September Speaker

Fly Fishing Western Tailwaters with Ed Engle

ur September speaker will be

Ed Engle from Colorado
Springs, Colorado. Ed presented a highly informative, educational and entertaining talk to the
Golden State Flycasters last month, and we are excited to welcome him to our club this month. Try to come early as Ed has promised to tie some flies before the presentation!

Fly Fishing Western Tailwaters will be the subject of Ed's slide presentation. In this popular program, which came out of research conducted for his book, Fly Fishing the Tailwaters, Ed offers an in depth explanation of how tailwaters differ from unregulated freestone rivers and the best strategies and tactics for successfully fishing them. Basic tailwater biology is discussed along with aquatic insects and non-insect trout foods common to tailwaters throughout the West. Much of the information included applies to

REMINDER

Volunteer hosts for the September meeting (report at 6:15 PM):

Hal Herritt and Maria Goldman

Thank you, Mona Morebello

Hometown Fishing Holes

by Gary Strawn

tailwater fisheries through the United States.

Tactics for flyfishing western tailwaters are covered in depth including dead-drift nymphing, midge fishing, and dry fly tactics for selective tailwater trout. Special tailwater fly patterns and how to fish them are discussed along with fly rod selection. Particular attention is given to fishing the small flies that are so often crucial to tailwater success.

Finally, the presentation will discuss environmental dangers faced by tailwaters throughout the West and what is being done to preserve them.

Let's be sure to ask Ed for a story or two about fishing with his friends John Geirach and A.K.Best! Don't miss this presentation!

-Marty Reed

MEETING NOTICE

Monday, September 8th, 2003 7:30 PM Sequoia Elementary School 4690 Limerick Ave. (See map on back page) hose of you that may remember the drivel I have written previously for this newsletter, know that I will fish almost anywhere there is water. As a relative newcomer to the sport and one who travels a lot on business, I take every chance I can to go fishing—Tennessee tail waters, Hawaii surf, New England, Utah, Maryland or Alabama. But, we live in San Diego! That isn't all bad! We are within a days (long) drive of some of the country's greatest trout fishing. We have "Jack Bentley's world famous fishing adventures", lakes:



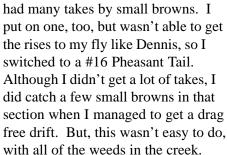
continued on page 4

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: SEPTEMBER 2003

In July, I went to fish Hot Creek with my friend, **Dennis Ditmars**. We had some great fishing on the public section in the past, so we were hoping for another memorable trip to the creek this time. On previous trips, we fished upstream up to the fenced border of the private Hot Creek Ranch. Both he and I have had some great

days on that section, but this trip, we went downstream towards the geothermal area... you know, where it says "Danger" and "Keep Out".

Dennis prefers dry flies, so he put on a small Schroeder's Parachute Hopper, and



When we started fishing that Friday morning, there was only one or two fly fishers on the creek. But, by lunchtime, there was a person at each good run.

Hot Creek is still worth fishing. But it still holds that you should try to fish the creek on



WARREN LEW

weekdays...and get there early!

At the fly tying roundtable last month, I was glad to see **Bob Camp** had come. We talked a little about the Green River, and during our conversation, Bob asked me to convey his thanks to all of you for your telephone calls and cards. He is pleased that

the donation of his fly fishing equipment will go towards conservation and the promotion of our sport, and wanted you to know.

In the August issue of the Finny Facts, in my article about the Casting Clinic, I forgot to mention a hardworking Club volunteer, **Marv**Darling. Marv is a regular instructor on Sundays at Lake Murray, and one of the better casters in the Club. He enjoys helping the beginners that come out to the lake, and somehow I missed getting him in the group picture. Sorry, Marv!

I know all of you who went to the Club outing at Tom Loe's on

Saturday, August 9th, had a great time. **Art Reifman**, our treasurer, put it all together. Thank you, Art, for all your work in putting that activity together, and setting it up with Tom, so that we could fish together and have some fun! (Let's keep Tom Loe's pond a Club secret.)

Be sure to hear Ed Engle's presentation at the September meeting. You will be a better nymph fisher with his tips.

