



Bookends

T H E M Y S T I C & N O A N K L I B R A R Y

IT'S FINALLY SPRING AND THE FAIR IS ON THE WAY!

SALLY SALANCY, PRESIDENT OF THE FRIENDS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's message	2
Library History	
Development News	3
Adult Programs	4
Honor Book Reviews Poetry Winners	5
Summer Reading	6
Bridge	7
Book Clubs	8

The Friends have a rite of spring – preparing for the **Library Fair** on the first Saturday in June. That will be **Saturday, June 2**. But you don't have to wait til June for excitement. The **Silent Auction** opened on April 30. Our local businesses have again been very generous, so I hope you've already stopped by the Library to see all the goods and services on offer, including the gift certificates in separate binders. Bidding is open during regular Library hours until to 2 pm on Fair Day. We say, "Bid early and often!"

Meanwhile, on **Friday, June 1**, come to the **Book Sale Preview**, in the Ames Room, from 5 to 7. Admission is \$5, and the prices are 50% above the marked price, but this is your chance to get "first crack" at the books. Also note that the **Book Sale continues** for the whole week following the Fair, until noon on Saturday, June 9th!

The Fair opens at **9:30 on Saturday, June 2**, and there will be a mad rush into the **Book Sale** in the Ames Room. If that's too crowded, you could begin in the **White Elephant** tent, where you'll find all sorts of delights – almost everything except books, furniture and appliances. From there, it's an easy stroll to the **Mystic Garden Club's** section for wonderful plants and gardening accessories. But make sure to get to the

Bake Sale before noon, because those goodies sell out fast! Hungry for something more substantial? Hot dogs and lemonade should help. Don't forget to buy a cup of the wonderful soup supplied by the **Mystic Soup Company**. Meanwhile, there will be **music** from Brett Terry and Barbara Harvey, **crafts and activities** in the Children's Room, a ceremonial proclamation with State Senator **Heather Sommers** at noon, and how could we forget Franklin's General Store **fudge**, which the store donates to the Fair each year!

By the way, would you like to make something for our Bake Sale? You can **sign up** in the **Fair notebook** at the Front Desk to bake or to help out on Fair day or at the Book Sale the following week. The Friends are always grateful for homemade pickles, jams and vinegars, pies, cakes, breads, muffins and cookies. Please bring your treats to the Library by 5 pm on Friday, June 1. Thanks in advance!

The Fair is the Friends' biggest fundraiser of the year. It brings our community together, from both sides of the Mystic River, to support the Mystic & Noank Library. Visit the Library often, especially for the **Silent Auction**, the **Book Sale Preview**, **Fair Day, June 2, from 9:30 to 2:30 pm**, and the **Book Sale** the next week! See you at the Library!

SAVE THE DATE for **Evening at the Engine Room** on Wednesday, October 3 to benefit the Library. Tickets available this summer.... Thank you!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BILL TURNER, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

As we embark on a new season welcoming visitors to our Mystic community we are reminded of the treasure that sits nestled at 40 Library Street and the multitude of programs that are offered to the Groton and Stonington communities. The grounds of the Library have been recently groomed thanks to the graciousness of volunteers who jumped in on Saturday, April 21 to spruce up the exterior landscape with careful pruning of mature plantings and the removal of those stubborn oak leaves that are often the last to fall and end up

wedged in between evergreen shrubs. Special thanks to the valiant volunteer efforts of the United States Coast Guard, Mystic Rotary and the Mystic Garden Club for lending their expertise and brawn.

It was another successful year for our Honor Book event, which enabled the Library to secure titles not currently in our inventory and provided a wonderful opportunity to remember loved ones or to honor a friend or family member. This year the Library was able to offer electronic purchases of books along with

pre-sales at the Library to help boost the sales. A special shout out and thank you to Bank Square Books for hosting this year's program and to the staff and trustees who volunteered their time and energy. It was great to meet and mingle with old and new supporters of the Library.

It is with our gratitude that we introduced the first annual "Blanchet Poetry Contest" to honor the memory and generosity of Jean Blanchet. Congratulations to all the winners.

