

Newsletter

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Easton

November 2007

Sermons

Unitarian Universalist Saints & Souls

November 4

November 1st in the calendar of the church is All Saints Day. November 2nd is All Souls Day. Dan Higgins' sermon will honor four Unitarian Universalist saints and souls.

November 11, Important Beliefs

Do "Non Believers" or atheists not believe in the same God? John Turner, service leader, states "many in our congregation describe themselves as 'non believers,' but my experience is that all of us have important beliefs."

November 18, *The Thanksgiving Visitor*

This Truman Capote book was published in 1967. The setting is rural Alabama during the depression of the 1930's. Dan shares this story about meaning and sharing and human relationships.

November 25, The Art of Gratitude

We'll close the Thanksgiving weekend with readings, songs, and reflections on those things for which we are thankful - and on the Art of Gratitude. Janet Pfeffer, service leader.

Read the weekly sermons and continue our after-sermon multilogues at <http://uufe-dialogue.blogspot.com>

Visit our web site <http://www.uufeaston.org> for more information about our Fellowship, for current and past editions of the Newsletter and monthly calendar.

How About a UUFE

Thanksgiving?

If family and old friends are too far away to spend Thanksgiving with, plan to join others from UUFE for a potluck feast at Gail Woodall's home. Our gathering last year was heart-warming and fun - and the food was delicious. Gail will provide the turkey. The rest of the meal will consist of whatever each person brings. It was quite amazing how it all came together for a perfect Thanksgiving meal last year. Call Gail at 410-820-8541 by Friday, November 16 if you plan to attend. We'll eat about 4:00 p.m. Arrive anytime after 3:00 p.m. for conversation and to help set tables and do other odd jobs.

A Thanksgiving Prayer

Lord, behold our family here assembled.
We thank thee
For this place in which we dwell;
For the peace accorded us this day,
For the hope with which we expect tomorrow;
For the health, the work, the food
And the bright skies that make our lives delightful,
For our friends in all parts of the earth and our friendly helpers.

Let peace abound in our small company.

Robert Louis Stevenson

Sunday Service and School

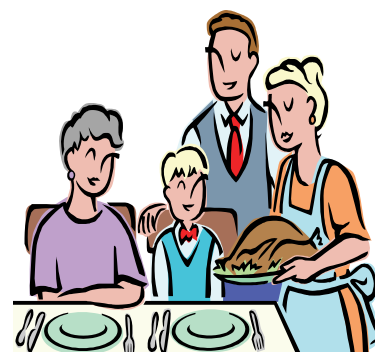
10:00 a.m.

7401 Ocean Gateway



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Religious Education

Our Calendar

November 4th

UU Principle 4 – A free and responsible search for truth and meaning

November 11th

UU Principle 4 – Asking questions

November 18th

UU Principle 5 – The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in society at large

November 25th

Giving Thanks

A Few Words from Religious Education

In November we will study Unitarian Universalist principles four and five. Principle four is the belief that each person must be free to search for what is true and right in life. We will discuss our favorite teachers and what we learned from them. Please feel free to share your thoughts about education and your favorite teacher with our children. We will also spend a Sunday talking about asking questions. By asking questions we can find out what is true and learn from the answers. Although sometimes the answers may lead to more questions!

Principle five is the belief that all people should have a vote about the things that concern them. We will discuss the voting process and the role of Susan B. Anthony. *Liz Hausburg, DRE*

Religious Education Needs for November

◇ Small carpet squares

(If you have an item to donate, please see Liz Hausburg, Nancy Dimond or Colleen Ronning.)

Ministerial Thoughts

Daniel's Docket:

It has been said that the function of art is three-fold; it teaches us to see, it teaches us what to see, and it teaches us to see more than we see. Every season of the year performs the same task. The Fall comes with its crisp morning air, the beauty of the falling leaf, the brilliance of the autumn full moon, the gracious disrobing of nature, to remind us of the overwhelming beauty of earth and sky.

In this season of the year Thanksgiving comes with its spirit, like art, to teach us to see, to inform us what to see, and to enable us to see more than we see.

