

GRASS VALLEY  
 FRIENDS MEETING  
*Of the Religious Society of Friends*  
*College Park Quarterly Meeting,*  
*Pacific Yearly Meeting*

13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959 @  
 The Sierra Friends Center, off Jones Bar Road,  
 Nevada City, CA 95959

Website: [www.gvfriends.org](http://www.gvfriends.org)  
 Email: [grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com](mailto:grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com)

**First Days: 9:00am Singing at the Meeting House (zoom)**  
**10:00 am Silent Meeting for Worship (in-person and zoom)**  
 To receive the zoom link, [grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com](mailto:grassvalleyfriends@gmail.com).

**Newsletter, Eleventh Month, 2022**

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**MEETING CALENDAR**

**First Sunday**

- Program to be announced

**Second Sunday**

- Hybrid Silent Meeting for Worship Meeting, Potluck and for Worship on the Occasion of Business

**Third Sunday**

- As announced

**Fourth Sunday**

- Spiritual Life

**Fifth Sunday**

- On Fifth Sundays we hold a Family Meeting for Worship. *Children and adults gather and spend 20 minutes in storytelling, 20 minutes in singing and 20 minutes in silent worship.*

- + 1st First Day: Bible Story and Song
- + 2<sup>nd</sup> First Day: A Story and a Craft or Activity
- + 3<sup>rd</sup> First Day: A Story plus Time for Silent Worship
- + 4<sup>th</sup> First Day: A Creative, Topical Curriculum
- + 5<sup>th</sup> First Day: Family Worship (a story, singing and silent worship)
- + **Online Worship:** every [Wednesday evening, 7:00-7:30 pm](#)

## HAPPENING NOW

- Saturday, November 19, 2022 – Sierra Friends Center Fund-Raising Party, 10a- 5p, lunch provided. (See page 8)
- Saturday, November 19, 2022 – Stephen McNeil on zoom and in person (See page 9.)
- Sunday, November 27, 2022 – Spiritual Life Program: Braiding Sweetgrass (See page 7. 10<sup>th</sup> Month newsletter)

## HAPPENING LATER

- **Sunday, December 4 at 5:30 PM** Woolman Community Potluck (See page 8.)
- **Sunday, December 4, 2022, Holiday Party** – Time: After the rise of Meeting; Location: “Rocky Knoll”, home of Dorothy Henderson and Doug Hamm (See page 6 for details)
- December 18, 2021, 11:15a.m. – Spiritual Life Program: *Birthing the Christ Within* led by Gordon Starr

## GLOSSARY- Abbreviations and terms used in the GVFM newsletter

**SFC:** Sierra Friends Center  
**M&O:** Ministry and Oversight  
**PacYM:** Pacific Yearly Meeting  
**PHP** – Pendle Hill Pamphlet  
**FGC:** Friends General Conference

**QUNP:** Quaker United Nations Project  
**FASE:** Friends Association for Services to the Elderly  
**CPQM:** College Park Quarterly Meeting  
**RSWR:** Right Sharing of World Resources

**Threshing Session:** A meeting at a separate time specifically not for decision-making; normal practices of a Quaker meeting for business are relaxed so that Friends may speak more than once to an issue, speak to a point just made, or ask a question of a previous speaker.

**Query:** The Friends practice of examining our souls and seeking clarity. These questions & exercises help to give time to seek truth about ourselves and our spiritual condition and to tap into Divine insight.

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## GRASS VALLEY FRIENDS MEETING: Meeting for Worship on the Occasion of Business, 11/13/2022 - DRAFT MINUTES & RECORD

We met as a hybrid Meeting, in-person & via Zoom.

**Present:** Dean Olson (co-clerk), David Cowan, Cheryl Hendrickson, Olivia Cowen, Marilyn Guida, Doug Hamm, Dorothy Henderson, Gordon Starr, Mary Starr, Pat Phillips, Karen Olson, Dianne Marshall, Kathy McCreery, Hailey Wilson, & fosten wilson.

The Meeting opened with silent worship.

### Action Items and Seasoning for December:

- Correct & approve the Draft Minutes & Record from 11-13-2022.
- Consider proposed Minute about Nisenan Land Acknowledgment.

