

2016
September – October

2016 - 2017

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Marilyn Reynolds

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Alrene Hibben

Director:

Mark Ascher

Director:

Ron Gibbs

Director:

Ortrud Schuh

Past President:

Diane Braswell

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Robert & Elaine Royer

TUCSON GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY

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EXPLORE DISCOVER SHARE

President's Page



Wow! It's September already. Is it my imagination or did summer go by on fast-forward this year? I guess that's a sign of getting older. When you are five years old, a year is one whole fifth of your life. Now it's only one 60th (or less!).

We had some great potlucks this summer, and I hope you had a chance to enjoy them. Thanks to Wolf and Ortrud, Henry, and Karen and Lenny for graciously hosting us. And thanks to all of you who brought such delicious food (especially the deviled eggs!).

FINALLY!

As you have probably heard, TGMS is getting out of the property management business. Adobe Bridge Club has moved to a new facility, and for the first time since we bought it, we will have full access to our clubhouse without having to make special arrangements. This is a change that has been talked about for some time, but last year, the TGMS Board voted to not renew the lease with Adobe, so we can make better use of our building. This opens up new opportunities for social gatherings, public outreach and education. We can finally use it as a real Clubhouse. It will free Pat and Rose of their property-management responsibilities, and allow us to make repairs and improvements to the facility without having to coordinate scheduling far in advance.

One of the new activities we are considering is to begin a Junior Division for new collectors and kids. If we can offer some basic educational activities on Saturdays, we feel it may draw in more families and younger adults, who are curious about collecting. If you would be interested in helping with such an activity, contact me or the office. Stay tuned for more details as we develop this.

As you will see, we can remake the meeting space into one that better suits our needs rather than a tenant's needs. We had already begun to put up show posters on the walls, we will now have more space for those, other mineral photography, and display cases with specimens that have been donated to TGMS over the years. We will install a dedicated sound and video system that will perform better and decrease set-up time required for meetings and educational classes.

We now have room to better accommodate other activities such as Micromount Meetings, specimen preparation, and photography where the space does not have

President's Page – CONTINUED

to be reconfigured after every use. We will eventually move the office into the front room, which will clear the upstairs for library space and small classes or meetings.

We will still occasionally rent out the facility to others when it works with our schedule. For instance, The Orchid Society will continue to meet there, but again, our activities will take priority for once. It's exciting to think of the possibilities that lay before us.

A Change of Gears

In May we received a letter from another Club with concerns expressed about field-collecting etiquette. The letter (and my response) is reproduced later in this issue of Rock Talk, but in essence deals with some large-scale "mining" activity at a collecting location that left the site as a potential hazard, and could result in it and others being placed off limits for future collecting. Individuals encountered at the site claimed to be TGMS members, and said they were collecting on behalf of the Club for junior education. Whether or not they really were members, we have no way of knowing, but I just want to take this opportunity to remind all of us that when we are collecting on land that is not our own, we need to respect the site in a way that does not deface it, keeps it safe for others, and does not prompt those in control of the site to post it off-limits to collecting. Too many wonderful sites have already been made unavailable for the same reasons.

The Board is in the process of writing a set of guidelines for field trips and many of the concerns are addressed in that. These guidelines apply to official TGMS field trips, but many of the items should be part of the field etiquette that we all apply in our personal trips as well. Also, TGMS has not authorized any collecting on behalf of the Club, and it would be inappropriate for someone to represent their activities in that manner, unless specifically requested by the Board. If we ever did that, we would have the advanced permission of the site owner or controller (in writing), and would issue a written authorization to any individuals so commissioned.

Lastly

On July 23 we had a very enjoyable Swap and Potluck that was well attended. This is the kind of social activities I foresee in the future. Like the preceding Swaps, it was very informal and seemed to have been enjoyed by all who attended. It's a great way to move out excess specimens and acquire new ones, and provided much opportunity for swapping knowledge and recipes as well. Thank you to all who participated, and stay tuned for the next one.

Welcome back!



