



Holy Name Society Newsletter

Spreading Devotion to the Most Holy Name of Jesus

THE WAY OF HOLINESS

Holiness happens at the intersection of divine grace and human free will. Sometimes that's a collision as in the conversion of St. Paul (Acts, Chapter 9), or the struggle of two or three decades as in the case of St. Augustine (354-430), or a lifelong collaboration as in the life of St. Aloysius of Gonzaga (1568-1591).

However it happens, holiness is always God's accomplishment in a person's life. Our part is to embrace the grace of God and cooperate with Him out of love.

The intersection of grace and

free will is like the intersection of the vertical and horizontal beams of the Cross. Grace, the loving and saving presence of God at work in our soul, is like the vertical beam of the Cross. Our free will, a reflection of God's image in us, is like the horizontal beam. Where they intersect, holiness is at work.

The way of holiness always passes by way of the Cross of Christ. There is no holiness without renunciation and spiritual battle. Spiritual progress entails mortification that gradually leads to the peace and joy of the Beati-

tudes (cf. Catechism, 2015). The "way of holiness" suggests a pathway and a journey and steps toward lasting sanctity. Although we'd like to march swiftly toward our goal, more often we stagger toward it doggedly, sometimes losing our footing but then humbly resuming the trek. The steps are simple, but they are not easy.

There are two basic steps, and we hear them announced every Ash Wednesday: "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel."

God's grace prompts us to

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ARE YOU IN THE WAY?

The late Pope John Paul II has been charged by some with too aggressively canonizing Saints. The church has always enthusiastically promoted those individuals who have been heroic witnesses to the faith and have offered an example of holiness to the world. The Church gives us the Saints as role models to help us learn how we can follow the will of God in our particular lives. The Saints come from widely different

backgrounds and life situations. Some are men, others are women. Some pursued the path of heroic sanctity by extraordinary works of sacrifice and dedication.

Some simply fulfilled their particular vocation in life, religious, married, single in a manner and degree so exem-

plary that the Church wants us to know and recognize that we can be on a similar path.

"It is through our faith, participation in the sacramental life of the church, prayers and devotions, spiritual exercises and Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy that lead [Holy Name Society members] on the path to holiness."

We need saints as our role models, for witnesses to truths ever ancient and yet always new. We need them for our encouragement during the

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THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE HOLY NAME SOCIETY

- Promotes the honor and glory of our Divine God and the personal sanctification of its members by acts of love and devotion to the most Holy Name of Jesus. This spiritual life of its members is a perpetual act of reverence and love.
- Promotes respect for the most Holy Name of God, faith in the Catholic Church and the Magisterium, loyalty to one's country, and respect for all lawful authority, both civil and religious
- Our members perform the Corporal Works of Mercy: to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give drink to the thirsty, shelter to the homeless, tend the sick, visit those in prison, and bury the dead; as well as the Spiritual Works of Mercy: to convert sinners, instruct the ignorant, counsel the wayward, comfort the sorrowing, bear adversity patiently, forgive offenses, and pray for the living and the dead on a parochial, diocesan and national level.

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to my brothers and sisters in the Holy Name of Jesus. In my last "Message from the President" I encouraged as many members as possible to attend this year's National Convention of the NAHNS in Baltimore; since this convention will be a constitutional convention.

Members of the Constitution Committee have been working very diligently over the past few months to review all the governing documents of our organization. They intend to propose a new three-tiered document system comprising of an updated Constitution; By-Laws (new) and an updated Policy Manual to the delegates for their approval. The reason for updating our constitution is to clarify our purpose and to delineate our basic structure which will provide the corner-

stone for our organization for years to come. This will allow our members to have a better understanding what the organization is all about and how it functions. The purpose of the By-Laws is to further define the Articles of the Constitution. Finally, the Policy Manual will be updated to complement the new Constitution by detailing information on how major activities and functions of the organization are completed.

Delegates to the convention have a chance to be part of the history of the National Association of the Holy Name Society by being an active participant in these landmark discussions. Your input is important and much sought after and needed. Please consider attending.

