

FAMILY DUFFLE BAG

Hit The Trail.



THIS ISSUE
SPONSORED
BY ST. LOUIS
CARDINALS

SCOUT NIGHTS AT THE BALLPARK

All Boy Scouts and their families and friends
can purchase specially priced tickets for **just \$14** –
plus, each scout ticket comes with
a **one-of-a-kind Cardinals patch!**

 cardinals.com/scouts

Mon, April 18 vs Cubs @ 7:15
Mon, May 2 vs Phillies @ 7:15
Wed, May 18 vs Rockies @ 7:15



► COUNCIL CALENDAR

February

- 22 Wood Badge dinner
- 27 Map & Compass Training
STEM University, SIUC

March

- 5 O.A. Shawnee Lodge
Arrowman Experience
- 6 Challenge Course &
Climbing Recertification
- 12 CSAW/BSAW
Scoutbotics
- 13 Daylight Saving Time
begins
Protestan Religious
Award Recognition
- 19 Den Chief Conference
Radical Robotics
- 25 Good Friday – offices
closed
- 19 Orienteering Festival
Venturing Amazing Race
- 31 Camp Card sale ends

April

- 1 O.A. Anpetu-We Spring
Reunion
O.A. Shawnee Lodge
Spring Conclave
- 2 Catholic Cub Day
Pioneering Kit Training
- 9 Boy Scout Nova Day
Cub Scout STEM Day
- 16 CSAW/BSAW
- 18 ESA Golf Tournament
- 20 Challenge Course
Training
- 22 Boy Scout Leader
Training
Cub Scout Leader
Outdoor Experience
- 28 Powder Horn (through
May 1)
- 29 Intro to Outdoor Skills
Powder Horn
- 30 Challenge Course
Training
Cub Scout Leader
Outdoor Experience

May

- 7 Shoot-0-Ree

Welcome To Scouting!

What a busy year it was in 2015. The Greater St. Louis Area Council is proud to report that Scouting remains strong throughout our region.

This past fall, more than 7,000 youth joined our life-changing programs. This included a 2 percent growth in new first-, second-, and third-grade Scouts — a bright sign for the future!

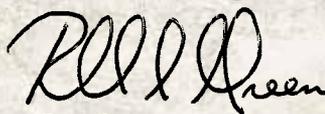
We also enjoyed many new additions to our camps including the dining hall at Camp Famous Eagle and the new ATV program at Camp Lewallen. This, along with a new partnership with St. Louis Public Schools and an increased focus on bringing Scouting to more youth in north St. Louis through the Restoring the Village community initiative, helped increase camp attendance for the second-straight year.

The council was also named one of 12 pilot councils for the new STEM Scouts program. This new co-ed program allows our STEM team to impact even more youth in the disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and math as we continue to lead the Boy Scouts of America nationally in STEM programming.

These continued enhancements to the Scouting program couldn't happen without your support. Your investment in our Friends of Scouting campaign helps keep our council strong and allows us to provide more programs and better facilities that keep kids in Scouting and attract more youth to join. I hope you'll join me in contributing to this important campaign to continue the great work of Scouting in the Greater St. Louis Area Council.

As always, thank you for your dedication and passion towards serving youth and making the Greater St. Louis Area Council one of the strongest Boy Scout councils in the nation.

Yours in Scouting,



Ron Green



8

Let's Go Camping!

A boy joins Scouting. What's the first thing he thinks about? Camping! Make sure the boys in your unit get the summer adventure of a lifetime at one of our premiere camps.

And don't forget about Explorers and Venturers!

5 Scouts Remember Monumental Day

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7 Summer Camp From Mom's Perspective

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About The Cover...

The new ATVs were a big hit last summer at Camp Lewallen.

GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA OFFICES

MacArthur Service Center
4568 West Pine Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108
314.361.0600 | 800.392.0895
hours:
Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Ritter Service Center
3000 Gordonville Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
573.335.3346 | 800.335.3346
hours:
Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Southern Illinois
Service Center**
803 East Herrin St., P.O. Box 340
Herrin, IL 62948
618.942.4863 | 888.942.4863
hours:
Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

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NATIONAL SUPPLY GROUP SCOUT SHOPS

St. Louis location
4568 West Pine Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63108
314.454.1652
hours:
Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
closed Sat & Sun

**West County location
"BSA Outfitters"**
13347 Manchester Rd.
Des Peres, MO 63131
314.984.0014
hours:
Mon-Fri, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.
Sat, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
closed Sun

Cape Girardeau location
3000 Gordonville Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63703
573.339.7900
hours:
Mon-Fri, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
closed Sun

Southern Illinois
some items are available at the Southern Illinois Service Center; all items can be ordered by calling 618.942.4863 in Illinois or any shop listed above

Scouts Remember Monumental Day

Fifty years ago, a monument was erected that would forever change the St. Louis cityscape.

On Oct. 28, 2015, the city of St. Louis celebrated the 50th anniversary of the completion of its notorious landmark, the Gateway Arch.

"It was a little bit cooler and windier than it is today," said Cornell Harvey at the anniversary celebration. And he would know since Cornell was one of the lucky Scouts chosen to attach the American flag to the final piece of the Arch before it was hoisted into place on Oct. 28, 1965.

"My Scoutmaster called me up a couple days before and said they needed another person in the color guard to put the flag on the last piece of the Arch," recalled Cornell. "At 14 years old, you had no idea that it was going to be as big as it is now."

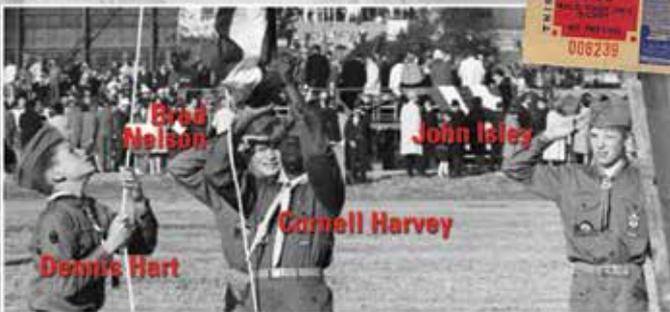
Dennis Hart (left) and Cornell Harvey have fond memories of the day they attached an American flag to the final section of the Gateway Arch before it was hoisted on Oct. 28, 1965.



Assisting Cornell on that day in 1965 were Scouts John Isley, Brad Nelson, and Dennis Hart.

"Well, I didn't know what to expect [during the 50th anniversary], but it is a great day and it means more to me today than it did 50 years ago," said Dennis, who also attended the anniversary celebration. "I was 13 years old 50 years ago. You don't have much of a perspective when you're 13."

"With my travels, I've been all over the world," said Cornell. "All you have to do is tell them you're from St. Louis, and the very first thing that pops out of their mouth is 'you've got the Arch!'"



color photo by Christine Hummel; black & white photo from GSLAC archive

memorabilia courtesy of Christine Hummel

Why STEM Matters

The Future Offers Many Choices For Today's Youth



Frustrated with the shortage of technology skills in the work force, Cassandra Sanford co-founded The KellyMitchell Group 17 years ago.

Since then, KellyMitchell has grown to 14 offices across the United States and employs hundreds of IT professionals to meet the technology staffing needs of organizations across the country. Even with this remarkable growth, Cassandra admits that tech talent is still not where it needs to be.

"We're hands down in a shortage," said Cassandra. "And that's why I even started this company. There



Cassandra Sanford

was a shortage of technology people, and the shortage has only worsened over the course of 17 years because technology has become so much more prevalent."

The disparity in supply and demand in tech talent, while challenging, is the reason Cassandra first got involved with the Greater St. Louis Area Council. Her unwavering passion for bringing more science, technology, engineering, and math education to youth means she is a strong supporter of the Boy Scouts' STEM initiatives, especially the new co-ed STEM Scouts pilot.

"The Boy Scouts have become so diverse with its programs," said Cassandra. "With all of the STEM badges available, I think that's pretty innovative. It's taking the traditional

part of Boy Scouts and saying this isn't just about camping. This is about life skills in general, and our life skills now involve technology."