Mark Marikos
President



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TGMS General Meeting — May 2, 2016

The General Meeting of the Tucson Gem and Mineral Society was called to order by President Mark Marikos at 7:30 p.m. Visitors and new members were recognized and welcomed to the meeting.

ELECTION OF 2016-2017 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS: Proposed slate as published in Rock Talk was challenged as being invalid resulting in nominations from the floor for all positions as follows: President - Mark Marikos, Gloria Quigg; Vice President – Mike Hollonbeck; Treasurer – Ellen Alexander; Recording Secretary – Marilyn Reynolds; Membership Secretary – Alrene Hibben; Directors – Mark Ascher, Sara Day, Ron Gibbs, and Ortrud Schuh. After voting, the ballots were collected and taken out to be counted by two members from the audience while the meeting resumed.

PROGRAM: Evan Jones spoke on “Bisbee Classics-Paramelaconite and the Story of Its Discovery.” Paramelaconite was first found in Bisbee in 1890 which was the only known location until the 1960’s when it was found locked in chrysocolla in Michigan and recently in the Ojuela Mine in Mexico. It is a copper oxide intermediate between cuprite and tenorite, is tetragonal in structure and is purplish black with heavily developed striations. The first two known specimens from Bisbee were purchased by A. E. Foote who thought they might be a new species. They were identified in 1891 by Koenig. The 3rd and 4th Bisbee specimens were found in the A. E. Seaman Museum and at Bryn Mar College. A 5th specimen was found in Paris, France. One of the specimens is now in Evan’s collection. Other rares from the same mine include connelite and spangolite.

BREAK: Diane Braswell provided the refreshments including pigs in blankets, vegetables with dip, cheese and crackers and cookies. Many thanks.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of Minutes for March 7, 2016 and April 4, 2016 General Meetings: It was noted that the approval of minutes for the January 4 and February 1 General Meetings was not included in the March 7 minutes. **MOTION:** To amend the March 7 minutes to include the approval of the January and February minutes. Seconded and approved. **MOTION:** To approve the March 7 minutes as amended and April 4 minutes; seconded and approved.

Election Results: President Mark Marikos, Vice President Michael Hollonbeck, Treasurer Ellen Alexander, Recording Secretary Marilyn Reynolds, Membership Secretary Alrene Hibben and Directors Mark Ascher, Ron Gibbs and Ortrud Schuh.

Educational Class: Tuesday, May 3, 2016. Bill Shelton’s topic will be “Physical Properties of Minerals.” There is a sign-up sheet available.

Summer Potlucks: June 11th at 4:00 p.m. hosted by Ortrud and Wolfram Schuh; July 9th at 6:00 p.m. hosted by Henry Miller; and August 6th at 5:30 p.m. hosted by Dr. Karen Wenrich. Details will be emailed for each. On July 23rd at 2:00 p.m. a rock swap potluck will be held at TGMS.

Field Trips: Kerry Towe thanked Pat McClain and Rose Marques for their help, and Merritt Simmons and Don Cuson for leading some of the field trips. There are tentatively 14 trips scheduled for next year and 3 more under consideration. Friday, May 6th is a trip to the Prism Mine for blue fluorite with wulfenite on amethyst. Kerry was thanked for his work on planning and organizing field trips. His cell phone number is 390-9300 for those who need to talk to him.

Membership renewals are due soon. The new fiscal year starts July 1st.

NEW BUSINESS:

2017 Show: **MOTION:** To hold the 2017 Show. Seconded and approved.

Budget: **MOTION:** To approve the 2016-2017 budget as proposed. Seconded and approved.

Scholarships: No requests were received this year. If members know anyone who might be interested or anyone to recommend, have them submit a letter to the office. Applicants must be pursuing a career in Earth Sciences.

Announcements: William Ascarza has a new book “In Search of Fortunes: A Look at the History of Arizona Mining.” Also there will be free lectures by geologist Dr. Peter Modreski from the US Geological Survey on Tuesday, May 3 at noon at the US Geological Survey offices and at 8:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel. Handout is available with detailed information.

