

FAR

WEST

CONTENTS



may

1993

PALATINE BARONY OF THE  
FAR WEST



BARON AND BARONESS

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Warrior's Gate is currently inactive

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### From the (New) Chronicler:

- Greetings unto all who see this, I, Lord Lee Sharpeyes of the Porthold of Havyama (or as we will now be known Lupe Marin), have been asked to take over publishing this here newsletter until such a time as we can find a more permanent home for it.

Some of you may already know of my work as I publish my local groups newsletter too. My one wish is that everyone will enjoy what they read in here and if you don't...**SEND ME ARTICLES!!!** and I'll be more than happy to print them.

The Far West Tidings **WILL** come out every two months. My schedule will be May, July, Sept, Nov, Jan, Mar, with it being sent the first week of that month. Because Baronials will be held in Oct vice Sept this year I'll also put out a June issue with Tourney information in it.

Autocrats/Seneschals: please send me information for the Calendar of Events section, remember if its not in a newsletter its not covered by the SCA's insurance and Seneschals don't forget to update the Canton meeting section if needed. I'll need information/articles no later than the 25th of the month prior to publishing, that means for the next issue, NLT May 25th!

Everybody: I welcome hearing from you about how I'm doing and what kind of articles you'd like to see printed, (not that I'll go out and research/write them myself mind you, but it is nice to hear what you'd like).

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### Canton Meetings

Chuzan: Sun: Fighter Practice, 3p. 1st Wed: Business meeting, 7p-9p. All other Wed: Dance Practice, 7p-9p.

Eternal Wind: Every other Saturday.

Havyama: Thur: Fighter Practice 6p. 2nd & 4th Sun: Dance and Fighter Practice 2p-on. 2nd Sun: Business meeting 430p.

Warrior's Gate: Currently inactive

World's Edge: Even Tue: Business meetings. Odd Tue: Craft meetings. Sat: Armoring.

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### Calendar of Events

- 15 May: Spring Potluck Revel and Crest Tourney (Lupe Marin). Location: Yokota AB. Time: Noon. Autocrat: Lord Jaye McPhun (Jay Campbell) 225-7544 (leave message).

- 28-31 May: Beltane (Chuzan). Location: Kadena AB. Time 4p on the 28th to 1p on the 31st. Cost \$15 (adults) \$7.50 (5-10 yrs old). Autocrat: Thomas MacCurtain (Mike Curtain) 645-4834. This will be an Arts and Science competition with



points awarded for entering, documentation, and the item itself. There will also be various games and Court will follow.

- 28-31 May: Baron and Baroness's Decadence Revel (Chuzan). Scheduled as above for after Court. Child Care will be provided for the Revel. Autocrat: The Baron.

- 13 June: Gambling at the Havyama (Lupe Marin). Location: Yokota AB. Autocrat: Mistress Marixsa (Jean Dewey) 0339-64-7142. Play period (gambling) games and try to raise enough (fake) money to enter yourself or your fighter in the lists.

- 17 July: Celtic Festival (Ryutsu Center, Tokyo). This event is being put on by the various embassys and Celtic groups in the Tokyo area to show people Celtic arts, crafts and culture. We've been asked to provide costumed background to represent the various European countries that had contact with the Celts. Point of Contact: Lee Sharpeyes (Lee Gossett) H: 264-5766

- 1 Aug: Summer Feast and Prize Tourney (Lupe Marin). Location: Yokota AB. Time: 10a-6p. Site Fee: \$5. or 550 yen. Autocrat: Keridwen of Caermarthen (Sharon Emrich) 225-9195. To enter the Tourney, contestants must bring a handmade period item as a entry fee. The winner of the list will win all the items.

- 9-11 Oct: Baronial Tournament. This will be a Martial Tourney. Bids currently being accepted to determine the host.

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#### BARONIAL UPDATES

##### OFFICERS

- Exchequer: Lord Simon is looking for a deputy to replace him in July. If you are interested, please contact him directly.

- Chirurgeon: There is still a need for a Baronial Chirurgeon.

