

The Berner Blatt

March/April 2020

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Nashoba Valley

THE CLUB FOR NEW ENGLAND BERNERS & THEIR FAMILIES



Ch. Spellbound-Southwind Ring of Fire, RE, CD, Can CD, DD, BNDD (Cash) earned his Versatility dog title. Together, Southwind dogs have earned seven Versatility titles, Cash finishing his when he was just over 3 years. He currently has two legs toward his MDD and is working on his CDX title. Cash is owned and loved by Jon & Judy Cons, Georgetown, ME

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BMDCNV *Calendar of Events*

~ 2020 ~

July 25
Summer Picnic
St Johnsbury, Vermont

September 26
Fall Fun Day
Middlesex County 4-H Fairgrounds
Westford, MA

September 26 & 27
Fall Draft Tests
Middlesex County 4-H Fairgrounds • Westford, MA

November 21 & 22
Supported Entries with Sweepstakes
Eastern States Expo • West Springfield, MA

Note: Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, all upcoming events are tentative and subject to change.

FMI: www.bmdcnv.org/events.html

Welcome! New Members

William Scheck
Oxford, CT

Catherine Degnon
Danby, VT

Beth Surette
Holden, MA

Karen Hartz
Groveland, MA

Deborah Heald
North Reading, MA

Cindy Giannelli
Londonderry, NH

Help Wanted

We are looking for a Fall Fun Day Chair (no experience necessary!) and a Chief Steward for the Fall Draft Test. If you are interested in either of these volunteer opportunities, please email President@BMDCNV.org!

Submitting Info to the Blatt is EASY!

The BernerBlatt is your newsletter and we love your submissions! Birthdays, memorials, brags and anything you think is interesting to the members is not only easy, it's recommended and encouraged. Type your message in the body of an email and attach your favorite, high resolution jpeg photo.

Be sure to include complete name(s) and where you are from. That's it! We'll do the rest.

Berner Blatt Editor: Sam (and Fennel) Sirico

Submissions Email: bmdcnvblatt@gmail.com



Please Welcome Linda Botti as the new Membership Chair! Linda has been a member for 16 years and has held many other positions in the club including Ways & Means Chair, Berner Blatt Editor, and CGC Test

Coordinator. Her favorite dog activity is walking on the beaches of Maine with Tessa (BG #121384) and their dog friends.

The BMDCNV board of directors

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from the President...

I hope this message finds you all doing well, keeping busy, and finding comfort in the company of your Berners and other animal friends! It will be great when we can get back to some sort of normalcy and resume our Bernerly gatherings!

I wanted to provide a few updates on events and club news and will begin by letting everyone know that the club received notice from the 4-H Fairgrounds in Westford that they will be closed through the end of June and will keep us updated after their board meets again. Unfortunately for us, this means that we will not be able to hold our Spring Fun Day and Annual Meeting, which we had deferred to Fun Day from the original April date.

In the absence of an Annual Meeting for now, and in the interests of sharing some news, I am pleased to report that Karen Fox has been nominated as the 2020 Shelley Award recipient for 2020! Karen currently serves as our RCC Chair and has served in other positions and continues to provide support and assistance whenever she can, please look through this issue to read more about Karen and the Shelley award. Congratulations Karen!

I am also happy to announce that Linda Botti has stepped up to fill the Membership Chair position that Karlo LaForteza has held for several years. We are excited to have Linda fill that role and she has already transitioned into it! Linda is a long-time

Nashoba member who has served in different roles over the years, and is always lending a hand at our events! We thank Karlo for his service and the many hats that he has worn over the years!

We currently have a summer picnic scheduled for July 25th at Dog Mountain in Vermont and at this time it does look like we will be able to move forward with it, but will keep you posted if things should change. The Fall Draft Tests are scheduled for September 26th & 27th and will be held at the 4-H Fairgrounds in Westford in conjunction with the Fall Fun Day which is scheduled for Saturday, September 26th. With any luck, we will be able to move forward with all of these events and will attempt to get back on track with some of the other events that have been temporarily put on hold.

