You are receiving this email because you are a registered member of GGAC, Scouting America or you subscribed to our list. If you wish to *Opt Out of the Muir eNews*, <u>please scroll to the bottom of this email</u> <u>and click "Manage preferences</u>" NOT unsubscribe (unless you want to opt out of **all GGAC emails**).



Muir Newsletter February 2025

## 1/24/2025



February 2025 District Roundtable & Commissioners
<u>Meeting</u>

The February 2025 Muir Commissioners Meeting, Roundtable, and International Night is scheduled for *Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 7:30 PM* in-person **location TBA**. Be on the lookout for a separate update via email and on our Facebook Group will which will confirm the location. The Commissioner's meeting starts at 7:00 pm.

Topic for this February's Roundtable is:

- For Cubs: Where to go camping
- For Scouts BSA: Summer Camp planning

If you have any questions for Roundtable, please contact Arnel Jaime - District Commissioner, <u>arnel.scouting@gmail.com</u> and Mark Hall - Roundtable Commissioner, <u>scouts@halls.net</u>.

## Future District Roundtable & Commissioners Meeting <u>Topics</u>

**Note**: unless otherwise stated, the Muir Commissioners meeting will be 7:00 pm 30 minutes before the start of the monthly Roundtable. District Committee meetings will remain on the 3rd Thursday of the Month via Zoom (unless otherwise stated).

- March 2025:
  - For Cubs: Recruitment training/discussion
  - For Scouts BSA: Joining/Sign-up Event Basics



**District Commissioner's Corner** 

• Save the Date: Muir District Dinner on Saturday, March 22,

## 2025 tentatively at Salvation Army Church

- Location confirmation and more information coming soon, so please be on the lookout in your emails and our Facebook Group.
- Adult Leader training (Hazardous Weather Training)
  - See the section colored light blue below of this newsletter regarding the Hazardous Weather Training.

## Renewal News

- The Council has rolled out renewals for our individual leaders for the unit and district levels. For additional information, please follow the links here:
  - Membership Renewal information <u>https://ggacbsa-</u> 21688059.hs-sites.com/membership-renewal
  - For Leaders <u>http://ggacbsa-21688059.hs-</u> sites.com/individual-membership-renewal-1
  - For Parents <u>http://ggacbsa-21688059.hs-</u> <u>sites.com/individual-membership-renewal-0</u>

## Commissioners and District Committee Members Wanted

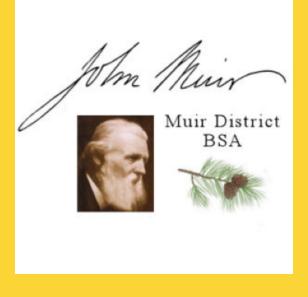
 Are you interested in doing more to provide a better program for the youth of our district? Please let me know via email at <u>arnel.scouting@gmail.com</u> so we can create a team that can meet this challenge.

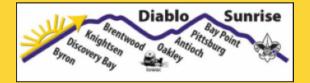
Yours in Scouting,

## Arnel Jaime

Muir District Commissioner Golden Gate Area Council, Scouting America

(925) 451-0330 | <u>arnel.scouting@gmail.com</u> https://ggacbsa.org





# Fireside Chat #2 - Muir & Diablo Sunrise Districts on Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 7:00 pm

Join us for our next Fireside Chat between Diablo Sunrise and Muir Districts at *Salvation Army Church; 3590 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521* (corner room). Please share this with others who may not have received this email. We'll be providing Council leadership a summary of our progress on the metrics that were provided for us. Click the blue button below for more details:

Fireside Chat #2 Email



## Register now for the GGAC Volunteer Celebration on March 1, 2025

Join fellow Scouters across the council to recognize the accomplishments of our volunteers in other program areas and celebrate them at the annual GGAC Volunteer Celebration event! Location is the Dougherty Valley Station Community Arts Center, 17011 Bollinger Canyon Road, San Ramon, CA 94582.

Doors open at noon for fellowship; program commences at 1:00 pm.

Register Now!

## Photos from the Muir District International Night on January 9, 2025

A great night for Scouting at the 2025 Muir District International Night! Pack 262 and Troops 370 & 444 presented information on Scouting programs in various countries and provided food.