- Chronicler: I will need a replacement by the new year as I will be departing these fair lands shortly thereafter. No special skills are needed except a love for writing and access to a typewriter (the old fashion way) or a computer (better choice). The hows and ways it gets printed is up to the chronicler. This position is supported by funds from the treasury (subsription fees) so don't worry about having to pay for it out of your own pocket. Contact me if interested.



- Arts & Science: Baroness Gwendolyn leaves VERY shortly and needs a replacement. Contact her immediately.

- Seneschal: Baroness Chryse will turn over the position of Seneschal to Lord Gundolphus on 1 June. Please start sending him copies of your monthly reports as of now.

#### THE BARONY

It looks as though the Far West will not be made a Principality or Crown Principality while the majority of our populace is military and related to the military. If we are seriously interested in becoming a Principality, we must start recruiting permanent residents.





## Customs and Traditions of the Barony of the Far West

Being a compendium of the customs and traditions of the current middle ages as they are practiced in Their Occidental Majesties' Palatine Barony of the Far West.

### Introduction

The customs and traditions written down in this book were first established during the era of Their Excellencies Alwyn and Rhiannon, the founding Baron Palatine and the founding Baroness Far West. Their Excellencies believed it to be necessary to the welfare of the Far West that the customs and traditions be preserved in writing, that future generations might know and respect the legacy they receive. This revision was made by Edward and Marixsa, Palatine Baron and Baroness of the Far West, on February 11, A.S. XXVI (c.e. 1992).

These customs and traditions establish the foundation upon which the SCA has been built in the Far West. They support all our efforts to recreate the Middle Ages as they should have been, an era filled with grace, honor, nobility, and courage; devoid of the baseness which haunts man's existence.

These customs and traditions also serve as a binding force to unite the far-flung branches of the Far West through a commonality of practice and belief.

### I. The Law

A. The word of the Crown is law.

B. The Palatine Barony shall be held as a fief of Their Occidental Majesties, and be subject to the laws of the West Kingdom, the Corpora and By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the United States Constitution, and any local or national mundane laws as should apply.

### II. Territorial Charter

A. The title of the fief shall be "the Palatine Barony of the Far West," as created by Their Majesties Jade and Anastasia on June 20, A.S. XXII (c.e. 1987).

B. The geographic area of the Barony shall be Japan, Korea, The Philippines, Guam, and Diego Garcia, the British Indian Ocean Territory. Other territories may be added by royal grant.

C. The right to sit on the Baronial thrones and rule the Barony in the name of the Crown shall be determined twice each Society year by Coronet Tournaments.

D. The victor in the Coronet Tourney shall be styled the Palatine Baron/ess of the Far West; his/her consort shall be styled the Baron/ess of the Far West. No other differences in rank, duties or obligations shall exist except as provided herein under XIII.C and XII.G.

E. The Coronet shall be construed to refer to either or both of the Palatine Baron/ess of the Far West and the Baron/ess of the Far West.

### III. Duties and Responsibilities of the Coronet

A. The Coronet of the Far West shall fulfill their duties as contained in the Corpora and By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the Laws of the West Kingdom, and according to the wishes of the Crown.

B. The Coronet may hold any office(s) within or without the Barony, save that of Baronial Seneschal, so long as the responsibilities and duties of such office(s) do not conflict with the obligations and duties inherent in the Coronet.

C. The Coronet shall act to the best of their ability as the chief examples of chivalry, courtesy, and grace for the people of the Barony.

D. The Coronet shall:

1. Represent and be the advocate of the Baronial populace to the Crown of the West;
2. Encourage special care in the extension of hospitality and welcome to new and prospective members of the Barony;
3. Encourage and promote the arts, sciences, and martial arts of the current middle ages;

4. Serve on such courts and boards as are deemed necessary by the Crown of the West;
5. Swear fealty to the Crown of the West, either in person or in writing;
6. Accept fealty from the subjects of the Crown in the Barony on behalf of the Crown of the West;
7. Report to the Crown of the West, either in person or in writing, as to the status of the Barony at each coronation;
8. Recommend to the Crown of the West those who, through their achievements and/or service, are worthy of recognition;
9. Recognize their predecessors for their services as Baron and Baroness of the Far West; and
10. Encourage and support the officers of the Barony and recommend their replacements to the kingdom officers and Crown as the need arises.

