



BMW Club
South Coast Riders



The South Coast'

July 2024 Edition

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Who's On The Road?



DA BOD SQUAD

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SCBMWRC BOD

Previous Club Calendar Event & Ride Overview (2023)

Month	General Meeting	Weekend Ride
JAN	Rock Inn Cafe, Lake Hughes	Anza Borrego hotel/camping
FEB	Irv's, Base Camp class	Baja 9-day, Laughlin (canc weather)
MAR	Josie's Hideout Sallon, Santa Ysabel, Past Presidents Breakfast	Death Valley Airhead Rally, Tech Day
APR	Irv's w/ ride to Firehouse BBQ, Ride Planing Meeting	El Chorro Park camping, central coast
MAY	Farms House, Banning	49er Rally, Mariposa
JUN	Mt. Baldy Lodge	Kearville hotel/camping
JUL	SCBMWRC annual picnic	BYE WEEK
AUG	Firehouse Que and Brew, Fallbrook	Lompoc hotel, Central Coast
SEP	Thelma's Restaurant and Bakery, Big Bear	Porterville motel
OCT	Farmhouse 78, Santa Ysabela	Mt Laguna Lodge/camping
NOV	Julian Beer Company, Julian	Julian ADV Rally, Julian
DEC	SCBMWRC Annual Christmas Party	BYE WEEK





The Board of Directors met before our General Meeting on April 4th in order to pencil in our ride calendar for the 2024 - 2025 riding season.

Thanks South Coasters for attending and for all of you who gave us your suggestions. You'll see that we incorporated many of those in our planning.

Below are the dates and locations. Block off your calendars now!






2024 Club Calendar Ride and Event Overview

Month	General Meeting	Weekend Getaway	ADV/Tech Day/Training
JAN	<i>The Rock Inn</i>	<i>Laughlin Weekend</i>	
FEB	<i>Irv Seaver BMW - Past Presidents Brkfst</i>	<i>Joshua Tree Weekend</i>	
MAR	<i>Tarantula Hill Brewing, Malibu</i>	<i>3:10 to Yuma</i>	
APR	<i>Irv Seaver BMW, Ride Planning Meeting</i>	<i>Tecopia Hot Springs, Death Valley</i>	
MAY	<i>Big Bear</i>	<i>49er Rally</i>	
JUN	<i>Irv Seaver BMW</i>	<i>MOA National Rally, Redmond OR</i>	
JUL	SCBMWRC Annual Picnic	Sierra Passes ride	
AUG	Irv Seaver BMW	Central Coast Ride	
SEP	Away	Porterville / ROL	Tech Day
OCT	Irv Seaver BMW	Sedona	Moto Ventures Training
NOV	Away	Agua Caliente	ADV Rally
DEC	Christmas Party		ADV Day Trip

Please check **scbmwrc.com** *for the latest ride dates*

2025 Club Calendar Ride and Event Overview

Month	 General Meeting	 Weekend Getaway	 ADV/Tech Day/Training
JAN	Rock Inn	4-day Baja	Saddleback Mt.
FEB	Irv Seaver BMW	Pinnacles NP	Day Trip / Tech Day
MAR	Away	Route 66	Death Valley
APR	Irv Seaver BMW	Carrizo Plains	Agua Caliente
MAY	Away	Lake Tahoe / 49er Rally	Day Trip / Tech Day
JUN	Irv Seaver BMW	MOA / So Utah	Big Bear
JUL	Annual Picnic	Laguna Seca	NorCal BDR



A WORD FROM THE PREZ



I want to give a shout out to Ryan G for setting up a super fun June General Meeting ride up to Mountain Center.

The weather was perfect, the food was great, the turnout and social time super. Of course, props to Ric M. The response to the Piers Challenge has been spectacular. I finally got my behind going and out to find some piers. The idea behind this ride challenge is simply to enjoy the journey of discovering the history of our 31 Southern California Coastal Piers. Get the details, rules, and list of piers on the forum page and/or the Piers Page.

Looking ahead, Steve L's impeccably planned Sierra Passes ride is on the July horizon. He's up to over 20 bikes now but there is still room for more. This ride qualifies for bucket list! And don't pass up our annual club picnic. We want to eat Danny's key lime pie and award our mileage contest winners. Oh, and Brandon's smoked ribs and brisket, yum. Sign up and details here.