George Herbert wrote,

"Thou, that hast given so much to me,
Give one thing more, a grateful heart."

Wherever you may be on Thanksgiving may the spirit of joy and thanksgiving be present with a "grateful heart."

Shalom,

dgh

President's Corner

Interim/Called Minister Selection

We are thankful to have Dan Higgins with us this year to be a stabilizing influence as we prepare to select an interim minister for the 2008-2009 year and then a called minister to start in the fall of 2009. The process to select both the interim minister and the called minister will be put into motion next spring.

The Interim Ministerial Search Committee ("IMSC"), chaired by Nancy Dimond, will start work again next January. At the annual meeting of Accredited Interim Ministers ("AIMS") and AIMS in Training in April, applications from many congregations will be reviewed. After that meeting, the UUA Transitions Office will send us a short list of potential ministerial candidates for consideration. Information packets will be exchanged between the ministers and the applicants. The IMSC reviews each candidate's packet and then contacts them by phone to gain additional information. If the IMSC feels that one of the ministerial applicants is suitable, the recommendation is taken to the UUFEB Board for approval, and then an offer will be made to the candidate. The candidate may elect to visit us before making a final decision and signing a contract.

If a suitable candidate is not identified in the first round, a second group of interim candidates will be provided by the UUA Transitions Office for consideration. This group may include some individuals who are not AIMS or AIMS in Training. By starting the process early, we hope to secure a suitable trained interim minister for our Fellowship.

The process for selecting a called minister is more time consuming and may take up to 15 months or more to complete. Individuals who have experienced this process recommend that it not be hurried in order to insure a good result.

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Gatherings

First Friday Teen Night, Friday, November 2: On Friday November 2nd from 7 until 10pm, we will have our second First Friday Teen Night. Join us for activities and spaghetti dinner, followed by 'make your own sundae'. This event is for UUFE teens (13 & up) and their friends. Reconnect with old friends and make some new ones! We will discuss the upcoming Winter Con and projects that you would like to have. For those who aren't familiar with Cons, they are a giant teen sleepover at a sponsoring church where you will meet other UU teens and work on important issues. The topic for the Winter Con is "Social Justice." Contact Colleen Ronning (colleendr13@yahoo.com or 410-770-3843) for more information and to let her know if you are coming.

Men's Lunch Bunch, Wednesday, November 7th and 21st: Men from the Fellowship gather promptly at 11:30 at the Easton Airport Café. - before 11:30 for fare from the breakfast menu.

Women's Lunch, Thursday, November 8th, Noon: The plan is to alternate, monthly, in and out of Easton which allows those on a lunch break to join us now and then. On the 8th we'll lunch at the Waterside Café at the Easton Club. Please call Edie Swallow at 410-745-5170 so she can make reservations.

Movie Night, Friday, November 9: This month's movie is *The Third Man* shown at the Fellowship. Who was Harry Lime? And who killed him? And is he really dead? These are just a few of the questions writer-turned-sleuth Holly Martins (Joseph Cotten) tries to answer as he strolls the shadowy streets of postwar Vienna. Director Carol Reed turns Graham Greene's classic mystery into a film noir without equal. You'll be humming the zither theme for weeks! Our host is David Stevens. We'll eat at 6:30 and the movie starts at 7:00.

The Book Group, Thursday, November 15: We meet at the Fellowship at 11:00 in the Archer-Shee room, and invite all to bring a brown bag lunch and share these very informal discussions. Even if you haven't read the books, come join us. We also enjoy hearing something of your recent reads. Our focus for November is Jenette Walls' *The Glass Castle*. The tea kettle will be boiling. For more information, call Joanne Baynard at 410-770-8277.

Women's Spirituality Circle, Thursday, Nov 15. All women are invited to honor the female divinity at 7 p.m. in this monthly circle at the Fellowship. For more information contact Beth Hansen at 410-253-0214.

