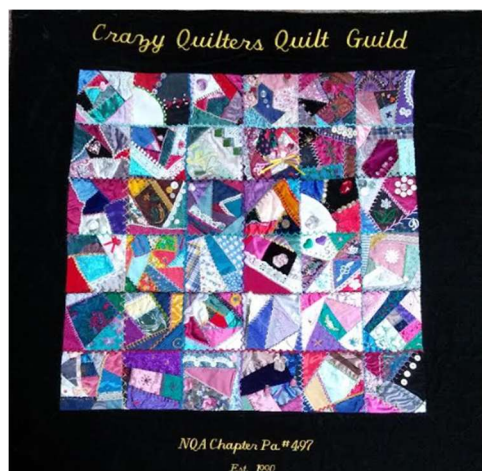




Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild

We Are Crazy About Quilting

No. 415

www.crazyquilters.org

October 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Katrina Idleman

Orange, crimson, terracotta, ochre, brown, eggplant, red – October brings to mind vividly colored leaves against achingly blue skies. Nature's palette inspires me!

Where do you find quilting inspiration? Do you favor books or magazines to spark new ideas? How about a favorite quilter who blogs and shares their work online? Maybe workshops are your thing – hands on with your favorite fabrics, the energy of learning something new among coconspirators, and the happy hum of a room full of sewing machines. You may draw inspiration from admiring quilts displayed at the Allentown Fair or the Philadelphia National Quilt Show Extravaganza in Oaks. Once inspired, we mentally spring into action, designing our quilt, choosing the colors, imagining the final product. Some inspirations remain in "dream space", some lead to quilts that get started and put aside in life's jumble, some come to fruition as finished quilts that are proudly displayed or presented as gifts. Sometimes we need help along the way.

On reflection, I note that our monthly meetings provide me with multiple sources of inspiration and support as I quilt my way along. My battery gets recharged and I approach ongoing projects with new energy...even if only in brief spurts! My hope is that you find our time together enriching as well. Enjoy perusing this month's newsletter. Admire last month's show and tell, preview upcoming programs and workshops, consider our upcoming challenge and community service projects. It's all here. See you on October 6th!

The Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild
meets the first Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m.
at Calvary Baptist Church-Allentown

Guild Officers

President: Katrina Idleman
Vice-President: Karen Rush
Secretary: Jane Rossetti
Treasurer: Kathy Moore
Programming Officer: Jessica Dayon
Membership Officers: Irene Oehmke & Nancy Snyder

Guild Calendar

Monthly Guild Meeting: Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Sit 'n Sews: In-person, October 17, 10:15 – 4:00;

Virtual: October 28, 1:30 – 4:00



Programs

Jessica Dayon

October 6, 2026 – Lilo Bowman- Love Where You Create: It's Not a One Size Fits Solution

Our studios are deeply personal spaces — filled with the tools, materials, and ideas we love. But when things start piling up, even the most beloved studio can become overwhelming, frustrating, or simply unusable. If you find yourself spending less time creating because your space no longer supports how you work, it may be time for a thoughtful refresh. In this lecture, Lilo Bowman shares practical, realistic approaches to shaping a creative space that fits your life right now—your space, your budget, and your working style. Drawing on real artist studios and lived experience, she offers adaptable ideas rather than rigid rules. Participants leave with renewed confidence, fresh perspective, and actionable ideas they can apply immediately to create a studio that feels supportive, functional, and inviting again.



NEW: October 24 – 25, 2006 – Global Quilt Connection's Sampler Plater –

Mark your calendars for this two-day FREE online event sponsored by the Guild. You'll be surprised what you can learn in 15 minutes! Twenty-three teachers will share a special technique, tool or tip with you to help you conquer a skill or broaden your horizons. Sessions run from 3:00 – 6:00 PM each day. Instructors' worksheets and a link to the Zoom event will be made available about two weeks prior to the event.

November 6, 2026 – Patricia Belyea- Indigo Adventures in Japan

ZOOM ONLY – NO LIVE MEETING DUE TO VOTING AT CALVARY.

Join Patricia as she takes your guild to Japan for insider experiences to meet indigo masters, visit dyeing studios, tour an indigo farm, and more. Patricia finishes with a display of her own quilts, made with vintage Japanese cottons, and talks about how these special fabrics inspired her.

