

December 2014

Founded 1900

www.VYC.org

P.I.C.Y.A. Club of the Year in 2014, 2013, 2012, 2010, 2009, 2008, 2007 & 2006!



CLUB OFFICERS





COMMODORE REPORT Mark Bauder, Commodore

Hi Shipmates,

Well the holiday season is upon us full swing. The Thanksgiving party was a huge success with around 30 people showing up with lots of food and fellowship! A big Thanks to

everyone who pitched in and made this a great event. This month we have a lot going on as well starting with the lighted boat parade on the 6th. We are having this in conjunction with the City of Vallejo's Christmas tree lighting ceremony so come on down, decorate your boat and let's put on a big parade this year! We will be having our Christmas party on the 19th and need to have people sign up so Amy can prepare a great dinner. We are working on some music for that event as well. The next day (20th) we'll be having our annual Children's party from 11:30 till 2:00 pm. Please bring a toy for the Vallejo Police Department Volunteers Annual Toy Drive - the box is in the hall. There will be a New Year's Eve party as well and we need you to sign up for that one too! Whew - lots going on! Anyone who would like to help with these events, please contact myself or any staff officer. Let's make this holiday season a great one!

Cheers,

Mark Bauder, Commodore



VOICE OF THE VICE John Cole, Vice Commodore

Season's Greetings! I hear that Santa, as usual, is coming by boat.

Caitlin Douglas, with help from Amicia Rodgers, stepped up and prepared 125 dinners for the awards dinner. Many thanks for a delicious meal.

Thanks go to Bill Zerby and the Social Committee for helping stage some of the Club's events. Kudos go to Jim Glenn, Bruce Alexander, Ken Leslie with Chris Mendonca for honoring Bruce Martens with a great dinner and auction.

The South Dock is looking great. Thanks to the many members who helped and especially Eric Ochs.

The 2015 Great Vallejo Race is coming quickly on May

2nd and 3rd. While our various committees are busy preparing for the race, we are still looking for sponsor/ advertisers for the race. Any assistance is greatly appreciated. I want to squash the rumors that earned funds from the Great Vallejo Race will be funneled into a youth boating program. My efforts on behalf of youth boating are separate from the Great Vallejo Race. Thank you to all the volunteers helping this Club move forward.

We had a great teaching session with Kurt Holland from the US Sailing Reach Program. We were engaged in the changing paradigm of teaching and the role boating can play in advancing learning across many disciplines.

Be safe, respectful, and responsible.

— John Cole, Vice Commodore





REAR REPORT Bob Lockhart, Rear Commodore

Thanksgiving was great and December has arrived, so I am looking forward to more of the holiday season activities here at the Club. Check the calendar for dates and times for the lighted boat parade, Tiny Robbins Race #2, the Children's Christmas

Party, the New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance. Remember to make a needy child's Christmas and contribute to the Toy Drive drop-box at the Club. Arrangements for the CRAB FEED on January 24 are well underway. Save the date for you and your guest. The sign-up sheet for dinner reservations will soon be posted. The Cal Maritime Sailing team has again volunteered to serve the crab, pasta, bread, etc., for both sittings. The proceeds from this event benefit the Learn to Sail program, so Dale Anderson and the other Learn to Sail instructors have volunteered to coordinate the auction. Donations of items for the auction can be done through Dale or me. We will need helpful volunteers for table and chair setup, clean-up between the 6 pm and 8 pm sittings, and in the kitchen for food preparation and clean-up. Hope to see everyone there!

