

The Newsletter of the Sailing Club of Washington October 2010

Commodore's Log

By Chris Von Guggenberg, Commodore

Dear SCOW members,

What a fabulous month September was! Fabulous weather, the Leukemia cup and associated events, the commencement of the Fall basic sailing class, the fourth Annual Smoot's Cove Dodge-the-water-taxis Raftup not to mention the continuation of the regularly scheduled racing, social sails, full moon Friday night raftup and miscellaneous events.

As the days get shorter we have drawn the curtain on social sails (the final one was on October the 7th) and we need to start thinking about the upcoming year, namely the election of the 2011 board. There are some wonderful candidates, whose names I'm pleased to announce at this time:

Faith S Rodell, Commodore Chris McGraw, Vice-Commodore Maggie Kruesi, Secretary Mark Hogan, Treasurer Dan Sandhaus, Skipper Director Ula Feltman, Training Director Sarah Jones, Maintenance Director Lisa Carr, Social Director Kyoko Kawai, Racing Director Richard Cecilio, River/Bay Director

How can you go wrong with a lineup like that! Wow, 2011 looks very promising already.

The election results will be compiled at the member meeting on November the 8th and on November 13th we will be hosting out annual Hail and Farewell party, where we say farewell to the old board, greet the new and honor some of the many who made great contributions to the success of this organization during 2010. It promises to be quite the event, being held in the fabulous Army Navy Club in Washington DC (Farragut Square). We've planned to make the event affordable, with wonderful food, a brief award ceremony and dancing, not to mention your wonderful company.

On another note, by way of a reminder, beginning on the 1st of October and ending on the 1st of May, all skipper and crew (both cruiser and Flying Scot fleets) will need to wear a PFD while underway. (continued)

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We look forward to our continued association and thank you in advance or in arrears for your kind efforts in helping further the objectives of SCOW, namely:

"...provide its membership with opportunities to sail, to exchange information about sailing, to learn safe boating procedures, and to meet others in the Potomac River/Chesapeake Bay area with similar interests. The Club shall plan activities for both the novice and experienced sailor."

Sincerely,

Chris von Guggenberg Commodore

Candidates for the 2010 SCOW Board of Directors

Commodore	Faith Shields Rodell
Vice-Commodore	Chris McGraw
Secretary	Maggie Kruesi
Treasurer	Mark Hogan
Skipper Director	Dan Sandhaus
Training Director	Ula Felt
Maintenance Director	Sarah Jones
River/Bay Director	Richard Cecilio
Social Director	Lisa Carr
Racing Director	Kyoko Kawai

Faith Shields Rodell

Commodore

Faith has been a member of SCOW for almost six years; although, many years ago she was one of the original three to incorporate the Three Mile Limit sailing club which was the precursor to SCOW. She was SCOW Social Director for two years and was responsible for many fun social functions - Afterglow Party, Re-Up Brunch, Hail and Farewell, food for raft-ups, and a spring, summer and fall filled with great Thursday night Social Sails. Many new members were brought into the club with these social events. This past year she has been serving as Vice Commodore functioning as a member of all SCOW standing committees, scheduling interesting speakers for our monthly meetings and assisting the Commodore and other board members as needed.



Candidate Statement:

I joined SCOW because I was working way too much at my Garden Centers and realized that the only thing that could pull me away was being on the water and particularly, sailing.

I have loved being back in SCOW for the last 6 years and enjoyed being on the board as Social Director and Vice Commodore. I have also been active in other areas of SCOW - racing crew on the Potomac and on the Bay, River Events, the Leukemia Cup Regatta, taking a training class and helping with Maintenance. Because of this, I feel that I have a full grasp of what SCOW is all about. With the organizational skills I have demonstrated in various positions in my three years on the board and my interest in all areas of SCOW, I feel I have the skills and knowledge of the club to be the next Commodore. I am fully committed to the goals of SCOW -- to provide members, both novice and experienced, with many opportunities to sail; promote education and safe boating practices, and to interface with other sailing groups on the River and Bay. I am dedicated to the proper management and utilization of our club resources to achieve these goals.

Any organization is as strong as its members and I would continue to work in the area of encouraging new members who can bring in new talents (and maybe some boats!) to strengthen the club. I would also like to work on getting more members actively participating and volunteering in SCOW. We have the strength here, let's just use it!