December 1, 2026 – Holiday Potluck Dinner and Silent Auction

In prior years, our online auctions have been so popular that a Silent Auction is being planned for December 1, 2026. This will be an in-person event with bid sheets, occurring during the Guild Potluck meeting. Anyone willing to help with setup and/or cleanup will be greatly appreciated. Please sign up at the October meeting or contact Cathleen at CathleenKilpatrick@gmail.com

What kind of items? We are looking for things that could be Christmas gifts, birthday gifts, or just indulge yourself. Of course, anything from the quilt/sewing realm is always welcome, but items need not be quilt/sewing related. (We all run households and have families with wants and needs.) And handmade items of an artistic or crafting nature are always very desirable.

If you would like to donate to the silent auction you can sign up at the October meeting or send a brief description of your donated item with a minimum bid of \$5 or more by November 28 to Cathleen at CathleenKilpatrick@gmail.com. Note: Any items not sold will be returned to you at the end of the meeting.

Drop off for items will be discussed at the Guild meeting and in the newsletter/email.

January 5, 2027 – Annual Guild Challenge Meeting at Calvary Baptist

**** See the details from your Challenge Chairs in their article below.**

PROGRAMS (Continued)

February 2, 2027 – Bea Byrne- Kick Out Your Inner Critic and Make It

Is everyone else making amazing quilts and yours don't seem to measure up? Or maybe you don't enter your quilts into shows because you don't think they're good enough? Or even you'd like to call yourself an Artist with a capital A but you're embarrassed. Anything sound familiar? Imposter syndrome is something that impacts almost everybody at some point. But there's good news! It doesn't have to control you. In this lecture we look at recognizing what's happening and how to conquer those fears. Ideal for encouraging people to enter quilt shows and share their work.

POSSIBLE ZOOM WORKSHOP with Bea Byrne

March 2, 2027 – Jody Beck- Jody's Jems Journey: The First 12 Years

Jody will share her quilting journey through many states and show the inspiration behind the first 21 Jody's Jems patterns.

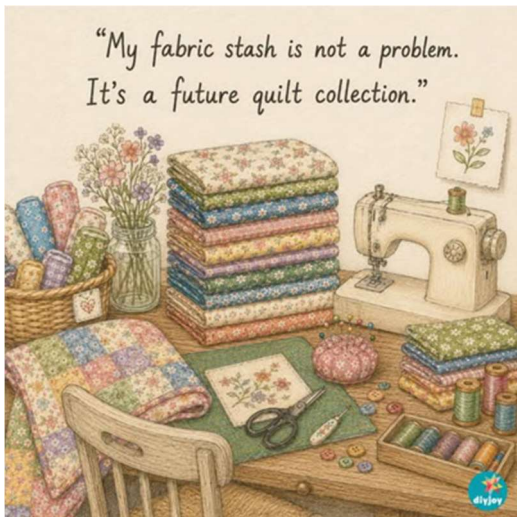
April 6, 2027 – Pending

May 4, 2027 – Margaret Fleisher- Discovery Through Repetition

Margaret will share her six 100 Day Projects and describe how daily practice, play and experimentation have increased her skills, broadened her outlook and helped her find her creative voice. All of this while having fun, too!

June 1, 2027 – Jamee Pemberton- From Gifts of Love to Finding my Artist Voice

This lecture is a trunk show of my quilting journey. I fell in love right from the start with this art form; and with boundless energy, I jumped in with both feet passionately and prolifically making quilts! This enthusiastic lecture will include loads of quilts and my stories and inspirations for creating them. This lecture should leave you feeling reflective and joyful about your own quilt journey and hopefully will impart some inspiring ideas for your next creations!



