



The Sylvan

NEWSLETTER OF THE
PENNSYLVANIA POETRY SOCIETY, INC.

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

POINTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST

- PPS Contest Winners
- Meet our Workshop Leaders
- October Meeting Save the Date
- Contests

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Dear Pennsylvania Poets,

At our May 1st biannual meeting held in Hershey, our members approved the revisions to our Constitution and Bylaws after the correct paragraph draft in Article VIII of the Bylaws was substituted for the incorrect paragraph in the published text. Thus these changes in our governing documents became effective on May 1st.

As we had planned and at the meeting announced we would do, we sought legal review of these approved changes. Offering his help was Floyd (Michaud) L. Lamrouex, the NFSPS Legal Counsel, a business entities attorney who creates and helps business owners operate their corporations, non-profit corporations, limited liability companies (LLCs), and partnerships, and who obtains 501(c)(3) IRS tax exempt status for charities and other non-profit organizations.

Mr. Lamrouex has reviewed our approved revisions and finds them not unreasonable and, therefore, perfectly legal for a 501(c)(3) organization. He has offered to emend (a new word for me, meaning simply to make corrections to) our Constitution and Bylaws so that we can publish them and any other proposed changes in our summer newsletter. For example, he noted that we had referenced the Bylaws in our Constitution when the Constitution is the primary immutable document to be referenced. We have accepted Mr. Lamrouex's generous offer.

Our ongoing work on our Constitution and Bylaws has not gone unnoticed by others. I received a letter addressed to all state society presidents from Amy Jo Zook, Special Awards Chair for NFSPS. In it she writes, "This year's special awards will be given to the states who are running their organizations with 'Order and Method,' to quote Hercule Poirot in one of his favorite ideas." Amy goes on to say, "The sort of thing I have in mind to reward is, for example, Pennsylvania's current reworking of its bylaws to bring them into sync with its operating methods." We appreciate the support of NFSPS in our work. Thank you to all who have been a part of this labor for our organization.

Also at our May 1st meeting, Marilyn Downing, Chair of the Nominating Committee, announced the election slate for the fall meeting. Sandra Kolinofsky and Anthony Gulatta also served on this committee. Here are the endorsed candidates: Richard Lake, President; Lynn Fetterolf, Vice President; Ann Gasser, Recording Secretary; Janet Manwaring, Corresponding Secretary; Ann Copeland, Treasurer.

Richard Lake has been active in PPS in a variety of positions since his retirement in 1993 as a bureau head for the Commonwealth, a position which required his leading 200 employees in the Audit Sector. Richard brings to our organization a much-valued sense of humor which is seen in his interpersonal interactions as well as in his prize-winning poetry. We look forward to his leadership.

(Continued on page 4)

WINNING CHOCOLATE
POEM

By: Carolyn Williams

Chocolate Poems

Thinking velvet on the tongue,
I vowed I'd taste only one.
Yet once the wrapper was off,
the scent did my willpower overcome.

Set aside for later use,
neat squares did coalesce.
Cleansing the palate
There's no success.

The mixer's beaters got in a tangle.
The batter flew when they got mangled.
Globs hit the cabinet door and knob bangle.
More spots fell on counter top because of the angle.

Its effect on me
is as perverse as can be.
Scanning photos of mellifluous confections I see
dog-eared pages mark the desserts with a history.

Warm pudding on a cold winter's eve,
chips in cookies baked off before family takes leave,
garnish in gourmet café's cheesecake playing songs sung by Edi and
Steve.
So loved that souffle Julia Child baked on tv!

Pure water's the trick
to unfasten its grip.
For chocolate will stick.
Your hips will get thick.

On the treadmill pound,
reach for some fruit that's round.
Put the chocolate treat away.
Eat on a special day, not everyday.

Whether Hershey's, Wilbur's, Ghirandeli's, Godiva's,
there's a wide selection to enjoy with java.
Mocha, Swiss, Dark, or Light,
Few would decline even at night.

