

Sportsman Trails

Volume 1, Issue 2

April 2007

Pointer-Setter Wraps Up Season with Chukar trial

White's 13 year old pointer, Chessie, Dog of the Year

By Pat Barbera

are open to club members year-round.

The Pointer-Setter Division held the final field trial of the season March 10th. Thirty-two dogs ran in this division-only, season finale, Chukar Trial. The weather was just about perfect. The chukar were flying good. The food was spectacular. Scott Van Meter cooked up a delicious lunch of roast beef, country-style green beans, mash taters and gravy and chocolate cake. Yum, yum.

During the trial, each brace, (hunter and dog), was given 30 minutes to find, flush and harvest three chukar. Chukar, an upland gamebird, is a member of the pheasant family. This rotund bird is native to Asia and is the National bird of Pakistan. In regular season, open trials, hunter and dog find, flush and harvest 5 or 6 quail. If you've never been to a field trial, you should bring your pup and come on out. It's great fun and if you're new at the sport, there's always someone eager to show you the ropes, and there's never any shortage of dog training tips. You'll have to wait 'til next year for the next trial, but the dog training fields

Each year the Pointer-Setter division honors the Dog of the Year with a name plate on a permanent plaque in the P/S clubhouse. The award goes to the dog that points or flushes, then retrieves the most birds during the season. **This year, the Dog of the year award goes to 13 year old English Pointer, Chessie, owned by Frank White.** Frank's English Pointer, Lilly, took second place, followed closely by Austin Martin's 9 year old English Setter, Kate. Past year's winners include Troy Harrington's Riley, (04-05 and 05-06); and Riley's mother, Tess won in 01-02 and 03-04. Duty, owned by Russ Davis (02-



03); Dan Fister's Abby (99-2000); Cisco, owned by Dale Carrier (98-99); and Craig Phinney's Snap took the award in 97-98.

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SCOPE YOUTH NEWS

By Alison Yeager

Hi, this is Alison Yeager again with another update from the BGSL Youth. Things slowed down a little this winter. In January some of the youth participated in a rabbit hunt. Eight hunters, including adults, bagged five rabbits. The youth really enjoyed watching the dogs work. There were about eighteen rabbits run during the morning. Everybody had a great time.

In February we held a youth shed hunt. Seventeen people came and hiked,

looking for shed antlers. While we didn't find any sheds, we did see tracks, droppings, rubs, and even a few deer beds. Several awards were given out at the February meeting for LKS squirrel rifle champions. There were a number of club and district champions and even a few state champions. Congratulations to all the shooters. Great job!!

Come join us this spring for airguns and reactive targets. We are also having a youth turkey hunt (open to BGSL members only). There is always good food and fun times. Please join us!

BGSL Hour of Operation

April thru October: 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
November thru March: 9: a.m. to 6 p.m.

April Calendar

- 1st**
Muzzleloader Silver Shoot; USPSA/IPSC Matches starting
- 3rd**
General membership meeting 7:30 p.m.
- 7th**
Archery Open Shoot; NRA Basic Pistol Course; **New Member Orientation 9:00 a.m.**
- 8th**
NRA Basic Pistol Course
- 14th**
Youth Spring turkey hunt; Rifle Hi-Power Match; Pistol-IDPA Match
- 15th**
Air Gun Open Shoot
- 21st**
New Member Orientation 9:00 a.m.
- 22nd**
Muzzleloader Open Shoot; Cowboy SASS Match
- 24th**
Board Meeting
- 26th**
KY Home Builders Open Skeet Shoot
- 27th**
Muzzleloader Rendezvous; Pistol GSSF Match
- 29th**
Rifle Bench Rest Match; Sheet & Sporting Clays open shoots every Thur. from 2 to 10 p.m. & Sat. & Sun. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Blue Grass Sportsmen's League

President's Corner

My fellow Sportsmen,

It is spring, my chest is pumped up and puffed out and the BGS� logo is on my hat, my car and my lunch box.
"We ARE Blue Grass"

We shine right now; we have a brand new set of ranges as the construction project is now complete. I am very pleased with the end product. I highly recommend the contractor, Jenkins & Orange, to any who would have need of those services. Their knowledge, skill and professionalism were second to none and teamed with BGS�'s own Robby Mulchay, Richard Gehlbach, John Rouland, Clay Caudill and Ben Riffel, we had a smooth project and we came in under budget.