St. Louis has led the nation in Nova and Supernova awards annually since STEM programs and advancement opportunities first became available within the Scouting program in 2012. In 2015 alone, 3,970 Scouts in the Greater St. Louis Area Council earned STEM-related badges and awards. This is up from 650 Scouts in 2012.

With a talent shortage in the work force now, catching today's kids early and exposing them to STEM disciplines at a younger age is a big priority for Cassandra.

"It has to be before middle school, because [by high school] they've already decided they're not good at STEM for whatever reason," said Cassandra. "So we have to catch them in grade school, early on, and tell them everyone is good in science and math. Everyone has some aspect of that which they're good at, that they like, and that is fun. There are careers in so many different segments of STEM. This is where the Boy Scouts have excelled."

So if you and your Scout haven't signed up for a STEM event yet, be sure to explore some of the great upcoming programs the council is hosting in science, technology, engineering, and math. It may just put your Scout ahead of the curve later in life.

photo by John Paul Halford

Summer Camp

From A Mom's Perspective

by Amanda Heidemann

My brother was a Scout and my parents were active leaders. I remember my dad and brother going to Webelos Camp and saying how much fun it was — camping, cooking over the fire, archery, BB guns, and of course Mud Cave. I also remember going with my mom to drop them off for troop camp at S bar F [Scout Ranch].

I became a den leader in 2007 and finally got to go to Webelos Mini Camp in 2009. From a leader's perspective, seeing Cubs doing all kinds of things they might not normally do was very rewarding.

When my oldest son crossed over to Boy Scouts, I headed back to Cub Scout camping with my youngest, and we had the honor of attending the world's hottest Mom & Me [now called Parent & Pal] at Swift in summer 2013. You know when the water in your water bottle feels like drinking hot tea, it's a hot one!

I finally made it to troop camp at S bar F this past summer, immediately before Webelos week-long at Camp May. Being able to actually see Mud Cave after at least 35 years of hearing about it was really cool, both literally and figuratively as the heat index was 109 during our week at Camp May!



Amanda Heidemann (center) at 2015 Boy Scout Summer Camp

The weeks of camp fell back-to-back just by luck, but at least I did manage a hot shower and a couple of loads of laundry in between.

Troop camp was very different. The Boy Scout age group is so much more independent and self-sufficient. As a leader, I found it more relaxing being at Boy Scout Camp, since the boys run everything and we're just there for backup. You really get to see the boys practice the patrol method and show their leadership skills.

I'm a firm believer that every Scout should have the chance to experience summer camp. It is one of the most fun things you, as an adult, can do with your son.

If you want to really see how Scouting can help him grow, watch what happens between Webelos Mini Camp and troop camp. I hear a lot of parents talk about the time commitment of summer camp. It's worth it — even if you can only give one day or one night.

I'm really looking forward to summer camp in 2016 since it will be the first year that our entire family is at summer camp together.



LET'S GO CAMPING!

Camp Properties

Beaumont Scout Reservation [BR]

High Ridge, MO 63049

- Camp Grizzly Cub World [CW]
- Camp May [CM]
- Nagel Base [NB]

Camp Lewallen [CL]

Silva, MO 63964

Pine Ridge Scout Camp [PR]

Makanda, IL 62958

S bar F Scout Ranch [SF]

Knob Lick, MO 63651

- Camp Famous Eagle [FE]
- Camp Gamble [CG]
- Camp Sakima [CS]
- Swift Base [SB]



photo by Julie Monken

Cub Scouts & Webelos

Cubs/Webelos Overnight

- **Parent & Pal** — 2 days/1 night
where: CL, CM, SF (fishing available at CL & SF)
- **Webelos Camp** — 3 days/2 nights
where: CL & CM
- **Webelos Arrow of Light Camp** — 6 days/5 nights
where: CM

