

The

# **Healey Enthusiast**

Volume XIX No. 6

June/July 2008

# JULY ISSUE NOT TO BE PUBLISHED

**Editor Getting Married In June** 

Next Issue After This Will be August 1, 2008

# **EVENTS – SEE PAGES 6 AND 7**

## JUNE

- Wed. June 4 **President's Informal Evening** (see p. 3) Thur. June 5 **Rendezvous 2008** Sat. **Hill Clmb VII** June 14 Sat. June 21 **Paul Weidner Memorial Speed Run Amery** Fri. June 20 Back to the 50's June 25 Spridget Anniversay Dri. Sat. June 28 – August 3 Velocity Auto Art Show Sun. June 29 AHCA Conclave 2008 Sun. June 29 Intermarque Picnic JULY Wed. July 2 PIE (see p. 3) Sat. July 5 **Chetek Car Show** Sat. July 12 Annual Healey Gymkhana Tue. July 12 **Square Peg nite at Velocity Auto Art Hopkins** Sat. July 17 **Kohler Challenge** Sat. July 20 Lynch Barbecue and Short Tour Fri. **July 25** Drive in movie nite Fri. July 25-**Donneybrooke Vintage Revival at Brainerd Intermarque Picnic Cherokee Park** Sun. July 27 EARLY AUGUST British Car Nite at Velocity Auto Art Hopkins Fri. Aug 1 Sun. Aug 3 **Fun Rides for Kids**
- Wed. Aug 6 PIE

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### The Healey Enthusiast

June/July 2008

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### The President's Report

By Tom Moerke

#### Hi Gang

Oh, wow! In a few days we will be heading to Rendezvous in Pinawa, Manitoba. Its a long way there so we are leaving on Wed. after June is done work, meeting Rod Richert in Stillwater and then meeting Frank and Jane Howard and Andy Lindberg and Linda Larson at the McDonald's in Forest Lake.

We'll spend the nite in Virginia, Mn and my two high school classmates who live on the west coast will meet us there on Thur. morning. Then on to Intl. Falls and to Kenora, Ontario where we will make a left turn to Pinawa. AAA says its 547.1 miles from our home in Hudson to Pinawa and will take 9 hours and and 9 min. We'll see ! If anyone would care to join the group they would be most welcome.

Gary and Barb Ronning are developing a brochure on Rendezvous 2009 for us to hand out at Pinawa. Rendezvous 2009 will be held at the AmericInn in Ashland, Wi. on June 11 thru 14, 2009.

On Fri. evening Aug.1 there is going to be a pretty big shindig out in Hopkins at the Hopkins Art Ctr. We will be exhibiting our Healey's at Velocity the Art of Motion. The Mn. Austin-Healey Club, the Mn. MG Group, the Mn. Triumph Club, the Mn. Jaguar Club and the MG T Club are jointly sponsoring a car show that evening. We must not forget the Cold Spring Brewery who will be providing beer and root beer at the reception. We will want to exhibit our 10 best most exciting Healey models. We could decide which are the best of the best at our July PIE. Both Rod and I will be missing from the June PIE as we will be on our way to Rendezvous.

In the Thank You Dept. a big thank you to Dan Iberg and his crew at Midwest Motor Sports in Sauk Rapids for their open house . They are in a new location, very nice, and a very nice lunch was served and Rick installed a new radio in my Midget which has enabled me to listen to my Burl Ives cassettes. Nothing like Burl Ives. Since then they have fixed my heater, found and replaced a bad wheel bearing and a leaking master cylinder. Now I'm all set for our overland trip to a foreign country.

And a big thank you to the brave people who came to our Spring Awakening Tour, and not only the club members, but the people from other clubs who added a great variety to the group. How often do we see a MG Y sedan? Hope to see many of you up North !

#### THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST

The official publication of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club, THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST, is published 12 times per year for the benefit of its members. Articles which appear in THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST are the opinions of the authors and do not express the position of the Minnesota Austin Healey Club on any matter unless specifically noted. We do our best to ensure accuracy but cannot be held responsible for errors and omissions. Contributions are welcome on any subject related to Healeys, club members, or of general interest to the classic car hobby. Material from THE HEALEY ENTHUSIAST may be reprinted in any other publication provided reciprocal article use permission is granted by that publication. Deadline for submissions to the editor is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to the next issue. Classified ads are free for MAHC members, 55.00 for non-members. For display rates contact newsletter advertising. The Minnesota Austin Healey Club is affiliated with the Austin Healey Club of America.