### IV. Specific obligations of the Coronet

A. The Coronet must be residents of the Barony and reside within the Barony throughout their term on the Baronial thrones.

B. The Coronet must be present at their Coronet Tourney, their investiture, and the Coronet Tourney and investiture of their successors.

C. The Coronet must maintain membership in the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., during their tenure on the Baronial thrones.

### V. Rights and privileges of the Coronet

A. The Coronet may make such awards as shall be specifically delegated to them by the Crown of the West.

B. The Coronet shall have the right to establish and make non-armigerous awards and honors specific to the Barony to acknowledge the skills and service of its populace. They shall consult first with the Golden Peach Pursuivant and the Vesper Principal Herald of the West, to insure that award names and tokens are properly used.

C. The Coronet shall have the right to present Baronial awards and honors to members of the populace.

D. The Coronet shall have the right to receive and make use of gifts to the Barony for the use of the Coronet, and to preserve such gifts for the Barony.

E. The Coronet shall have the right to receive and keep such personal gifts as may be presented to them.



## VI. Failure to serve as the Coronet

A. Should either the Baron or Baroness, through no fault of his/her own, be unable to attend the Coronet Tourney and investiture of his/her successors, the one who attends the event shall perform the necessary functions of both to maintain a smooth transfer. In such a case, the departing Baron or Baroness shall be considered to have fulfilled his/her obligations to the Barony and Coronet and shall be considered to have completed his/her tenure.

B. Should either the Baron or Baroness be unable for whatever reason to fulfill his/her term in office, he/she must abdicate by writing to the Baronial Seneschal, Crown, and other member of the Coronet.

C. In case of an abdication, specific measures to maintain the Coronet shall apply, namely:

1. Should either the Baron or Baroness abdicate, the other shall assume the duties of both for the remainder of their tenure, regardless of which is the Palatine Baron/ess. The remaining member of the Coronet may not elect to take a new companion to share the Coronet;
2. Should both the Baron and Baroness abdicate, the Baronial Seneschal shall immediately contact the Crown of the West to determine which of two courses of action should apply.
  - a. The preceding Baron and Baroness may be asked by the Crown to serve the remaining portion of the reign, or the Crown may appoint the Baronial Seneschal vicar. If a vicarage is established, no awards may be given out or courts held by the Vicar.
  - b. If the Crown wishes, a new Coronet Tourney shall be held as soon as possible, which shall be presided over by at least two of the three offices of Baronial Seneschal, Baronial Herald, and Baronial Marshal; the victor of this list will be invested and serve out the tenure of the failed Coronet regardless of the time remaining.

D. Should either the Baron or Baroness leave the Barony for more than a month without contacting the Baronial Seneschal during that time, this shall count as failure and de facto abdication.

E. Should abdications be brought about through no fault of the abdicating Baron or Baroness, their successors shall determine if they should be recognized for their time on the throne.

## VII. Baronial Officers

A. The officers of the Barony shall be:

1. Seneschal;
2. Herald (Golden Peach Pursuivant);
3. Marshal;
4. Minister of Arts (may combine with Minister of Sciences);
5. Minister of Sciences (may combine with Minister of Arts);
6. Chronicler;
7. Exchequer;
8. Chirurgeon;

B. The Coronet may create other offices as shall be needed. Any new offices coming under the auspices of one of the offices mentioned above shall be administered as an adjunct deputy position to that office and report to that officer.

C. Baronial officers will report to their kingdom superiors on a schedule as set by the kingdom officer, and monthly to the Coronet, with a copy being sent to the Seneschal for the files.

D. Baronial officers will oversee the activities of their deputies as well as the local officers, who will report to them.

E. In as much as is possible, the Baronial roster of officers should be dispersed throughout the Barony; all should attempt to attend Coronet lists and investitures.

F. Local branches shall have at least a Seneschal, a Herald, and either a Marshal or Arts and Sciences officer. If the local group lacks a reeve, the Seneschal shall perform that function.

