

# THE HELMSMAN

Publication of the Broward County Council – Navy League of the United States



Glenn Wiltshire, President  
Marianne Giambrone, Editor

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[www.bcnavyleague.org](http://www.bcnavyleague.org)

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## SEPTEMBER DINNER SOCIAL

Broward County and  
Fort Lauderdale Council  
Invite you to join us at

SEA CADET NIGHT  
Wednesday, September 27, 2017

Coral Ridge Yacht Club  
2800 Yacht Club Blvd  
Fort Lauderdale

6:00–7:00 PM Cash Bar  
7:00 PM–Dinner and Meeting

\$40 per person  
Checks should be made payable to  
Fort Lauderdale Council NLUS

Please phone your RSVP to 954-565-6778  
no later than 9AM on September 22  
Admittance by reservation only



September is Naval Sea Cadet Corps' month. The Navy League has served as an exclusive sponsor of the Naval Sea Cadet program since its inception. We hope you will join us as we celebrate its 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

You will be amazed as you listen to each Cadet speak about their summer training experiences and be proud that your Navy League membership helps to support them.

## JUNE DINNER SOCIAL

On June 8, the Council held its dinner meeting at Tropical Acres Restaurant. Joseph E. Farrell, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer of Resolve Marine Group served as the guest speaker. Joe shared his background, stories of the many maritime challenges the company has met and how it has grown since it started. Shown below is Council President Glenn Wiltshire and Joe Farrell.



Greg Warrick, Lesley Warrick (Executive Director of Seafarers' House at Port Everglades ) and Veronica Palomino (Community Liaison for Veteran Affairs-VITAS Healthcare)

# *PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE*

Welcome back to all our members from our summer break. While we haven't had a newsletter published since June, it's been a very busy summer for the Council and its members. Congratulations to long time Board member Joe Giambrone for his election as one of the new National Vice Presidents at the Navy League National Convention in Milwaukee in June. Council Vice President Marianne Giambrone also represented us at the Convention and accepted our Outstanding Council award for 2016. Congratulations as well to Fort Lauderdale Council member Pat Dumont for her election as a National Vice President as well as to all of those from the Florida Region that were elected as Regional and Area Presidents and National Directors. Thanks as well to those who were able to attend our June dinner meeting to hear Joe Farrell, CEO of Resolve Marine, speak about his success story in founding Resolve Marine and growing it into one of the largest marine salvage companies in the world. Joe also spoke about a special presentation he made to Senator McCain for his service aboard the USS ORISKANY during the Vietnam War.

The summer was also a busy time for our adopted units, with four changes of command, starting with BMC Strobe at the Aids to Navigation Team on June 1st followed by LT Ketchum at Station Fort Lauderdale on June 16th, CDR Freddie at TACLET South on July 7th, and CAPT Lutes at the Air Station on July 21st. We wish them and their families well as they move on to their next assignments, and welcome BMC Holly Burgrabe to the ANT, LT Derek Wallin to Station Fort Lauderdale, CDR Joseph Meuse to TACLET South, and CAPT Michael Platt to the Air Station and the Council family. A number of Council members also had the opportunity to greet the sailors and cadets from the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force Training Squadron in July as they made their first ever port call at Port Everglades.

Unfortunately, there were a number of tragedies over the summer that affected our Sea Services as well. The at-sea collisions involving the USS Fitzgerald and USS John S McCain, and a C-130 plane crash in Mississippi that killed 15 Marines and 1 Navy sailor were stark reminders of the risks that the men and women of our sea services face every day. The still unfolding tragedy in Texas and Louisiana resulting from Hurricane Harvey has also affected millions of people, and the Coast Guard is once again out front leading a massive response to save lives, and that response includes Coast Guard personnel from South Florida.

Please keep all of those affected by these tragedies in your thoughts and prayers in the coming weeks.

We're looking forward to a great turnout of Council members to our next dinner meeting on Wednesday, September 27th at the Coral Ridge Yacht Club. This is our annual joint meeting with the Fort Lauderdale Council, where we will hear from many of the Sea Cadets about their summer training program experiences. It's one you don't want to miss. Also, please hold Wednesday, October 11th on your calendar for our annual Oktoberfest Celebration. We will once again be joining with the Fort Lauderdale Council at the Lauderdale Yacht Club for this event.