"Life is like a box of chocolates."
is a line about life's choices,
allowing movie-goers to ponder while sitting on their rump
to see and feel more deeply about a peculiar character named Forrest
Gump.

MEMBER
NEWS

Several years ago Lynn Fetterolf's poem, "Angel of Mercy," was selected by the National Marine Corps League Auxiliary to represent their Little Angel Program. It is included with each bracelet purchased as a fund raiser for underprivileged babies. A song she wrote, "God's Waterfall," was recently performed by the congregation in her church.

President DeAnna Spurlock has served as a judge in the past three NFSPS National Poetry Contests.

Steven Concert was awarded a First Honorable Mention in Category #30 of the Utah State Poetry Society's 2010 Poetry contest; and was the featured poet on May 13 for Berks County's local television program, "Poets Pause."

Ann Gasser, Anthony Gulotta, and Susanna Roma won numerous prizes in the Massachusetts Poetry Day Contest.

Ann Gasser recently judged a chapbook contest for Alabama and served as a judge for Arizona and Utah.

PPS OCTOBER
ELECTION
SLATE

Nominating Committee:

Chair, Marilyn Downing
Anthony Gulatta
Sandra Kolinofski

Slate:

Richard Lake, President
Lynn Fetterolf, Vice President
Ann Gasser, Recording Secretary
Janet Manwaring, Corresponding Secretary
Ann Copeland, Treasurer



P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E , C O N T ' D

(Continued from page 1)

Special thanks go to Nancy Kline and her team for their work in organizing this special day and in Nancy's finding Deb Ritter to lead a workshop thoroughly enjoyed by all participants. Deb read some of the poignant "I am from..." poems written by her students at Nitschmann Middle School in Bethlehem, PA. PPS members in attendance found the "I am from..." frame to be an inspiring "springboard" for them, too, as they dived into pools of memory to answer the prompt, "I am from...." and wrote a poem.

Members also enjoyed hearing the many fine 2010 Prize winning poems read by winners in attendance as well as Carolyn Williams' prize winning chocolate poem found on page 3 of this newsletter. Carolyn took home the largest Hershey milk chocolate bar in the world—5 pounds—as her prize.

Finally, *Prize Poems* has been published and is ready to mail. Special thanks go to Lynn Fetterolf, Ann Gasser, Marilyn Downing, Jenny Elliott, Janet Manwaring, all the patrons supporting publication through donations and to all the judges who helped with our 2010 contest.

We look forward to seeing all of you on October 9 at our fall meeting at Allenberry in Boiling Springs.

With warmest regards,

DeAnna Spurlock



S T A T E C O N T E S T S

Go to <http://alabamapoets.org> to learn how to join Alabama Poets and enter their annual contest with a deadline of August 14, 2010.

The Georgia Poetry Society conducts contests in the fall of each year, with an October 15 postmark deadline for all entries. In addition to earning cash prizes, the top three poems in each contest may be published in *The Reach of Song*, the annual GPS poetry anthology. GPS Life Members: No fee; GPS members: \$ 2 per poem; Non-members: \$ 3 per poem. Additional information and contests at <http://georgiapoetrysociety.org/contests>

For Minnesota's annual contest guidelines, visit <http://www.mnpoets.org/cont.php>

For Arizona's annual contests and guidelines, visit <http://www.azpoetry.org/annualcontest.html>

For contests out of Iowa, visit www.iowapoetry.org

For the Poetry Society of Texas' monthly contests, visit <http://www.poetrysocietyoftexas.org>

S T A T E C O N T E S T S

Illinois' annual contest categories include free verse, formal verse, a poem related to a family tradition, old or new. Prizes: \$50, \$30, \$10, 3 HMs. The entry fee is \$6 for up to three poems, \$1 each additional poem. Members ISPS, \$3 up to 5 poems, \$1 each additional poem. Deadline Sept 18, 2010. Find the rest of the details at: <http://www.illinoispoets.org/contest.htm>

Missouri's Summer contest entries should be postmarked by September 1, 2010. Categories are Rhymed verse or blank verse (unrhymed iambic pentameter), any subject, serious or humorous; Free verse, any subject, serious or humorous; Humorous verse, any subject; Any form, summer subject, serious or humorous. The fees: Non-members pay \$1.00 per entry. Members pay \$1.00 for two entries. Prizes are \$25, \$15, \$10, and three honorable mentions in each category. Mailing addresses and more information available at <http://www.nfsps.com/mo/summer.htm>.

