

# Michigan Angus News

## Connect with Michigan Angus in 2015!

I am looking forward to the opportunity to serve as your president of the Michigan Angus Association. This is an outstanding organization with active participation from our adult, ladies, and junior affiliates. However, we cannot rest on the strong traditions and the laurels of this organization. It IS time to move forward!!! We must do our very best to continue to move Angus cattle forward and keep them in the forefront of the beef cattle industry.

Cattle values continue to be at unprecedented highs whether it is fed cattle, breeding stock, or even cull cattle. Let's share some good news. The Michigan (MCA/MSU) Bull Evaluation Program set yet another record with an overall sale average of \$3,717 on 61 head. Tying for the top selling bull at \$6,000 was a consignment by Reitberg Angus Farms, Hudsonville, MI. The bull was purchased by Oesterle Farms, Mason, MI. Overall average on 33 head of Angus bulls was \$4,056.

The 57th Annual Michigan Angus Futurity Show and Sale was extremely strong with a bull average of \$3,735 and a female average of \$4,164! It was, perhaps, the strongest consignment of Angus genetics that we have seen for many years. The high selling lot of the Futurity and the entire Beef Expo was a cow/calf pair that was consigned by Bordner Farms, Sturgis. The heifer calf went to Sierrah Bogs of Trinity, TX for \$5,000 and her dam sold to Black Anchor Stock Farm, North Branch for \$3,000. There were a total of five first time exhibitors to the Futurity. One of those consigned a very impressive bull that was selected as the Grand Champion and High Selling Angus Bull. He was consigned by Brian Filhart, Clare, and sold to Don & Pat McKiernan, Richmond, MI for \$5,700.

Fitzner Farms, Bellevue consigned the Grand Champion Angus Female that sold for \$5,500 to David Adams, Grass Lake. Another first time exhibitor to the Futurity, KB Angus, Kevin Beckington of Merritt, consigned an exceptional open heifer who sold for \$7,000 to Mark Benaske, Rosebush. We must call attention to all of our first time Futurity exhibitors and thank them for their support. These include: Brian Filhart & Family, Kevin Beckington & Family, Sandy Reid & Family, Jerry & Bev Rosen, and Tabitha Grochowalski. Please refer to page 5 for a full sale report.

I also encourage you, if you are not, to become a member of the Michigan Cattlemen's Association. This is the organization that is the lifeblood of the Michigan beef cattle industry. Not only do they provide for events such as the Michigan Beef Expo; the Cattlemen's Summer Round-Up; the MCA Winter Conference; and the MSU/MCA Bull Evaluation Program. MCA is our power on the legislative side that sets the course for our Michigan beef industry. It pays to belong!

In closing, please plan to attend the 2015 Michigan Angus Field Day on Saturday, August 15 hosted by Single Tree Farms near Charlotte. This annual summer gathering promises to be a great day for juniors, adults, and the entire family.

It is important that I stress if there is anything on your mind concerning the Michigan Angus Association please contact me.

**Ken Geuns, President**  
**Phone: 517-230-8502**  
**Email: geuns@msu.edu**

**\* It's quick and easy to update your Michigan Angus membership online. Or, send the form on the back page with your check by mail.**

## angus calendar

June 12-14	2015 Michigan Angus Preview Show Michigan Beef Showcase, MSU Pavilion, East Lansing
June 13	Michigan Junior Angus Assn. Annual Meeting, MSU Pavilion
June 26-27	Michigan Cattlemen's Association Summer Round-Up, Jackson Register at <a href="http://www.micattlemen.org">www.micattlemen.org</a>
July 13-18	National Junior Angus Show, Tulsa, OK
July 16-18	NCBA Cattle Industry Summer Conference, Denver
July 16-19	Michigan Livestock Expo, MSU Pavilion, East Lansing
July 21	Michigan Livestock Expo "Sale-a-bration," MSU Pavilion
August 15	Michigan Angus Field Day, Single Tree Farms, Charlotte
September 1	MCA/MSU Bull Evaluation Nomination Due

