



PALMETTO STATE AIRSTREAM CLUB
UNIT 022 WBCCI



May 2021

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It Keeps Getting Better!

by Paul Welch - PSAC

April was loaded with fun! 58 Airstreams packed the streets of York for a fantastic "Silver in the City" weekend. Many of our "regulars" were there, but wow, there were so many new faces in our club that showed up for the first time! Palmetto State is growing and its showing!



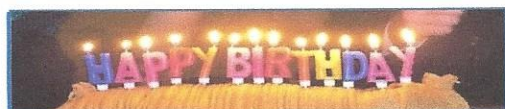
I also want to give some love to the City of York. They truly rolled out the red carpet . . . everything from goodie bags to a police escort, to shops offering special deals to Airstreamers, to live music provided by the city and businesses. They could not have made us feel more welcomed. Thank you, Terry Montgomery and John Leake, for doing the groundwork for this rally. It made for a great weekend!



Then 10 of our Silver Bullets made the trip down to Tallahassee, FL for the Region 3 Rally. The facilities provided were excellent . . . from the camp sites to the meeting hall. Another great rally!

And in just a few days (May 14-16, 2021) we will be rallying at Crooked Creek RV Park in West Union. As of a week ago, we had 16 Airstreams signed up and ready to go. One word . . . if you are worried about

their high water pressure (105 pounds of pressure), don't. Just do what Kathy and I are doing. Even though we have a brand new built-in water regulator, we will fill the fresh water tank of our Airstream and use the built-in pump. If we run low on water, we will simply refill the fresh water tank and never give a second thought to the high pressure coming from the faucet. Problem solved!



May Birthdays:

Kathy Welch – 3
 Fred Brandt – 15
 Chuck Hearn – 17
 Linda Meadors – 20
 Dianne Hearn – 25

May Anniversaries:

John & Linda Foster – 6
 Mike & Maryjane Carr – 7
 Eric & Donna Pollard – 9
 Bobby & Arlene Puryear – 16
 Jeff & Madalyn Morehead – 20

June Birthdays:

Annie Montgomery – 1
 XU Jing Weaver – 10
 Jay DeVecchio – 12
 Martha Harris – 28

June Anniversaries:

Ancel & Cheryl Hamilton – 3
 Michael & Debbie Madden – 17
 Jay & Lucy DeVecchio – 21
 Mark & XU Jing Weaver – 26

Happy Anniversary!

Cares and Prayers:

- Continued prayers for Diane Butts, dementia and a broken ankle.
- Jeff Morehead dealing with health issues from 2 car accidents.
- Prayers for Joyce Butucel, her sister is in hospice with pancreatic cancer.
- Martha Harris from loss of her husband, George and back issues.



<https://palmettostate.airstreamclub.net>

Continued...It Keeps Getting Better!

by Paul Welch - PSAC

Lastly, and most importantly, let's talk about our June rally at Palmetto Cove (June 11-13). Palmetto Cove has been our home base since the Palmetto State Airstream Club began, but this year, things are different. If you look closely, you will be hard pressed to find any part of The Cove that hasn't been updated and improved. That includes everything from major investments in new electric pedestals for the C & D sections, to upgrades in sewer and water lines, to new floors in the buildings, new washers, painting, upgrades on the toilets, etc., etc., etc.

Perhaps most relevant to us Airstreamers is the new reservation system. Usage of the campground increased so much last year that trying to get people checked in, paid up and parked became a nightmare. So now we have Campground Commander (our reservation system) to make life easier.

BUT if you want to register for the rally, you need to send me your name, address, phone number and email address by June 4. I will submit your information to The Cove on their form and that will ensure that we will all be camping together in the rally section of the park . . . and since they will already have your information, check in will go that much easier.

Unfortunately, Campground Commander is not free and Palmetto Cove is charged a 10% fee for each guest. That means a site for non-members of The Cove will pay \$33 instead of \$30 and members of The Cove will pay \$16.50 instead of \$15 . . . still a bargain in anybody's book.

For our new members: Our June Rally is called our Kids Rally because kids and grandkids will be there (and your kids and grandkids are invited, too), but first and foremost, it is an Airstream Rally for everyone . . . just like a normal rally.

