



CFFW Dinner Meeting

Wednesday, May 25th
Merritt Island Olive Garden (SR 520)
Happy Hour/Socializing 6-6:30 pm
Dinner 6:30 - 7:15 pm
Meeting Begins 7:15 pm

Lt. Darrin P. Riley, the FWC Statewide Derelict Vessel Coordinator will be our Guest Speaker.

Reservations are necessary and can be made by calling Kelly Haugh at 321-449-0827 before May 22nd.

General Meetings

May 25th
July 27th
September 28th
October 26th

Board Meetings

June 6th	August 29th
June 27th	September 28th
July 27th	October 3rd
August 1st	October 31st
	December 5th

Please call Kelly Haugh at 321-449-0827 for more information.

It's Almost Time
for Our Annual
Membership Picnic
(See Page 5 for More)



Citizens For Florida's Waterways
Post Office Box 541712
Merritt Island, FL 32954-1712

When Does Your
Membership Expire?

Here's a Hint

If you're not a member...please join.
Your membership dues provide the financial support
needed to save family boating from the
million-dollar enviro-businesses.

Please join online at cffw.org
or by mailing the enclosed membership form.



CITIZENS FOR FLORIDA'S WATERWAYS

Vol. 17 - Issue 23

May/June 2011

Citizens For Florida's Waterways promotes public access to and the responsible use of Florida waterways, coexistence among recreational and commercial boaters, marine industry, property owners and the marine environment. CFFW advocates education in the safe use of watercraft with consideration of our environment.

Spring Has Sprung, Here's Your Fitting Out Safety Checklist

Complete safety inspection of the engine, hull, and other systems should take, at most, an hour or two.

Out of the Water

- **Inspect and lubricate seacocks.** Hoses and hose clamps (two at each fitting below or near the waterline) should be inspected and replaced as necessary. This is also the best time to replace gate valves, if any, with seacocks. Gate valves are prone to failure and not as reliable as seacocks. You also can't glance at a gate valve to see that it's been closed.
- **Replace deteriorated zincs.** They disintegrate and give a good indication of what would happen to vital underwater machinery if the zincs were not there. Note: If the zinc has vanished or has been reduced to powder, check the other metal surfaces, especially underwater, to ensure they didn't also suffer from electrolysis. Zincs that disappear after less than a season indicate a serious problem with the boat's bonding and/or electrical system. (Look first for chafed wires or battery cables, which also can cause a fire.)
- **Inspect prop(s) for dings, pitting, and distortion** that can create excessive vibration and can loosen everything from screws and bulkheads to dental fillings. Make sure cotter pins are secure. "Tired" props, incidentally, can be rejuvenated by a machine shop. Finally, grip the prop and try moving the shaft. Looseness indicates the cutlass bearing probably needs to be replaced.
- **Check to make sure the rudder stock hasn't been bent.** Also try moving the rudder: Any looseness must be corrected (the remedy depends on the type of installation).
- **Inspect the hull for blisters, distortion, and stress cracks.** Small "pinhead" blisters can be dried, sanded, and filled. Large blisters may require professional attention. Distortion and/or stress cracks are two other hull problems that should be addressed by a marine surveyor or repairer.
- **Make sure the engine intake sea strainer is free of corrosion and is properly secured.** Strainers that weren't drained properly in the fall could've been bent by ice over the winter. Replace questionable parts.

Outdrives and Outboards

- **Inspect rubber outdrive bellows for cracked, dried, and/or deteriorated spots** (look in the folds). Replace suspect bellows.
- **Replace deteriorated outdrive zincs.**
Check power steering and power trim oil levels. Follow the manufacturer's maintenance schedule or use a factory-authorized mechanic.

Control Cables

- **Inspect Outer Jacket.** Cracks or swelling indicate corrosion and mean the cable must be replaced. (Note: Don't try to remedy the problem by squirting lubricant into the cracks or wrapping duct tape around the outer jacket; most lubricants are incompatible and will only make things worse.)