- Bob Lockhart, Rear Commodore

December 2014

VALLEJO ≽ YACHT CLUB

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Membership Interviews	3 Bluegrass Jam 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	4 U.S. Coast Guard Auxillary Div 5 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	5	6 VYC Tiny Robbins Midwinter Series #2 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Lighted Boat Parade 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm USCG Coast Guard Christmas Party (Private Event) 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm
7	8	9 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	10 Bluegrass Jam 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	11 Coast Guard Auxillary Flotilla 51 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	12 Sweitzer Mare Isle Luncheon 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	13 Tipton Family Holiday Party 12:00 pm - 7:00 pm
14 WELCOME SOLANO YC (10 boats)	15	16 GEEZER CRUISE 10:00 am - 2:00 pm	17 Bluegrass Jam 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	18 Carquinez Sail & Power Squadron Monthly Meeting	19 WELCOME: NAPA VALLEY YC (8 BOATS) Christmas Party 5:30 pm	20 WELCOME: NAPA VALLEY YC (8 BOATS) VYC Racing Awards Ceremony 5:00 pm - 10:00 pm Children's Christmas Party 11:00 am - 2:00 pm
21	22	23	24 Bluegrass Jam 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm	25 Christmas Day	26	27 Instructor Training Course for LTS
28 Instructor Training Course for LTS	29 Instructor Training Course for LTS	30 Instructor Training Course for LTS	31 New Year's Eve Bluegrass Jam 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm New Year's Eve Dinner/ Gala 5:30 pm	1 New Year's Day	2	3



FPORHS

VYC Historian 2013–2014 What Brings Clark Gable To The Vallejo Yacht Club

A couple months back, shipmate Barbara Brown said she had something for me to put in our VYC history archives. She gave me this photo and paper to go with it. Barbara tells me that this photo was

given to her from her friend Laurie Johnson. Laurie was going through her mother's things, and in one of the boxes a photo surfaced. She wasn't sure who was in the photo, so she decided to post it on Facebook, but the photo appeared to be blurry and unclear. Laurie also noticed in the background, the Vallejo Yacht Club sign. By not getting any good responses, she gave the photo to Barbara because she knew that Barbara was a yacht club member. Thus, starts the search of this mysterious photo.

The Vallejo Museum was contacted and Noble (Barbara's husband) gets an email reply message from the Museum Curator, Jim Kern. The message reads as follows: "Here's what we have at the Museum on Clark Gable. We don't always find the answer so fast, so it's nice when we do!" What was found was a Times Herald article dated Friday, January 16, 1998, written by Marion Devlin. She recalls the day of her meeting and spending the afternoon with him, thus the following article was created:

"I hope you agree with me that good things...and good memories...bear repeating. Because the event I'm recalling gave me column material almost 58 years ago, and I find myself smiling as I remember 'The Day I Met Clark Gable!'

Without a doubt he was the handsomest, the most charming of movie stars, and today when I catch a rerun of one of his old films, I find myself smiling back at him and recalling every detail of that fateful day.

It was in 1940, and Gable had been spending a few days in Napa to be near his wife, Carole Lombard, who was making the film, "They Knew What They Wanted" with Charles Laughton. Those fortunate enough to have met Gable there gave rave reports; he was so friendly, so obviously in love with his wife.

So it was a pleasant surprise that Monday morning when Orvin Gaston, editorial head of our newspaper, received a phone call from an old Napa friend to say that he and Gable were going fishing that day outside the Golden Gate. He told Orvin that Gable was so friendly and outgoing that if Orvin cared to have a reporter at the Vallejo Yacht Club, where they would be in an hour or so, he was sure the star would agree to an interview. How I was lucky enough to be chosen for that assignment I'll never know, but believe me I was grateful.

Orvin decided to go with me and when we drove up to the entrance to Vallejo's old yacht club there stood Gable, handsomer than anyone has a right to be, staring at our Vallejo hills and smiling that Gable grin.

'I like this place,' he enthused. 'It reminds me of home. Wish I had time to see more of it.'

At that point his Napa friend came out and joined us. 'Well you can take an hour to see it,' he told Gable. 'I'll be tied up

here that long and then we'll get to the fishing.'

Gable smiled, but said without a car there wasn't much he could do. And then I amazed myself by saying: 'Well, I have a car, and if you like, I'll give you a short tour.'

Without delay he was sitting alongside me in my dusty little Chevrolet. Orvin slid into the rumble seat, and we took off.... along the channel, then up Georgia Street as I indicated points of interest, driving as slowly as possible in hopes we'd be recognized.

We parked in front of the Times-

Herald business office on Marin Street and I walked in with Clark Gable....well, I still tingle when I think about it. That Gable grin and charm captivated everyone. He signed autographs, he inquired about newspaper equipment, and he made us all feel like kings and queens for a day.