So let me encourage you to start signing up by sending me your name, address, phone number and email address so we can get the ball rollin' toward a GREAT June rally. Looking forward to seeing you down the road!

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<https://airstreamclub.org/events>

2021 Airstream Rally Schedule

May 14-16, 2021

Crooked Creek RV Park
777 Arvee Ln.
West Union, SC 29696
(864) 882-5040

Bob & Jan Wilson and Paul & Kathy Welch volunteered to host

The Park is holding 20 sites, individuals must make their own reservation under Palmetto State Airstream Club.

June 11-13, 2021

Kids' Rally
Palmetto Cove, Cleveland, SC
*Paul & Kathy Welch, Jeff & Madalyn Morehead,
and Callie Rae Scurry volunteered to host*

July 16-24, 2021

Airstream International Rally
Lebanon, TN

August 13-15, 2021

Top of Georgia
Smoky Mtn Bingo and BBQ Rally with Palmetto State
*Eric & Donna Pollard and Burt & Gail Broadway
volunteered to host*

September 10-12, 2021

Airstream Rally
Joint rally with Coastal Unit
at Wateree State Park
Bill & Joyce Butucel volunteered to host

October 21-24, 2021

Alumalina
Tom Johnson, Marion, NC

November 5-7, 2021

Airstream Installation Rally Palmetto Cove, Cleveland, SC
TBD volunteered to host or Pot Luck



Next Year's Rallies

Our VP, Eric Pollard, is looking for any ideas for next year's rallies. If you have any ideas for next year, please contact Eric.

See email and phone number listed below.

You may know of a great RV park or State Park near you where that would be easy to host. And as always you will have lots and lots of help!

Thanks for any suggestions as they are so welcomed.

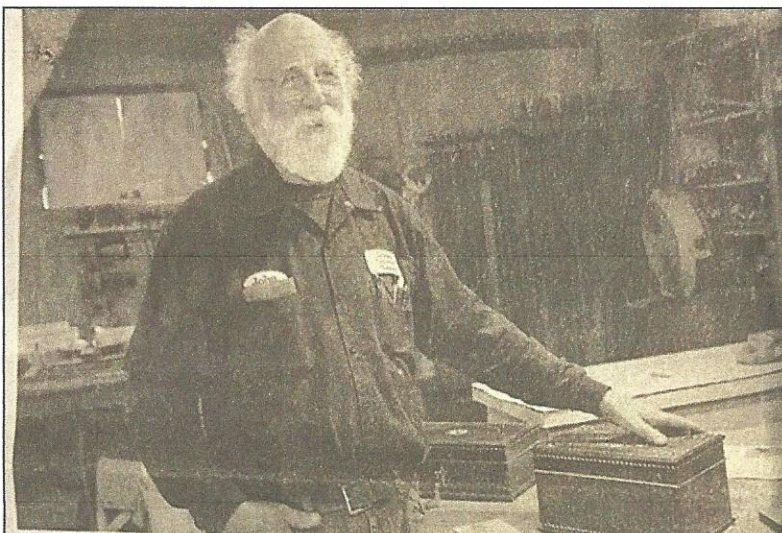


Please contact Eric Pollard if you would like to help assist the host(s) for upcoming rallies...and as always, we will all step in and make their job a lot easier. Eric still needs a host team for the Installation Rally in November. (803) 833-2488 - erictpollard@gmail.com

Let's all get ready for some fun and adventure in 2021. After all, we're Airstreamers!

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John Leake of Leake Furniture Makers in York creates keepsake boxes for the U.S. government to give as gifts to visiting foreign diplomats.

TRACY KIMBALL tkimball@heraldonline.com

York SC father and son woodworkers make gift for queen

BY CAILYN DERICKSON
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YORK, S.C.

The phone rang. It echoed through the Leake Furniture Makers workshop. Jay Leake was cutting wood, while his dad, John Howard Leake III, was in the finishing room. Jay took the call.

A woman spoke. This wasn't the first time Jay had heard from her. She worked for the White House.

"We have a special project in mind," she said. "But it's going to need to happen pretty quick."

