

SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
HEALDSBURG - GEYSERVILLE - WINDSOR



THE SOTOYOME NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2019

Post 111, Squadron 111 and Legion Riders Chapter 111, PO Box 281, Healdsburg, CA 95448

Unit 111, American Legion Auxiliary, P.O. Box 174, Healdsburg, CA 95448

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Volume 86 Issue 1

Seventeen forgotten Veterans honored



Service members of the Coast Guard Training Center Petaluma along with SSgt **Sarah Rafal** of the 579th Engineer Battalion, were instrumental in rendering full military honors to seventeen Veterans interred at the Potter's Field next to the Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery on December 8, 2018.

See story on page 8.

Attention!!!!

If you do not drive and need a ride to a meeting or any Legion function, please contact any Legion team member and we will arrange transportation for you.

SEPTEMBER SOTOYOME POST MEETINGS

American Legion: January 10th @ 6:00 PM
Executive Board Meeting: Monday January 7th @ 6:00 PM

Auxiliary: January 10th @ 6:00 PM

SAL: Monday January 14th @ 6:00 PM

**All meetings at Villa Chanticleer Annex
in Healdsburg**

Legion Riders: Tuesday January 8th @ 6:00 PM
Mary's Pizza, Safeway Shopping Center Windsor



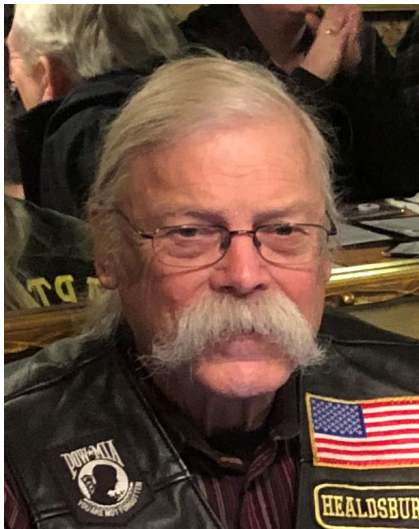
THE AMERICAN LEGION

WAR-TIME VETERANS AND MILITARY MEMBERS
DEDICATED TO A STRONG NATIONAL SECURITY,
COMPASSIONATE CARE FOR VETERANS AND THEIR
FAMILIES; COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND THE
WHOLESDOME DEVELOPMENT OF OUR NATION'S YOUTH.

INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN THE
SOTOYOME AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY
TODAY!

FROM THE COMMANDER'S DESK

Commander Tim Madura



January 2019 is here! Another year has gone by too fast, leaving us with so many memories. It is time again to learn from the past and move into the future with our experiences as guides to improve our lives and the lives of others. I trust everyone had fun and safe holidays, hopefully spending time with friends and family.

Our December dinner meeting was a great success. To those of you who could not make it, you missed a delicious dinner and plenty of fun. There was just enough food for everyone to eat. We cooked two turkeys and a ham which were supplemented by all the food that other people brought. Thank you to Eddy and the Auxiliary for their help.

We had many donated raffle prizes that the Auxiliary set up to raise money for the Paradise fire victims. One final unclaimed item was auctioned off for \$40.00, and **Frank Teuschler** won out over everyone. Thank you, Frank, for your contribution. Our honored guest speaker was a young student, **Kellen Collins**, from St. John's School whose essay was the winning entry in the Auxiliary-sponsored writing contest. The essay focused on the many ways he donates his time, in particular his cooking skills, to benefit Scouts, the fire department, school, police, homeless, the American Legion and many other groups. We need more young men and women like him, and wish him well.

Our dedication to the Veterans buried in the Sonoma County Potters Field was a memorable occasion. For those of you who did not know this, there were 17 Veterans buried in this field with no markers. **Ron Collier** located their graves and, with the help of many volunteers, saw that these forgotten soldiers now have official brass markers at their grave sites, never again to be forgotten. They received full military honors for their final farewell. Thank you, Ron, for another great job providing these Veterans with this honor. Thank you to **Matt Sagaser**, Coast Guard, for providing the final touch to this ceremony by having the Coast Guard stand at each grave site in their dress blue uniforms, representing each Veteran as their name was read by coming to attention and saluting. They were very sharp. Thank you, Matt, to you and your crew.

