



www.windsurfbaba.org

Message from the Chair

As the year comes to an end, it's time to reflect where BABA has been and where we're going. The club continues to have a good participation in the Hatteras trips and the winter party. This year the racing program had limited participation partly due to lack of wind for Formula racing (non-planing conditions). Longboard racing continues to be a reliable program because they get on the water in varying wind conditions.

Our instructional programs, both the Learn to Windsurf clinic with Ultimate Watersports at the Gunpowder and the youth program with the Baltimore County Sailing Center went very well this year. Additionally, BABA members were instrumental in getting Anne Arundel County Parks to open Beverly Triton as an alternate launch while Mayo construction continued, and I believe our clean-up day at Mayo in September was a key factor in getting Mayo Beach reopened for windsurfing. BABA showed the county that we care and we will be active stewards of our launches.

I would like to thank all the volunteers that helped make our programs and activities this year a success, especially those who continue to lead our activities through their positions on the Board and the Steering Committee (see p2 for the roster). Many of us work year-round to keep BABA moving forward. Each and every one of these volunteers is important to our club's success on the water and off.

I think the club and the sport will continue to see many challenges over the

next few years. We need to increase the number of people windsurfing and build more involvement with club activities. If you are one of the semi-active members, we are looking for your help in 2012. The Steering Committee is always looking for

the events convenient and fun. Our 2-day events include camping, so distance isn't an excuse. It's an inexpensive, fun way to get together with BABA friends and spend some time on (or at) the water.



Mark Raginsky (l) with a student at the BABA Learn to Windsurf Clinic

new ideas and members. It doesn't take much time. If you want to help please send me an e-mail.

It would be great to see every BABA member show up for just one Regatta/Meet at the Beach day in 2012. And if everyone brings a friend, it's another big step toward our goal of increasing involvement in windsurfing. Our events are held at family friendly beaches - Gunpowder, Baltimore County Sailing Center and Mayo. If you ask in advance, chances are good that a fellow BABA member will bring some beginner friendly gear for others to borrow, and if the event is at Gunpowder, Ultimate Watersports has windsurfing gear, SUPs, kayaks and catamarans for rent. The calendar is set well in advance, and BABA volunteers put in a lot of effort to make

We also need to get new people to participate in our sport. I'd like to see every BABA member get one or two people to try windsurfing in 2012. That would mean another one to two hundred people in our area trying windsurfing - a small drop in the bucket, but definitely a place to start. Did you know that one-third of all Europeans have tried windsurfing in the last five years, and some European regattas have over 100 participants? The sport is growing in Asia as well. There is no reason it should not grow here too. With greater participation in the sport BABA will become a stronger club.

Again, thank you to everyone who helped with club activities this year and I look forward to seeing everyone at the winter party and on the water in 2012.

Mark Raginsky

**It's
MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL TIME!**

BABA Mission Statement

The Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association (BABA) is a network of Northern Chesapeake Bay windsurfers. Our purpose is to promote the sport of windsurfing through seasonal racing, instructional clinics, social events and group travel to windsurfing destinations. The club is an advocate for windsurfer access to clean, safe launch sites. Our events focus on an enjoyable social experience while developing further windsurfing skills.

**For Membership information contact
Ann Jackson at (410)315-8481 or
ajax.tmm@verizon.net
or any member of the
BABA Steering Committee.**

www.windsurfbaba.org



SAVE THE DATE!

**BABA Winter Party
and Annual Meeting
Saturday, February 11.
More info to come!**

Check out the newsletter in color

(if you're not already) at

www.windsurfbaba.org

Click on "newsletter" in the red side bar.

BABA Steering Committee

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Time to reNew your MemberSHIP!

It is that time again. Renew your BABA membership now. For a mere \$20, you and your family can renew your membership and continue to support windsurfing in this region. The benefits include BABA trips to Hatteras in April and October, racing events, Meet at the Beach days, Learn to Windsurf clinics, social events, a great website and newsletter, help with beach access issues, equipment ads in the newsletter, discounts from our sponsor shops, opportunities to win great prizes from our sponsors, and on and on. Just send a check for \$20 with the membership form (on p ___) to Ann Jackson at 124 Bay Park Way Severna Park, MD. The membership year is from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012.

