



Maryland Pastel Society Spring Newsletter

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April 2018

MPS Board and Volunteers

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Vice President: Kim Stone

Treasurer: Mary Anne Warner

Recording

Secretary: Lyn Laviana

Corresponding

Secretary: Joyce Turk

Membership

Chair: Kathleen Risk

Workshop Chair: Joyce Lister

Exhibition Chair: Susan Gleason

Web: Kathleen Risk

Planning Calendar

Apr 21: Spring meeting at Gary J. Arthur Community Center, Glenwood, MD

May 4-6: 3-day Margaret Dyer pastel figure workshop, Rockville, MD

May 4-29: "Compelling Color" Members Only Juried Exhibition, Saint Michaels, MD

From the President's Easel

It's finally April! It has been already a busy year for our society. Between membership renewals, workshop planning, and organizing MPS exhibitions, your board has been very busy. However, before I give you the rundown on upcoming activities, it is with deep sadness that I tell you that two of our signature members passed away in March. **Betsy Goldsborough** was a founding and signature member of Maryland Pastel Society and served on the board for many years, and **Brian Gray**, whose landscapes celebrated the seasons with a tangible realism. Both were participants in MPS exhibitions and activities. We celebrate their lives! If you did not know Betsy or Brian well, please take time to view their paintings and read about them below.

We are excited about our upcoming Members' Only Exhibition, "Compelling Color". It will be held at the A.W. Gravely Gallery in Saint Michael's, Maryland, May 4-28. Our reception will coincide with Saint Michaels Art Walk, May 12. We hope you join us! We also look forward to the first of three 2018 workshops: renowned figure painter **Margaret Dyer** will be teaching a 3-day workshop in early May.

You are in for a real treat at our Spring Meeting on April 21st. **Betsy Kellum** will be our guest artist. Betsy is an award-winning pastelist who is well-known for her splendid still life paintings. Betsy is a signature member of the Pastel Society of America and numerous other pastel societies across the country. She has served as juror and judge for numerous art shows at the local, state and regional level. Betsy has been featured in The Pastel Journal, American Art Collector, The Best of Virginia; Artists & Artisans, The Best of America; Pastels, The Encyclopedia of Living Artists, The Chronical; History of the Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club and others.

Mark you calendar now for our summer meeting! Colorfin, the creators of PanPastel, will join us to tell us about their product. Not only will the manufacturer demo techniques for using PanPastel, you will have the opportunity to test it out. This fun event will be on July 14th.

Be sure to watch your email and check the web page for news updates and announcements regarding more activities coming up this year. There will be a signature members show this summer, two fantastic fall workshops, and internationally acclaimed pastel painter, **Tony Allain**, will do a demo at

June 12-Aug 13: Signature Members Exhibition, Columbia, MD
June 16: MPS Board Meeting
July 14: Summer meeting at Gary J. Arthur Community Center, Glenwood, MD
Sept 15: MPS Board Meeting
Oct 5-7: 3-day Nancie King Mertz workshop, Allenberry Resort, Boiling Springs, PA
Oct 18-19: Tony Allain workshop before Fall meeting
Oct 20: Fall meeting at Gary J. Arthur Community Center, Glenwood, MD

Directions to Glenwood

Directions to our meetings at the Gary J. Arthur Community Center at Glenwood

our members meeting in the fall.

Happy Painting!
Mary

Next Meeting

Our Spring General Meeting will be held Saturday, April 21, from noon to 4 pm at the Gary J. Arthur Community Center in Glenwood, Maryland.

MPS is excited to have **Betsy Kellum** presenting a demonstration on **The Making of a Still Life**, including a power point introduction, at our upcoming meeting on April 21. You may recall her clever painting titled "The Politician" in last year's MPS Juried National Exhibition, "Shades of Pastel." She describes her work as *classical and contemporary Realism*.

Betsy was raised in the Washington D.C. area and graduated from William and Mary College. She taught elementary school for seven years and later, after staying home with her children, decided to explore a career in painting. She had two years of intensive study at the Art League School in Old Town Alexandria, VA. Additionally, she has attended workshops with Burton Silverman, Albert Handell, Robert Liberace, Doug Dawson, Roger Dale Brown, Mark Laque and others.