As a follow-up to our recent message to all members regarding COVID-19, we had great responses all the way around. In these times we encourage any member who is experiencing difficulties caring for their Berners now or in the future, to please feel free to contact me. We've got several experienced members who are happy to open their homes to temporarily "foster" a Berner in need! Finally, please share any photos and notes of how you are spending time with your Berners while you are quarantining! Any articles of interest are also welcome! Our Blatt Editor, Sam Sirico, would be happy to receive your stories!

Thank you and please stay safe!

Jean Michael
President

Shelley Award Winner 2020: Karen Fox

The Shelley Award is named in honor of a club member-Shelley Tyre, who passed away in 1999. The Award is presented annually to a club member for outstanding service and contribution to our club and to our breed.

KAREN FOX

Karen fell in love with Berners when she was still a teenager but wasn't in a position to acquire one until 2006. In the blink of an eye, she found herself with not one but a trio of beautiful Berners! Her current boy, the lovely Logan, is her fourth. She loves training and showing her dogs and brought Blue to his championship and is now working with Logan to reach that goal.

Karen has been a mainstay of the Nashoba Valley and the national Berner community since 2006 and during that time she has worked tirelessly to help improve the health of our dogs. Karen has organized and coordinated at least 6 OFA clinics for the BMDCNV. So many of our Berners have had their hips and elbows checked thanks to Karen's hard work. Karen also organized DNA (blood and cheek swab) collections at several club events. This included enlisting qualified professionals to do blood draws and ordering all the equipment and collection kits and ensuring that the specimens were promptly sent to the labs.

Karen advises the Board and club members about new health data, studies, and treatments that will help our Berners and provides helpful, practical suggestions. She is also our club representative to the BMDCA Regional Club Council (RCC) and in that role, she helps serve as a bridge between clubs sharing ideas and challenges and bringing new findings back to us.

And she does all this work behind the scenes without fanfare or fuss or looking for personal accolades. She is warm and welcoming to new members and has always made people feel like she is a person we can call on if we need help. Karen's efforts have a material impact on improving the health of our breed and on the health of individual dogs. Karen embodies dedication to the breed, service, and the good sportsmanship we recognize through the Shelly Tyre Award.

Thank you, Karen, for all you do for all of us and our dogs.

Photo provided by Karen Fox, taken by Lynn Meyers.





Show Results



Connecticut River Working Group Association

Saturday, February 29, 2020

JUDGE: MS. LIBBY KESNER

Best of Breed/Group 4:

CH ALPENSPIRIT I'M A SOUL MAN

Owner: Pamela Eldredge & Mylene Turbide Breeder: Mylene Turbide

Best of Opposite Sex:

GCHB THALASSA'S TEA BISCUIT V BIG ROCK

Owner: Priscilla Marsh & Kristen Greenwood Reynolds & R & J Gabriel
Breeder: Robert Gabriel & Joan Gabriel & Georgeann Reeve

Best of Breed Owner-Handled:

MALICLOY HEAR ME ROAR V BJORNS

Owner: Sheri Wright & Angela Evans Breeder: Barbara Pattison

Best of Winners/Winners Bitch/ Bred By Exhibitor:

OLEKA'S IT'S TIME SAMANTHA

Owner: Angela Evans Breeder: Angela Evans & Nancy Daley

Select Bitch/Best Veteran:

GCH ALPENSPIRIT BEFORE MIDNIGHT

Owner: Sindi Leo & Mylene Turbide Breeder: Mylene Turbide

Select Dog:

GCHS MARBEN'S A TRUE SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN

Owner: Kim Dekker-Collins & Tiggie Gerli Breeder: Tiggie Gerli

Award of Merit:

CH MILLENIUM STAR ZIPPI BOY

Owner: Kathy Elders & Kimberly Anderson Breeder: Olga N Palagina

Award of Merit:

GCHG ALPENSPIRIT BLUE SUEDE SHOES

Owner: Barbara Bych & Mylene Turbide Breeder: Mylene Turbide

Award of Merit:

GCH KAIBAB'S JIGSAW PUZZLE OAP OJP

Owner: Alison Jaskiewicz & Mary-Ann Bowman
Breeder: Mary-Ann & Kim Bowman

Winners Dog:

LUCHESE'S TREK TO CRIMSON HARVEST

Owner: Susan Morrill Breeder: Kelly Neill

Reserve Winners Dog:

TREVI'S WINTER BLISS

Breeder: Barbara Ann Bych Owner: Carri Ehrich

Reserve Winners Bitch

CEDAR CREEK L-SIN'S BLACK MAGIC

Owner: Brenda O Bernard Breeder: Brenda O Bernard

JUDGE: MS. ANGELA PORPORA

Best 4-6 Month Puppy

HIGH CASTLE'S WOODFORD RESERVE

Owner: Diana Deyette & Johanne Mangi Breeder: Diana Deyette

Best of Opposite Sex 4-6 Month Puppy

HIGH CASTLES ANGELS ENVY

Owner/Breeder: Diana Deyette

SWEEPS JUDGE: MRS. DAYNA MERROW

Best in Sweeps

MARBEN'S MCKENNA V CRIMSON HARVEST.

Owner: Susan Morrill Breeder: Tiggie Gerli

Best of Opposite Sex Sweeps

RIVERWOOD'S THE FENNEL COUNTDOWN

Owner: Samantha & Christina Sirico & Laurel Wood Breeder: Laurel Wood

Best Veteran in Sweeps

GCH ALPENSPIRIT BEFORE MIDNIGHT

Owner: Sindi Leo & Mylene Turbide Breeder: Mylene Turbide

Best of Opposite Sex Veteran Sweeps

GCH GLENMEGAN'S JOURNEY TO SEAWIND FARM

Owner: Alise Burbridge & Megan McTavish Breeder: Megan McTavish



*Clockwise from top left:
GCHS Simple Twist Of Fate
Soulbern (Dylan) with the
president of her fan club,
Preston;*

*Select Dog: GCHS
MARBEN'S A TRUE
SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN;*

Best in Sweeps: MARBEN'S MCKENNA V CRIMSON HARVEST



Show Results



Connecticut River Working Group Association

Sunday, March 1, 2020

JUDGE: MR. TERRY TEMPLE

Best of Breed:

GCHG ALPENSPIRIT BLUE SUEDE SHOES

Owner: Barbara Bych & Mylene Turbide Breeder: Mylene Turbide

Best of Winners/ Winners Dog:

VINN'S ALL ON ME @ CRIMSON HARVEST

Owner: Susan Morrill & Eric Buonpane Breeder: Eric Buonpane

Best of Breed Owner-Handled/Award of Merit:

CH PINEHILL'S NEW KID IN TOWN

Owner/Breeder: Amy Morrow

Best of Opposite Sex:

GCHB THALASSA'S TEA BISCUIT V BIGROCK

Owner: Priscilla Marsh & Kristin Greenwood Reynolds & R&J Gabriel Breeder: Robert & Joan Gabriel & Georgeann Reeve

Select Dog:

CH L-SIN'S IN THE LINE OF DUTY

Owner: Sindi Leo Breeder: Sindi Leo & Mylene Turbide

Award of Merit:

CH ALPENSPIRIT I'M A SOUL MAN

Owner: Pamela Eldredge & Mylene Turbide Breeder: Mylene Turbide

Award of Merit:

CH MILLENIUM STAR ZIPPI BOY

Owner: Kathy Elders & Kimberly Anderson Breeder: Olga N Palagina

Winners Bitch:

OLEKA'S LILLY OF THE VALLEY

Owner: Angela Evans Breeder: Angela Evans & Sarah Miller

Reserve Winners Dog:

TREVI'S WINTER BLISS

Owner: Barbara Bych Breeder: Carri Ehrich

Reserve Winners Bitch:

TRAILBOUNDS GRAND GALA

Owner: Raymond & Allison Harding & Michelle Keck Breeder: Michelle Keck

JUDGE: MS. MARJORIE MARTORELLA

Best 4-6 Month Puppy/Group 1:

BELNOIS I AM BECAUSE WE ARE

Owner/Breeder: Veronique Matte-Paquet & Lydia Beliveau

Best of Opposite Sex 4-6 Month Puppy

OLEKA ALL REVVED UP READY TO GO V SNOWPAWS

Owner: Heidi Henderson & Angela Evans Breeder: Angela Evans

SWEEPS JUDGE: MS. SUSAN BRIGHTMAN

Best in Sweeps:

RIVERWOOD'S THE FENNEL COUNTDOWN

Owner: Samantha & Christina Sirico & Laurel Wood Breeder: Laurel Wood

Best of Opposite Sex Sweeps:

BELNOIS SHE GOT THE LOOK

Owner/Breeder: Veronique Matte-Paquet

Best Veteran in Sweeps

GCHS TENNESCOTT WHITE MTNS THE BALSAMS CDX RE

Owner: Barbara Beck-Wilczek & William Wilczek Breeder: B. Beck- Wilczek & W. Wilczek & B. McMath

Best of Opposite Sex Veteran Sweeps

GCH GLENMEGAN'S JOURNEY TO SEAWIND FARM

Owner: Alise Burbridge & Megan McTavish Breeder: Megan McTavish

Right-
Best Veteran Sweeps:
GCHS TENNESCOTT
WHITE MTNS THE
BALSAMS CDX RE



Left-
Best of Winners/ Winners Dog:
VINN'S ALL ON ME @
CRIMSON HARVEST



Right-
Best in Sweeps:
RIVERWOOD'S THE
FENNEL COUNTDOWN



QuaranTeam Berner Activities

Coronavirus has us all staying home to stay healthy and safe. What have you been doing with your dogs during this time? Some popular answers were napping, hiking, and taking extra walks. I know that our dogs do not understand why their lives have changed, but I bet that they're all happy to spend more time with their people.



Maisy says "Wash your paws!"
— *Michaelynn Levesque; Hanson, MA*



I'm enjoying doing puzzles of my dogs Gus & Winston. Winston misses saying hi to other dogs, as we cross the street when we see neighbors during our daily walks.
— *Pam Swearingen; Belmont, MA*



During #covid19 #socialdistancing Jerry has become my "co-teacher" working from home & my yoga partner.
— *Lorie-Ann Noyes; Haverhill, NH*



Mick is teaching Roadie how to read during quarantine!
— *Kym Dekker-Collins; Danbury, CT*



During quarantine we set up Trinity's Training Center in the basement. Still a work in progress but she loves it!
— *Linda & Nancy Bates; Dedham, MA*



Khione says, are you going to eat ALL of that?!
— *Elizabeth Malcolmson; Rockport, MA*



Keiko & Tripp on one our many walks while working safely at home.
— Tressy & Cory Manning; Barnard, VT



Raphael helped me do spring clean up during our stay at home.
— Celeste O'Malley; West Brattleboro, VT



Getting fresh air while we keep our distance!
— Karen Shea Price; Pembroke, MA



Luna is tired of taking walks.
— The Bartolinis; Amesbury, MA



Lola & Fennel are helping their mom Esther with her new litter!
— Sam & Tina Sirico; Old Saybrook, CT



Acadia and his big sister, Penny (Landseer Newfoundland) have been handling the social distancing fairly well other than not being petted by others. We are fortunate to be close to the Maine coast and many trails. Every day is a long walk in the morning, then training and resting the rest of the day!



Esther whelped a litter of 11 in quarantine!
— Laurel Wood; Deep River, CT

— Regina Helfer; Freeport, ME

Dog Day Afternoon Picnic



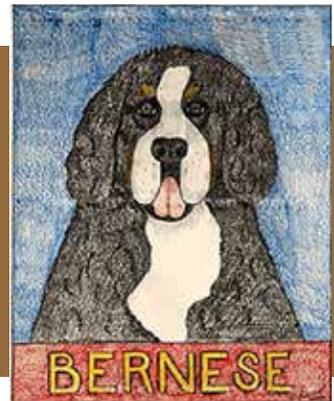
Dog Mountain
143 Parks Rd
Saint Johnsbury, VT
July 25, 2020 at 10am- 3pm

Come and join us for a fun-filled day with your Bernese Mountain Dog at Dog Mountain!

Come to relax; take in the sights; visit the gallery; enjoy a walk...all on the 150 acres of dog friendly property.

There are hiking trails, dog ponds and of course - the world famous Dog Chapel!

It's an off leash haven for all! Dogs are welcome in the Chapel and in the Gallery.