### PIE (President's Informal **Evening**)

Date: Wednesday June 4th Time: 7:00 p.m. (or before) **Place: Fort Snelling Officers Club** 

This location is on Hwy. 5 (east of I-494) on the southeast side of the Mpls./St. Paul Intl. Airport. Exit at the Post Road ramp, turn south (east) towards the river and proceed on to the road heading for the park, take the first left and wind around to the Officers Club building.

Come and enjoy refreshments and/or food with the friendly club members, catch up on news & events, and discuss cars & restorations.

### Breakfast at the Peg

This casual event every Saturday morning about 8:00 continues to be very popular! Great food, reasonable prices, & friendly LBC car enthusiasts make it a great place to keep in touch. Meet in the room added on just for us!! The location again is:

**The Square Peg Diner** 2021 East Hennepin Ave. Mpls.



### **PIE REPORT**

#### **Bv Rod Richert**

Pie on May 7th was lead by your vice president because president Tom Moerke was attending the banquet celebrating the retirement from Hudson Schools of first lady June Moerke. Congratulations to June! June 4th's PIE at the Officer's Club will be hosted by Wayne Soderbeck as both your vice president and president will be on the road to Pinawa, Manitoba. The other and most significant change in routine is the suspension of the July newsletter as our editor Larry Nimmerfroh will be celebrating his wedding and departing on his honeymoon.

Greg Lauser took pledges for the "Cross Country Caravan For Kids" tour to AHCA Conclave 2008 in San Diego, CA, proceeds benefitting the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Rounded to 5,000 miles, Greg's recommended donations are \$50 roundtrip and \$25 one-way sponsorship.

Preregistration for the Afton Alps Hill Climb and the Paul Weidner Memorial Speed Event looks "MAHC" lean. Tom Hazen put in a plea for more vintage (car, not necessarily driver) participants.

Curt Carlson introduced Jeff Schlemmer of Advanced Distributors in Shakopee, MN who has done great work for Bob Featherly. A true entrepenuer, Jeff saw a need and created a business rebuilding distributors. Jeff says distributors are the most overlooked area restricting a car's performance. After 20 years, distributor springs are probably weak. Think of your 40 to 50 year old car. Jeff builds mock-ups out of piano wire that he sends to a spring maker and now has thousands in stock. Visit <www.advanceddistributors.com>.

In attendance and not already mentioned: Chuck Norton, Daniel Stromquist, Larry Nimmerfroh, Jack Stein, Spook Johns, Stu Johnson, Herb Miller, Wayne Soderbeck, Jan Huston, Dan Powell, Jeff Lumbard, Dave Lee, Randy Byboth, Andy Lindberg, Linda Larson, Jim Kriz, Ron Corazzo and new member Jeff Hollingworth and guests Brian Walsh and Tim Byboth.

Note: Still looking for my western states-Canadian provinces map with the route to Pinawa highlighted. Please return to: VFFP

NEXT PIE IS AT FORT SNELLING JUNE  $4^{TH}$ 

### SPRING AWAKENING By Tom Moerke

When I spoke up at the planning meeting in Dec. 07 to say that I would plan the spring tour I thought the weather would be nice and the leaves coming out on the trees and everything would be beautiful.

Well, it could have been worse. After days of rain the sun came out but the temp was about 50 degrees. That didn't stop several people from arriving at Birkmose Park in Hudson, Wi with their tops down.

The turnout was good with Jaguars, MGs, Austin-Healeys, Citroens, Cadillacs, and a Bugeye and a 4 door MG YA and a Porsche and a Lotus. The variety was outstanding.

We left the park and traveled east on county roads N and B to the Eau Galle Recreation Area. This is behind the largest earthen dam in the midwest or is it the largest in St. Croix Co. Anyway, its a big Dam. A great spot to go fishing, picnicing, swimming, boating. Mostly we used the toilets, flush ones.

