



The Pennsylvania Newsletter

Official Publication of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Pennsylvania
"Your Professional Organization for over Seventy Years"

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Summer 2015



Message from the President A Year In Review

Michael Osborne
ASCLS-PA President

Thank you to each and every one of our ASCLS-PA members, supporters and friends of ASCLS-PA for allowing me the opportunity to have served as your president for 2014-2015. It has been an honor and a privilege for me. I want to also personally thank the members of the ASCLS Board and our committee chairs for their selfless service to this organization and the laboratorians of Pennsylvania. Without this core group of caring, dedicated professionals, our ASCLS-PA group would not exist. I would also like to thank Quest Diagnostics for their generosity with using their meeting rooms, which saved our group valuable resources and allowing me to share my time with ASCLS-PA.

I am extremely confident our group will be in better hands and move confidently into the future under the capable leadership of our new President- Jean Buchenhorst from Pennsylvania Hospital – the Nation’s First Hospital. Madame President the gavel is yours. I ask all of us in Pennsylvania to help Jean and the ASCLS-PA as we prepare to host the **National ASCLS Meeting in Philadelphia in August 2016.** A huge honor for our group! This is the largest clinical lab expo in the world!

From Erie to Philadelphia, Pittsburgh to Scranton, Carlisle to Harrisburg to State College and everywhere in between our great Keystone State, we in the laboratory provide a very valuable diagnostic and prognostic service to the patients and medical professionals who provide

front line care. We have much to be proud of! Without the information we provide, thru our life’s work, many patients would not receive the critical care they need. We play a significant role in the volume to value shift that is happening daily in the United States healthcare system and organizations such as ASCLS-PA help secure laboratorian’s place at the healthcare table.

I again shout out my calls- **1) “Join a lab group –any lab group” but hopefully ASCLS-PA and 2) please consider joining ASCLS-PA and/or chairing or simply volunteering to help with a committee.** As they say you will get out of it much more than you put in!

Have you considered traveling to Atlanta, Georgia for the 2015 National AACC Meeting? Statewide and National ASCLS Conferences facilitate the acquisition of new skills and knowledge needed to increase productivity, quality and service. If you find you will be in Atlanta please look me up. My cell is 267-273-6415.

ASCLS-PA is committed to being the voice and the vision of the clinical laboratory profession in Pennsylvania. We help make sure the right test is performed at the right time on the right person and that is good and noble work. We make sure the patient is getting value for their healthcare dollar spent. Be proud of our profession and the work we do. It is vitally important! We are Pennsylvania’s Laboratory Professionals.

2015-2016 ASCLS-PA Leadership

ASCLS-PA elected board members and officers at the May, 2015 Spring Meeting.

The roster below is effective August 1, 2015.

President: Jean Buchenhorst

President Elect: TBD

Past President: Michael Osborne

Secretary: William Hunt

Treasurer: Scott Aikey

Board Members: Katie Franz, Sharon Strauss, Rebecca Falsone

New Professional: Ryan Stetz

Student: TBD

STAY IN TOUCH WITH US ON OUR WEBSITE

Make sure you bookmark www.ascls-pa.org to stay in touch with us. You can find numerous updates and information on the website about upcoming meetings.





A Recap of the ASCLS-PA Annual Spring Meeting

Scott Aikey

ASCLS-PA Spring Meeting General Chair

The Annual Joint Spring Meeting of ASCLS-PA and PASSAMT was held at the Harrisburg Holiday Inn East in Harrisburg, PA on May 4-6, 2015. By all accounts, all of the attendees reported that the meeting was a success both from an educational standpoint as well as an operational/financial standpoint. In addition to the over 125 attendees, there were 16 industry partners who exhibited their latest technologies.

On Tuesday, the meeting was kicked off on a light note with Tammy Miller sharing ways we could improve our workplace by adjusting our perspective and reaction to everyday situations. The speaker delivered the plenary session entitled "This Funny Place Called Work". Following the Plenary Session, there were 15 additional talks offered in 3 different rooms. On Wednesday, an additional 15 talks were offered across 3 rooms. An attendee could earn up to 11 hours of Continuing

Education if they attended both days.

