

# BIRD LINE NEWS

Volume 12, Issue 4

April, 2008

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone, well the Mart is this month and it is going to be the best Mart ever. Ms. Connie Metz has done a Great job getting all the vendors with the help of Debbie Park. They have put more fliers out then last year and are talking to new vendors all the time. In between everything, they planned the cockatiel show also. My hat is off to you ladies.

See you at the April meeting and don't forget to bring something for the Refreshment table.

Thomas J Neill Jr

## MESSAGE FROM THE 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT

On your mark, get set, go! It's mart time! Is everybody signed up to volunteer? April 12 is approaching faster than expected. If you missed the mart planning meeting and have not signed up, please contact any board member to do so. Hanging flyers around town, promoting the mart, is another way of helping if you are not available on the day of the mart.

Let's give a warm welcome back to Dr. Donato who will be speaking April 10 at our club meeting on yet another "myth buster". He has asked the club what we would like him to speak on, and the topic chosen the most will be his presentation. Please be considerate to the Doctor and to other club members and not talk amongst ourselves while he is speaking.

April's meeting we will be raffling off a Kenmore Select Seal-N-Save vacuum food sealer, retail value of \$119.99. Tickets are being sold for \$2.00 each. This is a great time saving appliance to have. It allows you to cook items, seal them up, freeze them, and use them at a future date. A must have for those of us whose lives are just to busy to be spending all our time in the kitchen preparing meals for our families and our birds. If you buy in bulk, the sealer allows you to divide items up into smaller portions. The sealer is rated 4.6 stars out of 5. We will also have the regular raffle table and 50/50 drawing. Purchase your tickets early before Dr. Donato gets underway.

Remember as always, the raffle table welcomes your donations and recycled toy parts and thanks you for them.

Connie Metz



**BIRD'S EYE VIEW****OUTREACH UPDATE**

Thank you to all our Outreach Team members that participated in our last two Outreaches: Keith, Erika, Chris P. & granddaughter, Tom, Joey, Sybil & Dillon, Connie, Flo, Colleen and Margie!

**UPCOMING OUTREACHES**

**1) Gladwynne Montessori School**  
Friday, April 25, 2008 at 1:30-2:30 PM

**2) CHOP Staff Appreciation Day**  
Friday, June 13, 2008. 11AM to 3PM.  
Five locations: Voorhees, NJ, King of Prussia, and Center City (Phila.)  
These will mostly be held outside so please bring birds that are safe outside (wings clipped or harnesses & leashes).  
We will need birds that are friendly with people or that you can keep safe in a crowd.  
We each must care to keep our birds and the public SAFE!

Thank you...Esther

**Delco Bird Club Events for 2007/2008**

**April 10, 2008:** Dr Donato from Radnor Vet will be speaking on another "myth buster".

**May 08, 2008:** Dr. Jeleen Briscoe-Reitz and Rita Sambruna will be giving a mini-seminar called "Positive Reinforcement for Successful Home Life and Veterinary Visits."

**June 12, 2008:** The Foxwells from Birdsnest Specialty will kick off our summer party.

**July 2008:** Summer break, no meeting.

**August 2008:** Summer break, no meeting.

**September 11 2008:** (Tentative) Photo night with your birds.

**MEMBER REP MESSAGE**

by Debbie Park

**Welcome New Member**

Ellen Lamar

Now that April is here, and four months into the year, if you have not paid your membership dues, now is the time. Volunteers for the mart must be signed up **prior** to the morning of the mart and will not be charged the admission fee. Food vouchers will be given to the volunteers the day of the mart. The Reading Horse and Pet Expo gave Connie and I the opportunity to pass out 1,000 flyers! Our friends from Pet World USA and Flock Stock and Barrel placed them on display in their booths for us.

**Board Meeting Minutes March 4<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**Started: 7:24pm**

**Attendance:** Connie M, Colleen R, Debbie P, Tom N, Esther S, Erika S, and Christine P

**Treasurer's Report:** Will be discussed at the meeting.

**Outreach:** See Esther's Blurb.

**Fundraising:** Connie donated a Kenmore Select Seal-n-Save vacuum food sealer system to the raffle table which will be drawn at the April meeting for 2.00 dollars, a ticket.

