Acre farm.

been very busy building the distribution system required for the event. The cooperative had the Touchstone Energy balloon as well as WildBlue Internet trailer used to demonstrate the new Internet technology at the event.

Electric Co-ops Rise to the Occasion

After Hurricane Katrina's strike against the U.S. Gulf Coast on August 29–31, 2005, Wisconsin's electric cooperatives mounted the largest restoration of power effort in their history. Eighty volunteers from electric

2003–2006

June 28, 2005 – Board approves changing the corporate color on line trucks from yellow to white.

August 25, 2005 – Board approves changing Cooperative Month Member Appreciation Day to a weekend breakfast format with a focus on the entire family. (Attendance topped over 975 this year).

September 30, 2005 – Clark Electric receives a request for assistance from Washington St. Tammany Electric Cooperative in Franklinton, Louisiana, due to Hurricane Katrina. Lineman Jeff Block, Scott Bailen, Troy Bauer, Mike Hackel, and Ken Martini participate in the restoration effort.

October 2005 – Clark Electric Appliance and Satellite Inc. declares a \$200,000 dividend to Clark Electric Cooperative.

December 2005 – Clark Electric Cooperative becomes a member of National Information Solutions Cooperative. This is an organization that provides data processing and other services for the nation's electric and telephone cooperatives.

February 28, 2006 – Board approves the use of the NRECA logo for all line trucks. (First time this was used as corporate identity for vehicles).

July 25, 2006 – Board approves Clark Electric's participation in the Workers Compensation Group Retention Plan. (This is a group of Wisconsin Electric Cooperatives coming together to save on insurance costs).

August 2006 – Restoration Of Power in an Emergency (ROPE) program is activated. Clark sends two linemen and equipment to help Price Electric restore service to its members.

October 7, 2006 – Clark Electric Cooperative is selected to host the Statewide Kickoff to Cooperative Month. State Agriculture Secretary Rod Nilsestuen presents the 2006 gubernatorial proclamation launching October Cooperative month in Wisconsin.

October 31, 2006 – CEO Stewart reports that the TS 2 metering system is 99% installed. Installation of the system began in 2005.

December 2006 – The Adler-Clark Electric Community Commitment Foundation is featured in the *Rural Electric Magazine*, a national industry publication.

Wilmer Griepentrog and Clarence Hosely are the first two directors to achieve Board Leadership Certification.

Clark Electric Cooperative



Linemen Jeff Block, Ken Martini, Scott Bailen, Mike Hackel, and Troy Bauer volunteered to go to Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina and help restore power to thousands of people.

cooperatives in Wisconsin went to Franklinton, Louisiana, 60 miles north of New Orleans. There, they joined hundreds of other volunteers from other states to rebuild the Washington-St. Tammany Electric Cooperative (WST), a large rural electric cooperative whose system was nearly completely destroyed by the hurricane. The cooperative provides power to nearly 100,000 people. The day after Katrina struck, nearly all of those people were without power, and 3,500 miles of electric line were destroyed.

Activating mutual aid agreements that exist among all 900 electric cooperatives in the United States, WST requested help from Wisconsin's electric cooperatives. On September 6, the first group of Wisconsin cooperative employees departed in a convoy of heavy line trucks and equipment on the 1,350-mile trip to Washington Parish. The Wisconsin volunteers and hundreds of others slept on cots in a 300-person tent equipped with a field kitchen and other facilities. The cooperative line crews from Wisconsin were assigned to build some of the heaviest electrical construction used by a distribution utility: double-circuit 336 mcm (very heavy gauge) three-phase conductor. Crews encountered huge, fallen trees, some 3 feet wide and 60–80 feet tall, strewn across roads. Unrelenting 95-degree heat, high humidity, insects, snakes, gas leaks, and many other hazards and impediments were encountered.

In mid-September, line crews from Wisconsin were voted the top-performing crews among nearly 1,000 line workers assisting in the rebuilding effort. The following are some quotes from Billy Gibson of the Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association in Baton Rouge, Louisiana:

"I left a meeting with the Wisconsin line workers wondering what a great place Wisconsin must be, and regretting that I didn't get a chance to shake the hand of every man in camp. I also wish they could all stay be-

cause over the next months and years my state is going to need men who know how to roll up their sleeves and put in a hard day's work — men who not only are completely unafraid of meeting a challenge but actually welcome the opportunity to step up and take the test."

"We've seen our share of hardship here in Louisiana, but I think we might just make it — thanks to folks like the linemen from your great state of Wisconsin. We'll never forget the sacrifice you made to help us."

Clark Electric Cooperative was one of 14 electric cooperatives in Wisconsin to send line workers to Washington-St. Tammany Electric Cooperative in Franklinton, Louisiana. We have shown that the cooperative spirit can not be dimmed; it shines brightly even in the face of darkness and despair. Linemen Jeff Block, Ken Martini, Scott Bailen, Mike Hackel, and Troy Bauer volunteered to work in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina and helped restore power to thousands of people. The line workers who helped to restore power to this area were to become known as Franklinton's Heroes.