Many thanks to all that pitched in!

We do have issues to decide and solve on the back side of this project; 1. Budget and deal with the stored soil, 2. Analyze this project and put in place and affective policy for the next time and 3. Educate our members for the proper use of the self-serve ranges. The first two will probably be combined as both will have financial aspects that have never been budgeted before. The third one will have to be a joint effort for all of us. Those that know the proper use will have to be willing to help educate the rest and the rest have to be willing to be educated. BGS� will now change the way all new members will be orientated. A new program will start the 1st Saturday in April and we will take all new members to the range and they will be schooled in the proper use of the self-serve ranges. Look for more information in this issue.

The spring winds are blowing on the Handy's Bend farm and there are opportunities to have it at our backs. We have worked hard over the winter to set this up. The time is ripe; the club is in its best shape in years [maybe ever] and we have put in place many policies to step up the recruiting opportunities, the member service and community service opportunities. This only happens with your input, effort and help. The potential on this acreage is unlimited as it pertains to input from the membership and the results of that input.

I know we all have our own reasons for paying dues (\$) to the club and that is why we are so diverse, but the value of BGS� membership is the same for all, you become an "owner" of the finest facility in the land. When one joins this league, whether you are a shooter, plinker or a hunter, whether new to the shooting sports or have done this all your life, you must commit to being a sportsman. **That is not negotiable!** The term sportsman may mean different things to different folks but at BGS� it means:

{A committed effort to be better in all aspects of your skills, this club and all aspects of the community}

Now that is a very broad spectrum to consider however not hard to understand and not hard to adhere to. This league is not a YMCA, it is a member owned facility. That means you get out of it what you put into it. I don't think a lot of our members understand that. In order for this club to remain the value that it is, we must take every member to their

next level of their sportsmanship. We must get all members to realize the value of division association, to truly experience the social aspects of this league. The social aspects are the foundation our bricks are laid on and the mortar that holds them together.

The next time you come to the club, shake a hand, introduce yourself and make a new friend. Ask them if that shooter, shoots as sweet as it looks or if it kicks like the mule that it looks like. Does that Glock shoot any better than it looks? Do you know where I can get in on a dove shoot?

After all, if you can't ask these questions here, where can you ask them? You are more likely to find a new friend

here as anywhere. I've made dozens of friends over the years and wouldn't trade them for anything. I know if we try to bring each of our sportsmanship levels up, we will. I have challenged each Division to educate the membership to the value of their venue and I challenge each of you to learn the value of Division association.

As we approach the long light of summer and the warm weather, resolve to bring a guest this summer and or make a new friend. Resolve to be more active with the league and discover the true value of membership in the finest sportsmen's club in the state. Realize that you own this entire facility and you have input in the future of it. Take long look at the BGS� logo and see if doesn't inspire you.

At your service,
Greg Delabar
president@bgslinc.com



Blue Grass Sportsmen's League

From the BGS� Chaplain

According to all reports, the Groundhog did *not* see his shadow last month; which means we should have an early Spring! I am very pleased with that forecast; I just hope it is so. In the meantime, I am still suffering from cabin fever. I want to go fly-fishing; I want to go camping; I want to go shooting! (As I write this, the ranges at the club are still closed for berm repair, or I *would* go shooting, cold or not.)

In the Church, we are in the season called Lent.



Lent is the six weeks just before Easter; it is a time of reflection, prayer, and spiritual discipline. This is all part of the preparation for the celebration of our most important day of the year: Easter. The word Lent is from the

Old English word, *Lenten*, which means to lengthen, as the days are now getting longer.

Since I am accustomed to be making spiritual preparations this time of year, it seems only natural to be making ordinary preparations as well. (continued page 5)

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Archery: elevated platform is here

In an effort to improve general use facilities in our part of the club, the Archery Division in partnership with the main club has built an elevated shooting platform. There has been a long-term interest shared by many to provide a platform to simulate shooting from a tree stand. Next time you are at the club come down and check out the tower at the archery division. Our existing archery range and this tower is for club member's general use, not just for archery division members.