Then on to an overlook of the area where everyone was forced to stand together for a group picture and on to the manditory cheese shop stop.

Then we drove north on highway 128 with a Rustic Road stretch and left on Wi. 64 to the Laurel Supper Club. The Laurel is well known for its prime rib dinners with popovers served with honey butter. We arrived at the Laurel at 5:15 and everyone left at 8:30.

I want to thank everyone who braved the elements and came to our "Spring Awakening" I hope they had as much fun as I did.

A sad note was that Mike and Gloria Lynch came all the way from Chanhassen and their wonderful Jaguar sedan quit running about 2 miles west of the St. Croix River. Several people stopped to see if they could help including Gary and Barb Ronning. The Ronnings stayed to help so long they missed the start of the tour but attempted to catch up with the group. Having no tour directions was a problem but they managed to beat the others

## The VP REPORT by Rod Richert

Preparations for Spring Awakening always seem a rush to the last minute. I remember one year replacing a dead battery at 9 p.m. the night before (oddly, the charger indicated it was fine). Saturday, May 3rd I was topping up the fluids after bleeding the brakes before heading to Birkmose Park. Friday I finished cooling modifications recommended by Chuck Norton--replacement of the stock 4 blade fan with a 6 blade fan and changing out the thermostat for a brass sleeve. This should be the cure for those un-nerving 190-plus degree Smith's readings.

Meeting on the bluff overlooking a sun glistening Lake St. Croix were 29 enthusiasts driving a Lotus, a Porche, 4 Jaguars, 4 M.G.s and 6 Healeys. MAHC members included Dale and Barb Martin, Nancy and Greg Lauser, Carl and Betty Stine, Jan Huston and Wayne Soderbeck, Dave Lee, Gary and Barb Ronning, Dick and Karla Mathews, Tom and June Moerke, Jim Kriz, Jim Cassidy and Mike and Gloria Lynch (in spirit, anyway! Dropped out--mechanical difficulties.)

Highlights of the tour were a cheese factory, Eau Galle Recreation Area which Tom Moerke says has the largest earthen flood control dam east of the Mississippi River ever built built by the St. Paul Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the final destination the Laurel Supper Club where more pounds of prime rib were consumed than would be allowed across the U.S. to Canada border land crossing (see May's newsletter V.P. report).

VEEP

## FUN RIDES FOR KIDS

JAN HUSTON AND WAYNE SODERBECK ARE CURRENTLY TRYING TO CONFIRM AN ORGANIZATION FOR OUR 'FUN RIDE FOR KIDS'. WE NEED TO KNOW WHO WOULD BE AVAILABILE AND WILLING TO GIVE RIDES AND ALSO NEED SOME VOLUNTEER HELPERS.

WE ARE PLANNING TO START AROUND 1:00 PM RIDES AND SPECIAL TREATS FOR THE KIDS.( JAN ALWAYS DOES A GREAT JOB ON THE SPECIAL TREATS.)

AFTERWARDS A GROUP TOUR AND DINNER STOP FOR THE PARTICIPANTS AND VOLUNTEERS.

PLEASE CALL:

JAN HUSTON 651-455-8570

OR WAYNE SODERBECK 715-425-5032

OR E-MAIL AT SODERBECKSYSTEMS @NETZERO.NET

ASAP!!

WE NEED TO KNOW HOW MANY DRIVERS TO COUNT ON.