San Diego Youth Fishing Improving

Joe Bain is still hard at work to improve the fishing experience for San Diego youngsters. When I last spoke to him, he had finished the information kiosk at Lake Chollas. The back of the kiosk now has information about identifying various butterflies, birds, and small animals that live nearby.

He's hoping to have plenty of fishing equipment available for anyone who doesn't have a fishing rod and reel.



Volunteers Needed for National Hunting and Fishing Day

n Saturday, September 27th the San Diego Fly Fishers will participate in the second local National Hunting and Fishing Day program. Last year over 20 local sporting groups, including San Diego Fly Fisher's, Pheasants Forever, Quail Un-

limited, and others, offered displays, booths, and programs to over 1,500 people.

We are looking for volunteers to help us on September 27th. We will offer fly tying and casting demonstrations. Six of us helped out last year and we had a great time.

If you would like to volunteer, please e-mail Jim Tenuto at





FROM THE DESK OF THE CLUB BIOLOGIST

Carp Fishing Gaining Popularity with Fly Fishers

hances are good that members

of our club
who have
deliberately planned
(and did) fish for carp
with fly gear are no
more than the total of
fingers on both hands,
or for that matter
accidentally hook one
on-the-fly. If that
happened, the
"cuss"tomary phrase-



BOB WISNER

ology would likely be "darned old carp" and the strong pull it gave was soon forgotten, particularly if the bigscaled thing weighed only a pound or so. Carp are (were) junk fish no doubt about it. Common wisecrack will was (is?) to suggest rearranging the spelling until you achieve "crap".

Start changing, fellow fly-flingers. The once lowly carp is here to stay in the sport-fishing world (read fly-fishing). Its fortunes will continue to rise as long as it can outfight a same sized trout. Within a sizable increasing circle of fly men the carp is becoming a target fish and is being increasingly sought-after. It is rapidly garnering the reputation of prime sport fish that commonly attains 20 pounds. And can reach 50. Good tackle is a must when you go for such "trash" on which to spend big and travel far. Trout are introduced into tail waters of rivers that historically held carp, which were just there and not as a sport fish. The Lees Ferry

section of the Colorado River is an

example. Carp where there long before the famed present trout fishery existed, but likely no one thought of carp under those lovely waters. But they are there. The group from the club (and me) where on the midsection, wading a quiet area when a large school of large carp

showed. They ignored our hastily rigged and cast flies (another site was a group of cattle at water's edge). If the river should warm a bit some enterprising guide may organize a carp trip there.

Other fly guides have, according to the July-October '03 Fly Rod and Reel, and the July-August North American Fishermen. These two stories heaped high praise on fly-fishing for carp on the Rocky Flats of Lake Michigan. They are there and the differences can't be much better. Both are terrific fighters and both usually take a fly readily; both live and look feed on shallow flat bottoms. Carp flats fishing is as addictive as is bonefish—only much cheaper to gear up for and spend megabucks for travel. Tackle is the same-8 to 10 weights for carp. British Hardy Brothers have made a 10-foot carp rod for more than 100 years.

Bones take a fly more readily than will carp (any size). Fishermen who try for carp say that they are more spooky than bones. Guide Butz believes that even the when we "damn the damned carp" we are at heart envious of its size and wish we could find a way to get one to hit flies readily. They will, but on their own terms. Guide McCool says carp fishing is as addictive as is saltwater flats fishing, only much cheaper. Anyway, bonefish have a much more efficient press agent than do carp. You'll get as much or more from a Lake Michigan carp trip than you would soaking your shins on some famed bonefish expedition thousands of dollars distant.

Flies for carp are a rather common kind—not those gimmicked-up creations you often hear associated with carp- messy doughballs, mulberries, and the cigarette butt imitations. In Lake Michigan, the clouser crayfish, black and brown woolly buggers and medium-sized helgramites and stonefly nymphs work best; trout food—size for size.

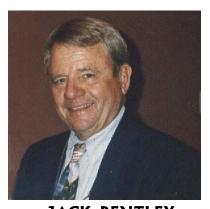
Carp do have some bad habits, such as rooting and muddying the bottom destroying the eggs and larvae of "sport "fish. These bad habits, and the general anti-carp sentiments, have caused Michigan to ban of possession of live Asian carp and snakeheads and eggs of each species. Better hurry the plans for your carp trip.