Crab Feed, February 2nd. Buy tickets, sell tickets. There will be no pasta to fill your bellies, just all the crab, salad, bread, beer and wine that you can eat, for \$65.00. Time is running out and we do sell out, so get your tickets soon. Call Steve Bowne at 707-322-9245, Frank or Carol Teuschler at 707-431-2328 or myself at 707-815-6983 for tickets.

If you need a ride to any of the meetings or events, please give me a call to arrange for someone to pick you up and bring you home.

Please renew your dues for 2019. We are almost to our 100% goal. Also, if you still owe for 2018, that is ok. Pay that now, too. You can pay it online or send a check to Post Office Box 281, Healdsburg, CA 95448. Steve loves to see those checks in the post office box.

~Tim

ALR President Ron Krudop



Friday December 7th Post 21 in Santa Rosa honored Pearl Harbor Day. Every year the post has Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day. This year the bell tolled for 142 deceased members. As Veterans we need to attend this very important event, because the attendance was lower than past years.

Saturday December 8th Post 111 gathered at Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery to honor Veterans that were buried with out military honors or markers. **Matt Sagaser** and his group from Two Rock stood at grave sites and saluted when the names of each Veteran was read and full military honors were

given. Saturday December 15th I attended Wreaths Across America in Cloverdale. This year the weather didn't cooperate. With rainy skies the ceremony was held in the Cloverdale Veterans building Post 293. Our ALR brother **Gary Greenough** told the story behind Wreaths Across America. To celebrate a great memorial ride honoring **Ryan Connolly**, our Chapter provided a luncheon at the Washoe House for members that participated in this event. A good time was had by all twenty-five in attendance.

~Ron

SAL Commander Ed Doitteau



What's in an organization; some may ask. Why go to church; it's just a structure with rituals and formalities. Why go to the hospital; it's just people pushing prescription drugs. There are certainly many reasons that can be surmised as to why a certain structure, edifice or building is a place where people enter. The truth of the matter is when a building is erected it was done so with a vision, idea and with a purpose in mind to serve those who enter it and occupy its spaces.

I ask this question... where is your purpose, what is your vision? Do you think of good ideas that will serve the benefit of all those who don't have the ability to have the simple things in life?

Consider that one of the most effective ways to contribute to any organization is to actually step into those structures with a purpose in mind. We in the American Legion have served a great purpose, some of us have sacrificed everything so that others may live in the greatest country on the face of the earth; free from foreign and domestic threats. This holiday season – Christmas specially marks these times in life where our God had a purpose to send His only begotten son for ALL mankind. Let's reflect on what thing we can do better than the previous year and stand proud that we are in an organization that restores hope to those families whose sons and daughters sacrificed to sustain our freedoms at home.

I hope that in the coming months that we can step it up a notch and truly represent this organization with the proudest hearts knowing that we do have a greater purpose to train our incoming generation of veterans.

Merry Christmas and may God bless you all.

~Ed



ALR Vice President Bill Nay



There have been many Holiday events. A few of us attended the concert by the Air Force Band at the Petaluma Veterans Hall. I presented the Band Conductor with a Chapter 111 coin. In addition, there were a number of events related to Wreaths across America. There have also been a number of holiday meals. It is a time to reflect on the past and to look forward to the future. We should all be proud of the contributions to our communities as individuals and collectively as a group. We can, and do, make a difference.

I particularly enjoy including the youth and families in our programs.

