

# IMPACT! e-bulletin



## Tuesday, February 17, 2026 --- District Governor Bruce Monro

### Looking for our Next District Governors



Mark Your Calendar! Application Deadline: March 19<sup>th</sup>; Interview March 28<sup>th</sup>

Are you a passionate Rotarian who loves helping others and stepping up to lead? We're on the lookout for enthusiastic members with big hearts and a vision for our district's future. If you're passionate about service and making a difference, consider applying to be District Governor.

This is a wonderful opportunity to inspire and guide Rotarians across our district, all while living out Rotary's values every day.

Due to a recent opening, we are looking for **two District Governors**, one for 2028-29 AND another for 2029-30. This may seem like a long way away, but it will be here before we know it! You'll be joining the District Governor line of current and future District Governors focused on improvement and continuity. You will not be alone!

Here's What You Need to Know:

- Information Meeting February 26th (Zoom link in the READ MORE section below)
- Application Deadline: March 19th
- Interview Date: March 28th, on ZOOM
- Who Can Apply: You'll need to be a Rotarian who has served as club president and should have some leadership experience in our district.
- The path to DG if you are chosen: You will attend education sessions and work on various District initiatives. Workload increases as you get close to the year you will be District Governor.
- How to Apply: Attend the information session to learn more about the position, and if you decide to apply, fill out the application form and send it in before the deadline. [Click here for the Application Packet](#)

We promise the selection process will be fair and open—every application gets considered carefully and thoughtfully. If you have any questions or want to chat more about what it's like to be District Governor, please reach out to District Governor Bruce Monro [bruce-tubacaz@outlook.com](mailto:bruce-tubacaz@outlook.com) ; 520-850-4406

Thanks so much for your commitment to Rotary. We can't wait to see who steps up for this exciting role!

[Read More](#)

### February is Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution Month!



Each week during February we will highlight the great work of Rotary Clubs in District 5500 supporting Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention.

If your club has a project that supports more peace and less conflict and you would like us to highlight it for you, email [DaveRotary5500@gmail.com](mailto:DaveRotary5500@gmail.com) with the details (and a photo!)

### ICC's Most Recent Major Peace Project: "Let's Save Lives – Feeding Children in Gaza"

This project was launched in response to the devastating humanitarian crisis that children and families are facing in Gaza. It focuses on providing nutritious meals to children, delivering food supplies to families and supporting local aid networks to ensure safe and effective distribution.

This initiative is not just about food—it is about preserving life, dignity, and the future of an entire generation. When children are fed, families are stabilized, and hope is restored, the foundation for peace becomes stronger. By turning international friendship into meaningful humanitarian action, ICC continues to prove that peace is not just an idea—it is something we can build together.

Rotary International  
 Community Connections  
 Rotary  
 Rotary Action Group for Peace  
 Peace through service

## LET'S SAVE LIVES FEEDING CHILDREN IN GAZA

The famine in Gaza is officially confirmed by the United Nations.  
 We can't let these children and families starve to death before our very eyes.  
**As People of Action, we found the way to send food to Gaza.**  
**Please JOIN US !**  
 See details :  
<https://rotary-icc.org/feed-children-in-gaza/>  
**First Raise : 200,000 €**  
**MAKE A DONATION**



Our local Partners  
 ICC JORDAN  
 Jordan Students Charity Organization

## The Heart of the Service: Cultivating the "Family of Rotary"

By Wendy Guyton



Service might be the "why" that brings a member through the door, but fellowship is the "glue" that keeps them from leaving. In the world of Rotary, we often talk about the "Family of Rotary", a concept that transcends professional networking and enters the realm of genuine human connection.

When members feel like they belong to a family rather than just a committee, retention soars, engagement deepens, and the impact of service projects doubles. People don't just show up to fulfill an obligation; they show up to see their friends.

### Why the "Family" Dynamic Matters

A club that feels like a family creates a psychologically safe environment. In this space:

- \* **Risk-taking is encouraged:** Members feel comfortable pitching bold, new service ideas.
- \* **Mentorship happens naturally:** Seasoned members guide newcomers without the stiffness of formal training.
- \* **Resilience is built:** When a member faces a personal crisis, the club acts as a support system, reinforcing the value of the membership beyond the meeting room.

