



PACIFIC SECTION, SEPM

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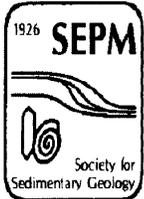
REMINDER: In an effort to "Go Green" and remain cost-effective, the PS-SEPM Newsletter is now issued in electronic version ONLY. However, members without Email access may still obtain hard copies for an extra fee....*Please Refer To Membership Form inside.*

Newsletter Editor
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FALL 2009 FIELD TRIP ISSUE

See also: PS-SEPM web site: www.sci.sdsu.edu/pacsepm

For more information, including current list of publications available for sale



PACIFIC
SECTION

Pacific Sedimentologist

2009 FALL FIELD TRIP ISSUE

Newsletter of the Pacific Section, SEPM
(Society for Sedimentary Geology)



View West at Near Pont Beach, SW Santa Cruz Island. SW-dipping Miocene stratigraphic section exposed includes Vaqueros, Rincon, San Onofre Breccia and Blanca Formations, overlain by Quaternary terrace. Photo courtesy of J. Boles.

volume 81, issue 2

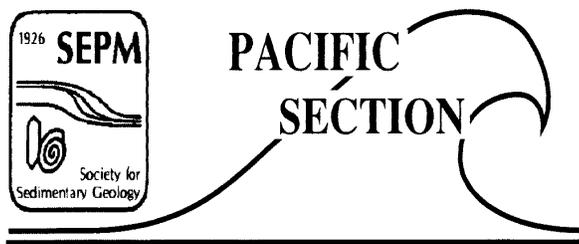
August, 2009

TWO FIELD TRIPS THIS FALL!

"In-Person" Trip To Santa Cruz Island, September 17-20, 2009

And

"Virtual Field Trip" To Examine the Geology Of Mars (Date TBD)



PS-SEPM President's Message

It seems such a short time since I became President at the Pacific Section SEPM barbecue last September during our fall field trip. Since then, the officers and volunteers of your Society have helped organize and host the very successful annual spring meeting in Ventura, and prepared for the fall field trip to Santa Cruz Island 17-20 September. Registration details for the field trip are contained in this newsletter. Register early if you know you will go because it is likely to fill up quickly. Note that there will be room for only a few students, who must apply by describing how attendance on this trip would further their education and/or research. The exact number of students accepted on the trip will be determined by the number of paying registrants and the number of student applicants.

Because the SCI field trip has limited enrollment, we are working to arrange a unique additional field trip this fall. Plans are preliminary, but we hope to have a virtual field trip to Mars, emphasizing sedimentology and stratigraphy (sorry, no paleontology yet), conducted either at Caltech or JPL. Details are being worked out. We will send an electronic announcement as soon as we know more.

Plans are progressing for the joint PSSEPM-PSAAPG-CSGSA meeting in Anaheim 27-29 May 2010. It is sure to be the premier West Coast geological meeting of 2010, so plan on attending. There will be several excellent field trips, theme sessions and symposia. Contact any of your officers for additional information or to provide suggestions.

This is my last President's Message. My duties will be transferred to the able hands of President-Elect Frank Corsetti at our next annual business meeting on Santa Cruz Island. Most of our officers from this year will carry over to next year, which provides continuity and stability. I will become Past President, and Past President Kathie Marsaglia will gracefully remove herself from EXCOM. Thanks, Kathie for your exemplary service to the Society! I am delighted to announce that Bonnie Bloeser (Aera Energy, Bakersfield) has agreed to serve as President Elect. Bonnie brings industry experience, intellectual vitality, past PSSEPM service and personal charm to our EXCOM. Welcome, Bonnie.

It has, once again, been an honor and a pleasure to serve as President of one of the most productive and important geological societies of western North America.

Ray Ingersoll, President, Pacific Section SEPM
University Of California, Los Angeles

PS-SEPM FALL FIELD TRIP #1, SEPTEMBER 17-20, 2009
GEOLOGY OF SANTA CRUZ ISLAND
Leader: Dr. James Boles, Professor Emeritus, UC Santa Barbara

The fall field trip to Santa Cruz Island will include a boat trip to and from Prisoner's Harbor with Island Packers based at Ventura Harbor, CA. We will be staying in the middle of the island at the UC Natural Reserve system facility. Participants can sleep in the bunk house or outside. All food will be provided and cooked by an experienced field chef, but we will be helping with clean-up. Field vehicles are an assortment of open jeeps and trucks provided by the UC field station.

