



# STANDARD OF THE WORLD

## Cadillac LaSalle Club

### North Texas Region

web site: [www.clcntx.com](http://www.clcntx.com)

September 2015

**Awarded Best CLC Regional Newsletter 2007-2008**

## Northstar Head To Head

Story and Photos by Lifer



We are going to look at the last of the great GM personal luxury cars, a 1993 Allanté and the 2002 Eldorado. Both cars were the end of their breed and left behind some very interesting technological achievements and design evolution. Both cars were equipped with the Cadillac Northstar V-8 engine, 4T80E automatic transmission, electronic road sensing suspensions, and standard Eldorado drive and axle setups.

In the early 1980s Cadillac wanted a car to compete with other automakers like the Jaguar XJS, and the Mercedes Benz SL. So in 1982 they went to the offices of Sergio Pininfarina in Turin Italy. Mr. Pininfarina agreed to build their flagship car. The Allanté as we know it is built on a shortened E-body Eldorado/Riviera/Toronado frame. GM lost over \$24 billion dollars on the development and production of these two-seat sports cars, shipping Eldorado chassis halves, instruments, air conditioning, steering column, and most of the electronics – 107 components per car - to Turin, Italy in a specially designed Boeing 747 aircraft. There the two sub chassis were cut and welded together, bodies and interiors (all hand built instead of an assembly line) installed, painted, attached to special carrier racks, loaded back into the same planes, and flown back to the Hamtramck Detroit assembly plant. Cadillac then installed the front and rear sub frames, suspension, drive train, steering box, brakes, fuel tank, wheels and the tires.

Introduced in early 1992 for the 1993 model year, Allanté was scaled down to just one model this year, the soft-top convertible priced at \$59,975 (not including a mandatory \$1,700 gas guzzler tax for vehicles sold in the United States). The removable 60.5 lb (27.4 kg) aluminum hardtop was now a separate option, as well as the \$495 LCD digital instrument cluster in place of the standard analog instruments. The engine was the all-new 4.6 liter Northstar rated at 295 hp. Production was the best ever at 4,670 units, retailing for \$60,000 but most were sold at heavy discounts at \$45,000. It was designated as the official pace car for the 76<sup>th</sup> Indy 500 in 1992. The last Allanté built was flown from Turin, Italy on July 2, 1993, and completed at Detroit-Hamtramck 14 days later. With 21,430 total cars built, assemblies averaged just a little more than 3,000 a year throughout the car's lifetime. Allanté production officially ended on July 28, 1993.

The **Eldorado** was a Cadillac classic for almost 59 years and is known as the longest running American personal luxury car. The original Cadillac Eldorado was built for a car show and was shown to mark the anniversary of Cadillac. The first time the Eldorado name was used it was for a limited edition convertible in 1953. The Eldorado wasn't at the very top of the line, but it was always amongst the most expensive and luxurious of the Cadillac vehicles. Cadillac brought a last, new four passenger Eldorado coupe onto the market in 1992. This Eldorado wasn't all that much bigger the previous years, but the styling was genius. The window glass was frameless, unlike the disaster of the 1980s and the new NorthStar V8 powered the Eldorado. The Eldorado did not see any more major changes for the remainder of the 1990s aside from a few very minor exterior and interior changes. The last year of the Eldorado would be the 49th model year for the vehicle, in 2002. It was two models now, the ESC base car with 275 hp, and the touring ETC with 300 hp. The last year had a limited edition run that was painted in the original red and white colors. Sadly, production of the Eldorado officially ended on April 22, 2003.