I will be stepping down as your

President in September. The past two years have gone by all too quickly. Hopefully, I was able to accomplish some things that will benefit the organization while other issues will be left for the incoming Officers to deal with. I want to thank all our members for their support. I pledge to continue to remain active in the organization. My first responsibility as Past-President will be to Chair the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is comprised of all the Past-Presidents of the NAHNS and shall act in an advisory capacity to the Executive Board, with particular responsibility to advise on issues of long-range planning. I hope to meet and thank as many of you as possible at this year's convention.

Joe Lapointe
NAHNS President

CANONIZATION CAUSE FOR BLESSED JOHN OF VERCELLI

On Sunday, October 2, 2011, the National Holy Name Society and the Philadelphia Archdiocesan Holy Name Union will sponsor The Annual Mass for Cause for Canonization of Blessed John of Vercelli, O.P., Patron of the Holy Name Society. This will be the 32nd year of this special celebration.

The ceremony will commence with a procession of all in attendance along with their Holy Name Banners, into the Church. The Mass will be followed by veneration of the

Relic of Blessed John of Vercelli and a visit to the Chapel. Afterwards a social hour and dinner will be provided in the lower level of the Holy Name of JESUS Church.

The Mass will commence at 3:00 p.m. All Clergy and Deacons desiring to concelebrate with Reverend Francis Groake, pastor of the Church of the Holy Name of JESUS, are invited. Please bring your own vestments. Confessions will commence at 2:30 p.m. Inspirational music will be provided as in previous years.

The Mass, visit to the Chapel of Blessed John, and the dinner will be held at the Church of the Holy Name of JESUS located at the corner of Berks and Gaul Streets, Philadelphia, Pa. This is the Fishtown Section of Philadelphia.

Contacts for this important day of prayer are: **Sean Clarke, Chairman, 215.830.9649, seanpclarke@comcast.net** or **Tito Paul DiVito, Co-Chairman, 215.694.5272, Tpdv01@aol.com**

Blessed John of Vercelli, pray for us!

THE WAY OF HOLINESS

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take these steps, and our well formed free will enables us to cooperate with God for His glory and our growth in holiness. Turning away from sin and becoming faithful to the Gospel makes our whole life into a great Lent that leads to a share in the glory of Christ's Resurrection.

The first step; "turn away from sin", means we must acknowledge that even our greatest goodness falls short of the glory of God. We really do miss the mark. Sin occurs when our goodness falls below the minimum required by God. The Ten Commandments were given to us to

teach us what action and attitudes are sinful. We simply must have the honesty and candor to acknowledge the sins we commit. We have to stop kidding ourselves, we do sin.

Turning away from sin is called "conversion," and Jesus calls

us to it. Baptism is the principal place for the first fundamental conversion. Christ's call to conversion continues to resound in the life of Christians. This second conversion is an uninterrupted task for the whole Church. It is the conversion of the heart, interior conversion. It is a radical

"The way of holiness always passes by way of the Cross of Christ. There is no holiness without renunciation and spiritual battle."

reorientation of our whole life, a return, a conversion to God. It is the steady work of a lifetime. (cf. Catechism, 1427—1431).

The Second step is, "Be faithful to the Gospel". The Gospel is the best good news that the world has ever heard and includes Christ's teachings and His example. He is the Master; we are the apprentices. The Eight beatitudes articulate the fundamental attitudes of "the Gospel." They are the heart of Jesus' preaching. We are taught and challenged by our Master,

each according to our state in life, to live by the ideals of the Beatitudes. In doing so, we become "faithful to the Gospel."

The Catechism summarizes the matter in these words. "The Decalogue, the Sermon on the Mount, and the apostolic catechesis describe for us the path that leads to the Kingdom of heaven. Sustained by the grace of the Holy Spirit, we tread them, step by step, by everyday acts. By the working of the Word of Christ, we slowly bear fruit in the Church to the glory of God" (1724).

*Rev. Paul Chovanec, Pastor
St. Justin Martyr Parish,*

ARE YOU IN THE WAY

(Continued from page 1)

tribulations we experience daily. We too can be holy and inspire others. That is why I believe John Paul II himself, now proclaimed Blessed, proposed for our edification so many examples of what it means to be holy.