**Bird Mart:** Connie is getting vendor money in we have 4 and ½ spaces left out of 33 spaces available. The Bird Mart is approaching quickly April 12<sup>th</sup> 2008; we need volunteers to help us out please see any of our board members to see where your help is needed. Volunteers will be able to get into the Bird Mart for free so please sign up.

**Membership:** Member dues are due please see Colleen to renew your membership 20.00 for family 5.00 for an extra vote and 10.00 for seniors.

**Ended: 8:54pm**

Submitted By:  
Colleen Robinson

## Australia and the Cockatiel

The wild cockatiel is a native of Australia. Similar in size to the United States, minus Alaska, Australia has a coastline that borders on three oceans and four seas. Most of Northern Australia has a subtropical climate and a temperate climate in the South region. The vast central plains have an annual rainfall of less than nine inches. There is a gradual increase in rainfall closer towards the coast. The North is covered with a thick rain forest which is influenced by seasonal monsoon rainfalls.

Cockatiels are found all over Australia especially in the interior. More and more they have been seen in coastal areas, but some believe they are escaped cage or aviary birds and their offspring. For the most part, the cockatiel lives in small family groups, an average of twelve. After breeding season, they are sometimes in great flocks where the older ones will drive out the young when food becomes short. This also is when they appear in coastal areas but only for a short time before returning inland.

In the Southern region of Australia, cockatiels are nomadic, constantly moving from one place to another in search of food and water. Here they are affected by the seasonal changes, where in the Northern region they tend to stay put. The cockatiels mainly live in open terrain marked by groups of trees and shrubs, and are never far from a water supply. They spend a large part of the day on the ground searching for food. They are primarily dependent on seeds of acacia and spinifex grass but do eat berries and other fruits, nectar, and insects. Cockatiels like to drink early in the morning and again in the evenings. During the day, especially in the hot midday hours, the birds frequently rest lengthwise along dead tree branches. Their color blends with the branches to provide excellent camouflage.

Today, cockatiels remain somewhat tame and trusting, allowing one to approach within a few yards before flying swiftly, directly, and noisily to the nearest trees. In flight the birds keep contact with each other through their prolonged rolling "kweel-kweel" or "kweelo-kweelo" calls but on the ground when foraging or when sitting in the trees, they are extremely silent. Cockatiels remain one of the fastest flyers among the Australian parrots. Their white wing patches are remarkably conspicuous during flight. These patches enable the birds to keep track of each other so that flocks can more easily stay together. When landing, a cockatiel falls to the ground like a stone, checking its fall only at the last possible moment.

In spite of their fast flight, cockatiels are still a tempting target for birds of prey. They do not stand on the banks of water sources to drink. In fear, they swoop to the left and to the right as they first examine the area for signs of danger. Then they dive to the water surface and snap up drops of water or will land in the shallow water, drink quickly, and depart in a matter of seconds. Take note that the cockatiel can go for a long period of time without water. Research shows that they can withstand periods of drought better than any other parrot-like birds with the exception of the budgerigar.

In the wild, cockatiels breed from August through December depending on the prevailing weather conditions. Cockatiels nest in holes in the tree trunks or in hollow limbs. Many trees in the Australian bush are hollowed out by various termite species, which do not kill the tree but work on the "dead" inner wood of trunks and limbs, thus playing an important role in the ecology of wildlife. If it were not for these termites providing nesting opportunities, the cockatiel could not survive in such great numbers. Cockatiels usually nest in trees that are close to watercourses and will except extremely small cavities, sometimes in a fist sized hole in a branch no bigger than ones arm. The female broods the eggs from late afternoon to early morning, when the cock takes over. Both male and female are conscientious in their duties. This brooding by both sexes is unique in the world of parrots for only a few cockatoos and brush-tongues share this habit. The wild cockatiel will sometimes take a bath before its brooding shift to add moisture to the nest chamber so that humidity levels are maintained around the nest material and the eggs. The cockatiel has a fascinating and unique courtship dance, sadly, not seen in captive birds. The cock first shows off his white shoulder patches before drumming his feet on the ground or on a tree branch in front of the hen. If the hen flies off, the cock will follow, stand in front of her, and again flash his shoulder patches and drum his feet.