Yuletide Sales and Crafts, Saturday, November 17: The Fundraising Committee is planning a 'Yuletide Sales and Crafts' event for Saturday November 17th from 10am until 2pm. There will be crafts for all ages, wreath making, hot soup and fresh bread for lunch, baked goods and items for holiday shopping. Do you have old balls? We need donations of Christmas decorations and evergreen cuttings for our wreath making workshop. We also need volunteers to work at the event, but more importantly, we need your talent. Some fresh baked bread or treats? A holiday decoration that you like to make? A hobby that creates items to sell? Contact Colleen Ronning (colleendr13@yahoo.com or 410-770-3843)

Catalog Fundraiser: During the Yuletide Sales and Crafts event, selected items from the Syracuse Cultural Workers catalog will be on display. Items include thought provoking books, t-shirts, cards and calendars. You can also view products on their website, www.syracuseculturalworkers.com, but be sure to place all orders with a member of our UUFE Fundraising Committee, Tom Anovick, Patty Joiner, Debra Hathaway, Colleen Ronning, Janet Pfeffer, or Beth Hanson. Contact one of them for a catalog; they'll place your order.

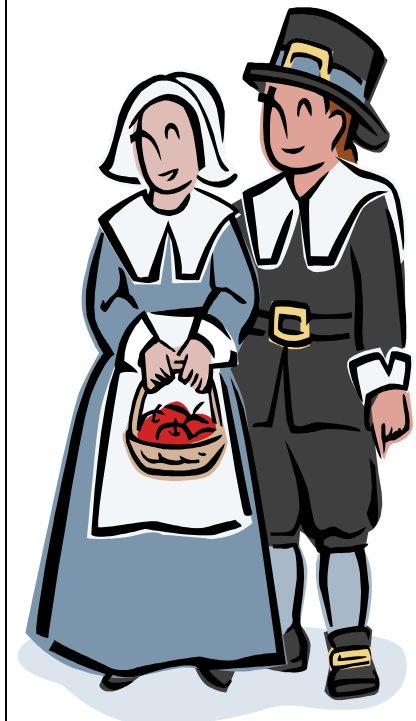
(continued, pg 4)

Presidents Corner, continued

The first phase of this process, called Direction-Finding, will start next February when the Ministerial Settlement Representative from the Joseph Priestley District will visit the Fellowship on a Sunday morning to talk to the congregation and the Board about the process of calling a minister. The Board then adopts a search committee ("SC") budget and a financial package for a called minister. The Nominating Committee will recommend candidates for the SC. A special congregational meeting is planned in March 2008 for the congregation to elect the SC members and to approve the committee budget and ministerial financial package. Once elected, the SC members will go on a retreat and then begin work on gathering information by surveys or cottage meetings about what qualifications and characteristics the membership would like the called minister to have.

Additional steps in the process will be discussed in a future article.

Dick Doughty



Adult Religious Education

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm unless noted

November 7, Rabbit Proof Fence

This Australian film, a wonderful spiritual adventure story, starts at **6:00 p.m.** this evening. It examines the insidious paternalism at the heart of government efforts to force the assimilation of half-caste aboriginal children. We will explore echoes of the efforts of whites in our country to improve the lives of Native Americans. A donation for dinner will be requested. Leader: Gail Woodall

November 14, Congregational Conversations

This evening will provide an opportunity to discuss matters concerning our congregational life. Topics addressed:

Silence in the sanctuary

Joys and Sorrows

Changing faces of ministry

Choosing Social Action projects

If you wish to add other topics, call Jean Rhian (410-822-5807) in advance so we can plan more effectively. **Please note:** this is not a decision making forum, but rather, an opportunity to share thoughts and further understanding among us.

Leader: Jean Rhian

November 21, No Adult RE

November 28, Practical Poetry

Street-wise "Sonnets" may serve as signposts and street lights to illuminate the way. We will examine a few poems that speak to the "Wondering Whys" within us and share the ways they resonate. Copies of the poems will be available in the Fellowship during the week before this session or, if you'd like the poems sent to you ahead of time call Judy at 410-820-0454.

Leader: Judy Hedges



(Gatherings, continued)

Fellowship Friday, Friday, November 23: Fellowship Friday, an event open to all ages, will be held again on the fourth Friday, the day after Thanksgiving. The potluck starts at 6 p.m. This could be a really yummy, no effort potluck if folks have Feast Day leftovers! Games, singing, needlework and other activities begin about 7 p.m. This is an all Fellowship event, open to all ages. See you Friday, November 23rd at the Fellowship.