~Bill

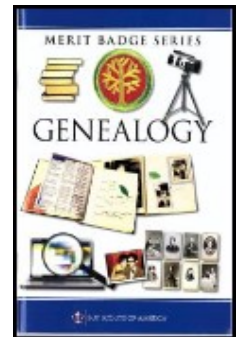
Meritorious Service to Scouts

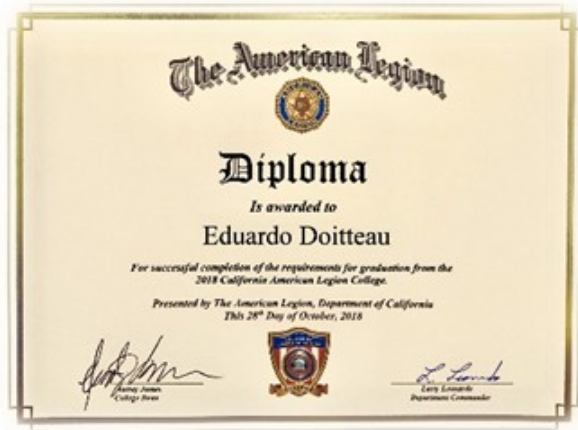


On December 8th **Bill Nay** conducted a Genealogy Merit Badge workshop for scouts of the Redwood Empire and Marin BSA Councils. The workshop was co-sponsored by the Sons of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Legion. On December 15th Bill also made a presentation at the Eagle Court of Honor for **Erik Carver**.

At the December meeting of the Sons of the American Revolution **Derek Brown**, President of the California Society and **James**

Beatty, President of the Redwood Empire Chapter presented Bill with the Meritorious Service Award for his work as the Chairman of the California State Eagle Scout Scholarship program.





Born Leaders or Forged Leaders

Attributes and qualities of an effective leader

There have been events since my childhood where I have asked myself this similar question; why “leaders” people in charge are not actuating positive change of the wrongdoings to others or just apathy of getting involved in our society. These observations were quite clear to me that the effectiveness of their leadership resulted in the lack of fruits.

So, I ask what kinds of fruit people expect from a leader. Rotten fruits, distasteful and bitter fruits or do we expect plump, ripe and sweet fruits that enrich

our lives and bring a sort of palate of excitement to our lives? This is the base for an effective leader. – Their fruits.

An effective leader is one who has been tested in the heat of times, the challenges of life and not wavering to public opinion. One who can listen to the concerns of those within and outside his or her ranks? The leader who can be slow to anger discerning the story between the stories; not reading into things without a full understanding of situations. A successful leader is one who displays humility knowing that he/she is capable of failure and must accept that responsibility by adapting and learning from it.

At times the leader should be able to recognize that he/she alone cannot effect positive change unless he knows the strengths and weaknesses of his/her team. Knowing how to use and delegate your responsibilities helps to fortify the entire cause and team and together effect the positive changes we are looking for.

What keeps people from becoming effective leaders?

People are not inherently leaders; leaders emerge when there is a void in events and situations that warrant the interference from an individual who is determined with purpose to step up and make that conscientious choice to effect a positive change.

Leaders who seek self-gratification and self-grandeur with no regards for people or society in general are incapable of being effective leaders. Their inability to carefully listen and pay attention to situations around them can jeopardize organizations thus ineffective to the community they serve in. These types of individuals may not even understand or can see their ineffectiveness unless the governing body presents their observations and make the case to replace them with those who truly have the desire and capabilities to properly and effectively lead. If this is not done, then we are considered enablers to this type of behavior thus reflecting poorly on our leadership.

The current governing leadership should build leaders as in Iron sharpens Iron, effective leadership is part of an ongoing commitment to mentor potential leaders to be effective in their duties. These potential leaders must have the training, tools and channels to communicate their ideas and proposed decisions. A leader can become ineffective when they are left alone to make decisions without having accountability to those above them.

Same goes for leaders who are incapable of properly communicating across all channels up and down the ranks. These attributes will more than likely contribute to the ineffectiveness of a leader.

The American Legion College truly laid the foundation for such a path in becoming a truly effective and focused leader. I urge everyone to take part in this five day classroom environment and gain the understanding for effective real change in your community and in your organization.

Submitted by **Ed Doitteau**

Auxiliary President Eddy Sauers



Well, Santa is just around the corner, coming to greet everyone including the people that lost their homes in the fires. He knows where to find you and will leave great surprises under your trees.

We had a great Christmas Dinner and lots of good food. Thank you to the Post, Riders, Sons and Auxiliary making it happen. We got a great American Legion family that all pitched in. Everyone give yourself a pat on the back for making this happen.