In addition to the high quality continuing education talks, attendees were treated to the all day break package including breakfast, lunch and snacks. This was all included in the registration rate of \$95 per day for members. There is clearly no other place to get the number of CE hours, visit 16 vendors, and network with other laboratory professionals from around the region for the price!

The committee has started to plan next year's meeting which will most likely mirror the events from this past year. If you are interested in getting involved, especially if you would like to assist in identifying speakers, please contact us. Check the website at www.ascls-pa.org for more information.



Another Student Review Session "in the books"

Ryan Stetz

ASCLS-PA Student Representative

In my short time as the ASCLS-PA Student Representative, I have seen the benefits of being a member of an organization that promotes camaraderie amongst laboratory professionals, lobbies for our interests, and encourages continued education in the medical science field. One of ASCLS's core commitments is educating the next generation of Medical Laboratory Scientists. It is with great pleasure that I can say that the ASCLS-PA sponsored Student Review Session was a huge success. On Saturday June 6th at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, students from both MLS and MLT programs not only from Pennsylvania, but New Jersey and Delaware as well, attended the event. It was great to see that so many aspiring laboratory professionals demonstrated a serious commitment to studying the subject material that will be tested on the Board of Certification Exam. This is exactly the type of hard work and dedication that this profession

needs to maintain into the future.

I would also like to thank the great panel of laboratory professionals who devoted their Saturday to help the students review a large amount of material. All major laboratory disciplines were covered, as well as test taking tips. Again, a special thanks to: Dr. Mary Ann McLane, MLS (ASCP)^{CM} University of Delaware, Dr. Raelene Maser, MLS (ASCP)^{CM} University of Delaware, Margaret Reinhart, MS, MMA, MLS (ASCP)^{CM} University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, Wendy George, MS, MLS (ASCP)^{CM} SM Pennsylvania College of Health Sciences, Jennifer Slodysko, MS, MLS (ASCP)^{CM} Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, and Stephanie Noblit, MLS (ASCP)^{CM} The Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. The students appreciated your time and effort in preparing us for our new profession.



SAVE THE DATE!

The National ASCLS Annual Meeting and Clinical Laboratory Exposition will be held on July 28-Aug 1, 2015 in Atlanta, GA. In addition, the Advanced Management Institute will be held prior to the start of the meeting. Go to www.ascls.org for more information and to register for the meeting.



ASCLS-PA Takes on the Hill

Stephanie Noblit

New Professional Representative

On March 16, 2015 over 130 medical laboratory professionals from around the country put down their pipettes and stepped into the world of politics by attending the annual ASCLS Legislative Symposium. The ASCLS Legislative Symposium is a two day conference which educates lab professionals about the issues facing the lab and how to communicate these issues to members of congress. The second day the conference consists of legislative appointments with your state senators and representatives. This year the major issues discussed were laboratory reimbursement, personnel shortage, and funding for education programs.

On the hill this year, we had five people, including myself, representing Pennsylvania. We had appointments with staffers from Senator Pat Toomey, Senator Bob Casey, and Congressman Bob Brady's offices. We were also very lucky to get an appointment to speak with Congressman Chaka Fattah himself. During these appointments, we urged our congressmen to reject any further cuts to clinical lab testing services under the Medicare program and to establish a new grant program specific for clinical laboratory science within Title VII of the Public Health Service Act to ensure adequate supply of clinical laboratory professionals to meet the growing demand.

Follow up by the ASCLS Government Affairs Committee, in regards to the new grant program, has found that Senator Casey could be a potential supporter of this grant. Currently, ASCLS's legislative assistant, Patrick Cooney, is working with certain congressional offices to find a champion for this grant.

