

A Salute to Sally Zanjaní Benjamín Víctor, sculptor of the Sarah Wínnemucca statue By Marcia Cuccaro

The Hidden Valley Golf Club in Reno hosted the October 7th NWHP luncheon event honoring Sally Springmeyer Zanjani and Sarah Winnemucca sculptor, Benjamin Victor. At the age of 26, Mr. Victor became the youngest artist ever to have a statue in Washington D.C.'s National Statuary Hall Collection. He was chosen to create this statue by a group of dedicated NWHP members chaired by Mary Anne Convis and the late Carrie Townley Porter. During Mr. Victor's presentation at the luncheon, he shared that he had used Dr. Zanjani's book, *Sarah Winnemucca* along with Sarah Winnemucca Hopkins' book, *Life among the Paiutes: Their Wrongs and Claims* to research and create his signature and detailed vision of Sarah Winnemucca. He graciously and eloquently regaled all in attendance with stories of his experience with the Sarah Winnemucca statue project and related that he had made lifelong friendships during that process.

In attendance at Sunday's luncheon were many of the proponents of the Sarah Winnemucca statue project, including former Nevada First Lady Dema Guinn, Dr. Zanjani's husband, Esmail, members of the Zanjani family and members of the NWHP who were integral to the actualization of getting Sarah Winnemucca's statue into the National Statuary Hall Collection. Once the statue was completed, shipped to Washington, D.C. and scheduled for NWHP dedication. over 40 statewide members flew to Washington to attend the March 2005 event. NWHP member Kathleen



Sarah Kelley (granddaughter), Mariah Evans (daughter), Esmail Zanjani (husband), Benjamin Victor (sculptor), George Zanjani (son), Mo Zanjani (brother-in-law), Susan Zanjani (sister-in-law)

Clemence had planned and executed travel arrangements and attendance at various Washington D.C. events for all members in addition to the statue dedication. Traditionally, statue dedication invitations are doled out to Congressional members who invite their own friends and constituents. They may or may not include the "general public" of the host state as tickets to these events are very limited. The Nevada "Sarah" dedication was an exception and will never be replicated again and we owe Kathleen a great deal of thanks for making our attendance possible.

Benjamin Victor, now age 39, is the only living sculptor to hold the honor of having three statues in Washington's National Statuary Hall Collection. His two others are Dr. Norman Borlaug (Iowa - 2014) and Ponca Chief Standing Bear (2018 – Nebraska).

For more information on Benjamin Victor visit: http://benjaminvictor.com/

www.nevadawomen.org

Washington DC—Sarah Winnemucca Dedication Then and Now

March 9, 2005



Front Row
Carolyn Gardner
Peggy Hamel
Peggy Etchemendy
Billie Brinkman
Jeanne Larson
Kaye Gray
First Lady Dema Guinn
Karen Benna
Lisa-Marie Lightfoot
Kathy Drake
Holly Van Valkenburgh

Middle Row Marcia Cuccaro Peggy Lear Bowen Kathy Noneman Mary Anne Convis Rose Stuart Isabel Espinoza Bobbie Talso Dixie Westergard Cherry Jones Betty Ihfe Back Row Sally Zanjani Barbara Finley Linda Wyckoff Kathy Allred Governor Kenny Guinn Sarah Britt unknown Carleen Ernest Patti Bernard

October 7, 2018



Patti Bernard, Isabel Espinoza, Kathleen Clemence, Linda Wyckoff, Lisa-Marie Lightfoot, Barbara Finley, Dave Finley, Marcia Cuccaro, Esmail Zanjani, Benjamin Victor, Holly Van Valkenburgh, former Nevada First Lady Dema Guinn, Kathy Drake, Sarah Britt, Susan Paslov, Kathy Noneman

www.nevadawomen.org

Profiles of Members

Demetríce P. Dalton

One of NWHP's newer members is artist Demetrice Dalton. Born in Texas and raised by her grandmother and sister for her first three years while her mother, Ceola Davis, went to college, Demetrice came to Reno soon after her mom relocated to northern Nevada over 35 years ago.