Grizzly Camp

- Week 1: Hero in Training
- Week 2: Jedi Training
- Week 3: Game ON!
where: CW

Cub Scout Day Camp

- daytime or twilight camps, ranging from 2 to 5 days
where: at least one day/twilight camp in each of the council's 15 districts



photo by Ron Jennings

Boy Scouts

- **Summer Camp** — weeklong sessions offering ATV course, fishing, horseback riding, kayaking, merit badges, rock climbing and rappelling, Scoutcraft, shooting sports, stand-up paddleboards, tubing, water skiing, water slides
where: SF (FE & CG) & CL



photo by Ron Jennings

Venturers & Explorers

weeklong sessions for young men & women ages 14-20

- Outdoor Survivor
- Sea Scouts Spectacular
- Sports — Shooting & More
where: SB

summercamp.stlbsa.org

Life is a journey,
not a destination.

Take The Journey, Be A Friend Of Scouting

By now you've probably heard the phrase "FOS" uttered several times at den meetings and district roundtables. "FOS," or Friends of Scouting, is the council's annual fundraising campaign.

the \$24 annual BSA registration fee goes directly to the National Office of the Boy Scouts of America, and unit dues stay with the unit. None of that money goes to help the Greater St. Louis Area Council.

Last year, contributions from Friends of Scouting funded a new, fun inflatable for the Camp May pool at Beaumont Scout Reservation, a complete renovation of the interior at Musgraves Lodge at Pine Ridge Scout Camp, a new ATV course at Camp Lewallen, and new campsite latrines at S bar F Scout Ranch.

Your FOS contribution also goes to things such as:

- Insurance coverage.
- New programs and activities for Scouts to enjoy.
- Camp scholarships.
- Camp rangers and property maintenance of Beaumont, Lewallen, Pine Ridge, and S bar F.
- Service centers.
- Reference publications.

With more than 40,000 youth in the Greater St. Louis Area Council, it takes a great deal of resources and financial support to deliver the Scouting program. And it can't happen without the support of volunteers like you.

Stretch Your Dollar Further With Employee Match Program

Some companies — possibly the one for which you work — match their employees' charitable contributions. See whether your workplace has such a program. If so, you'll double your impact!

During the campaign, a volunteer visits your pack blue and gold banquet or troop court of honor to explain the campaign and make an appeal for your support. You'll be asked to make a tax-deductible donation to the council.

The natural next question is: Why should I give money to my local council? Many parents do not realize

Thanks for making a difference.

Save The Date For These Upcoming Events

Skilled Trades Days

- March 12 at S bar F
- April 2 at Beaumont
- May 14 at S bar F
- June 11 at S bar F
- July 9 at Beaumont

*S bar F Scout Ranch and
Beaumont Scout Reservation*

Eagle Recognition Dinner

- May 4 at Chase Park Plaza

stlbsa.org

Shoot-O-Ree

- May 7 at Beaumont Scout Reservation, for Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, & Venturers

shootoree.stlbsa.org

Merit Badge Centers

- February 27
Chess
- March 6
Personal Fitness
- March 10, 12, 19, & April 2
Horsemanship
- March 26
Archaeology
- April 2
Stamp Collecting
- April 16
Personal Fitness

stlbsa.org/advancement

STEM

- Feb. 27
STEM University, SIUC
- March 12
Scoutbotics
- March 19
Radical Robots
- April 9
Boy Scout Nova Day
- April 9
Cub Scout STEM Day

stem.stlbsa.org

Powder Horn

- April 28-May 1

stlbsa.org

Order of the Arrow

- April 1
Anpetu-We Spring Reunion
- April 1
Shawnee Lodge Spring
Conclave

*anpetu-we.org
shawneelodge.org*

25th Annual ESA Golf Tournament

- April 18 at Old Hickory Golf Club

stlesa.org

Calendar

- check for updates & new items

stlbsa.org/calendar

Ferguson Fire Dept. Prepares Youth For

With the support of Ferguson community leaders and organizations, the Greater St. Louis Area Council is reintroducing the Boy Scouts of America to communities in north St. Louis County.

The council has added several new Scout groups to the area, including an Explorer Post with the Ferguson Fire Department.