In the Water

- **Check the engine shaft and rudder stuffing boxes for steady leaks and looseness.** Some weeping or even an occasional drip should be evident at the engine-shaft stuffing box (not the rudder). If leaking can't be stopped by tightening the nut, repack the gland. (Caution: Over-tightening the nut prevents leaking underway, which will burn out the packing material.)
- **Use a hose to check for deck leaks at ports and hatches.** Renew caulk or gaskets as needed. Don't rely on a bilge pump to overcome a multitude of deck leaks.

Engines and Fuel Systems

- **Inspect fuel lines, including fill and vent hoses, for indications of softness, brittleness, or cracking.** Any that are suspect should be replaced with Coast Guard-approved J1527 hose. Check joints for leaks (or use your finger and look for stains under or around the fitting) and make sure all lines are well supported with non-combustible clips or straps without rough edges.
- **Inspect outer jacket.** Cracks or swelling indicate corrosion and mean the cable must be replaced. (Note: Don't try to remedy the problem by squirting lubricant into the cracks or wrapping duct tape around the outer jacket; most lubricants are incompatible and will only make things worse.

(continued, please turn to page 9)

CFFW Officers

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Secretary

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321-449-0827

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From Your President/Secretary by Kelly Haugh

March Dinner Meeting... The CFFW dinner meeting was held at the Merritt Island Olive Garden on Wednesday, March 28th

Jen Rivera was our guest speaker and she gave a great presentation on skin cancer detection and proper skin protection.

Bob Atkins also brought us up to date on what is going on with the Manatee Forum. He had a lot of good information and is encouraged that with the current, local Representatives and Legislators that we have a chance of making some significant changes in the coming year or two.

Your CFFW Board of Directors is working hard with local, State and Federal agencies to make sure that the interests of the boating community are heard.

Gus and Bobbie Gustel won the 50/50 raffle and Louis Rivera and Mary Beth Mittauer each received two \$10 gift certificates for Crest Cleaners that were donated by Keith Houston, Thanks Keith!

Our next meeting will be May 25th at the Merritt Island Olive Garden. Our guest speaker will be Lt. Darrin P. Riley from FFWC and he will speaking about derelict vessels.

Come out to meet your fellow members and learn about those eyesores you always notice from the causeways. ♦



Welcome Aboard Our Newest Members

Scorpion's Port Canaveral Marine

*Jeffrey Alan, Phil & Liz Doherty, Mark Heine
Carolyn Halavin, and Paul Small of Merritt Island*

Robert Anderson of Cocoa

Justin Jackson of Rockledge

Shawn & Jen Bianca of Longwood

Robert Land of Lake Mary

*Dennis & Susan Morris,
and James Riley of Port Salerno*

Webster's Wrap-Up by Steven Webster

We've been closely involved in the 2011 Legislative session, completed in early May.



Congratulations to "hometown boy" Senate President Mike Haridopolos for finishing a tough session on time (and on budget). The further you got from Merritt, the higher the number of Doubting Thomases who expected session to run overtime.

When the dust settled, the good news is a bill that would have allowed DEP to charge lease fees for private single-family docks ultimately failed.

Other good news came as a result of a bill that didn't pass. Rep Patronis and Senator Evers proposed to limit the number of Requests for Additional Information (RAIs) that DEP or the Water Management Districts can seek. These RAIs are the bureaucrats' version of running out the clock, because the agencies have only so many days to either approve or reject a permit. Many times, an RAI is issued at the last minute, effectively stalling the project and driving up costs.

Last month, the "new management" at DEP – specifically Regulatory Chief Jeff Littlejohn – issued a new policy which will severely curtail the use of RAIs. Jeff has been on the 'other side of the fence' – that is, battling the regulators – all his business life. (I've been involved with him on several marine issues; his appointment at DEP is just plain wonderful.)

This affects not just waterways, but everything regulated by DEP. Expect to see more good news from DEP—the poster child for regulatory excess.