Then someone from the PG&E office, which was right next door, came in to see if it really was Clark Gable there with us, and to ask if he would drop in there too. He would and he did, and then it was time to take him back to the Yacht Club and take off on that fishing trip.

My longtime friend, Louise Stevenson, added a postscript to my Gable story. She was at home that morning when her friend Helen Scofield, called from the PG&E office to tell her of their distinguished visitor. She told Louise he was about to leave for the Yacht Club but if she hurried she might catch a glimpse of him. And hurry Louise did, in time to meet Gable, who flashed the famous grin and signed her autograph 'To Louise.' Then she returned home to face the hanging garage door minus its hinges, and her husband Jack's reaction to her



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REPORTS

carelessness. Louise said that through the years he enjoyed reminding her of the damage she wrought in her eagerness to meet her idol. It was well worth those hinges, wasn't it Louise?"

One of the other papers Barbara gave me was a copy of a photo of Dr. Ervin Casper. It reads: "In 1940, while acting as Commodore of the Vallejo Yacht Club, Ervin hosted movie stars Clark Gable and Carole Lombard on his boat before the pair took 'a casual stroll up Georgia Street,' according to the

Times-Herald."

Thank you Noble and Barbara for bringing this piece of VYC history to us. I think this is one of my most exciting and interesting article that I have ever written. I am happy to share this with all my fellow shipmates here at VYC.

Have the Merriest Christmas and Happiest New Year ever!!

—Toni Borges - Historian

SAFETY REPORT



A quick response saves lives. Practicing quick responses prepares us for emergencies. We must be prepared for the winter months.

Man overboard scare sparks sea search in English Channel.

A "massive search" was launched to find a passenger who was reported missing from a ferry in the English Channel. A witness said they saw someone go overboard from the Pride of Kent ferry about six miles off the coast of Dover at about 01:30 GMT. HM Coastguard initially said it was searching for a missing woman but later said all crew and passengers had been "accounted for safe and well". The search for the missing passenger was stood down after eight hours.

A spokeswoman for HM Coastguard said, "The area has been extensively searched overnight and into this morning with nothing found. All crew and passengers, including the woman believed to be missing, have been accounted for safe and well".

"However, a witness on board the ferry insists they saw someone go overboard. HM Coastguard described the operation as a "massive search". A helicopter from Leeon-Solent was scrambled, four lifeboats from Dungeness, Dover, Walmer and Calais, and a tugboat from the Port of Dover were launched after the passenger was reported missing in the early hours.

Portadown: Elderly woman is rescued from sinking car

A woman's car became submerged in a slipway of the River Bann in Portadown. Four men have been praised for saving the life of the woman as her car sank in the River Bann in County Armagh. Ryan Cummins was passing by a slipway of the river in Portadown on a Friday evening when he and others heard the trapped woman screaming for help. They waded into the river and pulled her to safety, as her car became fully submerged. Mr. Cummins cannot swim. Firefighter Andy Black said the men "acted extremely bravely" and "undoubtedly saved this lady's life". The woman, who is believed to be in her 70s, received medical treatment at the scene.

Mr. Cummins, 25, said, "We arrived and there was a car already half-submerged in the water." He said he could hear the woman calling for help out of her car window and described hearing her screams as "horrific". "Myself and a couple of others ran up to the main road to get help and no one would stop. We ran back down, and at that stage the car was totally submerged, and the next minute the woman popped her head up out of the water.

He then stripped off and waded into the water to rescue the woman. His friend, Glen Martin, and other men linked arms, forming a human chain to the river's edge so the fast-moving current would not sweep them all away. They managed to pull her out of the river, just as fire crews and police arrived at the scene.

I propose late this winter and early spring we begin safety courses to promote good procedures and prompt responses to events and situations to make us safer. If you have safety ideas, courses, or teachers, please put it writing and email or hand it to me.

The Perils of Black Ice

As once again winter approaches in Vallejo, the same safety issues raise their ugly head. Rain, fog and cold weather create a recipe for danger and disaster. Danger is the ice, especially on the head walks in front of south dock which remain in the shade during the winter months. The disaster(s) occur with the sudden impact from the slip and falls. Black ice is invisible, especially in the shade. So be vigilant and report any ice on the head walks.