(Photos courtesy of: Arnel Jaime)

More photos and videos can be found on our Muir Facebook Group.









This was announced on 12/27/2024.



## <u>Updated Guide to Advancement – Effective January 1,</u> <u>2025</u>

## Guide to Advancement 2025 Version

The Guide to Advancement has been updated. You can find the 2025 version at <u>https://www.scouting.org/resources/guide-to-advancement/</u> This is one of a series of posts meant to highlight recently announced changes to the Guide to Advancement.

Using Technology-Based Tools in Advancement, Section 5.0.8.0 deals with group/online instruction and artificial intelligence. This section has been modified and added to reflect advances in learning options.

In most situations, learning that occurs face-to-face is preferred. "The preferred method for rank advancement and merit badge counseling is still face-to-face interaction that supports the Scouting America method of adult association, but there are occasions when use of technology might be supportive."

"When a requirement says to "attend a meeting," in-person participation is strongly recommended. While virtual participation may be convenient, in-person attendance allows for a significantly richer experience, with more socialization and more focus. Virtual attendance should be extremely rare, when extenuating circumstances prevent in-person participation, and the merit badge counselor must approve the substitution in advance."

"Digital technologies can enhance or hinder our interactions with the world around us. With that in mind, when working on Scouting America rank, merit badge, and other advancement activities, the following definitions should be used:

- Discuss requires a back and forth, interactive conversation between the Scout and the merit badge counselor. Exchanging a few text messages does not meet this standard, but a video conversation might.
- Explain can be accomplished in a written or oral format but must be a substantive description, more than just a few words.
- Demonstrate means to physically do the activity, ideally in the presence of the counselor. If this is not possible, a video of the Scout doing the activity can be used, provided both the video and the activity can be done in a safe manner. Video evidence must only be accepted if the Scout performs the skill correctly, and all essential aspects of the task can be clearly seen in the video."

Scouting America desires to be relevant in how Scouts are served by keeping up with technological advances and promoting their proper use. "Generative artificial intelligence and other tools (spell checkers, grammar checkers, autofill, etc.) may be used by a Scout to assist with written requirements, but their use must be fully disclosed to the person reviewing the work, and the final output must be the Scout's own original work."

Questions and comments can be sent via email to advancement.team@scouting.org.

Please share to all your Packs, Troops, units, and fellow volunteers.

This was updated on 12/05/2024.

## MANY Scouting America TRAININGS ARE <u>MOSTLY</u> ONLINE



## Hazardous Weather Training (online)

**Reminder**: Effective December 3, 2024, all direct contact leaders are required to complete Hazardous Weather Training. A notification will go out to each affected member from Scouting U. Here's who is a "direct contact" leader:

- Cub Scouts Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader, Tiger Den Leader, Webelos Den Leader, and Assistant Webelos Den Leader
- Scouts BSA Scoutmaster and Assistant Scoutmaster
- Venturing Advisor and Associate Advisor
- Sea Scouting Skipper, Mate
- Exploring Advisor and Associate Advisor

#### **Dates**

Hazardous Weather Training is available at any time online as part of the Training section of <u>My.Scouting.org</u>. If you've never visited this site before, you'll need to click the "create account" button and then follow the instructions; have your BSA membership ID number handy.

#### Location

There is no physical location as the course is only offered online through the Training section of <u>My.Scouting.org</u>.

Cost

#### There is no fee to complete Hazardous Weather Training.

#### Registration

You do not have to pre-register for Hazardous Weather Training. Simply log in to <u>My.Scouting.org</u> and visit the Training section to take the course.

#### Renewal

All direct contact leaders must renew this training every two years.

- - -

Scout leaders. To be registered as TRAINED in your role, you need to complete the following courses:

- Basic Position-Specific Training
- Introduction to Outdoor Leader Skills
- Hazardous Weather
- Youth Protection Training

Basic position-specific leader training is for:

- Cub Scouting (Cubmaster, Assistant Cubmaster, Den Leader, Assistant Den Leader)
- Scouts BSA (Scoutmaster, Assistant Scoutmaster)
- Venturing (Crew Advisor and Associate Advisor)
- Sea Scouts BSA (all Adult Leaders)
- Exploring (Advisor and Associate Advisor)

This was announced on 10/24/2024.