**Winner CLC Web  
Site Merit Award  
2013, 2014, 2015**

**Winner Old Cars Weekly  
Golden Quill Award  
2012, 2013, 2014**



# Northstar Head To Head

	2002 Eldorado	1993 Allante Difference
Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price ESC/ETC	\$ 40,436 / 44,011	59,975
Price As Tested	\$ 47,145	
Engine Type	DOHC 32-valve 4.6 Liter V8 w/SMFI*	
Engine Size	278.6 cid/4565 cc	
Bore	3.66 inches	
Stroke	3.31 inches	
Horsepower	300 @ 6000 RPM	295 @ 6000 RPM
Torque (lb-ft)	295 @ 4400 RPM	290 @ 4400 RPM
Compression ratio	10.1:1	10.3:1
Wheelbase/Width/Length	108.0"/75.5"/200.6"	99.4"/73.5"/178.7"
Cargo Volume		16.2 cu ft
Transmission	Four-speed automatic 4T80-E	
Curb Weight	3894 pounds	3752 pounds
Fuel Capacity	19.0 gallons	23 gallons
Tires (F/R)	P235/60ZR16	225/60ZR16
Brakes (F/R)	Disc (ABS)/disc (ABS)	
Drive Train	Front-engine/front-wheel-drive	
Vehicle Type	Five-passenger/two-door	2-passenger / two door roadster
Domestic Content	N/A	
Coefficient of Drag (Cd.)	N/A	
EPA Economy, miles per gallon		
city/highway/average	18/27/23	14/21
0-60 MPH	7.5 seconds	6.9 seconds
1/4 (E.T.)	16.0 seconds @ 93.0 mph	
Top-speed	115 mph	
	* Sequential multi-port fuel injection	Problem Areas: Oil leaks at filter apter, gas tank sloshing sounds, hard starting, stowage covers and top bows rattle
	Colors - 6 different colors offered	



Allante interior—well done, high tech, difficult to service, quiet, and like no other GM car. The 1993 seats were now the Eldo seats, but considered comfortable. Roomy and mainly designed for luxury, not sports.

Eldorado interior is upscale, easier to maintain, more techno stuff, tight on room, but comfortable and luxurious.



The 4.6 L engine and transmission is shoehorned in, but the layout and components are very similar in both cars. The Eldorado has coil on plug, a change made in 2000, and has courser head bolts to stop head gasket failure. Both engines, naturally aspirated, are very powerful for the time period.





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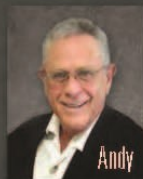
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## Activities Director's Calendar

Here are the up and coming activities that members can plan for and participate in.

**September 5** Warbirds on Parade Lancaster Regional Airport. Show your car and view some classic planes. [http://www.contraails.us/caf\\_dfw\\_wing/Warbirds On Parade/2015/2015-Warbirds On Parade.pdf](http://www.contraails.us/caf_dfw_wing/Warbirds%20On%20Parade/2015/2015-Warbirds%20On%20Parade.pdf)

**September 19** Crusin' For The Cure. Downtown Ft. Worth. Plan on this one as we need lots of cars to make a big showing this year. See page 11. Let's get those checks for \$40. in now.

**September 25-27** Gilmore Fall Festivities and Museum

**October 4 or 18** Sunday NTXCLC Regional Meet. AA ADVANTAGE AUTOWORKS. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. More on this to come.

**October 9th and 10th** Driving Tour spend night---park around the Square in MARSHALL. See page 11.

**October 17 (Rain date)** Visit to Mike Ames Not So Grand Classic car collection, 3522 Calendar Road, Arlington. Includes a lunch for \$15., and Champaign later. More info coming by email, including time. You do not miss this one.

**November 14** Chili Cook Off Real cook off on site at John Foust's Caddy Corners with prizes and games. See page 11 for details.

**December 12** Toys For Tots Open your hearts and your trunks at Fran Kent Cadillac.

**January 10** NTXCLC Christmas Holiday Dinner. See more pictures of the 2015 CLC Grand National trip.

So come on and get in the groove for the exciting times ahead. Don't hesitate to volunteer—you are among friends.

### Also worth noting:

**September 2015.** The Motor City Region CLC will be hosting a National Driving Tour in conjunction with the Woodward Dream Cruise. Their driving tour will take place during the week leading up to the official 'show' day.