Chris McGraw

Vice Commodore

Chris has been a member of SCOW since 2007. He has served as a tutor, instructor, and checkout skipper for the Flying Scots and Cruisers, a member of the Boat Assets Committee in 2009 and 2010, Training Director in the latter half of 2009 and Director-at-Large in 2010. He was also Bosun for Topaz, our Catalina 25' Cruiser, for 2010 and is a racing skipper. His great crew (including Faith Rodell, Chris von Guggenberg, Kyoko Kawai, Gary McGraw, Sr., and Gary McGraw, Jr.) won first place for their keelboat class in the 2010 Leukemia Cup Regatta.



Candidate statement:

I learned sailing from my Dad and a good family friend, Tom Raade, enjoying week-long charters on the Chesapeake and Pamlico rivers (where the winds were great, but when they died the greenhead flies would eat you alive) and also sailing a small AMF Puffer on the lakes of Tennessee where I grew up. I was renting sailboats in the local Potomac area for a few years before I discovered the great value and gem of a club that is SCOW.

We've had a lot of fun in the club with social sails, overnighters, impromptu Sunday night races, Tuesday and Wednesday night races with our sister clubs DISC and PRSA, and teaching people how to sail and expand their skills.

Serving as Vice-Commodore would be a way to give back to the club for the great opportunities and fun times. I'd like to see our club continue to be a great value for local sailors, keep our boats in good shape, and maybe even expand our fleet and membership

Maggie Kruesi

Secretary

Maggie has been a member of SCOW since 2007. She has been maintenance bosun for Suzie Q for the past two years, skipper for social sails, new water trainer this fall, has been skipper or crew for the Leukemia Cup Flying Scot races for the past three years; served on the Nominating Committee in 2009, and is currently a member of SCOW's Boat Asset Committee. Maggie learned to sail in 420s on the Hudson River when she was a teenager, and has enjoyed sailing on the Chesapeake Bay, and crewing for offshore trips from the Chesapeake to Maine over the years, but really loves being able to sail with SCOW members on the Potomac any day of the week. In addition to sailing, her passion is saving sea turtles, and she serves as secretary for the Leatherback Trust.



I'm happy to run for the opportunity to serve SCOW in the capacity of Secretary. SCOW really works as a volunteer organization and the hours I have put in on SCOW activities are rewarding. I'd like to encourage the membership to give more time to SCOW.

Mark Hogan

Treasurer

Mark has been a member of SCOW since 2009. He served on the Board in 2010 in the position of Maintenance Director. He also served on the Boat Asset Committee in 2010 and has been an active participant in supporting the club. He sailed one of the SCOW Flying Scots in the 2010 Leukemia Cup Regatta, President's Cup and Cantina Cup.



Candidate Statement:

I learned sailing from my brothers sailing on Lake Tahoe, San Francisco Bay, Hawaii and from a college friend sailing on the Chesapeake Bay. I continue to enjoy an annual trip to Hawaii for a week long sail between Hawaiian Islands with my brothers. I began sailing regularly when I joined SCOW, took the Basic Sailing Class and joined other SCOW members for Flying Scot and cruiser evening and weekend sails. The club has introduced me to Potomac River sailing with experienced and dedicated sailors who have been very generous in sharing their expertise with club members. I thoroughly enjoy the friendships with club members and look forward to supporting the members of SCOW through continued service to the club. I also look forward to continuing to develop my sailing expertise while supporting the club and its members.

Serving as Treasurer would be a way to support the club by using some of the skills I developed in managing national trade associations. I am committed to being fiscally responsible and to serving the membership. As Treasurer I would be committed to maintaining the club's financial records and reporting to the Board and membership so that collective decisions can be made that are in the best interest of the club as a whole.

Dan Sandhaus

Skipper Director

Dan has been involved with SCOW for many years. He was active in the late 1980s until 1993, moved away to New Mexico for six years and then returned to the Washington area in 1998. He just rejoined SCOW two years ago. He has been sailing for over 30 years now, has been an instructor on the Flying Scots at Bell Haven Marina. He especially enjoys sailing the Flying Scots and sailing catamarans at the beach and in the Caribbean.



