Hands-on Learning: Founders Society Funds New Simulator

The first thing the College of Medicine freshmen notice is that the patient on the exam table is breathing, his chest gently expanding and contracting. Nearby, a monitor displays vital signs. They hear the steady blip, blip, blip of the EKG.

The “patient” isn’t real – just incredibly realistic. Five students are getting their first look at the new Laerdal SimMan, a sophisticated, full-size simulator funded by the College of Medicine Founders Society.

With the help of Physiology Course Director James Pasley, Ph.D., a professor and assistant dean for educational advancement, the awed students discover that the mannequin has a heart beat, palpable pulse points and much more. SimMan talks, groans and responds to stimuli.

Kendall Wagner takes the mannequin’s blood pressure. “He had perfect Korotkoff sounds,” the surprised freshman says.

Before a $38,000 contribution by the Founders Society made this SimMan possible, physiology students completed exercises on an earlier model owned by the Department of Anesthesiology.

The second simulator will enable more hands-on practice for each student.

“We are pleased that we had the opportunity to fund this project for the important reasons alluded to by Dr. Pasley,” says J. Floyd Kyser, M.D. ’62, immediate past president of the Founders Society.

College of Medicine alumni support clinical teaching in other ways. An endowment by the classes of ’66 and ’67, for example, has helped provide standardized patients, training, new observation cameras and other equipment for the Center for Clinical Skills Education.

In the simulation room, an alarm suddenly blares. SimMan is not breathing. “We need to intubate!” says Jennifer Atchison. Fellow classmate Wagner makes several attempts with an endotracheal tube, the computer-programmed “crisis” passes and the students relax.

“That’s about as real as you can get, without it being a real patient,” Wagner says afterward. “My heart was racing.”
A Note from the Director, Judith McClain

As a fellow alumna, I’m excited about what’s on the horizon for our Office of Alumni Affairs and the Medical Alumni Association. With your help, we’re working to expand our services and, above all, to connect with more of you.

On Jan. 29, members of the Arkansas Caduceus Club ratified the dissolution of that entity so that a larger, broader reaching organization could be created. I am working with Alumni Affairs Executive Director Judith McClain to appoint members of an alumni advisory board to assist in organizational issues, program development, fundraising and other activities.

We have listened carefully to your ideas and insights as we’ve planned this transition. Many of you participated in strategic planning meetings; others shared their thoughts with us individually. And nearly 400 of you, both alumni and former house staff, responded to our survey last fall to tell us what is most important to you.

What did we learn? First of all, traditional events such as Alumni Weekend are very important to our prime-of-life and retired alumni. Younger alumni (‘80s, ’90s and ’00s) are eager for new opportunities, including separate class activities during the annual reunion. There also was a strong desire for campus tours, so we’ll be arranging those for Alumni Weekend 2007.

Many of you expressed strong interest in group travel programs. Have we got a deal for you! We’re launching two European tours in the fall: the French Alps/Italian Lakes Sept. 21-29, and Rome/Florence Nov. 2-10. We hope you’ll take advantage of these and sign up. It’s a great way to reconnect with classmates.

Overall, we will be working to create targeted programs that appeal to you, whether you’re 33 or 73. So keep those ideas coming!

A Note from the Dean, Debra H. Fiser, M.D.

The best part of my job is getting to know our alumni and other supporters of the College of Medicine and UAMS. It is especially enjoyable visiting with you in your community. At alumni receptions and other events, I always hear how UAMS is impacting the lives of Arkansans, and I learn about the outstanding medical care and other contributions that you are providing.

2007 got off to a great start with a lovely dinner sponsored by UAMS Chancellor I. Dodd Wilson, M.D., in Jonesboro. The Jan. 11 event was hosted by University of Arkansas (UA) Foundation Board Chair Frank W. Oldham Jr., Ph.D., at BankCorp South, where he is regional president for Northeast Arkansas. Dr. Oldham also served for 10 years on the UA Board of Trustees. He has been on the board of the Arkansas Cancer Research Center and has made countless civic contributions.

Dr. Oldham’s personal courage is as inspiring as his many achievements. Now in remission from multiple myeloma, he spoke during the dinner about his intense gratitude for the high quality of care he has received at the Myeloma Institute for Research and Therapy at UAMS and noted how exciting it is to have this renowned institute in Arkansas.

Also during the dinner, I talked with a few of the 90 or so physicians from the Northeast Arkansas Clinic (NEA), which has won national awards for its multi-specialty clinical services. In addition to providing stellar, highly coordinated medical care, NEA has a charitable foundation that helps patients obtain affordable medications, assists families living with a catastrophic illness, operates a free wellness clinic for overweight children, and supports many other community programs. The organization sponsors two scholarships at UAMS, including the Hank J. Jordan Scholarship for medical students.