The English name cockatiel originates from the Portuguese word *Cocatielho*, which means small parrot. The German fanciers call the bird *Nympensittich*, taken from the scientific name (*Sittich* meaning parakeet) Australians have many different names for the cockatiel derived from the aboriginal native words with "Quarrion" the most well known and widely used. The genus being *Nymphicus Hollandicus* the cockatiel is a link species between the cockatoos (*Cacatuidae*) and the "true" parrots (*Psittacidae*).

# DELCO BIRD CLUB'S 3RD ANNUAL MART & EXTRAVAGANZA

*SATURDAY APRIL 12, 2008*

ADULT ADMISSION \$7.00

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**VENDOR INFO:** Connie Metz 610-604-3316 [Conniecmm1@aol.com](mailto:Conniecmm1@aol.com)  
**SHOW INFO:** Debbie Park 484-461-3640 [Debbiescockatiels@yahoo.com](mailto:Debbiescockatiels@yahoo.com)  
**GENERAL INFO:** [www.delcobirdclub.com](http://www.delcobirdclub.com)

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DELCO BIRD CLUB'S MART  
SATURDAY APRIL 12, 2008

## PARROT OF THE MONTH

Watch for a different bird each month from A to Z.

<p><b>Eclectus Parrot</b></p> 	<p><b>Genus:</b> <i>Eclectus</i>  <b>Species:</b> <i>roratus</i>  <b>Races including nominate:</b> ten: <i>E.r. roratus</i>, <i>E.r. vosmaeri</i>, <i>E.r. westermanni</i>, <i>E.r. cornelia</i>, <i>E.r. riedeli</i>, <i>E.r. polychloros</i>, <i>E.r. biaki</i>, <i>E.r. aruensis</i>, <i>E.r. macgillivrayi</i>, <i>E.r. solomonensis</i></p> <p><b>Size:</b> 35 cm (13.6 in)  <b>Adult Weight:</b> 450-600g (15.75-21 oz)</p> <p><b>Colorization Adult: <i>E.r. roratus</i></b> (Grand Eclectus): male-green with red underwing coverts to sides of belly; central tail feathers green above and tipped yellow/white, side tail feathers green and washed blue above and tipped yellow/white; undertail grey tipped yellow/white, upper mandible orange tipped with yellow, lower mandible black. Eye orange. Female-body red with dark brown/red on back and wings; underwing coverts to lower breast, abdomen and wide band across mantle soft purple; red of upper breast washing into purple of lower breast; bend of wing lilac/blue; undertail coverts red with longer feathers tipped yellow; tail red tipped orange/yellow. Bill black. Eye yellow/white.</p> <p><b>Colorization Juvenile:</b> As in adults but duller; in both sexes upper mandible dark brown/grey tipped yellow. Eye brown.</p>
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Also Known As: Kalanga, Grand Eclectus Parrot, King Parrot, Red-sided Eclectus Parrot (*E.r. polychloros*)

The eclectus parrots visual sexual differences between male and female are more marked and striking than in any other parrot. Males are generally green in color where females are generally red.

Their call in flight is a loud, rough screech, repeated continuously or in short bursts. They

have various alarm calls and they have been heard making a more mellow bell like sound before mating.

As pets the eclectus is fun-loving. They love to mimic, while needing lots to do they are generally not demanding. They can live in captivity for up to 50 years. Their clutches consist of only two.

Destructive toys, branches, puzzle toys, bathing, peek-a-boo games, swings, ropes are all favorites of the eclectus.

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### JOKE OF THE MONTH

What books did the owl like?  
 Who-dunnits.

Did you hear the story about the Peacock?  
 No, but I bet it is a beautiful tale!