G. The Baronial Chronicler is responsible for publishing the *Far West Tidings*, the Baronial newsletter, on a regular basis.

## VIII. Rights and duties of the populace

A. The populace of the Barony has the rights accorded to it by The Corpora, the By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the laws of the West Kingdom, and this document.

B. The populace may display Baronial heraldry as described in Section XV herein.

C. Those of the populace bringing small children or pets to events or other functions are responsible for their care and behavior.

D. The populace should refrain from smoking in the confines of the feast hall, other places where there is little ventilation, or at court.

E. The populace should exercise care that blatant mundanities are not on obvious display.

## IX. Geographic divisions within the Barony

A. The Barony shall consist of several local groups which shall be styled ports, strongholds, cantons, or colleges. The first two designations are reserved for military bases, the third for civilian-based groups, the last for groups based in local colleges or universities.

B. Each branch must meet the requirements for it established in Corpora, the By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the laws of the West Kingdom, and this document.

C. The officers of each branch, regardless of designation or location, will report to their Baronial superiors on a schedule set by the Baronial officer.

D. When an existing group is incorporated into the Barony, it shall become a port, stronghold, canton, or a college.

E. Whenever possible, the Baronial Seneschal, with the approval of the Coronet, will designate a Society contact person for an area which has yet to be developed.

## X. Events within the Barony

A. There shall be two Baronial Coronet Tournaments and Investitures per Society year. They shall be held as close as possible to the end of February and the end of August.

1. The competition for the Coronet will be held in the morning on Saturday, and the investiture of the victor at a ceremony that evening or the next morning, as the victor chooses.
2. There shall be a Baronial Championship Tourney held on Sunday of the Baronial Coronet event.

C. The Barony was founded on June 20, A.S. XXII (1987). There shall be a Baronial event to celebrate this anniversary. The event should be held as close as possible to June 20.

D. Petitions to hold Baronial events must be submitted to the Coronet with sufficient time to allow decisions and plans to be made.



E. Groups planning to hold a local event are responsible for notifying the local and Baronial chronicler of such plans so that they may be sufficiently publicized.

#### XI. Coronet Tourney

A. The Baronial Coronet Tourney shall be rotated among the groups in as much as is feasible. No group may host it twice in a row, and the hosting group must be able to field at least five (5) competitors for the Coronet.

B. The usual order for Coronet Tournaments shall be to alternate between standard heavy weapons list and an arts and sciences tourney.

C. Competitors for the Coronet and prospective consorts must meet the following requirements:

1. Both must have been residents of the Barony for at least two (2) months, and promise to remain so during their reign should they win;
2. Both must be paid members of the Society, one must be a sustaining member;
3. Both must possess a working knowledge of the structure of the SCA, the West Kingdom, the Palatine Barony of the Far West, and the offices of the Coronet;
4. Both must be at least eighteen (18) years of age on the date of the Tourney. (The Coronet may choose to waive the age factor. This decision shall be made on a case-by-case basis providing the gentle is armigerous. Under no circumstances shall both be under 18);
5. Neither can be already a landed noble (the current Coronet, territorial Barons, prince/esses, kings or queens) at the time of the Tourney; and
6. Both must be otherwise acceptable to the Coronet.

D. The victor of the Coronet Tourney and his/her consort are styled "Lord and Lady of the Far West" until their investiture.

E. If the Tourney is standard SCA heavy weapons, the Coronet may apply such specifics as it wishes provided they do not violate Corpora, the By-Laws of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc., the Laws of the West Kingdom, or this document.

F. If the Tourney is arts and sciences, certain conventions must be met. They are:

1. The arts and sciences tourney must consist of at least eight (8) categories, including calligraphy, illumination, embroidery, bardic arts, dance, chess, heraldry, and costuming. Others may be added at the behest of the Coronet.
2. Entries for the arts and sciences competitions shall have been created while the competitor is in residence, and never previously submitted to a Baronial or Kingdom arts and sciences competition.
3. Specific details of the Tourney will be published in the *Far West Tidings* as far in advance as possible.
4. The entries will be judged by the Coronet, those who have worn the Coronet, the Baronial Seneschal, Baronial Ministers of the Arts and Sciences, and any other qualified gentles the Coronet should choose to invite.