As this issue of Alumni Matters was going to press, we were gearing up for the March 21 alumni reception in Pine Bluff. We’re looking forward to visiting with many of you in Dallas on April 24 and El Dorado on May 9. Watch for more alumni reception dates in the future. We are eager to see you!
Rallied by champion phonather Al Gordon, M.D. ’91, College of Medicine students raised $33,005 during the 2007 Phonathon in February. An additional night of phoning is planned for April 4.

More than 100 students volunteered during the four-night fundraiser. The money will go toward scholarships, including $10,000 awards designed to competitively recruit top-notch students who might otherwise go to other institutions.

Dr. Gordon, a family practitioner in Fayetteville and medical director for the Arkansas Razorbacks, is the namesake of an annual award presented during the fundraiser. He kicked off the first night with a pep talk and stayed for the entire evening. He even took the phone several times, garnering a donation each time.

Dr. Gordon recalled how nervous he was the first time he called alumni for contributions. But he told students they’d be surprised at the camaraderie they’d find with those they called. “I made friends that night that I still have today,” he said. “The alumni you’re calling remember being where you are now.”

Sophomore Meg West agreed: “You do make friends doing this, and the new scholarships that this will fund are very important. This is a great school, and I want future students to have this opportunity.”

The theme for the event was “Pay it Forward,” after the 2000 movie about the exponential effects of doing good. Sponsor Alltel Wireless loaned cell phones and service.

On Campus

Thanks to Jerry Thomas, M.D. ’62 (right), the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery is the new home of a 1985 painting by Dr. Thomas’ son, renowned Arkansas Artist Barry Thomas (center). With them is Orthopaedic Surgery Chair Richard Nicholas, M.D. Dr. Thomas donated the painting, titled “An Orthopaedic Collage,” in memory of former chairman Carl Nelson, M.D. and Walter Selakovich, who was a professor in the department. The painting was done shortly after Barry Thomas graduated from the University of Arkansas, where he played for the Razorbacks.

Al Gordon, M.D. ’91, offers students an additional incentive for volunteering: a drawing for an inspirational photograph of the Razorbacks signed by Heisman Trophy finalist Darren McFadden.

Sophomores Vishal Bhakta (front) and John Tisdale (left) place calls during the first night of Phonathon 2007.

Freshman Jennifer Doyle talks with an alumnus.

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Hayden Franks, M.D. ’93, and Jay Franks, M.D. ’98, set aside their white coats and put other skills to work at the World Championship Steak Cook-Off in Magnolia each May. Proving their culinary talent, the family’s team bested 42 other entrants to win the cook-off last year.

When their victory was showcased on a Food Network TV show in January 2007, the Franks brothers started hearing from folks around the country. A well-known steakhouse started negotiating for their recipe.

“We all like to cook and to grill, especially when the whole family gets together,” says Hayden, a dermatologist in Little Rock and chief cook for the Beech Creek Farms team, named after the family farm near Magnolia. The two College of Medicine graduates are joined by their younger brother, Justin, who’s an optometrist in Bryant, along with two cousins and a nephew.

“We decided to enter the competition for the first time about five years ago to see how our grill would stack up against the other teams.” Hayden says. “It’s a great way for our extended family to stay close.”

Jay, an internal medicine specialist in Magnolia, recalls that the competition heated up in more ways than one in 2006. “It was very hot that day, which had some significant impact on the pit’s performance,” he says. “But the atmosphere is always wonderful at the Magnolia Blossom Festival.”

So what makes a world-champion rib eye? “The secret is the rub that we use,” says Hayden, noting that it was the creation of cousin Randy Lann. “We cook our steaks slow and medium rare. Our recipe consists of Accent seasoning, lemon pepper, Adolph’s meat tenderizer, pepper, paprika and a few other spices. We seal in the ingredients with vegetable oil.”

While we may be left wondering just what those “few other spices” are, we’re looking forward to hearing whether the Franks brothers will hang onto their title this May. “There is some attraction to quitting while you’re ahead,” says Jay. “But I suspect that we’ll compete again.”

The Murrys & Lees

It is helpful to draw a family tree to sort through all the family physicians near and dear to J. Warren Murry, M.D. ’47, a retired surgeon who practiced in Fayetteville and Heber Springs. His own father, Harry E. Murry, M.D., graduated from Tulane and practiced in Texarkana for over 50 years. One of the ’47 alumnus’ sons, William L. Murry, M.D. ’87, is an anesthesiologist in Fayetteville. Granddaughter Karen Craig is an administrator at Arkansas Children’s Hospital.