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**Save the Date!**

**SATURDAY,**

**AUGUST 15**

**Michigan**

**Angus**

**Field Day**

**hosted by**

**Single Tree Farms**

**Charlotte, MI**

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# assn leadership

## CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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Mboeh99@gmail.com

## PRESIDENT

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geuns@msu.edu

## VICE-PRESIDENT

Bob Zellmer, Nashville  
(269) 945-7796  
bob@highbanksangus.com

## SECRETARY

Grace Boehmer, Olivet  
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singletreefarms1@gmail.com

## TREASURER

Lisa Bohlen, Pleasant Ridge  
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lbohlen@previewproperties.com

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Terms expiring in 2016

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Chris Pranger, Corunna, IN  
Steve Fitzner, Wolverine  
Dan Vaassen, Ann Arbor

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Chuck Preston, Prescott  
Jimmy Redmond, Bentley  
Nancy Thelen, Saline

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AMERICAN ANGUS ASSN. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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AMERICAN ANGUS ASSN. REGIONAL MANAGER

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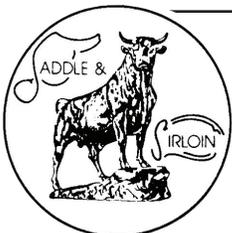
# annual meeting report

## GREAT ATTENDANCE AT 2015 ANNUAL MEETING IN JACKSON

Michigan Angus Association had a great attendance of members, juniors and guests at the 2015 annual meeting and banquet held March 8 in Jackson. Many thanks to all who participated in preparation of this event.

Michigan Angus Association, Michigan Angus Auxiliary and the Michigan Junior Angus Association all held meetings prior to a delicious CAB dinner and banquet celebration of a new year. Attendees participated in a lively raffle for "choice pick" of donated table baskets and gift bags. Both MAA and MJAA had a live auction of select items, featuring an embryo flush package donated by GGS Genetics, select semen packages donated by Northstar Cooperative and ABS Global, premium advertising pages in the 2015 Michigan Angus directory and other items. Many thanks to everyone who donated items for the association, the auxiliary and the juniors and to all who so generously purchased raffle tickets and bid on auction items.

Association Chairman of the Board, Merle Boehmer, presented the 2015 Michigan Angus Association Heritage Award to Dr. David and Kathleen Hawkins of Mason. The much deserved Heritage Award was presented in recognition of their long-time involvement, leadership and support of the association and the Angus breed. Junior and Auxiliary award winners are listed in this newsletter. Congratulations to all of them! Thanks also to Scott Foster, American Angus Association director, and his family for their attendance and his report on the American Angus Association. A special thank you to Merle Boehmer, past president, and welcome to Ken Geuns, president, as well as all past and newly elected board of directors members. Your past and future service to Michigan Angus is appreciated!



Angus breeder Dave Nichols of Bridgewater, Iowa has been selected as the 2015 inductee into the Saddle and Sirloin Portrait Gallery, largely considered the highest honor in the livestock industry. Dave was influential in the early formation of the Beef Improvement Federation (BIF) and served on its first board of directors in 1967, and later served as BIF president. Dave has maintained a quest for knowledge and a desire to serve. This has led him to serve in numerous leadership positions and receive countless awards and accolades. Internationally, Dave has spread the message and lessons of performance testing as well as U.S. entrepreneurial spirit throughout South America, Eastern Europe and Australia.

# commercial opportunity

## Capture premiums by giving your calves the name recognition they deserve

Would you like your feeder calves to have more name recognition in the marketplace? How about having access to a network representing over 40 feedyards that intend to buy more than one million head of high-end Angus feeder calves during the next year? If that sounds like a ticket to receiving “top dollar” when you sell your calves or yearlings, the Top Dollar Angus program could be right for you.