FROM THE TRAVEL CHAIRMAN





JACK BENTLEY

Any Questions?

Call Jack Bentley at

Jack Has Information on Fishing in New Mexico

Sorry that the Club trip to the San Juan River was cancelled but I have information that may be of interest to those of you who may be planning your own trip. The Inn on the Alemeta is a nice hotel destination in Santa Fe, New Mexico for those of you looking for fishing and overnight lodging.

I have information on other destinations in the West for hotels and fishing guides. Call me for futher details.

Hometown Fishing Holes continued from page 1

Cuyamaca, Murray, San Vicente, Miramar and others, and great saltwater fishing in our surf and bays. But, sometimes, early on a Saturday morning or after work on a summer evening, I get the urge to fling a fly and don't have time for any of the above. For years I have driven, hiked, flown over and wondered about the numerous "ponds" along the San Diego River basin. From a distance they all look inviting, but many of the access points can be cluttered with trash. In the summer, they can be clogged with weeds. But "fishing is fishing", so I persevered. I have found several very serene ponds with reasonable access and lots of fish. I always carry a couple of trash bags in my float tube and over a few months, with some help from other fisherman, most of my favorite spots are now as clean as many you will find in the Sierras. The wildlife is prolific, and I seldom see or hear another human being. It is as if I were miles into the wilderness but still within walky talky range of home



when dinner calls.

The fishing is great. I've seen large-mouth bass up to 10 pounds (caught on live bait), and I've caught several in the 2 to 4 pound range. A big bass leaping on a popper is about as exciting as it gets! I often use a size 10 to 14 zug bug as a dropper. I catch some big (14 inch) crappie and a lot of blue gill. I've become quite fond of

catching the big crappie. Some evenings I will forget the bass fly and just fish the zug bug, letting it settle slowly near the weed banks. When a big crappie hits it, just hang on. No need to set the hook. They will do that for you, and then they will fight like crazy. I've also been surprised to pull in a largemouth that had almost straightened the hook on the little zug bug stuck in his lip. The bass usually put up less fight than a much smaller blue gill or crappie, but they can leap.

Sometimes, when coming back from the river, dragging a float tube covered with algae, I hear comments like:

"aren't you concerned about the pollution". Well, yes I am! So I've volunteered for the San Diego Regional Water Quality Board's Stream Team. It is a State sponsored effort to monitor the various watersheds in San Diego County. Twice a year, small teams of volunteers, trained and led by professionals, travel over the county to evaluate the condition of our rivers and streams. During their training and

continued on next page



Hometown Fishing Holes continued from previous page

practice session, I was pleased to learn that their most effective tool is measuring the diversity of "benthic macroinvertebrates". In other words, they count and classify the aquatic insects, primarily caddis, mayflies, stoneflies and damselflies, to determine the health of the river. I saw an amazing number of small mayfly and large damsel fly nymphs swimming in the bottom of our sampling pan. That gave me the idea to tie some zug bugs and retrieve them slowly, to mimic the damsel fly nymphs. It works! To learn more about the San Diego Stream Team, I suggest their web sites: http://sdstreamteam.org/ and http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/ index.html.

The bottom line is that while our local rivers are far from being native habitat,



they are healthier than most of us imagine, and we can actively participate in making them better. Several club members have mentioned their experiences fishing the local rivers. Allen Greenwood can tell stories of largemouth attacking small poppers on the lower reaches of Penasquitos Creek. Our conservation committee is involved in the San Mateo Creek steelhead project, and is participating with Mission Trails Park on investigating the eventual possibility of introducing native trout into portions of the San Diego River. The San Diego Stream Team is always looking for volunteers to collect and/or process the samples. I am interested in talking to any club members who want to get involved, or to just swap fish stories.

Bob Camp Conservation Fund Silent Auction To Continue In October

By Gary Hilbers

he Silent Auctions to raise money for the **Bob Camp Conservation Fund** will continue at the Oct. 6th meeting. There will be many great items available including a Sage 5wt, 4pc rod, a Hardy Brothers Princess reel with extra spools and lines, several boxes of flies, art work, books and much more. The items that didn't sell at the July meeting will be there with a lower minimum bid. This will be a great opportunity to help a very important part of our sport and pick up some great deals at the same time.