To be safe out there is to practice being safe.

— John Cole, Safety Manager

PICYA REPORT

VYC Delegate Maggie Sabovich, Commodore Mark Bauder and Vice Commodore John Cole attended the annual November PICYA Awards Dinner at the Encinal Yacht Club, where Commodore Bauder accepted the PICYA Award for 2014 Club of the Year on behalf of the Vallejo Yacht Club, as the VYC earned more than the 250 points required to reach Five Star Club of the Year status for the year 2014! Mark, John and Maggie also earned the VYC four points for their attendance. This year, three other PICYA member clubs also earned five star status. They are Encinal Yacht Club, Richmond Yacht Club and Oakland Yacht Club, so all four will share the large silver Club of the Year trophy.

The first PICYA sponsored event with the opportunity to earn 2015 COTY points was the Fall Management Conference, which was held at the Richmond Yacht Club on Saturday, October 18th. There was an opportunity to earn 15 Club of the Year points for attendance at this event, with 2 points earned per Club Officer or Director, 3 points for each Club Officer-Elect or Director-Elect for 2015, 2 points per PICYA OYC delegate, and 1 point for each club member attending.

Attending were Commodore Elect Mark Bauder, Vice Commodore Elect John Cole, Staff Commodore Elect John Van Vessem, Director Elect Bill Zerby, VYC Manager Johnathan Douglas and PICYA Delegate Maggie Sabovich, which earned the OYC the15 Club of the Year points possible to start the 2015 COTY point year off with a bang!

The next opportunity for the VYC to earn 10 COTY points is the submission of the PICYA Yachting Yearbook fleet, member and officer data and photos by the announced deadline to the current PICYA yearbook publisher, Patti Mangan. Patti told me informally at the Encinal meeting that the deadline for that information should be by the end of the year, rather than the November 15th date that had been established by the previous Yachting Yearbook publisher. I received an email from her that earlier would be better, but for point count purposes, Dec. 31st, 2014 stands. Patti Mangan's email address for submission of VYC's information is: patti@imaginethatsf.com

The following PICYA event where Club of the Year points may be earned is the PICYA Commodore's Ball and Installation of Officers which will be held at the St. Francis Yacht Club on Saturday, January 24th beginning with cocktails at 5:30 PM, dinner at 7 PM, and Installation of 2015 PICYA new officers at 8 PM. Reservations must be made by January 10th, 2015. The cost is \$80.00 per person, and PICYA will be subsidizing another \$15.00 of that amount, as the St. Francis quoted us a price of \$95.00 per person. There is an opportunity to earn 6 Club of the Year points for the attendance of an VYC current Club Officer and 4 points for the attendance of the PICYA Delegate/Club member.

PICYA's next regular monthly meeting will be Monday, February 2nd at the Benicia Yacht Club, as there are no meetings in December and the Installation of Officers is in January.

RBOC: There is an opportunity for the VYC to earn five Club of the Year points for mailing or emailing 10 responses to the first RBOC Call to Action of the year, which addresses the infestation of the water hyacinth into many of our Delta waterways, to the point where private boats and large ships cannot negotiate their way into either their harbors or into the port of Stockton. Ten VYC members need to either mail or email their concerns to the email address below or by mail to RBOC offices in Sacramento at: Recreational Boaters of California, 925 L Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 OR RBOC CALL TO ACTION: http://www.rboc. org/call-to-action/

RBOC UPDATE & CALL TO ACTION - DELTA

November 15, 2014

RBOC is urging boaters to immediately contact their elected representatives, urging them to take emergency action to address the infestation of invasive water hyacinth that is blocking waterways in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta with devastating impacts on boating recreation as well as marine-related businesses. States RBOC President Karen Rhyne: "We are hearing many excuses on why water hyacinth has taken control of the Delta, from the drought increasing water temperatures, to delayed permit approvals for critical spraying, to fast-approaching deadlines for spraying to be completed. The Delta boating community needs to hear that the state is acting with urgency and with dedication, and that the state is committed to resolve this disaster as soon as possible."