## **Event Schedule 2008**

June 4 **	<b>PIE Meeting</b> - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 PM. See page 3.
June 5 - 8	<b>Rendezvous 2008</b> - This will be the 18 <sup>th</sup> year for the annual Lake Superior Vintage Sports Car Rendezvous. The location this year will be at Pinawa, Manitoba, Canada. The Manitoba car clubs will be hosting. Get your reservations in early!
June 14**	<b>Hill Climb VII</b> (Sat.) Afton Alps Ski Hill. Afton, MN. Contact: Tom Hazen
June 14-15	Classic Car Club of America/Mercedes Benz Concours Event –
	(Sat-Sun.) Very nice showing of Classic Cars at Rice Park in downtown St. Paul.
June 21**	Paul Weidner Memorial Speed Event – (Sat.) – Held at the Amery Wisconsin
	Airport. Tom Hazen and Tom Moerke will be organizing the event –with special honor and memory to Paul Weidner.
Jun 20-22	Back to the 50's Car Show – The annual supersize car show at the Minnesota State
	Fairgrounds. If you want to see tons of fancy cars, here's the place! Friday-Sunday
June 25	Spridget Golden Anniversary - Held at Lake of the Ozarks, MO.
Jun 28 - Aug 3	Velocity Auto Art Show - Hopkins, MN See February newsletter issue.
June 29	AHCA Conclave 2008 – The national event will be in San Diego, CA. Reserve early.
	For more information, call Greg Lauser at 715-262-9813 or email to:
luma 00	glauser@pressenter.com.
June 29	Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 PM Cherokee Park. Contact: Andy Lindberg
July 2 **	PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 PM. See page 3.
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The Healey Enthusiast

## **Event Schedule 2008**

August 1** August 3 ** August 6 ** August 9	British Car Night at Velocity Auto Art in Hopkins – (Fri.) Fun Rides for Kids Charity Event – Details tba Jan Huston and Wayne Soderbeck PIE Meeting - (Wed) Meet at 7:00 PM. See page 3. Ellingson's All British Swap Meet/Car Show – (Sat) 10:00 AM This event has been held at the Ellingson Car Museum on Hwy. 94 near Rogers, MN for the past twelve years. It's a great place to buy/sell parts & show your car. Sponsored by the MN MG Group.
August 17 **	<b>Lauser / Stine Tour &amp; Picnic</b> – (Sat) There will be a short tour ending up at Carl & Betty Stine's for a Picnic at their very interesting farm in Beldenville, WI. Details at August 6th PIE .
August 23**	<b>Amery Airport Event V</b> – (Sat.) These events were so well received last year that Tom Hazen and Tom Moerke will be having "another run at it" ! Details later
August 31	Intermarque Picnic – (Sun) 1:00 PM Cherokee Park
September 3 ** September 6**	<b>PIE Meeting</b> – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 PM. See page 3. <b>Wheels 'n Wings</b> – (Sat) 8:00 AM Always a lot of cars and a lot of books. Airplanes , a train ride, hot dogs, and friendly people make it an enjoyable day in Osceola, WI.
September 12-14	<b>Donneybrooke Vintage Revival</b> - (Fri-Sun) VCSR racing and lunch time touring at Brainerd. For info, call Randy Byboth at 952 936 9335 TENTATIVE
September 14 ** September 18-20	<b>Morgan Healey Picnic</b> – (Sat) Herb and Marsha Miller are hosting. Details tba <b>Fall Vintage Race Festival XXIII</b> - Held at RoadAmerica in Elkhart Lake, WI. A great opportunity to see vintage racing up close. Call Jeff J., Dan P., or Jeff L. for details.
October 1 **	PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 PM. See page 3.
October 11**	<b>Fall Color Tour</b> - (Sat.) The final drive of the year to enjoy the Fall tree colors. Birkmose Park in Hudson, WI. Steve Rixen coordinating. Details later.
October 25 **	Adopt A Highway Clean-up (Sat.) The second of our two clean-ups for the year is to take place on this date. Details later.
November 5 **	PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 PM. See page 3.
November 8 **	<b>Charity Event</b> – (Sat) Dale Martin will schedule our club for taking part in a repeat food packaging charitable exercise. Details later.
November 15 **	Annual Business Meeting Party – (Sat.) The annual business meeting, election of officers, and dinner banquet will occur on this evening at the Officer's Club. Details later.
December 3**	PIE Meeting – (Wed) Meet at 7:00 PM. See page 3.
December 6**	<b>Planning Breakfast</b> – (Sat) The schedule of events for 2009 will be on the agenda for this meeting. Rod Richert will select the site. <b>** - Denotes an official MAHC club activity</b>

## **Event Schedule 2009**

June 11-14\*\* Rendezvous 2009 - AmericInn in Ashland, WI - Hosted by MAHC

# 7th Annual Gymkhana Invitational



# **Team Healey Challenge**

Event Date: Saturday July 12th Time: 10:00 am, until approx 1:30 Location: Brown & Bigelow Parking Lot 345 Plato Blvd E. St. Paul, MN (Plato exit, Hwy 52) Driver Admission: \$5 for all Austin Healey Club Members, Other vintage cars \$10, modern cars\* \$20 (\*limited to 10)

Test your driving skills around pylons on a custom designed course, on a genuine Minnesota parking lot. Requirements to compete include a waiver signature, a snell 85 helmet (some loaners avail), seatbelts and a safe car.