Social Action

Interfaith Social Action Coalition

On Friday November 16 at 7:00 at the Third Haven Common Room, the Interfaith Social Action Coalition will offer the film "Motorcycle Diaries" with social hour at 6:00. People may want to bring a bag "supper". This film tells the incredible true story of a 23-year-old medical student from Argentina, Che Guevara ([Gael Garcia Bernal](#)), who motorcycled across South America with his friend Alberto Granado ([Rodrigo de la Serna](#)) in 1951-52. The trek became a personal odyssey that ultimately crystallized the young man's budding revolutionary beliefs. [Walter Salles's](#) film is based on Che's own diaries of the trip. The film is rated R for language.

Hunger Coalition Lunches will be prepared November 28 at 10:00. Contact Mary Young on ways you can help at 410 819-0050.

Thanksgiving Dinners will be prepared on Thanksgiving day and delivered by the Interfaith Coalition Against Hunger to recipients of the regular lunches who need this service.

New-S-PLASH - Streamwading Start Up

Holy Water in a font is not to be found in our Fellowship hall. However, we have a rivulet at the back of our property, and since we, as environmentalists, hold the welfare of waters to be a "holy" principle – we are embarking upon a program to scrutinize our small section of run off. An unspoken tenet of the Social Action set may match a bumper-sticker my ancient Honda sports 'WE ALL LIVE DOWNSTREAM.'

Somehow the stream-wader cap seems to have been handed to me. My intention is to inform and interest all in this project as I investigate. This is all so new that I have yet to get my feet wet, but can say that we have determined that action begins when we dwell. Eventually, I'll report about our actual walking the walk though the goop and gurgle of the creek on our property.

An invitation for involvement goes out to our youth group; a teen assistant is sought. Perhaps the very puddle-splashing, hands-on, pollywog-seeking aspect of this project will have its own appeal. In December I will be attending a Maritime Institute conference as a citizen-monitor. Come Spring I will need the crucial equipment – so fly fishers check your closets for waders to fit someone 5'4".

An apt aside ... my shortcut to the church of my childhood involved crossing the creek in our woods. How often did I linger there – midstream – after the bells stopped pealing? My search for an alternate way of seeking the sacred began with the wonder of water ...

Judy Hedges

Member News

New Members Welcome

We have welcomed four new members since the beginning of September. They are Juliet Smith, Debbie Easterling, Doug Levin, and Jay Anglada. Jean Griffith's biography of Jay is on page 6 of this newsletter. Look for other in-depth biographies in coming newsletters and be sure to seek them out and welcome them in person.

INTRODUCTION TO UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISM Saturday November 3 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This class, led by Rev. Dan Higgins and Membership Chair Gail Woodall, is helpful for anyone who is new to our Fellowship - whether you've just joined, are considering joining, or would simply like to know more about Unitarian Universalism and our Easton Fellowship. Class participants will be introduced to general UU history and theology and, more specifically, to our own UUFE history, what there is to become involved in, and how we get things done. You will also have the chance to share some of your own spiritual beliefs and get to know others who are new to UUFE. To register, call the church office at 410-822-8103 or Gail Woodall at 410-820-8541. Bring a brown bag lunch if you like. We will provide cookies and drinks.

Child care can be provided with advance notice.

We were saddened to hear of the death of Tom Anovick's mother. Our heartfelt condolences go to Tom and to his mother's granddaughter Claire.

The next meeting of the Membership Committee will be on Wednesday, November 28 at 3:30 p.m. at the Fellowship building.

Gail Woodall

Job Share Opportunity

The Financial Secretaries are responsible for recording pledge payments, the offering plate, and other income for the Fellowship. The Financial Secretaries also prepare and make the bank deposits. This work takes about 1 – 2 hours per week. In addition, periodically throughout the year the Financial Secretaries prepare and send out statements to members. Preparing and sending reports takes about 3 -4 hours per mailing.

We have one person doing this job now, but she would like a job share partner to do every other week and be available to back up each other as need be.