Other news is that a bill by Senator Negron (from South Florida) decriminalizes boat incidents that don't result in serious injury or death. The fines go up to a maximum of \$250 for a first offense, but a non-criminal fine sure beats a rap sheet! The governor is expected to sign the bill (S512).

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The feud between the Federal EPA and Florida over water quality standards is continuing. Honestly, I think the legislature's attempt to tell DEP not to work with DEP has some – uh, legal problems. But it sure sent up a red flag in a state the Dems desperately want to keep blue in 2012 – the year the regulations would hit.

I expect the EPA to "blink" and give Florida more time. It will be interesting to see how the enviro groups that caused this mess react. They sure are talking loudly about dragging EPA back to court.

If the EPA doesn't blink, it can mean nuthin' but trouble for waterfront homeowners, boaters, and park users. Just about any human activity will "degrade" water further....We'll stay on top of this one.

As for our favorite critter, we're going to get very busy now. The 2012 session takes place in January-February, done every ten years because of redistricting. If the Wildlife Commission doesn't give our CFFW petition the attention it deserves – well, we have the attention of key legislators, who will be demanding an explanation why millions are being spent on programs whose effectiveness can't be shown. ♦

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Just a Bit Controversial *by Daniel Dvorak*

"It's controversial to say, but the boat wakes are a major contribution to all the erosion. But we do also know that sea levels have risen."



You want to know who said that? Not some loon at an environmentalist NGO (Non-Governmental Organization a.k.a. Sierra, Earthjustice, Save the whatever), but Margo Schwadron, an environmentalist loon at the National Parks Service in Tallahassee, while talking about an old trash heap along the banks of Mosquito Lagoon.

It seems that there's less of the trash heap than there used to be, and in an unusual twist, people without real problems—like unemployment—are determined to maintain that trash heap in pristine condition for eternity.

If you boat in Florida's coastal waters you're pretty familiar with what the lagoon looks like almost every afternoon in the summer when the sea breeze is blowing about 10-15 knots. Foot-high waves with whitecaps, right? And what the lagoon looks like in the winter as another cold front is blowing in: foot-high waves with bigger whitecaps, but from a different direction. And in April, as the weather goes from pleasant to hot to pleasant, but mostly windy: more foot-high waves with whitecaps.

Probably at least 275 days a year we have some period of windy conditions where the river is too choppy to comfortably boat (in anything I can afford, anyway), and this "archaeologist" joins the legion of nut cases that blame boat wakes for the destruction of this or that essential place. Yes, the 1500-year old trash heap is joining Pelican Island, the nation's first wildlife refuge, in being destroyed by the wake of the occasional passing motorboat.

And those of you that live on a canal or have been boating on the lagoon lately are likely speechless at the ridiculous claim that sea levels have risen. The water in

my canal off the Banana River is actually so low that you could walk with dry feet on the canal side of my neighbor's seawall! In the 10 years we've lived here the water hasn't been so low. Sea levels have risen? When I Googled "how much have sea levels risen" I found a really interesting article about a Swedish professor that calls sea level rise "the greatest lie ever told." Read the article at <http://bit.ly/mf7BVh>

You may be wondering where I found an article on an old trash heap, and why I—who have much better things to do—would be reading it. The *where* is Florida Today, and part of the *why* is because they're never open when I call to cancel delivery. The other part is because the kids like reading the weekend comics, and I can't help but reading things that I know will someday give me ulcers.

Another reason I was reading about this trash heap was to find if it would mention something really interesting I once read about Indian trash heaps: that manatee skeletons aren't very commonly found in them. That's interesting because I read it in a study of historical manatee abundance throughout Florida. That study's author concluded that since manatees are quite tasty and relatively easy to hunt, that if there were a lot of manatees around in ancient times, they would have been a significant part of Indians' diet. And there would have been lots of manatee skeletons in the trash heaps.

But there aren't lots of manatee skeletons in ancient trash heaps, so they couldn't have been a big part of the Indians' diet, so there must not have been a lot of manatees around in ancient times.