You will see remote parts of the island not accessible to the general public (e.g., the National Park is on the east end of the island). Owing to the trip duration, offshore travel and other logistics, this trip will be more expensive than previous fall trips (\$300 per person for PS-SEPM members), and attendance will be limited to no more than 27 people.

PS-SEPM will subsidize all student participants. If you are an interested student, please submit E-mail describing your interest and qualifications/rationale to receive PS-SEPM subsidy, to President Ray Ingersoll at ringer@ess.ucla.edu.

All interested parties please complete the enclosed **Registration Form and submit ASAP to Adam Woods, PS-SEPM Treasurer, awoods@fullerton.edu. Follow-up payment via regular mail. **Registration deadline is September 7th.****

Trip Itinerary All planning is subject to change due to weather and dirt road conditions.

Thursday, Sept 17. Travel to Santa Cruz Island

Leave at noon from Oxnard, CA with Island Packers for Prisoners Harbor, Santa Cruz Island. Arrive approx. 3pm. Travel to UC Reserve field station and set up camp.

Field Day 1: On Friday, Sept 18, we will take the spectacular ridge route along the Santa Cruz Island schist for an overview of the Santa Cruz Island volcanics, the Blanca Formation, and the Santa Cruz Island fault. We will walk Christi Beach to observe the western exposure of the Santa Cruz Island fault. We will also examine the Jolla Vieja Fm., a marine turbidite deposit containing Poway clasts from the San Diego area. These clasts are the basis of the offset estimate on the Santa Cruz Island fault. If time permits, we will hike down into Laguna Canyon and see fresh samples of the Santa Cruz Island Schist as well as the contact of the Willows Diorite and the Blanca Formation.

Field Day 2: On Saturday, Sept 19, we will retrace our path along the ridge route and drop down into Posa Canyon to look at the Paleocene through Miocene stratigraphy in the southwest part of the island. We will visit Paleocene turritella beds and a well drilled by ARCO in the 1950s. We will compare the coarse-grained facies of the Vaqueros conglomerate and San Onofre Breccia in the upper Posa Canyon. There are spectacular wave-cut outcrops at the mouth of Posa Canyon and we will walk the beach to Near Point and see the Vaqueros, Rincon, San Onofre Breccia, and Blanca Formations. The San Onofre Breccia beach outcrops allow a comparison of the proximal facies in upper Posa Canyon to the distal facies at Near Point beach over a sediment transport distance of a kilometer.

Sunday, Sept 20. Break camp, clean field station. Leave Prisoners Harbor at noon for return to Oxnard via Island Packers.

REGISTRATION FORM

Pacific Section SEPM Fall Field Trip, 2009 Thursday, September 17 – Sunday September 20, Santa Cruz Island

Please fill out one form **per person**. Required Registration fee includes: boat transportation to and from the island, fieldtrip guidebook, copy of Dibblee Foundation Map, all lodging, food and refreshments, and transportation on the island.

BRING YOUR OWN SLEEPING BAG!

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone _____; e-mail _____

Required Registration Fee (Registration deadline is September 7):

PS-SEPM Member/Non-Student Fee: \$300.00 _____

Non-Member/Non-Student Fee: \$350.00 _____
(includes a 3-year membership in PS-SEPM)

Student Fee: **FREE !** _____

Department: _____

College/University: _____

This trip is limited to only **THREE** student participants. Interested candidates please send E-mail to Prof. Ray Ingersoll at ringer@ess.ucla.ess, explaining your interest and rationale for receiving PS-SEPM subsidy for this trip.

Total: Make check (no cash or credit cards) payable to PS-SEPM: \$ _____

Mail this form with check payable to PS-SEPM to be received by **no later than September 7** to secure your spot.

REG FORMS MAY ALSO BE SENT VIA E-MAIL TO: awoods@fullerton.edu.

