



# DER

# KURIER

MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY

A GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Est. 1982

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER - 1985

## TWO YEAR PROGRAM

As a candidate for the next president of MAGS, it seems appropriate to present my ideas on what the organization should do, or attempt to do, in the next two years. The following list, while probably incomplete, is a broad outline of what I propose for the 1985-87 term.

## CONTINUE THE GOOD WORK

Norman Emerick and the officers and other helpers have done a terrific job of getting MAGS started. Nobody knows how much time, money and willpower Norman has put into this organization in the last three years, and we certainly owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude. Given that MAGS is now in good shape, we can build on what's been done in several ways.

Some things should stay as they are. These would include DER KURIER, holding semi-annual meetings with knowledgeable speakers, and maintaining the Surname Files.

Some things should be modified. One is the Stumped

Roots program, which aroused a great deal of interest at the beginning and provided help to some members but disappointment to others. The chief problem was lack of a broad "helper" base. I propose that we keep the concept of inter-member help but restructure the way we do it. More on this later. As to meetings, we've had a number of excellent speakers and Mary Meyer has more planned for the future. But we may also consider going back to two-speaker programs for our meetings. It has seemed prudent to have the same speaker for morning and afternoon sessions to minimize expenses and thus keep the cost down to the attendees. However, two subjects might attract more attendees.

Some previous ideas should be implemented. Regional workshops is the major item that comes to mind. Many members need help in finding data and others need help in interpreting what "they've found. Almost everybody enjoys learning background history, local color, and so on. So organizing local self-help groups should be worth the effort. At the same time special subject

workshops of the type arranged for us by Mary Meyer should certainly be continued.

Some ideas should be re-examined. The publications program comes to mind. Plans for a journal have already been modified, and we need to think some more about what we should publish, and how. If we have unpublished source data, of course it ought to be published in one form or another.

#### BROADEN MEMBERSHIP INVOLVEMENT

In the Mid-Atlantic Region, we need local Points of Contact in the sub-regions such as the Baltimore area, Washington area, Frederick County, MD, West Virginia, Shenandoah Valley and Southeast PA areas to organize carpools to MAGS meetings, and perhaps to set up small telephone networks to spread the news about local genealogical happenings or do opinion polls for MAGS.

In the far-flung outposts, our members need means of participating by mail. Volunteering to help with research tasks is one way for distant members to participate. Indexing our ancestor chart collection, for example, could be done anywhere. And to help remote members, perhaps a "pen-pal" system would provide someone in the Mid-Atlantic to pick up handouts at meetings or take notes on a subject of special interest. (Some of our talks are recorded and tapes of

them can be borrowed.)

#### INCREASE MAGS VISIBILITY

We need increased contact with other Germanic research groups, along the lines already started by Norman Emerick. And we need to encourage our members to publish the results of their efforts.

#### FIND NEW WAYS TO HELP MEMBERS WITH RESEARCH PROBLEMS

The Bibliography project and DER KURIER Index are both under way, thanks to some volunteers. Other projects might include collecting and publishing members' ancestor charts and publishing a column in DER KURIER with member contributions on how to interpret data or on how they made a breakthrough.

The first steps in accomplishing the above will include sending out the inevitable questionnaire to solicit your ideas, suggestions, and offers of help, locating some regional Points of Contact, and working with the new Research Chairperson to identify projects and locate helpers to accomplish them. In the meantime, I would really like to hear from you. Your comments don't have to wait for the questionnaire!

Write: Anne Tenny, 10807 Montrose Avenue, Garrett Park, MD, 20896.

FALL MEETING - TOWSON, MD. - OCT. 5

## NATIONAL ARCHIVES SHEDS ITS PARENT AGENCY, GSA

As of April 1, the General Services Administration turned over the archives [sic], the Federal Records Centers, and seven presidential libraries to a new, independent National Archives and Records Administration, with an annual budget of about \$100 million and 4,200 staff members.

Although the agency was created by law, the legislation included virtually no specific requirements on how the Archives should be organized. It has been left to officials...to work out the details with officials from a parent agency that hasn't always supported the move.