G. The new Palatine Baron/ess shall have the right to determine where the next Coronet Tourney shall be held.

H. In the event that a Coronet Tourney cannot be held, the Coronet will consult the Baronial Seneschal and the Crown of the West to determine the cause, and to decide if the Coronet should continue in extended rule or a vicarage should be created.

#### XII. Succession of the Baronial Coronet

A. The Investiture of the Lord and Lady of the Far West shall take place either in the evening of the day of the Coronet Tourney or the next morning, as they prefer.

B. The new Coronet shall swear fealty to the Crown of the West as part of the ceremony, and shall forward a written statement of same to the Crown.

C. All Baronial regalia shall be passed to the new Coronet at the time of investiture.

D. Should either the Lord or Lady of the Far West fail to accept investiture, the following shall happen:

1. The Tourney (regardless of whether it was a conventional heavy weapons list or arts and sciences) shall be declared null and void;
2. The Baronial Champion Tourney scheduled for Sunday morning shall be the new Coronet tourney;
3. The victor in that tourney shall be invested immediately, and the runner up shall be Baronial Champion;
4. The gentles who failed to accept investiture shall be banned from competing for the Coronet for a space of one year (i.e.; two Coronet Tournaments); and
5. This emergency procedure shall not interfere with the usual rotation of arts and sciences tournaments and heavy weapons lists.

E. The new Coronet shall recognize their immediate predecessors for their service to the Barony by inducting them into the Order of the Leaping Dolphin.

#### XIII. Baronial Awards and Honors

A. In the Palatine Barony of the Far West, there shall exist awards to recognize the skills and service of the populace. The earliest awards were established on June 20, A.S. XXII (1987) by Their Excellencies Alwyn and Rhiannon, founding Baron Palatine and Baroness of the Far West.

B. Awards shall consist of honors and membership in orders. These differ in that membership in orders can be bestowed to a person only once, while honors can be awarded time and time again.

C. The Palatine Baron/ess of the Far West shall, during his/her tenure on the throne, be the protector of all the orders of the Barony, and as such shall be awarded the recognition and status as a member of the orders.

D. The Baronial orders are:

1. The Order of the Sea Griffon. This award recognizes those who are the very ideal of what the gentry of the current middle ages should be. It was established to recognize members of the populace who have made great sacrifices of themselves in service to the Barony, who have demonstrated great courtesy, chivalry, and grace at all times, and who have achieved much in the arts and sciences. This is a polling order; no member may be inducted unless the other members are in majority agreement. Every effort should be made to contact all members of the order. A majority of the members may also approach the Coronet with a candidate; however, in such a case, the Coronet is not obligated to induct members proposed by the order itself. The order was named after the principal charge on the arms of His Excellency Alwyn, Founding Baron Palatine of the Far West. The order was created by Baron Palatine Edward and Baroness Marixsa on Nov. 3, A.S. XXVI (c.e. 1991). A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Sea Griffon" and may append the initials "C.S.G." after his/her name. The token for the order is a silver-colored sea griffon on a red field, pendant from a yellow ribbon.