Remember we can use all help and suggestions for the monthly meetings. All will be considered and appreciated

*RUBYE*



**Correction (Yes, we do make mistakes every so often):** From the August issue of the Standard Of The World (this newsletter) , page 5, we erroneously said that Travis McDowell, who is a new member, was also the auctioneer for the Cadillac & LaSalle Club Museum. Travis is not the auctioneer, as that honor goes to Richard Dermois who is the National Director of the Snake River Region, and also a board member and

## Cruise, Chrome, Bumpers, Fins

Text by Rubye M Musser, Photos by Lifer

Saturday, August 8th, the NTXCLC had a very productive Board Meeting in a super nice meeting room that was provided by Streetside Classics at their Ft. Worth, Texas location. After the business meeting these members and additional NTX members Terry Graham, Jeff Podmers, guest James Ashley, Randoll and Joyce Reagan and Robert Allen enjoyed viewing the fabulous classic cars housed under one roof at Streetside.

Todd Anthony and Spencer Wilmore at Streetside were very gracious hosts and proudly explained the workings of the consignment requirements and the displaying of the over 250 cars of all makes and models on the floor. As an example, there were eleven different years of Cadillacs from a 1947 7-passenger touring sedan to a 1987 Allante to view throughout the building.

After a couple hours of sizing up all the different makes and models we moved on to a BBQ lunch at Shady Oak Barbeque and Grill. There we celebrated the 56th Wedding Anniversary of Joyce and Randoll Reagan. We also had a guest (possible future new member), and one of our members (Robert Allen) that drove all the way from Durant, Ok to be with us. Wish more members could have participated.

Now in the upcoming months we have some very exciting and big events for all of you members. First is the Cruising for Prostate Cure in downtown Fort Worth, so come down and view our display and also about 300 plus cars on display. Check out the vendors and, for the guys, go to the booth to have your check up.

Then in October we have the Big Election of Officers. Nominate or Volunteer for your place on the Ballot. The Board needs some replacements and new ideas.

Plus this time for our Annual REGIONAL MEET. You display, park, and show your special Cadillac. You, the members, are the judges of your own cars at the meet. Plus you have a **free** meal. Looking forward to see all of you soon.



Streetside Classics has a beautiful showroom in Ft. Worth. It houses around 250 consignment classic and muscle cars constantly.



# President's Message

Guest Letter By Richard Dormois

## TRIBUTE TO A TEXAS FARM GIRL

In 1941 good farm labor was hard to come by in Castro County, Texas as most able bodied men were entering the armed forces to fight for our Country. RAYMOND ANNEN needed help planting, cultivating and harvesting his section of wheat in rural Nazareth, Texas so he called upon his eldest child, RUBY MAE. He taught her to do most of the chores associated with the production and storage of the family's primary cash crop...Wheat. Today, I think giving such responsibility to a five year old girl might seem quite unusual or even crazy, however, in 1941 it was not. By nine years old, RUBY MAE was plowing fifty acre fields each day atop the International Harvester tractor. She recalls the clutch being quite a challenge, but she managed. Well into her twenties, time permitting, RUBY MAE returned to the farm and helped her Daddy harvesting the wheat and managing a herd of Hereford and Aberdeen Angus beef cattle. She vividly recalls many trips to the Dimmitt, Texas grain elevator hauling tons of wheat in the big Studebaker grain truck.

At fifteen, RUBY MAE acquired a Texas Driver's License and drove legally with at least eight years of experience already under her belt. There were no school busses, so she drove her siblings and neighboring farm kids to school in Nazareth, Texas in her 1947 Chevrolet sedan. RUBY graduated from Nazareth High School the 27th of May, 1954 and entered Saint Paul's School of Nursing in Dallas, Texas where she graduated in 1956.

In November of 1957 Rubye Mae met school teacher and coach EUGENE ALTON HUBBARD at the Nazareth Thanksgiving Dance. They married a year later and were wed for twenty-five years until his passing in 1984. The couple produced two lovely daughters, MALIA GARRETT of Fort Worth, Texas and TRINA MC CLUNG Of Hurst, Texas. The girls have daily contact with their Mom and have blessed her with three precious grandchildren. LANCE GENE MC CLUNG, 25 of North Richland, Texas, LACYE KAY MC CLUNG, 22 of Waco, Texas and PATRICK WADE GARRETT, 21 of Fort Worth, Texas. Although, one of the busiest people I know, family has always been the most important entity in RUBY'S everyday life. She is in frequent contact and very involved with younger sisters GLADYS GIPSON and FAYE SPENCER both of Amarillo, Texas.