Jay, 38, whose full name is John Howard Leake IV, got requests from her often. The two-man business in York, South Carolina, run by Jay and his father, specializes in



Leake Furniture Makers

John and Jay Leake of Leake Furniture Makers in York, S.C., were commissioned to make a 4-by-5-inch box for Britain's Queen Elizabeth II.

18th century American furniture styles, and has made several wooden boxes with eagle inlays for the White House. The boxes are gifts to visiting foreign diplomats.

Still, this request was different.

They had six days to construct a four-by-five-inch, hand-crafted wood-

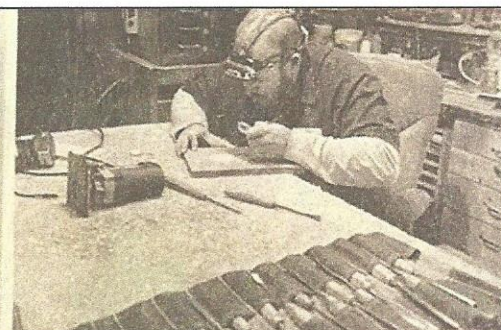
en box — that would hold a Tiffany brooch — for President Donald Trump to give to the Queen of England when he visited last June.

Jay put the phone back in its sawdust-covered charging dock, walked into the finishing room and interrupted his dad.

"We got a call from the White House," Jay said. "They need this special box made."

Before they got to work, they sat in the office at the front of their workshop. John leaned back in his orange desk chair, held together with duct tape. Jay sat across from him.

"Here's a chance to represent No. 1, the United States," Jay said. "No. 2, our town — York. And No. 3, our family business. It was a lot of pressure. It was a lot of pressure just



TRACY KIMBALL tkimball@heraldonline.com

Jay Leake of Leake Furniture Makers works on the top of a keepsakes box recently at his York workshop.

knowing where this thing was going."

Jay's grandfather, John Howard Leake Jr. — who went by "Buddy" — had unexpectedly passed away in 1983.

Jay's dad, John Howard Leake III, was teaching shop in the Gaston County school system. A brother called in the middle of the day and gave him the news.

John hung up the phone and sat in silence.

"I got to go home," John told the principal. "There's been a death in my family."

John's dad worked for the family business, known at the time as Leake's Antiques. He traveled the country collecting antiques and selling them in York. John's grandfather — John Howard Leake Sr. — started the business in the 1950s.

"My grandfather worked hard," John said. "Prior to his antiques thing, he was farming. He came home one day with a sideboard tied to sacks of feed on his truck. That's how he got started. He was calling on homes all throughout the country and would find stuff."

A sideboard, also known as a buffet, is a piece of furniture usually used in dining rooms to display serving dishes.

Buddy continued the business until his death.

John left work after he got the call.

"That was a long drive back home from Gaston County," he said.

John drew up a few sketches for the box requested by the White House. Jay figured out the dimensions. But they couldn't do much without the wood.

The White House would overnight wood that came off the White House grounds.

The woman gave Jay clear instructions.

"The wood will be there Thursday," she told him. "But we need the box in our hands the following Thursday to get on the plane Friday."

She had called on Wednesday.

At 8 a.m. that Thursday, the delivery truck pulled up on the dirt driveway in front of the Leake's workshop. The delivery man came to the front door of the house that Buddy built in the 1950s.

"He's standing there with a not-so-big box," John said. "And I'm thinking, 'Oh no. I was expecting at least a log or two.'"

The father and son usually use large lumber boards to make the eight by 12-inch boxes.

"He gave us the box and it didn't weigh nothing," John said. "We came over here and dumped it out and here's this little pile. It looked like something we'd be throwing in the

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WOODWORKERS

wood stove."

The White House had sent several quarter-inch thick strips of wood that were 15-20 inches long and four inches wide. The White House didn't specify what type of wood it was.

"We kept messing with it and we could smell it and know how it worked," Jay said. "We think it was basswood. We think — which is not particularly pretty."

Around the time of his father's death, John was getting frustrated with his teaching career.

"The school system was just not a good fit for me," John said. "I guess maybe I expected a little bit more than I was getting. I was already beginning to get a bit frustrated with it, and I had 22 more years to go, and that seemed like a life sentence to me."