OUR HISTORY CONTINUED

JOANNA CASE

The building, as originally constructed, remained basically the same with the library on the second floor and a public meeting room on the first floor. I remember Horace Lamb telling me that all the kids used to run from the front door up the stairs as fast as they could because of worrying about what might be behind the closed doors on the first floor. At some point the library moved to the first floor and the children's area was by the windows facing the church.

In the 1950's it was decided to expand the library to both floors. John Dodge, a Stonington architect, was commissioned to develop a plan to make the second floor into a children's room and storage/meeting room. He designed a plan that suspended a drop ceiling from the but-

tresses in the cathedral ceiling and created two rooms: the Children's room had the ceiling below the stained glass windows and in the meeting/storage room the ceiling was above the windows, exposing the fireplace and dedication mantle.

This configuration was satisfactory until the 1980's when it became apparent that the library needed to expand to provide room for library services and a public meeting room. With Richard Arms spearheading the effort, Charles King was hired as the architect and a building plan was established. Initially it was felt that the only option was to expand downhill toward the church and then Edward and Ramona Comrie gave the Library their front yard for the addition. Through their generosity the addition was erected as it is now.

The most exciting part of the project was the exposure of the beautiful cathedral ceiling on the second floor. There have been interior modifications since to provide for more sitting areas and to meet the needs for more technology.

We are very fortunate to have our wonderful building and library. We have this because of the generosity of neighbors, community, library users and some major donors who wanted the Mystic & Noank Library to last 125 years, plus many more.

DEVELOPMENT NEWS
 KAREN BRADSHAW
 DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

We enjoyed hosting our 17th Annual Honor

Book event at **Bank Square Books** on Saturday, April 7—and it was a great afternoon! Thank you to the Library supporters who made purchases in-store that day, as we loved seeing many familiar and new faces.

Missed the one-day event? No problem! For the first time this year, you can purchase an Honor book online (via the Donate tab) and review our ever-updating wish list of titles for both our adult and children’s collection! In addition, we have ‘in-house’ Honor Books available on carts both near the main entrance and in the Children’s room so you can **shop when you stop** by the Library.

Thank you to **Chelsea Groton Bank** for once again sponsoring our Saturday Shredding Event on April 14! We are very grateful for their sponsorship of this important service we offer our library community at no cost. For those that stopped by with papers and food items for Groton Social Services and the Pawcatuck Community Center, thank YOU for taking part!

We are grateful to the family of long-time Mystic resident Agnes Roode for sponsoring the **Third Annual Roode Memorial Music Concert** series this spring. At press time, we will have hosted the first of three exciting performances. Please join us for the other two: *Tracy Norkun Trio* on Thursday, May 17 (6pm at MNL) and *Seat of Our Pants* on Thursday, June 21 (7pm at Union Baptist Church, 116 High Street, Mystic). All are welcome to these free performances!

In the meantime, please consider making a gift to our Annual Fund if you’ve not done so already. We rely heavily on the monetary donations provided by you, our Friends and patrons, especially as the Library is poised to experience further reductions in municipal support this fiscal year. We recognize that many local and worthy organizations are also feeling the financial strain and we hope that you might consider all that the Library offers you and your

family. Your partnership means so much to our ability to serve you well! **Thank you for your continued trust in the Library.**

GIFTS GRATEFULLY RECEIVED

- IN MEMORY OF
 George Fearn
 Sidney Gross
 Mary Hartman
 Jean Hermann
 Elizabeth Kingsland
 Paula Toomey Knott
 Barbara R. McLeod
 Ernie Plantz
 Agnes Roode

IN HONOR OF
 The David Evans Family
 Bette Lamb’s Birthday

- GIFTS IN-KIND
 ABC Photo, Mystic
 Ann Bergendahl
 Cask ‘n Keg
 Lisa Hill
 Ken Knott
 Caroline S. Plantz

ADULT PROGRAMS @MNL (NOT INCLUDING TECH & BOOK CLUBS)

TO LEARN MORE CHECK OUT THE DETAILS ON THE WEB OR ON FACEBOOK!

