

ROCK N ROSE

Volume 47 Issue 6

TYLER • TEXAS

June 2021



Cover Photo: Julia Toombs

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ROCK N ROSE

THE EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

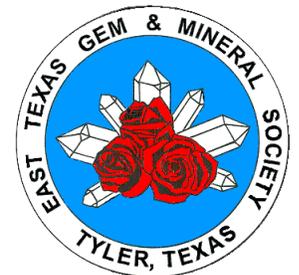
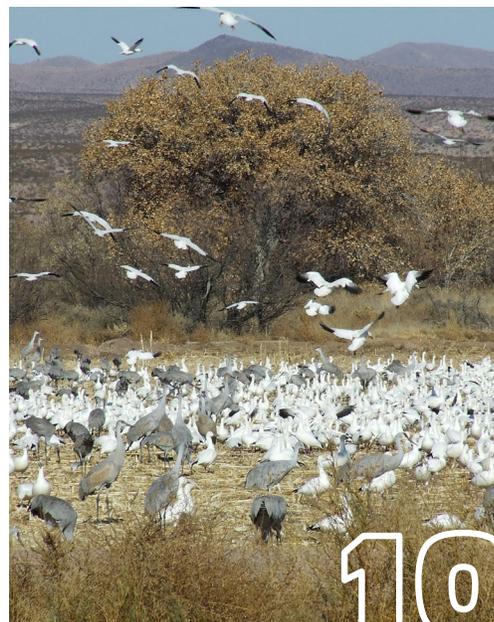
UPCOMING EVENTS

January 21 - 23, 2022
East Texas Gem & Mineral Show
Rose Garden Center
Tyler, Texas



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Rock-N-Rose Newsletter

231 Scott Street
Nacogdoches, TX 75961



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

David Russ

Greetings All,

We are back up and moving along at a nice pace now. Thanks to all who volunteered time to Keith's rock show last month. I understand that the vendors were pleased with the public response at a different venue. This was a great effort to keep ETGMS in the public eye. We will soon be gearing up

for, hopefully, a great 2022 show in January. There was a good turnout for our monthly meeting. We have several new members and, of importance to our future, several young members. A number of awards were handed out to older members for efforts recognized by two mineralogical federations and up and coming junior member, Easton Simpson.

Please find time to increase your knowledge and interest in your particular areas of interest by attending our sub-groups. Let us know of particular subjects you would like to know more about.

See you soon.
David Russ

HELP WANTED

The Board of Directors requests someone proficient in audio/visual matters who can attend meeting when the equipment is in use. Thank you.

ROCKHOUND OF THE MONTH

May 2021

We are proud to announce that junior member Easton Simpson has been selected as the May Rockhound of the Month. Easton and father Jimmy joined just before the shut down and were back as soon as meetings started up again. Easton set up a nice display at the Tyler Gem and Mineral show and I am sure he will at the January, 2022 show too. I hope that he inspires our new junior members.

ETGMS Meeting Minutes

June 7, 2021

The June 7 meeting of the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society was called to order at 6:45pm. President David Russ asked that new members introduce themselves. They did so and one can teach lapidary and to silversmith. We have six new members. David asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Terry Roberts made the motion and Jerry Sudderth seconded. The motion carried. Treasurer Ed Grounds gave his report.

Announcements:

- Margaret Kilanski, Webmaster, stated that for the month of May, 930 people visited the website. That is 165% over this time last year. We are up 684% of the visitor's time on the site. The average time spent on pages is 7 min, 45 seconds. The four most visited pages are home page, calendar, mineral, and contacts.
- Awards form SCFMS and AFMS: plaques and certificates Charles Creekmur, Mineralogist, received seven honors; Terry Roberts, Lapidary, received six; Colleen Hayes four; Rick Walker one; Margaret Kilanski two; Julia Toombs two; David Russ two.
- The May Rockhound of the Month honor goes to junior member, Easton Simpson.
- Randy Harmon announced that he, Terry, and Julia have a display at the Lindale Library, there would be a program given by the three on July 7, and anyone can choose a free rock.

