

# WINTERMAIL

EAA CHAPTER 25

MINNEAPOLIS / ST PAUL, MN

JULY 2006

## ***C-119 Flying Boxcar***

### ***Lands at Airlake*** *by Noel Allard*



I can remember this single event as one of the most spectacular aviation events in my memory. I took these pictures.

The scene is the July, 1970 Aquatennial Airshow at Airlake Field. The Air Force from Wold-

*(Continued on page 4)*

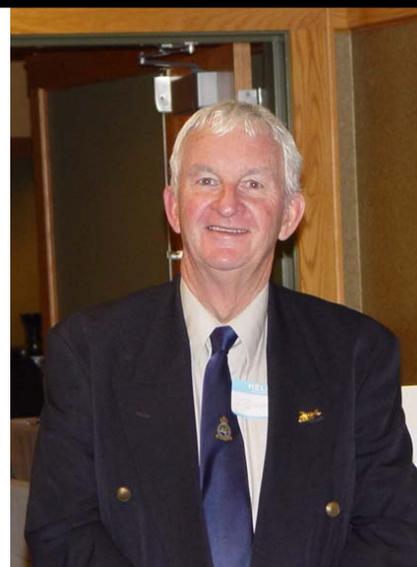
## ***Peter Denny named Chairman of Sonex Education Initiative***

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June 2, 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to inform you of Peter Denny's planned participation in the Sonex Aircraft, LLC Education Initiative. Mr. Denny has been constructing a Sonex aircraft as part of his teaching curriculum at

*(Continued on page 6)*



**Cleared for Takeoff**  
July meeting, June minutes

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# Cleared for Takeoff by Jon Cumpton

I had a new and unexpected experience a couple of weeks ago. At the New Richmond Airshow I just happened to buy a couple of chances to ride on the CAF's B-25. And I won! Although I kept meaning to buy a ride on a big bird like that, I hadn't gotten around to it before. It was a blast. After takeoff sitting in the jump seat behind the pilots, I crawled up to the nose to act as bombardier for the mission. The bomb sight was still in place, however the pilots informed me that we had no ordinance for the trip. But sitting up in front of those big Wright Cyclones was impressive, and only slightly quieter than sitting between them. "Deafening" takes on real meaning in a Mitchell at full tilt. On the ground, I was impressed with the dedication of all those CAF Colonels who volunteer their time to keeping warbirds in the air and on display for all generations.

June was also a great month for the Chapter. Thanks again to Jerry Farrell for inviting us to his hangar to view his RV8. Our Fundraiser is also off to a great start under Andy Hutchinson's direction. Last time I checked, we were already up to about \$1,000 in funds collected. We had another good turnout for the picnic and our Young Eagles numbers also took off this month. And don't forget that the Gusty is back together and looking good.

June was also a time of sadness for us with the passing of John Sullivan. John was a highly respected pilot and instructor who will be missed by all who knew him.

Now we are into July and only a couple of weeks away from Airventure. Once again, I hope everyone will consider volunteering at least a little time while they are there. For information about volunteering, go online to [www.airventure.org/2006/events/volunteers.html](http://www.airventure.org/2006/events/volunteers.html). You can also go to the Volunteer Center when you get to Airventure. Try it, you'll like it!

We also have just received news that our Website/Webmaster is once again a finalist for an EAA award. Jeff Coffey redesigned the site this year so amateurs like me can easily put content in it! Keep your fingers crossed on the morning of July 29<sup>th</sup>, when the awards are made at Airventure. Speaking of Jeff, his father has once again already established a beachhead at Camp Scholler. They are in Paul's woods again, just a bit farther south and west than they were last year. They'll put up the Chapter 25 banner again and anyone that is trying to track them down can call Jeff's cell : 612-327-1442. As always, Jeff tells us everyone in Chapter 25 is invited to stop by for drink and food! Please chip in to their effort if you stop by.

For our July Chapter meeting, Lou Martin will once again tell some aviation stories by way of introducing his new book: Close Encounters with the Pilot's Grim Reaper. We have also asked Karen Workman, the AOPA volunteer for Airlake, to come back and update us on current airport issues. In particular, after the changes to the Class B airspace, there seems to be some confusion about VFR transition around MSP. Also, the Nametag Drawing, which was on vacation last month, will return – so don't miss it!!