The article didn't mention what I consider to be the most interesting thing about ancient trash heaps, but it did describe how the loony archaeologist wants to make this particular trash heap a National Historic Landmark. One day a couple will prepare to embark on the classic driving vacation and seek to show the kids some of what we Americans consider to be our most important places. They'll reach this trash heap—basically a big pile of oyster shells and broken bits of pottery—and just shake their heads, wondering what happened to the country. ♦

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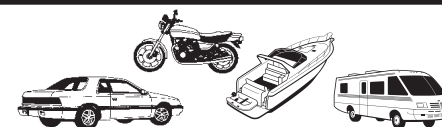
It's Almost Time for Our Annual Membership Picnic



It's time to start planning our annual Membership Picnic, and we need some help!

If you are interested in cooking, set-up/clean-up, organizing games, anything, please call Kelly Haugh at 321-449-0827.

This year's gathering will be at Kelly Park's Lagoon Pavilion on Sunday, June 26th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. CFFW will provide Hamburgers, Hot Dogs with all the fixin's, along with soda and water. Please bring a dish to share. Hope to see you there! ♦



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CFFW Sebastian/Hiram's 2011 Annual Boat Trip



Please join us this year in our annual Sebastian/Hiram's boat trip Friday, August 12th, thru Sunday - August 14th. Stay tuned to the website for more information as it becomes available.

Please call 772-388-8588 with your reservation and mention Group Code CFFW. There are 201 rooms in our block. There are 5 pool-side rooms available with one upgrade room in the pool-side row, the Jacuzzi room. This is the only room 1st floor pool-side that will incur the upgrade \$139 rate.

Contracted room rates are \$99 plus tax, Standard and Pool view Rooms. Upgrades available: \$139.00 plus tax for River-front and Marina Rooms. Tax rate is 11%.

Complimentary Hot Continental Breakfast served from 6:00 to 10:00am daily.

Room block release: Must have reservations by 07/12/11, when the block will release. A reservation made after room block release 07/09/10, will be subject to availability and the group rate may not apply.

Cancellation policy: For individual reservations within a group, there is a *48 hour cancellation policy*. After this date will result in a cancellation fee equivalent to one room night charged to the name on the individual reservation. A credit card or deposit will be needed at time of check-in for each room for incidentals.

Check-in time is 4 p.m. We cannot guarantee rooms will be ready by 4 p.m. If you require an early check-in, the room must be reserved for the night before. Check-out time is 11:00 a.m.

For Dockage reservations please call the Dock master, Michael at 772-589-4345, extension 4 with your Length, Beam and Draw. The rates are \$2 per foot with a 25% group discount. Please mention you are coming in with CFFW. They have 7 open slips for boats 21 ft and smaller, and 11 open slips for boats 22-50 ft. Please make your reservation as soon as possible because they have such limited dockage available. If you are staying on-board, there is a \$10 power hook-up fee. ♦

Enjoying Our Flea Market Success - 2011 *by Peggy Wehrman*



“There’s something for everyone!” That’s our flea market tagline, and from the feedback we got, the shoppers and vendors would agree. What a great success our event was this year and what fabulous weather we had too!

This year we collected traffic into our Flea Market and found there were over 4000 shoppers during the weekend! +And to show how good we are, that number closely matches what we predicted.

First and foremost, a great big thanks to our host, Harbor Town Marina and the efforts of Mr. Jim Riley! Our event would not be as successful if it were not for this great venue! The restaurant appeared to be busy most all of the time so hopefully they did a lot of business serving us all with food and refreshments!

Our biggest fundraiser of the year wouldn’t have been possible without the efforts of Ron and Donna Pritchard, Ron and Karen Presley, Karen Dignan and Kim Rouse, Gary Sawicki, Sandy Reynolds, Diane Cooper, Dave Pasley, Steven Webster, Al Russo, Dave Wentworth, Bob Brett, Bruce Taft, John Kendrick, Kurt Hess, Brian Foley, Diane Cooper, Ed French and Chuck Reed. If I missed someone, please forgive and let me know.