We also had the Windsor High School Culinary students help serve and clean-up. It is always a pleasure to have them when we do an event.



Remember, if there are some members out there that would like to come to these events, please call any of the officers and we'll get someone to bring you. Remember we are only a phone call away.

Our Auxiliary had a great Christmas raffle. Thanks to the Legion families for their donations and helping out. We would like to do more in the future so keep us in mind. Our donations will go to fire victim members in Paradise area. Any Auxiliary members who would like to donate please call any officers.

Well our Christmas Dinner didn't end, we had a young man, **Kellen Cullen** a student from St. John School in Healdsburg who won 1st. place in the Youth Appreciation Essay Contest on Americanism., read his essay to all of us before I presented him with his prize. His parents were present at the dinner, **Jeff** and **Tammi Cullen** and of course his sister **Kelli**. Also his two teachers, 6th grade Kim Arata and 7th grade Monica Cose were there. They all enjoyed themselves and mentioned about coming again to some of our events. I will keep them informed in the future.

Just another quick reminder about your membership and would like to see it in before December 31, 2018. I know Linda mentioned it to all of you, but it would be nice to get our membership books close to 100%. Like Linda says, you can go line which is a lot faster but it is up to the individual.

Everyone have a Great Christmas and better New Year, and hope to see more of our members at our meetings next year 2019.

~Eddy

Auxiliary Vice President Linda Clary



Greetings to all.

Thank you again to all who paid their membership dues. If you've overlooked it, please take a minute to renew once again. If this year's budget can't include your dues please let Eddy know, we'll see what we can do to help. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas.

~Linda

Honors Team Coordinator Eddy Sauers



Well here we are at the end of 2018. Every month of this year has been busy for the Honor Team. Want to say THANKS to all of HONOR TEAM members for stepping in on all of the events and honors we had through the year. Hope I wasn't too tough on everybody. Some of the members went to Cloverdale to do the Wreaths Across America, but it was too wet and muddy. So the ceremony was held inside the Veterans Bldg. We stayed until it was finished. Then at 11:00 that day the Honor Team headed to the Potter's Field to put wreaths on 17 Veterans graves. I called different people to see if I get these wreaths for our Veterans that we had just honored. I got a hold of a gentleman over in Sonoma that was doing their Wreaths Across America the day before. I told him my story and he said he will get me some wreaths for the 17 Veterans. He brought them to the airport here in Windsor and I met him there where he loaded my vehicle and I brought them home. Now our 17 Veterans are officially recognized with full Military Honors, Taps and now with a Christmas Wreath on each grave What a beautiful way to



end our year with these 17 Veterans.

I got one more thing to say. I want to THANK **Dave Richey** for being on our Honor Team and being there when needed. Also can't forget Jackie helping us with the Auxiliary. Going to miss both of you very much.

~Eddy

Wreaths Across America

December 15, 2018



**Cloverdale
Veteran's
Memorial
Hall
Ceremony**



Shirleen Perry Frank Teuschler George Sager
Harold Bagdonas Ron Collier Doris Nelson Eddy Sauers Dave Meyers
Gary Greenough



Potter's Field at Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery

“Santa Rosa ceremony honors unknown veterans buried in county cemetery”

by **Chris Smith**, Press Democrat, December 9, 2018

Seventeen new markers were placed Saturday on the graves of military veterans buried at the Sonoma County indigent cemetery in Santa Rosa.

Two Sonoma County residents worked together to identify the veterans in the cemetery, where the county has laid to rest people who die without resources to cover the costs of interment and, often, without known family.

As **Sandy Frary**, an archivist and lover of local history, worked on helping the Coroner’s Office upgrade its records for the cemetery, **Ron Collier**, a retired Windsor fire chief, jumped on board to help. Collier, who is part of the Missing in America Project, wants to help make sure that all military veterans are honored.

“In retirement, Ron has made it his mission, his life’s mission, to honor all veterans the way they should be — with honor, with dignity,” said state **Senator Mike McGuire**, who spoke at the memorial service and dedication Saturday.