Dr. Murry’s wife, Doris, trained as a medical technologist at UAMS. Her father, D.C. Lee, M.D. ’44, and brother William Roberts Lee, M.D. ’44, were pathologists in Hot Springs. Nephew Allen Lee, M.D., is a cardiologist in Hot Springs.

“My only regret,” says the ’47 alumnus, “is that I retired before my son began to practice up here. I would have liked to work with him in the OR.”

The Youngs

John H. Young, M.D. ’63, can trace the physician roots in his family back to his great-great grandfather, a doctor during the Civil War. The family practice, urgent care and occupational medicine physician in Fayetteville didn’t encourage his children to go into medicine and healthcare, but they did anyway.

Evelyn W. Young, M.D. ’87, is board certified in family practice and is in emergency medicine in Little Rock. Alexander H. Young, M.D. ’90, is an anesthesiologist in St. Louis and an instructor at Washington University School of Medicine. Mary Martha Young is a registered nurse in Little Rock.

The ’63 alumnus says he simply tried to pass down his own parents’ lessons to be true to their hearts and do their best in whatever path they chose.
The Raglands

Physicians have an unusually solid rooting in the current generation of the Ragland family.

**Darrell Ragland, M.D. ’85**, is a family practitioner in Jonesboro. Brother **Joel Ragland, M.D. ’88**, is a neurosurgeon in Knoxville, Tenn. **James Ragland, M.D. ’03**, is completing a residency in otolaryngology at UAMS, and **Matthew Ragland, M.D. ’06**, has started a residency here in anesthesiology.

Their oldest brother, Gerald, isn’t a physician, but three of his wife’s brothers and a nephew are College of Medicine graduates: **Drs. Claude, Herbert and Jack Fendley**, and **Garney Fendley** (’59, ’71, ’72 and ’05 respectively). The Raglands’ uncle, **Boyce West, M.D. ’70**, practices in Clarksville.

“My brother Darrell was my main influence,” says James. “He is very dedicated to his patients, and I could see that from a very young age.” He also thanks his parents. “They would have been pleased with us no matter what career we chose, and that support let me focus on the work it took to get here.”

Mom Dorothy recalls how in high school Darrell said out of the blue that he definitely would not be a physician. A year later he said he had to be a doctor. “He never wavered, so I feel sure that he was led by God,” Dorothy says.

Richard Clark, M.D. ’58, remains active at UAMS although he’s officially “retired” from the Department of Anesthesiology. He lectures on obstetric anesthesia and edits the department’s newsletter. Dr. Clark recently wrote about Annie Schoppach, M.D., who was UAMS’ first female graduate in 1901, and he was instrumental in having a monument honoring her placed in Oakland Cemetery.

After practicing in Stuttgart for 20 years, **Richard Wilson, M.D. ’78**, has joined the staff at the Ferguson Rural Health Clinic in DeWitt. He’s working with **John Hestir, M.D. ’55**, who has practiced in DeWitt for almost half a century.

**Bernard Nahlen, M.D. ’83**, has been named deputy coordinator of the President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI). Dr. Nahlen is a commissioned officer in the U.S. Public Health Service and has most recently served as senior advisor for monitoring and evaluation at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria. The PMI was launched in 2005 to help control malaria in Africa.

**Col. Kenneth Kemp, M.D. ’88**, visited campus in January to talk to students about scholarships and other opportunities with the U.S. Army health care team. Dr. Kemp is a staff physician in pulmonary and critical care medicine at Brooke Army Medical Center in Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He fondly recalled his College of Medicine days and inspirational leaders such as John Pauly, Ph.D.

Henry Lile, M.D. ’60, began taking flying lessons when he was 13. This past year, the assistant professor of radiology at UAMS was designated a Wright Brothers Master Pilot by the Federal Aviation Administration. A major in the Civil Air Patrol, Dr. Lile is only the fifth Arkansan to have received the award, which recognizes 50 or more consecutive years of safe flying.

To share your multi-generational medical family story, please e-mail riceginny@uams.edu, or mail it to: Alumni Affairs, 4301 W. Markham St., #642, Little Rock, AR 72205.
For 14 years, Robin Davis has battled a barrage of unpredictable, ever-changing symptoms wrought by multiple sclerosis (MS). But the 44-year-old mother of four from Little Rock has a staunch ally in her corner: **Lee Archer, M.D. ’82.**

“Dr. Archer is there for me – always,” Davis says emphatically. “No matter how busy the MS clinic at UAMS is, he never rushes me, and I can always reach him when I need to. He would go to any length for his patients – not just me, but every one of us.”