IN PERSON WORKSHOP at Calvary Baptist

June 2, 2027 – Jamee Pemberton- Scrap Happy

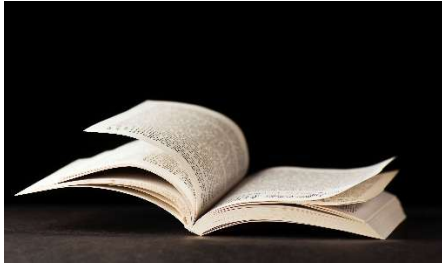
In this workshop we will explore many ways to organize and USE UP your scraps to make beautiful quilts. It is very rewarding to make beautiful things with leftovers. It also invigorates your creativity to "make do" with fabrics on hand. You can focus on only using scraps or selecting one fabric as a cohesive element while using your scraps. I will provide you with several patterns and ideas. Before the class you will be given a small homework assignment to organize your scraps before bringing them to the class. Plan to make a small quilt or project during this class. We will cover string quilts, made fabric quilts, rainbow quilts, working improvisationally and a whole lot more. Bring your scraps, I will also bring mine to share, and let's have fun. This is a full day workshop and runs from 9-3:30. Doors will open at 8 AM. Lunch will be 30 minutes.

July 6, 2027 – Pending

August 3, 2027 – Annual Social

Once again, it's time for a Bylaws update. Three or four Guild members are being sought for this task. The length of this process will depend on how many items we consider and when people are available to meet. (It is entirely possible to schedule this for after the holidays.)

Currently the agenda includes changes to duty descriptions of an officer and a couple of committees. Anyone who would like to volunteer or to make suggestions of any other Bylaw/Policy items that should be addressed, please contact Julie McDonell at JmacOne@ptd.net.



Off the Shelf – Books and Publications of Interest

Sue Marin

Quiltfolk magazine is offering a new publication of interest to quilters featuring Tula Pink. Tula Pink, a favorite designer for many of our members. It is available for \$22 from *Quiltfolk*. You do not need to have a subscription to purchase it.

Teresa Duryea Wong has a new book entitled *Old Quilts Made New: Finishing Antique Designs with Free Motion*. This guide offers tips for the oft-unexplored aspect of quilting: what to do with old, unfinished tops. The book is signed by the author, is available on her website for \$39.99. It is also available from Amazon and other online sites.

Does your sewing machine hold secrets? The one in Natalie Fergie's book *The Sewing Machine* does! This historical novel is set in 1911 Scotland where employees of the Singer factory are about to go out on strike. Follow two families' histories as they intertwine through Edinburgh, Clydebank, and Leith and decades of adventures and secrets until they are revealed in 2016.

If you've read a book or know of a publication that might interest our members, please forward the title, author, and other pertinent details to Sue Marin at marinmuse2@gmail.com.

The Great Allentown Fair - 2026

Several of our members entered quilts and other handcrafted items to this year's Allentown Fair. Many came home with ribbons. Our congratulations go out to everyone who entered.



Quilt Categories:

Dawn Martrich – Best of Show (left)
Julie McDonell – First Place
Karen Hartzell –
Diana DeFanti - Baby Quilt – Second Place; and
BOM by Sherri McConnell – Second Place
Sue Marin – Small Wall Hanging (Pineapple Block)

Cross Stitch:

Sue Marin – Scene – Third place



Turn Something Old into Something New

Everyone is invited to participate in this year's quilt challenge. This year's challenge will be a little different because there will be two main categories: Upcycled/Recycled and America 250.

For Upcycled/Recycled, make a quilt or other item using repurposed fabric from old clothes or an old quilt. The idea is to take something old such as fabric from an old garment or an old quilt and make something new. You can use leftover fabric from a quilt project to make something different, but don't just remake the same over again. You can also take an item of clothing and transform it. (Remember the examples that Bethanne Nemesh showed us?) The possibilities are endless for this challenge.

*** Note: if you are using an old garment or quilt, if possible, please take a picture of it. We will show the photo with your finished item so people can see the transformation.**

For America 250, create something to celebrate America's 250th birthday. It can be red, white, and blue or it can feature something that is all American.

For both of these options, we will have the following categories: • Large Quilt (40" X 40" or larger) • Small Quilt (less than 40" X 40") • Other (placemats, totes, garments. Wearable art, etc.) • Original (any product, quilt or otherwise, that was not a purchased pattern created by someone else. This must come out of your own imagination. (If your product was inspired by another creator, please give them credit).	In addition, we will have some other special awards: • Best Quilt that falls into both categories • Best Use of Color • Best Workmanship • I Wish I Made That
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Better Done Than Perfect

Kim Carlo

How are you all doing on your unfinished projects? We are halfway through this project year. Many of you have shown completed projects over the last few months. Keep up the good work!

