



Footnotes

Portland Country Dance Community · November / December 1993

SPECIAL EVENTS

If it's Wednesday, it's time for the weekly **Beginner Music Session**. Held (as last we heard) from 7-9 PM at the East Avenue Tavern, this is your opportunity to pull out the musical instrument of your choice and join this gregarious group of greenhorns. For details, pep talks, or fashion suggestions, call Susan Kuhn at 503/771-0035.

PCDC's **First Friday Dance** of November 5 will feature three of the Northwest's wild women of contradance. (Actually, one of them has recently moved East. But we will continue to claim her as our own.) **Mary Devlin** will call dances she has collected from around the country, to the rollicking piano playing of **Julie King** and the lyric fiddling of **Andrea Hoag**. 8 PM at the Multnomah Art Center.

The next night, Saturday November 6, brings the **PCDC English Country Dance**. **Molly Libby** will be teaching the dances, including several from the upcoming English Country Ball. Music will be provided by the **NewTonians**. 8 PM at Fulton Community Center.

You have a choice on Saturday, November 13. Contramaniacs, square-dancers, and fans of old-time music will want to attend the **PCDC Second Saturday Dance**, where **Rich Kuras** will preside over the strains of the **Rose City Aces**. High energy and low wit will abound. 8 PM at MAC.

Meanwhile, the first ever **Portland English Country Ball** will be taking place at the Adrianna Hill Grand Ballroom. Preceded by a Workshop in the afternoon, this event will be an evening of elegance and sparkle. Dancers from all over the West Coast have been signing up for the calling of **Nan Evans** and **Dick Lewis**, plus the music of **Laurie Andres**, **George Penk**, **Heather Pinney & Fred Nussbaum**. At press time there are still some spaces available (especially for men!), so contact **Dave** or **Paula Hamlin** at 503/691-1758 *now*.

December 3's **PCDC First Friday Dance** welcomes Eugene caller **Elinor Preston** back to town. Backing her up will be **George Penk**, **Heather Pinney & Fred Nussbaum**. 8 PM at MAC.

English Country Dance buffs get yet another chance

at the **PCDC English Country Dance** of December 4. Caller **Dick Lewis** will share his love of this traditional dance form, to the music of the sometimes less-than-traditional **NewTonians**. 8 PM at FCC.

The **PCDC Second Saturday Dance**, December 11, will feature three special treats. First, Seattle caller **Luther Black** will make one of his rare but always popular appearances. Second, a year of hints and threats comes to an end, as **Island** finally settles on a new name! Don't miss their Portland debut as... **Moondog**. And third, Portland's **Süssefüsse** young people's international folkdance troupe will perform at the break. 8 PM at MAC.

The **Fulton Community Center** usually spends large parts of December and/or January refinishing their floor. So check carefully before attending December's **Third Saturday Contradance**, as well as January's **English Country Dance**.

And in an unprecedented coincidence, December's **Fourth Friday Contradance**, **Fourth Friday Scandinavian Dance**, and **Fourth Saturday Contradance** have all been canceled! Hopefully you will be able to find something else to do on the 24th and 25th.

December 31 seems like a good time for this year's **PCDC New Year's Eve Benefit Dance & Dessert Potluck**. The callers and bands are being lined up even as you read this; preliminary rumors predict that **Nan Evans** and **Moondog** will be among the luminaries. Proceeds go to replenish PCDC's treasury. 8 PM until 1 AM, at MAC.

Skiers should pencil in two dates on their calendars. First, January 28-30 will be the **PCDC Ski-Dance Weekend**. You'll soon be seeing information and application forms at all the dances. And February 25-27 will bring a **Zydeco Ski Party at Suttle Lake**, featuring **Blackfish**. There will also be contras and squares, with **George Penk** and **Rich Kuras** lending their skills. If you're interested, contact **Deborah** or **Creighton Lindsay** (503/753-1278) *immediately*.