2. The Order of the Burdened Bouget. This is the Baronial service award. It was established to recognize members of the populace who have made great sacrifices of themselves in service to the Barony. A companion of this order is styled "Bearer of the Burdened Bouget" and may append the initials "B.B.B." after his/her name. The token for the order is a silver-colored bouget pendant from a red ribbon.
3. The Order of the Attic Helm. This is the Baronial award given to recognize fighters of high calibre. It was established to recognize members who, in addition to fighting skills, train new fighters and show chivalry on and off the field. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Attic Helm" and may append the initials "C.A.H." after his/her name. The token for the order is a gold-colored image of a Greek helm pendant from a red and gold ribbon.
4. The Order of the Oriental Dragon. This is the Baronial award given to recognize great skills in the arts or sciences. It is given to those who both do and teach. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Oriental Dragon" and may append the initials "C.O.D." after his/her name. The token for the order is a gold-colored dragon on a billet of green jade pendant from a chain.
5. The Order of the Hibiscus. This is the Baronial award established to honor those members of the Barony who are at all times examples of courtesy and grace. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Hibiscus" and may append the initials "C.H." after his/her name.
6. The Order of the Empty Shell. This is the Baronial award established to honor those members of the Barony who have participated in the Barony's various activities thereby enriching it. This order is only given to members who are leaving the Barony. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Empty Shell" and may append the initials "C.O.E.S." after his/her name. The token of the Order is a small empty shell pendant from a blue and silver ribbon.
7. Order of the Leaping Dolphin. Realizing that the Barony has no official way of recognizing those who have in the past served as the Coronet, Baron Palatine Edward and Baroness Marixsa created this award on January 4, A.S. XXVI (c.e. 1992). It is given by the new Coronets at their investiture to their predecessors, and none may be inducted into the order who have not ruled as Baron or Baroness. A companion of this order is styled "Companion of the Order of the Leaping Dolphin" and may append the initials "C.L.D." after his/her name. Members of the order may display the Baronial badge below a baronial coronet.

E. The honors of the Barony are as follows:

1. The Ginger Flower. This honor was established by Palatine Baroness Trude and Baron Wulfric on December 5, A.S. XXII (c.e. 1987), and is presented to fighters whose prowess on the field of battle is exceeded only by their ability to die with panache and flair.
2. Baronial Gratitude. This honor was established by Palatine Baron Ulrich and Baroness Ariel in June, A.S. XXV (c.e. 1990). It is presented to those who have through some special deed or service made life easier for the Coronet.

3. Far West Support. This honor was established by Palatine Baron Edward and Baroness Marixsa on January 4, A.S. XXVI (c.e. 1992), to recognize continued work for the growth of the Barony in such diverse areas as autocratering, running demos, feasting or gold key and generally lending a helping hand where needed.

#### XIV. Baronial Heraldic Insignia and Display

A. The arms of the Palatine Barony of the Far West are: "Gules, a dolphin embowed argent naiant through a laurel wreath Or, all between three water bougets argent."

1. The Baronial arms shall not be displayed save when the Coronet is present.
2. The Baronial arms may be displayed by the Coronet as it deems appropriate.

B. The badge of the Palatine Barony of the Far West is: "A dolphin embowed argent, naiant through an annulet Or."

1. The populace may display the Baronial badge, and are encouraged to do so.
2. Baronial guards and the Baronial champion may wear a tabard "per pale Or and gules" with the badge over the left breast.

C. The ensign of the Palatine Barony of the Far West, subject to the approval of the Laurel Sovereign of Arms, is: "Gules, a dolphin embowed argent, naiant through an annulet, and a dexter tierce Or." The populace may fly the ensign of the Barony, and are encouraged to do so, at all functions.

D. Each local branch of the Barony shall register its name and device with the College of Arms. Local arms may be displayed to serve as a rallying point for the group.

1. The arms of the Stronghold of Warrior's Gate are: "Gules, a laurel wreath Or surmounted by a tower with open gates argent, issuant from a base debased Or"
2. The arms of the other branches will be listed when approved by the Laurel Sovereign of Arms.

#### XV. Changes to this document

A. The Coronet may make such changes, additions, and deletions as they deem appropriate after consultation with the Baronial officers and gaining the approval of the Crown of the West, and Baronial and Kingdom Seneschals.

B. Before such changes can be put into effect, they must be published in *Far West Tidings* and announced at an official event as defined by Corpora.



This is the Far West Tidings, the unofficial newsletter of the Palatine Barony of the Far West, Kingdom of the West. The group is a branch of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc. The Far West Tidings is published as a service to the members in the Barony. Subscriptions are available from the Baronial Exchequer (address available on the inside front cover).

It is not a corporate publication of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc, and does not delineate SCA policies. All opinions/articles, unless otherwise stated, are that of the Chronicler. Except where otherwise stated, all articles in this publication may be reprinted without special permission in other newsletter or publications of branches of the Society.

Submissions to the Far West Tidings should be typed copy; calligraphy or handwriting are frowned upon unless xerox ready. Submissions for issues are accepted up to the 25th of the month prior to publication.

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