As we get closer to 2018, it is also time to put together our slate of officers and Board for next year. Since we will be completing that in September for presentation to the membership at the November dinner meeting, please let me know if you are interested in stepping up and taking a stronger role in our Council's leadership as an elected officer or Board member.

As always, please feel free to contact me at 718-619-7402 or at [wiltbrit@aol.com](mailto:wiltbrit@aol.com) if you have any ideas on what our Council should be doing to make your membership more valuable to you.



Glenn Wiltshire  
CAPT, US Coast Guard Retired  
Broward County Council President

## *COMMUNITY AFFILIATE*

Community Affiliate members support our Council's grassroots efforts. Community Affiliate benefits include up to 4 individual Navy League memberships, a subscription to SEAPOWER magazine and annual SEAPOWER ALMANAC and recognition by our Council. If your company would like to find out more about becoming a Community Affiliate, please contact us at [bcnavyleague@gmail.com](mailto:bcnavyleague@gmail.com).

The Council appreciates the support of our community affiliate.

Ship Supply of Florida  
10800 NW 103 St Ste 1, Miami

# *JUNE DINNER SOCIAL*

Thanks to the members and guests who attended the June dinner social.



LCDR Ed Dambach (XO, NOSC), Rudy Oetting and Alan Starr



South Florida Area President Lynn Drucker, Elaine Hogg and Oscar Romano



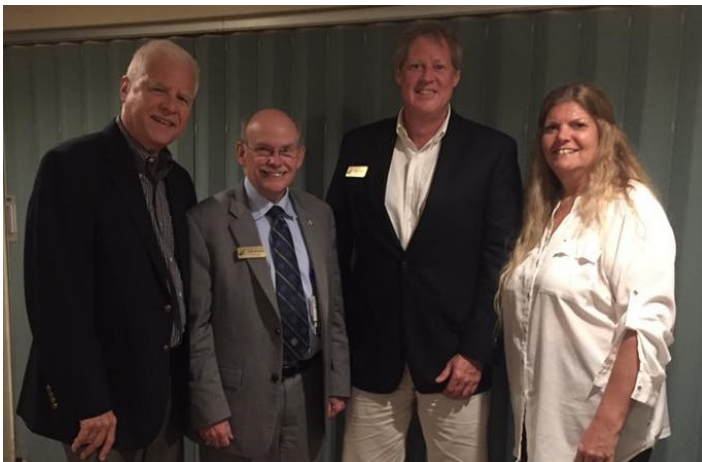
Above: BM1 Joseph Obert and Larry Ott

Below: Bruce Gottsch, Glenn Wiltshire, Tom Carney and Shelley Beck



Above: Palm Beach Council President Sonia Foster with Joe Farrell and his wife

Below: Alicia Romano and Louise Oetting



## SUPPORTING FAMILIES

This year, Council members again volunteered for Operation Homefront's Back to School Brigade. The Back-to-School Brigade program is a nationwide campaign by Operation Homefront and Dollar Tree. Dollar Tree customers donated school supplies while they were in the store shopping. Council volunteers then picked up the donated supplies from the stores and distributed them to the majority of the local military units that we support. These free supplies provide assistance to military families that may struggle with day-to-day expenses. Shown in the photo below are crew members from the Margaret Norvell who assisted Council President Glenn Wiltshire deliver six large boxes of school supplies to the USCG Sector Miami Command Master Chief. These school supplies were distributed to Coast Guard personnel at Base Miami Beach. Commanding Officer Lt Panetta is on the left.



Also in conjunction with Operation Homefront, Office Depot Foundation donated thousands of sack packs to military families. National Vice President and Council Board Member Joe Giambone attended an event on July 27 at the Office Depot Store in Fort Lauderdale to thank them for their generous support of the military. Shown in the photo with Joe are Shane Phillips, District Manager for Office Depot and Mary Wong of Office Depot Foundation.



## NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Navy League held its National Convention from June 20-24, 2017 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The days were filled with workshops, committee meetings, recognition luncheons and the annual meeting of members. The Milwaukee Council hosted the convention and planned several fun evening events as well as ensuring that the hospitality suite was always well stocked. Council Second Vice President Marianne Giambone accepted the Outstanding Performance Award at the Hall of Fame Luncheon. The award recognized the Council's achievements during 2016 and was presented by National President Skip Witunski (shown in photo).



Joe Giambone was elected by the National board of directors as a National Vice President. His area of responsibility is Finance and Investments as appointed by newly elected National President Alan Kaplan. Joe also serves as a National Director. He has been a member of the Council for 15 years and has been on the Council's Board of Directors for 13 years. He previously served as the Council President and the South Florida Area President.

You are encouraged to attend next year's convention which will be held in Portland, Oregon. Information will be shared once it is finalized.

# JAPANESE SHIP VISIT

Fort Lauderdale was one of only five U.S. cities to be visited by two ships with Japan's Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF). Under the command of Rear Admiral Koji Manabe, the JMSDF consists of 580 personnel aboard the training vessel JS Kashima TV3508 and the destroyer JS Harusame DD102. Approximately 200 of the sailors were newly commissioned officers. According to Rear Admiral Manabe, "The purpose of our overseas training cruise is to develop seamanship of the newly commissioned officers, to cultivate their minds as the future leaders and also to promote mutual understanding and goodwill with the countries we visit." A welcoming reception was held aboard the Kashima on July 21 in Port Everglades and was attended by Ken Okaniwa, Consul General for Japan in Florida, local dignitaries, military and Council members. On July 22, the JMSDF band joined the Navy Band Southeast at a joint concert at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach. This was a beautiful event and was attended by many Navy League members.

Council President Glenn Wiltshire presented plaques on behalf of Port Everglades to Kashima Commanding Officer Captain Yuji Horikawa (top photo) and Harusame Commanding Officer Commander Kazutaka Hinokuchi (bottom photo).



Board Members Bob Marks (left) and Erwin Sefton with Rear Admiral Koji Manabe

Below, members of the JMSDF band performing at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens.



# NAS MUSEUM

The Naval Air Station Fort Lauderdale Museum invited the public to join them for the grand opening of the Lt. Col Leo R. Gray Tuskegee Memorial Butterfly Garden. The event was held on Memorial Day, May 29, at the Museum which is located at 4000 W Perimeter Road in Fort Lauderdale. Photographs and Tuskegee Airmen related artifacts were displayed inside the Museum.



You can visit the Museum on Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays from 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM to explore the garden areas or take a tour. The last tour is at 2:30 PM. After your tour, you are welcome to stay and explore the museum and take photos, visit the library, watch videos, or explore the garden areas. Those taking tours are asked to make a donation; for tours of more than five people, a donation of \$5 per person is suggested. For more information, visit their website [nasflmuseum.com](http://nasflmuseum.com).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

On Saturday, September 16, the 2017 Broward Veterans Expo, presented by the Broward Veterans Coalition, will take place at the Broward College Central Campus, 3501 Davie Road, Building 10, in Davie. The event will take place from 10 AM to 2 PM and there is no charge for veterans to attend. Veterans will be able to talk to representatives from organizations such as the Department of Veterans Affairs and Mission United as well as interact with fellow veterans from all branches of service.

On Wednesday, October 11, Council members will once again join with Fort Lauderdale Council for an Oktoberfest celebration. The event will be held at the Lauderdale Yacht Club at 6:30 PM. Additional information will be sent out via email and will appear in next month's newsletter.

On October 14th, Honor Flight South Florida will be holding its 1st Annual Military Gala at the Rick Case Arena on the Nova State University Campus in Davie. Master of Ceremony will be comic and actor Wil Shriner. Donations to Honor Flight South Florida help them honor and fly local veterans to Washington DC for the day. Visit [honorflightsouthflorida.org](http://honorflightsouthflorida.org) to find out more about their mission, the event or to make a donation.