Betsy teaches adult art classes and has served as juror and judge for numerous shows at the local, state and regional levels. Her work has been published in national publications such as *Pastel Journal*, *American Art Collector*, *The Best of Virginia*, *Artists and Artisans*, *The Best of America: Pastels*, *The Encyclopedia of Living Artists* and others.



"Old Dominion Bricks and Wood"
by Betsy Kellum

Betsy likes to work in oil as well as pastel and has enjoyed acceptance into many juried national shows. Organizations of which she stands as a Signature member include Pastel Society of America, Pastel Society of the West Coast (Distinguished Pastelist), Catherine Lorillard Wolfe Art Club, Southeastern Pastel Society and Maryland Pastel Society. She is a Juried member of Oil Painters of America and Women Painters of the East Coast.

You can see more of Betsy's amazing paintings on her website at betsykellum.com.



"Skate at Your Own Risk" by Betsy Kellum

As usual, don't forget to bring:

1. lunch for yourself,
2. snack food to share if you would like to put your name in a box and perhaps win a fabulous door prize and

3. samples of your recent work, framed or in progress.

Starting with this meeting, we will provide a "studio supply sale/swap table" for members to sell supplies or barter with each other. All transactions are between the parties concerned and everything goes with you at the end of the meeting.

We look forward to seeing you on Saturday, April 21 at Gary J. Arthur Community Center, Glenwood!

Featured Artist: Betsy W. Goldsborough 9/1/29 - 3/11/18



Betsy Goldsborough

Maryland Pastel Society is saddened by the recent loss of one of our own. Elizabeth (Betsy) W. Goldsborough passed away in March leaving a legacy of generosity and kindness that many will not soon forget. Betsy was a natural born artist best known for her pastel portraiture. Her formal art education was at The Schuler School of Fine Arts in Baltimore. After she retired as Assistant Registrar at Johns Hopkins Hospital and later as a medical secretary for various physicians in Baltimore, Betsy continued to paint and further her study through workshops. She also provided private instruction in her home studio. Her paintings were shown in local, regional and national exhibitions. She received numerous awards and special recognition for her artwork.

Betsy was a founding member of the Maryland Pastel Society and actively served on the Board. She also served on the Boards of the Baltimore Watercolor Society, the Maryland Society of Portrait Painters and the Art Gallery of Fells Point.

Betsy was a prolific artist who painted countless pastel portraits and landscapes in pastel and watercolor. Her amiable spirit was obvious to all who met her and knew her. She gave generously to causes close to her heart including the environment, the arts and political/peace



"Sitting Pretty" by Betsy Goldsborough

activist organizations. To know Betsy was a beautiful honor as she emanated humor, optimism, altruism and grace.

The Maryland Pastel Society is launching a fund for honoring Betsy as an artist, to be used for scholarships or awards in her memory. Donations may be made by mail to The Maryland Pastel Society, P.O. Box 54, Riderwood, MD 21139 or on our website using PayPal. Please note "In Memory of Elizabeth Goldsborough."



Betsy exhibited her work in local, regional and national shows.



Betsy at her easel



"Wintry Sunrise" by Betsy Goldsborough

Signature Members may sign up to be a Featured Artist by sending an email to mpsnews18@gmail.com. You will need to provide a write-up and images upon acceptance.

Also, Signature members, if you would like to update your images on the MPS web page gallery, please contact Joyce Lister by email listerstudio@comcast.net.

In Memorium - Brian Gray

Signature member **Brian Gray** from Ellicot City sadly passed away in March and will be remembered for his serenely beautiful works of art. He specialized in the landscape paintings that capture the essence of the

world around us. On his website he placed these words: "I want to take this opportunity to let everyone know that for the past seven years I have been battling a rare form of incurable cancer. I am now in the late stages of this disease. My gratitude for all the love and support of my family and friends is too great for words. You all have kept me going this long. Thank you to everyone who has been a part of my journey. Stay cool." See his gorgeous paintings which will live on at www.briangrayartist.com.

Member News

Barnesville artists **Cynthia Jennings Field** and **Susan Due Percy** will have their studios open on the Countryside Artisans Studio Tour April 20, 21 and 22. For more details, visit www.countrysideartisans.com.