Concerts, concerts, concerts! It seems that it always takes a couple of months for Portland's concert-book-

ers to wake up from their summer torpor. Here are some of the coming offerings: Northwest singer-songwriter and Wobble, **U. Utah Philips** at the Melody Ballroom, Saturday November 20 (check with the Ballroom for details). Scottish fiddler **Alasdair Fraser** and pianist **Paul Machlis** at the First Congregational Church, Sunday November 21 (contact Jim Howe, 503/283-2688; tickets available at Fastixx, Artichoke Music). **Joe Hickerson**, a nationally-recognized folk historian, folklorist, guitarist and singer, in a house concert, Sunday November 21 (call Kurt, 503/236-5841). Patrick Street's **Andy Irvine** at the Clinton Street Theater, Sunday December 12 (contact Jim Howe). Perennial Portland favorite **John McCutcheon** at the Northwest Service Center, January 22 (Jim Howe strikes again). Plus the monthly **Portland Folklore Society Coffeehouse** at the Multnomah Friends' Meeting House, on the third Friday of each month (contact Maria Falasca, 503/684-8999).

Dear Professor Dance™

I read where President Clinton is going to finance health care in part from sin taxes. If the President reads your column don't you think he will add dancing to the list of sins to tax?

—Worried

Dear Worried—

Of course the President reads Professor Dance, as do most political and business leaders. These days one cannot consider themselves well-informed unless one reads the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and Professor Dance.

I am proud to say that we have the honor of doing our little bit to serve our country by helping the President and his staff evaluate the sin tax potential of dancing. As is the case with cigarettes, rum and other addictive sins, no matter how big a tax is put on dancing those hooked will probably pay and continue dancing rather than quit. Therefore, Mr. Clinton and our staff are attaching relative sin tax points to some common dance styles.

Portland Country Dance Location Acronyms

BWT	Burlingame Water Tower Dance Hall , SW 17th and Marigold (between Spring Garden and Taylor's Ferry Roads)— <i>no street shoes permitted on the dance floor</i>
EAT	East Avenue Tavern , 727 E. Burnside
ECHO	Echo Theater , 1515 SE 37th
FAS	French American School , 1849 SW 58th (Sylvan)
FCC	Fulton Community Center , 68 SW Miles (off Barbur, traffic light just east of Terwilliger)
HS	Hough School , 1900 Daniels, Vancouver, WA.
MAC	Multnomah Art Center , 7688 SW Capitol Hwy. (at 31st)
MLB	Melody Lane Ballroom , 615 SE Alder
NWSC	Northwest Service Center , 1819 NW Everett
OC	The Old Church , 1422 SW 11th
PPAA	Portland Police Athletic Assoc. , 618 SE Alder

Regular dances

Unless stated, all dances are open to everyone—experienced or not, with or without partners, and feature live music. All dances are taught and children are admitted without charge. At any PCDC dance where sit-in musicians are encouraged to play, they will be admitted free.

PCDC First Friday Dance. This contra dance showcases local and regional callers and dance bands. If you'd like to call or book a band for this dance, please contact PCDC. Musicians are encouraged to sit in with the hired band, but will not be miked. MAC, 8 pm, beginners' workshop 7:30 pm. \$5/\$4 for seniors and PCDC members.

PCDC First Saturday English Country Dance. English Country dance is a source of modern square and contra

dance style. FCC, 8 pm, beginner's workshop 7:30 pm. \$5/\$4 seniors and PCDC members.

Second Friday English Country Dance. At least a little experience advised. Nan Evans calls and coordinates. BWT, 8 pm, no beginner's workshop. \$4.

PCDC Second Saturday Dance, the longest continuously running contra dance in the state. This dance is similar to the first Friday dance, maintaining the tradition. MAC, 8 pm, beginners' workshop 7:30 pm. \$5/\$4 seniors and PCDC members.

Portland Ceili Society Dance is "a gathering of friends" with lively Irish music, frequently played by world famous musicians. Very aerobic dancing and a full

bar are only a few of the notable features of this Third Friday of the month dance, held at Portland Police Athletic Association. Cost \$5.

Third Saturday Contradance is a dance series organized by Paul McCullough. The dances tend towards the challenging side. FCC, 8 pm, beginner's workshop 7:30 pm. \$5.

Fourth Friday Contra and Square Dance Party. Contras and squares, usually called by organizer Mary Devlin. Not so much teaching. BWT, 8 pm, no beginner's workshop. \$5.