Ongoing Programs

Mondays at 4 – Writers Group

Thursdays at 3 – Cribbage

2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 1 – Knitting

1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 10 – Bereavement Counseling
Coping with the Loss of a Loved One – Center for Hospice Care of
SECT

2nd Wednesday at 7 – Mysticaligraphers

3rd Mondays at 12 noon - Friends of the MNL
Meetings

May 2018

- Closed Monday, May 28 for Memorial Day
- Saturday, May 12 - 2 p.m. – Mikaila Zanetti – Service Dog Presentation for All Ages
- Monday, May 14 - 7 p.m. – Groton Alliance Substance Abuse Prevention (GASP). Speaker Dr. Lawrence Peacock for National Prevention Week
- Tuesday, May 15 - 2 p.m. – Ellen Luby – Writing Your Life Story
- Wednesday, May 16 – 6 to 8 p.m. - Financing Your Small Business presented by Lisa Powell
- Thursday, May 17 - 6 p.m. – Tracy Norkun Trio (Roode Memorial Concert Series)
- Wednesday, May 23 - 1 p.m. – Amy Kurtz Lansing, curator at the Florence Griswold Museum speaking on the *Art & the New England Farm* exhibit
- Wednesday, May 23 – 5 to 9 p.m. – AARP Defensive Driving
- Friday, May 25 - 6 p.m. (doors open at 5:30 p.m.) World Premier Screening of *Silent Times*
- Wednesday, May 30 at 7 p.m. in the Spicer Room *Unlaunch'd Voices: An Evening with Walt Whitman*

June 2018

- Summer Saturday Hours, 9 to 1 begin on June 9
- **Saturday, June 2 – Library Fair! 9:30 – 2:30**
- Wednesday, June 13, 10 to 11:30 a.m. – Attorney Wade Jensen - Legal & Financial Planning for Alzheimer's Disease. Sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association of CT for Alzheimer's & Brain Awareness Month
- Monday, June 18 at 7 p.m. – Great Orange Apes presentation by Katherine Meier
- Wednesday, June 20, 6 – 8 p.m. – SBA – Contracting 101 presented by Lisa Powell
- Thursday, June 21 – 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.) Seat of Our Pants (Roode Memorial Concert) at Union Baptist Church
- Tuesday, June 26 at 4:30 p.m. – Connecticare Information Session with Diane Patterson

July 2018

- Closed Wednesday, July 4 for Independence Day

SUMMER READING ROCKS FOR ADULTS TOO!

This June, the Library will launch its first adult summer reading program! Although the reading selections will be open-choice, our official recommendation list will include popular fiction and high-impact works from the past year. The program will also include competition and awards: whoever reads the most pages will receive a prize at summer's end! The contest will begin on Monday, June 25th and end on Tuesday, September 4th. If they choose, participants may keep track of their reading on *Goodreads*, where we will soon have our own page complete with our official **Summer 2018** suggested book list. More details to come!

SOME FAVORITE HONOR BOOKS

JULIE WORTHEN

This year, as we have for the past 17 years, we celebrated National Library Week with our Honor Book Days, which benefits the Library, supports our local bookstore, and celebrates the people and books we love. We are very grateful to our generous patrons and our wonderful friends down at Bank Square Books. Thank you for enriching our Library and our community with your support.

Here are a few examples from among the many wonderful books we received this year:

Tangerine, by Christine Mangan, is the story of two women, former college roommates, who are reunited in Tangier in 1956. This atmospheric tale is influenced by the Bronte sisters, Patricia Highsmith, and Daphne du Maurier. Only

slightly hokey, it conjures the melodrama and vicarious wanderlust of old-fashioned romantic suspense.

The Boatman: Henry David Thoreau's River Years, by UCONN professor Robert M. Thorson, covers a previously overlooked piece of Thoreau's life—his "river years," which coincided with a turning point in American environmental history. Following the publication of *Walden* (1854), Thoreau found himself increasingly drawn to the Concord River watershed as the "largest, wildest, and most beautiful thing in his daily life." At the same time, he became embroiled in the controversy surrounding the environmental degradation of his beloved Concord River Valley. *The Boatman* tells the story of how he continued to find solace in a landscape increasingly altered by human activity.

The Home Cook: Recipes to Know by Heart, by Alex Guarnaschelli, is a cooking bible for a new generation of cooks. The author, whose mother edited the seminal 1997 *Joy of Cooking*, is now an accomplished chef and author in her own right. She provides 300 recipes full of vibrant, international flavors and ingredients.