MAIL PAYMENT & REG FORM TO:

Dr. Adam Woods
PS-SEPM Treasurer
Department of Geological Sciences
California State University, Fullerton
Fullerton, CA 92834-6850

PS-SEPM FALL FIELD TRIP #2, (Date TBD)
“VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP”: SURFICIAL GEOLOGY & GEOMORPHOLOGY OF MARS

Leader: Dr. John Grotzinger, NASA/Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Pasadena
(Location: TBD, Either JPL or Cal-Tech)

Owing to the costs and limited number of available participants for the field trip to Santa Cruz Island, and given that Mars has been un-officially annexed into the geographic dominion of PS-SEPM, our association will sponsor a “Virtual Field Trip” (dramatic visual imagery) of new and exciting geological, geochemical and geomorphologic data collected on the Martian surface from the Spirit and Opportunity Rovers project. Current state of knowledge and geomorphologic evidence as to the past presence of extensive liquid water and fluvial processes, present-day eolian sedimentation, past volcanism and “tectonic” evolution, and the geochemical constraints regarding the possibility of life on Mars will be presented, integrating findings from the recent Rovers mission as well as earlier NASA exploration (Viking, Pathfinder, Surveyor, Orbiter, etc.).

More details regarding date, location, content and cost to be distributed in subsequent E-mail.



Victoria Impact Crater, Meridiani Planum, near Mars equator. Crater diameter roughly 800 meters. Scalloped crater rim caused by erosion and downslope movement of material. Layered sedimentary rocks exposed along inner wall of crater. Striking barchan sand dunes visible across upper half of crater floor. High-resolution image from Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter. Photo courtesy of Nathan Bridges, JPL.



***PS-SEPM Honorary Member Award
Calvin H. Stevens, Professor Emeritus, San Jose State University***

Citation By David Andersen, San Jose State University

Cal Stevens, excellent teacher, avid researcher, and good friend, has earned this award with more than 45 years of service to the science and the society. It's been my privilege to work with him for over 30 years.

After a few years with Humble Oil Company, Cal returned to school, earned his Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in 1963, and began teaching at San Jose State University that same year. Since his retirement in 1998, he has taught part time at SJSU and currently is Professor Emeritus. Cal has been a distinguished and popular professor, effectively teaching students at all levels, and he also routinely involved both undergraduate and graduate students in his research and publications. During his years at SJSU, he has been a mentor for countless undergraduates and the primary thesis advisor for more than 50 Master's students.

His research has focused mostly on Permian corals and fusulinids and their use, along with other data, in understanding the stratigraphy, paleogeography, and tectonics of western North America. His special area of interest has been the late Paleozoic of California. Cal's extensive publications have contributed significantly to our knowledge of the paleontology and geology in this important area. To expand his knowledge while at SJSU, he took a short leave to teach and do research at the University of Colorado, and he spent half a year each in Russia and Yugoslavia as a foreign exchange scientist sponsored by the National Academy of Science. He continues to collaborate and publish with international colleagues.

Cal has served the PSSEPM as author, editor, or co-editor for a total of eight symposium volumes and field trip guidebooks. He edited or co-edited three volumes based on symposia at PSSEPM Spring

meetings, including the very popular first and second Paleozoic paleogeography symposium volumes. In addition to his work as editor, Cal and his students contributed significant papers to each of these volumes. Cal also led the Fall field trip for the Section in 1991 and authored the associated field trip guidebook. He served as field trip coordinator for the 2005 annual meeting in San Jose and co-edited all four field trip guidebooks for that meeting.

Cal's contributions to the science and the Society are gratefully acknowledged. I am delighted that his name is to be added to the list of distinguished recipients of Honorary Membership in the Pacific Section SEPM.

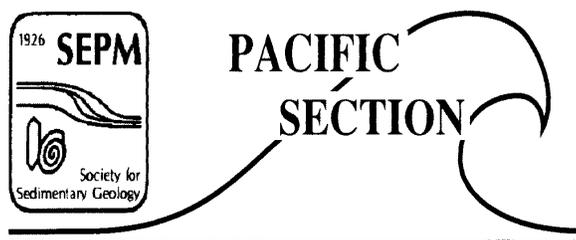
Response

I am grateful to the PSSEPM Executive Committee for recommending me for an Honorary Membership in this organization and to Dave Andersen for all his complimentary words written on my behalf. In addition I thank Dave for putting up with me for the 30+ years we have shared an office. He has always been there to answer questions and give me support.