Poet's Roundtable of Arkansas sponsors 2009-2010 Roundtable Monthly Contests

Contest Rules: Poems may be sent September through May, postmarked by the second Saturday of the month. For mailing information, categories, prize amounts and this month's subject, visit http://www.poetsroundtable.com/contests_new.htm.

PPS ANNUAL CONTEST WINNERS

Category #1 Grand Prize 87 entries

Judge: Dana Sonnenschein, Bethany, CT

1st Prize: Joseph L.Witten, Odenville, AL "Fire and Ice"

2nd Prize: Marie-Louse Meyers, Oxford, PA "The Priest Release"

1st HM: Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ontario, CANADA "Sideshow"

2nd HM: Shirley S. Stevens, Pittsburgh, PA "Tribute to Lady Murasaki"

3rd HM: Lynn Veach Sadler, Sanford, NC "Rairoad Man"

1st Citation: Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA "To My Nephew On the Death...."

2nd Citation: Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR "Asking The Questions"

No 3rd Citation

Category #2 Jack Gillespie Memorial Award 32 entries

Judge: Phillip Billings, Annville PA

1st Prize: Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR "Cat In The Tree"

2nd Prize: Lucille Morgan Wilson, DesMoines, IA "In Survival Mode"

1st HM: Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ontario, CANADA "The Book Man"

2nd HM: Jim Barton, Huttig, AR "Love and the Curvature of the Earth"

3rd HM: Dr. M.P.A. Sheaffer, New York, NY "Weiss-Blau"

1st Citation: Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA "Fate of A First Love"

2nd Citation: Ray Fulmer, Quakertown, PA "Cinderella Winked"

3rd Citation: Larry Turner, Fredericksburg, VA "Morning At the Twi-lite Motel"

Category #3 H. Edward Canon Memorial Award 27 entries

Judge: Carole Somerville, Woodridge, VA

1st Prize: Debberae Streett, Stewartstown, PA "Symphony"

2nd Prize: Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR "Featherly Advice"

1st HM: Ray Fulmer, Quakertown, PA "Eighteen Wheels and a Dozen Roses"

2nd HM: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL "The Violin"

3rd HM: Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA "The Flute Player"

1st Citation: Glenna Glee, Anderson, IN "God's Gift"

2nd Citation: Marie-Louse Meyers, Oxford, PA "Plain Song From A Lady In

Waiting"

3rd Citation: Larry Turner, Fredericksburg, VA "Musical Accompaniment for

An Impending Divorce"

Category #4 Janes D. Caparosa Memorial Award 30 entries

Judge: Shaun Koont, Brooklyn, NY

1st Prize: Anne Pierre Spangler, Lebanon, PA "The Herald"

2nd Prize: Lee Pelham Cotton, Locust Hill, VA "The Secret Shining Heart"

1st HM: Mark Starkweather, Gettysburg, PA "Supporting Stone"

2nd HM: Dalene Stull, Danville, OH "Cemetery"

3rd HM: Dr. M.P.A. Sheaffer, New York, NY "Yet"

1st Citation: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL "Stones"

2nd Citation: Richard Lake, New Cumberland, PA "Winter Solstice Soup"

3rd Citation: Carla Christopher, York, PA "Genealogy"

Category #5 Carlisle Poets' Workshop Award 40 entries

Judge: Nancy Baass, Victoria, TX

1st Prize: Jim Barton, Huttig, AR "Night Watchman"

2nd Prize: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL "Accidental Art"

1st HM: Janet Lohr, New Oxford, PA "When Lilacs Bloom"

2nd HM: Lucille Morgan Wilson, DesMoines, IA "Cheap Crystal"