Furniture-making was his passion.

"My earliest and oldest memories are here fooling with furniture," said John, who now is 65. "These buildings were packed full of it."

He took shop in high school. And although he admits he got in the habit of skipping classes, he'd always make sure to go to shop class.

"My shop teacher — see the shops are usually on the back edge of the building somewhere — he'd let me come in the back door and I'd take my shop class," he said.

In 11th grade, he won the golden hammer for being the best shop student. The hammer hangs on his office wall — right above the orange desk chair.

To make extra money while he was teaching, John built furniture on the

weekends and in the summer.

When his dad passed, there was no question that John would take over the family antique business.

"I was about to become self-employed," John said. "It was scary. I felt this need, or this urge, or this want, to come into our family thing."

So, he finished the school year and took over Leake's Antiques. But he continued to build furniture.

"I was a furniture maker at heart," he said.

Jay planned to finish the box the following Monday. The White House wanted a specific image engraved on top.

"It was an image of the White House," Jay said. "And I kept looking at it. They emailed me the image. It was a version of the White House I had never seen before."

Jay figured out the image was a depiction of the White House before it was burned in the War of 1812.

He asked a nearby sign store to use its laser cutter to engrave the image. Jay had built the base of the box over the weekend. He planned to coat the box with an oil finish on Tuesday, so it would be dry in time to be shipped on Wednesday.

But on Monday morning he had most of the box finished and hadn't heard from the sign store.

"I went down there that Monday morning about eight o'clock hoping they were open and working," Jay said. "And they were. I said, 'Have y'all gotten to this engraving?' They said, 'Well, we're going to try to get it today or tomorrow.'"

His stomach dropped. "I told them, 'Man, I

need this thing today,'" he said.

The store was able to do the engraving and Jay finished the box on time.

"We were extremely proud to be asked to do it, and honored to do it," Jay said. "It was probably the highlight of our careers here making something that ended up in the Queen's hands. There's not too many people who can say that."

That Wednesday morning, the delivery truck pulled up to the house on the dirt driveway and Jay handed the packaged box to the delivery man.

"Be careful," Jay told the man. "Be careful with this."

After a few years in business alone, John realized it was too much to sell antiques and build furniture.

"It was an absolute gut-wrenching thing for me for a number of years what to do about that," John said. "See, being a third generation, that means a lot to me that my grandparents and then my dad and then me, using the same name. I'm old fashioned as heck, so I knew when Jay came along he was going to be the fourth."

He chose furniture making.

Jay joined the business in 2004 and shortly after that, the Leake's Antiques sign was replaced and now reads "Leake Furniture Makers."

"I'm sure my granddaddy rolled over in his grave a couple of times when that sign up there went out," John said. "I think now he would be very, very pleased with what we are doing. He would just be pleased that his building is still here being used for the furniture business."

Neither John nor Jay know how the White House found out about their work. After the

business was featured in the Charleston-based Garden and Gun magazine in 2014, they started receiving furniture inquiries from across the country. They have pieces in California, Texas, D.C., Louisiana, Mississippi, Virginia, Pennsylvania and Delaware.

John thinks someone in the D.C. area who bought furniture from them may have mentioned their name to the White House. Jay chalks it up to luck.

"We're just simple people that just happen to make furniture and make it for a living, which is tough," Jay said. "If success means making furniture that's across the country, maybe in the White House, or wherever, I mean that's good, but it's still hard to make a living."

As for the box for the Queen, Jay just knows it got there.

"I guess the Queen is happy," he said. "On the bottom of it, we had to put felt in the very bottom of it but we cut a little hole out of the felt and engraved in the bottom of it, 'Made by John and Jay Leake, York, South Carolina, U.S.A.'"

They've made about 15 boxes for the White House. They never know where the boxes end up, but they know one was given to the Prime Minister of Australia. The father-son duo engrave their names on the bottom of each box.

"We may not have antiques here anymore," Jay said. "But we're making pieces that will become antiques years from now."

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Travels and Tales by Eric Pollard – 1st VP

We traveled to Tallahassee for the Region 3 Rally last week, April 21-25. The weather was good except for some rain on Saturday evening. We were lucky as a bad storm with hail and high wind gusts was forecast but, thank goodness, it stayed north of us.