Kelly and Gary Haugh provided an enormous amount of support and guidance to all of us! Our hats off to both of them for such terrific commitment to our organization.

As in previous years, we signed up quite a few new members and renewed several continuing members, thank you all very much and welcome to Florida’s oldest and most experienced boating advocacy group!

We had 46 vendors this year, a few more than last year, and they reported that sales were very good. In this economy, that’s a great thing to hear.



Citizens For Florida's Waterways
Post Office Box 541712
Merritt Island, FL 32954-1712
cffw.org

April 29, 2011

Mr. David Hefflebower
HarborTown Marina
P.O. Box 690067
Vero Beach, FL 32962

Dear David and Jan:

It was another great and successful event this year!! I know that several of our CFFW Directors/Volunteers had the opportunity to share some time with Mr. Jim Riley this year. We enjoyed his leadership and guidance. We will be implementing some of his suggestions for our event next year.

Our flea market is an arduous endeavor, I must say, without the guidance of George Reynolds! Thankfully, Sandy Reynolds supported and participated in the teamwork that it takes to have a wonderful and successful event!

We'd like to take this moment to thank you again for the use of the Harbortown Marina property to host our Annual Marine Flea Market this year. As you know, this year's event was well received both with the participation of the vendors (42) and the public (4,000 per our count).

It is always a privilege and pleasure to work with and plan with your team at the Marina. One of our team was in communication with the Marina team regularly. Rene was very helpful and provided great support to us and our event. Please pass along our appreciation to her and the office staff as well. We couldn't have done it as smoothly without their support.

We hope to continue the tradition next year of being the largest Marine Flea Market in Central Florida and we look forward to your continued participation in these endeavors! This year was very successful and we look forward to working with you (and Mr. Jim Riley) again next year.

Sincerely,

Peggy D. Wehrman

Peggy D. Wehrman
Vice President
Citizens for Florida's Waterways (CFFW)

cc\staff

PROMOTING A REASONABLE COEXISTENCE BETWEEN MAN AND THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT



Your Spring Fitting Out Safety Checklist (continued from page 1)

Engines and Fuel Systems Continued

- **Inspect all fuel-system components for leaks -- fuel tanks, fuel pumps, filters.** A dry rag can be used at connections or trust your nose. Clamps should be snug and free of heavy rust.
- **Clean fuel filters.**
- **Exhaust manifolds should be removed and inspected** every few years for corrosion, which could be restricting water flow.
- **Clean and tighten electrical connections, especially both ends of battery cables.** Loose connections can "arc," which creates an enormous amount of heat and is a fire hazard. Studs, nuts, and washers should be copper -- not aluminum or steel. Dissimilar metals have the potential to cause galvanic corrosion. Problems ranging from a weak contact to arcing could be the result of poor washer choice. Wire brush batter terminals and fill cells with distilled water.
- **Cooling hoses and fittings should fit snugly and be double-clamped.** Hoses showing signs of age -- rot, stiffness, bulges, leaks, and/or cracking -- should be replaced.

- **Inspect bilge blower hose for leaks.**

A Few Other Chores

- **Refill or replace fire extinguishers as necessary.** (Mount extinguishers where they'll be clearly visible.)
- **Stoves and remote tanks should be examined for loose fittings and leaking hoses.**
- **Throw out or take ashore all propane canisters, solvents, and rusted cans.** They're a fire hazard and shouldn't be stored aboard.
- **Clean bilge. Inspect bilge pump and float switch to ensure they're working properly.**
- **Replace outdated flares.** Keep old flares aboard as spares.

