



USECA EXPRESS



Michigan's Largest and Most Active Amateur Radio Club

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC. Volume 26, Number 2, February 2010

USECA Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting—January, 2010

In attendance:

Larry, W8SOX	President
Dan, N8ZBA	Vice-President
Rob, NY8W	Recording Secretary
Dennis, W8DFG	Treasurer
Ray, K8RDJ	Membership Secretary
Walt, WB8E	Board Member
*Larry, W8NIC	Board Member
Chuck, N8ZA	Board Member
Bill, N8SA	Past President
*Absent	

NOTE: Board members' call signs are not included in the minutes as they are listed above. As W8NIC Larry is absent, references to "Larry" are about W8SOX, our club president.

Meeting called to order at 7:16 p.m. by Larry.

FD: Bill, looking for someone to shoot video for the 2010 Field Day event. Rob offered to ask a friend who has access to professional equipment. Rob also offered to assist Bill with FD. There was discussion regarding gathering tapes of old USECA events.

Dennis offered a motion to accept the December Board meeting minutes as printed in the Express. Walt seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurers' report was read by Dennis. Bill moved that we accept the treasurer's report. Walt seconded and the motion carried.

Ray reported that as of tonight's meeting we have 87 paid members.

Tech director's report given by Jim W1IK: We need to update the control op list and provide the new operators with access credentials. We need to find out if any previous technical committee members have any of our equipment. We need an updated inventory list. Jim also wants to send a gift basket to the host of our repeater's main site. Dennis moved we spend \$50, Bill seconded and the motion carried.

Trustee report given by Dennis: The TDS report will be turned in within the next few months. There was some discussion regarding jammers on our K8UO repeater.

Fund Raising: Dennis suggested that we raffle off another HF rig (i.e., FT-857-D).

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Santa Claus Net

Chuck, N8ZA

Hello all. If you missed it then let me tell you about the Santa Claus Net.

Sometime in October, Jeff, KD8CIA brought up to the board about doing a Santa Claus net at a Detroit library where he had a contact. We thought it was a fantastic idea.

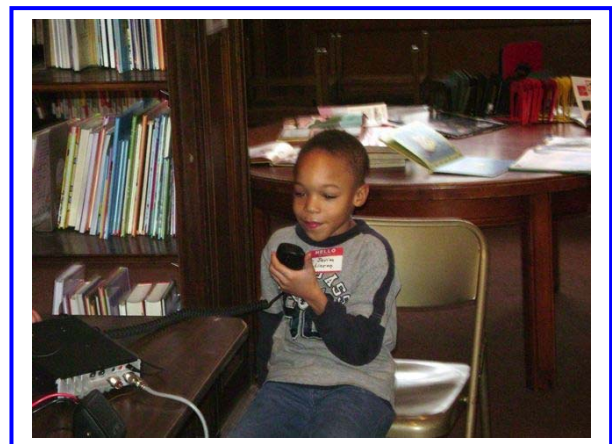
At the next meeting, Jeff talked about it and then we started making plans. The plans were that Jeff and I would go down to the Detroit Library and set up a radio station with Jeff's FT 857. I would bring my 450-ohm ladder line and J-pole and hang it from the ceiling. Next, we would get Santa over to Don's, (WB8F) house—the North Pole (HI HI).

Now the kids were all set to talk to Santa at the North Pole—we also had the kids pre-register and the list of names were sent to Santa so he knew who would be at the microphone.

We were ready and the kids were ready and away we went. Jeff would call on the first child and send them to me at the radio and we would have them tell Santa what they wanted for Christmas.

We kept Santa busy, who was Jeff's farther in-law—28 kids or so—what a fantastic job he did. All the kids had a great time, one child was too shy just like me, so his mother talked to Santa and asked for some things,

This was a great opportunity and I was glad to be part of it. Jeff and I are planning some more things in the future for the library.