Demetrice developed a love for African American and Native American history and obtained a degree in Fine Art from the California Academy of Art & Design. She considers her artistic ability to be a gift from God and obtains her creative inspirations for her art in a variety of media, from the rich

design elements, traditions and textures of various cultures throughout northern Nevada and the world. She has used her professional artist expertise not only to provide creative service and art education but also as an advocate for community arts and culture awareness. In addition to her art, her husband Ken, children and grandchildren keep her busy.



NWHP interviewed Demetrice in 2014 in partnership with Women of Diversity, Inc. for a NV150 Sesquicentennial project.

Some of her artwork can be seen on her professional website, <u>www.demetricepdalton.com</u>.

Her video interview can be accessed at http://womenofdiversity.org/demetrice-p-dalton/.

Isabella May Gourlay Dunn Webb By Patti Bernard

Why is this woman so important to the city of Reno? When did she live here? What did she do?

This is just one of the many fascinating biographies that NWHP is working on and will appear in the biography section of our website. Discover other biographies of interesting women who are published now.

www.nevadawomen.org/research-center/biographies-alphabetical



April 16, 1916 Library of Congress http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/ggbain.21072



Membership and Donations - Sept.-Dec. 2018 for 2019

New Members

Individual- \$30 Gilda Johnstone – 2019 Lorraine Renee Petersen - 2019 Florence K. Suenaga - 2019 Dorismae Weber - 2019

Family of Two - \$55 Mariah Evans & Sarah Kelley -2019

Honorary Members:

Mary Anne Convis Dawn Gibbons Betty Glass Gertrude Gottschalk Dema Guinn Kathy List Sandy Miller Catharine Sanders Kathleen Sandoval Holly Van Valkenburgh Linda Wyckoff

Life Members:

Lynn Bremer Mona Reno

Renewing Members:

Individual—\$30 Sarah Britt - 2019 Virginia (Ginnie) Kersey - 2019 Sue Smith—2018 and 2019

Donations:

Mary Anne Convis - \$750 Gilda Johnstone - \$20 Virginia Kersey - \$25 Florence K. Suenaga - \$100

Donations in memory of: Simonne Roy

Marcia Cuccaro - \$100

Donation-in-Kind:

Mary Anne Convis – Handpainted watercolor of "Nevada Women in History" Esmail Zanjani – Twenty-five books by Sally Zanjani. Another Life – Tales of Nevada's Last Gold Rush, value \$323.75

Memorials:

NWHP regrets the passing of our members from January to December 2018.

Simonne Roy Patricia Tripple Sally Zanjani

Thank you All!

You are Critical to the Success of the Nevada Women's History Project!

Dorothy Winfrey: Businesswoman, Aviation Enthusiast

Submitted by Karalea Clough, Nevada Historical Society, Reno



From: Capitol's Who's Who for Nevada, 1949-1950.

Dorothy Winfrey, b. Denver, Colo, Dec 12, 1925; daughter of Stewart and Edith (Seiler) Winfrey; family active in civic enterprises; education, Tonopah public schools; Reno Business College; began as secretary Basic Magnesium; owner, Blossom Flower and Gift Shop, 1945; manager, Western Union, 1945-; first woman pilot in Mineral County; secretary to Chief Aircraft and Overseas Communicator, Civil Aeronautics Administration, Anchorage, Alaska, 1947-48; member Business and Professional Women's Club, Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association; Eastern Star; Democrat; Protestant; address, 650 D Street, Hawthorne.

<u>Correctíon</u>

In the September 2018 *NWHP News,* in the "Hello, Hollywood, Hello! Reunion" article we misidentified the name of one of the owners of the Tanglewood Studio. Please accept our apology for the error. They are Michael and <u>Catherine</u> Eardley



POLITICS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Elko Free Press: We call attention to the article in another column headed: "Tonopah Bars Politics from Schools." It has been a recognized policy of all political parties that the schools be kept from politics and religion, and the effort of the suffrage party in this state to inject their propaganda into the public schools will surely react against them. The Free Press has taken no part in the fight the suffragettes are making for the right to vote in this state, but we certainly will oppose this plan of theirs for the winning of recognition.

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This article from the *Reno Evening Gazette*, April 2, 1914, p. 4, is an example of the antisuffrage efforts in Nevada. Retrieved through newspapers.com.

NWHP – Membership Report November 12, 2018

NWHP currently has 120 members and 5 organizations in good standing. NWHP has two Life Members (Best Friends Forever).