The vocation of every Christian is to be holy, to be a Saint. Our task is to love God, to serve God and to give praise, honor and glory to God. In brief, this is the will of God --- our personal sanctification. As members of the Confraternity of the Holy Names of God and Jesus, we are called to promote honor

to God and to know and love Jesus Christ. We commit ourselves in a special way to respond to this universal call to holiness every time we recite the Holy Name Pledge. It is through our faith, our participation in the sacramental life of the church, our prayers and devotions, our spiritual exercises and our Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy that lead us on our path to holiness.

There are several schools of spirituality that can be practiced to obtain holiness. The most common

are the spiritual practices of the Jesuits, Dominicans, Benedictines, Franciscans and the Carmelites. We should follow the particular path to holiness which is appropriate to our temperament, our vocation. I encourage all Holy Name Society members to read and study these schools of spirituality and select one that works for you.

"As members of the Confraternity of the Holy Names of God and Jesus, we are called to promote honor to God and to know and love Jesus Christ."

Spiritual writers are accustomed to describe the ways to holiness in three stages. The first is called the purgative (eliminate sin). The second is the Illuminative

(enlighten with graces) and the third is called the Unitive way (Union with God) where the person is so filled with the graces and gifts of the Holy Spirit that they are united to God in a special way. There is a story about a devout person anxious to know their progress on their spiritual path to holiness. The person posed the question to their Spiritual Director, "where am I on my path to perfection." The Spiritual Director responded, "you are simply IN THE WAY". In other words let God direct you and don't get in the way of the Holy Spirit.

*Fr. Thomas Hayes O.P.
NAHNS Spiritual Director*

HOLY NAME SOCIETY NEWS

New York Archdiocesan Union HNS

The Annual Family Holy Hour for Vocations was held Friday, June 24 at the Church of Saint John the Evangelist. Archdiocesan Awards were presented following the Hour of Prayer.

Baltimore Archdiocesan HNU

The Annual Retreat will be held October 28 through the 30th at St. Joseph-in-the-Hills, Malvern PA. The 41st Annual National Holy Name Society Convention is being hosted by the Baltimore Archdiocesan Union; the theme of this year's Convention is "Service in His Holy Name."

Buffalo Diocesan Union HNS

Annual Awards Banquet will be held on October 16th at Kiebzak's Restaurant and Beginnings Banquet facilities in Sloan, NY. Anthony F. Privarunas, a student at St. Francis High School and parishioner of St. Anthony of Padua Parish in Buffalo, NY was the winner of the 2011 Rev. Msgr. Joseph F. Maguire Scholarship Essay contest. The Buffalo Diocesan Union is celebrating 85 years of existence. The organization started in 1926 with His Excellency, the Most Rev. John Francis O'Hara, C.S.C., D.D. as the first Supreme Spiritual Moderator, and Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph E. Maguire as the Spiritual Director.

Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Elmsford HNS

The Saint Patrick's Day dinner was a success with proceeds used to continue the society's financial support to the parish and other organizations. Members contributed for Palm Sunday palms, Easter Sunday flowers, and the purchase of food for the parish food pantry for the needy.

St. Thomas HNS, Otisville Correctional Facility

New officers were installed with a special ceremony by Deacon Eugene E. Bormann, Chaplain and Spiritual Moderator on the society. The Society now has 31 members and is actively planning a retreat.

San Antonio Archdiocesan Union HNS

Christ the King Catholic Church, San Antonio is sponsoring the August Hour of Prayer on Sunday, August 28th.

Chicago Association of Holy Name Societies

The 31st Annual Spiritual Assembly was held at the Church of the Immaculate Conception on Friday, June 10th. His Eminence, Cardinal Francis George, O.M.I. presided at the Liturgy. The General membership meeting was held on May 21 at the Place Queen of Angels Parish on Western Avenue in Chicago.

Holy Family Church HNS, Latrobe, PA

Dr. Ralph A. Capone was the featured speaker for the Annual Family Breakfast sponsored by the Holy Family Parish Holy Name Society on June 12th. Dr. Capone started the St. Gianna Sodality for the Sanctity of Human Life. Their apostolate is to pray for the end of abortion and to protect the sanctity of all human life.