DO IT TODAY BEFORE YOU FORGET!



Speed Quest 2011 Extended to Dec. 31st!!

The 2011 entry deadline has been extended to include speeds for the entire calendar year, so there is still time to enter. We often have our windiest days of the year in November or early December, several of us sailed last year on November 27th on 4.7 and 5.3 sails. Check out the videos on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qvoz4UZwfVg>

Standings on November are:

- 1) Roger Fitzgerald, 28.898 knots
- 2) Tom Hollowell: 28.430 knots
- 3) Keisuke Imai: 22.575 knots
- 4) Sandy Rollins: 22.221 knots
- 5) Daphne Lathouras: 21.136 knots

Reminder: All BABA members are automatically entered in Speed Quest this year - there is no extra fee. Just send your GPS log files to me via email by January 15. Winners will be announced at the winter party.

Roger Fitzgerald fitz@qis.net

Found on the Side of the Road!



Fran Conway, Daphne Lathouras and Sam Melnick

We found **Fran Conway**! Steve, Sam and I were in Orlando in August on vacation and made a day trip to Cocoa Beach to check out the sites and swim in the ocean before Steve caught his plane home. First stop was the legendary Calema Watersports at Kelly Park. We stopped in to say "Hi" to Tinho and had a great conversation with his son Phillip. From there we headed east on Bennett Causeway to Cocoa Beach. As we were getting up to highway speed I saw a couple of windsurfers on the water on the south side of the causeway, turned my head as we passed, and recognized Fran Conway as he was walking toward his trailer. I yelled "There's Fran!" and Steve put on the brakes, pulled onto the grass and we backed up a few hundred feet and surprised Fran by calling his name. It was a short but sweet reunion! Fran looks great and says he's been sailing more than he ever dreamed, and that they had a great summer with lots of wind in Florida. He was rigging a 6.2 on a 5.7 day - tuning his new Ezzy sail that he's crazy about.

Racing News

BABA Commodore **Tomaso Sargent** and Race Committee volunteers put together 3 regattas involving 5 days of racing for the 2011 season. Combine that with 2 2-day regattas put on by Windsurfing Enthusiasts of Tidewater and the Round the Island Race at BCSC and we had a great racing season.

azeggars recently returned to the US from Belgium, **Ludo Belli** - BABA Junior racer who rips with the big guys and Team BABA including **Tomaso Sargent, Tom Caswell, Fan Pat, Colin Pitts, John Groesbeek., Yuji Hiratsuka, Eric Rahnenfeurer, Big Alan Bernau,** and of course our host Dave Kashy.

Center. After a brief rain delay we had a great day of racing and raised money for cancer research at the Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center at Johns Hopkins.

A handful of BABA racers showed up for Baltimore County Sailing Center's Race Around the Island on September 18 - however, around the island we did not go. Large swell on the bay (due to WIND!) led the race organizers to rethink the safety of the course and instead of heading out to open waters we stayed on the inside of the island and ran 2 upwind/downwind races with the sailboats, followed by the traditional BCSC bar-b-que.



Helen Van Gelder, Daphne Lathouras, John Bickford, Janice Emerling and Colin Pitts

First up was WET/Kashy Fin Fest in Seaford, VA in mid-May. It's a bit of a drive but once you get there you're greeted by hosts **Dave and Melissa Kashy** and treated to a fantastic launch with all the amenities necessary for a great event. Formula was incredibly competitive with an international fleet including Danish pro Jesper Vesterstrom (a longtime Kashy Fin rider). BABA member **Christophe Waer-**

Principle Race Officer Darren Rogers flew in from the Gorge to run the racing and the race committee was outstanding. Longboards had some excellent racing too with 7 participants doing a two lap course in variable conditions including planing in the footstraps. 7 races over 2 days. Plenty of blisters and smiles.

Next up came the WET/Kashy Fall Regatta on October- another great weekend in Seaford, VA. I'm having a hard time putting it all together, but I remember strong wind, slalom racing, beautiful weather, a great bar-b-que and lots of fun people.