Next Meeting — February 8th

125 CLUB DIRECTORY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Larry Stocking/W8SOX (586) 294-7718
Vice President	Dan Maliniak/N8ZBA (586) 596-3195
Recording Secretary	Rob Lifton/NY8W (248) 797-2264
Treasurer	Dennis Gaboury/W8DFG (586) 465-7126
Membership Secretary	Ray Anderson/K8RDJ (586) 979-4456
Board Member	Walt Gracey/WB8E (586) 596-9547
Board Member	Larry Logarta/W8NIC
Board Member	Chuck Perushek/N8ZA (586) 557-4983
Past President	Bill Chesney/N8SA (586) 468-0106

COMMITTEES

ARRL Liaison	Bill/N8SA
Awards Manager	Bob/N8ZY (586) 978-1682
Door Prizes	—OPEN—
Editor	Joe/K8OEF (586) 781-0050
Field Day Chair	Bill/N8SA, Steve/N8XO & Ray/N8UY
Health & Welfare	Rob/NY8W (248) 816-2222
Historian	Jerry/K8CFY (586) 791-4484
Mails/Sorters	Ann/KT8F & Crew
Net Manager	Bob/N8ZY (586) 978-1682
Photographer	Wes/KD8DHS
Program Director	—OPEN—
Public Relations Officer	Ken/N8KC (248) 652-1187
Refreshments	Walt/WB8E; & Alec/NF8X
Repeater Trustee	Dennis/W8DFG (586) 465-7126
Swap Director	Jeff/KD8CIA
Technical Director	Jim/W1IK (586) 771-4135
Technicians	KA8D; WA8GQL; W8RO; AD8S; N8SA; W1SKU;
VE Testing	Alec/NF8X (586) 873-8841
Webmaster	Bob/N8ZY (586) 978-1682

CONTROL OPERATORS (*Phone Number Above)

Jim/WY8I	Rob/NY8W*	Chuck/N8ZA*
Jim/W1IK*	Alec/NF8X*	Dan/N8ZBA
Dennis/W8DFG*		

PROGRAMMERS

Dennis/W8DFG	Jim/W1IK	Brad/N8VI
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The Editor is:

Still Going

Joe, K8OEF

What a catastrophe in Haiti on January 12th. The entire editorial staff is hoping amateur radio can aid in the necessary relief since the Haitians lost all their utilities; and without cell phones people in the states (or the world) can't make contact with anyone in Haiti. What a time for our radio community to really shine—and show the public what a real service we can provide in such critical times. Emergency communications is what we do best!

Be sure to check out our Club Activities on the cover page for the up-coming activities, especially in April, May and June—this will help you stay “radio active.”

The area below is blank because there was nothing new to report—hey, don't look at me!

73 for now.

The *USECA EXPRESS* is published monthly (except July and August), by the UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC., of Macomb County, Michigan. Club meetings are held on the second Monday of each month (except July and August), 7:30 p.m., local time, at the Elks Club, 179 S. Main (between Church and Robertson), Mt. Clemens, Michigan. *Visitors are always welcome.* Articles for the *EXPRESS* should be submitted to the editor no later than the night of the club meeting for publication in the following month's edition. **The articles within are those of the author and not necessarily endorsed by USECA.** Material contained in the *EXPRESS* may be reprinted provided credit is given to the *USECA EXPRESS* and the author, except material published by permission of a copyright holder.

USECA VE Testing

Testing will be the THIRD Monday of the month from September thru June. Alec, NF8X, is the Contact VE. Pre-registration is encouraged. Test fee is \$14.00 cash (exact change only). Examinees need to bring Xerox copies of current license and un-expired CSCE's, if any. There is no copy machine at the test site. Official starting time is 7:00 PM. Walk-ins are welcomed. Test site is at the Mt. Clemens Elks Club (179 S. Main St. in Mt. Clemens). Other VE test sessions can be arranged—contact the Contact VE for details.

'What's The Frequency, Kenneth?'



Photo by Matthew Fahr

Seventh grader Austin Vannater asks a question to another ham radio operator. Students asked a variety of question to a number of operators throughout Michigan during their time on the radio.

Middle school looks to start ham radio club

By Matthew Fahr
Armada Times Reporter

Students at Armada Middle School are no strangers to ham radio. For most, their first interaction with ham radio was a question and answer session with the International Space Station last year.