Dr. Archer, an associate professor in neurology, is being honored with an endowed chair funded by friends, family and patients who want to remain anonymous. He chose the name – the Major and Ruth Nodini Endowed Chair in Multiple Sclerosis and Related Autoimmune Diseases – to honor the longtime, highly respected El Dorado residents and relatives of his wife, Nancy. An investiture is being planned for May.

“The endowment will help us expand our work with MS patients and allow us to do more research into MS,” explains Dr. Archer. “Arkansas has about 2,800 people with MS – about one in 1,000 citizens, so the need is tremendous.”

Dr. Archer, who joined the faculty in 1986, is the only Arkansas physician who devotes most of his practice to treating the debilitating disease. He is active in the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and received the organization’s Hope Award in 2003. He is the immediate past president of the Pulaski County Medical Society.

He is optimistic that there will be a cure for MS someday. “We now have six FDA-approved drugs for multiple sclerosis, and there are many in the pipeline,” he says.

“But what MS patients probably need the most from their physicians is their time,” Dr. Archer says. “They need someone who can listen and give them feedback and help with the many different symptoms they experience.”

“I love working with these patients and their families,” he says. “They are often incredibly inspiring because of their positive attitude in the face of significant problems.”

Alumni and friends can contribute to the endowment and help Dr. Archer enhance the MS program here. For information, contact Cathy Sanders, director of development, at (501) 526-7399 or via e-mail: sanderscathyo@uams.edu.

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**Lee Archer, M.D. ’82, with patient Cindy Lemley of Little Rock, who was diagnosed with MS in 2000. She echoes many other patients in describing Dr. Archer as “very patient and deeply sincere.”**
Members of the Founders Society have pledged or given at least $10,000 to various College of Medicine endowments.

**New Founders Society Members**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Carlisle J. Alderink, M.D.</th>
<th>Lillian R. Crenshaw, M.D.</th>
<th>Eleanor A. Lipsmeyer, M.D.</th>
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<td>Paula J. Anderson, M.D.</td>
<td>Rex M. Easter, M.D.</td>
<td>F. Thomas Moseley, M.D.</td>
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<td>Thomas E. Andreoli, M.D.</td>
<td>Robert H. Fiser, M.D.</td>
<td>Purcell Smith, M.D.</td>
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<td>R. Lee Archer, M.D.</td>
<td>Robert E. Glenn, M.D.</td>
<td>Drs. Hoy &amp; Marolyn Speer</td>
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<td>Susan S. Beland, M.D.</td>
<td>Paul S. Greenberg, M.D.</td>
<td>Stanley D. Teeter, M.D.</td>
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<td>Joe K. Bissett, M.D.</td>
<td>John W. Joyce, M.D.</td>
<td>Ruth L. Thomas, M.D</td>
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<td>Robert W. Bradsher, M.D.</td>
<td>Diana Jucas, M.D.</td>
<td>Dr. Carolyn Thompson</td>
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<td>Mike Bridger, M.D.</td>
<td>James D. Kyser, M.D.</td>
<td>Kent C. Westbrook, M.D.</td>
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<td>Willard G. Burks, M.D.</td>
<td>Nicholas P. Lang, M.D.</td>
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**New Dean’s Society Members**

**Alumni Couples ($1,500)**

| Drs. Paul & Susan Rountree | Dr. and Mrs. Alfred “Fred” Grimes |

**Individuals ($1,000)**

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<th>James M. Arthur, M.D.</th>
<th>Aubrey Hough, M.D.</th>
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<td>David Bevans, M.D.</td>
<td>Kevin Heath, M.D.</td>
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<td>Jack Blackshear, M.D.</td>
<td>Raymond Harris, M.D.</td>
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<td>Richard B. Clark, M.D.</td>
<td>Greg Krulin, M.D.</td>
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<td>Roger Cagle, M.D.</td>
<td>Sabrina Lahiri, M.D.</td>
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<td>James R. Cobb, M.D.</td>
<td>Marvin Leibovich, M.D.</td>
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<td>Michael Cunningham, M.D.</td>
<td>Betty Lowe, M.D.</td>
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<td>William Dedman, M.D.</td>
<td>John McCracken, M.D.</td>
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<td>William D. Dudney, M.D.</td>
<td>Jim Pappas, M.D.</td>
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<td>F.M. Fennegan, M.D.</td>
<td>Elmer Purcell, M.D.</td>
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<td>Al Gordon, M.D.</td>
<td>Ron D. Rasberry, M.D.</td>
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<td>Dr. and Mrs. G. Stephen Greer</td>
<td>Rickey O. Ryals, M.D.</td>
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<td>Bruce Smoller, M.D.</td>
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<td>Joe P. Stanley, M.D.</td>
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<td>Dola Thompson, M.D.</td>
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<td>Dr. &amp; Mrs. David Yocum, M.D.</td>
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**Young Alumni Couples**