What do you get if you cross a woodpecker  
 with a carrier pigeon?  
 A bird who knocks before delivering its  
 message!

## BIRDS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION FROM THE BAILEY FOUNDATION

(Advertisement paid for by Chris Webb)

As many of you know, I am an active volunteer and foster home for the Bailey Foundation. I am currently fostering the 6 Bailey birds described below, and will be happy to give you details on any one of them. There are many other birds available, please check out their web site [www.bailey-foundation.org](http://www.bailey-foundation.org)

### **Sonny – male Orange Winged Amazon**

Sonny came from a very loving family who experienced a major lifestyle change, and were forced to find a new home for Sonny. He is a very friendly bird who steps up easily and loves to cuddle. He gets along with other birds once he gets used to them. He is relatively quiet and enjoys his time out of his cage.

### **Buddy – 14 YO male Lesser Sulphur Crested Cockatoo**

Buddy seems to be a good natured bird who craves human contact. He has been mistreated, however, and bites out of fear. In recent weeks, he has come to trust people and allows petting of his beak, chest, head and legs through the cage bars. His behavior remains unpredictable, however, and he would do best in a home with a seasoned bird owner, where he will receive consistent love and attention.

### **Mango – 2 YO male Peach Front Conure**

Mango is a young, friendly bird who loves fruit, especially dried papaya, and enjoys slowly destroying his wooden toys. He tends to bite your fingers when he steps up, but this is decreasing over time, and I believe he will be a good companion with consistent positive reinforcement from his caregiver. Mango can be a bit noisy, as with most conures, but does not scream excessively.

### **Roscoe – 10 YO male Nanday Conure**

Roscoe is as charming as he is naked!! He has plucked his chest and back repeatedly, and feathers will most likely not grow in these areas. His remaining feathers are beautiful, however, and his tail is long, full, and gorgeous!! He is very friendly, loves a good head scratch, and has a sweet, low voice that sounds like a whisper. He plays vigorously with his toys, and screams for joy while doing it!

### **Lucky – male Nanday Conure with special needs**

Lucky is a very gentle and sweet bird and has only one leg. How and when he lost his leg is unknown; however, he seems to have adapted well to his disability and gets around fine! His cage has been customized to his needs; to minimize injury from falling, but Lucky hardly seems to think he needs it! He can be quite vocal when he greets his family, and thoroughly enjoys company.

### **Bing – Cherry-Head Conure**

Bing was removed from a bad situation and brought to the Bailey Foundation for help. He was plucked in spots, but his feathers have grown nicely and he is learning to trust people again. He says many words, and appears to want to be with people. He will mutter under his breath if people are nearby, but not paying attention to him. He will be a fine companion with patience and understanding.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE BIRDS, OR OTHERS AVAILABLE AT THE BAILEY FOUNDATION, PLEASE CONTACT ME

CHRISTINE WEBB  
610-209-9035

## CLASSIFIEDS



### Cockatiels

Great breeding stock, lots of splits all ages. Free to good home a 10 yo retired breeder. All are National Cockatiel Society banded. Call for available birds-Debbie Park at 484-461-3640 Leave message or email [debbiescockatiel@yahoo.com](mailto:debbiescockatiel@yahoo.com)

### Finches For Sale

Gouldians, shaftails, red faced parrot finches. Call Dave for availability at 610-566-5103

**Frandelhi's Touch** Cages, toys, playpens, nest boxes and carriers, personally built by Francis for yours and your bird's likings. Any wood craft ideas for them email [frandelhisflyers@rcn.com](mailto:frandelhisflyers@rcn.com)

**Free to good home** three male and one female cockatiel. Contact Greg Smith 610-544-0759 email: [Gregs152@aol.com](mailto:Gregs152@aol.com)

### Jojo The Grey Adoption and Rescue For Birds

If you are looking to adopt or place a bird up for adoption, please call Margaret Ouali at 610-713-0304 or email: [jojothegrey@yahoo.com](mailto:jojothegrey@yahoo.com) web site <http://jojothegrey.com>