While Memorial Day Weekend may be the unofficial start of summer, July is when we truly welcome this festive, sunny season.

As our SoCal days grow longer, I for one am looking forward to what's ahead—summer vacations, fireworks, barbecues, beach days, and importantly, long summer motorcycle trips. Well, that time has arrived. By the time you read this, over 20 South Coasters will have made the trek to Redmond, OR for the MOA National Rally. What a great turn out. I'm always impressed with the grit and lust for travel within our ranks.



A WORD FROM THE PREZ



Finally, I want to make sure all South Coasters are aware of a BMW Service Bulletin impacting all GS, GSA, RT, RS, and R models from 2013 through 2023; all liquid cooled boxers. Once those bikes have 36,000 miles on them, the driveshaft will be replaced by a BMW service center at no charge to you. And thereafter, every 12,000 miles the drive shaft will be tested for serviceability. If it passes, it will be lubricated and reinstalled. If it fails, it will be replaced for free. The mileage on replacements is calculated based on miles on the driveshaft itself, not odometer miles. If you have questions, contact Greg, Service Manager at Irv Seavers.



Stayovers in Yosemite Valley, stop offs at mom's house for hot tub, whiskey, and cards, English Trials competitions, piers challenge check offs, ADV training and riding, fish and chips on the Monterey Wharf, street challenges and training, raffle prize winnings, and even postcards of love mailed home from Mariposa. Read about this and much more in this month's edition of the South Coast'R.

Mucho thanks to Henry for sharing his talent with our club. Always a dramatic and beautiful layout!



Eric W. President



How much can you possibly pack into an extended weekend? Seven South Coasters tried to answer that question on our annual trip to the 49er Rally in Mariposa, CA. There were stayovers in Yosemite Valley, stop offs at mom's house for hot tub, whiskey, and cards, English Trials competitions, piers challenge check offs, ADV training and riding, fish and chips on the Monterey Wharf, street challenges and training, raffle prize winnings, and even postcards of love, mailed home from Mariposa. Another trip that proved it's only so much about riding our beautiful BMW motorcycles; more about the friendships and shared experiences.

The group convened in Mariposa by various routes. Howard B and Willis H glamped in Yosemite the day before. Ric M made a beeline the day of, and Eric W, Carl T, Harry H, and Bill P, ticked off the northernmost piers on a two day ride to the rally with a stayover at mom's house on the central coast. Friday was dirt training day. Harry, Eric and Carl spent the morning skidding, weaving, climbing, and descending at the fairgrounds



under the training of Ray-hyde instructor, Eric. In the afternoon, we spent four hours riding in the beautiful surrounding mountains. Bill took street training that afternoon.

Eric W.

Saturday saw the street challenge course with Harry and Carl competing. Our group also ran the Poker Run, collecting the name of the grooming business at this intersection, the fire station located at that crossroad, and what was special about this tiny mountain town. None of us won but it was a good reason to ride in perfect weather and explore widely. Saturday night we enjoyed the yummy dinner of chicken, sauteed onions, salad, and rolls (included in the price). Sam Manakim, motorcycle traveler and author, gave a presentation highlighting his travels in Africa. The takeaway: smile and be kind. This begets reciprocation. Sam struck me as a very accomplished and experienced rider and traveler, but mostly, a humble and kind man.

Sunday was no less packed. The dynamic trio, Harry, Carl, and Eric competed in the English Trials. If you're not familiar with this, just think of all of the slow speed challenges you can put in front of a GS and you've got it. There was a teeter-totter, a minefield of cones to navigate, the spiral of ever-tightening death, dips, holes, and whoops, moving the tennis ball from the top of one cone to the top of another ten feet away, a couple of 'bridges' to cross, a hoop toss, and a final cone weave. None of us won but boy, was it fun, and a great experience to challenge yourself to navigate smoothly and precisely under that pressure.



MARIPOSA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS , CA





Later that day was the GS Challenge course; this was a bit out of our league. These are the super hard side-hill riding and tight turning challenges on uneven dirt surfaces. This is David Diaz level of competition, and he did indeed compete. There was a messy, muddy pit to cross over on a sloppy, springy bridge, a barrel roll if you can believe it. Push the barrel in a straight line with your front tire. Watching these riders was inspiring. Even the design of the course was fascinating. Who thinks this stuff up!? The day ended with closing ceremonies and the giving of raffle prizes. Bill and Harry won! Not bad, 2 out of 7.