Exploring is a co-ed program in the Boy Scouts of America for young men and women ages 14-20. The program is designed to help young adults make a more informed decision about future careers. Youth gain unique, real-life opportunities to experience various career choices. It's not about lectures and slide shows — it's about gaining practical insight and hands-on

knowledge.

“Through all the happenings of Ferguson, the city decided it needed to reach out to the youth of Ferguson to prove to the world that we were not who we were made out to be,” said Douglas P., a fireman with the Ferguson Fire Department. “So we decided that we needed an Explorer Post. Our 27-man department has five Eagle Scouts and six firemen who had gone through the St. Charles County Explorer program that are now firemen for us. So there was no saying ‘no’. We knew one way to reach youth was through Scouting.”

To date, the Ferguson Fire Department Exploring Post has 16 youth members from the city of Ferguson and surrounding areas. The group has been meeting for nearly a year.

“What made me join the program was I was looking for something positive to do despite all of the negative stuff that was going on in my community,” said Jason C., a junior at McCluer South Berkeley and one of the first students to join the Explorer post. “My favorite thing about the program is that I am learning about a career path I can choose to go into after I graduate high school. I'm not a 100 percent positive what exactly I want to do after I graduate, but [being a firefighter] seems fun. I can see myself doing this.”

Students in the program are trained on basic EMT and rescue skills and

Future Careers

can participate in ride-alongs. Belonging to the fire post allows them to experience much of the same training and get a taste of what it is like to be a firefighter.

“Actually, the first job I ever wanted, when I was about 5 years old, was a firefighter,” said Gaelen J., a senior at MICDS (Mary Institute and Country Day School). “It is great being a part of this program. It’s like a childhood fantasy I get to live out. I’ve learned a lot about public service and community service as well, something that I am dedicated to. I think having the hands-on experience prepares us instead of just learning out of book or out of Powerpoint. Having that



hands-on experience is very valuable. I absolutely love it, and I’m so happy to be a part of it.”

In addition to discovering new career opportunities, the Exploring program provides youth with positive social interaction, while character education emphasizes making ethical choices and fulfilling one’s responsibility to society as a whole. Students also learn about citizenship and gain a keen respect for the basic right of others.

Set Your Sites On The Shoot-O-Ree!



Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, and Venturers can stop by at any time and stay for as long as they like, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Snacks and lunch are available for an additional cost. Check the weather forecast for the day and make sure to be prepared and dressed appropriately. This is a “rain or shine” event! Siblings are welcome too.

May 7

9 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Cub World @ Beaumont
Scout Reservation**

for Cub Scouts:

- archery
- BB gun shooting
- marshmallow shooters
- rubber band shooters
- sling shots
- water balloons

for Boy Scouts & Venturers:

- archery
- catapult launching
- tomahawk throwing
- handguns
- rifles
- shotguns

*Shooting activities require instruction and a safety briefing.
Safety around firearms is a key lesson to learn in life.*

News You Can Use



photo courtesy of Mike O'Neil

Honor Flight

Send us your Scouting stories and photos! It might be featured in a future Duffle Bag. Send items to christine.dieckmann@scouting.org.

Advancement Requirements Change For Eagle Rank

Each rank on the path to Eagle Scout has undergone changes. Some requirements for each level have been expanded, while other requirements are new. And more emphasis is placed on physical fitness. Download the new requirements at scouting.org/filestore/pdf/2016BoyScoutRequirements_8.14.2015.pdf.

Log Your Service Hours

A service project is a special Good Turn that puts Scout spirit into action. Projects can take many forms such as community cleanup, repairing a place of worship, improving a wildlife habitat, or organizing a recycling effort. Report all service hours to earn points for the Journey to Excellence program. Log your hours at stlbsa.kintera.org/communityservice.

The *Duffle Bag* magazine is published four times a year (January, April, July, and October) by the Greater St. Louis Area Council—Boy Scouts of America, 4568 West Pine Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108-9123. The Digital Duffle Bag, a supplement to the printed *Duffle Bag*, is emailed on the second and fourth Mondays of each month to those who opt in.

The *Duffle Bag* is available by subscription or as a PDF, downloaded for free from the ABOUT page at stlbsa.org. Archived issues and a subscription request are also available on this page.