Efforts to separate the Archives began to intensify three years ago, when then-GSA Administrator Gerald P. Carmen transferred several top Archive officials in what congressional critics saw as an effort to politicize the record-keeping agency. After Carmen and Archivist Robert W. Warner continue to battle over the future direction of the Archives, sympathetic congressmen began crafting legislation to split the agencies. The measure finally passed in the closing days of the 98th Congress....

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## RING ANY BEALLS?

The Family History Committee of the Montgomery County Historical Society is collecting information on Maryland BEALLS (all spellings)--especially the Alexander Beall immigrant line. Family legends--good, bad, happy, sad, and funny--are an extremely important segment of family history and we would like to have all the Beall lore that is available. If you have a Beall family tradition, would you share it with us? The story about Ninian Beall relates that his flaming red hair was still flaming red when his body was exhumed long after his demise. We would love to record, study, and keep for posterity all other family tales.

The Beall project is our number one priority over the next twelve months. If all Beall traditions are shared and recorded in one place, what a marvelous, and rich resource it would be. May we hear from you soon?

Please send your Beall stories to:

Genevieve Wimsatt, Montgomery County Historical Society Library, 103 West Montgomery Avenue, Rockville, MD 20850.

## QUERIES

The Queries Editor is moving. Please refer all queries to her new address as of Sept. 1. Elsie Swartwood, Queries Editor, 121 S. Juanita Ave. #D, Redondo Beach, CA, 90277.

## COMMENTS ON THE QUERIES

Only three queries in DER KURIER of June, 1985, and all three pose different types of problems.

ALWAYS STATE WHAT YOU NEED in a query, or you may get what you already have. Query #1 gives data on Siefert, Schrock, and Marrell. But Mr. Quinn does not state what he would like to learn about this family. The surname "Sifrit" is probably an original Seifert, but it might have been Seifried; and these should not be the same name.

KNOWING THE PORT AND YEAR of emigration is a help, but it's still a do-it-yourself job. Passenger lists for the port of Hamburg, Germany have been microfilmed only from 1855. For the Berg family, passenger lists for the port of New York can be checked. In 1849, Johannes (John) Berg would have been age 11; almost certainly his parents were on board. Microfilms are in the National Archives and in a number of major libraries. They can also be ordered from an LDS (Mormon) branch library. Two in New Jersey: (1) Dunhams Corner Rd., East Brunswick; phone (201) 254-1480; (2) 283 James Street, Morristown; phone (201) 539-5882.

THE RELIGION OF AN IMMIGRANT can be very important; church records may be the only source of data on him. The faith of his descendants is a clue; the faith in which his children were confirmed is a sure indication.

BORN IN PENNSYLVANIA, MAYBE? To check the possibility, see Floyd G. Hoenstine, Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research in Pennsylvania. This book contains an alphabetical list of surnames found in Pennsylvania, keyed to the more than 2000 books listed. Mr. Hoenstine's heirs are still operating his rental library, which contains all the books listed. Rental price may look high, but 75% of it is refunded when the book is returned. Find the book in your library or write: Hoenstine Rental Library, 414 Montgomery Street (P. O. Box 208) Holidaysburg, PA 16648. The book itself sells for about \$20, if still in print.

UNUSUAL SURNAMES are easier to trace. Many German families came to Virginia from Pennsylvania, often through Maryland. Muhleisen/Muehleisen and Orbough/Orebaugh are listed in Hoenstine's book, one title each: #1630 and #825. For Muehleisen, the citation is to Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Springfield Twp., Bucks County, Pennsylvania. Two men named Muhleisen arrived at the port of Philadelphia in 1747, ship Restauration: [sic] Christoph and Christian. Adam may well be a grandson of one of them. The surname Orebaugh has been traced back to an original Oberbeck: port of Philadelphia 1732, ship Johnson Galley, immigrant Andreas Oberbeck, wife Elisabeth, sons Johannes and Philip.

RESEARCHING INTO A NEW STATE may require local help, or a desire to join the county genealogical society, to place queries there. Mary K. Meyer has published the source book for this: Meyer's Directory of Genealogical Societies in the U.S.A. & Canada, 1984 edition. Available at MAGS conferences and by mail from Libra Publications, 5179 Perry Road, Mt. Airy, MD 21771. Write with SASE for mail order price. (For Mr. Meliza, Bucks Co. G. S.: P. O. Box 1092, Doylestown, PA 18901.)