Monday we broke up and traveled by different routes. Harry and I went back to the coast and spent the night with good friends in Monterey. That's the fish and chips bit of the story. I'll leave the love letter part of the story for you to ask next time you see Harry. We had a nice ride home the next day.

Wow, how much more could we have packed in? Every night we enjoyed charcuterie and wine, stories around our imaginary campfire, and planning for our next adventure, the MOA rally. Maps and veggie dip, whiskey and talk of moto maintenance. Such a good group; many memories to process and store.

Come Ride With Us!



Eric W.



FROM

FREEWAY DOLDRUMS

TO

OREGONIAN

ADVENTURES

CHANDELIER
TREE
Height: 315ft Diameter: 21ft
Maximum Age: 2400yrs
DRIVE THE TREE, D. & SELL, CA



Henry S.



Day 1: Freeway Folly and Scenic Revelations EMPTY BLADDERS & FULL TANKS

Our adventure began with the kind of ride that makes you question every life decision that led you to this moment: the I-5 freeway. Mundane as toast with no butter, we slogged our way north, barely resisting the siren call of fast food joints and truck stops. But then, like a phoenix from the asphalt, we hit the 99 and eventually wound our way to the spectacular Tioga Pass and Yosemite National Park. Suddenly, our motorcycles roared with renewed vigor, and our spirits lifted higher than Julito’s stories about his days as a competitive unicyclist (don’t ask). We ended our day in Bridgeport, CA, where the beds were firm, and the snoring was epic.

We randomly ran into some of the South Coasters who were seeking refuge from the wind and rain at the campsite up the road. Howard and his partner in crime, Willis were very excited to see us and decided immediately to change their plans and join our route to the rally. While it would be an honor to ride with Howard, we had our reservations about Willis and his recurring habit of impromptu trip changes and bailing on the group at a drop of a dime. We reluctantly agreed and planned to have an 8:00AM KSU on one condition:

Willis understood the assignment!

Unfortunately, the next morning turned to be not so great for Howard who decided to return home to nurse a leg injury. Apologies were extended and wounds were licked. We now had Willis to babysit for the next 48 hours. Oh boy....

Day 2: Tahoe Twisties and Oregonian Overtures

Morning broke with a ride around the west side of Lake Tahoe. The shimmering waters reflected our excitement—or was it the glint from Bill’s shiny helmet? Either way, it was a gorgeous day. We stopped by at the Emerald Bay vista point where I broke out the drone for an epic aerial shot of the bay. I was abruptly approached by a park ranger who politely asked to land the drone as it bothers the local birds. Although, my FAA map clearly marked the area safe and clear for flying, I obliged and we got on with our travels. After conquering Truckee, we barreled north, crossing into Oregon. Klamath Falls welcomed us for the night, and we rewarded ourselves with some much-deserved rest and a debate on how much more can Willis annoy us with his advance meal planning questions.



Day 3: Crater Lake and Coffee Zen

Our journey continued with a beautiful ride through Oregon as we headed towards the rally. We had a short day as we were only a couple of hundred miles from the fairgrounds. Luckily, the south entrance of Crater Lake National Park had recently opened up and we pounced on the opportunity to pay a visit to this stunning destination. The photos and videos made our Instagram followers weep with envy. The views were incredible and almost alien-like.

We savored coffee at the lodge, where we had a tranquil moment gazing into the blue abyss, pondering life's great mysteries, like why Willis insists on asking you about your next lunch, while still eating lunch. We finally arrived at the MOA rally, checked into our cozy Sherpa Packers' tent, and met up with the South Coast BMW riders at their chartered club campsite. The food choices were excellent, and the laughter was endless—mostly at Willis' expense, because, as abruptly he had joined our group and simply jumped ship from the South Coasters, he decided to continue on by himself when we realized we were only 50 miles from the rally and just left us as the gas station while we were still topping off.

We scratched our heads and chalked it up to “Willis being Willis”, who we later witnessed at the rally, being on the receiving end of a “firm talking to” by the club president about his unacceptable group riding manners.

