



# Libertarian Lines

The Newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire

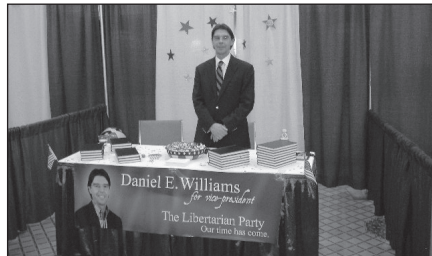
Volume 33, Issue 3 ★ July 2008

## Libertarian National Convention

By Rich Tomasso

The LPNH was well represented at the national convention in Denver with nine delegates. A longer report with more photos will be posted at [www.lpnh.org](http://www.lpnh.org).

Events started on Wednesday with early arrivers going on tours and the evening Masquerade Party. I had many conversations about the candidates, bylaws and platform changes, plus a lot about events in NH. I finally got to meet Bob Barr and watched him get interviewed by an Internet TV show. There is a very real sense that anything could happen.



On Thursday, I met Daniel Williams, (above) probably the only person left actually running for the VP spot. We talked about his experience in Europe observing the 2004 elections.

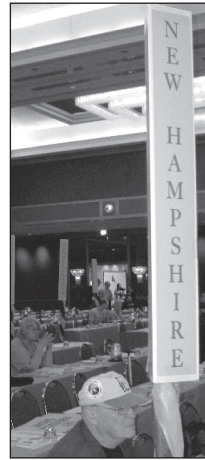
After the LSLA (formerly state chairs org) meeting, I picked up some Barr lit and talked with Russ Varney, Barr's campaign manager, about coming to the NH convention, even if he didn't get the nomination. Turns out Russ used to live in Nashua.

Talked with an LP staffer about how Barr came around on the Drug War. Barr said he lived in a bubble in DC. Everything for so long was just GOP vs Dem. He didn't understand why we were so concerned about drugs and how that would have kicked him out.

Finally saw Root, Smith, Burns, Imperato and Gravel today. Had a good conversation with Smith. I was

surprised at how many Gravel pins I saw. Handicapping the race now it seems that Root, Barr and Ruwart are the top tier. I have a feeling Gravel will surprise people with how many votes he gets, but won't get the nomination. Phillis seems to have a very solid base to work from. Smith has people talking; some see her as alternative to Ruwart.

Met up with Brendan Kelly. He shared his experience at the legislative shoot. The reps, etc there were pleased to hear he was running for state rep. Jeb Bradley said Brendan should run as an R, "we'll get you elected and then you can keep your convictions, and so on." Brendan told him "no, coz the Ds & Rs always find a way to screw the people." Then someone said, "I heard Bob Barr is running as a Libertarian." There was a long pause, then someone said "well, if he does then at least we'll have someone to vote for in November," followed by several "yeahs".



### LNC MEETING

We went to the LNC meeting and heard a lot of good news. The national office is calling state chairs to make sure events and news get reported. The LP has a budget surplus, with \$300K in net assets. There's a search for a new executive director (apply at LPHQ). The ballot access plan is for 48 states, primarily b/c OK and WV would cost as much as all other states. A few presidential campaigns suggested they would raise the funds to complete it.

Ballot access and candidate recruitment are going well. Good contact with the CP to work together where we

can. There are a lot of openings in petitioning campaigns right now so we can negotiate for contracts.

I was assured that all money national is rising for ballot access is going *only* to ballot access. They have weekly conference calls to track the donations, counts, etc.

The LP may challenge some petition restriction laws such as residency requirements for collectors. There are states suing on this already and prior cases have struck down similar laws. LP may get involved in one or more ballot access lawsuits.

National's volunteer coordinator, Austin, calls new volunteers to ask them to help petition and to contact local candidates. Teaching volunteers to start meetup groups, the best way to reach Ron Paul folks. Working on a professional how-to video, focusing on petitioning. There's a new artwork project for outreach materials and t-shirts. He wants to use Youtube and the web a lot more.

Andrew, the media director, reported lots of media for con: MTV, CSpan, CBS, Choose or Lose, Reuters, Playboy, and more. There'll even be a bloggers row. We had huge media days when Gravel and Barr announced.