**Query:** What makes you grateful about being a part of Grass Valley Friends Meeting?  
There were a range of answers.

The draft Minute & Record of 10-9-22 was corrected then approved.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**STEWARDSHIP:** Mary noted that the need to replace the Meeting's computer used by the Treasurer has been resolved. A donated computer and printer can use our existing QuickBooks program and are in use.

Purchase of an "Owl" (see owlabs.com online) to improve communications in our hybrid meetings is supported by both our Spirit & Witness & Stewardship committees. Stewardship committee recommends a Minute authorizing purchase of an Owl for our Meeting. Minute 2022.11.1 was drafted, discussed, & approved.

**MINUTE 2022.11.1** – Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves purchase of an "Owl" and necessary related items for up to \$1,200. This money (as needed) is in addition to specific donations individuals may make to facilitate this purchase.

**SPIRIT & WITNESS:** Dorothy provided the report. *Land Acknowledgment* – Spirit and Witness recommends that Grass Valley Friends Meeting begin the practice of reading the Nisenan Land Acknowledgment at the beginning of Meeting for Worship each week. The Nisenan Land Acknowledgment is:

*We acknowledge the Nisenan people are still here among us today, though they are nearly invisible, and their story continues to be excluded from history.*

*We understand we are on Nisenan land that was never ceded, and the original tribal families have yet to recover from the near genocide of their people.*

*As a resident or visitor in Nisenan land, we support the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan tribe in efforts to stabilize their people as well as the campaign to restore tribal sovereignty through federal recognition.*

**MINUTE Proposed, for Seasoning:** Grass Valley Friends Meeting shall practice reading the Nisenan Land Acknowledgment at the beginning of Meeting for Worship each week.

**OWL:** Spirit and Witness supports the purchase of an Owl to improve the experience of meeting participants both in the Meetinghouse and on zoom.

**MEMBERSHIP:** With Spirit & Witness' recommendation, the following two Minutes were approved with joy.

**MINUTE 2022.11.2** – Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the transfer of membership for David Cowen and welcomes him to Grass Valley Friends Meeting.

**MINUTE 2022.11.3** – Grass Valley Friends Meeting approves the transfer of membership for Cheryl Hendrickson and welcomes her to Grass Valley Friends Meeting.

*Crystal Scanlon* is canceling her membership request. She hopes to find a way to establish a Worship group where she lives that would be under the care of Inland Valley Meeting so she can worship with others in person.

**WELCOME COMMITTEE:** Kathy reported that coffee & tea are again available after Meeting, a sign-up clipboard is available.

Our potluck Christmas party will be at Doug & Dorothy's on Sunday, 12-4-22, after rise of Meeting. And new name-tags are being created.

**CHILDREN:** Dorothy detailed that a play, starring our children will be part of our Christmas party. The playwrights are Karen & Judy. The committee intends seasonal field trips focusing on Nisenan use of the land – ideas are brodea, the Yuba, acorns, & salmon. The four Saturdays involved will be announced in advance.

**INTERFAITH NEVADA COUNTY (INC):** Dianne described the activities & challenges of INC. INC exists to provide solace and support to Faith Community Leaders in a confidential, spiritual setting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

>> **Western Friend** -- This magazine is available at reduced cost if we cooperate and use a group subscription to start or extend our subscriptions. Contact Judy Hamilton if interested. See page 9 for details.

>> **Christmas Party** – With potluck & play, “Two Old Women”, at Doug & Dorothy's *Rocky Knoll* on Sunday, 12-4-22, after rise of Meeting. See page 6 for details.

Meeting closed with silent worship.

Respectfully submitted, fosten wilson, acting recording clerk.

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## **Advices and Queries, Eleventh Month: Social and Civic Responsibility**

In the words of William Penn, “*True godliness don’t draw men out of the world, but enables them to live better in it and excites their endeavors to mend it.*” Elsewhere he commented: “*It is a reproach to religion and government to suffer so much poverty and excess.*”

Poverty within a wealthy society is unjust, cruel, and often linked to skin color, gender, and language. We must examine our own privilege and role in the economic order that deepens this disparity. Friends should be alert to oppression and injustice, and persistent in working against them.