## GGAC Adventure Pass for Cub Scouts & Scouts BSA (both flyers below)

Get ready for a year of fun, learning, and unforgettable adventures with the brandnew **Adventure Pass Program** from GGAC - the Golden Gate Area Council, Scouting America. Whether you're a current Scout or looking to join, this all-inclusive program is your gateway to the ultimate Scouting experience at an unbeatable value! The Youth Adventure Pass offers incredible benefits for individual Scouts while the Family Adventure Pass is perfect for families with multiple Scouts.

#### Why Choose the Adventure Pass?

With the Adventure Pass, you and your family gain access to a year of exciting Scouting activities, leadership development, and outdoor adventures, all while supporting the mission of the Boy Scouts of America.

Passes are valid for 12 months from the date of registration or renewal, so

## you can start your adventure anytime!

Don't miss out on this opportunity to make the most of your Scouting journey. Sign up for the Adventure Pass today and embark on a path filled with learning, friendship, and fun. Adventure awaits!

- Cub Scouts <u>https://ggacbsa-21688059.hs-sites.com/cub-scout-adventure-pass-2024</u>
- Scouts BSA <u>https://ggacbsa-21688059.hs-sites.com/scout-adventure-pass-2024-0</u>



## Introducing the Adventure Pass for Cub Scouts

we're thrilled to announce the launch of the brand-new Adventure Pass Program from the Golden Gate Area council - Scouting America! Designed to provide incredible value and unforgettable experiences, the Adventure Pass is your ticket to a year filled with excitement, learning, and outdoor adventures. Choose the plan that best suits your needs and get ready to make memories that will last a lifetime!

#### The Cub Scout Adventure Pass . . .

is perfect for individual youth members looking to maximize their Scouting experience. With access to special discounts, event credits, and exclusive savings, this pass ensures you get the most out of your Scouting journey.

#### The Cub Scout Family Adventure Pass ...

offers unbeatable value for families with multiple youth members. Enjoy all the benefits of the individual pass but for all the kids in your family, and with no limits on the number of youth included! This is the ultimate way to bring your whole family together for a year of adventures, community service, and fun in the great outdoors.

#### Why Choose the Adventure Pass Program?

with the Adventure Pass, you're not just signing up for a membership: you're investing in a year packed with enriching activities, leadership opportunities, and the chance to create lifelong friendships. From day camps to council events, this pass opens the door to a world of exploration and growth for our Scouts and their families.

#### Ready to embark on this adventure?

Enroll in the Adventure Pass Program today and make the most of what Scouting has to offer.

All passes are valid for 12 months upon becoming a registered Scout or renewing registration.

## Adventure Awaits - Don't Miss Out!

**Cub Scout Adventure Pass** Per Youth \$475/year or 12 monthly payments of \$40

- S85 Scouting America Membership
   S86 Scouncil Program fee
   S15 Scout Life
   S200 Friends of Scouting
   S100 towards Day Camp
   S50 Diacount for a District or Council Event
   10% off at Council Trading Post
   S1,000 Total Value

Scan OR Code to Choose Your Package



**Cub Scout Family Adventure Pass** 

Youth Family Members (max 2 youth \$749/year or 12 monthly payments of \$63

- S85 Scouting America Membership S86 Council Program fee S15 Scout Life S100 Friends of Scouting S100 towards Day Camp S100 towards Day Camp S00 Discout for a District or Council Event 10% off at Council Trading Post



## Introducing the Adventure Pass for Scouts BSA

Get ready for a year of fun, learning, and unforgettable adventures with the brand-new Adventure Pass Program from GGAC - the Golden Gate Area Council, Scouting America. Whether you're a current Scout or looking to join, this all-inclusive program is your gateway to the ultimate Scouting experience at an unbeatable value! The Youth Adventure Pass offers incredible benefits for individual Scouts while the Family Adventure Pass is perfect for families with multiple Scouts.

Why Choose the Adventure Pass?

with the Adventure Pass, you and your family gain access to a year of exciting Scouting activities, leadership development, and outdoor adventures, all while supporting the mission of the Boy Scouts of America.