Key point for your contacts:

0.I urge you to press the state agencies including the Natural Resources Agency to act with urgency and with dedication, and a commitment to resolve the water hyacinth infestation disaster in the Delta. It should be noted that State Senator Cathleen Galgiani [D-Stockton] is working with other Delta legislators to schedule a panel discussion on December 15 to identify actions that can be taken to address the water hyacinth infestation. RBOC has advocated consistently for sufficient boater funds to be dedicated by the state to timely efforts to prevent the spread of this water hyacinth and other invasive species. The state Division of Boating and Waterways within State Parks has a leadership role, and is authorized to spend boater-generated taxes and fees for this program. However, the infestation this year is the worst in memory, with boats unable to leave their slips, waterways completely blocked, and marina businesses brought to a standstill. The Delta ecosystem is placed at risk with native wildlife starved of oxygen. Water usage, especially for agriculture, can be diminished with clogged water infrastructure. Continues President Rhyne: "RBOC is engaged with other stakeholders and organizations, as well as elected officials at all levels of government, in an effort to develop a short-term resolution as well as to establish a structure to prevent this situation from occurring in the future."

RBOC is the nonprofit advocacy organization that works to protect and enhance the interests of the state's recreational boaters before the legislative and executive branches of state and local government. RBOC is in its 46th year as a statewide organization promoting the enjoyment, protection, and responsible use of our waterways.

-Maggie Sabovich, PICYA Delegate



THE SHIP'S STORE



Hello Shipmates,

Thank you to all of you that helped me plan and provide the Ship's Store Fall Luncheon and Fashion Show!! It was a success again this year with the help of Chef Amy who prepared the delicious food! The parmesan and pepper biscotti was made by me with the help of Cooky Longo!

Don't forget to look in the Ship's Store for some of your Christmas presents this year! Remember that sailor girl or boy needs stuff for their boats and sailing gear, we have both!! Think about stocking stuffers

too!!

If you want to order something special for Christmas, please let us know soon so we can get it ordered! Example would be your boat name on your sailing attire or gear or how about a gift of towels for someone with their boat name!

Hope you all had a very Happy Thanksgiving and looking forward to Christmas and all the festivities surrounding the holidays!!

- Respectfully submitted by Barbara Brown, Ships Store Chairperson

House Committee Report "Do what you can, when you can, if you can." —Joe Balocca



Where does the time go? Thanksgiving blindsided us and now Christmas is nearly here. Suggestions have been made regarding Club decorations, tree, etc. If any members would like to get involved decorating the Club, please talk to me or Felicia in the office.

During the holidays, more members and guests will be coming to enjoy our Club so let's remember to return all glasses to the bar, bus our tables, and throw away our trash.

New policy? Nope, it's old but many members aren't familiar with it. If you bring a bottle of wine into the

familiar with it. If you bring a bottle of wine into the Club, there is a \$4 corkage fee per bottle. You can pay the bartender or dinner cashier.

The Vallejo Police Dept. has placed a toy collection box by the Club bulletin board. All members are urged to support their effort. A new \$10 toy from you might be the only present some child receives for Christmas.

Please check the Binnacle calendar for dates and times of Club holiday events. Of course, Friday night dinners will continue, as well as Monday Night football. How about Sunday Night football?

—Ken Leslie, House Chairman



We send our prays and best wishes for the speedy recovery of Reverend Jeanne Forte our Chaplain. She suffered a bad fall spraining an ankle and breaking the other leg.





Deborah and Richie Barron

Deborah and Richie recently moved to Vallejo from Sacramento and moved their boat "Blues Crew" here. Prior to Sacramento they lived in Marin County for many years absent for a couple of years to own and operate Dr. Tequila's Roadhouse, Rock, Blues & BBQ. Before going to law school, Deborah graduated from the culinary academy and worked at a French restaurant. Deborah was a former member of the Richmond Yacht Club where she was active in sailing and also served on the Board as Events Chair. Richie is now semi-retired from taking his band on the road but still plays casinos, festivals and private events in California and Nevada. He has a number of CDs out, the most recent "Dr. Tequila's

Prescription for Fun." Richie is also a DJ and produces a radio show out of Malibu called "Dr. Tequila's Cantina" on Flying Eye Radio.