# NEWSLETTER SPONSOR

Business card ads are available at a cost of \$125. The ad will appear for one year (ten editions).

If you would like to advertise your business or organization and provide financial support to the Council at the same time, contact Joe Giambone at 954-389-0545 or [giambonejm@gmail.com](mailto:giambonejm@gmail.com).

Larry M. Ott  
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**BCNL Member  
Discount with  
this ad**

# RECOGNIZING OUR ADOPTED UNITS

On June 21, Council President recognized several crew members of the USCGC Robert Yered.

BM3 Jennifer Flores received a Coast Guard Achievement Medal for her accomplishments at the unit; she has since departed for her next assignment at Coast Guard Station St. Petersburg, FL. ET2 Joshua West was recognized for his service as he left active duty with the Coast Guard to pursue opportunities in cybersecurity. Shown in the photo is BM3 Flores (left) Commanding Officer Lt Soren Rose (center) and ET2 West (right).



left to right: Council President Glenn Wiltshire, MK2 Dillon and Lt Rose.

On July 17, Council President Glenn Wiltshire made a presentation at Coast Guard Air Station Miami's All Hands meeting. Glenn recognized Enlisted Person of the Quarter MK2 Christopher Kahler. Shown in the photo (left to right) are Captain Todd Lutes MK2 Kahler, Glenn Wiltshire and the new Command Master Chief, AMTCM Robert Dryburgh.

Glenn also recognized the accomplishments of BM3 Frank Marrano as the Enlisted Person of the Quarter and MK2 Kyle Dillon as the Enlisted Person of the Year award.



left to right: Council President Glenn Wiltshire, BM3 Marrano and Lt Rose



Glenn also presented a plaque to Captain Todd Lutes for his support of the Navy League. The Change of Command at the Air Station was held on July 21 when Captain Lutes left for his new assignment at SOUTH-COM. (see photo on Change of Command page)

# RECOGNIZING OUR ADOPTED UNITS

On July 31, Council President Glenn Wiltshire recognized USCG Margaret Norvell's Enlisted Person of the Quarter. Glenn presented EM3 Shelby Haggerty with a certificate of accomplishment along with a financial award. Shown in the photo (right to left) are EM3 Haggerty, Glenn Wiltshire and Commanding Officer LT Brittany Panetta.



On August 7, ME2 Jay Bermudez of TACLET South was recognized as Enlisted Person of the Quarter. Unfortunately, Council members were not available for the event. The Council's Certificate of Accomplishment was presented on the Council's behalf by MEC Kurt Yockel from the TACLET Operations Division. ME2 Bermudez has since departed on an extended deployment.



ME2 Bermudez on left; MEC Yockel on right

On August 30, Council President Glenn Wiltshire and Board member Alan Starr recognized the Enlisted Person of the Quarter at our adopted unit Coast Guard Station Fort Lauderdale. Recognized for her achievements were Fireman Elizabeth Carson.



From left: Alan Starr, MKC Herring, Fireman Carson, Glenn Wiltshire and BMC Graber

Our two adopted Navy ships, the USS Leyte Gulf and USS Bataan, are currently on deployment. However, we still recognized their outstanding sailors by forwarding certificates of accomplishment and monetary awards to the ships. Unfortunately, we were not able to get photos of these sailors.

Recognized for their accomplishments on the Leyte Gulf for quarter 1 were:

Sailor of the Quarter - STG1 (now STGC (sel) Charlie Williams  
 Junior Sailor of the Quarter - FC2 Jeffrey Hurley  
 Blue Jacket of the Quarter - YN3 Tyler Brock

For quarter 2, the recognized sailors were:

Sailor of the Quarter - CTR1 Jamie Schulze  
 Junior Sailor of the Quarter - CTT2 Leslie Beldner  
 Blue Jacket of the Quarter - STG2 Cassandra Langston

Sailors recognized for their accomplishments on the Bataan were:

Senior Sailor of the Quarter - IS1 Amy Grass  
 Sailor of the Quarter - SH2 Crystal Zibrowski  
 Junior Sailor of the Quarter - HM3 Maxwell Basden  
 Blue Jacket of the Quarter - AMAN Angelica Manuel



# OUR ADOPTED UNITS – CHANGE OF COMMANDS

On June 1, Chief Derek Strope was relieved by BMC Holly Burgrabe. Chief Strope's new assignment is in New Haven CT

On June 16, Commanding Officer LT Mark Ketchum was relieved by LT Derek Wallin at Station Fort Lauderdale.