There were 120 trailers there this year with 10 being from our unit #22. We enjoyed live entertainment, BBQ on Friday night and a wonderful low country boil on Sat night.

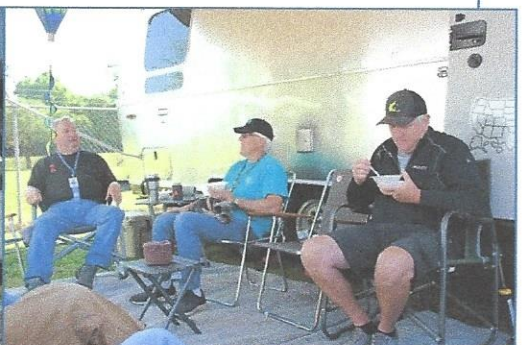
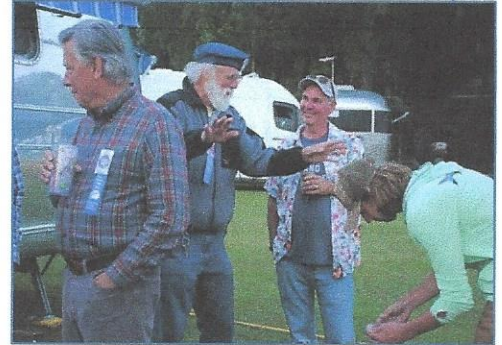
Our Region ended up donating \$3,000 to Tunnel to Towers Foundation to help Gold Star and First Responder families.

John Leake conducted an Airstream 101/102 seminar which was well attended and as always, very informative.

There were also workshops on flower arranging, rivets, Zip Dee Awnings, Dutch-Oven cooking and RV Solar that also had big turnouts as well. There was a gun show at the fairground that you could attend if you were interested. And some folks enjoyed some of the local restaurants and trips into downtown Tallahassee to see the sights of Florida's capital city. All in all, it was a great rally.

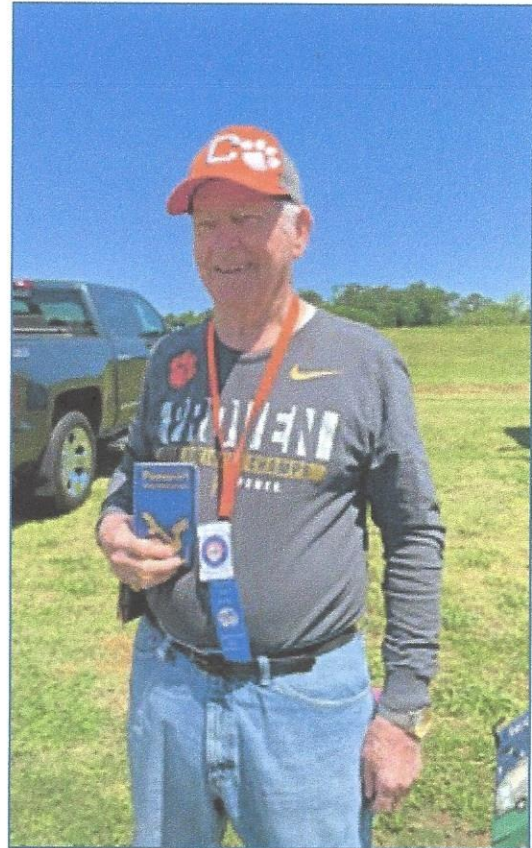
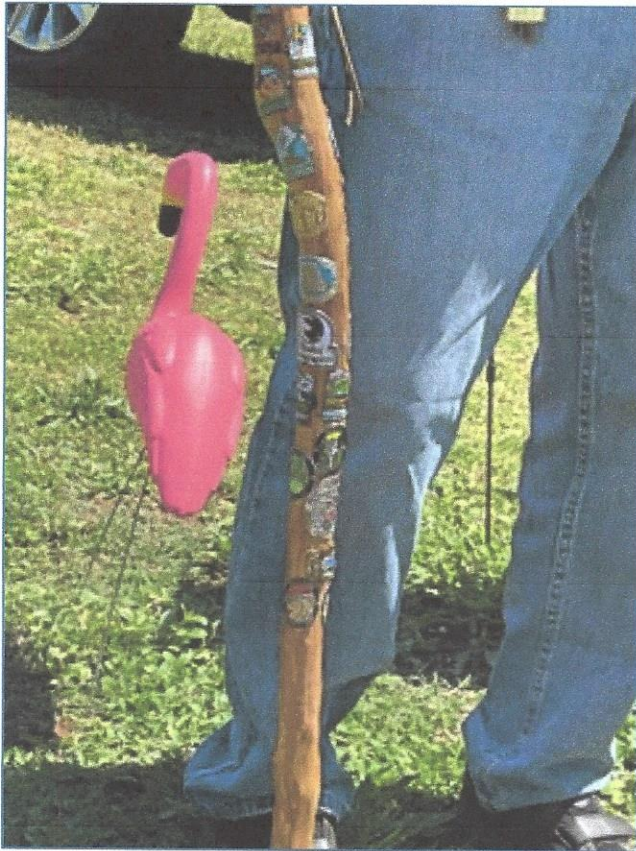
It was announced that next year's Region 3 rally will be at the GA Mountain Fairgrounds in Hiawassee GA, April 21-24, 2022. We have camped there before and Lake Chatuge is just beautiful, you will not want to miss.