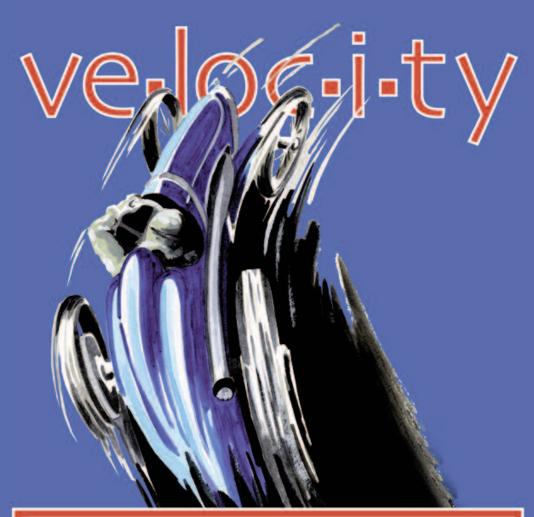
10:00 a.m. Mandatory Drivers meeting to explain safety, discuss the features of the course, walk the course and discuss course management.

Refreshments (pop & water) will be provided. At the conclusion of the runs those interested will retire to GEORGE'S on Plato (formerly Awada's) -2blks away....for a little something to eat/drink.

On site Registration 9:00- 10:00

Spectators are welcome!

Contact **Scott McQueen** for pre-registration or register on-site day of event tel:(612) 623-4938 <u>mcqueen.scott@comcast.net</u>



# THE ART OF MOTION

June 29 through August 3 2008

Hopkins Center for the Arts 1111 Mainstreet Hopkins Minnesota hopkinsartscenter.com

Minnesota MG Group 
Minnesota Triumphs Sports Car Club 
Minnesota Austin-Healey Club 
Minnesota MG T Register 
Minnesota Jaguar Club 
Present:

# FRIDAY AUGUST 1ST

a FREE British Car Exhibition featuring MGs, Jaguars, Triumphs and more! Downtown Hopkins — Hopkins Center for the Arts, 1111 Mainstreet Buy Ballots, \$1 Each, and VOTE for Your Favorite Car!

All proceeds to benefit Opportunity Partners Empowering people with disabilities to live, learn and work in the community

## COME SEE

- All British Car Marques
- 6-10 p.m.
   Concours d'Elegance, Mainstreet, Hopkins
- Automotive art from around the world at the Hopkins Center for the Arts
- Buy 20 ballots and get a VIP pass to the Opportunity Partners' reception sponsored in part by:







To purchase ballots or for more information, contact:

Phyllis Galberth deegalberth@yahoo.com ■ 952-898-6914

Dick Wallrich chartbus@comcast.net ■ 651-644-8030



## TECH TIP: by Ernie West Another Off The Wall Subject

This one is quite specific. In particular it deals with most Fords back in the 60's and 70's that had points and condensers. On almost every one of these cars and pickups, that I serviced, I found practically no mechanical advancing or vacuum advancing. It's no wonder these lumps were lacking in power and had atrocious fuel economy. It's like the guys that set up these distributors at the factory had stocks in the oil companies.

The good part is that they are easily adjustable. Most of these distributors can have the mechanical advance springs adjusted by simply rotating the engine slowly till you see one of two advance springs directly below a small square hole in the breaker plate. If it's like most, you will see the spring fastened to a bendable peg, and it will be bent toward the outside of the hole. This condition virtually eliminates any centrifugal advance. If you bend this peg to about the center of the square hole, you will be in the ballpark of what the engine needs. You will then need to rotate the engine one turn (1/2 distributor turn) then do the same to the other spring peg.