We value our part in shaping the laws of our country. Our task is to see that laws serve God’s purposes and build a just social order. Our first allegiance should be to God, and if this conflicts with any compulsion of the state, we serve our country best by remaining true to our higher loyalty.

If, by divine leading, our attention is focused on a law that is contrary to God’s law, we must proceed with care. Before acting, Friends should pray for further guidance and speak with the Meeting, family members, and all those who might be affected by the decision. If a decision involves disobedience to the law, we should

make the grounds of our action clear to all concerned and be prepared to suffer any penalties without evasion. As a community, we must care for those who suffer for conscience's sake.

- What am I doing to carry my share of responsibility for the government of our community, nation, and world?
- Am I persistent in my efforts to promote constructive change?
- *How do we attend to the suffering of others in our local community, in our state and nation, and in the world community?*
- *Do we try to understand the causes of suffering, and do we address them as a Meeting?*
- *How do we, individually and as a Meeting, support the organizations that work to bring the testimonies of Friends into reality in our society?*



### **Nisenan Land Acknowledgment**

*We acknowledge the Nisenan people are still here among us today, though they are nearly invisible, and their story continues to be excluded from history.*

*We understand we are on Nisenan land that was never ceded, and the original tribal families have yet to recover from the near genocide of their people.*

*As a resident or visitor in Nisenan land, we support the Nevada City Rancheria Nisenan tribe in efforts to stabilize their people as well as the campaign to restore tribal sovereignty through federal recognition.*

### **The Haudenosaunee Thanksgiving Address**

**In part: We now turn our thoughts to the Creator, or Great Spirit, and send greetings and thanks for all the gifts of Creation. Everything we need to live a good life is here on Mother Earth. For all the love that is still around us, we gather our minds together as one and send our choicest words of greetings and thanks to the Creator. Now our minds are one.**

**John Stokes and Kanawahietun** Click link above to read full address.

### **Western Friend**

If you would like to subscribe (or renew your subscription) to Western Friend, now is the time. I am in the process of soliciting orders so that we can qualify for a group discount.

Print or PDF subscribers will pay \$37 per year saving \$8/year. They also offer a low-income rate of \$20 per year. Please contact Judy Hamilton at 530-277-8818 or [judyfieldshamilton@gmail.com](mailto:judyfieldshamilton@gmail.com) We need to have this completed by December 12th.

## **Grass Valley Friends Meeting Christmas Potluck & Play**

Date: Sunday, December 4,  
2022

Time: After the rise of  
Meeting

Location: "Rocky Knoll", the  
home of Doug Hamm and  
Dorothy Henderson



More info:

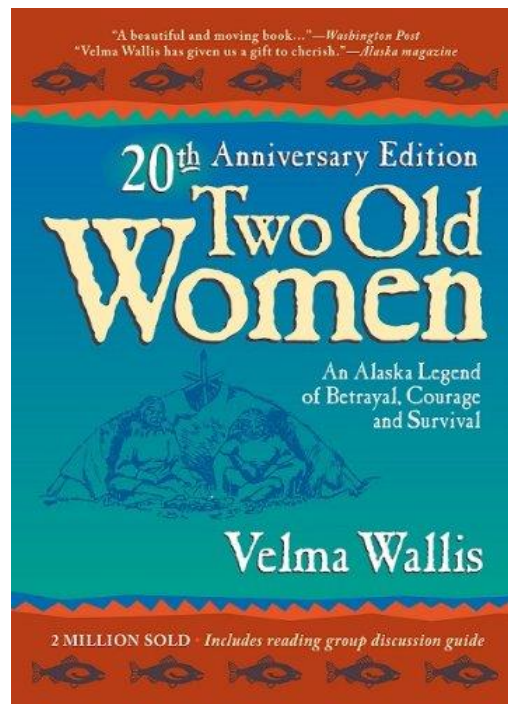
You may drop things by early. They can use oven for warming or finishing (our oven is not huge, but we also have an induction cooktop which can warm very slowly as well as a microwave. In addition, people can bring crock pots as there are plenty of outlets and electricity!