Upcoming Events:

- October is the annual Club auction. Please donate a piece to sell for the fund raiser.
- November is when we elect or re-elect officers.
- December is our annual Christmas party.

Sub-Groups:

- Mineral – Charles Creekmur – next meeting is June 8 at 6:30pm and the topic is mercury mining in Texas.
- Lapidary – Terry Roberts – next meeting is June 12 at 2pm.
- Fossil – David Russ – next meeting is June 15 at 6:30pm. He is working on setting up the office and a fossil display. May's meeting was a discussion of shark teeth. Some hunting sites for them are Post Oak Creek (Sherman-Dennison area) and the North Sulfur River.
- Gem – Richard Armstrong was not present for a report.
- Field trip – Fred Mahaffey was not present for a report. If you know of a spot, please let one of us know. Whiskey Bridge on the Brazos River, just west of the Bryan/College Station area, was recently visited. East Texas is not a good area for rock/mineral/fossil collecting.

Old Business – There was none.

New Business – January 21-23, 2022 Gem & Mineral Show.

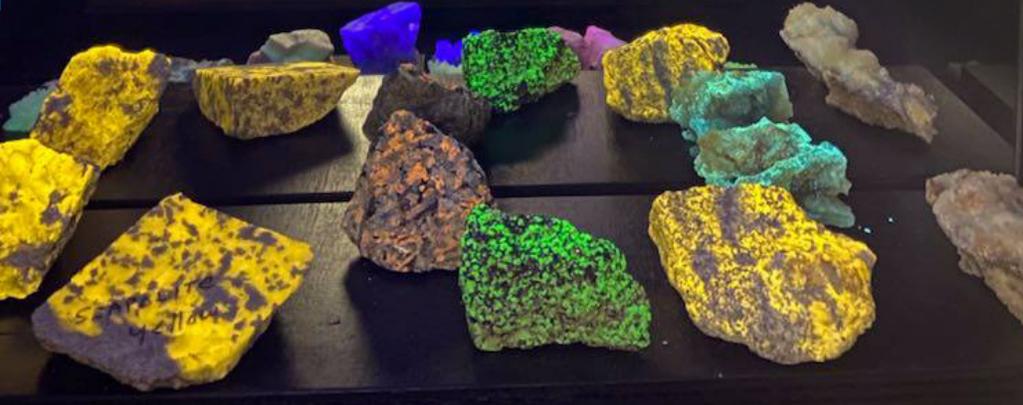
David called for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Terry made the motion and Jerry seconded. The motion carried. The drawing of door-prize tickets was next, followed by the program on Queensland Agates.

Submitted by, Julia Toombs, Secretary

Tyler Gem and Mineral Show

May 22 & 23, 2021

By Julia Toombs



After the Board canceled the January, 2021, show due to COVID restrictions, Keith Harmon, long-time show coordinator, vendor, and member of ETGMS, decided that he would put on a show that would benefit our dealers and keep us in the minds of the public. He asked if he could borrow some items from ETGMS and the Board readily agreed and said we would help in any way we could. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions and Harvey Convention Center being the Vaccine hub, an East Texas Fairgrounds building was the only place left to keep the show in the same general area.

On Friday morning, May 21, Rick Walker, Jerry Sudderth, Terry Roberts, and Ed Grounds met at the clubhouse to load their vehicles with the items Keith needed. Allen Brown, Randy Harmon, and I met them at the Fairgrounds to do our parts. Later in the day, Kinney and Vicky Polve arrived to set up the Rock Food Tables. Allen and Randy helped the dealers load and unload dollies of sale items.

Among the items picked up were four display cases and a glass case that was found when we were cleaning out the clubhouse last summer. Jerry took it home and made it into a black fluorescent box. Jerry





and Rick loaded this while Terry set up a case of his rocks and I set up a display of my assorted favorite rocks, gems, minerals, and fossils. Later Rick displayed petrified wood and junior-member Easton Simpson displayed rocks and fossils.