New York City Police Department HNS

Over 1,000 active and retired police officers, members of their families and guests participated in the New York City Police Department HNS 93rd Annual Communion Mass and breakfast held in April. Main Celebrant was His Eminence Edward Cardinal Egan. The Mass was held at St. Patrick's Cathedral. Several awards were given to deserving members of the Society.

Cleveland Diocesan Union HNS

The Cleveland Diocesan Union HNS sponsored Faith Night at the Lake County Captains game on July 10th.

The Diocesan Union's 56th Annual Bishop Awards dinner will be held on Sunday, October 30th. Bishop Lennon will be in attendance.

A Holy Hour for Blessed John of Vercelli was held July 5th at Assumption parish in Broadview Heights.

St. Frances Xavier, Bronx HNS

Nine members attended the HNS sponsored Parish Men's Retreat at the Bishop Maolloy Retreat House. Members hosted the Archdiocesan Union's Annual Family Holy Hour.

Archdiocese of St. Paul / Minneapolis HNS

The Archdiocesan Association of the Holy Name Society of the Archdiocese of St. Paul / Minneapolis held the Annual Spring Awards Banquet on May 21 at the Church of St. Albert the Great in Minneapolis. The evening consisted of Mass followed by social time and an awards program. Fr. Grabner, Spiritual Moderator of the AAHNS gave a talk. Awards were given to parish Holy Name Society members for their distinguished contributions to their Societies and the Medallion Service Award for distinguished work at the Archdiocesan Association level was given to Ron G. Schmitz.

The AAHNS is launching a new program called, "Men United in Faith", to promote holiness and spirituality in Catholic men in the Archdiocese. The program includes monthly adoration, prayer, an opportunity for confession and a period of open discussion on various topics related to Catholic Apologetics. The first session was held on May 19th at Transfiguration parish in Oakdale, MN.

CUSTODY OF THE EYES

Just because we live in the world, doesn't mean we have to succumb to the ways of the world. Unfortunately women of today seem to be encouraged by peer pressure to reveal their flesh ever more so than years gone by. All Christian men should be deeply troubled about this and should ask the Holy Spirit to direct attention elsewhere when found in the presence of these souls.

Recently, I read about Saint Francis who spoke of this problem. He referred to the practice of having "Custody of the Eyes." Not ever hearing it spoken of using those words, I decided to research the subject and found a great article on the Internet written by Elaine Marie Jordan from the website:

traditioninaction.org.

This is what I learned.

"St. Francis of Assisi used to exhort his brethren frequently to guard and mortify their senses with the utmost care. He especially insisted on the custody of the eyes, and he used this parable of a King and two messengers to demonstrate how the purity of the eyes reveals the chastity of the

soul."

He began, "A certain pious King sent two messengers successively to the Queen with a communication from himself. The first messenger returned and brought an answer from the Queen, which he delivered exactly. But of the Queen herself he said nothing because he had always kept his eyes modestly cast down and had not raised them to look at her.

The second messenger also returned. But after

delivering in a few words the answer of the Queen, he began to speak warmly of her beauty. 'Truly, my lord,' he said, 'the Queen is the most fair and lovely woman I have ever seen, and thou art indeed happy and blessed to have her for thy spouse.'

At this the King was angry and said: 'Wicked servant, how did you dare to cast your eyes upon my royal spouse? I believe that you may covet what you have so curiously gazed up.' Then he commanded the

other messenger to be recalled, and said to him: 'What do you think of the Queen?' He replied, 'She listened very willingly and humbly to the message of the King and replied most prudently.'

But the Monarch again asked him, 'But what do you think of her countenance? Did she not seem to you very fair and beautiful, more so than any other woman?' The servant replied, 'My lord, I know

messenger, he said: 'But you, who have such un-mortified eyes, depart from the palace. You shall not remain in my house, for I have no confidence in your virtue.'" From that same website comes these words by St. Therese of Liseaux: "In every person comes the clarity of the gaze which is the reflection of the purity of the soul."