As Dave pointed out, I have been associated with San Jose State University in one capacity or another (mostly as a teacher of geology) since 1963. Delving into geological questions has always been my passion, and I've always been anxious to pass this excitement on to my students in conversations and lectures and the geological community in the form of research papers. I have also been interested in helping other geologists get their work published, primarily through editorial work. I'm especially proud of my work with the PSSEPM in which I had the opportunity to work with John Cooper, Gene Fritsche, and Jack Stewart in editing a number of books and field guides.

The PSSEPM and the geological community in general have given me the opportunity to pursue my life-long interests. For this I am eternally grateful.

Calvin H. Stevens
July, 2009





Tom Anderson provides scale for stromatolite heads, Shark Bay, SW Australia

***PS-SEPM Honorary Member Award
Thomas Anderson, Professor Emeritus, Sonoma State University***

Citation By Russell Shapiro, California State University - Chico

There are many ways to measure the impact of one's career on the greater community. Receiving this great honor from the Pacific Section of SEPM is a very admirable vote of appreciation from a robust and active consortia of soft-rock geologists. My mentor, Bob Dill, always maintained that you measure your success by your students. Others look for tangible property like papers or grants. None of us knows how the bean counters in the dungeons of the ivory towers measure careers. With Tom Anderson, I found a new metric—his thin-section collection.

After Tom's departure from Sonoma State (none of us who know him would call it a 'retirement'), I was very fortunate to receive the bulk of his thin-section collection (sorry Reno!). I felt I had hit the big time. Opening up each box revealed not just a lifetime of work as a remarkable educator and researcher, but a window into the complexity of sedimentary geology I don't think I fully appreciated. Yes, every imaginable rock is represented, that is to be expected. What is fascinating is that the layout is so instructive as to how to “read rocks.” As a teacher myself, I can sense that each box is teaching me how to better teach, and therefore understand, the vast breadth of sedimentary rocks.

If you don't know Tom well, I don't wish to brand him primarily as a petrographer. I have always considered him a top field geologist and have spent many days with him in the field, particularly in his beloved Cambrian. Most recently, we were near Death Valley where Tom spent an afternoon with my class showing them how to read transgressions and regressions from the stratigraphy. On days when we are engaged in research, Tom is the pinnacle of patience and resolve. His hand lens does not sit in his field pouch, regardless of how many times he has visited an outcrop.

Like many California State University geology profs (I give a toast to John Cooper here), Tom always put the students first. He would help anyone and was responsive to the students' queries. I know from field trips with Sonoma State students, that the students thought he was a tough but fair instructor, and is still admired by previous students and colleagues for his courses. When I have joined his classes, I observed that he held the students to high standards and did not let them off easy when they tried to sidestep a problem.

It really is an honor to write this well deserved citation for Tom Anderson, a person I have considered a close friend, colleague, and mentor for many years. So, in the end, how do we measure a career as rich and rewarding as Tom's? Maybe by seeing how much of his style, charisma, passion, and dedication has rubbed off on the people he has worked with. My guess is that there will be quite a few folks who will hear about this award and count themselves lucky to have crossed paths with Tom. Congratulations, and I'll get the next Eberle!

Response

What an honor it was when I got home from teaching in the University of Nevada, Reno summer field geology class and read the e-mail from Ray Ingersoll informing me that I had been named an Honorary Member of Pacific Section SEPM. Then, when I saw the entire list of Honorary Members, I realized just how distinguished a group I would be joining.

It's hard to imagine that I started teaching at Sonoma State University 41 years ago, have been retired for 2 years, and now am an Adjunct Professor at the University of Nevada, Reno. My career has been very rewarding and devoted to teaching sedimentary petrology, field geology, and hydrology and researching Cambrian rocks, primarily microbialites in the Carrara Formation, in the Death Valley region. I have also had several more eclectic jobs including being a geological consultant on Christo's Running Fence, a fabric curtain from Cotati to the Pacific Ocean in 1977, and defined the southern boundary of the Alexander Valley wine-growing region.