Please RSVP at Dorothy Henderson [dorothyjohenderson@gmail.com](mailto:dorothyjohenderson@gmail.com)

## **First Day School Friends Debut Play: Two Old Women**

Based on an Athabascan Indian legend passed along from mother to daughter for many generations on the upper Yukon River in Alaska, this is the tragic and shocking story--with a surprise ending--of two elderly women abandoned by a migrating tribe that faces starvation brought on by unusually harsh Arctic weather and a shortage of fish and game. This story of survival is told with suspense by Velma Wallis, whose subject matter challenges the taboos of her past. Yet, her themes are modern--empowerment of women, the graying of America, growing interest in Native American ways.

*Do come to the Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> GVFM Christmas party to see what a great job our First Day School Friends have done to take this special story and turn it into a play!*



## Reunion



A recent trip to Congenies, France allowed Mary and Gordon Starr to visit with Amy and Chamba Cook at *Centre Quaker De Congenies*



## Keeping Quiet by Pablo Neruda

Now we will count to twelve  
and we will all keep still  
for once on the face of the earth,  
let's not speak in any language;  
let's stop for a second,  
and not move our arms so much.

It would be an exotic moment  
without rush, without engines;  
we would all be together  
in a sudden strangeness.

Fishermen in the cold sea  
would not harm whales  
and the man gathering salt  
would not look at his hurt hands.



Those who prepare green wars,  
wars with gas, wars with fire,  
victories with no survivors,  
would put on clean clothes  
and walk about with their brothers  
in the shade, doing nothing.  
What I want should not be confused  
with total inactivity.

Life is what it is about...

If we were not so single-minded  
about keeping our lives moving,  
and for once could do nothing,  
perhaps a huge silence  
might interrupt this sadness  
of never understanding ourselves  
and of threatening ourselves with  
death.

Now I'll count up to twelve  
and you keep quiet and I will go.

## SFC Call for Volunteers

Join Woolman Board members and staff in preparing our end-of-the-year fundraising appeal. On Saturday, November 19 from 10 AM - 5 PM (lunch provided at 1:00 PM) in the Dining Hall, we will be addressing and stuffing envelopes. The more the merrier!

The year-end appeal is one of our most important donor fundraising activities of the year. We could really use the help! RSVP to [coleenh@woolman.org](mailto:coleenh@woolman.org) (essential if you want lunch) by Tuesday, November 15. Let us know if you have any food restrictions. Feel free to RSVP for part of the day.

Thanks for considering our request! Sandra Schwartz and Coleen Hedglin, Ex. Dtr. [coleenh@woolman.org](mailto:coleenh@woolman.org)



### Woolman Community Potluck December 4

Join us for our next quarterly community potluck at Woolman! **5:30 PM on Sunday, December 4, 2022** 13075 Woolman Lane, Nevada City, CA 95959

**[RSVP and sign up to bring a dish here.](#)**

[Click the image above to RSVP.](#)



Hello Friends,

We have some very interesting programming coming up in the next few weeks, and **there's something for everyone!**

Register now for one of our upcoming online or in-person programs:

Let me know if you have any questions, or reach out to Programs Director Street at [morgans@woolman.org](mailto:morgans@woolman.org).

**Hope to see you soon on Zoom or on campus!**

Coleen

[coleenh@woolman.org](mailto:coleenh@woolman.org)

[Learn more!](#)

## House for Rent

Friend Alan Heirich is moving to the Bay Area on December 1, 2022. He has a house for rent. It is available furnished or unfurnished and comes with a hot tub and electric generator. It is located in the Alta Vista neighborhood of Grass Valley zip code 95949. More information including pictures and contact details are in the Craigslist: <https://goldcountry.craigslist.org/apa/7554897003.html>



## **PacYM: November, 2022 Announcements**

### 1. New Paths to Membership

The Pacific Yearly Meeting Ministry Committee is offering an online conversation about creating new paths to members in the Yearly Meeting. We would like to address the needs of people for whom membership in a Monthly Meeting is not accessible, not a workable structure--but who identify as practicing Quakers and as being part of their Quaker community. Especially some of our young people, who grew up in Pacific Yearly Meeting, have not felt that they have an open path to being acknowledged as members. We want to hear from people who have an interest in at large membership in the Yearly Meeting--what are your needs? How can they be met? If you want to join the online conversation, or would like to communicate your thoughts to the committee, contact committee clerk Gail Eastwood ([eastwood@asis.com](mailto:eastwood@asis.com)).