Fourth Saturday Contradance is another independent dance series, organized by Ted Remillard. FCC, 8 pm, beginner's workshop 7:30 pm. \$5.

CALENDAR • NOVEMBER / DECEMBER '93

Note: most dances offer a beginners' workshop half an hour before the listed time.

November

3rd (We) Beginner Music Session.
7 pm at EAT. *See Special Events.*

5th (Fr) PCDC First Friday Dance.
8 pm at MAC. Caller: Mary Devlin. Music: Julie King & Andrea Hoag.

5th (Fr) Country Dance Benefit for Portland Toy & Joy. 9 pm-midnight at PPAA. Music by Beck-A-Roo ('60's country music). Call Rebecca (503/282-0344) for details.

6th (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance. 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Molly Libby. Music: The NewTonians.

10th (We) Beginner Music Session.
7 pm at EAT. Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.

12th (Fr) Second Friday English Country Dance. 8 pm at BWT. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: George Penk, Heather Pinney, Fred Nussbaum & Laurie Andres. *(No street shoes allowed.)*

13th (Sa) PCDC Second Saturday Dance. 8 pm at MAC. Caller: Rich Kuras. Music: Rose City Aces.

13th (Su) Portland English Country Ball. 8 pm at Adrianna Hill Grand Ballroom, 918 SW Yamhill. *See Special Events.*

17th (We) Beginner Music Session.
7 pm at EAT. Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.

19th (Fr) Portland Ceili Society Dance.
8:30 pm at PPAA.

19th (Fr) Portland Folklore Society Coffeehouse. 8 pm at Multnomah Friends' Meeting House, 4312 SE Stark. Barry Crannell & Nora Krevans; Mary Benson & Marilyn O'Malley. Call Maria (503/684-8999) for details.

20th (Sa) Third Saturday Contradance.
8 pm at FCC. Caller: Paul McCullough. Music: Jigsaw.

20th (Sa) U. Utah Philips in Concert.
Melody Ballroom. (Further details unavailable at press time!)

21st (Su) Alasdair Fraser & Paul Machlis in Concert. First Congregational Church. Call Jim Howe (503/283-2688) for details.

21st (Su) Joe Hickerson house concert. Call Kurt for details (503/236-5841).

24th (We) Beginner Music Session.
7 pm at EAT. Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.

26th (Fr) Fourth Friday Contra & Square Dance Party. 8 pm at BWT. Caller: Maria Falasca. Music: Cat's Cradle.

26th (Fr) Fourth Friday Scandinavian Dance. 8 pm at IOOF Lodge, 187 High NE, Salem. Check with Sharon (503/364-6713) to confirm.

27th (Sa) Fourth Saturday Contradance. Caller: Ted Remillard. Music: Rose City Aces.

December

1st (We) Beginner Music Session.
7 pm at EAT. Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.

2nd (We) PCDC Board Meeting. 6:30 pm at Marianne's.

3rd (Fr) PCDC First Friday Dance.
8 pm at MAC. Caller: Elinor Preston. Music: George Penk, Heather Pinney & Fred Nussbaum.

4th (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance. 8 pm at FCC. Caller: Dick Lewis. Music: The NewTonians.

8th (We) Beginner Music Session.
7 pm at EAT. Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.

10th (Fr) Second Friday English Country Dance. 8 pm at BWT. Caller: Nan Evans. Music: Kathleen Towers, Dave Goldman & Beverly Stafford. *(No street shoes allowed.)*

12th (Su) Andy Irvine in Concert.
Clinton Street Theater. Call Jim Howe (503/283-2688) for details.

11th (Sa) PCDC Second Saturday Dance. 8 pm at MAC. Caller:

Luther Black. Music: Moondog (formerly Island).

15th (We) Beginner Music Session.
7 pm at EAT. Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.

17th (Fr) Portland Folklore Society Coffeehouse. 8 pm at Multnomah Friends' Meeting House, 4312 SE Stark. Chuck Pyle; RavenGale. Call Maria (503/684-8999) for details.

17th (Fr) Portland Ceili Society Dance.
8:30 pm at PPAA.

18th (Sa) Third Saturday Contradance.
8 pm at FCC. Caller: Paul McCullough. Music: Jigsaw. *May be canceled if the floor is being refinished. Stay tuned for announcements!*

22nd (We) Beginner Music Session.
7 pm at EAT. Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.