FINAL NOTE. I have seen a family group sheet with an immigrant born in 1695, his oldest child born 1774, immigrant died 1840. Genealogical research includes arithmetic!

#### NEW BOOKS ON VIRGINIA

Peggy Shomo Joyner, MAGS member and conference speaker in 1984, has 3 new books in print, all very valuable reference tools:

Extant German Church Records From Virginia and West Virginia: A Checklist, reprinted by permission from The Report, No. 38 (1982).

Abstracts of Virginia's Northern Neck Warrants and Surveys. Volume I: Orange and Augusta Counties 1730-1754. Volume II: Frederick County 1747-1780.

For mail order prices, write with SASE to Mrs. Joyner, 5008 Dogwood Trail, Portsmouth, VA 23703.

#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To: Editor DER KURIER

I have just received the June, 1985 issue of DER KURIER, and would like to make a comment in rebuttal to the attitude and criticism of the anonymous commentator on Queries. Many of us interested amateur genealogy researchers simply do not have access to library facilities, or Mormon research facilities; nor can we afford to purchase a lot of books which may or may not have any references to our lines of interest; nor can we spend a lot of money for the services of professional researchers. Therefore, our Queries are sent in the hope that by that means we may be able to contact others interested in the same lines, and perhaps result in an exchange of information. Admittedly, I have never received any response to my queries in DER KURIER, or any other society newsletter, although I have replied to some to offer what I have, which in one particular instance, led to a productive correspondence for both of us, including a sharing of costs.

Re the information submitted in our Queries, please bear in mind we are seeking information we do not have; furthermore, your instructions are to limit the number of words.

Re research in Germany, many of us do not write or read German, nor do some have any idea how or from whom to

request information, or how to handle payment, international coupons, etc. In many cases, the information required for input for a request is what one is trying to find. And some, such as Die Heimatstelle in Kaiserslautern, are apparently trying to rebuild records destroyed by Allied bombing in WW-II, and information is restricted to what they have collected from American researchers, who have sent requests.

Rightly or wrongly, I am, with each issue of DER KURIER, coming to the conclusion that MAGS is for the professional genealogist, or for the wealthy. Perhaps there is a need for a split-off for us poor amateurs! Or perhaps I am in the wrong company, although I was never informed MAGS was a society restricted to professional genealogists.

Thank you for listening.

Martha Smith  
Eureka, CA.

Dear Ms. Showalter

Upon reading the June, 1985 issue of DER KURIER, I would like to direct the following comments to the "anonymous guest editor" who commented on some queries from previous issues.

From the superior attitude detected in his/her writing, I can see why they would want to remain anonymous.

First of all, I would like

to say that not everyone is a professional researcher, nor has everyone been trained in the proper way of sending a query (if there is a proper way). Though I haven't sent a query to DER KURIER, I was under the impression that all queries would eventually be printed in the newsletter for everyone to see, not just the query editor, thus someone writing "Need parents, siblings, dates, places, etc." is not unusual if they think someone else in the group may be searching the same surname. As a matter of fact, on Page 5 of this same edition of DER KURIER, Column 2 Paragraph 2, I quote, "The major benefit is to become aware of other individuals searching the locality or surname, thus avoiding duplication of effort and cost."

I think critiquing queries of well intended members shows a lack of class and defeats the purpose of the Society, that is, to help interested members to trace their ancestry [sic]. Some of us have very little information from which to start, so we welcome anything which might help in our research, and, particularly if it is served on a "platter."

Very truly yours,

Joan Ann Poole

ED. NOTE: Letters and comments do not necessarily reflect the opinion of MAGS or DER KURIER.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Dear Members,

Our membership roster shows that with this issue of DER KURIER it is time for some of you to renew your membership. Please check the mailing label on this issue of DER KURIER to see when your membership expires.

Your membership is important to us and we hope that you will welcome this reminder. A prompt remittal of your dues will ensure that you will receive the next issue of DER KURIER, as well as all of our mailings for the new year.