Trailers

- **Inspect tire treads and sidewalls.** Cracks on sidewalls, or lack of tread, indicates the tire may be replaced. Use a gauge to check pressure. Don't forget the trailer's spare tire.
- **Sand and paint rusted areas.**
- **Inspect bearings.** Repack as necessary.
- **Test tail and back-up lights.** Replace burned-out bulbs and chafed wires. Corroded terminals should be cleaned. Make sure the white ground wire is securely attached to the trailer's frame.
- **Test the winch, manual or electric to ensure it's working properly.** ♦

BoatUS Smart Phone App Will Get You Home... When Your Boat Won't

When your boat breaks down on the water or runs out of gas, calling for an on-the-water tow is simple. The hard part, sometimes, is being able to tell the BoatUS towing fleet precisely where to find you, which can delay a safe tow home. Now, BoatUS offers a smart



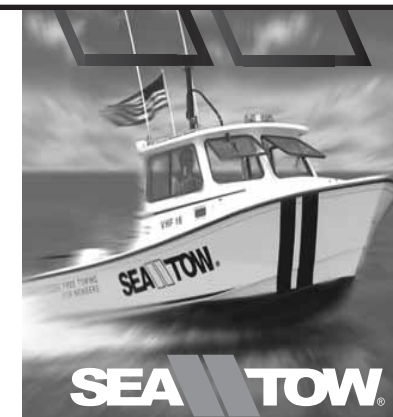
phone "App" that helps you call for a tow in a hurry and also adds helpful location and tracking features just for boaters, sailors and anglers. And you don't have to be a BoatUS or BoatUS Angler member to download the free App.

The new BoatUS App can greatly improve towboat response times due to the accuracy of the GPS latitude and longitude technology built into these high tech phones. The moment you hit the App's 'Call Now for a Tow' button, it automatically provides us with critical information before our crew even answers the phone. We think the App really adds a new layer of comfort and peace of mind.

Available for iPhones and Android phones, the App is available by going to www.BoatUS.com/app. Once uploaded to your smart phone and information is entered, the App is ready to go and gives boaters three choices: Call Now for a Tow, Share Your Location, and BoatUS Directory. ♦

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CFFW is a 501(c)4 organization. Donations and
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CFFW Member Recognition

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Bill & Eileen Wetzel
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Gregory & Patricia Bean
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Stephen Derek Ferguson
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Robert Veschi
Thumper & Iva Volkmer
Steven Webster
David & Anne Wentworth
Robert Wille
Westland Marina/Titusville
Jess H. Yates, DMD

Business Recognition Diamond Level

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of Cocoa

This business supports
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After what seemed like an eternity, the lock at Port
Canaveral has resumed normal operations.

Mostly closed since late December for the
installation of a new manatee protection system, the
gates will once again convey vessels from the “Banana
River Aquatic Preserve” to the Canaveral Harbor and
back. ❖

Dates of Interest
For The Membership

Brevard Marine Advisory Council
Meets every 3rd Thursday at the
Brevard County Government Center
Space Coast Room, Building C,
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera
(321) 633-2016

Brevard Comprehensive Maritime
Management Master Plan (CM3P)
Meets every other Wednesday at 5pm
Brevard County Government Center,
Room 219, Building A
2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera
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East Merritt Island
Homeowners
Association

PMB #645
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Merritt Island, FL 32952
www.emioha.com

To Inform—To Educate—To Motivate

Meets on 2nd Tuesdays at 7pm
Lighthouse Christian Church
1250 N. Banana River Drive, Merritt Island

“Catch A Memory”
Radio Show

The radio show will again be an hour long on WMEL
1300-AM, Saturday mornings at 8:00AM – 9:00AM. The
program will be covering the fishing action on Florida’s
East Coast. Anglers can tune in to hear Jim and his co-
hosts provide you the latest fishing and new product
information.

Television Show

Capt. Jim has joined a host of other top professional
guides across the State of Florida on a new television
show called the “Chevy Florida Insider Fishing Report”.
The TV show is on the SunSports on Thursday evenings
from 5:00PM to 6:30PM. Reporting expert, Capt. Jim
will bring you an up-to-date fishing report from our
offshore and inshore local waters.

Capt. Jim also provides daily reports Sunday
through Wednesday on the TV shows web-site:
www.floridainsiderfishingreport.com

If you would like to contact Capt. Jim, his phone
number is 321-636-3728 and his web-site is
www.finlinefishingcharters.com. ❖



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