After reading the above paragraphs and then meditating on this sentence, is the truth being unveiled to you, the reader? Maybe you never thought of it, but we should always make good use of our eyes. I realize how easy it is to become magnetically attracted to the woman's torso in as much as man was created to be attracted to the opposite sex.

But what I believe she and Saint Francis are both conveying is that we have to be ever so careful where our eyes remain focused. We all have challenges in life that, hopefully keep us on the straight and narrow. Always turn to God in prayer for His help.

Paul Volmann

Holy Family Parish HNS

Latrobe, PA

"Our eyes should not rest on objects that awaken bad thoughts. Let our eyes serve us to observe and admire the spectacles of nature and heavens, the qualities and the prodigious variety of plants and animals."

St. Aloysius Gonzaga

nothing of the Queen's beauty. Whether she be fair or not, it is for thee alone to know and judge. My duty was only to convey thy message to her.'

The King rejoined, 'You have answered well and wisely. You who have such caste and modest eyes shall be my chamberlain. From the purity of your eyes I see the chastity of your soul. You are worthy to have the care of the royal apartments confided to you.' Then, turning to the other

41ST ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION - BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

The Archdiocese of Baltimore, Maryland is hosting the 41st Annual National Holy Name Convention, Wednesday, September 21 through Saturday, September 24. The registration fee is \$275 per person. The registration fee includes; all convention materials, the Presidents Dinner and Banquet and a tour. The convention Banquet (dinner, short program) on Saturday evening is also included in the registration fee.

Advanced registration requested. Convention Registration must be received on or before **September 1, 2011**. Please book your hotel reservations by **August 24, 2011** at Tremont Plaza Hotel: (800) 873-6668 to take advantage of the discounted convention

rate of \$119 per night (state and local taxes and fees will be applied to the rate).

2011 Convention Highlights!

- NAHNS Constitution & Policy Manual Review
- NAHNS National Officer Elections
- Prison Ministry Workshop
- Tour the Sites in Baltimore, America's First Roman Catholic Cathedral, Mother Seaton House, Fort McHenry: Birthplace of the Star Spangled Banner, Home of Babe Ruth, Harbor Place

Please include a check payable to: **BAHNU** and send your reservations to:

**2011 NAHNS Convention
c/o Mr. George Parker
213 St. Ives Drive
Severna Park, MD 21146**

Registration information is available on the NAHNS website (nahns.com) and registration form is included on the back page of this newsletter.

Please show your support of the 2011 National Holy Name Society Convention by placing an ad in the convention program book. The convention program book is delivered to people who attend the activities of the convention as well as those taking quarter page or larger advertisements. An ad can be placed by an individual, by groups of individuals, by parish Holy Name Societies, or by a business.

A full page ad is 8.5" by 11" less margins. Advertising must be in digital format (camera-ready). Black and White Pictures may be included in a Full, Half and Quarter Page Ad at no additional charge. Deadline is **August 10, 2011**.

Send electronic ad copy and artwork to:
GLNNMP@aol.com or mail paper copy to the address below.

Please make check payable to:
BAHNU

Mail check and this completed form to:

**2011 NAHNS Convention
c/o Nancy Novak
7616 Carson Avenue
Baltimore, MD 21224**

NAHNS CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE: BOLD MISSION / BRIGHT FUTURE

This year's National Association of the Holy Name Society's (NAHNS) National Convention is a Constitutional Convention. Several days will be committed to updating the governing documents of the Association. This is an important step for the NAHNS. The last Constitutional Convention was September 23, 1978. The current Constitution was approved by the delegates at the NAHNS Convention held in Baltimore, Maryland. Many aspects of the current Constitution and Policy Manual are out of date and no longer reflect the way the NAHNS operates; in addition changes are needed to improve the effec-

tiveness and efficiency of the Association. The NAHNS is in the process of applying to be fully recognized by the IRS as a non-profit organization under the new IRS Rules 501 3c standard. An accurate set of governing documents is mandatory to meet the requirements of the IRS.