Passes are valid for 12 months from the date of registration or renewal, so you can start your adventure anytime! Don't miss out on this opportunity to make the most of your Scouting journey. Sign up for the Adventure Pass today and embark on a path filled with learning, friendship, and fun. Adventure awaits!

#### Ready to embark on this adventure?

Enroll in the Adventure Pass Program today and make the most of what Scouting has to offer! All passes are valid for 12 months upon becoming a registered Scout or renewing registration.

#### Adventure Awaits - Don't Miss Out!

#### **Scouts BSA Adventure Pass**

Per Youth \$795/year or 12 monthly payments of \$66 \$85 Scouting America Membership | Enjoy the full benefits of be a Scout with national and council resources.
 \$68 Scouncil Program Fee | Supports high-quality programs and I Second to additional and second secon Scouting activities. • \$15 Scout Life | Stay updated with the latest Scouting news, tips, \$200 Friends of Scouting | Help support local Scouting programs and initiatives.
\$375 towards GGAC Summer Camp or NYLT | Attend your favorite GGAC Summer Camp or the National Youth Leadership Training cours Solution of the National Your Leadership framing courses to develop new skills and make lifelong memories.
 So Discourt for a District or Council Event | Save on local Scout events throughout the year. • 10% off at Council Trading Post | Get all your Sci outing gear S1.000 Total Value

Scan OR Code to Choose Your Package



#### Scouts BSA Family Adventure Pass Youth Family Members (max 2 youth)

\$1249/year or 12 monthly payments of \$104

- S85 Scouting America Membership | Comprehensive membership for each registered Scout in your family. S68 Council Program Fee | Keep your family engaged with top-tier local Scouting program. S19 Scout Life | A subscription for each family member to stay the Scoutin local.
- the Scouting loop. \$200 Friends of Scouting | A shared contribution to bolster local Scouting efforts.
- Scouting efforts. \$375 towards GGAC Summer Camp or NYLT | Use this credit for any of your family members to attend camps or leadership training. \$50 Discount for a District or Council Event | Enjoy family savings on all eligible events. 10% off at Council Trading Post | Gear up your whole family with

This was updated on 8/24/2024.



## UPDATED: Mandated Reporter Training & Live Scan background check information on the Council website (click button or web link below).

If you have completed the January 2023 or later version of the mandated reporter training, you no longer need to take it again ("one and done"; does not expire). Also, we no longer need to use the California Scouting website to upload the certificate as the Council receives the certificates from the new <u>website</u>.

https://ggacbsa.org/youth%20protection/

AB 506 & Live Scan Information

# **Scouting Recruitment Postcard**

Please share this recruitment postcard with QR code to all Packs & Troops; courtesy of our District Executive Natalie Hannum.



This was updated on 6/22/2024.



## **Muir Packs and Troops Photo Submissions**

Greetings all Muir Packs & Troops! The Muir District wants to recognize and promote you and the activities you do via this FB group. If you are a member of this FB group, please post photos of your Pack/Troop participating in Scouting activities and include a brief article. I will limit these posts to once a week with exceptions for special events (Blue & Gold, Scout Sunday, Summer Camp, etc.).

As always, please adhere to Scouting America's YPT policies including not tagging/writing the names of Scouts under age 18, make sure to get consent from the parents/guardians of Scouts before posting photos, and ensue the photos are

## **Muir Scouts in Action or Scouting Activities Submissions**

At the same time, if you have any pictures or videos of Muir District Scouts in Action (service projects, heroism, etc.) or Scouting Activities (Scouting America derbies, training, blue and gold, court of honor, etc.) please email them to <u>patrickj0208@yahoo.com</u> and include a copy of the Medical Record (<u>Part A</u>) release for each Scout so that they can be recognized/featured in the District Newsletters!

We also accept any submissions of notable Scouting-related recognitions, awards, or news of Scouts/Scouters.

## Muir Scouts in Action (Pack & Troop 444)

On Sunday, January 12, 2025, Troop and Pack 444 hosted a Pancake Breakfast as a fundraiser for Chartering Organization, St. Bonaventure Catholic Church. It was a great way for the parish to be served a delicious meal and raise funds for the Church's youth ministry. In addition, they had a recruiting table for families with scout-aged attendees to visit. The Pack got several names! Recruiting is especially important as our District looks to meet some recruiting goals set at the past District meeting.