A Simpler Way of Life: Old Farmhouses of New York and New England, by architectural historian William Morgan, celebrates a rich and time-honored tradition in American architecture: the old vernacular farmhouse. The houses portrayed here—forthright, sturdy, and built by carpenters and masons rather than architects—stand as enduring tributes to pragmatic, handcrafted design and the innovative use of local materials. Striking color photographs by Trevor Tondro complement this handsome book.

BLANCHET POETRY CONTEST

The First Annual Blanchet Poetry Contest was a great success! We received over 30 submissions from poets of all ages in the Mystic & Noank community. We were pleased to announce one winner in each of the five categories during the birthday celebration for our Library's founder,

Captain Elihu Spicer. Birthday cake and poetry were in plentiful supply in the Ames Room! We thank the poets and writers of our community for getting the Blanchet Poetry Contest off to a fantastic start. We look forward to reading your submissions next spring!

This year's winners were:

Grades K to 3: Lilia & Joel M.
Collected Poems
 Grades 4 to 6: Annabelle W.
 "A Dream on Monday"
 Grades 7 to 9: Penny D.
 "Where is Beauty"
 Grades 10 to 12: Payton E.
 "Moon Bugs"
 Adult: Jeanne D.,
 "Ghost Soldiers Find Picnic Children"

ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS AND TEENS

ROBERTA DONAHUE

Teen Art Series Saturday, May 19: 1:00 pm Design Your Own Art Deco Poster. Class size is limited; register through the Library's EventKeeper calendar.

Young Engineers' Club Saturdays, March 10 - May 26 11 am

This exciting initiative for youth ages 10+ is FREE thanks to generous support from the Sidney Gross Memorial Fund. Class size is limited and registration is required. Additional thanks to USB Memory Direct, a custom flash drive wholesaler, who is providing free flash drives to all YEC participants!

Bedtime Math's Crazy 8s Club Fridays, April 6 to June 1 4:00 to 5:00 pm

Appropriate for children in kindergarten to second grade, the Crazy 8s Club is a new kind of math program where kids will build glow-in-the-dark structures, crack secret spy codes and play games like Toilet Paper Olympics. The club will meet weekly for eight sessions run by Dr. Anca Bulgaru. Program is free and open to the public but space is limited and registration is required.

Libraries Rock! Summer Reading

From June 25 to August 4 at noon

We are so excited that summer is here! Make this your best summer yet by stopping by the Library all summer long to pick up books, make crafts, enjoy a program, and meet new friends. We have activities and programs for ALL ages! You can register, where required, via EventKeeper.

To learn about more summer Library fun, and all Library programs, check out our activities and events on our web page, on Facebook and via our monthly e-news blast. The summer fun includes:

- Preschoolers Read-to-Me: Libraries Rock!
- Elementary: Libraries Rock! Summer Reading Challenge
- Bedtime Math's Summer of Numbers Math Challenge
- Terrific Tuesdays at 2:00 pm
- Science and Nature Series Thursdays at 2:00 pm.
- Wednesday Morning Wiggles: Creative Movement and Yoga for Preschoolers!
- Movie Matinees Fridays at 3:00 pm from June 15 to August 17
- Summer Preschool Drop-in Storytimes!
- LEGO Fun Fridays at 10:30 am from July 6 to July 27
- Wii U Gaming Afternoons! Tuesdays from July 3 to August 14 - 3:30 to 5:00 p.m.

Sit! Stay! Read!

Sign up to read with Phantom, our Bernese Mountain Dog friend (best for kids entering first grade and up) or just stop by to say hi! Sign up online or by calling (860) 536-7721.

1000 Books Before Kindergarten

This Library program that encourages all families and caregivers to read 1,000 books with their young children before they enter kindergarten and has been generously funded by a grant from the Groton Education Foundation.

FROM THE DIRECTOR CHRIS JOHNSON

As winter finally turns to spring, things are heating up at the Library! On Wednesday, May 30 at 7 p.m., actor Stephen Collins will portray Walt Whitman in *Unlaunch'd Voices*. This event, co-sponsored by our wonderful Friends, will be offered in our second floor Spicer Reading Room as part of our 125th anniversary celebration.