24th (Fr) Fourth Friday Contra & Square Dance Party. *Canceled.*

24th (Fr) Fourth Friday Scandinavian Dance. *Presumably canceled.*

25th (Sa) Fourth Saturday Contradance. *Canceled as well.*

26th-Jan 1st Winter Wild Dance Week.
Fort Worden State Park, Port Townsend WA. Lindy-Hop, smooth-style Lindy, Argentine Tango, body percussion. Call 206/781-1238 for details.

29th (We) Beginner Music Session.
7 pm at EAT. Call Susan (503/771-0035) for details.

31st (Fr) PCDC New Year's Eve Benefit Dance & Dessert Potluck. 8 pm-1 am at MAC. *See Special Events.*

January

1st (Sa) PCDC English Country Dance. 8 pm at FCC, *unless canceled due to floor refinishing. Check with Molly (503/234-6149).*

7th (Fr) PCDC First Friday Dance.
8 pm at MAC. Caller: Merilee Karr. Music: TBA.

28th-30th PCDC Ski-Dance Weekend. Watch for application forms! *See Special Events.*

Second Occasional Bad Contra Contest

A decade ago, midwest caller Eric Zorn held the first Bad Contra Contest. The hey was a new figure in contras, "circle left 3/4 and swing" had yet to become the most prevalent sequence, and gypsies were virtually unknown in the contradance world. Rich memories of dancing "Froggie in the Blender" and "Rory O'Bore" raise the question: what would a bad contra look like today?

For the complete set of rules (a sample rule is reproduced below), contact Erna-Lynne Bogue, 8700 Silver Drive, Pinckney MI 48169-8919 (e-mail: ebogue@umich.edu).

8. Points will be awarded for awkward positioning, timing challenges, creation of near-impossible transitions between figures, incorporation of dance styles and figures inappropriate to a contradance, figures which create chaos, and any other aspect of the dance which makes balancing a checkbook seem like fun.

Announcement of a Historic Event

PORTLAND, Oregon—The Portland Country Dance Community (PCDC) broke new ground in dance camp history at its annual fall Dance & Music Weekend at Suttle Lake, Oregon, September 17-19, 1993. For the first time at any camp, unlimited *espresso* was available throughout the weekend.

Interested participants paid a small fee at the registration desk, and received a sticker to affix to their dance camp badge. Anyone with such a sticker could walk up to the espresso cart in the corner of the main dance hall at any time and order their favorite espresso drink.

(The espresso person did express some concern at the number of doubles consumed by some individuals over the course of the weekend. Our attempts to interview these individuals were unsuccessful, however, as they seemed unable to remain in any one spot for more than a few seconds.)

Out-of-town participants all agreed that dance camp espresso is an idea whose time has come. PCDC now expects an espresso trend to percolate through the nation's dance camps. PCDC also expects that before long everyone will believe that the trend began in Seattle—the Espresso Capitol of the United States, and also the only city in the Pacific Northwest known to most East Coasters. PCDC is therefore publicizing its coup in a probably futile gesture to establish that not only is there dance life between Seattle and San Francisco, but that Portland represents the avant garde of contradance culture.

Country Dance and Song Society

Have you ever been driving along and wished you had the latest contradance cassette? Or been asked to call a dance at the local YMCA and didn't know where to start learning how? The Country Dance and Song Society (CDSS) Store contains the most complete selection of Anglo-American and English traditional dance materials available in the United States, as well as many standard collections of traditional music and song. Books, recordings and videos as well as Morris bell, longwords and rapper swords are available by mail order or from the CDSS store in Northampton, Massachusetts. Store hours are 9:30 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday; the store accepts VISA and MasterCard for orders of \$15.00 or more. CDSS members receive a 10% discount.

Catalog selections include such classics as Ted Sannella's *Balance and Swing*, Tony Parkes' *Contradance Calling*, Genevieve Shimer and Kate Van Winkle Keller's *The Playford Ball*, Lionel Bacon's *A Handbook of Morris Dances*, Peter Barnes' *English Country Dance Tunes*, the *Rise Up Singing* songbook, and many other titles. A new release this year is *Gems*, the results of CDSS's 75th Anniversary dance, tune and song contest.