RUBY MAE'S active career as a registered nurse spanned fifty years in surgical nursing, orthopedic nursing, occupational nursing and insurance company case management in Amarillo, Hereford, Dimmitt, Dallas and Fort Worth. She fondly recalls working with "The Flying Doctor," Robert Hyde in Amarillo from 1958 to 1962 and learning to fly his single engine Cessna in case he became disabled in flight. From 1962 until 1968 RUBY taught surgical nursing at Saint Anthony's School of Nursing in Amarillo.

Keeping her Texas Nursing License current allows RUBY MAE to minister to those suffering ailments or nearing their last days here. She held our beloved JERRY TERRANOVA, with his family as he passed last year. She has devoted much of her time to the many seniors who have requested her help but are never charged.

RUBY has been active in the Business and Professional Women's Organization, Saint Mary's The Virgin Catholic Church, The Texas Nurses Association, Beta Sigma Phi and the Occupational Health Nurses Association.

In 1999 RUBY was encouraged to join the North Texas Region of the Cadillac & La Salle Club and has since become its President, Activities Chair and Humanitarian Chair. She has been an active player in presenting the annual Pate Swap Meet at the Texas Motor Speedway in Fort Worth, Texas, serves on the National Board of Directors of the Cadillac & La Salle Club, and is active in the Antique Automobile Club of America. Her collector car hobby has taken her to Washington, Colorado, New Jersey, Kansas, Massachusetts, New York, Florida, Ohio, Michigan, Arizona and Austin, Texas. At most venues, RUBY can be seen hawking North Texas Region blankets, pillows, jackets, hats, shirts and stationary as fund raising efforts, and she nearly always sells out.

RUBY MAE occupies her leisure time practicing yoga, cooking, gardening, running, swimming, biking and spoiling grandchildren. She resides with her husband of twenty-two years, BOB MUSSER, in Arlington, Texas and finds recreation at the family vacation home on Lake Winsboro in Wood County, Texas.

Oh....And that wheat farm in Nazareth, Texas where she went to work with her Daddy at five years old.....Well now.....seventy-five years later, she still farms it, raising corn, wheat and cotton in the dirt she plowed as a kid.

I asked what might still be on her "Bucket List" and she replied "I'd like to see the GREAT WALL OF CHINA"

I inquired of RUBY, where of all the places she has visited and lived, where she would like to retire....."Oh.....I don't plan to retire!"

By the way.....RUBY MAE HUBBARD MUSSER turns eighty years young September 8. Might be a good time to drop her card and say THANK YOU to RUBY who I'm sure has made your life brighter sometime along the way... 3148 Waterside Drive, Arlington, Texas 76012. Be Safe.

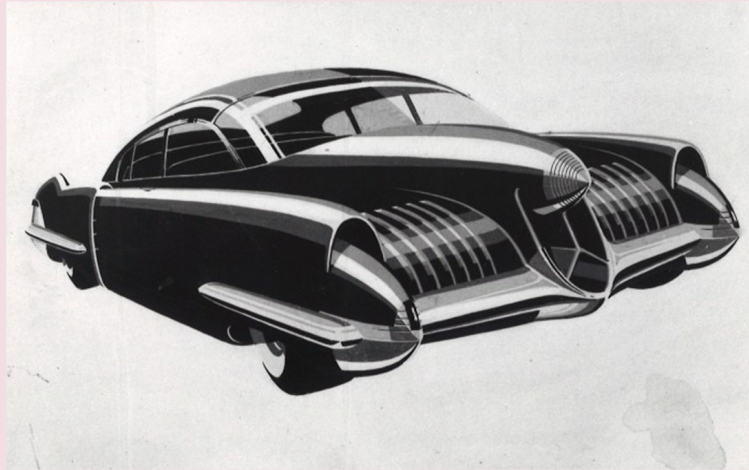


Sister Cladys Gipson, Rubye, and dad-Raymond Annen

# What the 1948 Cadillac could have looked like

By Daniel Strohl, June 17, 2015

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The 1948 and 1949 Cadillacs defined high-tech for their day. In those two years, the crest and wreath introduced styling and engineering innovations that would go on to influence the American auto industry for decades. Aircraft design inspired some of those innovations, but as we see from several renderings for the postwar Cadillac, planes could have had a much more prominent role in Cadillac design.