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# ON FINAL



Minneapolis/St. Paul

Visit our website at [eaa25.org](http://eaa25.org)

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# ***This Month: Wed. July 19th—Chap. hangar 6:00 pm***

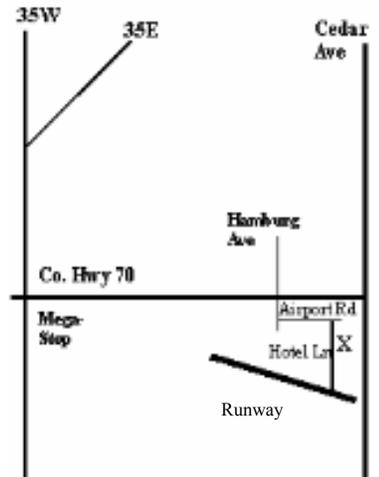
**Grill on at 6, Meeting starts at 7:00 pm  
Bring something to grill and something to pass.**

**Program:** For our July Chapter meeting, Lou Martin will once again tell some aviation stories by way of introducing his new book: Close Encounters with the Pilot's Grim Reaper. We have also asked Karen Workman, the AOPA volunteer for Airlake, to come back and update us on current airport issues. In particular, after the changes to the Class B airspace, there seems to be some confusion about VFR transition around MSP. Also, the Nametag Drawing, which was on vacation last month, will again return – so don't miss it!!

## **Saturday, Aug 19th—EAA Sport Pilot Tour at Airlake—Volunteers needed!**

### **Directions to June Meeting at Airlake Airport (LVN):**

South on I-35 to Hwy 70 (Megastop), then East to Hamburg Ave (3rd stop sign.) Right turn and South to airport perimeter road. Left on airport perimeter road then right on Hotel or India Lane. Please park on grass between hangars.



## **EAA Chapter 25 Meeting Minutes June 21, 2006**

**Presiding Officer: Jon Cumpton**

**Location: Chapter Hangar at Airlake**

### **Business meeting discussions**

The following guests were introduced:

Eric Koser      Paul Vetter

All members are encouraged to wear nametags during chapter events. Email Jon Cumpton to order one at a cost of \$5.

Our chapter website, EAA25.org is updated regularly. Members are encouraged to visit often for current chapter information. We are always looking for articles to publish. If you have something to post on the website please email it to Jon Compton or Jeff Coffey. Jeff reported the following information about the visitors to our site:

- We see several hundred visitors per week
- 80% are from the Twin Cities, Western WI, and MN
- We have had hits from every continent except Antarctica
- 50% of the traffic is directed to us from a Google search
- 25% is directed to us from EAA
- Over 50% of visitors are new to the site
- The L4 article is the most popular item

Members are encouraged to sign up with Pete Gavin to get the chapter newsletter via email instead of the USPS. The electronic version is in color and email saves postage expense.

John Koser reported that we flew 40 Scouts at our Young Eagles rally on June 17. We are currently planning on flying more Scouts on our YE Saturdays in both July and August. We need pilots and ground crew for these events. Please call John Koser or Jeff Coffey if you can help out.

Our annual fundraiser is now underway. Andy Hutchinson is leading the program and is distributing tickets to chapter members. First prize is \$1000. Second prize is a ride in a Travel Air Biplane. The drawing will occur during our banquet. This fundraiser helps us fund many programs and all members are encouraged to sell at least 10 tickets.

Our annual chapter banquet is planned for October 8<sup>th</sup> at the Eagan Community Center. Tom and Sharon Poberzny will be our special guests!

Chapter 25 will sponsor the EAA Sport Pilot Tour on August 19. The event will be held at Airlake. EAA Chapter 237 from Anoka will partner with us and provide the food service. Volunteers are needed so please sign up to help.

The Gusty is now complete and ready for display. The display location is yet to be determined. A big thanks to the team who worked on this project.

Our chapter is going to try a new program to help members participate in local area breakfast fly-ins. If you would like to ride along on an airplane outing to a breakfast send an email to Jon Compton. He will post those wanting a ride on the website and pilots that have an open seat will contact people on the list.