Itinerary

- 10:00-12:00** Arrivals – get acquainted with the grounds and take a nice short walk to upper area
- 12:00-1:30** Barbeque, you bring it and I will have a grill master standing by the grill to help Please bring a side dish for the table and your own drinks. We will have paper products
- 1:30-3:00** Group Photo is planned. I will offer Individual Photos at the most scenic spot in Vermont!
Photos will be done for a nominal donation of your choosing, to either B.E.R.N.E.R. Inc., or to the AKC Health Fund. Photos will be emailed to you after the event.
- 2:30** Blessing of the Berners in Dog Chapel
- 3:00** Wrap it up and say good bye!

Please check out the website www.dogmt.com for hotels and campgrounds in the area. A personal recommendation from Dog Mt. is the Fairbanks Inn located in St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

Outdoor cover is limited to the chapel and the gallery so shade tents are a good idea. Also bring a chair for yourself or a picnic blanket to lounge on. There is access to water for dogs to drink, but bringing it is a good idea as well.

Please RSVP to Heidi Henderson
snowpawpass@yahoo.com or call
802-422-3084



DOG MOUNTAIN
Home of Stephen Huneck Gallery

Birthdays, Congratulations and Brags...

Happy Birthday Odin!!!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Odin turned 6 on April 9th, and that's a reason to smile!

— Dennis Boas; Maynard, MA



LOOK WHO'S 11!

PEACEFIELD SPLENDOR IN THE GRASS AT LIN CARS (Paige) turned 11 on March 30th. She loves birthday cake (hers and anyone else's!)

— Tricia Sullivan; Hanover, MA



Callie is 7!!

We've had so many adventures together, looking forward to many more! Happy birthday Callie!

— Barbara Morss; Rochester, MA



BIRTHDAY BOY!

MTN RIDGE LIGHTNING BOLT ROCK STAR (Jerry) turns 6 on April 23rd.

— Lorie-Ann Noyes; North Haverhill, NH



BIRTHDAY GIRL!

Gala (TRAILBOUNDS GRAND GALA) turns two on March 30th!

— Ray & Allison Harding; Milford, MA



SIX IS SWEET!

Happy 6th Birthday to our Gus (ARUNDEL'S BELMONT TREASURE).

We hope for many more!

— Pam, Charles & Winston Swearingen; Belmont, MA



PUPPY OF ACHIEVEMENT!

STEADFAST HAVEN EMMA LAZARUS completed her Puppy of Achievement certificate. Seen here with her young nephew GOLIATH STEADFAST FERGUS.

— Dorri Poppe; Saugus, MA

Birthdays, Congratulations and Brags...



NEW CHAMPION!

MBISBP STEADFAST HANS completed his championship at the Wilmington, MA shows in January, with a 5-point major! And while we had decided that this 11-month old boy should stay home and grow up for a while before showing more, we didn't actually mean for all the rest of the world to stay home while he does that....

— Dorri Poppe; Saugus, MA



DOUBLE DIGITS!

BISS-BRACE BISS-TEAM CH DIAMOND CREEKS MY STEADFAST MAXINE RN (Cricket) BG# 73365 celebrated her 10th birthday on April 16. We all know the joy of a double digit birthday with a Berner! Cricket got cake - and shared her birthday video to FB.

— Dorri Poppe; Saugus, MA



BEST OF BREED OWNER HANDLED!

RIVERWOOD'S THE FENNEL COUNTDOWN (Fennel) had a great weekend at the CT River Working Group Assoc. cluster of shows. He was Best of Breed Owner Handled and Winner's Dog for a 5 point major at the First Co. Governor's Foot Guard Athletic Association on Saturday. Fennel also won Best in Sweeps and Best of Opposite Sex Sweeps on back to back days under Breeder Judges.

— Sam & Tina Sirico; Old Saybrook, CT



5 POINT MAJOR!

VINNS ALL ON ME AT CRIMSON HARVEST (Dawson) was Winner's Dog for a 5 point major.

— Susan Morrill; Cataumet, MA



BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES!

MARBEN'S MCKENNA V CRIMSON HARVEST was Best in Sweepstakes under Breeder judge Dayna Merrow.

— Susan Morrill; Cataumet, MA



WINNER'S DOG!