Throughout the year, if you finish a project on your list, bring it to the guild meeting. We will have a special show and tell for these projects. For each project you complete, your name will go into a drawing. The more projects you finish (from your list), the more times your name will go into the drawing. **Note: The quilt must be finished, not just a top. It must be quilted and bound.**

The last meeting to bring your completed projects is April 6, 2027. At the end of the drawing, we will draw a name and that person will win the money collected at the start of this challenge in 2026.

Contact Kim Carlo with any questions.

Quilter's Studio

Jessica Dayon

Due to special circumstances and upcoming events, we will not hold a Quilter's Studio until February 2027.

The in-person Sit 'n Sew at Faith Presbyterian has been rescheduled to **Saturday, October 17, 10:15 – 4 pm**. Bring your project or work on Community Service projects. Thanks again, Sandy O'Connor and Laurie Murray for agreeing to open and close the doors at Faith.

Virtual Sit 'n' Sews from May through October will be held on the 4th Wednesday of each month. The time will alternate between evening (6:30 – 8:30 PM) and afternoon (1:30 – 4 PM). The virtual Sit 'n' Sew for October will be **held Wednesday, October 28 from 1:30 PM to 4 PM**.



Hospitality

Diana DeFanti & Sandy O'Connor

Many thanks to the members who contributed to our refreshment table in September 2026. They were: Karen Hartzell, Pat Piasecki, Donna Gasser, Doreen Gramling, Quinn Pagano, and Lorraine Bujnowski. We also had a few extra items provided by an angel.

Members who signed up to bring an item in October are Cathy Schadler, Nancy Sheffield, Lori Smith, Sue Marin, Roberta Whitcomb, Nancy Skok and Georgene Gilligan. A reminder will be sent prior to the next meeting.

Membership

Irene Oehmke & Nancy Snyder

We had over 70 people in attendance at the September meeting with 4 on zoom, 1 guest, and 4 new members. Several members renewed their membership.

We will be accepting renewals, either by mail or in-person at the October general meeting. Dues for the year are \$45.00. Please make your checks payable to 'Crazy Quilters Quilt Guild' or pay in cash, with exact amount of \$45.00.

At the September meeting we welcomed 4 new members! **Clare Hassock** is a retired dental hygienist with 3 children and 4 grandchildren. **Linda Green** lives in Bethlehem. **Julie Johnson** is a retired from IT from a school district in FL. She moved to PA to be closer to Family and Friends. She enjoys her Moxie Longarm, cooking, reading, camping (glamping), cross stitch and canning. **Janet Anderson** is a retired cytotechnologist who worked for LVHN for over 37 years. She and her husband love to travel and ride bicycles. She has 3 sons, 3 DIL, and 3 grandchildren with another on the way! She is a member of a book club, knitting circle, and her church's bell choir. Welcome to the guild Ladies!

Happy Birthday!

Lois Drendall	Oct 2
Michele McLaughlin	Oct 4
Roberta Whitcomb	Oct 4
Ann Lineberger	Oct 5
Nancy Scholz	Oct 13
Patricia Richardson	Oct 15
Debbie Rihl	Oct 20
Maria Hance	Oct 24
Patricia Piasecki	Oct 29
Judy Walker	Oct 29

Community Service

Dawn Dengler, Kathie Laposata & Pat Piasecki

Last call for quilted placemats and 2027 calendars for our November donation to Meals on Wheels Greater Lehigh Valley (MOWGLV)

Because November's CQQG meeting will be online only, please bring your completed quilted placemats and unwanted 2027 calendars to one of the following:

Tuesday, October 6th meeting at Calvary Baptist,

Saturday, October 17th Sit and Sew at Faith Presbyterian at 3002 N 2nd St, Emmaus, or

Friday, October 23rd to the autumn **Community Service Sewcial** at the Emmaus Branch of New Tripoli Bank, 4892 Buckeye Rd. from **10am - 3pm** (cleaning up by 4). We hope many of you will join us at the Sewcial for part or all of the time to make placemats to add to our Guild's annual donation.

Use some of the committee's fabric and batting or bring your own.

Pull-up to the bank entrance temporarily to unload equipment, but then park in the farthest row, by the grass.