I worked on the SCOW ChaNNels newsletter and was the racing coordinator for the Also-Ran regatta back in my earlier days with SCOW. This year I took over as Skipper Director mid-way through the year. I am an active participant at social sails, club racing, and other SCOW functions. My primary goal as Skipper Director is to ensure that everyone who wants to become a club skipper gets through the process in a timely manner.

I've made some wonderful friends through SCOW. It's a great place to learn to sail, or just to improve your skills. SCOW is a very worthy organization, due in no small part to its dependence on volunteers. People here really care and it shows.

In short, I just want to help SCOW keep sailing a safe and fun experience for everyone.

Ula Felt

Training Director

Ula has been a SCOW member since the summer of 2009. She is a skipper on both Flying Scots and cruising boats. Ula regularly crews in Tuesday night races (raced in the 2010 Leukemia Cup Regatta), and participates in River and Bay events, maintenance days, and other club activities. If elected, she plans to attend most, if not all, Board and general membership meetings.



Candidate Statement:

SCOW is a premier club that attracts great people who are passionate about sailing. I have learned sailing through SCOW training classes, and look forward to enhancing my sailing skills by sharing experiences with club members.

If elected Training Director, I plan to build on the established training program and coordinate training tasks with the help of SCOW members. With my extensive background in teaching ESOL at Fairfax County Public Schools and Polish at the Polish Consulate in Washington, DC, I feel that I am well qualified to serve in that role.

Sarah Jones

Maintenance Director

Sarah has been a member of SCOW since 2008. She's both a Flying Scot and Cruiser skipper and regularly participates in the Tuesday night DISC races, has both attended and sponsored social sails and enjoyed other social activities of the club including the annual crab feast. Recently she's began working closely with Mark Hogan, the 2010 maintenance director in anticipation of being voted in as maintenance director for the coming year.



I would like to be SCOW's maintenance director because the club needs volunteers. The boats and social activities take work and I am excited to help out more with the maintenance for the boats. I would like to help the club insure that its boats continue to be "on-line" as much as possible. I would like us to be continue to be proud of our fleet, and for each of us to do what we can to keep them shipshape and up-to-date.

Richard Cecilio River/Bay Director

Rick joined SCOW in 2010; has participated in the basic sailing class. He regularly attends social sails and many Moon night raft-ups. In the Summer of 2010 Rick has help setup the August, September and October Raft-up and is looking forward to 2011 sailing with SCOW.



Candidate Statement:

I have always enjoyed being on the water. My sailing time is limited but in the past year in SCOW I have made some very good friends that have encourage me to learn more about sailing. I feel my skills have grown by leaps and bounds in such a small time.

Lisa Carr Social Director

If there is one thing Lisa loves more than sailing, it is to organize and host parties. Lisa would like to direct the social activities of the Sailing Club of Washington in 2011. Lisa has been a SCOW member since 2000 and is a flying scot skipper. She has been on the SCOW board for the past two years, as Director, River and Bay in 2010 and as Secretary in 2009. She has volunteered at Social Sails, participated in the Leukemia Cup Race and has organized women's sailing nights. She grew up sailing a Hobie Catamaran and racing Turnabouts in the suburbs of Boston, Massachusetts. Her family chartered sailboats to tour the New England coast. Her love of sailing drew her to the Sailing Club of Washington.



Many new members have their first introduction to the club and its members through the Thursday Night Social Sail and other SCOW social events. I would like to plan and organize social events for the Sailing Club of Washington. I have been on the board for the past two years, am committed to the club and am a long time member. I have much experience organizing social events, including experience catering for the major catering companies in the Washington, D.C. area. I look forward to engaging more new members and those who would like to volunteer for a couple of hours for a Thursday night social sail. The Sailing Club of Washington is a wonderful organization and I look forward to helping it continue to be a vital educational and social organization in our community.

Kyoko Kawai

Racing Director

Kyoko has been a member of SCOW since 2007. She currently serves as a Tutoring Coordinator and helps skipper candidates find tutors and enjoys participating in many club activities including social sails and cruiser and Flying Scot racing. She is a cruiser and Flying Scot skipper.



Candidate statements:

I started sailing in 2007. I took a sailing class in Annapolis and joined SCOW to continue sailing. Since then, I have enjoyed sailing and learning to be a good skipper and crew member. SCOW also provided me many great opportunities for racing. I love racing! I am interested in serving as a SCOW Racing Director.