To check what mechanical advance you have using a timing light, you first need to unhook the vacuum advance. Next see what initial timing you have at slow idle (700 RPM or less). This initial timing should be from 7 to 10 degrees in most cases. Then rev up engine to at least 4000RPM. This should produce another 10 to 15 degrees of advance. So at this point you should have a total of 17 to 25 degrees of advance at 4000RPM.

To adjust the vacuum advance you use an Allen Wrench inserted into the end of the vacuum unit on the distributor that the vacuum hose hooks onto. By turning it right or left you can control how much and how soon you get vacuum advance. To check what you have and what you will adjust to, you simply hook a vacuum hose from the distributor to any full vacuum port on the intake manifold or carburetor. Adjust it to at least 12 degrees advance over and above the slow idle speed initial timing.

So in summary, you should have 7 to 10 degrees of initial (static) timing, 10 to 15 degrees of mechanical (centrifugal) advance and 12 degrees of vacuum advance giving you 27 to 37 degrees of total advance at 4000RPM with the vacuum advance hose hooked up. This will really wake up these 700-pound cast-iron wonders. If the engine pings hard on acceleration just back up the initial timing setting to 4 or 5 degrees, or until the pinging stops.

Safe Motoring!!! Dead Lake Motors

#### Renewal procedure:

- Local members or local members who desire to join the national organization may renew using the form below.
- Those members who are local <u>and national</u> will receive a notice each December from the national secretary instructing them to renew with the national form while updating any personal information. They should remit payment to the <u>local</u> membership director. The local membership director will process the membership and will forward the payment and information to the national organization for you. This method is preferred for local and national members and helps us keep our records up to date.
  - Membership dues are payable on January 1st of each year.
  - Renewals not received by February 28<sup>th</sup>, will be subject to a late fee of \$5.00. New members may join at any time.

Fill out the membership form and mail along with a check made payable to **MAHC** to:

MAHC Membership Director Jim Kriz 2000 Kenwood Parkway Minneapolis, MN 55405

All memberships are considered dead if not renewed by April 1st.

Membership / Renewal Form							
Austin-Healey Clu	ub 🗆 New 🗆 Re Ib of America 🗆 N	lew 🗆 Renewal	<u>\$40.00</u>				
Name:	Spouse:	Home	Phone ( )				
Address:	City: Stat	e <u>Zip:</u>	Work Phone: ( )				
E-mail address:		Receive News	letter via email? Yes No				
HEALEY INFORMATION:							
Year Model _ Owner (Y/N)		Color	Original				
Year Model _ Owner (Y/N)		Color	Original				
Condition: 🗆 Show Quality	y □ Nice & Roadworth	y □ Could be runni	ing with help □ Restoration Project				

**First Class Postage** 

«First\_Name» «Last\_Name» «Address» «City», «State» «Zip»

### MARKETPLACE

Marketplace policy: All ads are free to current members. For non-members, the charge is \$5.00 per month. Ads will be run for three months after which time the advertiser needs to submit new ad copy. Please inform the editor if your item or items have been sold during the three month period so the ad can be removed.

#### FOR SALE

1963 Austin/Healey, Mark II, BJ7

BRG, Black Interior, well maintained since full frame-off and frame-up restoration in 1992. Things of particular note: 3.54 differential. Over-Drive(of course). Triple carb HS4's. Side exiting exhaust. 72-spoke stainless wire wheels. Alarm System. Balanced and tuned suspension. H.D. Radiator. Insulated cabin floor. Mallory Dual Point Distributor.... much more. \$38,500.00 Jeff Johnk 952-461-2720

We hate to sell our BJ7 and NO we are not leaving the club, just too many toys to look after and I have to down size a bit.

#### FOR SALE

1960 Bugeye Sprite a VERY strong car and good runner. Drive it home today and take it to the Anniversary Celebration. Car has a new brake master, clutch master, clutch slave and a recently flushed brake system. Also, rebuilt carbs, new plugs, points, condensor, cap, rotor, etc. \$7500. The car is in the Twin Cities area. Call Keith at 507-263-5018

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The Healey Enthusiast

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