The return

We began our return with a ride through Oregon's lush, tree-lined roads, feeling like we were in a commercial for paper towels.

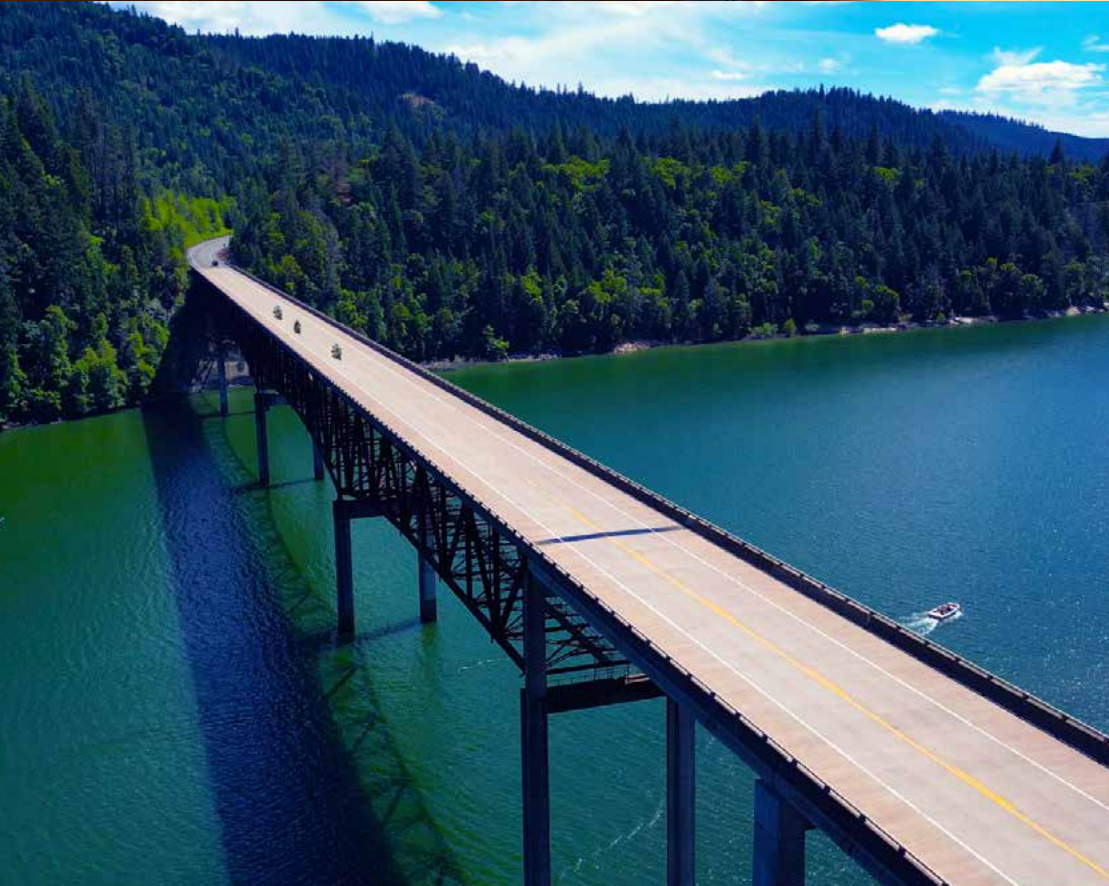


We rolled into Garberville, CA, for the night, where we discovered that the local diner makes a mean Father's Day meal. Bill wasn't too impressed with the authenticity of the Mexican food but we were fed well and ready to get some shuteye.

Our second day back featured a pit stop at the Chandelier Tree, a drive-thru tree that made us all feel like kids again—big, biker kids on roaring motorcycles. Que: Benny Hill Song....

Next up was the Avenue of the Giants and eventually the Golden Gate Bridge vista point, offering views that almost made us forget our dogs and kids. We spent the night in Monterey, enjoying a fantastic dinner by the bay with Julito's Navy friend, Justin, who regaled us with tales of high seas and even higher bar tabs.