Eddie Murawski

The BABA Gunpowder Regatta kicked off the BABA season with 10 longboard races over 2 days in late May. Formula were skunked on Saturday, but those who showed up on Sunday had some good wind.

The 16th Annual Gerry Brown Memorial Regatta and Fundraiser for Cancer Research was held in June at Baltimore County Sailing



John Groesbeek



Racing News

BABA's East Coast Championship Regatta was originally scheduled for September 10 - 11, but Hurricane Irene left flotsam, jetsam, lagam and derelict in her wake. That, accompanied by very poor water quality and a dismal forecast led to the rescheduling of the ECC to October 29 & 30, the only open weekend on the calendar. We were hoping for a Halloween Howler, and that's exactly what we got, including snow, so the regatta was cancelled.

Commodore Tomaso is already looking ahead to the 2012 season - more to come! Thank you Commodore!



Tomaso Sargent leading the pack at the downwind mark at the Gerry Brown Memorial

EASY-UPHAUL



Tomaso Sargent and Warren Evans in the committee boat at Gunpowder



Eddie Murawski, Janice Emerling, John Bickford and Daphne Lathouras



Linda Hunter



Marc Rosen sporting his "Sail Now" colors, with Eileen Farmer, Director of BCSC

Mayo Wind is Back!

Beach reconstruction has been completed and the beach front at Mayo looks totally different from before. The launch area is next to the swim area and they are still working out some of the kinks as to how to best utilize the site. AA Co. Rec and Parks is opening up the registration for Mayo Wind with the hope that we will bear with them and give them some positive feedback and suggestions. Right now they are anticipating using the site as they have in the past. That being said with the swim area right next to the launch area they want to make sure that they maintain safety for all who use the beach. Mayo Beach hosts day camps during the week from 9 - 3 in June, July and August and that may limit

accessibility to the site. Also on weekends when they have rentals they want to make sure that everyone has safe accessibility to the location.

You can find a link to the permit at <http://www.windsurfbaba.org/> They are offering the option of a fall or spring permit at \$45 per season, or you can renew/join for both seasons for \$90. Please complete the application fully and legibly.

Park Staff on site at Mayo Beach are no longer able to accept applications or payments so please mail you application or deliver it in person to 1 Harry Truman Pkwy. If you indicate an email address park staff will e-mail the combination to the gate. If this is a new permit, please

print the email and use it as your temporary permit until your sticker arrives in the mail. If you're renewing, continue to use your existing permit sticker (request a new sticker if you no longer have the old one). Permits (temporary or regular) must be displayed on your dashboard.

For questions in reference to registration, please contact Melissa Hoffman, Coordinator for Rec Programs, Mayo Beach & Lake Waterford Rentals 410-222-7313 or rphoff00@aaacounty.org. For questions in reference to the facility, please call the park directly at 410-222-1978.



Dary Lofgren, Mark Raginsky, Maureen Pritchard, Tomaso Sargent, Charlie Farrell and Albert Pritchard

Charlie Farrell and Tom Caswell



Mayo Beach Clean-up

by Daphne Lathouras

Following the East of Maui fall swap meet on Sunday, September 28, a group of BABA volunteers met at Mayo Beach to clean-up debris on the beach brought in by Hurricane Irene. Many hands (and a chain saw) made light work. Thanks to **Albert & Maureen Pritchard, Colin Pitts & Fan Pat, Steve Melnick, Sam Melnick, Mike McCormick and Ann Jackson, Tomaso Sargent, Farrah Hall, Mark Raginsky, Charlie Farrell and Tom Caswell** for helping with the clean-up.

Farrah Hall

Ann Jackson, Colin Pitts and Albert Pritchard



Learn to Windsurf & Demos

Learn to Windsurf, co sponsored by **Ultimate Watersports** and **BABA**, took place on June 26th. It was a lovely day, with wind forecast from 4 to 8 mph, perfect conditions for beginners. We had 7 keen participants: **Dominic Uccellini, Kerim Karparov, Jay and Lisa Nestle, Oleg Peltzman, Diana Tung, and Zeynep "Zee" Kalkay**. The first half of the clinic was very challenging, as the breeze was light and variable. Nevertheless, all got a chance to up haul and perform a sail 180. The second half of the clinic produced the promised breeze, and almost everyone got a chance to feel the wind in their sails as they learned to apply basic sailing position. Now we have 7 new BABA members, hope to see them on the water soon.