### For Sale-Foster & Smith model Z1 Cage-

like new, barely used. Inside 37-1/2x27-1/2 39" high. Outside is 44"x35x62-1/4 high including seed catcher. Unit is only 2 yrs old, tan color, and comes with extra seed dishes. Contact AnneMarie 610-513-8801

**For Sale**-Large Bird Flight Cage, 36" w x 24" d x 48" h. Suitable for small to medium size birds. Portable with rolling caster wheels on fiberglass base with many accessories. \$100 negotiable. View pics at [midwesthomes4pets.com](http://midwesthomes4pets.com) Call Al Woodward, Springfield, Delco 610-328-1268

### For Sale (3 items)

Brooder from Deans Animal Supply. Website link [www.thebrooder.com/model.htm](http://www.thebrooder.com/model.htm) Used once to pick up baby African greys from out of state. Practically new and comes with car charger. Original cost was \$369.99 asking \$200.00. Cage used for an African grey: purchased new for about \$300 asking \$100. Price negotiable, extra bowls included with the cage. Two custom breeder cages, used for African greys and are still in good shape. Asking \$100 for both. Contact Richard Elijah at 215-490-6464. I can deliver, or items can be picked up at my house in the Germantown section of Philadelphia.

**For Sale** - Green Rump Parrotlet babies: I have several of these little gems available. All have been hand feed and are tame, price \$225-\$250. Also have a few birds that I would be interested in trading for other Green Rump blood lines. Call Lori Castle at 717-957-4241

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**Sale:** After 20 years of breeding Cockatiels, our birds are for sale. We are not getting out of breeding birds just focusing on our Green Rump Parrotlets. There are about 50 Cockatiels available. We would like to sell them as one group. Our hope is to find a fellow hobbyist that will appreciate the many years that has been put into building this fine line. What a great opportunity for someone to increase their breeding stock, especially one who enjoys the look of a prestige cockatiel. All breeder cages and accessories will be for sale as well. If you are interested in purchasing our flock call Lori Castle at 717-957-4241.

### The fine folks at The PerchStore.net on line store have a proposal for us.

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**LOCAL VET LISTINGS**

Provided as a service to our members-not an endorsement

Robert DiGregorio VMD  
 Boot Road Veterinary Clinic  
 1455 East Boot Road  
 West Chester PA 19380  
 610-692-9079

Gloria J Goodman VMD  
 3000 Concord Road  
 Aston PA 19014  
 610-494-2811

Old Marple Veterinary Hospital  
 820 West Springfield Road  
 Springfield PA 19064  
 610-328-1300

Glenolden Animal Hospital  
 Kimberly Bowers VMD  
 405 S Macdade Blvd  
 Glenolden PA 19036  
 610-237-6120

Radnor Veterinary Hospital  
 Len Donato VMD DABVP-Avian  
 112 N Aberdeen Ave  
 Wayne PA 19087  
 610-687-1550

Stoney Creek Veterinary Hospital  
 Jennifer Johnson  
 701 Kedron Ave (Rte 420)  
 Morton PA 19070  
 610-328-3600

Ludwig's Corner Veterinary Hospital  
 298 Black Horse Road  
 Chester Sprngs PA 19425  
 610-328-8567

Rocky Hill Veterinary  
 Terry McGrath  
 Rte 352 & Mango Lane  
 East Goshen PA  
 610-431-1620

Township Line Animal Hospital  
 Daniel R Silverberg VMD  
 8510 Lansdowne Ave  
 Upper Darby PA 19082  
 610-789-2525

Jeleen Briscoe-Reitz VMD, AVBP(Avian)  
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 Matthew J Ryan Veterinarian Hospital  
 3900 Delancey Street  
 Philadelphia PA 19104  
 215-898-4680

Smoketown Veterinary Hospital  
 2487 Old Philadelphia Pike  
 Smoketown PA 19576  
 717-394-5542

Malvern Veterinary Hospital  
 545 S Warren Avenue  
 Malvern PA 19355  
 610-647-2626