DRAWING FOR DOOR PRIZES: Diane Braswell, as meeting host, made the first choice. Drawing winners were Alex Schauss, Brad Benton, Tish Hunter, Cody Schwenk, Dawn Schwenk, Jeanne Kraus, George Test, Linda Stauffer, Erika Kirkpatrick, Mike Kirkpatrick, Kerry Towe and Joe Reames.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Reynolds
Recording Secretary

TGMS Board Meeting — April 7, 2016

Present: Ellen Alexander, Sara Day, Dick Gottfried, Alrene Hibben, Michael Hollonbeck, Mark Marikos, Marilyn Reynolds (via facetime).

Absent: Diane Braswell, Jo Anne Sam

Staff: Pat McClain

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Mark Marikos at 6:38 p.m. in the TGMS conference room.

Minutes Approval of the January 14, 2016 Board Meeting: **MOTION:** To approve minutes as presented. Seconded and approved.

President's Remarks: Mark Marikos gave the Board information about potential future options for the Society. A lively discussion followed.

Treasurer's Report: As of April 1, debits equaled \$201,684.70 and credits equaled \$162,757.86. Money was taken out of the Exhibit Case Account to make the final payment on the new Show exhibit cases.

Review and Approval of the Recommended Budget 2016-2017: After the review and clarification of the budget with budget line items discussed, a **MOTION** was made that the Board approve the budget as presented by the Treasurer to include the changes discussed during the review. Seconded and approved. The budget will be presented at the General Membership Meeting on May 2, 2016 for approval.

Old Business: Regarding the Adobe Bridge Club Lease

MOTION: That the discussion about the non-renewal of the lease be tabled until the new Board is elected in May, 2016, and pending new information about the potential future options evaluated before taking action on the lease. Seconded and approved.

New Business: Election of 2016-2017 Officers and Directors

President Mark Marikos authorized Past President Diane Braswell to head the Nominating Committee per our By-Laws. Alrene Hibben was appointed to the Committee. Alrene stated she had solicited two members who agreed to be on the ballot for Director. A third member stepped forward and volunteered to be placed on the ballot for Director. There are two open positions that need to be filled and all current directors/officers need to be reelected. As a result, Ortrud Schuh, Ron Gibbs and Mark Ascher will be placed on the ballot along with Sara Day. Officer positions will reflect the current 2015-2016 elected officers. There could be more names added to the ballot before the mid-April deadline for publishing the ballot in Rock Talk.

Other New Business:

Mike Hollonbeck proposed that we explore the possibility of holding a Summer Rock and Mineral Sale, possibly in June at the clubhouse. He will work with Pat McClain to see what can be arranged. The Board thought it a good idea. Dick Gottfried volunteered his house, if needed, during the summer months as a host for a potluck.

Call to the Audience: No guests present.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Alrene Hibben,
Secretary pro tem

TGMS Board Meeting — May 26, 2016

Present: Ellen Alexander, Mark Ascher, Diane Braswell, Ron Gibbs, Alrene Hibben, Michael Hollonbeck, Mark Marikos, Marilyn Reynolds and Ortrud Schuh.

Staff: Pat McClain

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Mark Marikos at 6:37 p.m. New and returning members were welcomed to the first meeting of the new Board.

Minutes Approval of the April 7, 2016 Board Meeting: **MOTION:** To approve the April 7, 2016 minutes as written. Seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Income \$217,000. Expenses \$208,000. Money will be coming from the 2016 Show after the books are closed.

Old Business:

Adobe Bridge Club: The TGMS building cannot be modified without bringing it up to code and an additional structure cannot be built because we're already non-conforming to zoning. It is unknown if we can use containers on the site. An architect/engineer consult is needed before remodeling or adding on. **MOTION:** That we give Adobe Bridge Club sufficient, courteous notice that their lease will not be renewed. Seconded and approved. Notice will go out at least 90 days before expiration of the lease.

Old Courthouse Project: Pima County has moved everyone out of the building and wants the Mineral Museum there. Bob Downs wants it to be a major mineralogical presence. **MOTION:** That we invite Bob Downs to a Board Meeting to present his vision and the expectations for Tucson Gem and Mineral Society participation. Seconded and approved.