Bob Russin's painting "Early Procrastinator" was juried into the IAPS Web show which ran from Dec 1, 2017-Mar 1, 2018.

Thomas Mammen has 5 paintings on display at the Dover (Delaware) Public Library as part of the Statewide Art Show of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute of the University of Delaware. Three of his Oil Pastels earned 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards.



"Early Procrastinator" by Bob Russi



Demo by Andree Tullier

Andrée Tullier was juried into and awarded Third Place for her life-size pastel portrait, "Olivia" at the Maryland Society of Portrait Painters' exhibit "Perception: The Artist's View" this past February. She offers an ongoing class, Pastel Portraiture from Life, on Wednesdays, 9:30-noon at her studio in Edgewater, MD. For more information visit andreetullier@comcast.net.

Susan Due Percy had two pastel drawings in the Waverly Gallery's Invitational Exhibit in Bethesda, Feb 4-Mar 3; and curated a print exhibit titled "Art of the Print" at the Kentlands Arts Barn, Feb 23-April 2, Gaithersburg, MD. She will be on the Spring Countryside Artisans Gallery/Studio Tour, April 20-22, 10:00-5:00 daily, Sugarloaf Studio, Barnesville. Susan was juried into the Washington Women's Art Center exhibition in the Alper Initiative for Washington Art at the American University Museum, June 16-Aug 12. Reception June 16.



"Paulownia Leaf" monotype with pastel by Susan Due Percy



"Hole No. 2" by Jane Hixson

Jane Hixson is in the process of painting all 18 holes, individually, of the iconic Donald Ross-designed Pinehurst Golf Course. No other artist has ever painted all 18 holes. The originals will be displayed in a local museum dedicated to the history of Pinehurst and Donald Ross. Jane will have limited edition prints available for sale. She will create the final painting in public mid-May in order for people to meet the artist and watch her paint.

JoEllen Murphy will be featured in the May/June issue of *Pastel Journal* magazine. Her painting "Splendor in the Grass" will grace the cover. JoEllen has an exhibit of 16 pastel landscapes titled Adventures in Color at the Gilchrist Museum www.gilchristgallery.com in Cumberland, Maryland April 7-May 6. Reception Sat, April 7, 5-7pm. Visit her work at joellenmurphy.com.



"Splendor in the Grass" by JoEllen Murphy

Denise Vitollo is offering painting workshops with guest artists in Rock Hall, MD at her Blue Heron Studio. Spacious and bright, the studio offers indoor, outdoor, and plein air opportunities. Every season brings a change of palette. Rock Hall is known as the Jewel of the Chesapeake and a true art getaway! Workshops: **Susan M. Story**, plein air, June 9-10, \$295; **Tara Will**, plein air, June 30-July 1, \$295; and **Maria Marino**, demo and paint along. For more information and to enroll contact www.greatblueheronart.com or phone 484-888-5150.



Deck at Blue Heron Studio, Rock Hall, MD

Jack Pardue is teaching classes for Spring/Summer 2018 at the [Yellow Barn Studio](http://YellowBarnStudio.com):

Explore Plein Air Pastel Landscape Painting, \$265, April 19-June 7, 4-6:30 pm. Jack will teach the skills of plein air painting with a demo and in-studio availability for inclement weather.

Explore Studio Pastel Landscape Painting, \$265, April 19-June 7, 7-9:30 pm. Bring your best landscape photos to work from. Learn how to visualize your finished painting and how to use color temperature and value.

Drawing Techniques With Varied Mediums, \$150, August 27-31, 1-3:30 pm. Learn how to be expressive with your line quality using Conte' and other drawing mediums. We will draw a simple still life.

How to Use a Photo and Not Abuse a Photo, \$150, August 27-31, 4-6:30 pm. Learn how to see more than one painting image in one photo. Work in your favorite medium. All skill levels are welcome for all workshops! For more info: parduestudio@gmail.com

Jean Hirons has moved to a ground floor sunlit studio at Artists and Makers Studios 2 in Rockville where she will now be teaching all classes. **Spring/Summer classes** are May 21, May 29, June 4, June 11 and June 18, 10-1pm, \$30/class. Participants will paint what they like with assistance from Jean. **Additional weekend classes** are May 6, May 19, May 26, June 9 and June 16, 10-1pm, \$40/class. All levels are welcome for all classes. Participants do not have to take every class but must sign up and pay in advance as seating is limited to 12 students. Easels and tables for pastels are provided. Students must bring surfaces and pastels, as well as photo references. August classes will be announced in the Summer newsletter. **Regular 10-week Fall classes** will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays, 10-1, beginning Sept. 24, \$350. Focus will be on composition. For more info: jeanhirons48@gmail.com or phone 301-340-3198.