As Michael Lamm related more than 40 years ago in his story looking at the 1948 and 1949 Cadillacs for *Special Interest Autos* (issue #11, June 1972), Harley Earl gets credit for introducing the tailfin to GM's designers when he took them on a field trip to Selfridge Field near Detroit to sketch the new Lockheed P-38 Lightnings. Whether legendary designer Frank Hershey was among that group, Lamm didn't say, but it was Hershey's advanced design studio within GM that got Earl's assignment to design the postwar Cadillacs and in the process bring some of the P-38's design elements into the automotive world.



Even in these finless designs from about the same time, done by Nickles and one R.H. Wieland, we can still see the P-38's influence in the prominent catwalks between the hood and front fenders.

Lamm wrote that the aircraft-inspired front-end designs did make it into production, in a way. "Nickles calls it the 'interceptor' or bullet nose that the fighter planes had in WWII. This theme was widened to become the rather delicate, arch-shaped grille of the '48 Cadillac, taking its cue from previous Cadillacs at Harley Earl's direction. An important, integral part of the front ensemble was the bumper, with its bullet guards and curved, wrapping ends. For 1949, the grille was widened and then got even wider as time went on."

What Lamm didn't have to point out is that the bumper guards remained integral on Cadillac front ends through 1958. While they grew bigger and gained the "Dagmar" nickname for their supposed resemblance to other prominent twin pokey-outie thingies, their origins are decidedly less prurient than most people believe.

# SUNSHINE REPORT: Rubye Musser

Please to continue to pray for rain, our soldiers, veterans and our unfortunate members.

Praying for those in less than good health:

Cecil Thompson

Buddie Walton

Tony Yates—Nursing home, 1700 N. Washington St., Pilot Point, TX rm 204. Visitors welcome

Karen Hannah—Home daily therapy

Rudy Bedrick

Dave Eckberg

Al Haltiwanger

Jess Jordan

*Prayers and cards are appreciated.*



### CONGRATULATIONS:

Joyce and Randoll Reagan 56th wedding anniversary August 8th.

John Renfro on the 75th anniversary of the RENFRO FOODS family business here in Fort Worth.

### AND:

Terry and Sonny Graham enjoyed a business & vacation to the Philippines.

Minnie and Rudy Bedrick are enjoying a road trip.

And Happy Birthday to Rubye Mae Hubbard Musser and Bill "Lifer" Levy

*Rubye*

## North Texas Region Cadillac & LaSalle Club Officers and Directors Ballot

It's Time for some new Officers. This Ballot is being prepared for the Regional meeting October 11, 2015 but we need some nominations, or volunteers to add your candidate's name to the Ballot.

Sign up for yourself, or nominate someone you would like to be in one of the following positions or you can chose from the names below:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Candidate:</u>
President	_____
Vice-President	_____
Assistant Vice-President	_____
Treasurer	Jim Hanson Richard Cross
Secretary	_____
Membership	_____
Activities	_____
Pate Director	Bill Levy
Assistant Pate Director	_____
Director 1	_____
Director 2	_____
Director 3	_____
Director 4	_____

Current officers and directors: Rubye Hubbard Musser, Terry Graham, Bill Haesslein, Bill Levy, Minnie Bedrick, Ron Fishell, Jim Hanson, Randoll Reagan

Send your nomination to: Ron Fishell. email is Outsourcerf@verizon.net





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Contact us at: [chris@texomats.com](mailto:chris@texomats.com)  
or call: 903-819-1452.

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- Pate Director Assistant: **Bill Levy**
- Historians: **Randoll and Joyce Reagan, John Foust**
- Directors: **Minnie Bedrick, Ron Fishell, Jim Hanson**

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**TIP OF THE DAY:** You have to get up early in the morning to get a good spot on Cadillac Row at Cars And Coffee- *Lifer*



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## ***Honest John's 10th Annual Fintastic Chili Cook\_Off***

***Saturday, November 14, 2015***

Come join us in Justin, Texas, for Honest John's 10th annual "Fintastic" Chili Cook-off.