The direct marketing program is in the black and membership is still growing. Getting a fantastic 15.9% response rate with \$40-60 per response. The ballot access mailer has recouped its cost; so all money coming in is going to that effort. Reserve for prez campaign (Liberty Decides, et al) is \$20K. Fundraising training is in the works.

We got to see new website prototype designed by Terra Eclipse. It's a huge improvement. Fundraising is right in front with the auto update flash like Ron Paul has. It has headlines, blogs, video, candidate highlight, daily poll and a

*continued on page 3*

## Candidates

Here's the full list of candidates for the general election so far. The filing period is in June 4-13 and you have until August to collect petition signatures, so there is still time to join the race. When you do decide to run, please let us know immediately so we can help your campaign.

In election news, 6 state senators are not seeking re-election (Burling, Clegg, Estabrook, Foster, Gottesman, Kenney), that means open seats if anyone is up for the contest, even as a paper candidate. Remember, the more candidates we have the better the top of ticket does. Please check at [lpth.org](http://lpth.org) for updates to the list as well as campaign appearances.

NAME	OFFICE
Susan Newell	Governor
Ken Blevens	US Senate
Bob Kingsbury	US Congress, dist 1
Chester Lapointe	US Congress, dist 2
Jeff Adcock	Exec Council, dist 4
Howard Wilson	State Senate 5 (Andover)
Matthew Kahn	Hills 27 (Hudson)
Morey Straus	Hills 11 (Manchester)
Rich Tomasso	Hills 17 (Manchester)
Lisa Wilber	Hills 7 (Weare)
Faith Cook	Merr 11 (Concord)
Brendan Kelly	Rock 14 (Seabrook)
Philip Nazzaro	Rock 12 (Newmarket)
Thom Simmons	Cheshire 5 (Fitzwilliam)

**“One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors.” –Plato**



### News from the Executive Board

- The newsletter has gone online, you will have to specifically say if you want to keep a print subscription.
- Please consider becoming a monthly pledger to the Party.
- We are having another firearms raffle this year, with the drawing on July 20th in Grafton.
- We will be at PorcFest, please volunteer to help at our exhibit table and recruit Free Staters to the LPNH.
- The 2008 state convention will be on October 25th at the NH Institute of Politics in Manchester.



Libertarian Lines is the official newsletter of the Libertarian Party of New Hampshire, PO Box 5293, Manchester, NH 03108.

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For a free information package or to join call  
800-559-5764

Visit our Web site: <http://www.LPNH.org>

## THIS RAFFLE IS ON TARGET

The LPNH is once again raffling two fine firearms. Prizes this year are: a Beretta Tomcat .32 and a Springfield XD .40. Tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10 or seven for \$20. Winners will be drawn on Sunday, July 20, 2008 at the LPNH Annual Picnic in Grafton, NH.

**Convention, from page 1**

“take principled action” section. Site will be focused for volunteers, outreach and recruiting new members. Tools for doing LP outreach through your contact list. Simplified contribution form. Goal is a June launch. Trust me, if you complained about lp.org, you’ll be very pleased.

At the opening reception, MPP talked about their successes and the horror stories of gov’t ignoring the rights of sick people. Rob Kampia highlighted what happened in NH with medical marijuana and winning the decrim vote in the house. Kampia said that the reason it failed in the senate was that we didn’t lobby enough. (Nice to hear senators admit it at least.) He said NH looks like a very likely win for either cause, and is on the very short list for a major effort in 2009.



The regional reps handed out recognition awards to many volunteers, activists, candidates, etc to show appreciation for all the hard work they do.

At 9pm there was an ad hoc debate w/ Phillies, Burns, Imperato and Finan. Afterwards folks made the rounds of hospitality suites.



**ALL BIZ**

Friday and Saturday were all business. We didn’t get through the entire Bylaws report, but several changes did

pass, focused on making the party and convention run more smoothly. Many of the changes on protecting the party from a hostile takeover did not have time to come up.

Next was the Platform debate. It was looking like very little was going to get done until the Destination Liberty folks decided to withdraw the minority report. This saved 10-20 minutes per plank in the further debate. To the surprise of everyone, we now have a complete platform! Most of the majority report recommendations were passed, a fair amount with amendments.