On Saturday, while only two members volunteered their help ahead of time, Annette Cunningham and Becky Whisenant, other members



came and stayed. Those at the front desk were Christi Vickers, Keith Harmon's daughter, Colleen Hayes, Geva Roberts, Annette, Becky, Julia, and Ed. Front desk duties involved more than just taking money. We gave out tickets to get you back in if you left or if you wanted to come back on Sunday, and we had sheets for you to fill out for the grand-prize drawing. A member was introducing the club to interested parties and assisting new members—eight families joined, and two families renewed their memberships. There were cards for visitors to find us for the next meeting. Rick and Jerry guarded the Rock Food Table and displays. Allen and Terry wandered the building ready to help wherever they might be needed. I found out later that Randy was outside most of the time telling those passing by what they could find inside. Many were coming for the Flea Market next door and food trucks on the other side of us. The doors were constantly opening on Saturday, letting in a nice breeze.

On Sunday, Kinney and Vicky tended the Rock Food Tables and displays. During the time I was visiting with Vicky, there was always someone looking, in awe, at the table. Others said they loved seeing it year after year. The front desk workers were Christi, Colleen, Julia, Rick, Ed, and David Russ. There was a stronger breeze and papers took flight. Terry and Allen were always ready to assist dealers or buyers, and Allen helped the dealers reload dollies and vehicles.

With COVID restrictions eased but social distancing still recommended, Building E at the Fairgrounds turned out to be perfect. At least half of the attendees were still in masks. Some visitors went to the Rose Garden Center first because that is where they are used to going. One family then went to Harvey Convention Center before finally finding us. Others commented and asked if we would start doing it at the Fairgrounds. The drawbacks are no kitchen with refrigerator and microwave, no fluorescent room, and not enough space for the Silent Auction and the usual number of display cases. All things considered though, we all had a great time!!

The cover photo, left to right, is of: Keith Harmon, Kristi Jarvis, grand-prize winner, and Lt. Chris Stanbery with the Chandler Police Department, our security guard for many years. Enjoy the photographs that follow.

The dealers in attendance



Stone Crystals

Keith and Toni Harmon
keithharmon19@yahoo.com

Eddie's Rocks and Relics

Eddie and Carole Harmon
keharmon2@gmail.com

Amber Way Jewelry

Dennis and Gina Giadrosich
amberwayjewelry@comcast.net

Love of Land Images

Delbert and Joyce Speed
llispeed2@gmail.com

Blue Llama Jewelry Company

Emily Phillips
bluellamagems@gmail.com

Bitterroot Rocks and Minerals

Joe and Donna Grimes
jtgrimes@peoplepc.com

Fantastic Stones & Accessories

Sandy Virgadamo and Earl Albert

Earthworks

Pat Napper
Patnapper@gmail.com

Xquizit Minerals

Don Aaron
don@xquizitminerals.com

Pepper's Gems

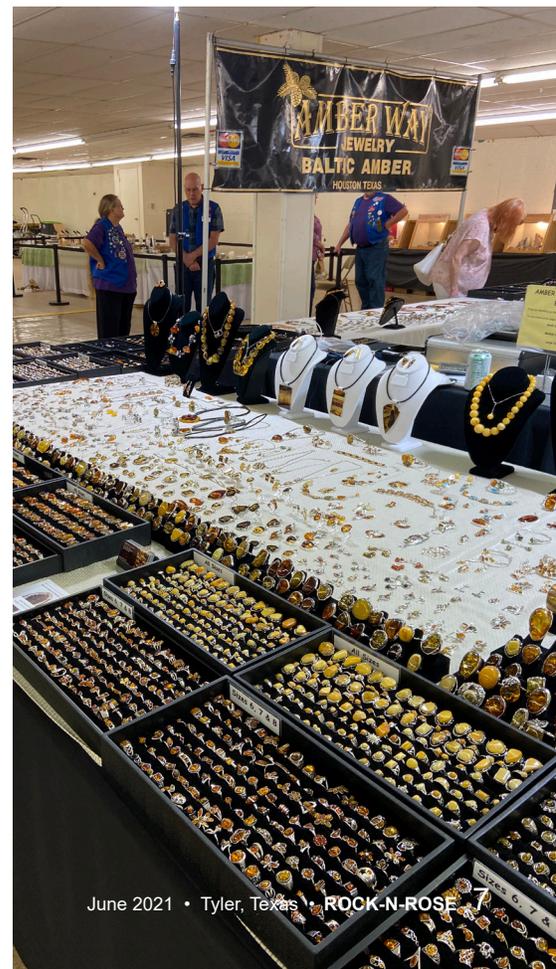
Sam and Eileen Rodgers
peppersgems1@gmail.com