Please fill out and mail the renewal form under this reminder.

-----CUT HERE-----

MAIL TO: Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society  
Nancy H. Mossburg  
233 Meadows Lane, NE  
Leesburg, VA 22075

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Mid-Atlantic Germanic Society

NAME(S) AND ADDRESSES:

ANNUAL DUES

Single: \$5.00

Family: \$7.00

Telephone: ( )- \_\_\_\_\_

Contributors: Anne Tenny, Joan Ann Poole, Martha Smith, and Genevieve Wimsatt.

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WHEN WRITING TO US:

INFORMATION ON MAGS: Send SASE to Corresp. Sec., Phyllis Lott, 12111 Mt. Albert Rd., Ellicott City, MD 21043

MEMBERSHIP: \$5 single, \$7 family per year (Sept. 1 - Aug. 31). Nancy H. Mossburg, 233 Meadows Lane, NE, Leesburg, VA 22075.

STUMPED ROOTS, SURNAME EXCHANGE INDEX, AND PROFESSIONAL REFERRAL: Follow directions set up for these programs or send SASE for information to Sue S. Smyser, 6266 Rose Hill Dr., Alexandria, VA 22310.

QUERIES: Follow directions set up for this program or send SASE for information to Elsie Swartwood, Queries Editor, 121 S. Juanita Ave., #D, Redondo Beach, CA 90277.

SPRING & FALL MEETINGS: (Information) Send SASE to Mary K. Meyer, 5179 Perry Rd., Mt. Airy, MD 21771. (Registration) Send SASE to Mr. & Mrs. Warren E. Bleinberger, 3752 Thomas Point Dr., Annapolis, MD, 21403.

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Tidbits, Morsels and Crumbs and Die Buchs will resume next issue.  
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## SANDHILL CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS

NAME	BORN	DIED	AGE		
			Y	M	D
Fanny, Michael	July 15, 1860	Sept. 4, 1863	3	1	19
Farst, Harry L.	Sept. 12, 1894	May 22, 1976	81	8	23
Farst, Mabel W. Wife of Hary	Oct. 11, 1893	Oct. 7, 1949			
Fieundt(Fieandt), Elias Son of Israel *1		Nov. 21, 1890	16	11	16
Fieandt, Harvey H.	1875	Feb. 20, 1968	92		
Fieandt, Katie B. 1st wife of Harvey H.	1877	June 28, 1926	48	11	28
Fieandt, Maude E. 2nd wife of Harvey H.	July 31, 1883	Jan. 1, 1957	73		
Fisher, Darst Luann		Sept. 1, 1974			Still born
Foltz, Infant son of Christian and E.					
Foltz, Anna Maria Wife of Christian	Aug. 6, 1792	Feb. 2, 1839			
Foltz, Christian	Aug. 25, 1856	Oct. 1865			
Foltz, Christian	July 12, 1802	Mar. 27, 1863			
Foltz, Christian Son of Christian & Anna Maria	May	Apr. 29, 1856	5	10	0
Foltz, Christianna Wife of Christian	Feb. 24, 1770	Dec. 28, 1855			
Foltz, Jonas Son of Christian & Anna Maria					
Foltz, Maria Dau. of J & C	Dec. 28, 1819	Dec. 30, 1821			
Folta, Susanna Dau. of JNO & Catherine	Sept. 16, 1827	Nov. 11, 1833			
Forney, Hannah D. Wife of Jacob	Dec. 17, 1797	Apr. 13, 1877			
Forney, Jacob	Feb. 20, 1794	Sept. 30, 1852	58	7	10
Farney(Forney), Susan Dau. of Jacob & Emma		May 12, 1824	1	11	2
Fox, Elizabeth		Oct. 13, 1782	0	5	12
Fox, Susanna		Apr. 15, 1777	0	0	8
Furman, Catherine		Apr. 17, 1782	86		
Furman, Henry Son of John & Molly		Apr. 13, 1816	13	1	2
Furman, John	Sept. 18, 1775	Apr. 22, 1856	80	5	4
Furman, Joseph	Jan. 15, 1823	Mar. 1, 1871			
Furman, Mary Wife of John	Apr. 27, 1777	Mar. 7, 1871			
Fureman, Mary Wife of Joseph	Jan. 15, 1823	Mar. 1, 1871			
Funk, Darlene Lovan	Aug. 26, 1963	Aug. 26, 1963	0	0	1
Gardner, Clara Alice		June 25, 1935	79	10	19
Gipe, Andrew J.	Sept. 11 1882	May 7, 1945			
Gipe, Anne L.	March 19, 1861	Sept. 30, 1894	33	6	11
Gipe, Henry F.	Feb. 28, 1813	Sept. 21, 1892	79	6	23
Gipe, Jacob L.	June 17, 1854	Apr. 6, 1931	79	9	19
Gipe, John L.	Feb. 22, 1849	Mar. 3, 1889	40	0	9
Gipe, Leah Wife of Henry	Sept. 16, 1821	Jan. 1, 1900	75	3	18
Gipe, Leah L.	Jan. 28, 1853	Jan. 19, 1935	78	11	21
Gipe, Mary L.	Oct. 12, 1852	Sept. 21, 1893	40	11	9