New Business:

Nomination of Gloria Quigg for 2017 Show Chair: **MOTION:** To not approve Gloria as Show Chair. Seconded and approved.

Scholarships: Applications from four students were discussed. A motion was made and withdrawn that Tatiana Stoutmeyer and Kim Fendrich be given scholarships. Kim will not be attending school this coming year so is ineligible. Bill Shelton was invited to speak and listed criteria he supports for selection including U of A students in Earth Sciences at the Graduate level, known to someone in TGMS, look at activities and publications. **MOTION:** To give Tatiana Stoutmeyer a scholarship and create an application for future scholarships. Seconded and approved. **MOTION:** That we accept Lucia Profeta's application for a scholarship in the next fiscal year. Seconded and not approved. She will be encouraged to re-apply with the new application form. Shaunna Morrison has previously received a TGMS scholarship and it has not been established whether or not the same person can receive another scholarship.

Field Trip Issue: A letter was received regarding inappropriate excavating in the Dragoon Mountains by two men who identified themselves as members of TGMS. No names were obtained. The scene described does not represent TGMS. Mark will respond to the letter and will include the Code of Ethics in the next Rock Talk under President's Remarks.

Other New Business: The idea was brought up to give meeting guests a mineral. There would be fewer raffle minerals, but better quality.

Call to the Audience: No response.

MOTION: To adjourn. Seconded and approved. Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Marilyn V. Reynolds
Recording Secretary

Field Trip Etiquette

Sunsites Gem & Mineral Club
c/o Zoe Schnabel, Pres.
1606 N Panorama Way
Cochise, AZ 85606

May 1, 2016

Tucson Gem & Mineral Society
Mark Marikos, or current President
3727 E. Blackledge Dr.
Tucson AZ 85716

Dear Mark or current President:

Let me first introduce myself, my name is Zoe Schnabel and I am the President of the Sunsites Gem & Mineral Club.

On Saturday April 23 my husband & I went to the Lizard Lane location in the Dragoon Mts (marble quarry and finger agate a.k.a. snail agate) to check on the road & collecting conditions as my husband Carl is the Field Trip coordinator for our club. Upon arriving there we surprised two men who were further excavating a ground level hole, taking it down to a depth of where a man had to look up. We were appalled at what we saw! It was absence of protocol!

The place was RAPED by these two "rock hounds" who said they were members of the Tucson Gem & Mineral Society. I had every reason to believe them since they were telling us about your organization after I had introduced myself.

Instead of carefully digging with "light equipment," such as trowels & small shovels, I had noticed that there was a generator in the back of one of their trucks. When asked about it, we were told that they had used some kind of "jack hammer" to loosen up the rock. We saw their large worthless pile of busted up finger agate, but they had recovered at least 6 trays each with a double layer of well formed finger agate plus small sheets/shelves of finger agate they had in the bed of a truck. When asked what they were going to do with it all they said that it was to be given to the Jr members. I don't think they were considering their own safety since standing and crouching in a small but very deep hole while digging and NOT wearing a hard hat is totally unacceptable.

I raised the question about the numerous cigarette butts that were strewn about. It was a totally disgusting scene that we encountered and quite upsetting. I wish I had gotten their names and I trust that they are NOT members of your club. If they are not members I apologize, but as you can see I am very concerned.

A reason for this letter is to suggest that your club review the Code of Ethics. Safety & environmental issues are important as well. Perhaps this could be one of your topics at a meeting. At our next General Meeting, I will be reviewing the "Code of Ethics" to our attending members.

Sincerely,

Zoe Schnabel

Field Trip Etiquette Response**TUCSON
GEM & MINERAL
SOCIETY**

September 2, 2016

Sunsites Gem & Mineral Club
c/o Zoe Schnabel, President
1606 N. Panorama Way
Cochise, AZ 85606

Dear Zoe:

I received your letter dated May 1, 2016, and wish to address your concerns about activities at the Lizard Lane location.