Harvey Havir and Phil Schaffer discussed their experiences during their recent OSH work weekend. Work completed included grass cutting and carpentry work. Entertainment included a showing of the Space Ship One exhibit. A good time was had by all.

Our July meeting will feature chapter member Lou Martin discussing his new book titled *Close Encounters with the Pilots Grim Reaper*. Karen Workman will also present the latest airport news. The August meeting will have a showing of the movie *One Six Right*.

If you are looking for a ride or are looking for a rider to OSH AirVenture please send Jon Compton an email.

### **Program**

*Chapter member Paul Pankratz and guest Steve Walek explained the Pilots for Christ of Minnesota organization.*

*We enjoyed seeing Jerry Farrell's RV 8 project.*

Submitted by Craig Nelson

# ***Flying Boxcar at Airlake*** (From page 1)

Chamberlain provided a C-119 Flying Boxcar for a display aircraft for the show. The airstrip then was not nearly as long as it is now. The pilot of the big plane made a short field landing, immediately throwing the props into reverse upon touching down, thus the flames belching from the exhausts. (photos 1-5)

In photo 1, you will notice an F-89 Scorpion parked in the grass. That belonged to Johan Larsen. He purchased it from some Air Force surplus depot and was going to display it at his Aircraft Museum. He had planned on building a museum in the Hampton area, but couldn't get the zoning, so he created the museum at Flying Cloud. (I worked for him there on weekends three summers in the mid 1970s. ) The Scorpion couldn't land on Flying Cloud's short runways and was vandalized and became an 'attractive nuisance' at Lakeville ... and was sold for scrap!



At the end of the show, the pilot executed an impossible short field takeoff, holding the brakes until the engines were at full power, then pulling the nose high into the air almost immediately. What a thrill. (photos 6-9 on page 5)

*(Continued on page 5)*



Noel Allard with Jim Borden, posing with Jim's newly restored PA-11 Cub Special at the grass strip bordering Noel's home south of Park Rapids.



Noel's photos of the C-119 flying at Airlake certainly brought back fond and sometimes scary memories. The C-119 depicted in the pictures was a C-119G, the latest model built by Fairchild. They were equipped with the Wright R-3350 Cyclone, turbo-compound 18 cylinder engines instead of the smooth running 28 cylinder Pratt & Whitney 4360. The reason for the engine conversion was that the 4360 was in high demand as they were used on C-124s, B-36s, KB-50s and KC-97s so there were not enough being produced to hang on the C-119. The Wright R-3350 was unique in that it was equipped with three power recover turbines driven by engine exhaust gas and connected by fluid couplings to the crankshaft. These turbines would occasionally explode and I experienced one such explosion when crossing the Alps.

The G model was also equipped with a different prop than earlier models. It had an Aeroproducts four-blade prop, instead of the Hamilton Standard. This propeller had some growing pains as it had the habit of going into reverse in flight and was the result of several fatal accidents.

I flew all models of the C-119 from 1953 to 1958 and survived 2,500 hours in this sometimes scary aircraft. When I picked up my first C-119 I only had 30 minutes flight time and three take-off and landings in it and my copilot and crew chief had never set foot in one. (An interesting story.)

The C-119 is a big chapter in my new book *Close Encounters with the Pilot's Grim Reaper*, which I'll talk about during our July 19th meeting.

Noel's picture of the C-119 making a short-field landing was par for the course. As I'm sure the aircraft was empty and in addition to propeller reversing it was equipped with Anti-skid brakes which were very effective. We used to practice "assault landings" and it was amazing how quickly we could stop.

Lou Martin

## Stuff for Sale/Wanted

For Sale: RV-6/6A project in Burnsville—pre-punched empennage and wing kits are complete. Right wing is jigged with the skeleton and main skins clecoed in place. All parts primed. Includes elec trim, wing Indg lts and AOA kit. \$5000 for all, but am on furlough from Mesaba and willing to negotiate. Chad Tarara [ctarara@comcast.net](mailto:ctarara@comcast.net) 952-956-4614

Wanted: I am working almost daily on my Fisher project. Down the road I will need some instruments. This will be a VFR setup. Engine will be a Subaru. Let me know if you have something I might be able to use. Contact [philschaffer@peoplepc.com](mailto:philschaffer@peoplepc.com)

Downsizing! AAHS (American Aviation Historical Society) Journal Quarterlies, complete 1971-88. Total 83 issues. Great stuff, fabulous artwork, 3-views, archival photos of pioneer, airline, military and GA subjects. A ton of good WWII articles. Subscription would have been \$450 for these! \$150. Noel Allard. [nallard@unitelc.com](mailto:nallard@unitelc.com).