Go through the first door on the right (inside the entrance) and take the elevator to the well-lit basement room.

At September's meeting, we collected:

27 calendars and 61 placemats to add to our annual autumn donation for the 800+ clients of Meals on Wheels Greater Lehigh Valley, <https://www.facebook.com/MOWGLV>

22 pillowcases for hospitalized kids, to be distributed to local hospitals by the Lehigh Valley-Berks chapter of Ryan's Case for

Smiles, <https://www.facebook.com/people/Case-for-Smiles-Lehigh-Valley-Berks-Chapter/61587626488524/>

14 chemo port-protecting pillows which will be distributed through the free wig shop at Cancer Support Community - Greater Lehigh Valley

(CSCGLV), <https://www.facebook.com/cancersupportglv>

32 breast cancer comfort pillows, some of which went to CSCGLV and the others went to The CHEMO Bag,

<https://www.facebook.com/TheChemoBag/>, for distribution in their Bag of Hope totes.

11 preemie blankets for LVHN NICU babies

19 preemie prone bears for LVHN NICU babies

8 baby blankets for Cay Galgon Life

House, <https://caygalgonlifehouse.org/>

2 teddy bears for EMTs to give to kids experiencing trauma

1 wheelchair blanket for a local nursing home

3 quilted lap robes for Veterans in Hospice (to be distributed by the American Legion)



This makes our donated Community Service sewn item totals for the Guild's fiscal year 2025-2026 over 2,000 items!!!

632 placemats for clients of Meals on Wheels Greater Lehigh Valley (256 included in last autumn's total donation of 410 placemats)

328 pillowcases for hospitalized kids

279 preemie blankets for LVHN NICU babies

76 preemie prone bears for LVHN NICU babies

86 Quilts of various types and sizes donated to Quilts of Valor, local nursing homes, Cay Galgon Life House, Family Promise, The Kindness Project, the American Legion for Veterans in Hospice

Wow! Thank you all for your generous, great work!

Crazy Quilt Retreat

Sandy O'Connor

Get ready! It's time for the Crazy Quilt Retreat! Just as the last several years, the retreat will be held at the Blue Lake House 14 Ross Rd. Denver PA 17517. The retreat length will be 5 days like last year. The dates for this Sew/Vacation are Wednesday, November 11th, to Sunday, November 15th.

Set up your sewing machine for the 5-day sew! SEW, SHOP, EAT, REPEAT! It's all FUN! Sleep and relax too, your call!

The cost for all four nights is \$287.00 per person. We can take 14 people. If some people want to room together, we can take a few more. Call now to reserve your spot.

More information will be sent in October to those who have signed up. Last year we planned on some additional activities to do during the retreat. If you're interested in the retreat, please text / call Sandy O'Connor at 484-225-7864 or email Sandrabasket@yahoo.com.



For Sale:



Janome Continental M8 Professional is an advanced, high-performance sewing machines. 13.5-inch throat space for bulky layers and large quilts. Maximum sewing speed of 1,300 stitches per minute. Includes the A.S.R. (Accurate Stitch Regulator) for precise free-motion quilting. Features 450 built-in stitches up to 9mm wide, managed via a 7-touchscreen. Retail for \$9000; will sell for \$7000. Only 6 months old.

If interested, contact Cassandra Kriley at C.Kriley@yahoo.com.

Standing Committees

Challenge: Kim Carlo, Debra Goodwin & Quinn Pagano

Community Service: Dawn Dengler, Kathie Laposata & Pat Piasecki

Fundraising & Ways & Means: TBD

Historical: Karen Hartzell

Hospitality: Diana DeFanti & Sandy O'Connor

Newsletter & Communications: Susan Marin

Publicity: Linda Wojciechowski

Quilters Studio: Jessica Dayon

Retreat: Sandy O'Connor

Show and Tell: Suzanne Nelson & Lori Maurer

Sit & Sew: Linda Wojciechowski (In-Person) &

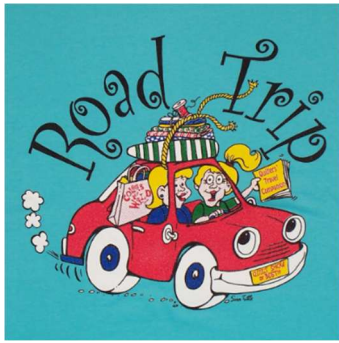
Cathleen Kilpatrick (Virtual)

Sunshine and Shadows: Linda Anderson

Technology: Kim Carlo, Katrina Idelman, Cathleen Kilpatrick, Gail Shearer

Website: Nancy Scholz

Reminder: Newsletter Deadline is always the 21st of the Month
Mark your calendars!