Membership Update

Maryland Pastel Society is very happy to welcome sixteen new members this quarter! They are:

Laurie Basham, Bobbi Bishop, Arlene Crafton, Roger Curtis, Deborah Darden, Rebecca Denny, Lynn Gallagher, Janet Gartrell, Karen Key, Sandra Lumpkin, Mary Moores, Deanna Pratt, Leslie Russell, Francis Tomlinson, Susan Weiss, and Patricia Wilt.

We are also delighted to congratulate Laurie Basham as a new signature member who submitted her work to our jury committee.

Past Events- Winter Meeting

Jean Hirons - Confessions of a Colorist



Jean Hirons answers questions with her underpainting laid in before alcohol has been applied.

Color is the most important thing in painting to long-timer MPS member Jean Hirons, who honored us with a landscape demonstration at our Winter meeting in January. She says "color harmony" is more

specifically what she is all about. She defines color theory as "having three properties- HUE, VALUE, and CHROMA (saturation). Color temperature is relative."

Jean's decision-making process is methodical. She asks herself three key questions: "Where am I going?" "Where should I begin?" and "How should the color develop?". She prefers working from photographs and begins by studying them carefully for the compositions within. The next step is setting up her color palette which Jean describes as interpretive as well as intuitive. Her palette is always a limited one, and she likes to work with split complements on the color wheel.



On 20"x 20" UART 320 mounted paper, Jean has loosely sketched her composition from the photo reference to her left. She has both a color study and a black and white version of the photo to help her consider value relationships. She states she is not overly concerned with finding a focal point in her compositions.



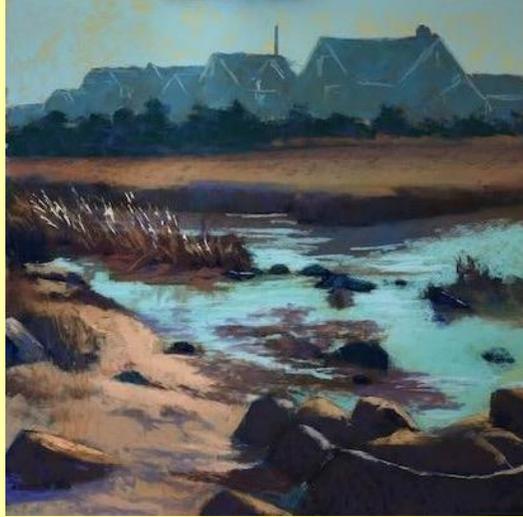
As Jean begins her underpainting, she is careful that values are correct. "Color doesn't really matter at this stage." Often she will place a warm color in her underpainting where a cool color will ultimately be painted and vice-versa.

Her subject is a sandy rocky beach by a waterway, running behind a row of houses with trees and a distant grassy shore. This is a coastal scene from her home town in Massachusetts and she knows it well. "It helps to be acquainted with your subject when working from photographs," she says. As her underpainting develops, one can detect where the light and shadow will occur. Jean says "The whole point of an underpainting is to create large value shapes." After the underpainting is laid in, a stiff brush is used to carefully paint with Isopropyl Alcohol over the entire format. Jean is careful not to let colors bleed into each other so as not to lose her well-thoughtout value masses. This "sets" the underpainting and allows additional color to be applied over but not mix with soft pastel from the underpainting.



Jean finished underpainting with large value shapes and color harmony. Alcohol has been applied.

When the final phase begins, Jean starts at the top of the format and works her way down. That way, she says, the pastel dust does not fall on the rest of the painting from heavily applied areas. As she paints, she plays with color temperature while holding fast to her initial value solutions. The warm yellow underpainting in the water now peaks through the cooler blues and greens in spots, giving the feel of sunlight.



Jean's painting at meeting's end.