A 3D range is also available at the archery division. The range of 15 targets is in place in the woods and is not visible from the archery clubhouse. The start and end of the course is marked by some flagging tape hanging in some trees. If you are standing on the archery range look to the right along the woods edge and you will see the marking tape. This course can be shot any-

ARCHERY TOWER RULES:

1. Ground shooters have the right of way
2. Visually make sure everyone is behind the range line and ANNOUNCE HOT RANGE from the tower before shooting
3. Shooter must stand on box and only shoot down range toward targets
4. NO BROAD HEADS
5. Maximum of 8 people on tower.
6. No unattended youth under eighteen years of age
7. No shooting below the rail
8. No food or drink
9. Must be 4' 8" tall to shoot

time. THERE IS A FEE TO SHOOT THE 3-D COURSE as we need to recoup target costs. Consider this a day pass and shoot the course as many times as you would like per day. \$5 for BGS� members, Archery

Division members \$3, for \$40 you can purchase an annual pass to shoot this course anytime you want. \$40 also buys you an archery division membership. We'll even show you the secret handshake. Drop monies in the black 'honor box' on the front of the archery division clubhouse. Feel free to put your info, suggestions, complaints etc. in this box as well. Make sure you provide your personal information in the box if you want to invest in an annual pass. We will send you a card. Come by and visit us at our monthly meeting/shoot the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM. Mar. 14 is the next meeting date. Saturday March 10 and April 7 we are hosting an open 3-d shoot. Start the 30 target course anytime from 9AM to 2PM. \$10 fee.

Blue Grass Sportsmen's League

President's Corner

My fellow Sportsmen,

My apologies for the absence from this newsletter, my profession and this job takes a toll on my time occasionally and I just didn't get it done. While I was away from writing this column, we have done some exciting things here on the club and set some "BGSL Standing Policies" that should greatly enhance our membership rolls. Our membership rolls are what pays the bills and we must bring them up. With each dues increase, we suffer a high attrition rate which is to be expected, now that we are completely through the billing cycle of our existing members; attrition should fall back to normal. The new standing policies should further grow our ranks with disciplined new members that will grow into sportsmen very quickly. These policies are posted in this edition of the Sportsmen's Trail and I hope you all will learn them, pass the word and make welcome the new members we will gain. I will speak to the new policies in those articles.

As you may remember, we had a job to do this winter; we spoke of it over the last several months. Our ranges and their berms were in need of attention, the club is addressing those needs as I write this article and should be complete by the time you receive this March issue. We've completely refaced the backstop berms with clean material on the General Purpose, Rifle, Pistol Bullseye and Muzzle Loader ranges. Along with this work, the BGSL Pistol Division has cleaned the Action Shooting Pits and expanded them by adding 2 more bays in pit #1. On the other side of this work, we will have a great looking and functional set of ranges. This work has been needed for some time and we cannot again wait 16 years to reface our berms.

Spring is about to blossom on the club and in our lives. It is hard

to imagine spring at this time of year but it will be here before you know it. The first time you get back to the club this spring, think about bringing a friend and start the recruitment of a new member.

At your service,

Greg Delabar
president@bgsline.com

Board Meeting Minutes (continued from page 2)

Those who have attended a previous TDSA class may audit the same level class for a \$150 fee. The first AP-1 and AP-2 classes will be limited to 20 students with no more than 10 auditing. The second AP-1 class will be held if the first class is full and will be limited to 10 students (5 maximum auditing) if there are at least 8 signed up. The class will need classroom and Pit #2 (cap pit) for the classes.

A motion was unanimously carried to approve **NRA Women on Target program sponsored by Amy Yeager on the following dates: March 24, 2007 Women on Target College Women May 5, 2007 Women on Target** all women. Program will involve 5 different venues and their ranges. Venues will be contacted and coordinated by Amy Yeager. Clubhouse will be needed for registration and lecture.

A motion was unanimously carried to approve the **second Monday of each month for a Quail Forever meeting at the Pointer and Setter Division Club House. Said meeting will tentatively start at 7:00 p.m.**

A motion was unanimously carried to approve the dates of **August 3rd and 4th for the Boy Scout shoot at the Skeet and Sporting Clays Division with a camp out both nights.**

A motion was unanimously carried

to approve open Archery shoot on March 10, April 7 and the May date to be set at a later date.