The Country Dance and Song Society is an association of people with a common interest in Anglo-American and English traditional dance, music and song. Its members are recreational dancers, musicians, singers, teachers, callers, dance historians and people just having fun. In addition to the sales discount and copy of the catalog, membership benefits include the bi-monthly newsletter, the annual journal, Group Directory and members list, and priority admission to CDSS summer camps.

During the summer months, CDSS sponsors song, music and dance weeks for adults and for families at Pinewoods Camp in Massachusetts and at Buffalo Gap Camp in West Virginia.

For a free copy of the CDSS sales catalog, camp brochure or other information write: Country Dance and Song Society, 17 New South Street, Northampton, MA 01060, or call (413) 584-9913.

The plan has yet to be passed by Congress but the general gist of it is every hour a STOP (Sin Tax Observing Person) will pass through all public dances collecting taxes based on a relative sin scale of the dance involved. (Tango will have a point value of 10, while contras will rate a 5. Federation Square Dancing gets -3, meaning they pay you.)

Unfortunately, the salaries of the STOP and all the supervisory personnel required to supervise him or her, plus the exorbitant consulting fees due our staff will more than offset any tax collected, so no funds will actually be available for health care.

Dear Professor Dance—

Several alert readers sent us copies of this letter to "Dear Abby":

Dear Abby: As a male of the species, I hate dancing, and most men will admit it if pinned down. I quit dancing 56 years ago because the girl I was going with wanted to dance, dance, dance—nothing else.

I have not missed the activity since, nor have I missed the fights with a jealous husband or boyfriend because I danced too much with his wife or girlfriend.

It is my opinion that women should be the only ones to dance—preferably with each other.

—Grants Pass, Ore.

We have sent our answer to Dear Abby, along with copies of our books, hoping that in the future she will forward such letters to someone with the proper training to adequately answer them. We will let our readers know if we get an answer from Dear Abby.

Some may feel that the position taken in this letter stems from the fact that the dancing ability of most ladies is far superior to that of the average gentleman. (Perhaps this is why ladies sometimes prefer to dance with other ladies?) The more probable reason for the letter is this gentleman understands the sensual danger inherent in social dancing. Especially susceptible are vulnerable young ladies not familiar with the wicked ways of modern society.

We refer to an 1877 anti-dance book, *The Dance of Death*. In it a woman asks the author why, "if the dancing-hall is good enough to get a wife in, is it not good enough to take a wife to?" The author replies, "Those who, while single, were most deeply versed in the mysteries and pleasures of the waltz are, when married, the first to proclaim their abhorrence of it... There can be no stronger evidence to establish the sexualism of the popular dance than that which you have cited. The privileges of matrimony relieve the necessity for the dance."

The author sums up by saying the husband didn't want others handling his property. Some modern, politically correct individuals may detect a slight bit of sexism in this position.

No matter how humble, Professor Dance will answer your questions. Write him at the Professor Dance Library, Box 9644, Spokane WA 99209.

Upriver Dances

Salem

Second Saturday Dances. 8 PM at Guthrie Park, 3 miles south of Dallas.

November 13 Host caller: Alan Ede. Music: Lukiamute Band.

December 11 Ditto.

Fourth Saturday Dances. 8 PM at Salem Heights Hall, 3501 South Liberty Road, Salem.

November 27 Caller & Music TBA.

December 25 Presumably canceled.

Corvallis

First Saturday Dances. 8 PM at the Benton Center, 630 NW 7th. (*Bring non-street shoes.*)

November 6 Caller: Tony Mates. Music: Julie King & Andrea Hoag.

December 4 Caller: Ed Hall. Music: New Millennium Ceili Band.

Third Saturday Dances. 8 PM at the Benton Center. (*Bring non-street shoes.*)

November 20 Caller: Rich Kuras. Music: Stud Mountain String Band.

December 18 Canceled.

Eugene

Second Saturday Dances. 8 PM at the Kelly Middle School, North Park & Howard. Beginner's instruction at 7:30 PM. (For info or places to stay, call Ellen at 503/686-2053.)

November 13 Caller: A.B. Adams. Music: Fat Chance.