**Saturday, November 14th, 12 Noon till 7 p.m.** Bring your lawn chairs, friends, kites and Cadillacs, we have a great front pasture to play in.

Great trophies and prizes awarded for the following categories;

- (1) Best Chili, First, Second & third places
- (2) Best Show Team, First, Second & Third
- (3) Best Exxotic
- (4) Honest John's Choice award



### **RULES:**

All chili must be made from scratch on site, any meat you chose, **NO CANNED CHILI, NO BEANS**, Rain or shine.

Electric hook-ups provided, bring your own cooker. No hot plates, or cookers provided.

You can cook on a hibachi, Propane cooker, camp fire pit or electric hot plate, but bring your own prep table & cooker.

Television will be available for football watching.

Honest John's will provide Hot dogs, bottled water and soda pop. Bring your own beer.

Early birds can start cooking at 11:00 am. Chili turn in at 3:00pm for judging. Award presentation at 4:00pm

## ***October 9, 10 driving tour to EAST TEXAS---MARSHALL TX***

SHINE and DRIVE and SHOW YOUR favorite Caddy on the COURT HOUSE SQUARE in Marshall at the MAIN STREET & FIRE ANT FESTIVAL----

We will meet Friday, October 9th, at 11:00 a.m. at the Highway 80 and Beltline McDonald's, on south side. RSVP Rubye (817) 996- 8066 so we know the number coming.

We are going to drive through the towns of Sunnyvale, Forney, then watch for sign for Hiway 60 at Terrell Exit. Then through Terrell and several lights, passing Elmo, Wills Point (light), Fruitvale, Grand Saline (couple lights). At second stop light LOOK to LEFT to see the Salt Block on corner.--- Mineola Stop for hamburger at right corner and 69. Leave Mineola on Hiway 80 to Gladewater, White Oak, Longview, Hallsville, and DESTINATION MARSHALL, TX. Anyone can meet up with group at any point.

Check in at the HAMPTON INN, 80 & 59. Turn right heading south.

Hampton Inn \$79 plus tax Full hot breakfast. Most rooms on first floor. Reserve Fri & Sat night. (903) 927 -0079 When making a reservation tell them you're from Cadillac & LaSalle Club. Dinner at restaurant ITALIA around 6:30 or 7 on own. More details later.

SATURDAY around 11 a.m. drive about 10 minutes to COURTHOUSE SQUARE for the festival. PARK & SHOW CAR with more car clubs participate in the festivities of music, booths, and eats.

RETURN home on Sunday. Bill Shipp (318) 286-3859 lives near Marshall - call for info or help.

LET US make this a FUN and MEMORABLE Adventure. Invite friends and other Car Clubs to join with us.



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**First Class Mail**

**STANDARD OF THE WORLD**

**Bill Levy (lifer@writeme.com)**  
**Editor, North Texas Region CLC**  
**206 Turnberry Lane**  
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**DRIVE, SHOW, CHROME, BUMPER BULLETS, TAIL FINNS**

**NTXCLC**

**Calendar**

**See Page 4 for details**

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**January 10** NTXCLC Christmas Holiday Dinner.

**Sept 5-, Oct 3 Cars and Coffee**, 7 a.m. – 11 a.m..  
 Gates open at **6:30 a.m.** Be in place by 7:30 for a reserved spot on **Cadillac Row** as the big lot fills up fast. So get there early. 6800 Dallas Parkway, Plano TX 75024. Email lifer@writeme.com if you have any questions.



**COMING UP:**

**Sept 25-27 2015** Cadillac Fall Festival, CLC Members Gilmore Car Museum in Hickory Corners, MI.

**Apr 12-16 2016** CLC Grand National Las Vegas, NV

**June 25-July 1 2017** CLC National Driving Tour Illinois Route 66



Send any corrections, complaints, compliments, discussions, and/or additions to:  
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