## SANDHILL CEMETERY INSCRIPTIONS

NAME	BORN	DIED	AGE		
			Y	M	D
Gipe, Sadie H. Wife of Andrew J.	May 21, 1885	May 17,			
Gipe, William L. Son of Henry & Catherine	Jan. 12, 1859	Feb. 17, 1885	26	0	26
Gollam, Franklin	Sept. 4, 1820	Nov. 12, 1905	85	2	8
Golam(Gollam), John H.	June 9, 1854	June 5, 1862	7	11	26
Gollam, Mary Wife of Franklin	Oct. 18, 1822	May 3, 1896	78	6	15
Grader, George	Aug. 18, 1812	July 17, 1866	53	10	29
Groul, Martin	Apr. 22, 1773	Dec. 16, 1832			
Groul, Martha	Apr. 22, 1773	Dec. 16, 1832	59	7	22
Grubb, Fannie B.	Apr. 21, 1938	Sept. 26, 1902	64	5	5
Hacken(Hocker), Magdalena	Aug. 10, 1720	Oct. 26, 1814			
Hawk, Anna Wife of Christian	May 15, 1796	Sept. 8, 1864			
Haak(Hawk), Christian	Dec. 10, 1796	Aug. 8, 1886	89	7	25
Hawk, Eli Son of Henry & Lydia	June 10, 1859		3	7	
Hawk, Harry H. Son of Philip & Margaret	June 18, 1867	Feb. 26, 1903	35	8	8
Hawk, Jacob	Jan. 8, 1821	Nov. 17, 1854			
Hawk, Margaret Wife of Philip	May 27, 1843	Mar. 1, 1869			
Hawk, Philip S.			66	0	22
Hawk, Rebekah Snavely Wife of Philip S.	Aug. 15, 1845	Apr. 27, 1926	80	8	12
Heisey, Arthur G.	Dec. 6, 1906	Mar. 3, 1935			
Heisey, Harry W. Son of Arthur G. & Mary K.	Oct. 4, 1930	Feb. 1, 1931			
Heisey, Jacob	Jan. 7, 1823	May 10, 1892	69	4	3
Heisey, Mary Dau. of Jacob & Mary Ann		Mar. 31, 1862	11	2	13
Heisey, Mary Ann Wife of Jacob		Mar. 24, 1911	85	10	0
Himmel, Anna Dau. of William & Elizabeth		Feb. 4, 1826	15	0	29
Horner, Rev. J. Casper	Aug. 24, 1738	June 5, 1794			
Horner, Marien Wife of Rev. J. Casper		Feb. 2, 1794			
Holstein, Cyrus	1842	1897			
Holstein, Katie B.	1877	1926			
Holstein, Mary Urich	1843	May 13, 1932	84	8	29
Holstein, Mary Wife of Cyrus	1843	1932			
Keller, Elizabeth(Spring) Wife of Michael	Aug. 9 1794	Dec. 17, 1853	59	4	8
Kenmer, Christian	Sept. 9, 1734	Sept. 24, 1804			
Kenmer, Christian	July 1, 1770	June 6, 1807			
Killwell, Emma Louisa Dau. Of John & Elizabeth	June 19, 1854	Mar. 2, 1862	7	8	13
Kolly, Joseph Edward Peter		Apr. 2, 1862	1	2	22
Koons, Earl W.	Oct. 22, 1886	Feb. 8, 1954			
Kope, Anna M. Wife of George F.	1884	1916			
Kope, David F.	Burial Permit-	Sept. 5, 1911			