Beginning Fly Tying Starts Sept. 18th

by Gary Hilbers

e will be starting a beginning fly tying class on Thursday, Sept. 18, 2003. The class will be held at the San Carlos Recreation Center from 6:30 - 8:30 PM on Thursday nights and will run for eight weeks ending November 6th. There will be a \$15 fee to cover the cost of material. All material except thread will be provided. You will need to provide your own tools. The minimum tools you will need to get started are a vice, scissors and a bobbin with thread (black 3/0 for the first night). If you do not have these items, we do have some loaners to get you started.

This is a beginning class and is geared toward the people who have never

taken a fly tying class. We will cover basic techniques and methods that will enable you to understand what you need to do to tie a pattern that you have not received specific instructions on. We will also discuss a variety of topics related to fly tying such as tools, material, hooks, books, etc. Each night we will tie a pattern that is a proven fish catcher, but more importantly will incorporate techniques you will you use in the future. There will be homework! Because this is a beginning class and space is limited, priority will be given to those who have never taken a class before. If the class is not filled, additional students will be taken on a first come first served basis. You can sign up at Stroud's Tackle or Lasoya will have the sign up sheet at the Sept. 8th meeting.



The August Fly Tying Roundtable

By Warren Lew

Last month, several Club members shared some of their favorite fly patterns. Tying one of my favorite flies, was Dave Collins, who showed us how to tie the Elk Hair Caddis. I'm glad Dave tied this one at the meeting, as it is one of the standard patterns that I carry.

Another favorite of mine, the Stimulator, was demonstrated by Jim Reeg. This is a great fly, and Jim showed us how to palmer hackle to get a good looking fly that catches fish.

Louie Zimm, at the far end of

the main table, tied one of his favorites, the Clouser Minnow. This is an excellent fly to know how to tie, as they are effective in both salt water and fresh water. So, I hope you paid attention!

A Club member who is always willing to help and loves to fish is Lucky Ketcham. He is an great tier, and anyone who stopped to watch him tie, had a terrific teacher.

An excellent tier, and a woman who is always ready to share

fishing tips and fly tying information, is Gretchen Yearous. She tied the Bunny Leech, which she has fished with great success!

Gary Hilbers, tied several articulated Leech patterns on an adjacent table. There was quite a bit of interest here, as when I stopped by, I had a difficult time seeing. Some of you have some very large heads!

Thank you fly tiers for giving us those valuable tips on tying better flies!



Dave Collins tying his elk hair caddis. (was Dave happy that night or was it the open bottle of head cement?)



Louie Zimm tied Clouser minnows.



The August Fly Tying Roundtable continued from previous page



Gary Hilbers tied articulated leech patterns.

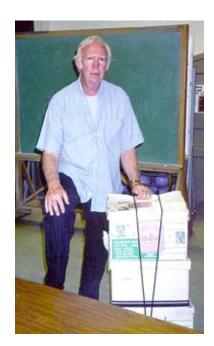


Gretchen Yearous tied her fish catching bunny leech.

Who's Who in the SDFF

Buck Parker manages our Resource Library. Next time you see him, be sure to tell him how much you appreciate his bringing the videos and DVDs to meetings!

The Club allocates funds to purchase more titles for the Library. If



there is any video or DVD you would like to see added, please let Buck know.

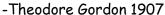


Showing their favorite fly patterns: Gretchen Yearous, Jim Reeg, David Collins, (not pictured: Louie Zimm, Lucky Ketcham, and Gary Hilbers)



Quotes

The great charm of fly-fishing is that we are always learning; no matter how long we have been at it, we are constantly making some fresh discovery, picking up some new wrinkle. If we become conceited through great success, some day the trout will take us down a peg.