My activities with Pacific Section SEPM were concentrated in the late 1990s when I served as Vice-President, was co-leader of the 1998 Fall Field trip to the Gualala Block, and helped to coordinate the two subsequent trips to the Mecca Hills and the Santa Maria basin. However, my fondest memories were my participation in many fall field trips with my Sonoma State University students who were my greatest inspiration and support. It was always one of the highlights of the Fall Semester when my students and I got to join the group at various places in California from the northern Sierras, various localities to study the Great Valley Series, the Sespe Creek area, and most recently to the San Clemente area in 2005. It was during these trips that I met and got to be good friends with the likes of Gene Fritsche, John Cooper, Pat Abbott, and Mario Caputo and my students got to interact with folks from other schools as well as professional geologists. I hope that other faculty members realize the value of these trips and encourage their students to participate in them.

In conclusion, I thank the Executive Committee of the Pacific Section, SEPM for conferring Honorary Membership on me; my good friend and colleague, Russell Shapiro, for the generous citation; my colleagues at Sonoma State University; and all my students and friends in the geological profession who have meant so much to me during my career. Most importantly, I would like to thank my wife, Judy, and our family for their understanding and support.

Thomas Anderson
July 2009

RANDOM NOTES

PSSEPM – PSAAPG Annual Spring Convention, Ventura, May 2-6, 2009: Summary

The annual joint PSSEPM-PSAAPG convention was another technical and financial success, owing in part to the following:

- Fantastic weather in a terrific seaside locale
- Over 500 attendees
- Four technical sessions sponsored by PS-SEPM, with topics including climate change, Pacific Coast sedimentology, and two sessions regarding modern and ancient turbidite systems honoring the late Bill Normark.
- PS-SEPM-sponsored field trip led by Kirt Campion and Morgan Sullivan, to examine classic turbidite localities at Wheeler Gorge (upper Cretaceous) and Matilija Hot Springs (mid-Eocene).
- PS-SEPM-sponsored field trip led by Gene Fritsche and Tony Reid, to examine wave-dominated coastline deposits in the Lower Miocene Vaqueros Formation at Piedra Blanca, and tidally-influenced deposits in the Upper Eocene Coldwater Sandstone near Pine Mountain.

Copies of the field trip guidebooks are available for purchase via the PS-SEPM website, or by contacting Publications Manager Mario Caputo. Thank you once again to all who organized and participated in this venture.

Electronic Catalog Of PS-SEPM Publications

The Executive Committee has entered into contract for scanning and electronic (PDF) availability of ALL PSSEPM publications, via the Data Pages Project. The E-copies are slated to include rare, old and out-of-print publications as well as those still in print. (Thank you to those members who have graciously volunteered to provide copies of their out-of-print and rare pubs for scanning!!). The process has commenced and should be completed in 2010.

Our goal is to finally make E-copies available as PDF documents for sale via the PS-SEPM web site, in part to encourage sales of our entire outstanding publications catalog to universities, corporations, other libraries, etc. as an added revenue stream. Marketing of the catalog via the Data Pages consultants is part of our contract agreement.

More details and status updates will be provided as the project progresses.

Joint PS-SEPM, Cordilleran GSA and PS-AAPG, Convention, May 27-29, 2010, Anaheim, CA

The annual GSA Cordilleran Section convention next May will be co-sponsored by PS-SEPM. The Executive Committee has voted to meet with Cordilleran Section GSA every Spring from now on, except for those years when either the national AAPG/SEPM or GSA conventions are scheduled within the Cordilleran Section. We anticipate this will encourage stimulating and multi-disciplinary interaction between the various organizations, and increase revenues and membership.

PS-SEPM will co-sponsor any technical sessions or field trips involving sedimentology, basin analysis and paleogeography. Additionally, we are independently sponsoring a symposium and field trip with the theme “Using Basin Analysis and Geochemistry To Reconstruct The San Andreas Fault System”.

More details in the Winter/Spring 2010 Newsletter.

Historical Archive Of PS-SEPM

We are actively seeking anyone with information regarding the history of PS-SEPM to please contact Ray Ingersoll (contact info on first page) with this information, so that we may develop a comprehensive historical archive for our web site.

Information of interest includes a) listing of past officers; b) listing of past field trips and their leaders, and c) listing of those who have received PS-SEPM awards.