3rd HM: Isobel H. Beaston, Media, PA "Vernal Equinox"

1st Citation: Marilyn Downing, Hershey, PA "Dinner Party of Three"

2nd Citation: Lynn Fetterolf, York, PA "Hankies"

3rd Citation: Ray Fulmer, Quakertown, PA "In Defense of Parsley"

Category #6 Marjorie Thompson Cheney Memorial Award 30 entries

Judge: Mildred Vorpahl Baass, Victoria, TX

1st Prize: Mary Mullen, Reading, MA "Sunset and Evening Star"

2nd Prize: Caroline Walton, Crystal River, FL "Sunshine and Storm Clouds"

1st HM: Dalene Stull, Danville, OH "Home Place"

2nd HM: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL "Each Spring"

3rd HM: Susanna Roma, Birdsboro, PA "Behold the Iris"

1st Citation: Lynn Fetterolf, York, PA "Sonnet To June Twenty-One"

2nd Citation: Richard T. Lake, New Cumberland, PA "She's Something Else"

3rd Citation: Joseph L.Witten, Odenville, AL "Grief On Grief"

Category #7 Mariah Quant Memorial Award 35 entries

Judge: Jim Bush, Ripley, WV

1st Prize: Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA "Autumn In Emily's Amherst"

2nd Prize: Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ontario, CANADA "The Hounds of Hell"

1st HM: Inge Logenburg Kyler, Eaton Rapids, MI "Ode to the Bobolink"

2nd HM: Dalene Stull, Danville, OH "In Praise of Iris"

3rd HM: Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR "The Babies Never Knew"

1st Citation: Roberta Anna Heydenberk, Richlandtown, PA "Dawn Breaks"

2nd Citation: Carla Christopher, York, PA "Winter Lullaby"

3rd Citation: Anthony F. Gulotta, Phoenixville, PA "A Walk In The Woods"

Category #8 Gwen Darling Glassberg Memorial Award 30 entries

Judge: Billy Pennington, Moore, OK

1st Prize: Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR "Beneath the Layers"

2nd Prize: Dalene Stull, Danville, OH "Playing Dress-Up 1946"

1st HM: Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ontario, CANADA "True Poems Flee"

2nd HM: Marilyn Downing, Hershey, PA "Ellis Island Lullaby"

3rd HM: Isobel H. Beaston, Media, PA "9/11/1777"

1st Citation: Vera Ogden Bakker, West Bountiful, UT "Lake Afternoon"

2nd Citation: Ray Fulmer, Quakertown, PA "They Come"

3rd Citation: Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA "2:30 A.M.—for Peter"

PPS ANNUAL CONTEST WINNERS CONT'D

Category #9 Haiku, Senryu, Tanka Award 38 entries

Judge: Jeffrey Mock, New Haven, CT

1st Prize: Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR "haiku"

2nd Prize: Lynn Fetterolf, York, PA "skid tracks zig zag"

1st HM: Nancy Kotkin, Secane, PA "barking up a storm"

2nd HM: Jim Barton, Huttig, AR "one crow flies alone"

3rd HM: Lucille M. Wilson, DesMoines, IA "outside the window"

1st Citation: Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ontario, CANADA
"shortcut home from work"

2nd Citation: Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA "Sakura kana"

3rd Citation: Sarah Gipson, North Little Rock, AR "hiaku"

Category #10 The Limerick Award 31 entries

Judge: Jeremy Downes, Auburn, AL

1st Prize: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL "Buoyancy"

2nd Prize: Carol Dee Meeks, Tulsa, OK
"A limerick flows like a stream"

1st HM: Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA

"After Watching The Latest Game Shows"

2nd HM: Dalene Stull, Danville, OH "Sold"

3rd HM: Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA "Georgina Christina Rossetti"

1st Citation: J. Paul Holcomb, Double Oak, TX "Tolerance"

2nd Citation: Vera Ogden Bakker, West Bountiful, UT
"He Who Crows Loudest"

3rd Citation: Richard T. Lake, New Cumberland, PA "Out Dueled"