Thanks go out to **Stuart Proctor, Hal Ashman's** instructor, who gave some great, enthusiastic lessons. Nice job! Thanks also to **Mark Raginsky** for help before and during the clinic and to **Helen Van Gelder, Bill Anderson, and John Bickford** for help with on the water instruction. And Helen for taking pix.



Stuart Proctor with the BABA LTW Class of 2011



Zee Kalkay



Helen Van Gelder, Janice Emerling and Bill Anderson



Jay Nestle



www.ultimatewatersports.com
410-335-5352
Gunpowder State Park
Hammerman Area



Diana Tung with instructor Stuart Proctor

Learn to Windsurf & Demos



Mark Raginsky instructs Quentin Dollard



BABA Member Ariel awaits instruction

BABA also sponsored windsurfing demos (less formal than our Learn to Windsurf clinic) with Baltimore County Sailing Center as part of our youth initiative. Volunteers and Level I Certified Windsurfing Instructors **Mark Raginsky, Tomaso Sargent and Daphne Lathouras** worked with kids (and a few adults) at BCSC to introduce them to windsurfing basics on land and get them on the water for some one-on-one instruction time. The demos were held in conjunction with BCSC's summer Corn Roasts. Participants have access to sailboats and windsurfing demos along with burgers, hot dogs and corn on the grill. BABA plans to continue building our relationship with BCSC and to get more sailing kids (and BABA kids too!) to try windsurfing.



Tomaso Sargent instructs Johnny Dollard



www.eastofmauiboardshop.com
2303 Forest Drive, Suite E
Annapolis, MD 21401
410/573-9463



Bonaire in May



by Colin Pitts

The 25 minute plane ride from Curacao to Bonaire was a scene from a black and white movie. It was a straight wing twin engine turboprop Embraer 110P with 15 seats. The luggage was visible just behind us and the cockpit was open to the cabin. The navigation equipment was modern but after takeoff the pilot turned manual trim control wheels on the center console to balance the controls. We flew low and slow at 164 knots. There might be direct flights to Bonaire, but the romantic Insel Air flight creates just the right atmosphere.

We put our bags in the back of our smart little 5 speed Mazda B2200 rental pickup and set off at dusk to find the Bonaire Fun apartments. With a Dive Bonaire map from the rental car counter, what could go wrong?

A note to folks who have not yet been to Bonaire: driving is an adventure just like everything else. Expect to dodge dogs, goats, donkeys, lizards, birds and iguanas on the narrow often semi-paved roads. The little Mazda was up to the task every time. Too bad it couldn't read the street signs for us. "What is that one honey?" "it said Kaya something!" Driving around the island is fun during the day, but expect to get lost if your first drive to your lodging is after sunset.

The Bonaire Fun is a walled cluster of apartments all with lanais and gardens facing a central courtyard. It felt exotic but safe and quiet at the same time. The wall of the little fortress was decorated with broken bottles of Polar beer set into the concrete. The next morning we went on the rooftop deck and saw a small flock wild parrots and a pair of Orioles.

We took our rental safari-mobile to Jibe City and began to appreciate its off-road capability and (oh yes) AC. The wind

was light so we had breakfast and real coffee at the Hangout Bar. As we were picking out light wind gear Fan said, "is that..." So it turns out we met both Tonky Franz and Caesar Finies on the first day. They are two of the nicest folks you would want to meet, humble and have a great sense of humor.

I sailed on a 9.5 and Fan had a 7.5. The wind was about 12 knots. It does not sound amazing, but the water changed from turquoise, to blue and emerald green as we sailed along. Since it was light wind, we were able to observe wild sea life on Lac Bay; we saw fishes you normally see in an aquarium and some startlingly fast sea turtles. Caesar heard us talking about all the types of fish and recommended snorkeling on the reef right in Lac Bay. We remembered Daphne saying the same thing before the trip.