The NAHNS Constitution Committee is recommending a three tiered document system to govern the activities of the Association. The three documents are the Constitution, Bylaws (new) and Policy Manual. In order for all members of the NAHNS to understand the importance of

the Constitution and other governing documents of the Association, it is important for us to understand the purpose of these documents and what should be included in them.

A Constitution should cover the fundamental principles of the Association. Constitutions are important documents for an organization as they 1) allow members and potential members to have a better understanding of what the organization is all about and how it functions, 2) clarify purpose 3) delineate basic structure, 4) provide the cornerstone for building an effective organization. Constitu-

tions are not updated or amended very often and they typically require a 2/3 vote of the membership for adoption. Constitutions layout the framework and blueprint of the Association, but do not prescribe specific procedures for operating an organization. Specific procedures for operating the organization are covered in the Bylaws and Policy Manual.

Well designed Bylaws set forth in detail the procedures an organization must follow to conduct business in an orderly, effective and efficient manner. Bylaws provide definition to the Articles of

LIFE, MARRIAGE, FAMILY, YOUTH COMMITTEE

The NAHNS Committee to provide focus on Life, Marriage, Family and Youth initiatives was formed by the delegates at the Sante Fe, NM National Convention. The goal of this very important new committee is to eventually have a national vice chair and then a regional coordinator for each region. Presently, for the Region VI (MI, OH) coordinator, we have Fr. Tom Haren. For Region II (NY) coordinator, we have Peter Ulrich with Martin Dolgow serving as assistant coordinator. I thank all three men for their willingness and desire to serve in this capacity. Work is continuing to further identify HNS members willing to work on this important committee.

It is recommended that each (Arch)Diocesan Union consider forming a Life Marriage Family Youth Committee.

the Constitution. Information in the Bylaws cannot contradict provisions in the Constitution and can be changed more easily as the needs of the organization change. Amending or changing Bylaws usually requires less strenuous approval for adoption than the Constitution.

The NAHNS Policy Manual should provide detailed information on how major activities and functions of the organization are completed, examples would be: 1) selecting location and setting agenda for running the National Convention, 2) preparing agendas and reports for

These committee members can help push activities and initiatives throughout the Holy Name Societies in these critical areas. In addition, members of these local committees can be future members to serve on the national committee.

The Committee has identified three main priorities: *Prayer, Education, and Action*. Efforts are underway to keep committee activities simple and meaningful.

The committee is recommending an hour of prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament for LMFY. At my local parish, I approached the pastor with an idea to institute a special Holy Hour for LMFY. Since we have the sacrament of Penance each Saturday afternoon for one hour, the suggestion was to conduct a Holy Hour to pray before the Blessed Sacrament for Life Marriage Family

the Spring Board Meeting, 3) collection and distribution of reports, 4) providing details on activities of the Communication office – for example record retention and archive policies, distribution of information, 5) information on the website, Newsletter, Facebook, Twitter, Blog, etc. 6) details on activities of the Financial Secretary – setting up and managing annual budget, dispersing and collecting funds, etc., 7) information on how various committees obtain funds, account for expenses, and report to Executive Board, 8) information on the National Awards, criteria for selection, who selects,

Youth intentions. Since the Priest is already available during the hour for confessions, the only extra effort is for the Priest to expose the Blessed Sacrament in the monstrance before entering the confessional. After confessions, benediction is completed. I initially thought this would be for only one Saturday per month, but our priests wants to do it each Saturday.

The committee continues to develop activities that parish and (Arch)Diocesan Union Holy Name Societies can use to support authentic Catholic values in the areas of Life, Marriage, Family and Youth. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Richard Kehoe using the contact information located on the back page of this newsletter.

Richard Kehoe
NAHNS LMFY Committee Chair

method of selection, when presented, etc.

The information included in these three documents provides all of the key details necessary for the successful operation and direction of the Association. It is vitally important for the delegates at this year's convention to make the necessary changes in these governing documents to enable the NAHNS to fulfill its Bold Mission and enable a Bright Future for the Association.

Mike Gores, Secretary
NAHNS Constitution Committee

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REGISTRATION FEE: \$275 before September 1, 2011, \$300 after September 1, 2011

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Send this form along with your check made out to BAHNU to:
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www.nahns.com