Monarch Mineral & Fossil

Mark Villareal

Fantastic Stones & Accessories

504-837-1515



Shop Time

By: Terry Roberts

It's been a while since I worked on grinding and polishing agate cabs, so I found some nice material to work with and completed nine cabs from several locations. The two pompom agate cabs shown below are my personal favorites.

The first three photos show cabs of El Sueco agates from the San Carlos area in the State of Chihuahua, Mexico, which is located about 15 miles southwest of Santa Elena Canyon in the Big Bend National Park in Texas. The first two cabs consist of brightly colored bands and clear chalcedony. However, the most interesting cab is in the third photo showing pompoms in the agate. The pompom structures appear to have three layers with a central mass of yellow



El Sueco Agate-1
Chihuahua, Mexico



El Sueco Agate-2
Chihuahua, Mexico



El Sueco-PomPom Agate
Chihuahua, Mexico

needles, then a clear layer of chalcedony followed by another thin layer of yellow/brown needles, then a thin clear layer of chalcedony, and finally a thin solid brown layer which appears to encapsulate the pompoms. I've never noticed this type of defined structures in pompoms before, but I've not seen a lot of this type of agate either.

The next two photos show Tapado Agate cabs, also from the San Carlos area in Chihuahua, Mexico. The first one is a typical banded agate with a central cavity lined with druzy quartz. The second cab, however, is the most interesting one to me. It shows a partial pompom structure with a central red structure of radiating needles, followed by alternating thin layers of cream colored and red colored needles. The entire pompom structure is surrounded by a darker brown layer with some other tubular structures on the exterior of the covering layer. Again, I've not seen this type of pompom before. Teri Smith, field trip leader to several ranches in the Alpine, TX area has asked me for this cab since she has an extensive collection of agates with unusual inclusions in them. I will give it to her

on my next trip to Alpine to do some rock hunting.

The next three photos show Tecolote Agate cabs, also from Chihuahua, Mexico. The first two cabs show a red central band with an interior red structure which is a typical feature commonly found in Tecolote Agates. However, the third photo shows a very unusual internal pattern that I've never seen in Tecolote Agates before. I believe it may exhibit chromatography in the lower left side, as well. This one should make a beautiful wire wrapped pendant.

The last two photos show cabs of Wendover Plume Agate found in the Silver Island Mountains in Utah about five miles north of I-80 and about two miles west of the Bonneville Salt Flats. Both cabs have many intricate banded and solid structures with contrasting white, red, and yellow colors interspersed in a clear chalcedony matrix. There are also some small cavities lined with druzy quartz in the last photo. I think these cabs will make some beautiful pendants too.



Tapado Agate-1
San Carlos, Mexico



Tapado-PomPom Agate
San Carlos, Mexico



Tecolote Agate-1
San Carlos, Mexico



Tecolote Agate-2
San Carlos, Mexico



Tecolote Agate-3 San
Carlos, Mexico



Wendover Plume Agate-1 Silver Is.
Mountains, Utah



Wendover Plume Agate-2 Silver Is.
Mountains, Utah

ADVENTURES FROM NEW MEXICO

Part 2

By Colleen Hayes



One of my favorite road trips and rock hound adventures in New Mexico is located in the central part of the state. Rock hounding and sightseeing are very much a part of this trip.

The first stop on this trip is just east of Roswell, New Mexico. The road cut near the Pecos River on the east side of town has large swirling slabs of selenite that are easy to collect. You only need one or two of these to add to your collection as they are display pieces and fairly fragile. I usually spend the first night in Roswell, taking in the spaceman-themed attractions in town. The



museum is a fun thing to see, the history of the crashed UFO, and all the associated folklore that is retold by the locals.