UPCOMING EVENTS 2026

July 5-Nov 5 -- Schwenkfelder Library & Heritage Center presents a quilt exhibit by Jamee Pemberton, *From Gifts of Love to Finding My Artistic Voice* [Changing Exhibits — Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center](#)

October 2-3 – Berks Quilters Guild quilt show, “Quilts from the Heart of Berks”, Leesport Farmers Market, 312 Gernants Church Road, Leesport, PA.

October 9-10 – Keystone Quilters Quilt Show, “Freedom of Expression”, Finland Mennonite Church, 1750 Ziegler Rd, Pennsburg, PA. [Keystone Quilters](#)

Saturday October 10 – Penn Rose Quilt Guild Craft Show Sales at the Chrin Craft/Vendor & Yard Sale from 9:00 – 2:00. The Guild will be offering 40 bolts of Fabric at \$4.00 a yard. Handmade boutique items will also be for sale.

Sunday, October 11, about Noon to 3 pm - Group Chemo Port Pillow Making in Memorial Hall (on the main floor inside the north/grove/Neffs entrance) at Union UCC, 5550 Rte 873, Neffs, PA
Stay as much or as little of the time as you're able. If you're bringing a sewing machine, please let Dawn Dengler know ahead of time to reserve a seat near an outlet. Otherwise, you can just show up and take turns prepping materials, sewing on someone else's machine, stuffing &/or bagging.

October 17 & 18 – Warwick Valley Quilter's Guild 2026 Show, Stars of the Valley, featuring Paula Nadelstern, Sanfordville Elementary School, 144 Sanfordville Rd., Warwick, NY

October 17 & 18 -- Courthouse Quilters Guild is proud to present the 2026 **Quilts in the Mill** Show, Prallsville Mills, Route 29, Stockton, NJ courthousequilters.org - [Quilt Show](#)

October 22-24 – [Faithful Circle Quilters' Guild](#) 2026 Quilt Show, Chesapeake Bay Blues Quilt Show. First Presbyterian Church of Howard County, 9325 Presbyterian Circle, Columbia, Md, 21045

Friday, October 23rd 10am - 3pm CQQG Community Service Sewcial at Emmaus Branch of New Tripoli Bank, [4892 Buckeye Rd](#). See Community Service section for details. Contact the Committee's Chairs with questions.

October 23-24 – [Valley Forge Homestead Quilt Guild Show](#), Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 132 E Valley Forge Road, King of Prussia, PA

October 24 & 25 – Global Quilt Connections Sampler Platter. This FREE online event is for Crazy Quilters' Quilt Guild Members only. Sessions run from 3-6 PM both days. If you can't make either of these dates, videos will be available for several hours after the initial presentation. For details, see page 2 of this newsletter.

October 23 – Nov 7 – 23rd Eastern PA Shop Hop. “Harvest Beauty” by Kansas Studio. Facebook.com/EasternPASHopHop

November 6-8 – Fall Harvest of Quilts, Pleasant Valley Community Firehall in Westminster, MD

November 14-15 – Newtown Quilters' Guild's 2026 Quilt Show at Newtown Middle School, 116 Newtown-Richboro Road, Newtown, PA 18940. Saturday's hours are 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Sunday's hours are 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM. Contact newtownquilters@gmail.com.

Workshops highlighted in red are Crazy Quilter Guild events.

If you discover any events to be added, please send to marinmuse2@gmail.com.

DECEMBER SILENT AUCTION

In prior years, our online auctions have been so popular that a Silent Auction is being planned for December 1. This will be an **in-person** event with bid sheets, occurring during the Guild Potluck meeting. Anyone willing to help with setup and/or cleanup will be greatly appreciated. Please sign up at the October meeting or contact Cathleen Kilpatrick.

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