Quality radiant floor heated hangar space for rent at Fleming Field. Monthly rent commensurate with aircraft size. Utilities shared. New hangar top notch with excellent light and electric power. Completed and project experimentals welcome. CFI, A&P with IA, EAA Tech Counselor owner. Chris Bobka cell 612/207-3762

# **Peter Denny** (From page 1)

Washburn High School's Aviation and Aerospace SLC (Small Learning Community) since 2004. Because of Mr. Denny's exemplary work championing aviation education in public schools, and his specific experience with the Sonex aircraft and metal aircraft construction techniques, we have asked him to serve as Chairman of our new Education Initiative, a program which will be announced to the world's aviation press and to the public at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2006.

The Sonex Aircraft Education Initiative, at its core, will consist of an airframe kit discount incentive to qualified educational institutions and community organizations. A key component of the program will be a new annex to the SonexAircraft.com web site dedicated to the Sonex Education Initiative. This web site will provide sample curricula for various types of aviation programs, involving the Sonex, geared toward all grade levels from 6<sup>th</sup> grade up to the college level; will feature on-line construction logs from all participating educational institutions; will offer peer-to-peer networking opportunities via online discussion groups for both teachers and students; will provide links to Sonex Aircraft, LLC resources including technical support data; will provide advice and support for educational institutions wishing to start a new aviation program and will include curriculum for a trial educational unit including a hands-on sample metalworking project that educators may use to prove the viability of the program in their school.

Mr. Denny's responsibilities in his role as program Chair will include the following:

- Speaking at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh in a scheduled forum for educators interested in starting aviation programs at their schools, as well as community organization leaders wishing to involve youth from their community in an aircraft construction project. This forum will give general information about aviation-related educational programs as well as specific information regarding the Sonex and its suitability for such a program.
- Submit his own curriculum and other support materials for distribution via the Sonex Aircraft, LLC Education Initiative web site, and craft sample curriculum examples for other types of non-SLC programs. Mr. Denny will also solicit sample curricula from other aviation educators and advise Sonex staff in the management of an on-line knowledgebase of submitted curricula.
- Mr. Denny will be asked to moderate two on-line discussion groups: one group will be for educators to share their experiences teaching aviation programs using the Sonex aircraft; the second discussion group will be a peer-to-peer group for students of Sonex educational programs to connect and share

their experiences across the globe. Note that Mr. Denny will not be expected to handle technical support of Sonex construction projects, as all participating schools will receive free technical support services via telephone and email from Sonex Aircraft, LLC.

In addition to highlighting Sonex Aircraft, LLC as a leader in the kit aircraft marketplace, we have high hopes for this Education Initiative to reach thousands of young people across the globe, inspiring and educating tomorrow's aviation professionals and hobbyists. We feel that Mr. Denny is perfectly suited for the role of program Chair and we look forward to working with him and Washburn High School in this exciting endeavor.

If you have any further questions about this program, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Mark Schaible

## **Update on Airlake**

**from Karen Workman**

Hey Everyone,

At the recent MAC/LVN airport meeting, a couple of interesting items were discussed.

1. Repaving of the alleyways between hangars I through M will likely begin sometime after July 10 and be completed by the first of August.

Planes may be pulled or towed during much of this time but powered aircraft on the unfinished project would wreak havoc. While this will be a significant inconvenience to tenants of those hangars, it is a necessary improvement to our airport from which we all benefit.

2. Repair of the AWOS continues. MNDoT says it is awaiting required licensing to operate the new equipment. The AWOS has been practically unusable for about a year now, however, Princeton needs to receive complaints in order to facilitate repairs. They have not logged any complaints and therefore don't believe there is a critical problem at Airlake.