Top Dollar Angus is a genetics certification and marketing company focused exclusively on the best Angus-influenced feeder cattle/calves in the industry. To qualify, feeder cattle/calves must contain two or more generations of Angus genetics with growth and carcass traits in the top 25% of the breed. This new program is similar to Certified Angus Beef®, except that Top Dollar Angus does its “branding” in the feeder cattle and calf market. It works by certifying calf crops that meet program requirements on the farm or ranch, enabling these cattle to be marketed using the Top Dollar Angus brand name and logo. Top Dollar Angus feeder cattle are eligible to receive a \$50 per head premium (sometimes more) over the average market when sold to partner feedyards. One group of Top Dollar Angus steer calves recently sold on Superior Video Auction for \$67 per head above the average market for their weight and location. Another group was forward-sold for a \$52 per head premium.

For more information, contact Tom Brink at 303-478-4331 or email [tom@topdollarangus.com](mailto:tom@topdollarangus.com).

\* Questions? Contact Bob Zellmer, Chair, Commercial Opportunities Committee  
Phone 269-945-7796  
E-mail: [bob@highbanksangus.com](mailto:bob@highbanksangus.com)

Why are so many profit-minded cattle feeders interested in purchasing Top Dollar Angus calves and yearlings? It's because these cattle perform very well both in the feedyard and on value-based grids. Top Dollar Angus cattle consistently deliver rapid growth and high quality grades. That puts extra dollars in cattle feeders' pockets, which are passed back to cow-calf producers in the form of price premiums over and above the average market.

Cattle feeders have grown tired of the guesswork that comes with undocumented feeder cattle. They get too many surprises from group to group, even though the cattle may look the same and have the same color hide (often black). That's why the genetic certification of high-end Angus feeder cattle is a concept whose time has come. The cattle industry needs to differentiate the best Angus genetics from the rest, which is what Top Dollar Angus is all about.

Should you consider Top Dollar Angus certification for your calves? Absolutely--YES! If you've consistently invested in high-performing Angus genetics, we can make your calf crop stand out from the pack, and give you access to the Top Dollar Angus premium feedyard network, regardless of how you market your cattle (local auction, video, or direct trade). Our goal is to bring more demand to your doorstep.

## state preview show

\* INFO & ENTRY: [http://www.ans.msu.edu/extension/youth\\_events](http://www.ans.msu.edu/extension/youth_events)  
CONTACT: Carla McLachlan, 517-432-5402, e-mail [MCLACHL2@msu.edu](mailto:MCLACHL2@msu.edu)

### CLASSES FOR BOTH JUNIOR & OPEN CATTLE IN STATE PREVIEW SHOW

The Michigan Beef Showcase on June 12-14 at the MSU Pavilion in East Lansing is the site of the Michigan Angus Junior and Open Preview Show. Adult Angus breeders are encouraged to enter cattle in the Open Preview Show. Junior and open entries will show at the same time. Classes include heifers, cow-calf pairs, bulls and steers, as well as youth showmanship. A link to entry info is accessible at [www.michiganangus.org](http://www.michiganangus.org); click on Coming Events.

Entries must be POSTMARKED by May 26. Late entries are accepted but at a significantly higher fee. Early bird cattle arrival begins from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, June 12. However, cattle exhibitors may wait to arrive until Saturday. All cattle must be checked in between 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 13. Showmanship for all youth exhibitors will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday, followed by crossbred steer and market heifer classes. All breed shows are on Sunday. Angus will be the third breed to show.

### DELEGATES TO NJAA SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST TO BE SELECTED

Members of Michigan Junior Angus Association ages 16 to 20 as of January 1, 2015 can compete for the honor of representing our state at the NJAA Showmanship Contest in Tulsa, Oklahoma this summer. Those who wish to compete must contact Nancy Thelen by May 26 to verify membership in the American Angus Assn. or National Junior Angus Assn., as well as the MJAA. For more information, contact Nancy at 734-944-6262.