In the morning, my trip continues west on HWY 380 towards my destination. But first there are several really interesting sights to see. Just a few hours west of Roswell, the road goes straight through Lincoln County, New Mexico, home of the famous Lincoln County Wars in the late 1800's. One notable happening was that Billy the Kid was arrested by Pat Garret and was awaiting his fate but somehow managed to escape, killing several lawmen during his getaway, thus securing his notoriety as a dangerous criminal. The museum is a great place to stop, admire the history, and see the buildings that have been restored.

Just a few miles past Lincoln is Capitan, New Mexico, home to Smoky Bear. And, once again, there is a museum dedicated to the history of the area.

Continuing on, the next town is Carrizozo, New Mexico, home

to the Carrizozo Malpais. This is a 50-mile basalt lava flow that is approximately 5,000 years old. The lava flow is from a single volcanic cone, Little Black Peak. Left, off the highway, is a state Park and for a nominal fee you can park and take a short hike through the basalt flow. It's worth getting into the basin and seeing the swirls and vugs that developed through the cooling process.

Finally, about 30 miles further, you arrive at Bingham, New Mexico. Bingham, pop. 2 depending on who is staying there, is actually just a rock shop that is owned by Allison Cameron. The rock shop is just on the edge of the Hansonberg Mining District. This area is famous for great specimen of fluorite, barite, linarite, quartz, galena, and many more minerals. This is the largest area of the hydrothermal Rio Grande Rift. Due to the lack of water for mining and other factors, the mine was not profitable and was abandoned. This area has been studied many times and there are just as many papers published as to the geographical and geological features of the area. For





state. And depending on the time of year, I usually trek the 10 miles south to Bosque Del Apache. During migration, this is one of the premier birding locations in the country. Usually at the height of the season, there will be 10,000 plus snow geese and several thousand sand hill cranes.

Overnight is in Socorro, New Mexico. Socorro is home to the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology. The school hosts the annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium each year with speakers, field trips, an auction and other events. This is tentatively scheduled for November 2021. The school also has a premier mineral museum with approximately 15,000 minerals on display and certainly worth spending the time to visit.

As with anything these days, call ahead to find out what is open and ready for tourists. New Mexico has not yet opened completely post-COVID.

those interested, I'll let you research the copious amount of information that exist of this area.

At the present, the rock shop has claim to one public site for rock hounding. Check with the rock shop for details and directions. Their phone number as published is 575-423-3235. Members of the Albuquerque Gem and Mineral group hold most of the other claims. Fortunately, as a member of the club, I have been able to attend several of their annual field trips to that location. This area is very remote and quite dangerous. Four wheel drive and a high clearance vehicle are a must. It helps to have good off-road driving skills as well. The adits underground have been blocked and are only entered by claim holders due to danger however, there are tons of tailings to go through. This area is known for rattlesnakes as well.

The fence along the southern border is a DO NOT CROSS, as it is actually the White Sands Missile Range. Entry is prohibited, of course.

After a day of turning,

lifting, chiseling, hammering rocks, I usually come away with some really treasured specimens. I have added photos of the mine and a couple of specimens, as well.

Coming off the mountain and driving out usually takes about 45 minutes, however I try to leave early enough to travel west to San Antonio, New Mexico, home of the Owl Café, where you can get the best green chili cheeseburger in the





THE EAST TEXAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

PRESENTS

The 26th Annual Gemstone and Jewelry Show

TYLER ROSE GARDEN CENTER

420 SOUTH ROSE PARK DRIVE
TYLER, TEXAS



Gemstones • Jewelry • Minerals • Fossils • Supplies

JANUARY 21 - 23, 2022

SHOW HOURS:

Friday: 9 am - 5 pm

Saturday: 10 am - 6 pm • Sunday: 10 am - 5 pm

ADMISSION:

Adults: \$5.00

Children and Students: \$1.00

Colorful Fluorescent Mineral Display

Silent Auction on Saturday & Sunday

Hourly Door Prizes

Grand Prize Drawing

Wheel of Fortune

Game for the Children

Equipment and Supplies

Lapidary Demonstrations

Flint Knapping

Gemstone Identification

The Rock Food Table • <http://rockfoodtable.com>

Gemstones

Gold and Silver
Jewelry

Minerals

Fossils

Cut and Uncut Stones

Geodes

Wire Wrapping Demos

Lapidary Material

Raffle Prizes

WWW.ETGMS.ORG

DUES, DUES, DUES

If you plan to mail in your dues:

East Texas Gem & Mineral Society • P. O. BOX 132532 • Tyler, TX 75713-2532

EAST TEXAS GEM & MINERAL SOCIETY • MEMBER REGISTRATION FORM

Date Paid ____/____/____ Dues Paid _____ Cash _____ Check _____
YEARLY DUES – Individual - \$10 • Family - \$20

Name(s) _____ Adult _____ Jr. _____
_____ 18+ _____ Jr. _____
_____ _____ Jr. _____
_____ _____ Jr. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Newsletter via email Y ___ N ___

Special Interest in Club? _____

Home Phone _____ Work / CellPhone _____

GROUP MEETS

Lapidary / Jewelry Group

Meets on the second Saturday of each month at 2:00 pm, except December and January.

Terry Roberts leads this group. Contact Terry to have your name added to the email.

terry.roberts45@yahoo.com

Mineral Group

Meets every second Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm.

Charles Creekmur heads up the group. Contact Charles to have your name added to the email.

calcite65@gmail.com

Fossil Group

Meets every third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.

David Russ heads up the group. Contact David to have your name added to the email.

dbruss50@gmail.com

Gemology Group

Meets every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 - 8:30 pm

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903-714-3330

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Terry Roberts

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Ed Grounds

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hawthorne04@gmail.com

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David Russ

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dbruss50@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER CONTENT

Please send original articles to rockrosenewsletter@gmail.com.

Please send in a Microsoft Word format that can be edited.

The 10th of the month is the deadline.

Board minutes are not printed in the newsletter. If you would like to see a copy, contact a member of the Board.

THE EAST TEXAS GEM AND MINERAL SOCIETY

The purpose of the East Texas Gem & Mineral Society is to promote the study of Geology, Fossils, and the Lapidary Arts. The public is always invited to attend regular monthly club meetings.

ANNUAL DUES

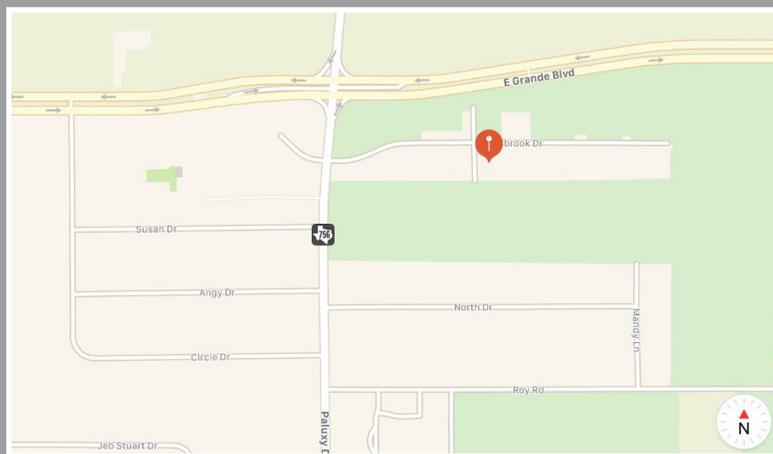
Single: \$10.00 • Family: \$20.00

MONTHLY MEETING

WHEN: First Monday of the month unless it's a holiday, then the second Monday, at 6:45 p.m.

WHERE: ETGMS Clubhouse

Check us out on the web • WWW.ETGMS.ORG



CLUB ADDRESS AND TO SEND DUES

East Texas Gem & Mineral Society
P. O. BOX 132532
Tyler, TX 75713-2532

ETGMS CLUBHOUSE

2015 Deerbrook Dr.
Tyler, Texas



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