[Read More](#)

## Where Service Leads, Peace Follows

By Bruce Monroe



Peace is often defined as the absence of conflict, but its meaning is much broader. We speak of *peace of mind*, *inner peace*, and *keeping the peace*—phrases that point to a deeper truth: **peace is the presence of stability, dignity, and wellbeing**. It is the feeling that life is not under threat, that one's needs are met, and that one belongs to a community that cares.

Acts of service create these conditions. When we repair a wheelchair ramp, tutor a child, install a smoke alarm, or provide clean water, we reduce fear and uncertainty. We make daily life safer and more predictable. We give people room to breathe. In doing so, we cultivate peace—not in the geopolitical sense, but in the human sense.

**Service is one of the most practical ways to build peace** because it addresses the root causes of instability. A family with clean water has peace of mind. A student who can read has the peace that comes from confidence and possibility. A community with strong social bonds has the peace that comes from trust. These outcomes are not abstract ideals; they are the direct result of people choosing to help.

There is also an inward dimension. **Serving others strengthens our own sense of purpose** and steadies us in a world that often feels chaotic. Helping someone else shifts our attention outward, reduces stress, and reminds us that we are part of something larger than ourselves. In that way, service fosters inner peace as surely as it creates peace for others.

**When we broaden our understanding of peace, we see that every act of service—no matter how small—is a contribution to a more peaceful world.** Peace is not only negotiated in conference rooms; it is built in food banks, classrooms, clinics, and neighborhoods. It is built by ordinary people choosing to reduce suffering and increase wellbeing.

Service is peace in action. And a world with more service is, inevitably, a world with more peace. **Thank you for your service.**

## District 5500 News and Upcoming Events You Should Know About!

## Save the Date: DGE Emma's Installation June 7, 2026

**Save the Date**

**Governor Installation – June 7, 2026**

Dear Rotarians of District 5500,  
Please mark your calendars and save the date for a very special Rotary celebration!

Join us as we gather to celebrate the installation of  
**Emma Carrillo**  
as District Governor, Rotary Year 2026-2027.

**Date:** Sunday, June 7, 2026  
**Time:** Afternoon (exact time to follow)  
**Location:** The Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa  
3800 E. Sunrise Drive  
Tucson, Arizona 85718  
**Cost:** \$65.00 per person  
**Registration opens:** February 16, 2026

Additional details will be shared soon.  
We look forward to celebrating together!

Rotary

## Rotary International Risk Management Information



The U.S. Rotary Club & District Liability Insurance Program (U.S. Club Program) provides all U.S. Rotary clubs, districts, and Rotaract clubs with commercial general liability and directors & officers/employment practices liability insurance, subject to policy terms and conditions.

Dear Club Officers and Officers-Elect,

Planning a Rotary event is a chance to bring people together, make a difference, and showcase your club's spirit. Incorporating risk management practices into your planning helps protect your guests and your club - while keeping the event enjoyable and secure.

As you plan upcoming events, please review these essential safety and loss prevention strategies to help protect your club, members, and guests.

Please share the information in the READ MORE section below with your Event Chairs and Planning Committees.

[Read More](#)

## TRF: What are Disaster Response Grants?



When communities are affected by catastrophes, The Rotary Foundation supports relief and recovery efforts through grants from the Rotary Disaster Response Fund.

**Disaster response grants** of up to US\$25,000 fund relief and recovery efforts in areas that have had a natural disaster within the past six months. These efforts can include providing basic items such as water, food, medicine, and clothing.

Districts that have had a disaster and are qualified to receive Rotary grants can apply for a grant to launch their own projects or work with established relief organizations.

**Think about how you want to take part in grant programs. Which one interests you?**

## Peacebuilders E-Network Meeting February 18, 2026



What if we saw Rotary not just as a network of service clubs,  
but as a global movement for peace?  
Together we can create a world built on dialogue, collaboration,  
And understanding.