Glen Croft Veterinary Hospital  
 Harold L Russell DVM  
 4 E Glenolden Ave  
 Glenolden PA 19036  
 610-583-2200

Conchester Animal Hospital  
 Kathleen Tracy DVM  
 530 Conchester Hwy  
 Boothwyn PA 19061  
 610-485-6007

Limerick Veterinary Hospital  
 Limerick PA 19468  
 610-489-2828

Larkin Veterinary Center  
 Jessica K Stephens  
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**\*If you have a vet not listed here, please provide the information and the page will be updated\***

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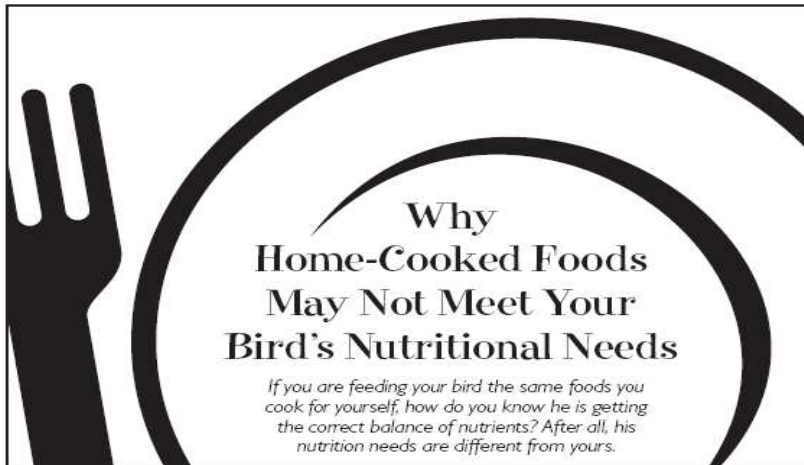
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## CLUB CONTACTS

### Officers

**President** Tom Neill  
(610) 622-2508

Email : atntjn@msn.com

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** Connie Metz  
(610) 604-3316

Email: Conniecmm1@aol.com

**Secretary** Colleen Robinson  
(610)212-6369

Email Colleenrsee@yahoo.com

**Treasurer** Christine Phelps  
(610) 833-2625

Email: Birdnanny@netscape.com

### **Member Representatives:**

Debbie Park(484)461-3640

Email: Debbiescockatiels@yahoo.com

Linda Martin (610)789-1447

Francis Hilario(215)917-8073

Email: Frandelhisflyers@rcn.com

Erika Scarborough (610)626-3579 or

Email: Eala322001@yahoo.com

### Chairpersons

#### **Club Photographer**

Francis Hilario  
(215)917-8073

#### **Outreach Committee**

Esther Scholz  
(610) 446-6427

Email: Luvsbrds@msn.com

#### **Fundraiser**

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#### **Refreshment Table**

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Email: atntjn@msn.com

#### **Library**

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#### **Newsletter Editor**

Debbie Park

**(484)461-3640**

#### **Society Delegates**

National Cockatiel Society  
Debbie Park (484) 461-3640  
American Cockatiel Society  
Diane Baxter (302)369-8487

### Meeting Directions

**Meetings will be held at the Media Community Center, 4<sup>th</sup> & Monroe Sts, Media PA  
7:00 pm on the second Thursday of the month.**

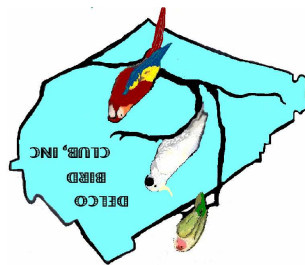
Take 476 (Blue Route) to the Media/Swarthmore Exit. Turn West onto Baltimore Pike. Follow Baltimore Pike six traffic lights to Monroe Street. Turn right onto Monroe. Turn left onto 4<sup>th</sup> street. The Hall is on your left and is handicapped accessible. If you have any questions, or need more directions, please call Tom Neill (610) 622-2508

### **Delco Bird Club Web Site: [www.delcobirdclub.com](http://www.delcobirdclub.com)**

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