### YOUTH TO COMPETE IN EDUCATIONAL BEEF SKILLS CONTESTS

Beef skills educational contests for youth will again be held this year, including: Posters, Photography, Speeches, Team Sales, Team Fitting and Livestock Judging. The livestock judging program will begin at 11:30 a.m. and lunch will be served to the participants. All other contests will be held on Saturday afternoon. The contests are designed to help the junior exhibitors prepare for the educational contests at their respective breed's National Junior Show, and help them learn new skills in various areas. Compete details are in the entry packet.

Michigan Angus breeders Hy-View Farm (Merle and Janel Horrocks-Boehmer) and Dawson Farms (the Dawson Family) have generously offered to present cash awards to all Michigan Junior Angus members who participate in the contests. Be sure to check these out and encourage your juniors to consider participating in one or more of these opportunities.

# auxiliary news

## 2015 Michigan Angus Auxiliary Officers

President	Kris Boehmer	Co-Historians	Lori Pillars & Lois Foster
Vice President	Ricka Boehmer	Miss Michigan Angus Chair	Ricka Boehmer
Secretary-Treasurer	Sharon Vaassen	Scholarship Chair	Janel Horrocks-Boehmer
Awards Chair	Nancy Thelen	Past President (Advisor)	Sharon Vaassen

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### ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

The Michigan Angus Auxiliary held its annual meeting on March 8 in Jackson. The officers listed above were elected to serve during the coming year. The Auxiliary wishes to extend our appreciation to Katrena Klopfenstein for serving as Miss Michigan Angus for 2014. Appreciation is extended to Amanda Kosal and Kavina Johnson as well for representing Michigan as Angus Ambassadors. Miss Maggie Reid was crowned Miss Michigan Angus for 2015. Amanda Kosal will serve as Ambassador.

### 2015 ACHIEVERS

Twenty four junior members received the American Angus Auxiliary Certificate of Achievement for outstanding accomplishments during 2014. Recipients of this recognition included Jaycie Brown, Kavina Johnson, Kollin Johnson, Dylan Kennedy, Katrena Klopfenstein, Kendra Merriman, DeeAnne Merriman, Austin Pillars, Blake Pillars, Matthew MacMasters, Maire MacMasters, Amanda Kosal, Kristopher Kosal, Sterling Reichenbach, Jack Reid, Katie Reid, Rachel Reid, Maggie Reid, Claudia Albrecht, Tori DeMeyer, Keana Fahrni, Steven Soule, Brady Zellmer and Paige Zellmer. Congratulations to all!

### THANKS TO DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

The purpose of the Auxiliary is to support junior Angus programs, as well as our state Association activities. We wish to extend our warmest appreciation to Gene Bellingar for donating a hand crafted Angus table, proceeds from its sale will be used to support junior activities. Thanks also to those who donated and purchased items in the silent auction.

The Michigan Angus Association extends its gratitude to the Auxiliary for organizing and staffing the Angus hospitality booth at the recent Beef Expo. A special thanks to Janel Horrocks-Boehmer for chairing this project and to all the women who provided the treats. Exhibitors, buyers and guests really appreciated the coffee, hot chocolate, donuts, cookies and reception goodies. Thank you for your assistance.

### CONTINUING AUXILIARY SPONSORED AWARD

The Michigan Angus Auxiliary would like to collect the names of each youth who exhibits the Champion Angus Exhibit at a county fair, state fair or district or statewide preview show. The names of each winner will go into a drawing to be held at the Michigan Winter Beef Classic at the MSU Pavilion in December, 2015. The lucky recipient will receive a show halter from the Auxiliary. Information that is needed includes name of exhibitor, age, address, email address, phone, name of the fair or show where the champion award was received, and the contact information for someone from that show or fair. The above information should be sent by November 1st to Nancy Thelen at 7821 Weber Road, Saline, MI 48176 or emailed to hillsideacres01@aol.com.

### YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE AUXILIARY

The Auxiliary welcomes new members! If you are interested in becoming involved in our activities, contact Kris Boehmer 517-712-0421 or Sharon Vaassen 734-663-8071. A membership form is posted on the web site, and printed in the Michigan Angus Directory.

### AMERICAN ANGUS AUXILIARY SEEKING NEW LEADERS

The American Angus Auxiliary is committed to serving the business breed through a number of capacities each year. Youth scholarships, educational conferences and fundraising events are a few of the ways the volunteer organization gives back to the Angus business – efforts made possible thanks to a dedicated group of leaders.

The Auxiliary is now accepting nominations for the following positions: the 2015-2016 secretary/treasurer and directors for regions 4, 5 and 6 (the Midwest, South and Northeast). If you or someone you know is interested in a position on the American Angus Auxiliary executive team, please request a nomination form from Cortney Holshouser, Auxiliary advisor and past president, who also serves as the Nomination Committee Chair, and return by Aug. 1. For more details on the respective regions or officer duties, contact Holshouser, 919-796-2346 or kncholshouser@aol.com, or visit [www.angusauxiliary.com](http://www.angusauxiliary.com) and click on the "Guidelines" link.

## msu block & bridle show results

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Six Angus steers and thirteen Angus heifers were exhibited at the 2015 MSU Block and Bridle Club Junior Beef Show held on April 12 following the Michigan Beef Expo. The Champion Angus Steer and Champion Michigan Owned Angus Steer was exhibited by Austin Pillars from Martin, MI and the Reserve Champion was exhibited by Raegen Bender from Illinois. Amanda Kosal from Deckerville, MI exhibited the Reserve Champion Michigan-Owned Angus Steer.

In the heifer show, the Champion Angus Female was shown by Rachel Rodgers from Indiana. Her heifer was also selected as the 5th Supreme Overall Heifer. The Reserve Champion Angus Female and Champion Michigan Owned Angus Female was exhibited by Austin Pillars from Martin, MI. The Reserve Champion Michigan Owned Angus Female was shown by Kendra Merriman from Lowell, MI.

# junior association news

## 2014-15 Michigan Junior Angus Association

### OFFICERS

President	Kendra Merriman, kendramerriman@email.grcc.edu
Vice President	Kollin Johnson, hejohnsoncows@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Austin Pillars, clayknollfarm@att.net
Secretary	Rachel Reid, reidrac3@msu.edu
Awards Chair	Amanda Kosal, Amandakosal@gmail.com
Michigan Angus Rep	Kendra Merriman
Queen	Maggie Reid

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Katrena Klopfenstein
Jack Reid
Jaycie Brown
Kavina Johnson
Blake Pillars

### ADVISORS

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Heidi Johnson
hejohnsoncows@yahoo.com
Susan Merriman
susan.merriman@amway.com
Lori Pillars
clayknollfarm@att.net

### RECOGNITION AWARDS PRESENTED AT ANNUAL BANQUET – CONGRATULATIONS!

Outstanding Junior Member: Austin Pillars, Martin	Premier Exhibitor: Kendra Merriman, Lowell
Outstanding Senior Member: Katie Reid, Eaton Rapids	Premier Breeder: Kendra Merriman, Lowell
Adult Appreciation Award: Nancy Thelen, Saline	

### MJAA ANNUAL MEETING – Saturday, June 13, MSU Pavilion

The MJAA annual meeting will be held Saturday afternoon June 13 in the classrooms at the Pavilion at Michigan State University. A time is yet to be determined. All juniors and their families are invited to join us for snacks and a business meeting. Officers and directors for the coming year will be elected and we will finalize plans for the National Jr. Angus Show. A group photo of all Michigan Juniors will be taken. Juniors who are interested in running for an association director or officer position should contact junior advisor Rob Reid at (517) 663-4266

### NATIONAL JUNIOR ANGUS SHOW – July 13-18, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Information on the National Junior Angus Show and contests, as well as the LEAD conference was mailed out to all national junior Angus members who meet the age eligibility to participate in the activities sponsored by the American Angus Association. If you do not have your copy, you can obtain the information on-line at [www.njaa.info](http://www.njaa.info).