Jean added marks thoughtfully and was careful to allow the underpainting to stay visible here and there, especially in the sky creating luminosity and space. We can feel the warmth of the sun. Even though the painting had yet to be finished, we could see how the underpainting informs the layers of color on top. Shapes that were cool in the underpainting are now warmer, while what was warm is now cooler. Her palette of oranges and blues is harmonious and inviting. Through light and shadow, the eye moves around the composition.

A popular teacher of pastel since 2004, Jean discusses her three approaches to color in her book, *Finding Your Style in Pastel*. She has been a member of MPS for many years and served as MPS president from 2007-2009. She has taught pastel at Montgomery College, the Yellow Barn, and now teaches at [Artists and Makers Studios](#) in Rockville. She is a signature member of the Pastel Society of America and a member of the Master Circle of the International Association of Pastel Societies. Her paintings have won many awards, including the recent "Best Landscape" award in the MPS "Shades of Pastel" national juried exhibition. Her website and blog are available by visiting jeanhiron.com. Thank you, Jean.



Upcoming Workshops and Events

Margaret Dyer 3-Day Pastel Figure Workshop May 4-6, 2018

Artists & Makers Studios 2, 12276 Wilkins Ave., Rockville, MD

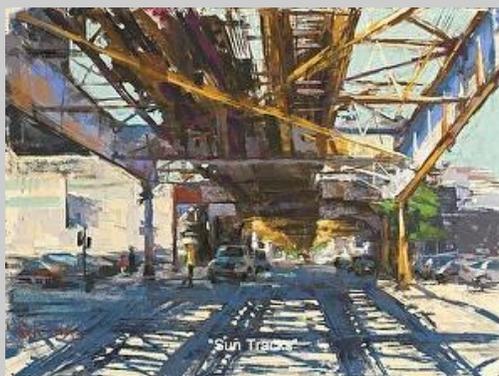
Working with live models, students will explore drawing, composition, anatomy, proportion, value, color, and pastel application. Emphasis will be on developing form with light and shadow, using Margaret's easy step-by-step method.

Nancie King Mertz Plein Air Workshop October 5-7

Allenberry Resort and Play-house, Boiling Springs, PA

Nancie will share her methods of capturing images quickly in pastel. This will be a plein air workshop, weather permitting, in the beautiful Cumberland Valley, next to the Yellow Breeches Creek, famous for its trout fishing and scenic views.

Nancie's painting, "Sun Tracks" has toured China for two years in various museum exhibits on behalf of [PSA](#) and was just purchased by a gallery there for their collection. It is the subject of one of her videos, "Bridges". Videos of her technique are soon to be released by Streamline Publishing and her Richeson Pastel Sets under "Nancie King Mertz" can be purchased on Amazon. Learn more about Nancie and her work at nanciekingmertz.com.



"Sun Tracks" by Nancie King Mertz

Tony Allain Workshop October 18-19

Tony will hold a two-day workshop before he enlightens us with a demonstration at our Fall general meeting, Oct. 20. We will have more information in our Summer newsletter. Visit Tony's work at www.tonyallainfineart.com

Lisa Mitchell Landscape Workshop September 21-23

Rhoneymeade Sculpture Garden and Arboretum, State College, PA

Lisa will teach her three day workshop starting with morning demos to be followed by plein air painting sessions taking advantage of the inspiring and abundant scenes at Rhoneymeade. Pastels will be the focus but other media are welcome as Lisa is experienced in both oil and pastel painting. More information and registration can be found on the Central Pennsylvania Pastel Society's (CPPS)

website: <http://www.centralpapastel.com/single-post/Lisa-Mitchell-2018-Workshop>

The **COLOR Columbia Plein Air Paint Out** is back by popular demand! 2018 marks the second year of this event. Saturday, September 8, 2018, 8:30-5pm. In celebration of Columbia's 50th Birthday, approximately 50 artists will ditch their studios for the day to paint al fresco around Lake Kittamaqundi and Wilde Lake capturing wildlife, nature and the serene views around two of Columbia's signature lakes. Artists can arrive at sunrise and leave at sundown. Visit [Color Columbia: Plein Air Paint Out](#) for more details.