Being on Capitol Hill is humbling, but it is also empowering. Being able to lobby for a cause you believe in is a pillar of American democracy. Our efforts may not lead to any legislation anytime soon, but if we were able to educate at least one person about our profession then it was a success. I hope that if you ever have the opportunity to lobby on Capitol Hill that you take advantage of it. If you can't make it to Capitol Hill, however, you can still make a difference right from your home computer. Writing letters, making phone calls, or visiting local congressional offices are great ways to let politicians know about our cause and concerns. It is easy to type up an email and send it to your congressperson. One simple email may not seem like much, but imagine the impact we would have if we all sent one email to our senators and representatives. It is our right as Americans to stand up for what we believe in. We all have the power to make a difference.



ASCLS-PA members attend the ASCLS Legislative Symposium and meet with Congressman Chaka Fattah. Seated are ASCLS-PA members Jean Buchenhorst and Kimberlee Gallagher. Back row: ASCLS-PA members Andy Huynh, Michael Osborne, Congressman Chaka Fattah and ASCLS-PA member Stephanie Noblit.



ASCLS-PA members in Washington DC. From Left to Right: Kimberlee Gallagher, Michael Osborne, Andy Huynh, Stephanie Noblit, and Jean Buchenhorst.



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We can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/#!/ASCLSPennsylvania> or just search for ASCLS Pennsylvania



Meet Your Incoming National ASCLS President, from Pennsylvania!

William Hunt
ASCLS-PA Secretary

Barbara Snyderman, President Elect of ASCLS

As she prepares to become the President of ASCLS, I sat down to talk with Barbara about her 38 year involvement in our society.

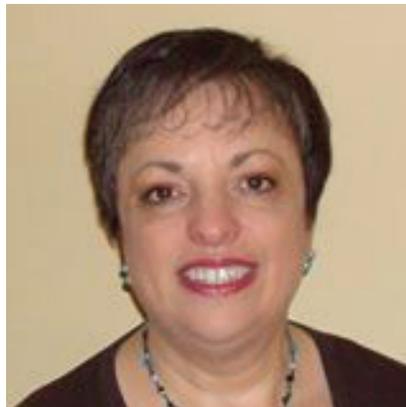
Barbara Snyderman entered an MLT program in 1974 at the Hahnemann University (now part of Drexel University) and received her Associate in Science degree in 1976. She, and three other students, were the first to enroll in the cooperative education program at Hahnemann for their Bachelor of Science. The Co-op program allowed students to work every other semester, graduating with over a year of work experience. The four students received their degrees in 1979. She joined the American Society for Medical Technology (now ASCLS) as a student member along with Angie McNaughton, who is also still a member of ASCLS.

She attended her 1st national meeting in Atlanta, Georgia in 1977 with Angie and her first Region II ASMT meeting in October of 1977 in Charleston, WV. Angie and Barbara took a 12 hour train ride from Philadelphia to attend that meeting! On her return she attended a local Southeastern Chapter of PSMT meeting (now Delaware Valley Chapter ASCLS-PA) and was approached by the President at the time Dezna Sheehan who asked her if she would be interested in being the Pennsylvania Student representative. Barbara also served as editor of the Pennsylvania Newsletter while a student member. In 1978 she attended her 2nd national meeting in Denver, Colorado and was elected National Student Forum Secretary. She also was Student Forum Chair of Region II until 1980. Since 1977, Barbara has attended 38 consecutive national meetings.

Barbara's other notable accomplishment for Pennsylvania is that she has been state president once a decade, in the 80's, 90's and 00's. The first time Barbara was president she stepped in after the passing of Mercedes Cole. (The ASCLS-PA undergraduate scholarship was originally named for Mercedes.) It has been noted that at the end of her term as ASCLS president there will still be enough

time for her to run again as President of ASCLS-PA in the 10's.

My first interaction with Barbara was when she was General Chair of the 1987 state meeting at the Hilton in King of Prussia. She asked me to co-chair registration. This was in the days before word processors. There were close to 1000 attendees, and 40 vendors over a 3 day meeting. Everything was entered manually on sheets and Barbara would bring her electric typewriter and "bang" out sheet after sheet of name tags. Confirmation of registration was through the US mail. I remember



loading box after box of envelopes for each registrant. Word processors arrived in the 90's and the society was completely electronic in the 00's.