Thank you,

Christianne Hamel, Membership

NWHP – Fínancíal Report November 12, 2018

The Year to Date to November 9, 2018 financial report shows a bank and PayPal balance of \$67,401.25, \$640.08 in fixed assets, \$0.00 liability and a net YTD income of \$16,546.42. The total equity plus liability of the NWHP is \$68,041.33.

Jon Hamel, Treasurer

Featured Historic Nevada Woman: MARGARET BARTLETT THORNTON

Poet, editor promoted early aviation with travel record

At a glance:

Born: November 19, 1901, Tonopah, NV Died: January 3, 1981, Las Vegas, NV Maiden Name: Bartlett

Race/Nationality/ethnic background: Caucasian

Married: Richard W. Millar, William R. Thornton **Children:** None

Primary city and county of residence and work: Reno, Washoe County; Las Vegas, Clark County; New York City

Major Fields of Work: Poet, Editor, Aviation Enthusiast

Margaret Bartlett Thornton, daughter of a famous Nevada politician and judge, was known as much for her travel stunt in the early days of airplanes as she was for her published poetry.

In 1928, a year when the new aviators were America's heroes, Margaret "Monte" Bartlett wanted to highlight the grueling work of America's airmail pilots.

"Lindberg had just made his flight across the Atlantic alone in a single-engine plane, followed by Richard Byrd's flight in a multi-engine plane with a crew. In contrast, the unsung heroes of the airmail flights from coast to coast for eight years concerned me," she said in a 1977 interview.

Bartlett put on a huge pilot's outfit (on her 5 ft. 2 in. frame) and climbed into a biplane in New York. The only stops were short to refuel, eat, and transfer mail.

"We'd be up in the stars where we couldn't see the earth, then we'd go below the clouds and pick up ice, then we'd have to go back up again," she recalled. The inclement weather in Salt Lake City caused a delay, as did a snowstorm near Elko. A 15-minute stop in Reno prompted a big welcome by everyone her father, District Judge George Bartlett, could assemble. She told reporters it was "wonderful, and not just a bit spectacular."

What she didn't tell the press was the reason for her first trip to New York from Nevada: "I'd run away from home to live in New



Photo Courtesy: UNR Special Collections

York and save the world." But she'd become homesick and wanted to get back to Reno. She called her brother Donald in Chicago, who was working for the Transcontinental Air Transport Company. She said her brother was so embarrassed that she had "disgraced the family by living in New York alone" that he got her a pass on one of his airline's planes. The pass was good only from New York to Chicago, so she held a press conference about the airmail pilots' plight, and one pilot agreed to fly her the rest of the way to Oakland.

She had wanted to become the first female to travel cross country on a non-stop commercial flight. As it turns out, she was the second. Candid I. Hall of New York, an ardent aviation fan, beat her to it by just a few days.

But her arrival was 48 hours from her departure time, a disappointment heartfelt enough to make her want to try again in the other direction. So she told the press she was going back.

In April, her return trip did indeed break the record, making the 2,661-mile flight in 29 hours

and 56 minutes, giving Bartlett the transcontinental air mail passenger record between Oakland and New York. Her father joined her on the Oakland to Reno leg. The plane made record time transfers of mail at Salt Lake City, Cheyenne, Omaha, and Des Moines. In Chicago, she transferred planes and landed in Hadley Field, New Jersey. The entire trip had an average flying speed of 88.7 miles per hour.

Margaret A. Bartlett was born November 19, 1901, in Tonopah, Nev., to George and Pearl Bartlett, who had moved there from Eureka, Nev., earlier that year. Her father had been district attorney for Eureka County for two years, and after a few years of getting settled in Tonopah, he was elected to the U.S. Congress for two terms. He brought his family, which now included four children, first to Carson City, and then to Reno, where he practiced law and was appointed and later elected as a Washoe County District Judge, a position he held from 1918 until 1930.

Because of her father's prominence, the Bartlett family lived in the heart of town, in a house on Court Street originally built for the superintendent of the Western Pacific Railroad in 1901. Margaret recalled that she, her two sisters and one brother met many prominent people who visited them when they were in Reno for quickie divorces during the 1920s, including boxer Jack Dempsey, actors Tallulah Bankhead and Wallace Berry, and industrialists Cornelius Vanderbilt Jr. and W. K. Kellogg.