Friday night was the second ad hoc debate. Nearly all the candidates sans Bob Barr participated (he was hosting a reception at the same time). It was much better than the first night. It was the first time I’d seen Kubby debate live and I was impressed. Delegates stuck around for a while to take pictures and talk with candidates, then hit the after parties.



We formed a super-region (#5) with the New England and Midatlantic states, less MA (long story). Dan Karlan is our regional rep, Hardy Macia is our alternate.



Saturday morning saw a spirited scramble for nomination tokens by the presidential candidates, both to get enough to be placed in nomination and to get into the CSpan debate. Candidates were trading extras and delegates were checking with all their preferred candidates to make sure as many as possible got a chance right up to the last minute.

In the end, seven candidates made the debate: Barr, Gravel, Ruwart, Phillies, Jingoian, Kubby and Root. It was widely seen as a good debate, with differences apparent between the candidates. The moderator even joked with the candidates. It was the first chance most had to see

Barr in a LP debate.

The many hospitality suites and parties ran late into the night.



**NOMINATION**

Sunday was the big event, the presidential vote. The debate candidates plus Christine Smith were in nomination. Some candidates had very impressive nominating speeches. Some made use of videos. National radio host Mancow Muller nominated Root. Rob Kampia of MPP nominated Barr. Probably the most unusual was Mike Jingoian nominating Mike Gravel.

The voting went six rounds, the most in decades. The candidates quickly separated into tiers, with the top three: Barr, Ruwart and Root staying there for the whole contest. Next block was Gravel, Phillies and Kubby. At the bottom were Jingoian and Smith who were eliminated in the first round.

Jingoian endorsed Gravel in his comments, saying he wanted to be his VP. Smith spent her time criticizing Barr’s vote total and did not endorse anyone.

In the second round Barr, Ruwart and Root picked up 15-25 votes and Kubby was eliminated. He said “there are no losers here” and endorsed Ruwart.

The third round produced a tie for first with Barr and Ruwart at 186 votes each, Root gained 8 to reach 146. Phillies was eliminated. He said “the enemy is not in here, the enemy is out there. We are the party of the future.”

Round four was tied again, at 202 votes, Root picked up 3. Gravel was eliminated but did not make any speech.

Round five saw Gravel’s votes spread fairly evenly and Barr pull ahead by 6. Behind the scenes Root’s people were discussing what they should do. Eventually he came to the stage and endorsed Barr and asked to be the VP nominee.

*continued on page 3*

### Convention, from page 3

The sixth round pushed Barr over the top, 324 to 276 over Ruwart. Barr's victory speech was very upbeat. "We have a lot of work cut out for us for the next 163 days. All our candidates are great leaders, maybe you'll see some in a Barr cabinet. This will be a positive and historic campaign."



Next came the Vice Presidential nomination. A new rule for the convention made all the presidential nominees eligible, but only Root and Kubby accepted. The other contenders were Daniel Williams, Gail Lightfoot and Jim Burns. Mary Ruwart spoke for Steve Kubby and Manny Vosner of Reason spoke for Root. Barr endorsed Root.

The first round votes went Root 276, Kubby 209, Williams 40, Burns 37, Lightfoot 15, NOTA 2. Burns and Lightfoot endorsed Kubby and Williams endorsed Root. The second round pushed Root to victory 287 to 257.

All voting results are at [www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org)



The cocktail hour before the presidential banquet had a lot of talk about what this ticket means for the party. Emotions ranged from sadness to hope. I sat in on a long conversation with Ernie Hancock about how we can activate the Revolution folks, and also how to inspire action and what the LP (and LNC) needs to do to get people active. The main point was to get out of the way and facilitate action.

The dinner itself was very nice. As usual, when I said I was from NH everyone asked what we're doing here. At the dinner Bill Redpath led things off, followed by Wayne Root and then Bob Barr. The main speaker was Ed Thompson of Wisconsin. He said "We must promote prosperity through peace and protecting civil liberties. Ron Paul raised the level of consciousness, let us fan the flames of liberty." The dinner raised a record \$64,000 for the party.