Barbara was inducted into Alpha Mu Tau, the ASCLS honor society in 1989 and was president from 1999-2000. She did not run for a national ASCLS office until 2008 when she was elected to the ASCLS Board of Directors from Region II. At the end of her 2nd term in 2014 she ran and was elected ASCLS President Elect. She takes office as President at the end of the House of Delegates on August 1, 2015. She will

join a long list of other Pennsylvanians who have been President of ASCLS including Nellie (Patsy) Bering, Roma Brown, Glenda Price, MaryAnn McLane and Scott Aikey.

It is certainly fitting that Barbara will be sworn into office as the National ASCLS President this year in Atlanta, GA exactly 39 years after her first national meeting in the same city of Atlanta. ASCLS-PA is truly honored to have such a wonderful person representing Pennsylvania and the clinical laboratory profession as a whole as the leader of our national Society! Congratulations Barbara!



Motions from the Most Recent ASCLS-PA Board Meeting and House of Delegates

William Hunt

ASCLS-PA Secretary

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-PA Board Meeting Harrisburg Holiday Inn East, Harrisburg, PA May 4, 2015

MOTION #1: Moved by Franz, seconded by Hunt that the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors approve the agenda as presented.

Motion #2: Moved by Strauss, seconded by Franz that the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors approve the Secretary's report dated 2/7/15 as corrected. Motion Passed.

Motion #3: Moved by Franz, seconded by Hunt for the Board of Directors to adjourn.

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-PA House of Delegates Meeting Harrisburg Holiday Inn East, Harrisburg, PA May 4, 2015

MOTION 1: Moved by Hunt, seconded by Aikey that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed.

MOTION 2: Moved by Aikey, seconded by Gourley that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates approve the minutes of the 2014 ASCLS-PA House of Delegates dated May 5, 2014 as corrected. Motion passed.

Motion 3: Moved by Hunt, seconded by Strauss that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates accept the ASCLS-PA Treasurer report dated 4/30/15 as presented and file for audit. Motion passed.

Motion 4: Moved by Hunt, seconded by Noblit that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates accept the ASCLS-PA Treasurer scholarship report dated 4/30/15 as presented and file for audit. Motion passed

Motion 5: Moved by Gourley, Seconded by Hunt that the 2015 ASCLS-PA House of Delegates adopt the revised ASCLS-PA Bylaws and Standard Operating Procedures. Motion Passed unanimously.

Motion 6: Moved by Gourley, Seconded by Hunt that a Task Force be appointed to review the revise the ASCLS-PA Handbook and report back to the next Board of Directors meeting. Motion Passed

Motion 7: Moved by Aikey, Seconded by Buchenhorst that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates approve funding of Stephanie Noblit for the ASCLS Leadership Academy for the time period of July 2015 through July 2016. Motion Passed.

Motion 8: Moved by Aikey, Seconded by Osborne that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates approve the funding to mail copies to the first newsletter of next year to the non-members who attended this meeting cost to come from the Newsletter line item.

Motion 9: Moved by Hunt, seconded by Strauss that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates elect the slate of candidates by acclamation:

President Elect: Not filled

Treasurer: Scott Aikey

BOD: Rebecca Falsone (3 year BOD term)

Motion 10: Moved by Aikey, seconded by Gourley that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates approve the funding of the Student Forum Representative to attend the ASCLS Atlanta meeting to include airfare, 50% of hotel and registration. Motion Passed

MOTION 11: Moved by Aikey, seconded by Hunt that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates direct the President to purchase two gifts for the ASCLS Silent Auction not to exceed \$150 total money to come from O&A. Motion Passed.

Motion 12: Moved by Aikey, seconded by Hunt that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates approve the following list of ASCLS-PA delegates to the 2015 ASCLS House of Delegates.