FLY OF THE MONTH

Terry's Hoppers (say that 3 times as fast as you can)

Hook: 3x long dry fly, size 4-8 left, 10-12 right - I like 200 rbl

Thread: Tan or Yellow (match body)

Body Hackle: Brown hackle clipped short (when body is poly yarn, hopper on right)

Body: Tan or Yellow round foam segmented (left hopper)

Tan or Yellow Polly Yarn (right hopper or smaller hook size)

Wing: Swiss Straw (both) medium or dark brown

Legs: Pheasant knotted (left) Rubber knotted (right) I prefer rubber on both

Head: Natural Elk tied bullet style (both)
Indicator: Yellow Polly Yarn doubled (both)



- 1) Lay on a thread base
- 2) Tie on body hackle if making a Poly Yarn body
- 3) Tie on poly yarn & wrap to cover 2/3 of hook, wrap forward body hackle & trim short

Or

- 4) Tie on foam at rear so it covers 2/3's of hook and segment body forward
- 5) Tie on Swiss Straw wing to just cover body
- 6) Tie on legs at sides of body
- 7) Clean, stack, & tie on elk hair bullet style so it covers 2/3's of wing, cut hair from bottom of fly so it sits down in the skim
- 8) Lay poly yarn on top lengthwise & tie in, pull both ends up so it is doubled and post wrap it, & clip to length.
- 9) Whip finish & apply cement to bullet head and thread that ties on legs & indicator

It is a little different tying on the indicator last, but it makes it a much easier tie doing it this way, and if you don't want the indicator you can leave it off.

I "dirty" up the tan foam with a brown permanent marker, and color the segment thread wraps on the yellow foam with the same marker. The body hackle does the trick when using the poly yarn.

I want to thank Gary, Tom, & Larry for teaching me to tie, anyone who doesn't tie, should. These guys are great teachers and have become good friends.

Thanks

Terry Loose



FROM THE CONSERVATION CHAIR

SHERRY BRAINERD

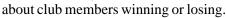
SDFF Annual Raffle Supports Local and Regional Fishing Conservation Organizations

o all of the club members who participated in

this year's annual raffle.

THANK YOU!

What's that you are saying? Why am I being thanked for trying to win that great rod/reel/vise/etc.? Isn't it all about winning more stuff? Well, of course, you can never have enough fly fishing stuff, but the annual club raffle really isn't



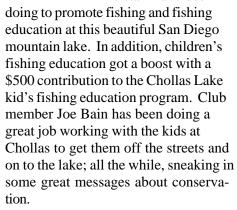
Every year the San Diego Fly Fishers membership does something really wonderful for the future of our sport. We contribute to the raffle to support local and regional fishing conservation and education organizations. And, occasionally, we take home some really great toys, too. This year's raffle allowed us to contribute a total of \$5,000 to conservation and education related activities.

For those of you that fish throughout the Western U.S., you have undoubtedly run into the effects of whirling disease. It continues to impact rivers in many states, and the organization that is fighting it's spread, the Whirling Disease Foundation, nearly had to close their doors this year because of cutbacks in donor funding. They contributed to our raffle, and we, in turn, provided them with \$250 to continue their research and fight against the disease.

Local San Diego organizations were high on our contribution list this year.

The San Diego County Wildlife





A relatively new local organization, the San Diego River Park Foundation, is working with many San Diego folks to restore and enhance the San Diego River. For those of you that don't realize it, we have a wonderful watershed that runs all the way from Julian to the ocean. It traverses everything from beautiful backcountry to Mission Valley, and it used to be a really neat river. Over the years, San Diego has managed to divert much of its water and put the river in concrete channels, but we haven't killed it. Several club members actually have been quite

successful while fishing it (notably, Gretchen Yearous & Gary Strawn). We are supporting the Foundation's river restoration efforts with a \$750 contribution.

Finally, two amazingly good state and national organizations, California Trout and Trout Unlimited, received \$1,250 each. Cal Trout continues to fight for our sport throughout California. When it comes to habitat and watershed protection, and endangered fish survival, Cal Trout is always there to fight the good fight. Trout Unlimited also is very engaged in California issues. They now have more national board of directors members from California than from any other state. They are working through their Western Water Project to protect and enhance stream flows, they are building significant local and regional coalitions to protect fish habitat, and they are making sure that native fish have the best possible chance at survival. We are truly lucky to have such great organizations working on our behalf.

For those of you that would like more information about any of these groups, feel free to talk to me at an upcoming meeting. Or, if you are connected to the internet, check out the following web sites: www.Whirling-Disease.org, www.Shocwf.org, www.SanDiegoRiver.org, www.CalTrout.org, and <a href="https://www.TU.org.