PLEASE CALL PRINCETON EVERY TIME you fly and have trouble with the AWOS.

Their number is 800-WX-BRIEF.

Karen Workman  
Cargill Corporate Aircraft  
612/970-7560 phone  
612/970-7566 fax  
karen\_workman@cargill.com

# Gone West

Chapter members were greatly saddened to learn of the sudden passing of John Sullivan on June 15th. John was a long term member of Chapter 25 who was very active in the Twin Cities aviation community and in Chapter 25. John was a frequent volunteer in chapter activities, from Young Eagles to special events like the one pictured here, when volunteers were needed at the Mall of America to man the 1903 Wright Flyer display.

John could be often be found at Airlake airport on Saturday morning, helping out at the chapter hangar and joining members at the Buckboard.

As a career airline pilot, John shared the cockpit at times with a number of chapter members. He continued his professional flying career after his retirement from Northwest Airlines by instructing in many types of aircraft from twins to tailwheels, and maintained currency in helicopters as well.



*John Sullivan at the Mall of America in 2003, serving as a volunteer at the 1903 Wright Flyer Replica display. He is shown with Ruth Høglund of Northwest Airlines Retirees Association.*

John always had a ready smile and a helping hand whenever needed, and he will be greatly missed by all those he touched in our aviation community.



Sullivan, John Thomas age 72 of Burnsville, retired Northwest Airlines pilot, died on June 15, 2006. Preceded in death by his son, John D. Sullivan and brother, Gerald. Survived by his loving wife of 48 years, Monica; beloved children, Lisa (Dr. Steve) Gott, Christopher (Joann) Sullivan, and Cheryl (Jeff) Holst; grandchildren, Tyler, Ryan, Adam, and Rachel Gott, Colin, Ranae, and Cory Sullivan, and Johnathan & Bennet Holst; sister-in-law, Ann Cappadanno; also by other loving relatives and many friends. Mass of Christian Burial 11 AM Tuesday at Mary, Mother of the Church (3333 East Cliff Rd) Burnsville. Visitation from 4-8 PM Monday at White Funeral Home (12804 Nicollet Ave) Burnsville and one hour prior to the service at church. Interment: Resurrection Cemetery, Mendota Heights.

ON FINAL JULY 2006



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CLAY ADAMS

***Banquet Volunteers  
 Needed!!!***

**We need volunteers for our 2006 Annual Awards Banquet scheduled for Oct 8th. Join the Banquet Committee! Contact Pat Halligan if you can help with this.**

# Chapter Events and Fly-Ins

**July 19th Ch 25 Meeting**  
Chapter hangar at Airlake (LVN)  
Lou Martin & Karen Workman  
See page 3 for map & directions

**Jul 15th Young Eagles at 9am**  
Chapter hangar at Airlake (LVN)

**Aug 16th Ch 25 Meeting**  
Movie Night "One Six Right"

**Aug 19th Sport Pilot Tour (LVN)**  
Volunteers needed for this event.  
Contact Jon Cumpston.

**Future meetings** 8/16, 9/20, 10/18,  
11/15, 12/20, 1/17, 2/21, 3/21, 4/18

**Aug 6 Chetek Wi (Y23) 1030a to?**  
Free BBQ Chicken til gone  
715/924-4501

**Aug 6 Walker Mn (Y49) 730a-1230p**  
Fly-in bkfst 218/836-2184

**Aug 8 Superior Wi (SUW)**  
Fly-in Bkfst 218-729-7764

**Aug 11-13 Bloomer Wi (WI18)**  
Open house/Airshow/Camping  
[www.zanklites.com](http://www.zanklites.com)

**Aug 13 Longville Mn (XVG) 8-11a**  
Fly-in Bkfst & Centennial 402/488-3876

**Aug 13 Lk Elmo Mn (21D) 7a-12p**  
Fly-in bkfst, Aviation Day 651/439-5040

**Aug 13 Albert Lea Mn (AEL) 7a-4p**  
Fly-in bkfst, Wings & Wheels car show  
507/373-0608

**Aug 17 Superior Wi (SUW)**  
Club Cherokee in Crystal is sponsoring  
Flights of WWII vets to Bong Museum  
Contact (763) 550-9323 to help.