## PEACE IS POSSIBLE

Dear Peacebuilder Club Members, Club Presidents, Assistant Governors and Peace Ambassadors,

How do you advance people's human rights one country at a time? Our featured speaker, Professor William Simmons (Bill), will show us how it's done. Bill has more than 25 years of experience as a human rights educator and researcher, receiving numerous awards for his teaching, research, community service, and diversity initiatives. He is the Founding Director of the Human Rights Practice program and Professor of Gender & Women's Studies at the University of Arizona. Professor Simmons previously taught at ASU where he was the Founding Director of the MA Program in Social Justice and Human Rights.

Simmons' scholarship, teaching, and activism focus on working collaboratively with marginalized groups to advance their human rights. He has worked with vulnerable communities in more than a dozen countries including Bangladesh, Tanzania, Niger, Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, The Gambia, Senegal, China, Mexico, and the United States. He is proficient in qualitative, quantitative, theoretical, and legal research methods. Please join us Wed. evening, Feb. 18 at 5:00 pm on Zoom and hear Professor Bill's fascinating presentation that helps break down barriers and promotes Peace.

**The D5500 Peacebuilders committee is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting. We have a new start time of 5:00 pm. Any questions? Contact Doug May of SaddleBrooke Rotary, [dougmay@gmail.com](mailto:dougmay@gmail.com). Please let us know if you're interested in joining our District Peacebuilders committee or if you would like to become a Peacebuilder Club. Thank you. Doug, Dennis, Fatima, Leta, Ellie**

**Topic: February Peacebuilders Network Meeting**

**Time: Feb 18, 2026 05:00 PM Arizona**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86161103995?pwd=62wT3wODZqEaozjqrqtIKhrRKASPbf.1>

**Meeting ID: 861 6110 3995**

**Passcode: 124472**

## Join Us June 13-17, 2026, at the RI Convention in Taipei!

By Anita D. McDonald



After reading the "Tastes of Taipei" article in the November 2025 issue of the Rotary Magazine, I became even more excited about the upcoming RI Convention in vibrant Taipei! The variety and quality of food offered at stalls or restaurants sounds incredible. Of course, there are many other features of Taipei beckoning you to visit. Most of all, you will enjoy Taipei with thousands of your fellow Rotarians who you will connect with at conference sessions, visiting the House of Friendship, sharing public transportation, attending special events, and more. You gain new insights from the inspiring presentations and see what it means to be a global organization doing good around the world.

To learn more about the Convention or to REGISTER, go to <https://convention.rotary.org/en-us/>

Contact Anita McDonald, [msmathlady@live.com](mailto:msmathlady@live.com) if you have any questions.

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION**

TAIPEI, TAIWAN | 13-17 JUNE 2026

REGISTRATION CATEGORY	13 JUNE TO 17 JUNE 2026	18 DECEMBER 2025 TO 31 MARCH 2026	1 APRIL 2026 TO 17 JUNE 2026
Club member, nonmember, or guest, age 21 or over	\$475	\$575	\$675
Club member, nonmember, or guest, age 20 or under	\$175	\$225	\$275
Guest age 5-18	\$28	\$30	\$40
Guest under age 5	Free	Free	Free
Saturday, House of Friendship only	\$60	\$60	\$100

All amounts are in U.S. dollars.

Register today at [convention.rotary.org](https://convention.rotary.org)  
#Rotary26

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## Club Projects Happening in District 5500 To Celebrate AND That Might Give Your Club Some Ideas!

Yes, we are trying something new again! If your club has a project underway or just completed that you would like other clubs to know about, send the details to [DaveRotary5500@gmail.com](mailto:DaveRotary5500@gmail.com). We will save this spot in IMPACT! each week for those stories. Be sure to include contact information for someone other clubs might reach out to for more information.

## Human Trafficking in Your Own Backyard

By Diane Ventura-Goodyear

To understand human trafficking: **"The unlawful act of transporting or coercing people in order to benefit from their work or service, typically in the form of forced labor or sexual exploitation."** experts often use the "Action-Means-Purpose" framework:

**Action:** The trafficker recruits, transports, or harbors a person.

**Means:** They use force (violence), fraud (false job promises), or coercion (threats to family or legal status).

**Purpose:** The goal is to exploit the person for forced labor or commercial sex acts.

**Learn how to:**

Identify and rescue victims

Support trauma healing and recovery

Understand social media exploitation

Strengthen community response

Human trafficking awareness focuses on identifying and preventing modern-day slavery, which involves exploiting people for profit through force, fraud, or coercion.