In a letter to the editor later in life, she wrote that her family "quarreled a lot." She said they "raised the roof so that George Wingfield, who lived across the street, used to call us 'the cats."

When Margaret was 13 and living in Carson City, she visited her grandmother in San Francisco and came down with diphtheria. She was not expected to survive, but turned a corner and recovered, an event that was noted in the Reno newspapers. She attended Dominican College in San Rafael, Calif. for two years.

Upon her triumphant return to Reno from her 1928 flight, she received a letter from U.S. Commerce Secretary Clarence Young, thanking her for all she'd done for aviation. Well-known Reno banker George Wingfield, a neighbor of her family's, whom she would later tussle with over the area near the Truckee River now known as Wingfield Park, gave her a check for \$1,000 to take flying lessons.

"I learned to fly, soloing in one of those old jennies; those big old crates," she later told a Reno Evening Gazette reporter. "I soloed at Mitchell Field on Long Island. I remember sitting in a pile of grease in the hanger when Howard Hughes came in. He just said hello, but I've never forgotten it."

She got her pilot's license, one of the first women in the country to do so, "but tragically enough, it was taken away because it was found that my heart was bad."

Since she couldn't fly, she took advantage of her publicity and took a job "traveling around the west coast talking to people about flying; trying to get them interested in passenger flight." Her counterpart on the East Coast? A young flyer named Amelia Earhart.

"People were afraid to fly. Amelia and I would go to luncheons and civic meetings and tell them about the joy of getting from one place to another through the air instead of on the ground. It was all so beautiful."

Bartlett remembered Earhart as a very fragile person, gentle and gracious, but with a mean streak. She remembered a time when she bought a bag full of beetles in Chinatown as a joke and giving them to a cook at a restaurant where she and several friends were dining.

"The beetles were brought out for dessert on a silver tray. Amelia very calmly took one, opened it up, and passed it to Charles (Lindberg). He took one and passed it on to Ann and then to me." She laughed remembering that no one would admit to the joke, but very calmly ate the beetles.

Bartlett said Lindberg was a sensitive soul like Earhart. She found it difficult to talk about Lindberg since his death, since she considered the family dear friends, but said she was the only one to see them off to London after the kidnap-murder of their son Charles and the subsequent trial. And about Earhart's disappearance, she said, "I don't really know what happened to her. But she stayed overnight with me in my home in Beverly Hills the night before she took off for Hawaii. She'd just made a record flight from the east coast," commenting about some flying difficulties she'd had. "She said when things start going wrong, they add up and you know you can't make it."

In an op-ed piece in the Nevada State Journal in 1938, Bartlett wrote about aviators: "They never know what it's going to be like up there. Sometimes it is disagreeable, sometimes

Margaret Thornton continued.

they don't come back. But when they do, they say the worst of it was never more than 'a little rough' or 'not bad.' And so it is from such people that we learn how to live and how to die. Both at the same time."

In 1930, in Las Vegas, she was working for T.A.T.-Maddux Airlines as a promotions/traffic advisor when she married Richard W. Millar, a vice president of the Bancamerica-Blair Corporation. Her father presided over the ceremony in Nevada, allowing them to side-step the three-day license law in California. She was a homemaker, traveler, and poet, living in Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and New York and once traveling by ship to England, until the marriage ended in divorce.

She dropped the Millar from her name and became renowned for her writing. As Margaret Bartlett, she had several poems published in poetry magazines, and one in the Saturday Review of Literature.

She married William Robert Thornton, and as Margaret Bartlett Thornton, received a threemonth study grant from the Huntington-Hartford Foundation at Pacific Palisades, Calif., for work in creative writing. Her marriage to Thornton was over by 1962.

Her father's time on the bench included the granting of more than 20,000 divorces, earning him the sobriquet "the divorce judge." This experience lead to him writing a book called Men, Women and Conflict, which Margaret edited. It was published in 1931, but re-issued in 1947 as Is Marriage Necessary? After her father died in 1951, she and her sister undertook the heavy task of organizing his voluminous papers for the University of Nevada Library.