Do you have a special memory about the Library to share? We are building a book of Library memories so please mail or email (memories@mysticnoanklibrary.org) us your stories and photos to be included in our 125th Anniversary Scrapbook.

Wishing you all a fun filled summer and I'll see you at the Fair on June 2!

TECH CLASSES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

RACHEL TAYLOR

Choice of either 10:15 am OR 5:30 pm session. Attendees should provide their own devices. Registration is required for each class; please sign up via the our website or call for assistance.

Monday May 14: Libby and Overdrive - There's a new app out: meet Libby! Libby is a free mobile device application that allows you to access the library's digital collection on Overdrive (also available as an app) and download awesome e-books. Perfect for avid readers! Come and learn all about it.

Monday May 21: Learn a Language Online - Eager to learn a foreign language but not sure where to begin? Take this class to learn about excellent FREE websites and language apps such as Duolingo, Mango, Busuu, and more! Your language lessons will all be self-paced and fun.

BRIDGE TOURNAMENT KEN LEVY

The 24th Mystic & Noank Library Bridge Tournament will start June 1, 2018 and continue through November 30, 2018. The entry fee is \$25 per player. We urge you to share this news with your bridge-playing friends who might like to join in.

The tournament runs for six months. We suggest that you contact others in your flight at your earliest convenience to establish playing dates for your games. If you plan to be away for any length of time, please notify others in your flight who might be trying to reach you. Substitutes are permitted.

I can be reached at (860) 572-9006 or kenplevy@sbcglobal.net if you have any questions. Checks for the \$25 entry fee should be made payable to the Mystic & Noank Library and received at the Library by May 15th. Your donation is tax-deductible. Good Luck!

FRONT & CENTER

KATE NELSON

I hope I'm not going to jinx anything by saying that Spring has finally arrived. Having grown up in the mid-west, I think I probably like snow and cold more than most people in this area. However, this year, I am done with winter and look forward to the change of seasons! Here at the Library we look forward to changes in routines as well. Summer brings fewer adult programs and shorter Satur-

day hours. Beginning June 9th, we will be open 9 to 1 on Saturdays through Labor Day. We have a lot of good paperbacks and magazines that are excellent travel and beach material. Mass market paperbacks are shelved on the bottom shelves of the regular stacks by author's last name, and any but the newest issue magazines circulate for three weeks just like our books. There are also free books

and magazines available under the stairs.

Just a reminder that during the month of May and early June, the audio books and new DVDs and audio books will be moved to a different location to accommodate the Silent Auction items. Please ask a staff member if you are unable to locate something.

For all of you DVD enthusiasts, do you know about

our temporary collections that we receive through the Connecticut Library Consortium? If you find one that you would like to borrow simply bring the plastic sleeve/cover to the desk and our staff will retrieve the DVD for you. These check out for one week just like our Library collection.

BOOK CLUB CORNER

KATE NELSON

On April 11th we hosted our 20th Book Club Forum. This is an annual gathering of representatives from local book clubs who come to discuss a few of the books their clubs have read and discussed over the last year. This year we had representatives from 15 different clubs attend. We had a lively discussion of many books. I will be generating a list of the titles/authors which will be available in print at the Front Desk as well as on our website under Book Clubs.

One of the books discussed I had recently read myself and can highly recommend to anyone who enjoys a true work of fiction. *The 100 Year-Old Man Who Climbed Out*

the Window and Disappeared by Jonas Joannson is a well written farce full of humor and absurdity. The 100 year old man had an incredible life which is gradually revealed through remembrances. The chaos of the story reminded me of books by Carl Hiaasen or Elmore Leonard, but without a lot of the violence. I even learned some history at the same time.

Capt. John Porter Civil War Book Group – Third Wednesday at 6:00

May 16th Online reading of *A Southern Perspective*. (see online Event Calendar)

Jun 20th *Look Away! A History of the Confederate States of America* by William C. Davis

Jul 18th *Grant* by Ron Chernow

Aug 15th *Crucible of Command* by William C. Davis

CLAMS Book Group – First and third Monday at 7:00

May 21st *The Brothers Karamazov*, by Fyodor Dostoevsky

Afternoon Book Club – First Wednesday at 1:00, No meeting during the summer.