I enjoy the aspect of unpredictability (making/changing decisions based on wind and other boats positions), team work and challenges racing brings. I hope to promote and share the excitement of racing to many SCOW members by serving as a Racing Director.

Rebecca and Team McGraw take 1st Place in the Leukemia Cup Regatta

By Chris McGraw

(taken from Chris' thank you letter to his donor pool)



Thanks to all who helped us raise so much, and helped us get as close as we are to our big goal of \$8,500 to fund blood cancer research! Here's a little bit (probably way too much!) about how we did the actual racing part of the regatta on Rebecca. Executive summary is we had great crew, and had a lot of fun racing and got great help from you guys raising money for a good cause to help fund research and improve quality of life for patients.

You guys are wonderful friends!

Here's the blow by blow of the racing on Rebecca...

First we had great crew: My brother Gary, Chris von Guggenberg, Faith Rodell and I, sailed together to win last year in the smaller 19 foot Flying Scot class. (We love the Flying Scots, but it's kind of like racing station

wagons. They're slow, sturdy, stable boats.) A top competitor who trained with us last year, Kyoko Kawai, joined us this year on the 25 footer Catalina, and she is a ringer able to jump from one part of the boat to the other without disturbing the winds. Dad, who taught me how to sail along with our good buddy from Norway, Tom Raade and the Tennessee sailors, helped us win the Scot class in '08 and came back after a year's hiatus to beef up our sailing knowledge on the boat.

Sounds like a streak and we'd be a shoe-in for first place again, but this year we moved to a larger class of boats with sailors who'd been sailing many more years, and some of whom had tuned their boats so they'd race across the water at the thought of a puff of air. Also, we'd moved from racing station wagons, to racing, something getting closer to a racecar... and our racecar seemed to have grown a layer of moss on the bottom and the brakes were faulty.

Prep: We did a lot of Tuesday night 'beer can' races on the Potomac and started learning eccentricities with some other great crew. We'd talk to winning skippers like Bill Davenport (who incidentally won a first place again this year in his class!), who'd tell us about the importance of reducing parasitic drag, getting and keeping laminar flow on the hull, reducing wetted area, and minimizing vorticies by keeping your sails lower to the decks. (We'd listen to these theories in between shots of rum, so some of them we got wrong.)

Other sailors like Steve Deathridge, helped us take advantage of eddies caused by piers to get across currents and figure out other racing conundrums. Racing in some no-wind days taught us about how we could lean our crew weight over the sides to shape the sails to get some more knots out of the rig, and we started paying attention to how the current fills in and what parts of the river you can favor to minimize or maximize its effects. And then we applied this and a bunch of other knowledge we'd get from fellow sailors, SCOW members, and books sometimes to disastrously bad effect. I remember one race we tried shooting our boom up high in the air (it can work on some boats to get the higher windspeed at the top of the mast) but for us we dragged our hull all down the racecourse like sandpaper, finishing well after the rest of our fleet had packed up their bags and sailed home (probably trying not to laugh and point too hard). In any case, our prospects didn't look too rosy. Though our Tues night races started showing sometimes better finishes (still sprinkled with disasters) as the weeks wore on.

For our Leukemia Cup races, it turned out our prep and preventive-disastering (I can trademark that as a good learning strategy, right?) came in handy. We got lucky that the non-spinnaker class of all differently designed boats was divided into two. Thankfully, our boat design scored a different class from Bill's,

who'd won his class for the last 11 years in a row (it must have helped that we put a moon-bounce on our decks when they were measuring our boat specifications and seaworthiness).



Photo courtesy of Wayne Williams

We got to the course early, doing an early morning swim and scrub, and then spending time before the start on the course practicing our tacks and jibes and watching the wind. Faith, who had suffered a racing war injury, shrugged off the pain and got our boat prepped, taking off extra cushions and sails, and getting us in top form.

The wind was light and puffy out of the north, with little pockets and a few wind lines streaming down the course. Once on the pitch our front crew would search for air pressure, call out puffs of air on the water and their time to arrive at our hull, as well as how the air on the course was affecting our competitors and where it was filling in, while our back crew was getting our lines trimmed and trying to steer without moving the rudder too dramatically to slow us down. The

current helped us for the first 30 minutes pushing us North up the course towards the Capitol and Washington Monument, until the river filled, and rested for slack tide.