In 1970, the stately old family home on Court St. was sold by Margaret and her sister Dorothy (who died two years later) and was demolished, an event noted in the local newspapers, and was replaced by a legal office.

Later in life, Margaret continued to write letters to the editor when things interested or annoyed her. A pet peeve was the way the land around Wingfield Park was treated. She was pleased her former neighbor George Wingfield donated the land to the city for the park, but was incensed by the deal the city made with him to let him build a high-rise apartment building across the street. She was also angry about the way the park took shape, writing, "May I be privileged to suggest to the Reno City Council – now that you have ruined our beautiful little Wingfield Park by the Truckee River, where we used to sit on the grass to feed the ducks – that you also cut down all the trees, so the birds won't dirty your concrete – or, better yet, tear up your concrete and give us back our park. Parks are for people and wildlife – concrete is for machines."

A year after that letter was printed, Margaret Bartlett Thornton had her book Winter of Noon, a collection of her poetry spanning 40 years, published. She had a book signing at the old Unique Book Store on N. Virginia Street in December 1977.

She returned to Las Vegas, where she died at Sunrise Hospital on Saturday, January 3, 1981, at the age of 79.

Researched by Patti Bernard and written by Catharina E. Falcone, October 2018.

Posted to website November 2018.

Sources of Information can be reviewed with her online biography.

<u>http://www.nevadawomen.org/research-</u> <u>center/biographies-alphabetical/margaret-</u> bartlett-thornton/

A Fine and Long Tradition

National Women's History Project Theme song 1993 Nevada verses added by Sally Wilkins

The history of women, hidden from our view. When you know what they have done you'll learn what you can do.

> It's a fine and long tradition, a woven tapestry. Woman after woman, making choices just like me.

In the days of revolution, women worked to make us free. Planted fields and taught the children, sacrificing willingly.

It was women who insisted on an end to slavery. Wrote the books and gave the speeches and demanded liberty. Black and white, they stood together, for none of them were free. They lived and died between the lines of women's history.

The rights of those who labor, the right to organize, The right to vote, and end to war, they challenged their own times.

Every cause that touches us today is rooted in their lives. Their deeds you'll see through history, is there between the lines.

We are following their footsteps as we seek our destiny. As we gaze into the future it's our past that holds the key.

We are wiser, we are stronger if we keep their memory Their names you'll find between the lines. They're women's history.

> Twas the same here in Nevada, women's stories do abound. They crossed the burning desert, in wagons westward bound,

Becoming ranchers, writers, doctors, mothersteaching all the while. Women civilized this great harsh land, boldly done in western style.

> And when came time for voting, women rose to fight the cause. They organized all o'er the state, fighting hard to change the laws.

No place too far, no hour too late, suffrage groups spoke all around, to triumph in nineteen–fourteen. Yes! Their ideas were mighty sound.

Now women all throughout the state enjoy great dignity. Holding jobs at every level, we truly can be free.

<u>But</u> we should never rest.... lest gains be lost... should fight on to the end. And preserve for those who follow us, those rights we need to tend.

Submitted by Patti Bernard

Grants Report and Updates

By Patti Bernard

Have you checked our website lately? Foundation grants have enabled interviews of 29 women, two organizations and the video of our 2017 Hello Hollywood, Hello! program to be up and running on our redesigned Research Center—Media Center website.

We are almost ready to add six more women whose interviews are in the final editing process prior to their addition to this esteemed group. Thanks to our **Roxie and Azad Joseph Foundation Trust** grant, we were able to document the interesting histories of Carolyn McGowan Bernard, Marilyn Royle Melton, Jane Jenkins Moon, Dolora Zajak, Diane Moorhead Loper and Dorismae Weber.

When NWHP first received our 2014 The John Ben Snow Memorial Trust grant and we joyfully videotaped our initial eighteen interviews, we had no idea of where that activity would lead. Thanks to the generosity of foundations such as The John Ben Snow Memorial Trust. Robert Z Hawkins Foundation, Estelle J. Kelsey Foundation and the Roxie and Azad Joseph Foundation Trust, as well as the Phil and Jennifer Satre Family Charitable Fund through the Community Foundation of Northern Nevada and the Ericson Family Fund at the Nevada Women's Fund, not only are the number of individuals that we are able to interview growing but our grants are allowing us to add wonderful improvements and additions to our two websites in order to showcase our research. Our last two major website goals are to complete our Memorial Legacy page and add a Curriculum page for teachers. NWHP Curriculum Liaison, Sue Davis, is hard at work on planning for the latter.