Category #11 Selina Cox Eshlemen Memorial Award 31 entries

Judge: Amy Jo Zook, Mechanicsburg, OH

1st Prize: Dennis R. Patton, Alexander, AR
"The Goose Stuffing Glaze of Bertha Hayes"

2nd Prize: Larry Turner, Fredericksburg, VA "Punctuality"

1st HM: Shirley S. Stevens, Pottsburgh, PA "Yogatta Be Kitten"

2nd HM: Richard T. Lake, New Cumberland, PA "The Bully Girl"

3rd HM: Joseph L. Witten, Odenville, AL "Eureka"

1st Citation: Doris DiSavino, Lancaster, PA "Reel In the Stars"

2nd Citation: Mary Mullen, Reading, MA "To Believe Him Or Not"

3rd Citation: Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA
"Haiku Is Not My Thing"**Category #12** Dorman John Grace Memorial Award 45 entries

Judge: Jo Ann Breahm, Carlisle, PA

1st Prize: Jacqueline Moffett, Pittsford, NY "Life Marches On"

2nd Prize: Lee Pelham Cotton, Locust Hill, VA "Father's Day"

1st HM: Carol Clark, Aidan, PA "Shock"

2nd HM: Inge Logenburg Kyler, Eaton Rapids, MI
"Things Lost When Hills Were Mined"

3rd HM: Linda Clark, Gettysburg, PA "Travel Has Certainly Come A Long Way"

1st Citation: Lynn Fetterolf, York, PA "Lillian's Love Song"

2nd Citation: Lucille Morgan Wilson, DesMoines, IA "Storage Places"

3rd Citation: Anthony F. Gulotta, Phoenixville, PA "Aunt Betty"

Category #13 William A. Hildebrandt Memorial Award 29 entries

Judge: Rebecca Cutchall, Carlisle, PA

1st Prize: Becky Alexander, Cambridge, Ontario, CANADA "Another Face"

2nd Prize: Lee Pelham Cotton, Locust Hill, VA "Arrival Of The Muse"

1st HM: Lynn Fetterolf, York, PA "What Is A Book?"

2nd HM: Susanna Roma, Birdsboro, PA "Mixed Media"

3rd HM: Marilyn Downing, Hershey, PA "Listening To The Petroglyphs"

1st Citation: Ray Fulmer, Quakertown, PA "Where Are You When I Need You,"

Dylan Thomnas, Or Oh My God, I've Overdosed On T.S. Eliot!"

2nd Citation: Sarah Gipson, North Little Rock, AR "An American Artist"

3rd Citation: Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR "Still Life: Apples and Grapes..."

Category #14 Andy Fetterolf Memorial Award 24 entries

Judge: Ann Cook, Carlisle, PA

1st Prize: Marie-Louse Meyers, Oxford, PA "Anointed Task"

2nd Prize: Marilyn Downing, Hershey, PA "Riches Beyond Measure"

1st HM: Lucille Morgan Wilson, DesMoines, IA "The Hawk Of Heaven"

2nd HM: Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR "As Part Of The Order"

3rd HM: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL "Drum Circle"

1st Citation: Dalene Stull, Danville, OH "At Day's End"

2nd Citation: Glenna Glee, Anderson, IN "Too Close To Reality"

3rd Citation: Susanna Roma, Birdsboro, PA "Blessed Assurance"

Category #15 Blanche Whiting Keysner Memorial Award 28 entries

Judge: Margot Schlipp, New Haven, CT

1st Prize: Loretta Diane Walker, Odessa, TX "Shrine Of Hormones"

2nd Prize: Susanna Roma, Birdsboro, PA "Lonely Quest"

1st HM: Shirley S. Stevens, Pittsburgh, PA "Stealing Your Shadow"

2nd HM: Lucille Morgan Wilson, DesMoines, IA "My Favorite Things"

3rd H.M: Dalene Stull, Danville, OH "Words Not Spoken"

1st Citation: Richard T. Lake, New Cumberland, PA "What Is A Man To Do?"