### MJAA TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIP TO ATTEND NJAA LEAD IN SEATTLE

The Michigan Junior Angus Association is awarding one Michigan Junior Angus Member a scholarship to attend the 2015 LEAD conference. This year's conference is in Seattle Washington, August 6-8. The winner of this scholarship will be announced at the Michigan Junior Preview Show in June, prior to the selection of the champion Angus female.

## michigan angus futurity

57th Annual Futurity  
2015 Michigan Beef Expo, April 10-11  
MSU Pavilion, East Lansing

### Grand Champion and High Selling Bull

#### Filhart 1415, Lot 113 – \$5,700

Consigned by: Brian Filhart, Clare

Buyer: Don & Pat McKiernan, Richmond

### Reserve Grand Champion Bull

#### Rains Top Game, Lot 107 – \$4,750

Consigned by: Rains Angus, Mercer, PA

Buyer: KaaDee Farms, North Branch

### Grand Champion Female

#### FF Raven 45, Lot 122 – \$5,500

Consigned by: Fitzner Farms, Bellevue

Buyer: David Adams, Grass Lake

### Reserve Grand Champion Female

#### Rains Miss Charlie Cassie, Lot 121 – \$4,100

Consigned by: Rains Angus, Mercer, PA

Buyer: Behrenwald Farms, Clarksville

CATEGORY	GROSS	AVERAGE	SALE GROSS: \$104,350
13 Bulls	\$48,500	\$3735	<b>Congratulations First Time Consignors!</b> Brian Filhart Family    Jerry & Bev Rosen Kevin Beckington Family    Tabitha Grochowalski Sandy Reid Family
13 Females	\$54,000	\$4154	
Live Lots	\$102,500	\$3942	
Two Embryo Lots	\$1800	\$300	

### High Selling Female

#### OGL CJS Elli Lu & BAF Eli 438B, Lot 132 & 132A Pair – \$8,000

Consigned by: Bordner Angus Farms, Sturgis

Lot 132 Buyer: Black Anchor Stock Farm, North Branch for \$3,000

Lot 132A Buyer: Sierrah Bogs, Trinity, TX for \$5,000

### 2nd High Selling Female

#### KB Lucy DM A44, Lot 130 – \$7,000

Consigned by: KB Angus, Merritt

Buyer: Mark Benaske, Rosebush

# Michigan Angus Association Membership Application

**BY MAIL**

Make check payable to: Michigan Angus Assn.  
Mail application and form to: Lisa Bohlen  
20 Fairwood Blvd., Pleasant Ridge, MI 48069

**ANNUAL DUES**

**\$25.00**

**ONLINE @ [www.michiganangus.org](http://www.michiganangus.org)**

Submit (or update) your farm contact information using the online form.  
Complete your payment through PayPal.

Farm Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Owner's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm Manager (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Junior Members (under age 21): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Farm Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Web Site: \_\_\_\_\_

Directions to farm: \_\_\_\_\_

• Michigan Angus News: Electronically \_\_\_\_\_ U.S. Mail \_\_\_\_\_ • Freezer Beef Sales Listing: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

• Check all committees that interest you:

\_\_\_\_\_ Marketing and Promotion: bull test, fall sale, futurity show & sale, commercial opportunities, preview show

\_\_\_\_\_ Education and Mentoring: new members, junior members, field day, annual banquet, member recruitment, educational articles

\_\_\_\_\_ Communications: web site, newsletter, directory, advertising

\_\_\_\_\_ Policies and Procedures: responsibility of board of directors; check if you are interested in serving on the board in the future

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