### SUNDAY

LNC elections took up most of the business for today. The race for national chair was between Bill Redpath, Ruth Bennet and Ernie Hancock. This took two rounds of balloting with Redpath prevailing over Bennet 204 to 147.

The contest for vice chair had Michael Jingoian jumping in to take on Chuck Molton. Jingoian won 224 to 137.

Bill Sullentrup won by acclamation for Secretary. Aaron Starr easily beat Carol McMahon for treasurer.

The At-large LNC race saw 15 people competing for 5 seats. The winners were: Admiral Cooley, Angela Keaton, Mary Ruwart, Lee Wrights, and Pat Dixon.

In between the voting, several resolutions were passed and more platform amendments were brought up. Those staying on point and with a clear message did pass.

After we adjourned, the new LNC had its first meeting. The regular meetings have been scheduled for Sept 6-7, Dec 6-7 and Feb 28-Mar 1, locations TBD. The Barr/Root campaign may be taking over the petition drives for OK and WV. The LNC members collectively pledged to raise \$100K in the next two years.

Andrew Davis said the media loved the convention, saying it was a lot more exciting than the Dem or GOP cons. We had great coverage with more than 2000 mentions of the nomination according to Google News.



Just as our forefathers created  
a new nation out of the old,  
so must we create a new party...

The same old methods will not get us the results we want. It is time for a change, a time for something new.... We are asking you now to join the new "1776 Club" To join the club, just pledge at least \$17.76 per month to the LPNH. If you like, we'll even recognize you on our website and in the newsletter.

Club members will get a special event at our conventions. And all club members pledging for a full year will be granted a free ticket to our state convention. You may also become a life member of the "1776 Club" for a one time contribution of \$1776 or more, and get a 50% discount on all LPNH events and merchandise.

Promote Liberty! Join the club today at  
[www.lpnh.org](http://www.lpnh.org)

## Town Elections and Petitioning

The LPNH went out on May 13th to petition in Newmarket and Peterborough. Turnout was moderate with 50 collected in Peterborough and 105 in Newmarket.

As of today we have 1400 certified petitions in each district, with 1200 for Sue Newell. We need just one more state rep candidate in each district to push us over the top. A candidate in the Manchester area to help Jeff Adcock's exec council race would be great.

Next good petitioning opportunity will be Independence Day celebrations. We are setting up tables in Andover and Merrimack. But you are all free to collect at your local events.

If you were recently elected or appointed to local or state office, please let us know so we can update our list of office-holding Libertarians.

The executive board decided at the June meeting to delay any decision on suing the state to substitute our nominated presidential ticket. Work is happening behind the scenes to evaluate our options.

## Legislative Update

This has been a mixed year for legislation. We made progress on RFID, drug law reforms, and blocked Real ID again. But the legislature has also defeated nearly every bill to reduce fees and taxes. The trend to license every profession under the sun continues, with some wins and some loses.

There have also been dozens of study commissions formed to look at everything from election law changes to licensing to new regulations. So if we get the same crop of legislators back next year, expect to see a slew of new bills that will affect our livelihoods. (Run for office and maybe we can stop some of it.)

**HB267** - Pay day loan limits, which will shut down dozens of business and put 200 people out of work passed both chambers. Only hope now is a veto.

**HB1286** - New licensing of mortgage brokers passed the House and Senate.

**HB1426 and HB1427** - Raise fuel taxes in the state. Yup, with record high prices at the pump, the House thought it was a good idea to make it more expensive for you to drive our cars and fuel our homes. And so did the Senate.

**HB1618** - Would limit unconstitutional withdrawals from the highway fund is currently in the Senate. Yes, we know nearly all the moving of the money is illegal, but the legislature apparently needs to be reminded about it and vote on limiting their actions rather than simply obeying the constitution.

**HB1642** - Gives needed funding relief to charter schools did reach a compromise and passed the legislature. You may not like any public education funding, but charter schools provide valuable school choice in the state and are a net benefit to the system.

**SB337** - Would re-impose regulations on homeschoolers, effectively undoing most of the work that was done with HB406 two years ago. It passed the Senate, and was changed by the House. Turnout against the bill was strong, with literally hundreds of people coming out to voice their objection. It awaits a conference committee report.