(past 10 years; $750)

No new young couples (both alumni) this quarter

**Recent Graduates**

(past 10 years; $500)

Dr. & Mrs. Robert N. Page
Shelly Laine Bryant, M.D.
In Memoriam

**Gardner H. Landers, M.D. ’38,** of El Dorado, died Oct. 6, 2006. He was 92. Dr. Landers practiced ophthalmology in El Dorado from 1948 to 1989. For a dozen years before his retirement, he traveled to Haiti twice a year to perform cataract surgery as part of a medical mission.

**David B. Cheairs, M.D. ’45,** of Little Rock, died Feb. 17, 2007. He was 85. Dr. Cheairs practiced family medicine with his brother-in-law, Carl Wenger, M.D., in Little Rock for 40 years.

**Billy D. King, M.D. ’49,** of Monterey, La., died Jan. 11, 2007. He was 89. Dr. King practiced radiology in Camden and El Dorado and helped introduce mammography, ultrasonography and computerized tomography in southern Arkansas. Earlier, he was chair of radiology at the University of Texas Post-graduate School of Medicine.

**Robert L. Chester, M.D. ’55,** of Fort Smith, died Feb. 6, 2007. He was 80. Dr. Chester trained and practiced at a number of institutions including Children’s Hospital at the University of Oklahoma, where he was chief of anesthesiology. He practiced general anesthesiology for many years in Fayetteville and Fort Smith.

**J.W. “Jim” Basinger, M.D. ’58,** of Jonesboro, died Feb. 18, 2007. He was 74. Dr. Basinger practiced obstetrics and gynecology in Jonesboro for many years.

**Eugene A. Shaneyfelt, M.D. ’58,** of Manila, died Dec. 5, 2006. He was 77. Dr. Shaneyfelt practiced Mississippi County for almost 50 years. He operated a rural hospital and helped bring a community hospital to Manila, where he also served as a school board member and city councilman.

**Thomas Hugh “Bill” Allen, M.D. ’59,** of Little Rock, died Feb. 16, 2007. He was 71. Dr. Allen, a plastic surgeon in private practice, also served as a plastic surgery consultant to the Crippled Children’s Division of the state Social Services Department from 1967 to 1985 and was the founder and chief surgeon of St. Vincent Infirmary’s free cleft lip and palate clinic.

**W. Ragon Thompson, M.D. ’61,** of Albuquerque, N.M., died Jan. 26, 2007. He was 71. A Clarksville native, Dr. Thompson practiced obstetrics and gynecology in Albuquerque for many years before retiring in 1986.

**Johnny M. Lamb, M.D. ’67,** of Mount Ida, died Jan. 18, 2007. He was 66. Dr. Lamb was chief of surgery at the Kessler and Travis Air Force bases and a military medical advisor to the surgeon general before retiring as a colonel. He then became a surgeon in Vallejo, Calif., and practiced in Mena after returning to Arkansas in 1992.

**Onyx Pinkney Garner, Jr., M.D. ’69,** of Tuscaloosa, Ala., died Feb. 11, 2007. He was 61. Dr. Garner practiced plastic surgery in New Orleans for many years before relocating to Alabama after Hurricane Katrina.

**John A. Vaughan, M.D. ’61,** of Malvern, died Feb. 5, 2007. He was 75. Dr. Vaughan served as a physician on the USS Patrick Henry nuclear submarine and then returned to Malvern, where he practiced family medicine for 38 years.

**Jerry C. Holton, M.D. ’62,** of Little Rock, died Feb. 6, 2007. He was 70. Dr. Holton was the first trained angiographer in Arkansas. He practiced in Stuttgart, Fort Smith and Little Rock. He also served as an assistant clinical professor in radiology at UAMS and an instructor at St. Vincent.

**Thomas Louis Buchanan, M.D. ’67,** of Morrilton, died Jan. 6, 2007. He was 64. Dr. Buchanan established a family practice in Morrilton in 1970 and retired in 2005.

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