THANK YOU MARGARET REESE

DER KURIER wishes to thank Margaret Reese of Baltimore, MD for acting as chairperson of the Mailing Committee for the past several years. She and her committee have done the sorting, collating, and mailing of all items received by MAGS members. She is continuing in her position and deserves the thanks of every member for her efforts.

REVISED CONSTITUTION  
ENCLOSED

Enclosed in this issue of DER KURIER is a copy of the revised Constitution recently completed by the Constitution Committee. Please vote your approval or disapproval of the revisions by sending a post card with the words "approve" or "disapprove" to Robert Miller, 347 Scott Drive., Silver Spring, MD., 20904.

LIMITED OFFER!!!

Do you need to look at a specific month in a given year, yet can't find old calendars? For a limited time, DER KURIER is offering yearly calendars from 13 A.D. (yes, we do mean that) to 9999 A.D. Find the day you ancestors were born, their wedding day, the day they died. For fun, see what day your birthday falls on in the year 2001 A.D. Calendars are \$1.00 for each year plus 50 cents postage. Send your orders to Editor, DER KURIER, 207 N. Duke Dr., Sterling, VA., 22170.

(Reprinted with permission of Jim Baker from How Our Counties Got Their Names.)

## ASHTABULA

ASHTABULA COUNTY WAS LAID OUT IN 1811...ITS NAME COMES FROM THE ASHTABULA RIVER. 'ASHTABULA' IS AN INDIAN WORD AND MEANS 'FISH'—PROBABLY A REFERENCE TO AN ABUNDANCE OF FISH IN THE ASHTABULA RIVER.



ASHTABULA COUNTY, IN THE FAR NORTH-EAST CORNER OF THE STATE, CONTAINS 720 SQUARE MILES, MAKING IT THE LARGEST OF OHIO'S 88 COUNTIES.

THE CITY OF ASHTABULA IS THE LARGEST MUNICIPALITY IN THE COUNTY, BUT THE COUNTY SEAT IS THE SMALL VILLAGE OF JEFFERSON.

## ATHENS

ATHENS COUNTY WAS FORMED MARCH 1, 1805. IT HAD FORMERLY BEEN A PART OF WASHINGTON COUNTY. IT TAKES ITS NAME FROM ATHENS, GREECE. IT WAS PROBABLY SO NAMED SINCE THE LAND WAS DEDICATED TO EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES AND ANCIENT ATHENS WAS A CENTER OF LEARNING.



ATHENS COUNTY IS THE HOME OF OHIO UNIVERSITY. FOUNDED IN 1802 AS THE "AMERICAN WESTERN UNIVERSITY", THE SCHOOL BEGAN IN TWO ROOMS WITH THREE STUDENTS.

THE CITY OF ATHENS IS THE COUNTY SEAT.

## HISTORICAL CALENDAR

- JULY**
- 7--1784 Ezra Stiles, president of Yale University, thanked Thomas Jefferson for his offer of library donations.
- 11--1782 Savannah, GA evacuated by British General Alured Clarke.
- 24--1784 Congress offered John Jay the position of Secretary of Foreign Affairs.
- AUGUST**
- 1--1781 Cornwallis reached Yorktown, VA and set up base for operation.
- 18--1780 General Thomas Sumter defeated by Banastre Tarleton at Fishing Creek, SC.
- 21--1784 In a letter to George Whatley, Benjamin Franklin described his invention of bifocals.
- SEPTEMBER**
- 2--1784 Rhode Island legislature passed an act regulating the weight of gold coins
- 10--1784 Montgomery County, PA created in honor of Richard Montgomery.
- 30--1781 Cornwallis abandoned the outer defenses of Yorktown, VA.



**MID-ATLANTIC GERMANIC SOCIETY**  
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