**SB415** - Puts off the enactment date for raising the compulsory school attendance age to 18 until 2009. Seems there is resistance to this mandate from Gov. Lynch.

**Ballot access** - The House Election Law committee promised a new bill this year, but did not deliver. Senator Burling promised to make an amendment to an existing bill to lower the petitioning requirement, but killed the bill instead. So right now any effort will have to wait until next year. All the more reason to campaign hard for Sue Newell and Ken Blevens!

WHILE  
YOU  
WERE  
SLEEPING



### Recent developments which affect your life:

- Lynch has sent a letter to DHS asking for an exemption on Real ID. No answer yet from the feds.
- Lynch and the Executive Council raised tolls all across the state.
- Congress passed a law making it easier for the president to declare Martial Law. It also further blurs the line for military involvement in law enforcement.
- The NH supreme court has ruled voters have no standing to challenge an election. Voiding precedent that goes back to English common law.
- Congress made it crime to buy an incandescent light bulb as of 2012.
- The Fed has stopped publishing how much money its printing. The last M3 report was in 2006. It also ordered enough paper to print two trillion Federal Reserve Notes this year. Can you say runaway inflation?
- Passports now have RFID chips.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

This is an election year, so step up and contribute. We are a volunteer organization and things only happen when you roll up their sleeves and get busy. Contact Morey Strauss (morey@stra.us) for the latest projects and to share your expertise.

Remember, the LPNH is only as effective as *you* make it.

## PETITIONING

We can make this is very last year we have to petition if enough people come out to help early. And yes, that does mean you. The next big day is Independence Day with parades and various events across the state. A few hours of help and we can get everyone on the ballot.

## MEMBERSHIP GROWTH

The membership committee is searching for premiums to offer all our members. If you think growing membership is a good idea, then volunteer or send in a donation. Or better yet, sign up some friends. You can copy the form on the back of the newsletter.

## FUNDRAISING

We have some good ideas for fundraisers, but not enough people to act on them. Hardy Macia has agreed to coordinate fundraising ideas. He could use one or two members to help his efforts so we can have the resources we need to be more effective in the upcoming election. Another benefit, with successful fundraising, we can charge less for the state convention in October.

## OUTREACH

We have plenty of events to go to, from parades to PorcFest to county fairs. We have the best message to share with people and real candidates to promote. Now we just need your help to get it out there. So join us in finding lots of Libertarians.

## PRESS RELEASES

Our media team could use some help. Anyone willing to pay attention to the news and offer a Libertarian response to situations and statements from government officials will be a great help in making sure we get the word out about our point of view. Our goal is to issue one press release per week.

## CAMPAIGNS

We'll be needing all the usual help for campaigns, from people placing signs, calling voters, raising money, holding rallies, organizing house parties and managing volunteers. Our candidates will be on the ballot, now let's get them the votes.

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

We have restarted the process of sending out regular renewal letters, the first batch is going out in June. The goal is to have monthly mailings starting soon after. We are also coordinating fundraising activity.

The membership number is climbing, slowly but steadily. Please contact Morey Strauss to help with member recruitment at morey@stra.us.

## CONVENTION COMMITTEE

We are gearing up for the 2008 state convention in October. Tim Harrigan of Merrimack has volunteered to lead the organizing. If you can help with promotion, setup, speaker recruitment, materials or would like to volunteer to work registration, please contact Brendan Kelly.

## From the Editor...

If you'd like to keep getting a print copy of the newsletter, please send me your street address.

I'm always looking for stories, photos, news, events, etc that would be of interest to libertarians. Please send them in.

You can sponsor the newsletter and market your business or service to hundreds of fellow libertarians, ask for details.

Send your emails to LibLines@lpmh.org or write to us at:  
PO Box 5293, Manchester, NH 03108

## LPNH Membership Options

As a reminder, your LPNH and LP-US memberships are separate. Renewing your membership with national does not renew your state membership, and vis versa.

You can update your contact information and renew online at <www.lpmh.org> or by emailing liblines@lpmh.org, or return the form on the back page of the newsletter.

In addition to the **family membership** option (\$40 per year for you, your spouse and/or children), and the **monthly pledger** program, (\$10/month or more, never have to worry about expiring), we have created a **student membership** level.