Clark Electric Hosts Statewide Kickoff to Cooperative Month (2006)

Cooperatives — member-owned businesses that promote self-help, democratic control, economic benefit, and other values for their members — annually raise awareness of such positive attributes during October Cooperative Month celebrations.

Clark Electric Cooperative became the Wisconsin cooperative business to host the official state kickoff in 2006 — an observance highlighted by presentation of a governor's proclamation that formally designates October as Cooperative Month in Wisconsin.

Held in conjunction with Clark Electric's annual member appreciation day at Greenwood, the 2006 event was co-hosted by Heartland Cooperative Services and North Hendren Co-op Dairy. It drew an estimated 1,000 participants.

Local cooperative members, supporters, and their

(Continued on page 29 ►)



Secretary of Agriculture Rod Nilsestuen (right) presents the Co-op Month proclamation to General Manager Tim Stewart at the 2006 Statewide Kickoff to Cooperative Month.

Youth Leadership Congress Set for July

Once again, electric cooperatives from across Wisconsin will sponsor local high school students at the 49th Youth Leadership Congress. The Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) is sponsored by UW-River Falls and Wisconsin electric cooperatives and is designed to develop the next generation of community leaders.



The event will feature leadership seminars, activities, cooperative education, and fun events, all designed to develop and enhance your leadership potential. Clark Electric Cooperative has sponsored students to this event since its inception. We believe in developing the potential of tomorrow's leaders. The YLC is a fun and education event, designed by students who

were elected by their peers who attended the previous year's conference.

There is no cost to the student for attending the event. Registration and travel expenses will be covered by the cooperative. If you are a sophomore or junior in high school this year and would like to be a sponsored representative for Clark Electric Cooperative, contact your FFA or FBLA advisor. ■

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Years of Service Awards

Clark Electric Cooperative recently recognized several employees for their years of service. Pictured back row, left to right: Kevin Sterland, 20 years, Scott Bailen, 10 years, Josh Burns, 10 years, Chad Steffen, 10 years, Greg Shaw, 10 years. Front row, left to right: Rita Sladich, 35 years; and Mike Ruff, 20 years. Congratulations for reaching these employment milestones, and thank you for your dedicated service.

Moments in Time

(Continued from page 16d)

families enjoyed a free pancake breakfast and entertainment for the children. Clark Electric employees presented hotline demonstrations and offered electrical safety tips. In addition, local firefighters also used the event to promote Fire Prevention Week, area EMTs provided blood pressure checks, and the local hospital distributed community health awareness materials.

Since the 1950s, a prime ingredient of Wisconsin's observance is a gubernatorial proclamation. Performing the honors on Governor Jim Doyle's behalf was Wisconsin Agriculture Secretary Rod Nilsestuen, who used the occasion to trumpet cooperatives' many services and products, while describing the distinctive organization of the member-owned corporations.



The board of directors gathered at a co-op rally at the State Capital in 2006. Front to back: Clarence Hoesly, Tony Jarocki, Wilmer Griepentrog, Jeremy Baxter, Ron Schmidt, Chuck Bena, and Howard Schultz.

“Cooperatives are important because they are created and controlled by the people who use their services,” Nilsestuen said. He noted how cooperative businesses of all types — electric, telephone, farm supply, dairy, financial, insurance, housing, consumer, and other cooperatives — have a long and successful track record of meeting the needs and improving the lives of citizens throughout the state.

Accepting the plaque from Nilsestuen was Tim Stewart, CEO and general manager of Clark Electric Cooperative. Stewart pointed out the state theme for Cooperative Month, “The Cooperative Difference,” emphasizing how cooperatives are motivated by service to their members, not by profit.

Adler-Clark Electric Community Commitment Foundation

In the December 2006 issue of the *Rural Electric Magazine*, a national industry publication, The Adler-Clark

Electric Community Commitment Foundation was featured in an article entitled “Giving Back to the Community.”

The purpose of the ACE Foundation is to support programs and events that enrich the lives of people of Clark County and the surrounding area communities. Our mission is to invest in the future of the Clark County area by helping create opportunity for philanthropy and community enrichment.

The foundation was established in 2004 by Clark Electric Appliance and Satellite, Inc., to strengthen local communities by helping not-for-profit and community organizations fund projects that will enhance the quality of life of local residents of this area. To date, (2012) the foundation has awarded \$248,375 for community enrichment projects.

The First Two Directors to Earn Board Leadership Certification

In an era of ever-increasing complexity of the electric utility industry, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association designed the Credentialed Cooperative Director (CCD) program and the Board Leadership program for electric co-op directors. The curriculum for the CCD Program includes board governance, financial decision-making, and strategic planning. The Board Leadership program is a more in-depth study of issues facing the industry and is attained after successful completion of the CCD program. In 2006, Wilmer Griepentrog and Clarence Hoesly were the first Clark Electric directors to successfully complete the Board Leadership program. ■



Clarence Hoesly and Wilmer Griepentrog were the first Clark Electric directors to earn NRECA Board Leadership certification.



Clark Electric Cooperative

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



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