Hear from Hope Rising AZ, Southern Arizona Against Slavery (SAAS), and legal experts, including a Special Victims Prosecutor.

Please join us — capacity is limited. This event will be an eye-opener. Together, we can raise awareness, protect the vulnerable, and be part of the solution.

Help protect human rights.

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN YOUR OWN BACK YARD

Discuss and learn what you can do about this.

### SAVE THE DATE

DATE: Monday, April 13,  
TIME: 11:00 am - 2:00 pm  
LOCATION: La Hacienda building at SaddleBrooke Ranch

SPONSORED BY ROTARY CLUBS:  
Dove Mountain, Marana,  
Mountain Empire,  
SaddleBrooke.




Scan for event contact

Contact Monica Oszust: [oszustmonica@gmail.com](mailto:oszustmonica@gmail.com)

## RI Funded a Well Which Created the Need for More Classrooms

By Dennis L. Bergquist



### Mukuyuini Village School Expansion Project

#### Background

Mukuyuini village has recently experienced significant development, thanks to a well-funded project by Rotary International. The new water source has greatly improved living conditions, making the village more attractive for families seeking better opportunities. As a result, a growing number of families are moving into the village, leading to an increase in the population.

#### Current Challenge

While access to clean water has been a tremendous benefit, it has also created new challenges for the local school. The influx of families has led to overcrowding, with only three classrooms available for six classes. This limited space is not sufficient to serve the needs of the expanding student body.

[Read More](#)

## Project Spotlight: El Jute Shelter Completion



### Rotary Club of Oro Valley (RCOV) | International Service

The RCOV is continuing the legacy of the late Past President Dennis Breen by supporting the **Village of El Jute, Guatemala**. Following a successful Global Grant for water and sanitation, the club has moved into a deeper "Adopt-a-Village" partnership, already completing 10 collaborative projects in partnership with other clubs in the US and Spain.

#### The Current Need: A Safe Haven for Travelers

The village is currently constructing a "**rest house**" on land donated by the local Catholic Church. This shelter serves as a vital resource for mountain community members and travelers, providing a safe, dignified place to stay overnight.

- **Status:** Structure is built; progress has been verified by the Sister Club in Gualán.
- **Final Requirement:** Installation of **windows and doors**.
- **Funding Goal:** **\$3,400.00 USD** for materials.

#### How Your Club Can Partner

Because this falls under the \$30,000 Global Grant threshold, RCOV is seeking **Club-to-Club funding**. This is an excellent opportunity for clubs looking to make a direct, tangible international impact with a smaller contribution.

#### Contact Points for Contributions:

- **Rick Chimblo:** [rchimblo@hotmail.com](mailto:rchimblo@hotmail.com)
- **Gene Medina:** [otivar2@gmail.com](mailto:otivar2@gmail.com)

## Fundraisers Your Club is Welcome to Attend

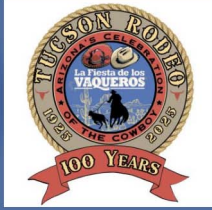
If you would like to highlight your club's events in this space, contact [Dave Lenox](#) with the event information and graphics!

## Catalina Club Call for Volunteers 2/21-3/1



**Changing the Lives of Young People in Need!**

Support local youth organizations by volunteering to Sell Beer at the Tucson Rodeo!!



Sign up here:



Simply pick the date(s) and slot you are interested in. Contact Arturo Mojica (520) 990-0768 for more information!

February 21 – March 1, 2026

Over \$100,000 given to local youth groups!



Sign up today and put a smile on someone's face!

For many years, CRC has raised funds at the rodeo to support many local youth organizations. In recent years, CRC has provided much-needed funding to groups like Youth On Their Own, The Salvation Army, Mariachi youth group Rayos Del Sol, Integrative Touch, and others.

Volunteers are needed to staff beer stations. The rodeo begins on February 21, 2026, and lasts eight days until March 1. Volunteers are needed on February 21, 22, 26, 27, 28 and Mar 1. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 10am and plan to leave between 4pm and 5pm. All volunteers will have the opportunity to take breaks. Volunteer with a friend, family member, or fellow Rotarian.