A motion was carried to go into closed session. A motion was carried to leave closed session and adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 10:17 p.m.

Russell Steel and Jim Galvin's Road Kill Café

Looks like we added several new members at the Boat Show, a BIG THANK YOU to all that came out to help staff our booth. We are also well on our way to developing a maintenance schedule to keep our club in good repair and the finest sportsmen's club in America. Notice I said KEEP, we do indeed have a World Class sports club and it is a privilege to be a member and your duty to make sure that everyone that is on YOUR property, performs in a



safe and sportsmen like manner.

March menu:

Bar-B-Q

Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, French fries
Pickles, Beer Cheese & Crackers
Cookies

All for the price of your membership!

So come on down to the Clubhouse on the first Tuesday of the month, let's hear what you have to say! Remember there is no CLUB without U

See U at the club!

DENNIS WEST

Blue Grass Sportsmen's League

From the BGS� Chaplain

Continued from page 3

So, to help with the cabin fever, I am tying a bunch of dry flies and nymphs to be ready for the trout when the ice melts off the streams. Also, I am reloading as many pistol rounds as I can to be ready for the ranges when they open.

I hope you, too, are taking part in Lent as preparation for Easter. Also, I hope you are preparing for the coming seasons of fishing, hunting, camping and shooting! And, as usual, I have some suggestions.

Tom's Tips

- Come to the Club Meeting and see what events all the divisions have planned. You might want to try something new.
- Come to the Club Meeting and meet and get to know someone new. You might learn something.
- Come to the Club Meeting and enjoy a great meal from the Road Kill Caf . (I don't know how that helps prepare for Spring, but it's too good to miss!)
- Bring some kids to the Hunter Education class on March 16-17. You will help *them* prepare to be good sportsmen, and you will make the club stronger and better for everyone.

I look forward to meeting and talking with you. See you at the club.

Blessings, Tom

Morgan's Meanderings

Well, I guess you know how the winter time is here in Kentucky. You never know how the weather is going to treat you until it slaps you in the face and sniggers at what it did to all your wonderful plans.

With all this frigid air blustering about my ears and ankles I've been sticking pretty close to the furnace (I

am get'n too lazy to haul the wood and build a fire in the perfectly good fire place) and taking lots of naps, all covered up with puppies and kitties which like to stay warm also. The days have been kind of gray and I just could not get up the steam to do some constructive work. You know how it is when you have forty eleven things to do and don't know which one to start on first, so you look for a good excuse to not do anything.

About the time I got good and settled under a layer of fur, one day, the phone rang and I said "to heck with it" and stayed right where I was. However, the caller was pretty insistent and went right ahead and left a message on the answering machine. When I finally returned his call, it turned out to be ole Byron Daniels and he likened as how "he was pretty busy this weekend and besides he had busted up his video camera and could I go over to the BGS� and cover the **UK Invitational Early Bird Special Event**". I replied in my nicest tone that I would be just tickled pink to do so and so I done it. One of the reasons it was so easy to talk me into this job was that I had also checked the Calendar on our BGS�INC.com web site and I noticed that there was a **Pointer/Setter** field trial going on that week end. **WOW!** My chance to mess around with some real dogs; not those spoiled brats of mine.

Now, I want you to know that this Trap-Skeet-Sporting Clays Tournament was no small event. I did not get all the final statistics but there were a whole bunch of Colleges and Universities signed up for this and I think most of them showed up. You realize, of course, that shot gunners do their thing in all kinds of weather where bass fishermen and pistol people usually hide out in their basement during inclement weather. It was a real inspiration to see all those younger people out there dedicated to their sport and digging in to their responsibility. I know that not everything went as smooth as silk (does it ever?) but these team members from UK took the bull by the horns and led by Jordan Stapp, they did a