Deborah is a practicing attorney and manages Barron Law Corporation located in Sacramento and San Francisco, a full service law firm for businesses and individuals. Deborah is also opening a third office at the Vallejo Marina doing business as Law Master. The new facility at the old Harbor Master's office will also be utilized by Richie and Deborah for planning waterfront events and festivals in a series branded "Vallejo, Waterfront Gateway to the Wine Country". These events will involve wine tasting and a music and entertainment stage. They are working with the City Planning Department on these events.

Deborah and Richie look forward to volunteering for events at the Club. Richie would make a great Social Director. Having run a bar and club, he has the personality and the experience.

Deborah has a son, Jesse Hall, who lives in Healdsburg with his wife Emma. Jesse and Emma are both excellent winemakers and work for local wineries. Richie's son, Derrick, is a drummer in a Seattle band and his daughter, Dawndra, manages a restaurant there, as well as being a talented and sought after professional photographer. Deborah's parents, Mary and John Hall, live in Berkeley and are lifetime members of the Richmond Yacht Club. Deborah's godfather and uncle is Jim Dewitt, the famous yacht artist from Pt. Richmond.

VYC Wins the P.I.C.Y.A. Wilder Award for the Best Newsletter in 2014

Congratulations to the VYC for winning The PICYA Newsletter Contest, also known as the Wilder Award, for 'Best Newsletter in 2014'. Newsletter was judged on content, writing, editing, design, photography, print quality and effective and timely communication of information regarding activities at our Club. It takes a team to produce the Binnacle and we would like to thank the following who contributed to the Binnacle every month this year:

Cathy Van Vessem, Editor John Van Vessem Mark Bauder, Wheeler Sonoma Printers John Cole Maggie Sabovich

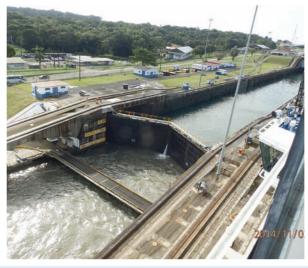
Barbara Brown **Toni Borges** Ken Leslie John Douglas



VYC Members Sail Through the Panama Canal on a Princess Cruise



John and Cathy Van Vessem, Linda Cowgill and Roger Smith, Penny and Ralph Hyde, Ray Hickey, Jenny and Leon Lucchesi











ANNOUNCEMENTS

VALLEJO ≽ YACHT CLUB



December Birthdays

Cheryl Lockhart Denise White Craig Butler Jim Stevens Jay Chagnon Penelope Hyde Mary Kraybill Edward Stohsner Ludmir Kyjovsky D'Anne Weitzman Marlene Phifer Ken Hall William Kreysler Woodrow Shiflett P/C John Karuzas Toni Silveria Janet Gonzalez-Mena David Nadolne Frank Gonzalez-Mena Glen Speckert Bruce Alexander James Sobolewski John Cole Jeremy Harvey Victoria Cramer John Marshall Cathy Van Vessem Maureen Snoddy Jeffrey Berger Daniel Keppler Media Medcroft Dan Payne Douglas McConnon P/C Robert Luce Tuuli Messer-Bookman Lew Bornschein Carl Chaker James Hendricks Bill Zerby Mark Bauder Gary Domingo Keith Tipton Dan Gordon P/C Dave Snoddy Christine Wills	Lisa Kaplowitz	
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Rear Commodore	Bob Lockhart
Staff Commodore	. John Van Vessem
Treasurer	Bruce Alexander
Secretary	. Maggie Sabovich
Port Captain	Guy Nadeau
Fleet Captain	Dave Nadolne
Fleet Captain Power	TBD
Fleet Captain Cruise	Noble Brown
Bar Manager	Clare Harmon
Club Manager	John Douglas

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Chairman	Chris Mendonca
Director	Elvin Valverde
Director	Tom Ochs
Director	Ken Leslie
Director	Bill Zerby
Director	Mike Coleman

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Membership	Keith Clark
Grounds	P/C Dave Snoddy
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