December 11 Caller: Woody Lane. Music: Generic String Band.

December 18 Special Third Saturday Holiday Swing Dance with the Swing Beans. At Willamette Grange, 7 miles south of Corvallis on 99W, at Greenberry Road.

Contramania Dances. More challenging dances, no beginner instruction. 4th Saturdays at the Kelly Middle School.

November 27 Caller: Elinor Preston. Music: Moondog (formerly Island).

December 25 Canceled.

PLEASE let us know immediately if your address changes. We get charged a quarter for each newsletter that is returned. And worse yet, you won't get your newsletter. Give your old and new address. Contact Bob Nisbet, 10101 SW 55th, Portland, OR 97219, 244-3971.

This newsletter, *Footnotes*, is published every other month. If you have a dance announcement for the newsletter, please contact the newsletter committee, or send it to PCDC, PO Box 14636, Portland, 97214. Give a concise description of your event, including featured band and callers, date, time, place, cost, and phone number for further info. The information provided here is as accurate as we can make it, and changes or cancellations may not be reflected in this calendar. We encourage submission of letters and articles of interest to the community. Letters and articles become the property of *Footnotes* on publication and may be edited. The **DEAD-LINE** for the January/February calendar is December 15th.

Portland Country Dance Community is a consortium of dancers, musicians and callers promoting country dance and music traditions

through regular dances, workshops and other events. Everyone is welcome. Our interests include American, English, Celtic, Scandinavian and related traditions, expressed through live performance and participation. With this newsletter, we hope to exchange information and share concerns about traditional music and dance. We publish the newsletter every other month and distribute it to members of PCDC and other folk organizations in the Pacific Northwest. Membership is \$10.00 a year (\$8.00 for seniors), which provides a \$1.00 discount at our regular dances and subscription to the newsletter. Donations in excess of \$10 per year are tax deductible. Correspondence may be sent to PCDC, PO Box 14636, Portland, OR 97214. We are an educational non-profit corporation and also a center of the Country Dance and Song Society, a national organization whose address is 17 New South Street, Northampton, MA 01060.

The PCDC board is an elected body of volunteers from the community. Meetings are held once a month, and community members are always welcome. Help, ideas and feedback from the community, in whatever form, is necessary to

make PCDC events happen. Your contributions of time and support are appreciated. Call any board member for further info. The PCDC board comprises:

- Kathy Bowman 244-0125
- Darrell Desper 252-6203
- Nan Evans 245-5675
- Keith Fish 628-0112
- Barbara & Rik Fischer Smoody 249-8300
- Dave Hamlin 691-1758
- Jan Hinkamp
- Marianne Kandel 649-0873
- John Kral 230-1126
- Diana O'Farrell 244-6635
- Tyler Robinson 245-6982
- Barb Tabachnick 590-3542

Chair: Dave Hamlin
Secretary: Barb
Treasurer: Nan
Booking: Tyler
Publicity: Merilee Karr(245-2185)
Newsletter: Dave (245-2185), Terri (235-3153)
Mailing list & membership:
Bob Nisbet (244-3971)

PCDC September Board Minutes. Suttle Lake is full; the policy of the price going up for late registrants seemed to help. Espresso service will be added this year. Merilee has organized the Family Dance for October 9; press releases have gone out. Musicians Grey Larson and André Marchond will be in town in November, and have asked us if we would like to arrange a dance and/or a concert. They have high expectations for pay, though, so we would probably have to find a co-sponsor. Tyler will see if the Portland Folklore Society is interested. Dave and Barb will organize the New Year's dance. Rik and Marianne will do the Ski-Dance Weekend. When Nan retires from the board next year there won't be any board members on the Suttle Lake committee. The board does not feel a need for one of its members to join the committee, as long as the committee continues to keep the board apprised of all issues and decisions. The November English Country Ball has received a \$300 grant from CDSS, as well as a \$300 grant from PCDC; if the Ball shows a profit, it will go first to pay off the CDSS grant, then the PCDC grant. Dance prices and pay policies were discussed briefly, with further discussion tabled until next meeting.

PCDC October Board Minutes. Not available at press time.

Next board meeting: December 2, at Marianne's.

Portland Country Dance Community

P.O. Box 14636
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Address correction requested

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