swell job under adverse conditions. Think of the experience opportunity this gave these youngsters (I can get away with saying that because I am an "oldster"). Experience always helps hone perfection and I am sure they got a bunch of it. I was also impressed by the fact that there were several female team members out there. Charcoal was charring, hot chocolate was being swilled and coffee was being partaken of. It looked to me as if any shooter who happened to not be too successful this day would at least not go away hungry and could report to his mother or dorm warden that he or she was full as a tick and did not want to be bothered until class time on Monday morning. After getting some ample footage of the above events I decided to meander over to the Pointer/Setter settlement to see what I could unearth. What I found were some "real" men standing out in a snow storm. Now mind you, they had a fire barrel but had let it go out and instead of retiring to their warm clubhouse quarters, they were all grouped around the open barn door throwing ample supplies of verbal bovine droppings in all directions except where it would do any good. Most of them did not even have boots on. As many of you already know, these guys place birds out in a field and then take turns trying to get their dogs to seek out and point or flush these said birds. I do not know exactly how they score this game but it is quite challenging and I love to watch those doggers do their stuff. One of the hunters was a young fellow who was being mentored by (I make an assumption here) his father and off they went to the field (that is: dog, young man and mentor) to try their best to be the best out there. This is possibly where blood (genetics) will tell. I got some pretty good footage of people in hunter orange staggering around in a snow storm, which would make you want to believe that they really liked to do this. At least the dogs convinced me that they were enjoying themselves. I think Byron will be happy.

Blue Grass Sportsmen's League

Youth Mentoring Opportunities

The BGS� Youth Committee offers a first class program for the youth of Central KY and a first class opportunity for the members of the league. That opportunity is to be a part of the next level of sportsmanship, to participate with or direct youth and families to the program. We've been in the youth business for 10 years now and the club / shooting sports world have benefited from the Committee's hard work in the form of new members and educated youth. Please consider joining these fine folks and experience the satisfaction of mentoring the shooting sports for yourself.

BGS� YOUTH DIVISION

Free Outdoor Activities for Kentucky Youth

2006 LKS / BGS� Squirrel Rifle Champions

First Quarter Events 2007

Mar 16th & 17th – Hunter Education

6:30 PM BGS� Main Clubhouse

Come and get your orange card just in time for spring Turkey season. Instructors will teach you about sportsmanship, ethics, survival, game care and much more. This course includes range time, shooting various firearms.

Spring Turkey Season on the BGS�

The BGS� BoD has approved the entire spring turkey season for the youth to hunt and learn the wily ways of the bearded gobbler.

Upcoming Events

Dates to be finalized later in the year
LKS Squirrel Rifle Shoots / Archery Shoot
Muzzleloader Shoot / Fishing Tournament
Cowboy Action Shoot / Airgun Shoot
Campout/Night hike / Family Fun Days
High Power Rifle Shoot / Mentored Youth Hunts

Contact Info:

www.youth@bgsline.com

Committee Members:

Jim and Amy Yeager - 859-319-2686

859-319-2685

Greg Richardson - 859-885-7471

Donny Young - 859-608-7843

Greg Delabar - 859-539-1634

The Governor Visits the BGS�

Ernie Fletcher visited the club as a candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor. As you may know Ernie is a BGS� member and was invited home to BGS� with the Lincoln Day Chili cook off sponsored by the



Republican Party of Jessamine County on Saturday Feb 10th. (Yes, they can spell / the printer can't)

The Governor did bring a pot of chili and it joined 9 others. While Ernie's chili didn't win the blue ribbon it was a blue ribbon day at the Blue Grass Sportsmen's League.

We should think about a BGS� Chili Cook-off contest and invite the Governor back for what would be a bowl of blue ribbon chili (no doubt mine!). **Submitted by:** Greg Delabar

BGS� BoD Adopts New Membership Policies

At the January meeting of the BGS� Board of Directors, the body heard from an active Membership Committee. The Committee offered 3 new policies and 1 change to the existing Military Policy. Effective immediately, the BGS� will allow all full-time students, all full-time military; all sworn peace officers and all firefighters / EMT's to join the club without the burden of the initiation fees.

These policies are right inline with Article II of the BGS� Constitution and are the very thing to help us reach our recruiting goals and give back to our community. Once again the BGS� leads the way in the shooting sports world. The combination of these and the new youth mentoring policy put the BGS� at the top and a big reason to be very proud to be a BGS� Member.