Volunteers with the Utica Shelby Emergency Communication Association want to help the students continue to reach all corners of the globe from their classroom or basement.

Chuck Perushek and Ray Anderson, both amateur ham operators and members of USECA, came

to Armada Middle School to show a group of seventh-graders the importance of ham radios in today's society and what they can do with them.

"It is a great way to learn about other cultures and people," Perushek told the students. "There is a great fellowship in amateur radio."

Ham radio operators are involved in emergency response scenarios, hospitals and even work with the National Weather Service. They provide information when other communication systems go down or are rendered useless based on geographic conditions.

The aim of the club at the middle school is to get

kids on their own ham radios to communicate outside of the state and even the country and show them the more personal use for the system.

It is a world that uses frequencies instead of channels and call signs instead of names.

"If we can get a handful of kids to start and word spreads, I think it will turn out great," middle school teacher and ham radio operator Geri Asaro, whose call sign is KD8ECE, said.

Asaro has been showing sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders about the amateur radio world ever since the school hosted a

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November 25, 2009

Radio

Continued from page 1

"space-conference" with the International Space Station last spring.

"That really got the kids interested in the capability of what these men can do with their equipment," she said.

Perushek and Anderson, call sign KSRDJ, helped set up the meeting between Armada and the space station and told students that getting started is not as expensive as they may assume.

"You can easily be on the radio with \$300," Perushek explained. "You can get the wire and coaxial cable to build an antenna and buy a radio pretty cheap."

The two "hams," as they are sometimes called, showed the students exactly what the radio at the school is capable of Nov. 12. Students got a chance to ask questions to other amateurs on the air, like Larry, who works in automotive repair and has been an operator for two years.

They talked to Walter, who had already spoken with operators from the Ukraine, Mexico and Great Britain that morning.

They asked Leo, a 58-year-old talking from a cabin in mid-Michigan, what kinds of music he liked and what countries he likes to try and talk to.

"I speak Italian, so I like to try and contact people in Italy and chat with

them," he told the seventh-graders.

The initial focus of the club is to get students to prepare for a Federal Communications Commission test to obtain their licenses. It is a 35-question multiple-choice test that must be passed before an operator can begin scanning frequencies and create their call sign. Practice tests are available online and Perushek said that 15 to 20 minutes of study time a day is all that is needed to prepare.

The students will then be able to use the radio that they spoke on at the middle school, call sign KD8MDU, or at home and see just how far their voices can reach around the globe. The radio was purchased through a grant from the American Radio Relay League in May.

"Once they see what they are able to do, it will be a great experience for them," Asaro said.

For now, plans are to meet once or twice a month starting in January, with USECA members there to help guide the club and help with anything they may need.

"Most amateur radio is under the radar, but there is more out there than people realize," Perushek told the students. "Once you find out what is out there and available to you, you will get hooked just like I did."

Contact Matthew Fahr at (586) 716-8100, ext. 300 or at matt.fahr@voiceneus.com



Photo by Matthew Fahr

Ray Anderson shows off the QSL cards, or postcards, he has received from ham radio operators throughout the world. Some of the operators who have sent their cards to him, which include their call sign and other information each operator can personalize. They came from countries from around the world such as French Polynesia, Russia, Gambia and the United Kingdom.

DID YOU KNOW?

Bob, N8ZY announced at January's General Meeting that we had **352** net check ins for 2009.