Upcoming Members Exhibit Opportunities

Members Only Juried Exhibition

May 1-29 to be held the at A.M.Gravely Gallery in St. Michaels, MD. The show opens Friday May 4th. The reception is Saturday May 12th, 5-7 pm. The reception is the weekend of the St. Michael's Art Walk and promises to have lots of foot traffic throughout the day. www.amgravelygallery.com.

Signature Members Exhibition

June 12-August 13 at the Bernice Kish Gallery, Slayton House in Columbia. MD. Reception is June 24, 3-5 pm. Signature members may submit 2 paintings in priority order. The prospectus will be sent to everyone later in April.

2018 Northeast National Pastel Exhibition

June 23-July 29, Submission Deadline: April 15, 2018 at View, Old Forge, NY. The 2018 Northeast National Pastel Exhibition celebrates one of our most accessible and loved media-- the art of pastel--made by artists across the nation. All submissions must be made through www.OnlineJuriedShows.com. View is a premier multi-arts facility located in the Central Adirondacks of New York State. For more information go to www.viewarts.org.

Philadelphia Water Color Society 118th Anniversary International Exhibition of Works on Paper. Oct 14 - Nov 24, 2018 at the Wayne Art Center, Wayne, Pa. Juror of Selection: Alan Wylie, Judge of Awards: Alvaro Castagnet. Workshop Alvaro Castagnet. Over \$ 8000.00 in awards, including \$ 1500.00 Best in Show. Media to include watercolor, acrylic, pastel, gouache, pen & ink, graphite, colored pencil and hand pulled prints. Online entry. Prospectus, submission information and workshop info at www.pwcsociety.org.

A Look at Pan Pastels

by Pam Sheary

Just when you think you have all the pastel supplies you need, someone introduces you to PanPastel. You may have seen it advertised. PanPastel consists of small .3 oz square pans of rich, vibrant color created using a special process that combines artist quality pure pigment with minimal binder.

PanPastel, manufactured by ColorFin, is gaining popularity, and has been available on the market for several years. It is an ideal medium for blending to create an infinite palette of colors. PanPastel can be used alone or in combination with traditional stick pastels on most surfaces, from smooth to rough tooth. It work especially well in creating underpaintings by producing broad strokes using large sponges and angel wedges to apply color.

Because PanPastel is applied in a similar technique to painting, it is ideal for creating skiescapes, seascaapes, waterfalls, and foggy scenes. More finely detailed and painterly marks can be introduced into a painting using a special Softtool applicator, available with a square, oval, or triangular tip. Load color onto the applicator by gently moving it in a circular motion on the color in the pan.

Changing colors is easily accomplished by wiping the sponge or applicator on a towel or chamois cloth before loading another color. Color-mixing can be accomplished on the paper or in the pan; simply wipe the pan clean first to avoid unwanted results. PanPastel is very versatile and can also be used with non-pastel mediums such as watercolor to create interesting effects.

You may be asking what could be the advantages to yet another form of soft pastel. For one, PanPastel generates very low levels of dust, allowing an artist who has breathing concerns but loves the medium to continue with pastel. Secondly, PanPastel is very forgiving. Undesirable marks can be removed easily using a gum Arabic eraser.

Artist quality PanPastel is lightfast, fully erasable, and is compatible with fixatives. Fixatives can be used to isolate a pastel layer or to provide a better surface on a less toothy surface, depending on your preference. It can be fun to experiment with this technique. Though not essential, fixative can be used to protect the painting.

Interested in learning more? Mark your calendar now for our summer meeting, July 14! Colorfin, the creators of PanPastel, will join us to tell us about their product. Not only will the manufacturer demo techniques for using PanPastel, we will have the opportunity to test it out. What a great opportunity to try a new product and possibly open up a brand new avenue of adventures in our shared passion for the medium of pastel.

Visit www.panpastel.com to learn more.

MPS Needs You

Get Involved!

To keep our organization healthy and happy we all need to participate. Everything from bringing snacks to heading up committees is an opportunity to get involved. Are you interested in serving on the board? Please contact a board member if you are willing to contribute your time and talents.

Parting Thought

"Art enables us to find ourselves and lose ourselves at the same time."

-- Thomas Merton

Maryland Pastel Society | mdpastels@gmail.com | <http://www.marylandpastelsociety.com>

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