# Calling all Muir Eagle Scouts to join the GGAC Eagles <u>Nest!</u>

The GGAC Eagles Nest is an Eagle Scout community that launched on June 4, 2023 and since then, we are already 580+ members strong. This network of Eagle Scouts provides an opportunity for you to connect, learn, and grow alongside like-minded individuals who share your passion for Scouting. Now is the perfect time to join *and it's free*.

Earning the Eagle Scout award is a significant accomplishment that demonstrates exceptional leadership, character, and service to others. If you have earned this prestigious rank and are looking for ways to connect with other Eagle Scouts, consider joining the Golden Gate Area Council's Eagle's Nest. This group is open to all Eagle Scouts who reside, work, are registered, or were once members of the <u>GGAC or any of its legacy councils</u>. Celebrate your achievement by joining the Eagle's Nest today and connecting with a community of fellow Eagle Scouts.

As a member of the Eagle's Nest, you'll gain access to various benefits and perks designed exclusively for Eagle Scouts. Here are a few highlights:

- Stay Informed: Receive timely emails with Eagle Scout-specific updates, news, and events.
- Connections: Connect with fellow Eagle Scouts through gatherings and events created for networking and fellowship.
- Get Eagle Gear: Enjoy early access to GGAC Eagle Scout & Eagle's Nest gear to display your achievement proudly.
- Showcase Your Success: Add your photo to our <u>Digital Eagle Scout Wall</u> and place a marker on our <u>Eagle Scout Project Map</u>.

Click Here to Join the Eagles Nest Today!

Feel free to contact me for any Eagles Nest-related inquiries!

Once an Eagle, Always an Eagle

Patrick Jaime Council NESA Committee | Muir District Eagles Nest Ambassador Golden Gate Area Council, Scouting America

(925) 451-6944 | <u>patrickj0208@yahoo.com</u> <u>https://eagles.ggacbsa.org</u>



This was announced on 5/24/2023.



## Scouts BSA Troop social media content & resources

Not sure if you are aware but National does have an active Scouts BSA Facebook page with all sort of content and resources for Troops. These posts cover content from camping, advancement, program, training, and more based on real time updates. For example, there will be several posts about camping and merit badges during Summer Camp season.

Check it out below and like/follow if you are not already! <u>https://www.facebook.com/officialscoutsbsa</u>.

# **New Eagle Scout Rank Application**

?

Rank Application

A new Eagle Scout Rank Application is available, reflecting recent changes regarding references in the Guide to Advancement. <u>https://www.scouting.org/wpcontent/uploads/2024/12/512-72825-Eagle-Scout-Application\_WEB.pdf</u>

Please share to all your volunteers in your Troops.

## **GGAC Eagle Rank Process**

Attention Muir Eagle Coaches and Scouts working on Eagle Scout: Eagle Scout Rank applications are sent to Golden Gate Area Council for approval signature by Nicole Ruvalcabo. Nicole's email is <u>nicole.ruvalcabo@scouting.org</u>.

If you have any Life Scouts who are nearing age 18, please have him or her visit the links here: <u>Eagle Rank Extension - Guide & Eagle Rank Extension - Form</u>.

## Muir District Website (subdomain of Council Website)

Reminder: we have a <u>website for our District</u>! Please go and check it out! Currently, the Zoom information for both the District Roundtable and the Commissioner & Committee Meetings are posted on the Home page. Advancement information such as the Life to Eagle Process, Guide to Advancement, and Virtual Advancement is available. There are Unit contacts which redirects to beascout.org.

https://muir.ggacbsa.org

## Wek-Wek Village, Order of the Arrow web page

We also have a web page linked to the Muir website for the Wek-Wek Village, Order of the Arrow! It is located under the "OA tab at top in the Menu bar or you may go to: <u>https://muir.ggacbsa.org/wek-wek-village/</u>. That web page will have recent announcements, upcoming meetings/events, Village leadership roster, and a link to

their Facebook page.

If you have any feedback on what we should have on our District website or OA web page, please let Patrick Jaime, District Communications Chair know at: <u>patrickj0208@yahoo.com</u>!