Year End USECA NET POINTS

CALL	NAME	VHF	HF	TOTAL	CALL	NAME	VHF	HF	TOTAL
N8ZA	CHUCK	170	436	606	KV8Z	CHRIS	20	0	20
N8ZY	BOB	67	469	536	K8RFP	RON	19	0	19
N8YBY	LEONARD	188	124	312	N8UO	KEN	19	0	19
W8NIC	LARRY	71	166	237	KD8JWF	GENE	16	2	18
AK8S	ALAN	84	144	228	N8ZI	TOM	4	14	18
N8ZBA	DAN	55	134	189	N8RUE	EDDIE	17	0	17
K8RDJ	RAY	76	98	174	KD8JSV	GEOFFREY	5	10	15
KD8CXJ	ED	146	26	172	N8KA	JOE	15	0	15
WB8E	WALT	66	96	162	AB8YG	RICHARD	0	14	14
WB8F	DON	77	68	145	N8KC	KEN	2	12	14
W8SOX	LARRY	67	59	126	WB8OAF	BILL	14	0	14
N8CR	DENNIS	50	70	120	KD8DHS	WES	13	0	13
KD8HIZ	ANDY	65	52	117	KD8GVT	ERIC	3	10	13
N8AE	CARL	27	88	115	KW8YL	KIM	11	2	13
W1IK	JIM	56	54	110	W8TRC	TOM	13	0	13
N8UJ	CHUCK	40	52	92	WB8SJD	LARRY	9	4	13
KC8REX	BERNARD	12	79	91	K8GIM	ED	0	12	12
KD8HTU	MARTY	37	54	91	KD8IGM	BEAU	0	12	12
NY5Q	TOM	15	76	91	KD8IUO	RUSS	10	2	12
KD8JNS	SHAUN	13	77	90	N8IGM	JOE	0	12	12
WY8I	JIM	46	42	88	N5WCS	MIKE	7	4	11
KD8JDC	RYAN	35	52	87	AC8AK	GENE	4	6	10
W8AOQ	STEVE	0	76	76	KC8LUM	MIKE	0	10	10
KD8CFU	DAVE	40	34	74	KW8Z	KEN	10	0	10
K9DLW	DENNIS	20	48	68	WB8FUI	PHIL	10	0	10
KD8CIA	JEFF	15	52	67	KA8DYD	PAUL	8	0	8
KB3PTA	JAMES	0	66	66	KD8HNC	PHIL	8	0	8
WB8WKQ	JEFF	27	36	63	KD8HTG	JD	2	6	8
N8EB	KEITH	56	6	62	KD8LZM	DAVID	8	0	8
KC8UHK	RANDY	10	40	50	KF9FK	ALLEN	0	8	8
KA8POZ	SHAWN	42	6	48	KW8J	LEO	6	2	8
KC8ZRY	RANDY	18	28	46	NC8ED	ED	0	8	8
W8RIT	DAVE	4	40	44	W8BUJ	ROB	0	8	8
NY8W	ROB	29	12	41	W8IR	MARK	0	8	8
N8FGB	RICH	0	38	38	WB8QGT	JIM	6	2	8
KG4JTC	DAVE	37	0	37	KD8JTU	JAMES	1	6	7
AA8OZ	PAUL	33	2	35	N8OV	CURTIS	7	0	7
KI8JN	PHIL	33	2	35	KB8WMB	GLEN	4	2	6
W8OMC	KEN	0	34	34	KZ8N	BOB	6	0	6
KC8NQA	MIKE	7	26	33	N8HTV	JOHN	6	0	6
KA2IBE	JOHN	24	8	32	N8KAN	JOHN	6	0	6
KD8GVO	PHIL	19	12	31	N9NDI	MARK	0	6	6
KD8GZE	TOM	24	6	30	W0FLH	SMITTY	0	6	6
WD8IFL	DAVE	27	2	29	WA8FEA	GARY	6	0	6
KC8CPT	DON	27	0	27	WU8V	KURT	0	6	6
KF8XO	JEFF	0	26	26	AB8YR	ALLIECE	3	2	5
W8DFG	DENNIS	22	4	26	KD8EYN	STEVE	3	2	5
AA8GK	PETE	25	0	25	N8JGU	MIKE	3	2	5
N8LD	DENNIS	23	2	25	W1NB	SCOTT	1	4	5
K8DXX	BILL	14	10	24					
KC8CTZ	BOB	6	18	24					
K8QLM	JANICE	22	0	22					
K8DJE	JONESY	17	4	21					
KC8C	TONY	21	0	21					
N8UZE	DEE	11	10	21					

5 or more points -- Submitted by Bob, N8ZY

Meeting Minutes—From Page 1

Pre Field Day will be run by Leo KW8J. Dennis moved that we hold the event on June 5th, seconded by Chuck. After brief discussion, the motion carried.