### 2. Pacific Yearly Meeting Directory

The PacYM Communications Committee is delighted to share the first edition of the Pacific Yearly Meeting Directory! The information to access the Directory has been shared with Clerks and designated database contacts at each Monthly Meeting and Worship Group, requesting that they share the link and password with their fellow Members and Attenders. Please keep in mind that this Directory should NOT be emailed as an attached file to protect everyone's information.

It's important to note that we are aware there are errors in this initial edition - we are happy to receive changes to include in the next edition. Please send changes and updates to [databasemanager@pacificyearlymeeting.org](mailto:databasemanager@pacificyearlymeeting.org)

### 3. Celebration of Stephen McNeil's Life

Stephen McNeil contributed in so many ways, serving the Friends Committee on National Legislation from the time he first interned with them at the age of 26, and having a career with the American Friends Service Committee that spanned decades. He was dedicated to causes that focused on AIDS and on the survivors of the nuclear bombs in Japan.

A celebration of life is planned for Stephen on Saturday, 19 November at 1pm (Pacific) with a hybrid session at the Berkeley Friends Meetinghouse at 2151 Vine Street in Berkeley, California, and on Zoom. Use [the link](#) on the Strawberry Creek website.

For those attending in person, light refreshments outside on the porch will follow. In accordance with the practice of Berkeley Friends Meeting, those attending in person will be asked either to show proof of covid vaccination or to arrive at least 20 minutes before 1pm to take a rapid covid test. Participants in the meetinghouse should also bring an N95 or KN95 mask to wear while indoors.

## **Support Grass Valley Friends Meeting!**



***Note: Click on the Give button. This button will take you to a secure site.***

It's easy to give to Grass Valley Friends Meeting! Click on the Give button above or go to [gvfriends.org](http://gvfriends.org) and click on the "GIVE" button. This takes you to a secure site for donations. Your monthly contribution covers our Pacific Yearly Meeting dues and ensures that our activities as a Meeting are sustained. *Tithely* now allows the user to change the dollar of their gift without making a new donation request Thank you.

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## **COVID-19 UPDATE:**

### **Grass Valley Friends Meeting: Covid Policy as of May 15, 2022:**

We will be holding our hybrid program in the Meeting House and the Children's Program is live and in person. WE HAVE RECENTLY CHANGED OUR COVID GUIDELINES. Masks are optional. There are no vaccination or distancing requirements. Coffee hour and potlucks have now resumed. We do ask that if you feel ill, that you take advantage of our Zoom option. These guidelines are subject to change, depending on Covid cases, virulence, and county mandates.

### **A Prayer for Thanksgiving** by [Dutton](#) on November 20, 2013 in [General](#)

Friends,

I was led to share with you a prayer that was shared with me while I attended Harvard Divinity School. The prayer is written by the great American peace activist and prisoner of conscience [Elizabeth McAlister](#).

**Season of winter, be our teacher. Season of harvested fields and food stored up, teach us to know when enough is enough. Replace our restless striving for more and more with a spirit of deep gratitude and engaged compassion for those with empty eyes and parched hopes.**

**Season of winter, be our teacher. Season of darkness, death and dying, teach us to hear the death that rattles around us, to hear the cries of a world dying at our own hands – sisters and brother and the earth itself devoured by our greed and violence. May we know that it is only through hearing and heeding that we will become fully human.**

**And when our spirits wither, give us the hope of this season, when dark nights slowly yield to the light's ineluctable strength. When our spirits falter, give us the love this season, when birth erupts from the heart of death.**

**And when we taste the ashes of sorrow and forget the bread of life, give us the faith of this season to believe that it all has meaning, that nothing – nothing – is lost.**