BGS� Military Service Policy

It will be the standing policy of the Blue Grass Sportsmen's League to support our U.S. Military Troops while deployed on active duty away from their homes in central Kentucky. This policy will cover all branches of the military to include National Guard and all Reserve personnel whether deployed overseas or on garrison mission's here in America outside of the state of

Blue Grass Sportsmen's League



Pistol Division

By Carole Bryant

IDPA: The February match was cancelled due to berm renovation. Join us for our April match on Saturday the 14th. Sign-in 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. New shooters need to be there at 9:30 for the new shooter check.

Match fees have increased to \$20. BGSL members continue to get a \$5 discount. Juniors shoot for \$10. The increased fees will help pay for the work on the shooting pits and the two new bays. With this increase in match fees, we will now shoot at least 6 stages each match if we can get enough Safety Officers (SO).

We are offering an SO training class Saturday, May 5, 2007. The cost will be somewhere between \$6 and \$10 which covers materials and SO Student packet. SOs shoot the match they work for free and will shoot with their squad. Please contact Lin Edwards, (859) 273-2768 or rledwards@att.net if you are interested.

Junior shooters who are not accompanied by either a parent or legal guardian must have the Youth Handgun Consent Form filled out and the signature of their parent or guardian notarized or witnessed if their parent or guardian is not with them to sign it at the time of match sign-in. This form and more info are available at www.IDPAatBGSL.com

IPSC/USPSA: The March match was cancelled due to berm renovation. The next match is April 1. There has been some interest in BGSL hosting a NROI training class. Gary Stevens has been kind enough to volunteer to teach. The class will probably be in April or May. Please contact Barry West, (859) 885-9710 or e-mail: vikingtactical@alltel.net if you are interested. New and more help at matches is needed and appreciated. It is the future of the sport.

Bullseye: Now that spring is here, Bullseye practice will move outdoors beginning April 4. For more information Contact Glen Wood (859) 492-4668 or glenwood@clarkmhc.com.

Cowboy: The Fox Bend Peacemakers began their ninth year of Cowboy Action Shooting March 25th. Fox Bend was the first SASS (Single Action Shooting Society) affiliated club in Kentucky holding its first match in March of 1999. The match winner was Driftwood, a.k.a., Glen Wood, BGSL member and bullseye shooter. Maybe that paper target shooting helped???

"Fox Bend" is derived from the original name of BGSL's facility which was indeed used for fox hunting. "Peacemakers" was the marketing name coined by the B. Kittredge & Co., of Cincinnati, Ohio, for Colt's Single Action Army (SAA), first produced by Colt in 1873. More has been written about the SAA than any other Colt firearm. It is frequently referred to as "the gun that won the west." Fox Bend also hosted the first and second SASS Kentucky State Championships in 2000 and 2001. 2007 Matches will be held April 22, May 27, June 24, August 26, September 23 and the third Sunday of October on the 21st. There will be no match in July. Signups begin at 8:00 a.m. followed by a safety briefing at 9:30. Shooting begins at 10 a.m. Match fees are \$10 for BGSL members and \$15 for non members. Youth shoot for \$5.00. SASS rules apply but you do not have to be a member of SASS to shoot. Matches take place in Pistol's Division practical shooting pits. For more information visit: foxbend.com and sassnet.com.

BGSL Contacts: Tiny Texarkana, SASS #22925 Territorial Governor, Terry_L_Hager@yahoo.com 859.885.3058 and Tioga Kid, SASS #27950, BGSL Coordinator/Match Director byron-daniel@windstream.net 859.333.9838

The plate rack and stat shack have been re-keyed month. If your dues are current see Lin Edwards, Richard Gehlbach or Barry West for a new key.

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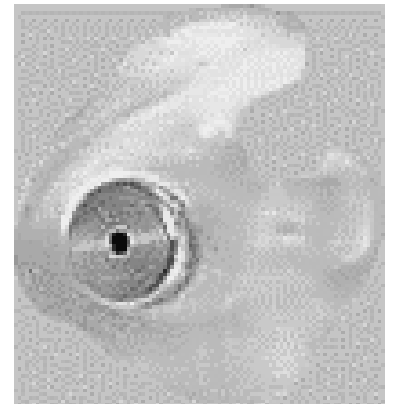
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