YERBA BUENA LODDE



## Next Wek-Wek Village Meeting will be next Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 7:00 pm in-person.

We will have a meeting on Thursday January 30th, 2025 at 7:00 pm. We will talk about future events and joint activities for upcoming months, possibly up to the end of the year. It will be at the skipolini's pizza in antioch. If you are going please fill out this form: <u>https://forms.gle/6qgxLCGMUKDYL6G9A</u>

Address: 901 Fitzuren Rd, Antioch CA 94509

Don't forget to like/folow us on Facebook! https://www.facebook.com/WekWek.Village

## **District Committee Positions**

Calling all adults over 21 years of age! If you are interested in or would like to learn more on how you can help Scouting in our area, contact our District Commissioner Arnel Jaime at <u>arnel.scouting@gmail.com</u>.



## **Muir District News**

Want to get some late breaking Scouting news or post an event? Then join our Muir District Facebook Group page. Follow the link below, answer a quick question regarding your Scouting experience, and you will gain access to the group page. Don't forget to share this with members of your Pack or Troop! <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/325497627480390/</u>

# **Council News**

Check out the Council website for the latest Council news, and updates: <u>https://ggacbsa.org</u>.

If you are not receiving the Council eNews, you may subscribe here: <u>https://share.hsforms.com/1SAx-4jdpRreiwThejz8U7Qcwum3</u>



# **Congratulations to our Newest Muir Eagle Scout**

- Nolan Luke McKnelly, T484, 01/13/2025
  - Project Title: Reorganization of the CHD Shed
  - Project Summary: Scout wished to do a project that would support this school that was in need of help. He removed the contents of the storage shed, built new shelving from 2x4's and plywood. He raised funds by making and selling paracord bracelets, asking for GoFundMe donations, as well as asking Home Depot for donations. Scout had to change design plans due to requests by the beneficiary.



## **Pleasant Hill Scout Shop Information**

The Scout Shop in Pleasant Hill is open and waiting for you to come purchase all your supplies! 508 Contra Costa Blvd. Suite K2, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Please visit <u>GGAC Scout Shop (ggacbsa.org</u>) for information before you go. Store hours (including lunch break), available items, how to order ahead, and other useful tips are there.



## Powerful Cub Scout leader resources

A lot of useful content is being posted on Scoutingwire at: <u>https://scoutingwire.org</u>.

From giving your new Den Leader instant meeting plans: <u>https://scoutingwire.org/this-new-video-series-delivers-the-ultimate-den-leader-experience/</u>.

To a host of other ideas like leading Zoom meeting for Cub Scouts, Virtual fall recruiting (including the use of digital applications and payment), and BeAScout tips, <u>https://scoutingwire.org/marketing-and-membership-hub/</u>.

This was updated on 09/20/2022.



# **GGAC Process for the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge**

Updated information here: https://ggacbsa.org/citizenship%20in%20society/

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All Scoutmasters and Committee Chairs received an email from May or June 2022 from the Council Advancement Committee with information about the Citizenship in Society Merit Badge.

The Scoutmaster should:

- Review the Citizenship in Society requirements.
- Review the Scout's record of completed merit badges.
- Discuss cohort participation with Scout and parent. Determine readiness.
- Complete the on-line form to submit a virtual blue card: <u>https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSca\_YGcCVSBSxU-XIKSNhcmrZjr12UkrajEIWcAcy2CSuRKcw/viewform</u>
- Ensure the parent is connected to Scout in Scoutbook as all communication and Merit Badge sign-offs will occur through Scoutbook.

## Working on Eagle? Here are your contacts:

District Advancement Chair: Carolyn Paulson: 925-586-4358, cdpaul1@hotmail.com

District Eagle Project Approval: Carl Bodin: 415-816-7307, carl.bodin@gmail.com

District Eagle Board of Review: Sherri Ruhl: 925-681-9566, <u>muirdistricteaglechair@gmail.com</u>

# **Muir District Key 3 Leadership**

(Vacant) - District Chair,

Arnel Jaime - District Commissioner, arnel.scouting@gmail.com

Natalie Hannum - District Executive, natalie.hannum@scouting.org



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Golden Gate Area Council - Scouting America, 6601 Owens Drive #100, Pleasanton, CA 94588
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