LUCCHESI'S TREK TO CRIMSON HARVEST (Rowyn) was Winner's Dog under Breeder Judge Libby Kesner for a 5 point Major.

— Susan Morrill; Cataumet, MA

SIBLINGS ARE EIGHT!

WINDBEAM'S NORTHERN LIGHT (Willow) was born on 4/6/12 one of 6 adorable pups. She constantly guards our home and announces any passers by with a warning bark. She lives at our home with her brother Marco and Mother Chloe and "Uncle Buster".

— Neal & Carol Jensen; Cromwell, CT



Happy birthday to WINDBEAM'S THUNDERCLOUD (Marco). He was born on 4/6/12. Marco's main goal in life is to beg in a subtle way. He loves any snacks you have. He is the brother of Willow. He shares his home with his mother Chloe, sister Willow and "Uncle Buster". He is a loveable friend.

— Neal & Carol Jensen; Cromwell, CT

Nashoba Berner Backups

In these unprecedented times we should all have a sheet of basic information about our pets in an easily accessible place in case of emergency. Things on this list should include an emergency contact, vet address and phone number, allergies, feeding schedule and amounts, allergies, medications, and anything else that would be important in the care of your pet(s) while you are unwell.

At this time, we are asking everyone to make or check in on their emergency plans for their pet(s).

The below list of questions can help you get started on this task.

- Do you have a plan for your pet if you get sick or hospitalized?
- Do you have friends or relatives in your immediate area that would be willing to take in your pet?
- Is your breeder available or willing to care for your pet during an emergency?
- Do you have a designated caregiver or need a designated caregiver for your pet?

If you need a temporary caregiver, consider asking a neighbor/friend/family member if they are willing to care for your pet during your time of need. He or she should be someone who is generally home during the day or has easy access to your home. A set of keys should be given to this trusted individual. This may work well with neighbors who have pets of their own—you may even swap responsibilities, depending upon who has accessibility.

If you do not have a neighbor/friend/family member available to take care of your pet, please contact Jean Michael at President@bmdcnv.org. We will pair you with a Nashoba Berner Backup which is a temporary foster/caregiver who is willing to care for dogs in an emergency situation. Please let us know if you are interested as either a temporary caregiver, or would like to be matched with a temporary caregiver as part of your emergency plans, we hope that you and your families are safe and well. In the

event that you fall ill, whether during this pandemic or another type of emergency, do you have a plan for your pets? It's a very important and often overlooked part of emergency planning.



New Members

Showcase



Are you a new Member?

Tell us about yourself in our New Member Showcase. Click on this link...

<http://bmdcnv.org/newmember.html>

Complete the quick summary, hit submit, email your pic and you're done! Please complete your submission by the 20th to be included in the next issue of the Berner Blatt.

We look forward to meeting you!

The BMDCNV chairpeople

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These dedicated chairpeople provide essential services to you, our membership. Please feel free to contact them with your questions, concerns, suggestions, requests for help or offers of help. Our mission is to provide the best for Berners and their families.

In Remembrance



MIDAS **“MIGHTY MIGHT”**

NOVEMBER 5TH, 2009 - FEBRUARY 2020

Midas was our love bug right from the start and never any trouble. When we brought Midas home we were smitten with his black, curly, Rastafarian coat and almost entirely black face. He instantly bonded with his 9 month older brother Juno (who turned 11 this past February!).

Midas never had any physical issues growing up. He was loving, sweet and independent and no trouble at all (after we installed a doggy door) and perhaps just a bit of a mama's boy. He looked forward to our long walks in the woods, loved long cuddles and enjoyed sleeping outside in the cool breeze.

We lost Midas at 10 very suddenly. He was diagnosed with Histiocytic sarcoma in late February and although we knew it would not cure him it was decided we would do what we could to give him some more time. We will never really know what happened but we think he caught an illness he could not fight while his body was weak from the Chemo treatment.

We thank you Midas for showing us what unconditional love and loyalty look and feel like. May you rest in peace handsome boy. We hope you are enjoying tons of marrow bones over Rainbow bridge. Your Mom and Dad and older brother Juno love and miss you every day.

— Lora & Tim Cermola, Litchfield CT

BMDCNV

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Contact
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