Full-time students may join the party for only \$10 per year. That includes an electronic version of the newsletter and all the privileges that come with being a card-carrying Libertarian (students may get the print version of the newsletter by joining at the full \$25/year level).

We are working on creating membership premiums. If your business or organization would like to participate in this program, please contact the executive board.

Your membership dollars will be going to affect positive change in NH. We'll be using our resources to lobby for legislation, elect our candidates, grow the Party and for doing politics!

## Form Your County Affiliate

To build a more effective party, we want you to form county affiliates within the LPNH. It will facilitate more local contact and political activity.

Since all politics is local each county organized will make it easier to reach everyone and find local candidates and bring our voice to local issues.

The LPNH already has means of recognizing Affiliates, you just need a group of 5 members in a county to form the organization and present your bylaws to the Exec Board. Help is available.

We currently have groups working on affiliates in Cheshire, Grafton, and Merrimack counties. Get involved!

### LOCAL GROUPS

*Join a group today. Start one yourself!  
Organizational help and speakers are available.*

#### HILLSBOROUGH LIBERTARIANS

Our first county affiliate! A discussion list has been set up to bring the local members together, Hillsborough-LPNH@yahoogroups.com

#### CHESHIRE LIBERTARIANS

Chet Lapointe invites folks in Keene and the rest of Cheshire County to form our second affiliate.

#### SEACOAST LIBERTARIANS

Brendan Kelly of Seabrook has started a group for libertarians in the Seacoast area. Contact him at 474-8283 or bkelly@lpnh.org to join in.

#### NH LIBERTARIANS MAILING LIST

A list for NH Libertarians to discuss news, issues, politics and ideas. It's already the second largest NH political yahoo group! <nhibertarians@yahoogroups.com>

#### FREE STATE NEW HAMPSHIRE

Share your insights, news, events. Meet the porcupines and let out-of-state friends know about it. <freedom\_in\_new\_hampshire@yahoogroups.com>

#### NORTHEAST LP DISCUSSION

A discussion list for LP Region 5 (New England, NY, NJ). Voice your concerns and opinions at LP\_5N@yahoogroups.com

#### CAMPUS LIBERTARIANS, ADVISORS & SUPPORTERS

The new (and vastly improved) www.CampusLP.org is taking shape in a big way! The site includes discussion forums, events calendar, chat rooms, a downloads area with ready-to-print posters, and more!



## Upcoming Events

### Every Wednesday

Freedom Forum discussion group at Borders in Nashua, 7pm to 9pm.  
<ff.ijaq.net>

### Every Friday

Left, Right & Correct with Dan Belforti, 106.1FM at Noon.

### Every Weekday

Against the Grain with Gardner Goldsmith, 107.7FM from 1pm to 3pm

### June 13-15

PorcFest at Gunstock. Meet Free Staters, help at outreach table. Overlaps with start of Bike Week.

### Friday, July 4

Independence Day marches in Merrimack and Andover. Outreach booths need some help.

### Saturday, July 5

Annual Taxpayers Picnic  
Hopkinton Fairgrounds, 12-5pm.  
www.cnht.org for details.

### Sunday, July 20

LPNH summer picnic, Grafton. Raffle drawing.

### July 23-27

North Haverhill Fair.  
Outreach booth needs some help.

### July 30–August 3

Cheshire Fair in Swanzy.  
Outreach booth needs some help.  
Campaign kickoff for Sue Newell!

### August 23

CAAP in Jaffrey.  
Outreach booth needs some help.

### Saturday, October 25

State convention in Manchester.



# Libertarian Party

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## Libertarian National Convention

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### LIBERTARIAN PARTY MEMBERSHIP

- \$25 LPNH Membership       \$40 Family LPNH Membership
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*\*Optional - Federal Election Commission requires we ask.*

**I hereby certify that I do not believe in or advocate the initiation of force as a means of achieving political or social goals.**

Signature \_\_\_\_\_



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If an "X-L" or "X-P" code is at the top of your mailing label, your subscription is nearing its end. Use this form to ensure you're not dropped. "P" means you're a prospect, "L" means you're a member.

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