Job Requirements:

- Able to work on the computer comfortably
- Willing to learn the software package
- Respect for the confidentiality of the information
- Available on a regular basis to do the data entry – early in the week is best but you can set your own hours

If you are interested in fulfilling this important job for the Fellowship please contact Edie Swallow (410-745-5170).

Building Dedication Day Thanks:

Gini Courter, UUA Moderator, for her inspiring and at times humorous address - thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended on this beautiful day, October 7

Nancy Orr, Program Chair, who designed the program and also designed and printed the program booklet

Barbara Doughty, who along with Nancy Orr, co-authored the handout, "A Brief History of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at Easton"

John Turner, Music Chairman who chose the selections and led an outstanding choir

Edie Swallow for gathering people together to bake goodies, create punch and decorate tables with colorful cloths and flowers

Sue Loweree who brought glorious flower arrangements furnished by members and organized the garden work day - and thanks to the work-day volunteers, who "spruced up" our grounds for the event

Jean Griffith for creating a great article for the Star Democrat and arranging for a photographer and reporter to attend

Tom Anovick, Colleen Ronning, and **Jake Jacobs** who had the building looking great!

Jean Rhian, Guest Coordinator and liaison with our guest speaker, for furnishing Ms. Courter transportation to BWI afterwards and pitching in to help with other projects as needed

Peter Paul's presence and guidance especially during Dick Doughty's vacation absence

Dan Higgins' expertise, invitations to special guests, and the *Words of Dedication*

Gail Woodall for gathering the cadre of greeters to welcome guests and members.

I feel privileged having worked with this committee since late July. Thank you for an outstanding job!
Joanie Baynard, Chairman

Jay Anglada

Appreciation:

Board members thanked Joanne Baynard and the Dedication Committee for a well-coordinated event and inspiring service.

Music Committee:

John Turner hopes to lead the choir in singing at least one service per month and also, on occasion, to present other live music. Volunteer accompanists have been arranged through December. The Board encouraged the Music Committee to pursue a regularly paid accompanist later this fiscal year.

Meeting Room Acoustics:

The installation of acoustic panels at the back of the meeting room has significantly improved sound. Members are reporting that speakers are now clearly heard in the back of the room.

NOBEL LAUREATES PRAISE BOLD NEW BOOK BY UU EVANGELISTS

Rev. Michael Dowd and his wife, science writer Connie Barlow, are America's UU evolutionary evangelists. They have spoken in more than 250 UU churches and fellowships over the past 5 years and were recently featured on the cover of UU World.

Rev. Dowd's forthcoming book, "Thank God for Evolution!", has been endorsed by five Nobel Laureates and 120 other luminaries, including prominent UU Ministers.

Copies ordered from Amazon.com: are \$16.47 (34% off the retail price of \$24.95).

<http://thankgodforevolution.com/the-book.html>

For all of you who labored mightily to put together our recent Dedication Service, you will be gratified to learn that it had the tangible result of leading Jay Anglada to sign our Membership Book.

Jay has never been formally affiliated with a church, as there was something about the doctrinal approach to religion that he could not embrace. His interest in the Unitarian Universalist faith was piqued by a friend who attended the Chestertown Fellowship, so after he and his wife, Judy, moved to the Easton area from Rock Hall, he started attending our services. He was impressed with the diversity of the Fellowship and with Jim Bank's scholarly approach to religion. With Jim's encouragement, he started doing some reading about building one's own theology. Jay particularly enjoys our multilogues after the sermon on Sunday, often finding them as stimulating as the sermon. It was the Dedication Service, however, that provided the impetus to sign the Membership Book.