We'd call tactics in whispers when other boats were near so they wouldn't steal our strategy.

With each tack, we'd shift our weight, pull our sails off the spreaders and hold our breaths, since the winds were so low that an errant giggle would disrupt the flow. Rounding the top mark, we headed back downwind when a sly move by a yellow boat on the leg, (he was hunting us as a leeward boat and could just barely reach our motor) caused us to do a 720 degree turn. We thought maybe we were done for, but despite the turns, we beat the rest of the class to the finish line with minutes in the bank. One down and a race to go!

After a quick lunch, the wind twisted around to blow out of the south, before our second start. We saw the smart folks on the water heading right to start on that side of the starting line, but we decided that our theory of a left pin-side start heading South seemed good to take advantage of the wind shift and current that by this time would be flowing with us South in deep water towards Mt Vernon. Doing the opposite of the whole fleet was a gamble, and we were wondering what the rest of the fleet knew that we didn't.

But, it turned out that our theory worked! We lead on the water to the windward mark with everybody else scrambling to catch up. Ahh... we were feeling cool! But then our luck petered. The winds calmed down on the way back North to a little over a knot, and the current grew pushing us away from the finish line North of us. A few boats caught up, and some were dropping anchors temporarily to hold their positions until the wind could overcome the tide. We may have been gone for, but luckily not enough boats could make up the time to cut into our lead. With a lot of leaning and shifting weight on our boat, we got our sails filled just in time to squeak over the line and defend our position. Overall in our class we ended up with a first place and a fourth place--enough to win the trophy. We didn't know how we'd place though until later at the awards ceremony.

We had an adventurous return back to the dock, towing in a bunch of Scots and a Hampton. And then it was on to the party. It was a great day on the water! And, of course, the real race was to raise money to fight blood cancers. Thanks to all who donated and participated and made the weekend a lot of fun for a great cause!

Capitan Chris

Reserve my seat at SCOW's November 13th ... Hail and Farewell Gala at the: The Army Navy Club Washington, DC 20006 (Farragut West Metro) 901 17th Street, NW Wine and Cheese Reception starting at 7:00 Dinner Served at 7:30 **Awards Ceremony at 9:00** Dancing until Midnight **\$65 per person** Send check by Oct 28 to: SCOW c/o Chris von Guggenberg - 316 E Bellefonte Ave - Alexandria, VA 22301-1244 Questions: 703.829. 7245 Or, use PayPal at: vendor treasurer@scow.org * Cocktail Attire * Coat & Tie Required Please indicate your choice from the following menus: #1) Lobster Bisque #2) Chilled Asparagus / Parmesan, Balsamic Dressina Roasted Chicken Breast filled with Asparagus and Seasoned Mushrooms **Baked Pork Chop** filled with Cornbread Stuffing/ Apple Cider Creme served with au Gratin Potatoes and Seasonal Vegetables and Seasonal Vegetables Lemon Raspberry Tartlet will be served for Dessert

Proposed Changes to SCOW Bylaws

By Chris Von Guggenberg

This coming November, in conjunction with the election of the 2011 board we're asking you to also vote on certain amendments to the bylaws. There are many changes proposed and they can best be summarized as follows:

- 1. Article II, Section 9 Voting by electronically/online this is to allow us to vote in this manner as it is more efficient and saves the club the time and expense associated with mailing ballots.
- 2. Article IV, Section 10 Removal of officers in the unlikely event that this should become necessary, the board found the current method onerous and we are recommending that it be modified as detailed on the document.
- 3. Article VI, Section 5 Establishing an investment committee thus far the club has only invested in FDIC backed interest bearing instruments. Some of the board members feel that after adjusting for

inflation the purchasing power of the moneys invested are eroding and would like to consider some alternatives. An investment policy is drafted but as yet not enacted.

- 4. Article VII, Section 5 General expenditures This section is amended to change the amount of expenditure requiring board approval from the current \$350 to \$500 which coincides with the requirements of Section 3 with regard to requiring two signatures on checks over \$500.
- 5. The rest of the changes are to update and correct other sections the bylaws.

A majority of the board has voted in favor of these changes and we hope you will too.