Old Business: Alec is the official contact VE for USECA. Dennis has a supplier looking for the new tent section that our members approved at the last general meeting.

New Business:

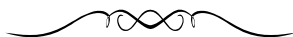
Next Month's presentation will be about Winter Field Day, presented by Chuck, Dan, Larry and Pete.

Swap: We discussed raising our table fee by \$2.00 to twelve dollars. Rob made a motion that we raise the table fee from \$10 to \$12. Ray seconded and the motion carried.

At this time Dennis made a motion to adjourn and Walt seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Lifton, NY8W
Recording Secretary



General Meeting — January, 2010

In attendance:

- Larry, W8SOX President
- Dan, N8ZBA Vice-President
- Rob, NY8W Recording Secretary
- Dennis, W8DFG Treasurer
- Ray, K8RDJ Membership Secretary
- Walt, WB8E Board Member
- Larry, W8NIC Board Member
- Chuck, N8ZA Board Member
- *Bill, N8SA Past President
- *Absent

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

With the exception of Larry (W8SOX and W8NIC) board members' names are not included in the minutes as they appear above.

Meeting called to order at 7:32 p.m. by W8SOX Larry.

53 attendees and guests signed in.

The microphone was passed around and all attendees introduced themselves.

First timers were recognized.

Dennis offered a motion to accept the general meeting as printed in the January Express. W8NIC Larry seconded and the motion carried.

Treasurers' report was read by Dennis.

WB8F Don moved that we accept the treasurer's report. WY8I Jim seconded and the motion carried.

Ray reported that as of tonight's meeting we have 99 paid members.

Webmaster's report read by N8ZY Bob.

W8SOX Larry announced that tomorrow morning articles are due.

Tech director's report given by Jim W1IK: Site visit scheduled for Tomorrow or Wednesday. We are giving a gift basket to the Messina family for use of their facility for our main repeater site. Two new control operators were added: Rob and Dan. Repeater operational questions may be directed to W1IK Jim (our tech director), Dennis (repeater trustee) or any of the control operators listed in the Express.

Inter club liaison report read by Jim K8LFE: the L'Anse Cruse Club is having an antenna party on June 20th at the Tucker Hall (contact k8lfe@aol.com).

Upcoming swaps: Hazel Park Jan. 17th at Hazel Park High School; Traverse City Feb. 6th; Livonia 21st; Dayton will be May 14th thru 16th.

New GM ARC president is WU8V Kurt. L'Anse Cruse president is N8AE Karl. KE8UM Murray is Hazel Park President.

Hazel Park is having an Extra Class Tuesday Nights for 16 weeks at the Southfield EOC located at the Southfield Civic Center beginning Jan. 19th.

Old Business:

Need a new person to pick up donuts. Larry Volunteered.

NF8X Alec is our new Contact VE for USECA and there will be no changes to our VE testing schedule.

Dennis ordered another section for the tent, which was approved by the membership at our December 2009 Meeting.

New Business:

Net points: N8ZY Bob announced that we have had 352 net check ins for 2009. The awards were handed out. The NCO winner was Chuck. The check in winner was Larry, the runner up was AK8S Alan.

AA8OZ Paul expressed interest in inviting hams from other area clubs to attend. Non members are welcome, but it remains a USECA event and will use the K8UO call. Spending the night will cost ten dollars per person and a dish to pass. Those wishing to come up for the day are encouraged to make a ten dollar donation. All of the WFD contribution money goes to the camp who generously provides the space at minimal cost.

Dennis also had the following announcements: The March of Dimes "March for Babies" will be held at Metro Beach on April 25th. KW8J Leo will head up Pre Field Day on June 6th at Metro Beach. We are putting the Field Day mess tent up on the Wednesday before Field Day.

At 8:09 pm we took a short break followed by a presentation regarding Winter Field Day.