Above (left to right) Shelley Beck, LT Wallin, Council President Glenn Wiltshire and Larry Ott

Below is Lt Ketchum with his wife and daughter



On June 23, RADM Scott Buschman was relieved by RADM Peter Brown as Commander, Coast Guard Seventh District. RADM Buschman transferred to Portsmouth, Virginia as the deputy commander of Coast Guard Atlantic Area. RADM Brown previously served at Coast Guard headquarters as assistant commandant for response policy.

On July 7, Commanding Officer CDR Michael Fredie was relieved by CDR Joe Meuse at TACLET South.



(left to right) Larry Ott, CDR Fredie, Council President Glenn Wiltshire and Alan Starr

On July 21, Commanding Officer CAPT Todd Lutes was relieved by CAPT Mike Platt at Air Station Miami. CAPT Lutes' new assignment is at SOUTHCOM.



(left to right) Captain Todd Lutes Council President Glenn Wiltshire and the new Command Master Chief, AMTCM Robert Dryburgh

# MEMBERSHIP

The Navy League now gives you the ability to renew your membership on-line - simply go to [join.navyleague.org](http://join.navyleague.org) and complete the information - remember to click on 'renewal membership' and type in Broward County under preferred council. This website can also be used for new members or for gift memberships.

A new Member Portal (<http://portal.navyleague.org>) has been created that will enable members to update their personal information, find Navy League training presentations on the Portal event calendar (take place on the third Thursday of each month) and more. (Please note that not all features are currently available.) You will need to visit the website to create a new user account/user ID/password. Once you register, it will take about 24 hours to receive confirmation that your user ID has been linked to your Navy League member record. Once you receive your email confirmation, click on the link embedded in the email or simply use the LOGIN button located in the upper right-hand side of the portal website.

## Welcome to New Members

Bruce Gottsch of Fort Lauderdale

Doyle I. Bolton of Miami

Andrew Kissoon of Coral Springs

Grace Veniero of Pembroke Pines

The Council is always looking for new members but there is also a need for additions to the Council's Board of Directors. We would appreciate Council members stepping up, giving us new ideas and helping us to improve the Council.

The Board meets monthly for about 2 hours at the administrative building at Port Everglades. We'd like you to join our efforts to provide support to the Seas Service units and local JROTC cadets.

If you are interested or have any questions, you can contact President Glenn Wiltshire directly at 718-619-7402 or at [wiltbrit@aol.com](mailto:wiltbrit@aol.com) or you can email the Council at [browardnavyleague@gmail.com](mailto:browardnavyleague@gmail.com).

# VIETNAM VETERANS

The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration was authorized by Congress and launched by President Barack Obama in 2012. It began with the Presidential inaugural event at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. on Memorial Day, May 28, 2012, and concludes on Veterans Day, November 11, 2025, by Presidential Proclamation. As the President stated, we, as a nation, will commemorate the 50th anniversary over a long period of time, as many Americans served and sacrificed over that long period of time. The Commemoration honors all United States veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time between November 1, 1955 to and May 15, 1975, regardless of location. The Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that today there are 7 million living Vietnam veterans and 9 million families of those who served in this time frame. We make no distinction between veterans who served in-country, in-theater, or who were stationed elsewhere during the Vietnam War period. All were called to serve and the overwhelming majority of these veterans served honorably and admirably. Congress outlined a total of five objectives for The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration, and the primary objective is to thank and honor Vietnam veterans and their families on behalf of the nation for their service and sacrifice. The four remaining objectives highlight the service of our Armed Forces and support organizations during the war; pay tribute to wartime contributions at home by American citizens; highlight technology, science and medical advances made during the war; and recognize contributions by our Allies. The presentation of a lapel pin provides each Vietnam veteran a lasting memento of the nation's thanks. The Commemoration is providing Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pins exclusively to Commemorative Partners for dignified public presentations to U.S. military veterans who served during the Vietnam War period as a lasting memento of the nation's thanks. Living United States veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are eligible to receive one lapel pin. *The above information is from the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration webpage ([vietnamwar50th.com](http://vietnamwar50th.com)).*

The Navy League as well as Broward Veterans Coalition are two of the many Commemorative Partners working to recognize and thank Vietnam veterans.