Without positive identification of those you encountered at the site, it is impossible to know if they were TGMS members or not, but I want to assure you that TGMS would never condone, much less encourage such inconsiderate collecting practices. We have not, nor would we likely ever commission someone to do mass collecting on any site for Junior Education or any other purpose, unless there were formal arrangements made with the owner or controller of the site in advance, and documented by a written agreement naming the individuals involved, scope and limitations of their activities, required safety and environmental protection measures at the site, and any remediation work that would be required upon completion. So if you ever encounter a similar situation, request to see such paperwork. If they cannot produce it, they have not been commissioned by TGMS.

We are addressing this issue with our membership, and our Board is currently drafting Field Trip Etiquette Guidelines. While these specifically apply to our official field trips, we are informing our members that many of the issues addressed are also pertinent to personal field collecting activities. The purpose of the guidelines is to protect the safety of those involved, prevent defacing sites, and maintaining good will with owners/controllers and other collectors.

Thank you for bringing this to our attention, and if anyone from TGMS was involved, I apologize, and assure you we will keep this issue before our membership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Marikos".

Mark Marikos
President

TGMS Field Trip Information



TUCSON
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SOCIETY

Field Trip Rules

Field trips are a privilege for TGMS members only. All attendees are expected to conduct themselves in a manner which reflects well on and is in the best spirit of the TGMS. The following rules must be followed while on TGMS field trips. Failure to do so may result in a loss of field trip privileges. Poor behavior by attendees reflects badly on TGMS and could result in the loss of future trips by the TGMS.

1. Abide by all safety rules posted at the collection site or published prior to the collecting trip. Active mining sites usually require the following:
 - a. hard hat
 - b. long pants and boots
 - c. safety glasses
 - d. steel toe boots
2. Comply with any and all collecting site owner/manager instructions and rules. We are on their property and must respect their wishes.
3. Respect the property of land owners and/or other collectors.
4. Look out for the welfare of other collectors. You may notice people wandering off, not carrying enough water, wearing no hat, having trouble climbing over rocks etc. HELP THEM!
5. Sign in, sign out. If you have to leave early you MUST NOTIFY the Field Trip Coordinator of your departure. Leaving an active mining site early may NOT be possible. You need to consult with the field trip coordinator before entering the mine.
6. Do not take more specimens than you need. Leave some for the next collector.
7. Do not needlessly destroy collecting spots, pockets or specimens someone else may like to keep.
8. Be respectful of other collectors. Share, do not hog sites!
9. Be safety aware. Check yourself and people collecting around you for proper use of equipment. Heavy hammers or sledges can injure those around you with fly rock.
10. Stay away from high embankments of loose rock.
11. Bring a hat and more than enough water (...and share it with the person collecting next to you!).
12. Do not LITTER. Take home any trash. If you did not bring a trash bag, find someone who did. If possible, leave the site cleaner than you found it. Our reputation depends on it.
13. Do not leave excavation holes behind where people or animals might trip or fall.
14. Stay with the group. Let others know where you are at all times, even if you are only going to the restroom.
15. Toilet Facilities – there are none! Go to the designated area out of sight of others, and well away from any collection sites. Dig a cat hole and cover it up afterwards.
16. Do not stay behind. Keep track of time and respect the announced departure time. All participants must follow the directions of the FT Coordinator and leave the site when the field trip is over. A scheduled departure time will be announced. A 10 minute pre-departure warning (3 blasts of a car horn) will be made. Once made, clean up and proceed to your vehicle.
17. Do not wander off. Do not get lost. If we have a missing person, we will try a phone call if the known person has a phone. The group will wait 15 minutes and the coordinator will loudly sound a car horn. If for any reason there are rescue costs (which can be substantial), they will be borne by the person thought to be lost.
18. If applicable, have a list of your medications available in case of a medical emergency. Please carry a copy on your person or keep a copy with your collecting gear.
19. Failure to abide by any of these rules will result in the suspension of a participant's field trip privileges.