Editorial Policy: Articles on Scouting events and community events offering a value to Scouts are always welcome. Firm deadlines are Dec. 1 for the winter issue, March 1 for the spring issue, June 1 for the summer issue, Sept. 1 for the fall issue. The *Duffle Bag* staff reserves the right to edit all articles and decide if submitted articles are appropriate for the newsletter.

Advertising: The *Duffle Bag* is distributed to more than 4,500 adult Scout leaders in the council's geographic boundaries (city of St. Louis and St. Louis County, 26 surrounding counties in eastern and southern Missouri, and 10 counties in southern Illinois).

For more information on advertising, contact Christine Dieckmann, christine.dieckmann@scouting.org, 314.256.3030, or Christine Hummel, christine.hummel@scouting.org, 314.256.3036.

Disclaimer: Dates, times, and fees in this *Duffle Bag* are current as of press date and are subject to change. For the latest information, visit stlbsa.org. Names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses are not sold or shared outside the BSA organization.

Get the latest news in local Scouting at stlbsa.org

The Greater St. Louis Area Council is divided into 15 districts, covering the geographical area of the St. Louis metropolitan area and 27 counties in southeast Missouri and 10 counties in southern Illinois.



BOONE TRAILS DISTRICT boonetrails.stlbsa.org | serves Missouri counties of St. Charles, Lincoln, & Warren (except parts in the Washington School District)



CHEROKEE DISTRICT cherokee.stlbsa.org | serves Missouri counties of Dunklin, Mississippi, Pemiscott, New Madrid, & parts of Scott & Stoddard



EGYPTIAN DISTRICT egyptian.stlbsa.org | serves Illinois counties of Franklin, Hamilton, Saline, & Williamson



GRAND TOWERS DISTRICT grandtowers.stlbsa.org | serves city of St. Louis, Missouri, north of Interstate 44



GRAVOIS TRAIL DISTRICT gravoisrail.stlbsa.org | serves south St. Louis County, Missouri, in the school districts of Affton, Bayless, Hancock Place, Lindbergh, Mehlville, & Fenton area of Rockwood



KASKASKIA DISTRICT kaskaskia.stlbsa.org | serves Illinois counties of Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Perry, Pulaski, & Union



NEW HORIZONS DISTRICT newhorizons.stlbsa.org | serves Missouri school districts of Brentwood, Kirkwood, Parkway, Valley Park, Webster Groves, & all but the Fenton area of Rockwood



NORTH STAR DISTRICT northstar.stlbsa.org | serves Missouri school districts of Ferguson–Florissant, Hazelwood, Jennings, & Riverview Gardens



OSAGE DISTRICT osage.stlbsa.org | serves Missouri counties of Crawford and Franklin counties & the portion of Warren County in Washington School District



OZARK TRAILBLAZERS DISTRICT ozarktrailblazers.stlbsa.org | serves Missouri counties of Iron, Madison, Reynolds, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, & Washington



PATHFINDER DISTRICT pathfinder.stlbsa.org | serves Missouri school districts of Clayton, Ladue, Maplewood–Richmond Heights, Normandy, Pattonville, Ritenour, & University City



RIVER TRAILS DISTRICT rivertrails.stlbsa.org | serves Jefferson County, Missouri, school districts of Crystal City, DeSoto, Dunklin, Festus, Fox, Grandview, Hillsboro, Jefferson R-7, Northwest, Sunrise, & Windsor



SHAWNEE DISTRICT shawnee.stlbsa.org | serves Missouri counties of Bollinger, Cape Girardeau, Perry, & northern Scott



SIoux DISTRICT sioux.stlbsa.org | serves Missouri counties of Butler, Carter, Reynolds, Ripley, western Stoddard, & Wayne



THUNDERBIRD DISTRICT thunderbird.stlbsa.org | serves city of St. Louis, Missouri, south of Interstate 44

FAMILY DUFFLE BAG

GREATER ST. LOUIS AREA COUNCIL—BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
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314.361.0600 OR 800.392.0895

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