The final leg of our journey was less about scenic beauty and more about survival, as wildfires in the Los Padres National Forest forced us onto the interstates. It was a long, hot slog, but we made it home with memories of incredible rides, breathtaking views, and the enduring question of “are we going to run into Willis on the way back?”

In the end, our motorcycle tour to the MOA rally was an epic blend of mundane freeways, stunning national parks, and unforgettable camaraderie. And as we park our bikes and dream of the next adventure, one thing’s for sure: with Julito and Bill, there’s never a dull moment. (except the stint up the 99 freeway).



Henry S.



SCAN ME!

Watch the video of our trip here:

IMPORTANT UPDATE!

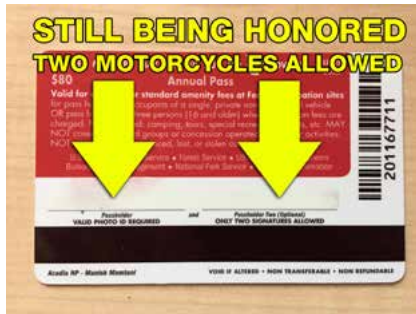
New Changes to Park Annual Pass: **ONLY ONE MOTORCYCLE PER PASS**

Motorcyclists and nature lovers alike have long celebrated the America the Beautiful annual pass, a ticket to the splendors of the United States' national parks. For years, this pass has granted entry to some of the most breathtaking landscapes on Earth, welcoming cars, motorcycles, and pedestrians to explore the vast beauty our parks have to offer. However, recent changes to the pass's policy have sparked a wave of frustration and confusion among the biking community: **starting this season, only one motorcycle is permitted per pass entry.** We learned that and witnessed the utter confusion at the gate at Crater Lake NP on the past ride to the rally, where the park ranger was very confused and flustered and ended up bringing out the old NPS binder and there it was in black on white: single bike only!

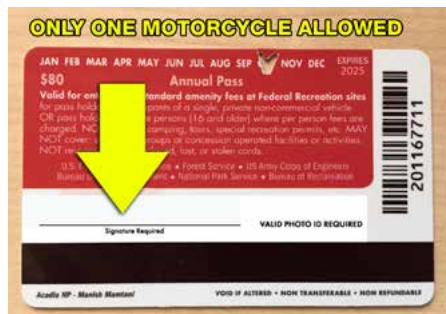
While the new policy might streamline the entry process, it has left many motorcyclists scratching their helmets in disbelief. However, not all is lost! This policy is set to apply to all passes purchased in 2024 and on. If you purchased your pass in 2023, you will notice two signature boxes in the back of the card. That means you are still allowed to use it to enter the park on two separate motorcycles. I have confirmed this with the fees department at NPS personally. You may encounter an uninformed ranger or two here and there but if you are calm and kind and request them to reach out to their supervisor to confirm, it's just a 45 second wait at the booth and you are able to roll into the park on two separate motorcycles.

If you only see one signature box, only one motorcycle is allowed to enter, which applies to passes that were purchased in 2024 and valid throughout 2025, as shown below.

It's a bummer but not the end of the world. Still tons of value in purchasing the pass and getting out to our National Parks and enjoying the great outdoors.



Passes purchased in 2023



Passes purchased in 2024



Henry S.

NEW SCBMWRC.COM WEBSITE

Hi South Coasters!

After a long, well thought out process, our new website is up and running!

The site is hosted and managed by the national BMW organization, the MOA. They currently manage dozens of other club websites and are thus able to make updates and security patches on a global basis. We still control the content of our site; the look and feel of it, and the information that is posted. Although they charge a small fee, having them manage the backend security, updates, licensing, hosting, and domain costs, both relieves us of a financial burden and ensures continuity and quality of the site.

If you've been on the site—and I hope you have—you may have seen that we are still trying to get the forum threads correct; so that they populate with the most useful and timely information at a glance. This is still a work in progress but most other things have been fixed, most importantly, all events are now posted through June of 2025. Get these on your calendar! Block off the days.

Finally, a bit about the structure of the site. It's actually in two pieces:

1) the scbmwrc.com side includes all of our ride information, forum threads, and news;

2) all of your membership profile information, renewal processing, member directory, and join information is on a second website called Member 365, and protected behind a password. If you click any of the member dropdown links you will be redirected to that site and asked to login. Logging in to that site is important as that is the trigger to include you in our member directory; an opt-in feature.