To sign up: Scan the QR Code or go to:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E084EABA62FAAF85-61382075-2026>

For additional information, call 520-990-0768.

## Globe's Dominion Royale 2/28/26

11TH ANNUAL  
**DOMINION ROYALE**  
1920'S SPEAKEASY

**February 28, 2026**  
Cobre Valley Center for the Arts  
Doors open at 6pm  
Casino tables open at 6:30pm

**\$50 per person Admission Includes:**

- Complimentary Drink from the Bar
- Casino Bucks
- CATERED Appetizers - Vida e Caffè
- Live Raffles and Entertainment

Dress up to get more casino bucks and be entered into the costume contest.

Get your tickets online or reach out to your local Globe Rotarians!

For more information please contact:  
Cami Lucero - State Farm - (928) 425 - 4444





sponsored by:  
**RESOLUTION**  
COPPER

#GlobeRotaryCasinoNight      [GlobeRotaryClub.Org](http://GlobeRotaryClub.Org)

## Dove Mountain Monte Carlo Night! 3/6/2026


**Rotary**  
 Club of Dove Mountain

PRESENTS

# A NIGHT IN MONTE CARLO

MARCH 6, 2026 5 PM TO 10 PM

AN EVENING OF ELEGANCE  
 AT THE BUTTES AT REFLECTIONS  
 IN ORO VALLEY

**TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!**

VISIT [WWW.DOVEMOUNTAINROTARY.ORG](http://WWW.DOVEMOUNTAINROTARY.ORG)



Join us for an **unforgettable evening**—and enjoy a night of glamour and fun with casino games, plated dinner, appetizers, desserts, cash bar, DJ, Silent Auction, Raffle Baskets and more, all for a good cause.

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**ROTARY CLUB OF DOVE MOUNTAIN**  
 A 581C3 ORGANIZATION SERVING CHILDREN, FAMILIES & VETERANS

## Yuma Rotary: Midnight at the Oasis! 3/6-8/2026



Yuma Rotary is excited to be back at the iconic Midnight at the Oasis Classic Car Show, happening March 6–8 in Yuma, AZ presented by the Caballeros de Yuma. If you follow the smell of sizzling tri-tip, you'll know you're getting close! Our Rotary booth will be in full swing serving up our famous sandwiches to car lovers, locals, and visitors from all over.

This favorite annual fundraiser helps support something close to our hearts—local scholarships for students right here in the Yuma community. We invite Rotarians near and far to stop by, soak in the amazing cars, enjoy the concerts, grab a sandwich, and share in the Rotary spirit.

Great cars, great food, great music—and an even better cause.

## San Luis Frontera Food at MATO. 3/6-8/2026



The San Luis Frontera Rotary Club will be selling carne asada burritos, bean & cheese burritos and quesadillas during MATO from March 6-8 in Yuma, AZ. Find us in the southeast corner of the baseball field. All proceeds go to fund community projects, including scholarships for post-secondary education. Hours, entertainment lineup, admission and more details about MATO can be found here: <https://www.facebook.com/MidnightAtTheOasisYuma/>

## Valle Verde Jazz in the Desert 3/7/2026



### Ticket Sales underway for Jazz in the Desert 2026!

The Valle Verde Rotary Club, in partnership with La Posada Green Valley, present Jazz in the Desert 2026.

This exciting fundraising event is set for Saturday, March 7, 2026, at Quail Creek's Madera Clubhouse.

Middle and High School jazz bands from up and down the I-19 corridor will take the stage for a Matinee at 1 PM and a Dinner show at 5:30 PM.

Jazz In the Desert 2026 will feature jazz bands from: Sahuarita High School, Nogales High School, Rio Rico High School, Continental School, Sahuarita Middle School, Walden Grove High School, and Anza Trail School.



Matinée tickets are \$10. Dinner show tickets are \$60 and require advance purchase.

Tickets are available online at [www.vvrotaryfoundation.net](http://www.vvrotaryfoundation.net) or by calling 208-691-3761 or sending an e-mail to [jazz@vvrotaryfoundation.net](mailto:jazz@vvrotaryfoundation.net)

Over the years, Jazz in the Desert events have raised over \$300,000, benefiting the various schools' music programs, as well as local, national and international Rotary projects.