**When we are tempted to look away from our sisters and brothers in need, give us the deep conviction of our communion with all life so we never drift from this table of fellowship and starve in the desert of selfishness. Let us partake of this meal in a spirit of unity. In a world where food is a weapon, let us take from this table the bread of peace.**



## Grass Valley Friends Meeting Contact Information (7-1-22)

### OFFICERS:

- Clerk of the Meeting:** Co-Clerks – Dean and Karen Olson (530) 270-9366 [deanolson44@gmail.com](mailto:deanolson44@gmail.com)
- Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson (530)265-6533 [fwkm@protonmail.com](mailto:fwkm@protonmail.com)
- Recording Clerk:** Amy Cooke, [amylisette@gmail.com](mailto:amylisette@gmail.com) (530)559-9158
- Communication/Email Coordinator:** Judy Hamilton [judywestonhamilton@gmail.com](mailto:judywestonhamilton@gmail.com) (530) 277-8818
- Directory Coordinator:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) [ntowhee@gmail.com](mailto:ntowhee@gmail.com)
- Directory Clerk:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) [ntowhee@gmail.com](mailto:ntowhee@gmail.com)
- Librarian:** Don McCormick [donmccormick2@gmail.com](mailto:donmccormick2@gmail.com) (310)597-9469
- Mail Clerk:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 [deanolson44@gmail.com](mailto:deanolson44@gmail.com)
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- Placer County Worship Group:** Stuart Smith [sewsmitharts@yahoo.com](mailto:sewsmitharts@yahoo.com) 916-663-3539
- Recorder:** Nancy Anderson (530-364-8351) [ntowhee@gmail.com](mailto:ntowhee@gmail.com)
- Sierra Friends Center:** Dean Olson (530)270-9366 [deanolson44@gmail.com](mailto:deanolson44@gmail.com)
- Treasurer:** Fosten Wilson, (530) 265-6533, [fostenw@yahoo.com](mailto:fostenw@yahoo.com)
- Website/Facebook Coordinator:** Amy Cooke [amylisette@gmail.com](mailto:amylisette@gmail.com) (530)559-9158
- Zoom Coordinators:** Hailey Wilson [seahorseleaf@protonmail.com](mailto:seahorseleaf@protonmail.com), Stuart Smith [sewsmitharts@yahoo.com](mailto:sewsmitharts@yahoo.com) (916) 663-3539

### REPRESENTATIVES:

- |                                      |                        |                         |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. College Park Quarterly: Doug Hamm | 3. PYM: Doug Hamm      | 5. RSWR: Judy Hamilton  |
| 2. FCNL: Sharon Davisson             | 4. QUNO: Shera Banbury | 6. SFC: Pat Phillips    |
|                                      |                        | 7. INC: Dianne Marshall |

### COMMITTEES: (convener or clerk in bold)

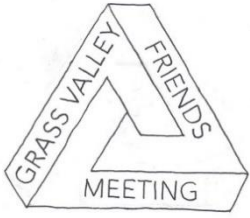
**Stewardship:** Mary Starr (current clerk), Pat Phillips, Reed Hamilton, Gordon Starr, Doug Hamm. Dianne Marshall (ex-officio, Newsletter editor), Fosten Wilson (ex-officio, Treasurer), Don McCormick (ex-officio, Librarian).

**Welcoming:** Kathy McCreery (current clerk), Don McCormick, Pat Phillips, Karen Olson. Hailey Wilson (ex-officio, zoom coordinator), Amy Cooke (ex-officio, Website and Facebook coordinator), Judy Hamilton (ex-officio, email coordinator)

**Spirit/Witness:** Gordon Bishop, Amy Cooke (convener), Reed Hamilton, Sharon Davisson, Dorothy Henderson, Dean & Karen Olson (ex-officio, Co-clerks of GVFM)

**Children's Program:** Dorothy Henderson (current clerk), Gordon Bishop, Doug Hamm, Judy Hamilton, Dean Olson, Karen Olson, Reed Hamilton, Don McCormick, Anita McCormick.

**Nominating Committee:** Dorothy Henderson, Sharon Davisson, Judy Hamilton, Gordon Starr



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