Our unit had a happy hour by our trailer on Thursday night. We shared some Cowboy Stew and other snacks while we chatted about everything Airstream. Hot dogs were then enjoyed up at the meeting hall. As always, it was great meeting some new folks as well as enjoying our regular members.



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One of our regular members, who happened to be parked next to us, was none other than Mr. Fred Brandt. Fred has been in the Airstream Club since 1986. If you have seen Fred at a rally, you will remember him as he is always wearing his Clemson attire. Fred graduated from Clemson University in 1959 with a degree in Architecture. Fred prepared the Directory for our club for many years. His first Airstream was a 1967 Caravel. He said his wife really liked that it had a bathroom and an icebox. You will see Fred now driving a 2000, 35' Airstream Land Yacht Motorhome. We felt very small next to him in our 25 foot trailer. Fred has traveled across the country and seen many of the National Parks. He has also been on about a half dozen WBCCI Caravans. He showed us his National Parks Passport book which contained many stamps. We were especially fascinated by Fred's cane, which is covered in about 27 pins he has collected from all across this great country. We certainly enjoyed getting to know Fred a little better and really look up to him and others in our club, who are just a wealth of knowledge and information about Airstreams and traveling in those Airstreams.

So, if you see Fred at the next rally, be sure and say Hi, and he may share some of his travel adventures with you.

Jason & Kelly's Margarita 12-Step Program

We don't really have many pictures, but the story is that we simply made a bunch of margaritas to share with the Airstream community. Once we arrived we decided to help out the shop in front of our trailer (J&K Paints & Pixels) by offering free margaritas to anyone who purchased their customized "Silver in the City" tumblers that they had made to sell at this event. They weren't getting much traffic for their paint parties or any purchases of the Airstream/Flamingo products, which clearly had to sell at this event, so we were glad we could help them sell all of their cups and share some fun!!!

We had a blast and will definitely attend the next one in 2023 after we return in June of next year.
by Jason Bradley



Step 1

Cut Limes into Wedges



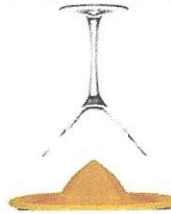
Step 2

Remove Lid from Margarita Salt



Step 3

Squeeze a Few Lime Wedges into Lid



Step 4

Dip Glass into Lime Juice



Step 5

Dip Glass into Salt



Step 6

Add 3 Parts Margarita Mix



Step 7

Add 1 Part



Step 8

Add 1 Part



Step 9

Add 1 Part



Step 10

Add 2 Parts



Step 11

Add a



Step 12

Hug Your Margarita

Note: The Margarita Mix brand almost doesn't matter because the coconut and O.J. flavors make tart / sweet blends less prominent. Recommend non-alcoholic margarita mix to avoid addition of poor-quality tequila taste. Add more or less Mix / O.J. / Tequila to taste. ENJOY!

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