We hope that you will participate in the voting of these changes.

Information on the candidates and the By-Laws revisions can be obtained on the web at the following URL addresses:

http://www.scow.org/resources/2010candidates.pdf

http://www.scow.org/resources/bylawrevisions2010.pdf

Sincerely yours,

Chris von Guggenberg, Commodore

Final Raft-Up of 2010

By Richard Cecilio

On Friday, October 22nd, SCOW is hosting our final Moonlight Sail and Raft-Up of the 2010 year. I am helping Lisa Carr, our club River-Bay Director, with organizing this event.

The Club Cruisers (Rebecca and Topaz) have been reserved for the event, and we invite all club members with boats to participate in the raft-up.

For the past several raft-ups, we had six or more boats participating. So, there was plenty of room for SCOW members to participate, and those who have not participated in the past Friday raft-ups get priority.

For those of you unfamiliar with the Friday night raft-up, we simply sail to a meeting point on the river, one boat drops an anchor and other boats tie up to it. Skippers and crew bring beverages of their choice along with appetizers and mingle among each other and visit other boats.

We meet at the G-Dock at the Washington Sailing Marina around 6:30 pm and get under way no later than 7:00 pm.

If you are interested in participating, we need the following:

1. MEMBERS and GUESTS - we would love to have you join us on the river. There is limited space and it is on a first-RSVP, first-serve basis. Those who have not gone on any of the past Friday raft-ups have priority space on the list.

If you want to go on the raft-up, please e-mail me with the following information: Name, e-mail, and phone number. I will let you know if there is space on a boat next week or sooner, if possible.

Those who have already been on a Friday evening raft-up will be put on a wait list, and we will let you know the week of the raft-up if there is room.

2. CRUISER SKIPPERS NEEDED - we need one for Rebecca and one for Topaz, which have been reserved for exclusive use for the moonlight raft-up. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in skippering a club cruiser for this event.

TOPAZ AND REBECCA SKIPPERS CAN INVITE ONE GUEST/CREW FOR THE RAFT-UP. WE WILL ASSIGN CREW TO THE REMAINING SLOTS ON THE CRUISERS BASED ON THE LIST OF SCOW MEMBERS WHO HAVE RESPONDED TO THIS E-MAIL AND ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE RAFT-UP.

3. RIVER FLEET - if you plan to join us, please let me know. I'd also like to know if you will have any spaces available for crew. If you have a full crew, please let me know anyway just so we'll know how many boats are anticipated.

River and Bay Events This Fall

By Lisa Carr, River/Bay Director

We have a couple more very exciting river and bay activities coming up this fall. We hope that you can join us!

October 24 and 25 - Foul River Raftup and Schooner Rendezvous. See the email from Alan about the Foul River Raftup on the Chesapeake. See the email from Jack Swartz about the Schooner Rendezvous. You can also google Schooner Rendezvous if you want to attend by land.

October 30 - **Downrigging Weekend in Chestertown, MD**. We are organizing a group of SCOW members to attend. We will drive to Chestertown, MD for the day, sail on a tall ship and have dinner in town. There are events all weekend if folks want to stay over. The tall ships are illuminated at night and there are fireworks on Saturday night. The Oyster Boys are playing Saturday night as well. More info can be found here: http://sultanaprojects.org/downrigging. This is a highlight of the end of the sailing season for many boats. Please email lisamlsa@yahoo.com if you want to attend.

Got an article idea, photos or other content for a future newsletter? Send an email to the editor, Tom Paquin, at: editor@scow.org.

Next Membership Meeting: Monday, November 8

Agenda: Election of the 2011 Board of Directors

Location: Holiday Inn, 625 First Street, Alexandria, Virginia

Time: Socializing begins at 6:30pm with reduced price happy hour food and drinks;

meeting begins at 7:30pm

Social Sail: Every Thursday, Washington Sailing Marina, April - October, 6:00 pm

Social No-Sail: Events and locations vary, December - April, 6:00 pm **Board Meetings** 1st Monday of every month, 7:00 pm (open to members) **Channels Content:** submit by the 20th of every month to: editor@scow.org

2010 Calendar: http://www.scow.org/calendar.html

SCOW Pictures: http://picasaweb.google.com/Sailing.Club.of.Washington

SCOW Website: http://www.scow.org



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