## Marana Tour de Cookie 3/7/26



## Yuma North End Bowling Fundraiser 3/14/26

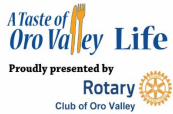
To register email [rotaryavf@gmail.com](mailto:rotaryavf@gmail.com)

## Sierra Vista Sunrise Fundraiser 3/29/26



For those in Sierra Vista and surrounding communities — MARK YOUR CALENDARS — come support our local youth. Doc's Watering Hole is hosting a Youth Programs Benefit on 29 March, 4-8pm. There will be music by "The Band Wanted", dancing, raffles, and most importantly...fun. You can get your tickets using the QR code in the graphic — cost is \$20 through 28 March, which jumps to \$25 the day of the event and at the door. There is also a door prize drawing for early bird ticket holders. Doc's Watering Hole — Good for What "Ale's" Ya!

## Taste of Oro Valley 4/12/2026



SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026  
4:30 – 7:30 PM  
Steam Pump Ranch  
10901 N Oracle Rd, Oro Valley  
[tasteoforovalley.org](http://tasteoforovalley.org)

A Taste of Oro Valley - April 12, 2026  
[tasteoforovalley.org](http://tasteoforovalley.org)

Food/Drink, Live Music, Silent Auction, 50/50 Raffle,  
Wine Garden & More!

Proceeds will benefit:



Live music by:



Purchase tickets at:



## Casa Grande: Diamonds in the Desert 4/18/2026

For more information: [cgrotaryauction.org](http://cgrotaryauction.org)

## Saddlebrooke Golf Tournament 4/20/26

MONDAY  
APRIL 20, 2026

MountainView Golf Club

Shotgun 1 pm  
Four person Best Ball Scramble

ROTARY CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

benefiting YOUTH PROGRAMS and SCHOLARSHIPS



Golfer Contribution \$150  
Foursome \$600

Register & Pay in 1 transaction  
saddlebrookerotary.com

Includes: Golf, Driving Range  
On Course Lunch  
Buffet Dinner following golf

Special Hole-In-One Awards on every Par 3  
Plus on course contests for Ladies and Men  
Tees based on Age and Gender

Golfer Name	E-Mail	Phone Number
1		
2		
3		
4		

If we do not have a foursome, please pair me with  
Make checks payable to: SADDLEBROOKE ROTARY CLUB FOUNDATION, INC  
P.O. Box 8388  
Catalina, AZ 85738

Pay with credit card at [www.saddlebrookerotary.com](http://www.saddlebrookerotary.com)

To register or for further information contact Dan Watson: [danielwatson@aol.com](mailto:danielwatson@aol.com) (818) 314-0422

Graphics Corner - Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention

Enjoy these inspiring Rotary graphics related to this month's international focus on **Peacebuilding and Conflict Prevention**. They're yours to use for your club's communications. Just download and save to your graphics library, then use them in your social media, newsletters and other Rotary promotional items.





**IMPACT!** Showcases District 5500 news, updates, and upcoming events your club needs to know about. It also provides a place to advertise upcoming club projects and fundraisers you want other clubs to know about. To publish your club's upcoming events, projects or fundraisers in IMPACT! Fill out [this form](#) with your information and send it to Dave Lenox at [DaveRotary5500@gmail.com](mailto:DaveRotary5500@gmail.com) by Friday for the following week's newsletter. Include your photo or graphic as a separate attachment as a jpg or png file.

**ROTARY IN ACTION!** is a Quarterly newsletter designed to SHOWCASE YOUR CLUB'S PAST PROJECTS & FUNDRAISERS! We are working on the best way to publish and archive all these great stories. For now, watch for ROTARY IN ACTION! to come your way by the end of October. For now, share your successes and great ideas so you have a record of them in our archives AND to remind yourself of the amazing difference your club has made in the past quarter. Use [this form](#) and send it to

[DaveRotary5500@gmail.com](mailto:DaveRotary5500@gmail.com). *Don't forget to include photos -- the more the merrier!*

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