Collier and his Missing in America Project volunteers had hoped to exhume the remains of the veterans and reinter them with full military honors at a national cemetery. However, the cost and logistics of moving the veterans’ remains proved daunting, so the Veterans Administration paid to have markers instead.

Saturday’s honors included a rifle volley and the playing of taps.

The 3-acre county cemetery, commonly known as the Potter’s Field, is behind the city-owned Santa Rosa Rural Cemetery at McDonald Avenue and Terrace Way.



American Legion Sotoyome Family Leadership Team 2018-2019

Post 111 American Legion

Commander **Tim Madura** 707-815-6983
1st Vice **Dave Meyers** 707-481-1196
2nd Vice **Terry Perry** 707-838-9790
Adjutant **Bill Nay** 707-235-1900
Finance **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Judge Advocate
Sgt. at Arms **Tony Grado** 707-527-8233
Service Officer Vacant
Historian **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
Bar Manager **Frank Teuschler** 707-431-2328
Chaplain **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Webmaster **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
Jr. Past Comdr. **Lance Ballenger** 707-481-0003
Executive Bd.: **Frank Teuschler** 707-431-2328
Harold Bagdonas 707-480-5379
Doug Newton 707-217-6309 **Frank Jerins**

Unit 111 American Legion Auxiliary

President **Eddy Sauers** 707-620-8683
1st Vice **Linda Clary** 707-433-5800
2nd Vice **Mary Matthews** 707-838-8702
Sec/Treasurer **Shirleen Perry** 707-838-9790
Executive Bd.: **Helen Sager** 707-696-2691

Squadron 111 Sons of The American Legion

Commander **Ed Doitteau** 707-312-0033
1st Vice vacant
2nd Vice **Mitch Laing** 707-975-1541
Adjutant **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Finance **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Chaplain **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Sgt. at Arms **Terry Perry** 707-838-9790
Judge Advoc. **Doug Newton** 707-217-6309
Historian **Harold Bagdonas** 707-843-4790
Jr. Past Comdr. **Ken Cody** 707-536-5562
Executive Bd.: **Tim Madura** 707-815-6983
Tom Garske 707-695-2334
Gary McLerran 707-526-4786

Chapter 111 American Legion Riders

President **Ron Krudop** 707-765-0373
Vice Pres. **Bill Nay** 707-235-1900
Secretary **Doug Newton** 707-217-6309
Treasurer/Adj. **Steven Bowne** 707-578-4775
Sgt. at Arms **Terry Perry** 707-838-9790
Chaplain **Ed Howell** 707-292-8033
Road Captain **Gary McLerran** 707-526-4786
Safety Officer **Gary Greenough** 707-484-6400
Past President **Ron Dillow** 707-753-0575

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



2nd—**Bill Stiles**
7th—**Roy Sprague, Steve Tice**
8th—**William Kramer, Dave Richey**
10th—**Michael Gagliardo**
11th—**Chris Hilton**
13th—**Terry Perry**
14th—**Richard DeMaria**
16th—**Daniel Conway**
19th—**Bob Benson**
20th—**Frank Hayes**
23rd—**Isaac Bowne**
24th—**Frank Zak**
26th—**John Ballachey**
28th—**David Budworth**
29th—**Frank Teuschler, Bill Brown**
30th—**Jack Martin, Doug Newton, Brendan Bono**
31st—**Bob Rodgers**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 New Years	2	3 VFW 6 PM	4	5
6	7 Post/Unit Board Meeting 6 PM	8 ALR Meeting 6 PM Windsor	9 MIAP Escort Dixon	10 Post meeting Annex 6:00	11	12
13	14 SAL meeting Annex 6:00	15	16	17 Honors Team 3 PM Annex	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Day	22	23 United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 CRAB FEED
3 District 5 Super Bowl	4 Post/Unit Board Meeting 6 PM	5	6 Blue and Gold Diner 6:00	7 VFW Annex 7:00	8	9
10	11 SAL Meeting Annex 6 PM	12 ALR Meeting 6 PM Windsor	13	14 Post meeting Annex 6:00	15 Boy Scout Breakfast Rohnert Park	16
17	18 President's Day	19	20 United Vet Counsel 7 PM SR	21 Honors Team 3 PM Annex	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

Pearl Harbor Commemoration at the USS Hornet



Bill Nay, ALR VP rode with the Warrior Watch riders to the commemoration of Pearl Harbor held on the USS Hornet. The featured speaker was **Lawson Sakai**. Bill presented Lawson with a Chapter 111 coin.