Once again, thank you. Thank you for caring enough to support education and conservation efforts that will insure that our children and grandchildren will be able to have even better fly fishing experiences than we enjoy today.



Chollas Lake Kiosk Receives Additional Panels

arlier this year, with club funding, Joe Bain designed, built, and installed a wonderful educational kiosk at Lake Chollas. For the young fishers, his kiosk is providing fishing tips, a conservation message, and an introduction to entomology.

Since the dedication ceremony in February, Joe has made some improvements. To the rear of the original kiosk, he added some panels with information on bird, butterfly, and small animal identification. He did a great job, and I encourage you to go to the lake and see it.

Joe is a great supporter of youth fishing, and is a "doer". Despite the difficulties in getting a project such as this one completed, he saw it through for the benefit of all the young fishers who like to cast their lines in Chollas Lake.

But, he doesn't see the kiosk as the end of his vision. For these young people to enjoy fishing, Joe feels that they should not be limited just because of their family's income. So, he is collecting all types of fishing equipment, not just fly fishing gear, to be loaned at the Lake.

Joe is planning to build another kiosk at Lake Murray, and to have a youth fishing equipment loan program there too. If you having any conventional or fly fishing rods or reels to donate, please contact Joe at

--Warren Lew



Joe Bain with one of the panels added to the Chollas Lake educational kiosk.



Refer for the Station of the Station

The Chollas Lake kiosk, funded by the SDFF.



A happy Julie Bain, who is glad to have all of the kiosk material out of her house.



FREE CASTING LESSONS EVERY SUNDAY 9 AM--NOON

Join the San Diego Fly Fishers at Lake Murray to cast or improve your skills. Free instruction is available.

Bring your own equipment or use the club equipment, available from one of the instructors.

DIRECTIONS--

Take Interstate 8 to Lake Murray Boulevard. Go north on Lake Murray Boulevard to Kiowa Drive.

Turn left and look for people casting just as you enter the park. That's our bunch.

Cutoff date for October FINNY FACTS articles---Friday September 12th

Send articles to: Rose and Roger Yamasaki, 5415 Lodi Place San Diego, CA 92117 858-274-2712.

You can E-mail at Thanks!!

Send change of address information or Club membership renewal to:

Gordie Zimm

STROUD TACKLE

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HONORARY MEMBERS

Jim Brown, Louisa Kassler (in memoriam), Hugh Marx, Randy Ford, Allen Greenwood

Winners of the:

GORDON FOSTER MEMORIAL AWARD

For unselfish and outstanding service to the flyfishing community

1991-Ned Sewell

1992-Bob Camp

1993-Bill & Eileen Stroud

1994-Ed Velton

1995-Bob Wisner

1996-Gary Hilbers

1997-Jack Bentley

1998-Gordie Zimm

1999-Gretchen Yearous

2000-Tom Smith

2001-Rose & Roger Yamasaki

2002-Larry Sorensen



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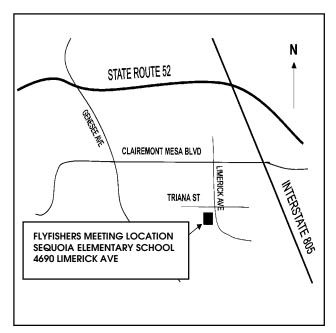
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Rod Building- Tom Smith
TripsJack Bentley,
Video & LibraryBuck Parker,
Web Page- David Collins
www.sandiegoflyfishers.com
Women's Education
Focus-

Gretchen Yearous

Meeting Place for Workshops San Carlos Recreation Center near Lake Murray. (We no longer meet at the Lake Murray Water Training Facility at Lake Murray). The address is 6445 Lake Badin Ave. To get there from Hwy. 8, take the Lake Murray Blvd. exit just like you were going to the lake. Instead of turning into Kiowa, keep going on Lake Murray Blvd. another 1.6 miles. When you come to Lake Adlon Drive, (first corner past Jackson Dr.) turn left. Go down three blocks and the recreation center will be on your right. It is on the corner of Lake Adlon and Lake Badin.



San Diego Flyfishers Headquarters Stroud Tackle 1457 Morena Blvd. San Diego, CA 92110 619-276-4822



1457 Morena Boulevard San Diego, California 92110 www.sandiegoflyfishers.com 619.276.4822

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