**Aug 19 Forrest Lk Mn (25D) 10-4p**  
Fly-in YE rides, Brats, burgers, ice  
cream 651-776-1717

**Aug 19 Glencoe Mn (GYL) 1030a-2p**  
Brat & sweet corn feed 320/238-2376

**Aug 20 Mankato Mn (MKT)**  
Fly-in 507-345-1510

**Aug 20 Pipestone Mn (PQN)**  
Fly-in Bkfst (507) 562-2473

**Aug 20 Litchfield Mn (LJF) 7a-12p**  
Fly-in bkfst 320/693-6189

**Aug 26 Windom Mn (MWM) 8a-1p**  
Fly-in bkfst, model airplane club mtg  
507/831-5995

**Aug 27 Owatonna Mn (OWA) 7a-1p**  
Fly-in bkfst, free shuttle to Cabela's  
507/444-2448

**Sep 2 Shell Lk Wi (SSQ) 730-11a**  
Fly-in Bkfst 715/468-2963

**Sep 9 Superior Wi (SUW)**  
Fly-in Bkfst 218/729-7764

**Sep 9 Osceola Wi (OEO) 8a-p**  
Fly-in bkfst, Wheels & Wings  
715/294-2618

**Sep 9-10 Eden Prairie Mn (FCM)**  
Mn Air Expo [www.wotn.org](http://www.wotn.org)

**Sep 10 Maple Lk Mn (MGG) 1130a-2p**  
Fly-in pork chops 763/477-6021

**Sep 16 Faribault Mn (FBL) 7a-1p**  
Fly-in Bkfst, Hot Air Balloon Fest  
507/744-5111

**Sep 17 Rush City Mn (ROS) 8a-12p**  
Fly-in bkfst classic cars, static display  
320/358-4743

**Oct 7 Park Rapids Mn (PKD) 10a-3p**  
Fly-in fish fillet, fries & salad  
218/237-8528

**Jul 15 Hallock Mn (HCO) 8a-1p**  
Fly-in Bkfst 218/843-1059

**Jul 15 Two Harbors Mn (TWM) 7a-1p**  
Fly-in Bkfst 218/834-4784

**Jul 15-16 Benson Mn (BBB)**  
Sat dance, camping, Sun Bkfst & Circus  
in pm at airport. 320/843-4432.

**Jul 15-16 White Bear Lk Mn (Benson)**  
Hangar dance Sat., Pancakes Sun.  
320-843-4432

**Jul 16 Sleepy Eye Mn (Y58) 630-1230p**  
Fly-in bkfst 507/794-2151 ext. 127

**Jul 16 Blue Earth Mn (SBU) 8a-1p**  
Fly-in bkfst 507/526-7264

**Jul 16 Eden Prairie Mn (FCM) 8a-1p**  
Fly-in Bkfst, Zuhrah Clubs  
Performances 763/228-3643

**Jul 21-23 Stevens Pt Wi (STE)**  
Stevens Pt 300 X-country air races  
903-564-9410

**Jul 23 Preston Mn (FKA)**  
Fly-in Bkfst 507-765-2582

**Jul 23 Marshfield Wi (MFI) 8a-noon**  
Fly-in Bkfst 715-387-6417

**Jul 24-30 OSH AirVenture 2006**

**Jul 29 Silver Bay Mn (BFW) 7-11a**  
Fly-in bkfst [bjella@lakenet.com](mailto:bjella@lakenet.com)

**Jul 30 Olivia Mn (OVL) 8a-12p**  
Foy-in bkfst, Corn Capitol Days  
320-212-1999

**Aug 5 Elbow Lk Mn (Y63) 9a-1p**  
Ribeye sand. meal 218) 685-4941

**Aug 5 Cloquet Mn (COQ)**  
Airshow (check notams), BBQ, Corn,  
Homebuilt judging. [pin-eriver1@aol.com](mailto:pin-eriver1@aol.com)

**Aug 5-6 Milaca Mn (18Y)**  
Sat. BBQ/camp out. Sun. 7-12p Bkfst.

**Aug 6 Red Wing Mn (RGK)**  
Fly-in Bkfst 715-448-3800



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