Lawson Sakai was born in Los Angeles on October 27, 1923. In March 1943, enlistment opportunities opened up for Japanese Americans to serve in a segregated unit. Lawson immediately volunteered for 442nd Regimental Combat Team. He was overseas in May 1944 until November 1945. While overseas, he served in all of the 442nd campaigns in Italy and France, including the liberation of Bruyeres, France, and the rescue of the Lost Battalion where he was seriously injured. During the war he was wounded four times, and received a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart and a Combat Infantryman Badge.



These contributors support the Sotoyome American Legion Family.

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Santa Rosa, CA 95403

ALR Chapter 111 is Mentoring Petaluma American Legion Post 28.

Post Commander **Tim Madura**, and Riders **Ron Krudop**, **Steve Bowne**, and **Bill Nay** recently met with **Bob Hockenberger**, Petaluma Post Adjutant, in forming American Legion Riders Chapter 28. After the meeting several of the prospective members attended the Chapter 111 December meeting. On Wednesday, December 12, 2018 Bill Nay attended the AL Post 28 meeting where they made a motion and approved the formation of the Rider Chapter. They already have the requisite 5 charter members lined up, and possibly more, and are working on drafting the by-laws to be sent to Department of California for approval. In the near future they are planning an initial organizing meeting of the proposed members and we will be invited to join them as mentors.



l to r: **Bill Nay**, **Bob Hochenberger**, **Ron Krudop**, **Steven Bowne**

ALR appreciation breakfast at the Washoe House

December 17, 2018



Crab Feed February 2nd

Get your tickets now and support the Post

Call 707-431-2328 or 707-322-9245



If you're interested in volunteering at the event, contact Steve at 707-578-4775 or 707-322-9245 by January 11th to register.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

December 13, 2018



We had a great turn out for the Christmas Dinner this year and nearly ran out of food. We were honored to have **Kellen Collins** from Healdsburg St John's school read his Youth Appreciation essay under Americanism to the attendees. The Auxiliary awarded Kellen \$100 for winning the essay contest.

The evening concluded with a raffle and auction conducted by Commander Madura with proceeds going to the Camp Fire survivors in Paradise.

~Editor

Honors for Dave Richey

December 12, 2018

The Sotoyome Honor Team held a farewell luncheon for Dave at KC's American Kitchen in Windsor in appreciation of his years of tireless volunteer work and participation as a member of the Sotoyome American Legion Family. Dave was given a specially designed plaque to honor his service. **George Sager** presented the plaque.

It should be noted that Dave is also a Past Commander of the American Legion Sotoyome Post 111.

Dave and his wife Jackie will be leaving the area and relocating to Clovis which is near Fresno. They will both be sorely missed by everyone who has had the pleasure of knowing them.



CHAPLAINS CORNER

Need someone to talk to?
You or someone in the family ill?
Know of a Veteran who needs help?
Start with a phone call to your Chaplain.

Post: **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Auxiliary: **Mary Matthews** 707-688-6554
Squadron: **Jerry Jaramillo** 707-239-1811
Riders: **Ed Howell** 707-292-8033

NEW MEMBERS

Dick Lewis
Kerry Ishmael
Brian Penn
Vincent Lopes
Turoa Tahauri
Steven Pearson
John Eberly

Legion Members and Family, if you are in need of prayer or a hospital or home visit, my phone is open 24/7 (707)239-1811

Jerry Jaramillo

hondokid1@yahoo.com

The Sotoyome Newsletter

The Official Monthly Publication of the
Sotoyome American Legion Family

Steven Bowne: Publisher/Editor

steven5382@comcast.net

Phone 707-322-9245

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