President: Michael Osborne

President Elect: Jean Buchenhorst

Student Representative: Ryan Stetz

New Professionals: Stephanie Noblit

At large Delegates: Sharon Strauss,

Mary Beth Miele, Katie Franz

Be it noted the budgeted \$2000 delegate fund will be evenly distributed between the 3 at large delegates and the new professional delegate. Motion passed.

Motion 13: Moved by Miele, seconded by Strauss that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates purchase Tasty Kakes for the Atlanta meeting (invitation to ASCLS House of Delegates) for the 2016 Philadelphia meeting not to exceed \$500 funds to come from O&A. Motion passed

Motion 14: Moved by Hunt, seconded by Strauss that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates approve the 2015-2016 budget as presented. Motion Passed.

MOTION #15: Moved by Hunt, seconded by Strauss that the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates adjourn sine die at 9:00 pm. Motion passed.



ASCLS-PA Adopts New Bylaws and Standard Operating Procedures

Mary M. Gourley
ASCLS-PA Bylaws Chair

At the Annual Spring Meeting in May, the ASCLS-PA House of Delegates adopted the revised Bylaws and Standard Operating Procedures. These bylaws, effective May, 2015 will be published on the Pennsylvania Website shortly.

The major changes contained in the revision:

1. Articles on the Code of Ethics and ASCLS Presidents Council have been removed.
2. The ASCLS-PA House of Delegates has been replaced by the Annual Business Meeting (the meeting is held in conjunction with the Annual Spring meeting and all members are encouraged to attend)
3. Revisions to the Standard Operating Procedures will now be approved by the Board of Directors instead of the House of Delegates. (Bylaws will still require approval by 2/3 of the voting members at the Annual Business Meeting)
4. The Membership classes have been replaced with the ASCLS Membership Classes.
5. The number of Directors at Large has been reduced from six (6) down to three (3). (The Board now consists of the President, President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, Immediate Past President, three (3) Directors at Large, one (1) voting Student, and one (1) voting First Year Professional)

The process for amending these documents is as follows:

1. Changes are submitted to the Bylaws committee

which will put the changes into amendments. COMPLETED

2. The amendments are the submitted to the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors for review and approval. COMPLETED
3. The Bylaws Committee has submitted the amendments to the ASCLS Bylaws Committee for review to verify compliance with the ASCLS Bylaws and SOP's. COMPLETED
4. Approval by the ASCLS Bylaws Committee. COMPLETED
5. Approved amendments to be distributed to the membership at least 30 days prior to vote. COMPLETED
6. Approval by the voting members attending the Annual ASCLS-PA House of Delegates in May 2015. COMPLETED
7. The amended Bylaws have been sent to the ASCLS National office and Bylaws Committee. COMPLETED

I want to thank the members of the Task Force (Scott Aikey, Bill Hunt, Mike Osborne, and Sharon Strauss), the ASCLS-PA Board of Directors, and the ASCLS Bylaws Committee for their hard work on this monumental task.

The ASCLS-PA Handbook is currently being reviewed by a Task Force and will be updated accordingly. Once this has been completed, it will be placed on the website.

ASCLS-PA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

ASCLS-PA would like to welcome all the new members who have joined our organization between February 1, 2015 and May 31, 2015. If you work with one of these new members, please welcome them to the Society and encourage them to become active!

Monica	Straub	Professional I	Harrisburg	Mark	Mangir	Student	Spring City
Patrine	Lewis	Student	Blakeslee	Reva	Eagan	Student	Shavertown
Adam	McMullen	Professional I	Philadelphia	Madhubala	Parikh	Collaborative	Enola
Beth	Myers	Collaborative	Morrisdale	Karen	Gatewood	Collaborative	Levittown
Stacey	Balthaser	Student	Reading	Kathleen	Miller	First Year Professional	
Melanie	Graeff	Student	Robesonia				Middletown
Erin	Hughes	Student	Douglasville	Nathan	George	First Year Professional	
Quinn	Hulsizer	Student	Stroudsburg				Jonestown
Ryan	Pezanowski	Student	Greenfield	Diane	Kratz	First Year Professional	
Erin	Quinn	Student	Coopersburg				Telford
Patrick	McGinn	Collaborative	Wayne	Deborah	Chacosky	Professional I	West Chester
Jay	Patel	Student	Scranton				