If you have any questions or would like more information on how to receive a label pin, you may contact Joe Giambrore at [giambronejm@gmail.com](mailto:giambronejm@gmail.com).

## MIA HOSPITALITY LOUNGE

Navy Corpsman Anthony “Doc” Ameen, attached to the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines deployed to Afghanistan in 2008, was attempting to save the life of a wounded Marine during an intense firefight when he stepped on an IED which tore off his left leg and severely injured his right leg, wrist and fingers. Doc Ameen was subsequently discharged with a Purple Heart and is a decorated Hospital Corpsman. He has spent the ensuing years in a desperate attempt to save his right leg from amputation and has undergone 34 surgical procedures at VA and private hospitals. He recently spent a week at Baptist Hospital in Miami, a member of the “Restoring Heroes” program established to treat severely injured service members at no cost by nationally recognized reconstruction orthopedic and dermatology surgeons. Travel and other family support expenses for Ameen and his family have been underwritten by the Gary Sinese Foundation. Ameen has recently established his own not-for-profit corporation, “Wings for Warriors”, to raise funds for combat wounded Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. Miami International Airport Director Emilio Gonzalez arranged the logistics for Doc Ameen and wife Stephanie’s travel, and volunteers at the Miami International Airport Military Hospitality Lounge were proud to host the couple at the Lounge while awaiting their flight home. The Ameens presently live in Phoenix, Arizona, with their four children.



Pictured with the Ameens are Miami International Airport Military Hospitality Lounge volunteers Council member George Cadman (far left), Bob Kunzler and Board member George Reeves. For more information on Wings for Warriors, visit [wingsforwarriors.org](http://wingsforwarriors.org) or their Facebook page.

*Story and photo provided by Board Member George Reeves.*

## SEAFARERS’ HOUSE SHOEBOX CHRISTMAS

Each year, Seafarers’ House delivers wrapped shoeboxes filled with socks, toiletries, and holiday cheer to seafarers who come from all over the world into Port Everglades. For those not familiar with Seafarers’ House, it is located on Port Everglades across from terminal 18. It is open year-round and provides mariners whose ships are visiting Port Everglades with a variety of services including pastoral care, money transfers and free Wi-Fi.

Board members Joe and Marianne Giambrone have been involved with the Seafarers’ House’s “Shoebbox Christmas” for several years and the planning has already begun for this year’s event. There is always a need for additional volunteers and funds and there are several ways you can help:

- Donate personal care items. The 10 items that go into each box are athletic white socks, combs, deodorant, disposable razors, shampoo, shaving cream, soap/shower gel, toothbrushes, toothpaste, pencils/pens/pencil sharpeners
- Volunteer to wrap and fill shoeboxes
- Volunteer to deliver filled shoeboxes to seafarers aboard their ships from late November to late December. Volunteers must be physically fit and over 18 years old.
- Make a cash donation to help with the cost of the personal care items used to fill the shoeboxes

For more information, please contact Joe or Marianne Giambrone at [giambronejm@gmail.com](mailto:giambronejm@gmail.com).



Photo from last year’s event. Board member Larry Ott is second from the right.

# RECEPTION ABOARD THE JS KASHIMA



On July 21, Board Members attended a reception aboard the JS Kahima. From left to right are: Erwin Sefton, Council President Glenn Wiltshire, Larry Ott, Tom Carney, JMSDF's Chief of Staff, Bob Marks, Captain Joe Solomon CG Sector Miami Deputy Commander, Marianne Giambrone and Joe Giambrone.

**BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA COUNCIL, INC.**  
**NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES**  
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