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Lifton, NY8W
Recording Secretary



USECA APPLICATION



Rev. 6/08

DATE _____ NEW RENEWAL MAIL PRINTED NEWSLETTER
 CALL _____ CLASS _____
 NAME _____
 STREET ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 TELEPHONE # _____ PRINT # IN ROSTER NO
 EMAIL ADDRESS _____
 MEMBER: ARRL YES NO RACES YES NO

FOR FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS ONLY:

CALL _____ CLASS _____
 NAME _____
 MEMBER: ARRL YES NO
 RACES YES NO

CALL _____ CLASS _____
 NAME _____
 MEMBER: ARRL YES NO
 RACES YES NO

Annual Membership Dues: Regular: \$20 — Family: \$30 — Mail Printed Newsletter, ADD \$10.00

New Member applications must be mailed to P.O. Box address below.

Please make check payable to: **USECA** — Address: **P.O. Box 46331, Mt. Clemens, MI 48046**

All mailed-in applications to the P.O. Box must include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

(Allow 4-6 weeks for processing.)

USECA reserves the right to accept or reject New or Renewal Memberships.

Local Area FM Nets

DAY	TIME	CLUB	FREQ.
SUN	1:00 pm	USECA/Information	147.180
SUN	8:00 pm	USECA/Traders/Tech Sup.	147.180
SUN	9:00 pm	HPARC/Info	146.640
SUN	9:00 pm	Garden City ARC	146.860
SUN-SAT	10:15 pm	S. E. Michigan Traffic Net	145.330
MON	7:30 pm	SATERN	147.180
MON	8:00 pm	MECA/Info	147.200
MON	8:00 pm	GMARC (PL 123)	443.075
TUE	8:00 pm	Digital	145.550
TUE	9:00 pm	Motor City Radio Club	147.240
WED	9:00 pm	ARPSC/Info	145.490
THU	8:00 pm	RACES/ARES	147.200
THU	8:30 pm	LCARC/Info	147.080
SAT	11:45 pm	Hoot Owl	147.180

VHF PL'S — 100 Hz

On The World Wide Web

USECA Home Page

WWW.USECAARC.COM

Local HF Nets

DAY	TIME	CLUB/DESCRIPTION	FREQ.
MON	7:30 pm	LCARC/15 Meter CW	21.165
MON	9:00 pm	LCARC/15 Meter Phone USB	21.395
TUE	6:00 pm	USECA/75 Meter Phone LSB	3.830
WED	7:00 pm	USECA/6 Meter Phone USB	50.140
THU	7:30 pm	LCARC/10 Meter Phone USB	28.435
THU	9:00 pm	USECA/15 Meter CW	21.140
FRI	9:00 pm	USECA/80 Meter CW	3.570
FRI	10:00 pm	USECA/10 Meter Phone USB	28.425

Listings in **BOLD** are USECA club nets, but **ALL ARE WELCOME!**

Net Ops Schedules

2-METER NETS

	SUN. 1 PM	SUN. 8 PM**	FRI. 11:45 PM
WEEK	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz	147.180 MHz
1	KD8CXJ	W1IK	KD8CXJ
2	N8ZA	N8ZBA	KD8CXJ
3	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	KD8CXJ
4	WB8E	KD8JNS	KD8CXJ
5*	-OPEN-	-OPEN-	KD8CXJ

*If applicable

Updated 1/10

**Traders/Tech Support

NCO's—If you're unable to take your net please get a replacement or contact Chuck, N8ZA (586) 557-4983—Don't wait!

USECA

UTICA SHELBY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. Box 46331 • Mt. Clemens, MI 48046

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

FIRST CLASS MAIL



FEBRUARY 2010

"The Happenin' Club"

Club Activities

MONTH	DATE	TIME	EVENT
FEB	8	7:30 pm	General Meeting
FEB	15	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
MAR	8	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAR	15	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
APR	12	7:30 pm	General Meeting
APR	19	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
APR	25		"March For Babies"
MAY	10	7:30 pm	General Meeting
MAY	14-16		Dayton Hamvention
MAY	17	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
JUN	6		Pre-Field Day & Picnic
JUN	14	7:30 pm	General Meeting & Fox Hunt
JUN	21	7:00 pm	VE Test Session
JUN	26-27		Field Day 2010

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