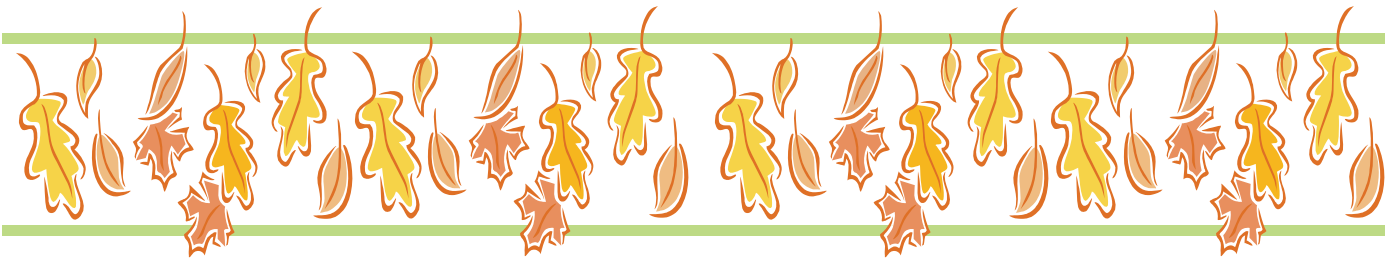
Jay spent his early years in the suburbs of New York City, but lived most of his life in suburban Philadelphia. He received his B.A. from Lehigh University and his MBA from Wharton Graduate School. His career as a banker culminated as executive vice president of three Eastern regional banks. He still keeps his hand in the field of finance by serving as a part-time advisor for a few clients.

Since his retirement, Jay and Judy spend six months out of the year at Vero Beach, Florida. There he has become active in a foundation that provides grant money for various social agencies. He is a team captain for performing site evaluations for some of the agencies that apply for capital funding aid. He has also developed an interest in learning Spanish, going to Cuernavaca, Mexico, last year for an intensive language course. He will have an opportunity to practice his skill when he and Judy travel to Argentina in November. As for other activities, Jay, a former college basketball player, very much enjoys golf and tennis.

Jay and Judy have been married for 45 years and have four grown children, three sons and one daughter, and seven grandchildren. Judy, who attends Quaker Meeting, is a long-time community dispute and custody mediator and a member of the Mid-Shore Community Mediation Service.

We welcome Jay most heartily into the Fellowship and hope to provide him the opportunity to continue to grow in his spiritual path.

(contributed by Jean Griffith)





November 2007

Calendar of Events - Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Easton

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 5:00 to 5:30 Silent Peace Vigil in front of the Courthouse <i>Each Thursday</i>	2 7:00 pm First Friday Teen Night	3 9:00 am Intro to Unitarian Universalism 10:00 am Delmarva UU RE Meeting
4 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE	5 5:15 pm Religious Education Committee meeting	6 5:00 pm Interfaith Social Action Coalition at Church of the Brethren	7 11:30 am Men's Lunch 6:00 pm Adult RE 7:00 pm Meditation Group	8 12:00 Noon Women's Lunch- Waterside Café at Easton Club	9 6:30 pm Dinner and Movie Night	10
11 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE	12	13 6:30 pm Board Meeting 7:00 pm League of Women's Voters-on Immigration	14 7:00 pm Adult RE	15 7:00 pm Women's Spirituality Circle	16 7:00 pm Movie at Third Haven. ISAC 7:00 pm Drumming Circle	17 10:00 am Yuletide Sales and Crafts Bazaar
18 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE	19	20 7:00 pm Worship Committee	21 11:30 am Men's Lunch	22 	23 6:00 pm Potluck and Fellowship Friday	24
25 10:00 am Worship Service and Children's RE	26	27	28 10:00 Hunger Coal. Lunches 3:30 Member-ship Comm. meeting 7 pm Adult RE	29 11:00 am The Book Group	30	

UUFE Contacts

Minister Emeritus and
Interim Minister Daniel G. Higgins, Jr., D.Min,
410-745-3462

President Dick Doughty,
410-673-7580

Coordinator of
Religious Education Elizabeth Hausburg,
410-476-4774

Newsletter Editor Frank Greenburg,
410-819-8810
frankg@goeaston.net



The Silent Peace Vigil has resumed in front of the county courthouse, each Thursday from 5:00 to 5:30.

Unitarian Universalist Principles

Unitarian Universalism is a faith for those who want the freedom to develop their own religious values and beliefs without being bound by creed or dogma. There are seven principles which Unitarian Universalist congregations affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregation and in society at large;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence, of which we are a part.

THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP AT
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