Jun 6th *Lincoln In the Bardo*, by George Saunders

Evening Book Club – First Wednesday at 7:00

Jun 6th *The Red Leather Diary*, by Lily Kopple

History Book Club – Second Tuesday at 7:00

Jun 12th *The Path Between the Seas*, by David McCullough (chapters 11-21)

Jul 10th *The Man Who Loved China*, by Simon Winchester

THANK YOU TO OUR SILENT AUCTION DONORS!

Here is a list of all the merchants and businesses who have stepped forward and supported our Silent Auction for the Library Fair. Many, many thanks to these wonderful donors! We urge you to patronize these fine establishments and tell them how much you appreciate their support of the Mystic & Noank Library. Come in and bid during the month of May on the goods and services they have provided for our Auction.

ABC Photo Lab	Lis Bake Shop	N.L. Shaw & Company
Advantage Personal Training	Lou's Computers	Nest
Antonio Design Group	M /Bar & Saltwater Farm Vineyard	Pasta Fresca & Piadina
Avanti's Pizza & More	Mallove's of Mystic	Pequot Plant Farm
Bank Square Books	Mango's Wood Fired Pizza Co.	Pizzetta
Barley Head Brewery	Mohegan Sun	Pottery Shed /Mystic Clay Art
Bleu Squid Cafe	Mystic Army Navy Store	Project Oceanology
Blue Horse Children's Shop	Mystic Clipper	R. A. Georgetti & Co.
Captain Daniel Packer Inne	Mystic Cycle Center	Rob Rivers: The Salon & Spa
Cask' n Keg	Mystic Disc	S&P Oyster Co.
Custom Marine Canvas	Mystic Drawbridge Ice Cream	Scrapbook Cove
Denison Pequotsepos Nature Center	Mystic Knotworks	Sea Swirl
Dog Watch Cafe	Mystic Luxury Cinemas	Sea Well Seafood
Driftwood Yarns	Mystic Museum of Art	Seahorse Restaurant
drwb@24	Mystic Pet Shop	Shells Galore 'n More
Engine Room	Mystic Pizza	Simply Majestic Jewelers
Fitnostics	Mystic River Boathouse	Somewhere In Time
Fords Lobsters	Mystic River Historical Society	The Spice & Tea Exchange
Four Paws Veterinary Services	Mystic River Yarns	Starbuck's
Frank's Gourmet Grille	Mystic Seaport Bookstore	Studio Jeffrey P'an
Hair Unique II	Mystic Seaport Museum	T Bags + Beads
Holly Wreath	Mystic Silver and Company	Tidal River Clothing Co.
Hope & Stetson	Mystic Soup Company	Toy Soldier
Jealous Monk	Mystic Sweet Shoppe	Universal Package Store
JTK Management	Mystic Wicker	Wehpittituck Farm
Kelley's Pace	Mystical Elements	
Kitchen Little	Mystical Toys	

BAKED GOODS AND FOOD DONATIONS ~ Do you have a special baked good or other special food item to donate to our Food Table at the Fair? If you do, please return this slip to the Library by May 31. Thank You. All items should be dropped off before 5 p.m. on Friday, June 1 so that they can be priced.

Name:

Phone:

I will bring:



**T H E M Y S T I C &
N O A N K L I B R A R Y**

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Mystic CT 06355

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Fax: 860-536-2350

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VISIT US ON THE WEB AT

WWW.MYSTICNOANKLIBRARY.ORG

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK!

SIGN UP FOR OUR MONTHLY EBLAST!

WE ARE OPEN

MONDAY ~ TUESDAY ~ WEDNESDAY

10 TO 9

THURSDAY ~ FRIDAY ~ SATURDAY

10 TO 5

SUMMER SATURDAYS

9 TO 1

SILENT AUCTION NOW OPEN

9:30-2:30

SATURDAY JUNE 2

LIBRARY FAIR

M Y S T I C & N O A N K L I B R A R Y
4 0 L I B R A R Y S T R E E T
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