Monday was a sweltering light wind day, but we came prepared with snorkels masks and flippers. We swam the length of the reef and back, more than twice. Parts were like a maze. We saw a school of 1.5 foot long green colored parrot fish and heard them crunching on the coral. We followed a school of more than 100 tangs while they hunted as a team on the reef. We also watched a big flounder disappear into the sand.

Tuesday morning was light again (this is unusual on Bonaire). We took the Kantika de Amore water-taxi to Klein Bonaire for snorkeling. We swam from the white sand beach through the shallow water toward a hole in the wall of coral ahead. On the other side of the hole the bottom dropped away 60 feet, steeply enough to cause vertigo. The fish and coral were in more varieties than I could begin to name. We saw box-fish, barracuda, parrot fish, trumpet fish and were followed around by a whole school of graceful foot long palometa fish.

After about four hours of snorkeling, we went to check out Jibe City. The wind was stronger, but we had our pick of the gear. We planed continuously with 8.5 and 6.5 on the JP Supersport boards.

Thursday we went to Jibe City for the morning breeze and sailed for about 2 hours before the wind dropped out. Then we went back to Kralendijke to snorkel in the harbor. There were white and tan snake

eels hunting in the gravel. Under one of the piers we were surrounded by thousands of minnows. Eighteen inch needlefish would dart into the school and grab a fish periodically. I saw a barracuda as big around as my calf under one of the boats and brought Fan over to see (what?). He got tired of us hanging around, showed his teeth turned toward us and started cruising our way. We got the heck out of there - never mind he could probably do 0-30 in a second and remove fingers on the way - we made our intentions very clear. Fan found a large spotted moray eel and had me move in close to get some pictures. I was nervous being about 4 feet away from the 3 foot eel. It was then I noticed his 5 buddies just 2 feet to my left side all poking out from under a concrete slab to have a look. Fan found a skateboard sized Peacock Flounder and we watched him raise his spines when we got close. He was white with purple spots and his eyes would swivel all directions like a chameleon. All of this was in the downtown area in the harbor, one block from the apartment.

The wind came up in the evening so we drove back to Jibe City for a surreal sunset sail. The water seemed to glow green as the sun set. I was blissfully overpowered on a Supersport 109 and a 7.5 Ezzy. Fan was blasting on her favorite Gaastra Pilot 6.5. We sailed until after sunset when the orange behind the mangroves faded to deep red.

On Friday the wind really came up. The freestyle pros were able to get out on the water, and it was jaw dropping. The power and speed that they have when doing their moves is not accurately captured on video. Fan honored the name of the place and practiced planning jibes one after another. We both sailed until we physically could not hold on any longer. The wind had been unusually light by Bonaire standards for the whole week, but that afternoon almost every board was off the racks. It was a party on and off the water.

Our first trip to Bonaire was unforgettable, and we plan to return as soon as we can. I made a video of one of our windsurfing sessions with my helmet cam - you can see it here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pKqKrwYDAVM&feature=colike>

Sponsor News

DelMarVa Board Sport New BABA Sponsor

BABA recently added DelMarVa Board Sport Adventures to our list of sponsors. With shop locations on Fenwick Island, DE and in Berlin, MD, DelMarVa Board Sport offers equipment, rentals, lessons, excursions and adventures. For example, have you ever considered combining SUP and YOGA?

DelMarVa Board Sport offers 12% off to BABA members on Windsurfing and SUP gear as well as stand up paddle board adventures. Check out what they have to offer at:

<http://www.delmarvaboardsportadventures.com>



Ocean Air Extends Discounts to BABA Online

Happy Holidays and a big Thank You to the BABA Group for your continued support over the years. We will continue our deal of 10% off for members and I want to extend that deal to BABA members online. We want to be your local windsurfing shop- somewhere you can walk into, get expert tips, advice and product knowledge. A shop where you recognize familiar faces, where you can try out the latest gear, take lessons, get your base repaired, or just take a look at what's going on in the windsurfing world. Should you need something from the comfort of your home, simply go to www.oceanairsports.com and enter coupon code: BABA at checkout for your 10% discount, as well as free shipping for orders over \$100 and no tax for shipping outside of NC. Now is the time to get the best deals of the year and score an extra 10% off new and used gear! We will be updating our website all Winter with 2012 product. You can sign up for our newsletter:

<https://www.oceanairsports.com/newsletter.cfm?CFID=28354033&CFTOKEN=78af1ac6928d89ac-32CB00B8-C7C1-9B39-7E4B999E89DBD610&jsessionid=c430355d68fe12a7a1d9312b4a1d575f2924>

Also Like us on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/OceanAirSports/140461232686939>

That way you can keep up with what's happening on Hatteras Island and get access to special deals. The bottom line here is that at OceanAir Sports we want to help you progress in the challenging sport of Windsurfing and we know the best way how: Lessons, Sailing with someone better than yourself, practice, Clinics, tips and advice, and updating your gear. We are here to help!

From the Staff at OceanAir Sports

.....
• It's been a while since BABA News was published
• and I have an abundance of stories to share, but
• not enough space to get them into these pages.
• The next BABA News will be out in the New Year
• with Hatteras memories, excellent adventures
• and details about the BABA Winter Party. If
• your holidays find you on the water in a warm
• and windy place (or a cold and windy one!)
• please jot down a few words to share with your
• friends in BABA.
•
• Wishing Everyone a Peaceful
• and Windy New Year!
• Daphne



2012 Membership Application



New Member Renewal

Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Mobile: _____

E-mail _____

Occupation: _____ Years Boardsailing: _____ Age: _____

I would like to be an electronic subscriber to the newsletter. Speed Quest Registration (no add'l fee)

Volunteers are needed for race registration (meet other windsurfers), race committee boat (close up view of racing and great photo opportunities), newsletter articles and photos, clinic set up, cookouts, social event help, and other stuff. No experience necessary!

I'm interested in volunteering to help with (circle all that apply):

- Newsletter
- Racing Program
- Hatteras Trips
- Clinics
- Local Trips
- Meet at the Beach
- Social Events
- Family Fun Day
- BABA Speed Quest

Other: _____

Release, Waiver of Liability, and Indemnity Agreement to the Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association

I, the above named individual being 21 years of age or older, in consideration of services which have been or will be performed by the Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association in providing travel arrangements and activities and of being permitted to participate in the Club trips, activities, events and other functions which I recognize as being hazardous, do for myself, my personal representatives, heirs and next of kin, (1) hereby release, waive, discharge and covenant not to sue or hold liable the Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association, its officers, its Board of Directors, their agents and members, jointly and severally, all for the purposes herein referred to as RELEASES, from all loss or damage, and any claim or demands, therefore, on account of injury to the person or property, or resulting in death, whether caused by the negligence of RELEASES or otherwise while for any purpose participating in any event or activity; (2) hereby agree to indemnify and save and hold harmless the RELEASES from any loss, liability, damage, or cost they may incur due to my presence and participation during any activity and whether caused by the negligence of RELEASES or otherwise; and (3) hereby assume full responsibility for any rise, due to my presence and participation and fault, of bodily damage, death or property damage due to negligence of RELEASES or otherwise while traveling, participating or for any other purpose while engaged in such activities. I expressly agree that the foregoing RELEASE, WAIVER, AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the laws of the state, states, or countries in which the activity is conducted and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance of the agreement shall continue in full legal force and effect. I have read and voluntarily signed this RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT which shall remain in full legal force and effect until such time that I notify the Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association in writing that this agreement is voided and such notification is acknowledged by the Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association.

Signature(s): _____ Date: _____

_____ Date: _____

DUES: \$20.00 Individual or family (membership year 1/1/12 - 12/31/12)

Make checks payable to : Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association - or - BABA

Mail to: Ann Jackson
 BABA Membership Coordinator
 124 Bay Park Way
 Severna Park, MD 21146

For additional information, call Ann Jackson at (410) 315-8481
 or e-mail: ajax.tmm@verizon.net
 and
 visit our Web Site at www.windsurfbaba.org

Baltimore Area Boardsailing Association
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BABA is a member club of



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