2nd Citation: Larry Turner, Fredericksburg, VA "Young Love"

3rd Citation: Ann Gasser, West Reading, PA "Love 101"

Category #16 Lotus Knowlton Roberts Memorial Award 24 entries

Judge: Mary Joyce Love, Dover, PA

1st Prize: Dalene Stull, Danville, OH "Constant Change"

2nd Prize: Catherine Moran, Little Rock, AR "A Teacher's Gift"

1st HM: Jerri Hardesty, Brierfield, AL "Fickle"

2nd HM: Richard T. Lake, New Cumberland, PA "Best Friends"

3rd HM: Inge Logenburg Kyler, Eaton Rapids, MI "Last Shades Of Summer"

1st Citation: Glenna Glee, Anderson, IN "Love"

2nd Citation: Lynn Fetterolf, York, PA "Busy Life? Get A Wife!"

3rd Citation: Mary Mullen, Reading, MA "When The Deaf Man Died"



AMERICAN LIFE IN POETRY
COLUMN

MICHAEL HOOVER

BY TED KOOSER, U.S. POET LAUREATE

It is enough for me as a reader that a poem take from life a single moment and hold it up for me to look at. There need not be anything sensational or unusual or peculiar about that moment, but somehow, by directing my attention to it, our attention to it, the poet bathes it in the light of the remarkable. Here is a poem like this by Carolyn Miller, who lives in San Francisco.

The World as It is

No ladders, no descending angels, no voice
out of the whirlwind, no rending
of the veil, or chariot in the sky—only
water rising and falling in breathing springs
and seeping up through limestone, aquifers filling
and flowing over, russet stands of prairie grass
and dark pupils of black-eyed Susans. Only
the fixed and wandering stars: Orion rising sideways,
Jupiter traversing the southwest like a great firefly,
Venus trembling and faceted in the west—and the moon,
appearing suddenly over your shoulder, brimming
and ovoid, ripe with light, lifting slowly, deliberately,
wobbling slightly, while far below, the faithful sea
rises up and follows.

Michael Hoover, former poet laureate of Hanover, PA will give a workshop, topic to-be-announced at our October 9 meeting at Allenberry .

Find out more about him at
<http://hooverpoet.com>



Save the Date

October 9, 2010

Biannual meeting
will be held at
Allenberry Resort,
Inn and Playhouse.
Boiling Springs,
PA

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NOTE ON DUES

Individuals who paid dues between December 1, 2009 and April 30, 2010 will not have to pay them again until September 1, 2011. This policy is applicable only for the specified period and only to the individuals paying dues during the specified period. See our last newsletter containing discussion of Constitution and Bylaw changes.



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Historian: **Nancy Kline**
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(2012) **Vicky Fake-Weldon, Chair; Richard Lake**
(2014) **Catherine Hoffman, Ann Gasser**
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Marilyn Downing, Joy Campbell
PPS Publicity Chair: **Linda Clark**
Pegasus Contest Chair: **Marilyn Downing**
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ABOUT US

Founded in 1949, PPS, Inc. is a non-profit group of poets and aspiring poets, most of whom reside in PA, who are involved in poetry at local, state, and national levels.

At the local level, active chapters hold monthly meetings and workshops, sponsor poetry readings and contests as well as print anthologies of members' poems. Some members serve as contest judges and teach poetry writing in schools, colleges, retirement communities, etc.

At the state level, one can join PPS, Inc., either as a member at large or as a member of a local chapter. All chapter members must be members of PPS, Inc.

A new chapter can be formed by five or more PPS members who have a slate of officers and by-laws compatible with those of PPS, Inc.

At the national level, the National Federation of State Poetry Societies (NFSPS) describes itself as "An educational and literary organization dedicated to the writing and appreciation of poetry in America." Its four-day annual conventions are held in a different state each year and offer workshops as well as intellectual and creative commerce between members of state poetry societies.

Contact Nancy Kline to become a member or join online by visiting www.nfsps.com. Click "State Links" and then "Pennsylvania" to access our site.



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