Our **Terry Lee Wells Foundation** Legacy page is in the final planning stage thanks to a generous grant from the **Terry Lee Wells Foundation**, whose grant is in honor of its founder. More information on this website component will follow in our March 2019 Newsletter.

NWHP was honored to be the recipient of another **Estelle J. Kelsey Foundation** \$10,000 grant in November, which will not only be geared to fund previously listed activities, but also help fund other strategic plans and marketing goals that make NWHP more visible and useful to the general public and educators.

When we expend each grant dollar, foremost in our planning is the realization that each dollar given to NWHP is a very precious gift and that it must be used to make the greatest positive impact possible. As we volunteers engage in project activities which we feel so passionately about, it is reassuring to know that others realize the value of our labors in preserving Nevada women's history. From our Research Desk

More From the Anne Adams Helms Photo Collection

By Patti Bernard

One of the most interesting women in our Anne Adams Helms photo collection is that of popular West Coast actress, **Sue Robinson**. Born in Blue Island, Illinois about 1845, she moved to California with her theatrical family and was on stage by the age of 10 under the family stage name of "The Robinson Family." The *Stockton Daily Independent* stated that her first appearance in San Francisco was in 1855 and, "she was a universal favorite of towns and mining camps for over 20 years." The *Gold Hill Daily News* informed readers that "she was always a prime favorite, and especially so at Piper's Opera House, the Carson Theatre, and other places in this State."

Sue was a versatile actress whose talents ranged from tragedy to comedy and burlesque. The *Oakland Tribune* described her as a "splendid dancer, a wonderfully versatile woman, as much at home as Ophelia and Lady Macbeth as in a roaring burlesque." In 1868 the Piper's Opera House Dramatic Company hired her to play the starring role of Camille in an adaption of the novel by French author, Alexandre Dumas.

Sue married actor Charles Getzler in Oregon in 1862 and took on the stage name of Sue Robinson Getzler. They played together for several years before she retired briefly to give birth to two boys. Divorced in Virginia City, Nev. in 1870, Sue continued her career under her maiden name until she was taken ill in 1871, and died at the age of 26 in Sacramento, Calif. She was buried in the historic, and now defunct, New Helvetia Cemetery in Sacramento but her remains were moved in 1914 to Macedon, N.H., where one of her sons lived.



The Robinson photographs are part of our valuable carte de collection of early visite Virginia City and Carson City residents that was given to the Women's Nevada History Project many years ago. The cards have recently been restored to almost pristine condition in clarity and color through the generosity of one of our NWHP members. These photos are not yet available to the public.



Ragamuffin (circa 1863-1864)

Tiara (circa 1863-1864)

Be sure your browser is set at <u>www.nevadawomen.org</u> for the new NWHP website.

NEVADA WOMEN'S HISTORY PROJECT

Membership Form

(Membership is for January thru December of each year)

Thank you for your ongoing support of the Nevada Women's History Project. You are vital to maintaining our educational website of women's biographies and interviews, having special events and to offset the operational costs of the NWHP.

Please notice that we have added a lifetime membership category. Best Friend Forever. Membership comes with an event discount and a newsletter. All levels of membership may be tax deductible since NWHP is an educational non-profit.

Membership Levels

Individual	\$30.00	
Family of Two	\$55.00	
Friend	\$100.00	
Good Friend	\$250.00	
Best Friend	\$500.00	
Best Friend Forever	\$1,000.00	
Organization	\$50.00	
Corporate Sponsor	\$250.00	

I also enclose an additional donation for the NWHP.

General Fund

Endowment Fund

_____I prefer the **digital copy** of the newsletter.

_____I prefer both the **digital copy** and the **paper copy** of the newsletter.

NAME:

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HOME PHONE: CELL PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Date: _____Check No: _____

Send this membership form to: Nevada Women's History Project 770 Smithridge Drive, Suite 300, Reno, NV 89502

Thank you for your Membership



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We much appreciate your support!

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