Be at the Epicenter...



AAPG-SEG

West Coast

Student Expo

1-3 October 2009

***California State University,
Northridge***

***Company interviews,
Student poster presentations,
Networking, field trips, and more...***

***Interested Companies and Students see:
www.csun.edu/geology/aapg-seg.htm
for registration information***

PACIFIC SECTION-SEPM MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION, 2009

The Pacific Section SEPM has grown to become an international society with more than 400 members, attracting students and working professionals from the United States, mainly from California and other Pacific states including Hawaii and Alaska, and from Canada, Europe, Asia, and South America. Help maintain the vitality of the Pacific Section, SEPM by renewing your membership and recruiting new members, especially undergraduate and graduate students majoring in the geosciences. Please distribute copies of the membership form (**provided on the next page**) to colleagues and students who have an interest in sedimentary geology. The form is available also on the PS-SEPM website.

A **Lifetime Membership** is also available for a one-time dues payment. See schedule below for age and payment categories. Honorary and Lifetime Members are permanent members of the Society; they are exempt, of course, from further dues payments. Please send your membership application or renewal to:

***Wayne Henderson, PS-SEPM Membership Manager
Department of Geological Sciences
California State University, Fullerton
Fullerton CA 92834-6850***

**PLEASE PROVIDE/UPDATE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WHEN YOU RENEW!!
(Otherwise You Will NOT Receive Future Newsletters And Announcements!)
(Except As Described Below)**

Membership Dues

Regular membership dues:

\$ 7.50 for a 1-year professional membership

\$20.00 for a 3-year professional membership

\$ 5.00 for a 1-year student membership

(Please add \$25.00 to each category if you wish to receive Hardcopy versions of the Newsletter)

Lifetime membership dues:

\$150.00 for age group 20-40 years

\$100.00 for age group 40-60 years

\$ 50.00 for age group 60 years and older

(Please add \$50.00 for each category if you wish to receive Hardcopy Newsletters)

Good Reasons for Joining the Pacific Section SEPM

- The Pacific Section SEPM is one of the premier geological societies of western North America.
- Members benefit from discounts on superbly done field-trip guidebooks and special publications that address sedimentologic, stratigraphic and paleogeographic aspects of the Pacific region of the United States.
- Your membership dues sustain the Society by helping defray costs of publications. They further help support the operation of the California Well Data Repository (for borehole logs, cores, cuttings, microfossils, and other data) in Bakersfield, California.
- A **Society Website** provides up-to-date information on officers and other members, field trips and conferences, short courses, publications, and job openings:

<http://www.sci.sdsu.edu/pacsepm>

BOOKMARK THE ABOVE WEB ADDRESS FOR QUICK AND READY REFERENCE

**Pacific Section – SEPM (Society for Sedimentary Geology)
Membership Form, 2009-2010**

Renew

New Member

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name or Initial
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Preferred Mailing Address: <i>Business or Home – COMPLETE ONLY ONE</i>			
Business	Company or Teaching Institution		
	Street or P. O. Box #		
	City	State	Postal Code
Home	Street or P. O. Box #		
	City	State	Postal Code

Telephone	
Business	
Home	
FAX	

UPDATE Email Address

Employment	
Employer Name	
Job Title	

Education	
Highest Degree Earned	
Year Earned	
Institution	
Specialization	

State Certifications/Registrations

Regular Memberships <small>(check ✓ one)</small>	1-year professional	\$ 7.50	
	3-year professional	\$20.00	
	1-year student	\$ 5.00	
Lifetime Memberships <small>(check ✓ age group)</small>	20-40 years old	\$150.00	
	40-60 years old	\$100.00	
	60 years old and older	\$ 50.00	



Make check payable to "Pacific Section, SEPM" and send to:

Wayne Henderson
PS-SEPM Membership Manager
Department of Geological Sciences
CSU Fullerton
Fullerton, CA 92834-6850

<p>PLEASE HELP INCREASE MEMBERSHIP IN THE PACIFIC SECTION – SEPM. COPY THIS FORM AND GIVE IT TO STUDENTS AND COLLEAGUES WHO SHARE AN INTEREST IN SEDIMENTOLOGY.</p>
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