We invite you to surf around, post comments in the Forum section, or comment using the embedded webmaster form. Let us know what you think and how we can make things better. Also, fill out your member profile and add a photo and short bio if you'd like.

Thank you for your patience,
Come Ride With Us!

SOUTH COAST BMW RIDERS CLUB
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



POSTCARD FROM THE

ROAD



Mural showing the map of the Avenue of the Giants and the Redwood Highway

ADIEU, AUF WIEDERSEHN, ADIOS, AND RIDE SAFE!

I joined the South Coasters in April 2008, after having bought my first BMW, a 2004 1150RT. And from the start, I knew I had found a group of mostly like-minded riders. In the last 16 years, I was on the Board of Directors for about 12 of those years, either as a Member or Secretary, and 4 years as President. Many rides were completed, including my favorites, the 5000+ mile ride to Lebanon, TN, and the Great Falls Rally. I truly enjoyed leading a fair number of long weekend trips, including some with Beth as pillion, as well as day rides. Don't think I could have asked for a better BMW club!



But, Beth and I have elected to vacate California, and we now have a home in Palm Harbor, FL. As part of the transition, I didn't want to ship or otherwise transport my RT, so at the end of May, I rode to Florida. This was a 2400+ mile trip in 4 days. As I was on a schedule, I didn't make any side-rides, being on I-10 (with thousands of trucks) through California, Arizona, New Mexico, Texasssssssssss, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and finally Florida. However, it was a blast riding the roadway over the bayous; Mobile, Alabama was quite nice, which I would like to visit later on; and the Florida panhandle, while relatively flat, did have some nice sweeping curves, trees and greenery galore, and fewer trucks! Plus, as Pensacola is the home of the Blue Angels, the welcome center had a cool display. Speaking of welcome centers, the Mississippi one was relaxing and park-like! Handily beats anything I've seen in California. I also crossed the Suwannee River in Florida and stopped at a small park on the river. Beautiful!



My RT is now in our garage in Palm Harbor, awaiting our return in early July and more rides and new places (including the Keys, the Natchez Trace, the Appalachians).

I will continue as a Club member for at least the time being, and as the 2025 MOA Rally is in Lebanon, TN, I will be looking forward to seeing anyone who will be able to make it there!

Thanks to the many members of the Club I have befriended over the years for the great rides and comradery. And I also remember the good people who have passed.

As always, ride safe and long!
John and Beth Crittenden



*John &
Beth C*



BMW Club
South Coast Riders



BEEN ON AN EPIC RIDE LATELY?

Here's how to share your story with other South Coasters

Scan code to open the Newsletter Upload Folder

SCAN ME



STEP 01

Please describe
your trip in a few
paragraphs and save
it as a word document.



Gather all your photos
in JPG format and
keep them in a separate
folder.



STEP 02

Go to:

<https://bit.ly/scn1>

create a folder and
name it something that
identifies your trip.



Upload your text and the separate
photo folders in there.



DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS: 25TH OF EACH MONTH

OFFICIAL CLUB EVENT
**PLANNING ON
ATTENDING A CLUB EVENT?**



JULY 27 **CLUB PICNIC**
PARK



JULY 18 **7 PASSES RIDE**
SIERRA NEVADA



AUG 03 **GENERAL MEETING**
IRV SEAVER BMW



AUG 17 **WEEKEND GETAWAY**
CENTRAL COAST

**REGISTER
TODAY**

scbmwrc.com

**REGISTER
TODAY**

 **OFFICIAL CLUB EVENT**
PLANNING ON ATTENDING A CLUB EVENT?



SEP SAT 07 **GENERAL MEETING AWAY**

 BMW Club
South Coast Riders



SEP FRI 20 **WEEKEND GETAWAY PORTERVILLE**

 BMW Club
South Coast Riders

REGISTER TODAY

scbmwrc.com

REGISTER TODAY

4-Day Ride in the Sierra Mountains

July 11-14, 2024




Alternative
Date

*in case you're
unable to make it
to the club's
Passes ride*



Scan to book online



-  Single rider (double occup.)..... **\$850**
-  Single rider (private room)..... **+ \$350**
-  Bring-A-Pillion (passenger)..... **+ \$400**



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