List of Field Trip Locations and Dates:

Sun., Sept. 18, 2016 - Fat Jack Mine
Fri., Sept. 30, 2016 - Duquesne/Empire Mine

Sat., Oct. 8, 2016 - Apache Reservation
Peridot Mine

Sat., Oct., 22, 2016 - Harkquahala Mine

Sat., Nov. 5, 2016 - Red Cloud Mine
Sat., Nov. 19, 2016 - Blanchard Mine

Sat., Dec. 3, 2016 - Granite Gap
Sat., Dec. 10, 2016 - Kern Canyon Fossils

Sat., Jan. 14, 2017 - Tombstone Mine Tour
Fri., Jan. 27, 2017 - Mission Mine

Sat., Feb. 18, 2017 - Prism Mine
Sat., Feb. 25, 2017 - Silverbell Mine

Sat., March 11, 2017 - BBC Mine
Sat., March 25, 2017 - Red Cloud Mine

Sat., April 15, 2017 - Round Mountain
Sat., April 29, 2017 - Diamond Point

Sat., May 6, 2017 - Petrified Wood near
Snowflake
Sat., May 20, 2017 - Critic Mine

More details available at the Sept. 12th
TGMS General meeting!

The September 18th - Fat Jack Mine Trip - collecting fee is \$35.00, \$10.00 of which TGMS will pay. Collecting area is about four and a half hours from Tucson. Last couple miles of the ride will require a 4-wheel drive vehicle; those without a 4-wheel drive will be ferried to the site. Fat Jack Mine information sheet will be made available when you sign up ... who you will meet, where you meet, time you will meet, etc. Kerry Towe will have more information at the TGMS General Meeting but, if you are unable to come you, can send Kerry and email; kgt3111@aol.com or call: 520-390-9300.

The September 30th - Duquesne/Empire Mine Trip - collecting fee is \$25.00, of which TGMS will pay \$10.00 - limited to eight people. More information will be forthcoming at the September 12th TGMS General Meeting.

13th Annual Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry Art & Craft Sale

For those of you who would like to participate in our December 3, 2016 sale this year ... Vera Schlichter will be available at the September 12, 2016 General Meeting to answer your questions. Or you can contact her at schlichtervera@gmail.com. Your \$25.00 fee needs to be received to sign up and space is reserved on a "first paid basis!" You will also need to bring your own tables this year and the maximum usable space is 10' front footage.

13th Annual Mineral, Fossil, Jewelry, Art & Craft Sale

Presented by the

TUCSON GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

THE PUBLIC IS INVITED!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2016

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

3727 E. BLACKLIDGE

*2 blocks south of Ft. Lowell,
1/2 block east of Dodge*

FREE COFFEE, LEMONADE, AND HOMEMADE COOKIES!

FREE GIVEAWAYS FOR THE CHILDREN!

*FABULOUS HOLIDAY GIFT SHOPPING, FROM STOCKING
STUFFERS TO WORLD CLASS MINERAL SPECIMENS,
FOSSILS, JEWELRY, AND
MUCH, MUCH MORE!*



ROCK TALK

Encouraging the interest and study in geology, mineralogy, lapidary and allied earth science.

FROM:

T.G.M.S.
P.O. BOX 42588
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85733



TO:

Tucson Gem and Mineral Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 42588
Tucson, AZ 85733

Phone: 520-322-5773
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Twitter: [@TGMSociety](https://twitter.com/TGMSociety)

YouTube: [TGMS Video](https://www.youtube.com/TGMSVideo)

PURPOSE: To encourage interest and study in geology, mineralogy, lapidary, and allied earth sciences.

Meetings: Usually the first Monday of the month, starting at 7:30 p.m., except September (second Monday because of the Labor Day holiday), June-August (potlucks). The TGMS facility address is: 3727 East Blackledge Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85716

The Tucson Gem and Mineral Show ®:

The second full weekend in February, starting with Thursday.

Affiliations: American Federation of Mineralogical Societies, Inc. (AFMS), Rocky Mountain Federation of Mineralogical Societies (RMFMS), Visit Tucson, Tucson Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce (TMCC), Greater Oro Valley Chamber of Commerce

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