ASCLS-PA Awards Members with Prestigious Awards During the Annual Awards Banquet on May 5, 2015

Mary M. Gourley, ASCLS-PA Awards Chair

At the 2015 ASCLS-PA Awards Banquet held May 5 in Harrisburg, the following awards were presented:

- DOLBEY MEMBER OF THE YEAR:** Katie Franz
- LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT:** Mary Gourley
- ESTOLLE GROSS:** Jean Buchenhorst
- KEENER MEMORIAL:** Rebecca Falsone, Mary Gourley, Mary Beth Miele
- CORPORATE RECOGNITION:** Quest Diagnostics
- KEYS TO THE FUTURE:** Andy Huynh, Ryan Stetz
- 20 YEAR MEMBERSHIP:** Kim Cattie, Kristin May, Peggy Ray, Margaret Reinhart
- SUSTAINED MEMBERSHIP:** **55-yr:** Nellie (Patsy) Bering; **50-yr:** Adaline Dogon, Mary Gourley; **45-yr:** Rose Evans, Judy Hoover; **35-yr:** Susan Mindler, Paul Reid; **30-yr:** Scott Aikey, Dina Gribbin, Joan McCahon

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE AWARD RECIPIENTS.

It is not too early to be thinking about nominations for 2016. All nominations are welcome and anyone can nominate. Let's have a banner year for awards next year.



The 2015 ASCLS-PA Dolbey Member of the Year Award Winner Katie Franz (front) surrounded by past winners: (Left to Right: Barbara Snyderman, Mary Ann McLane, William Hunt, Sharon Strauss, Scott Aikey, Mary Beth Miele, and Mary Gourley) In addition to a plaque, winners receive a medallion.

On April 9, 2015, the laboratory profession lost a long time professional, Gwen Thompson. Gwen was a long time member of PASSAMT and a constant fixture at the Annual ASCLS-PA / PASSAMT Spring Meetings for decades. Gwen was a very active member of PASSAMT and worked at Memorial Medical Center in Johnstown PA. ASCLS-PA leadership expresses their condolences to Gwen's family and PASSAMT. The following poem was read at Gwen's funeral. Thank you to Debbie Smeal for forwarding this poem for publication.

The Dash

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend.
 He referred to the dates on the tombstone from the beginning...to the end.
 He noted that first came the date of birth and spoke the following date with tears,
 but he said: what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.
 For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth.
 And now only those who love her know, what that little line is worth.
 For it matters not, how much we own, the cars...the house...the cash.

What matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So, think about this long and hard.
 Are there things you'd like to change?
 For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real and always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile, remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is being read, with your life's actions to rehash... would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent YOUR dash!



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8 Lakeview Court
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

**Moving? Remember you can
update all your membership
information online at
www.ascls-pa.org**

**Or send your attached label
and your corrected address to:
ASCLS-PA
8 Lakeview Court
Sinking Spring, PA 19608
to insure uninterrupted service**

Coming Events

ASCLS National Meeting and Clinical Lab Expo: July 28 – Aug 2, 2015

ASCLS-PA Fall Board of Directors Meeting: October 17, 2015 (Pennsylvania Hospital)

ASCLS-PA Winter Board of Directors Meeting: February 6, 2016 (Philadelphia area)

**ASCLS Spring Meeting and Expo / Board Meeting –
date to be determined (Harrisburg area)**

All members of ASCLS-PA are welcome and encouraged to attend any meeting of the Board of Directors
To get involved, simply email Jean Buchenhorst at Jean.Buchenhorst@uphs.upenn.edu

**The Pennsylvania Newsletter is the official publication of
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President: Michael Osborne

President-Elect: Jean Buchenhorst

Past President: Laurie Taraborrelli

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