

Specigram

Newsletter of the Pittsburgh Chapter,
Construction Specifications Institute

July 2020



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Chapter President
Kelly Brown, p.2**

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Education and
Development,
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STUMMER

President's Message

Kelly W. Brown, AIA, CCS

I wish there was a better word for virtual. The many hours I spend in virtual meetings are very real to me. In a way, we have been preparing for location independent work for years by setting up cloud servers, keeping digital files, and changing our phone systems. Of course, the pandemic that persists all around us has accelerated this virtual existence. We still need to get the work done (if we're lucky enough to have the work), sustain our relationships, and continue to grow personally and professionally.



Your CSI Pittsburgh Chapter board is working to make opportunities for you to connect with one another, stay informed about the local construction industry, and provide continuing education. Programs being considered include tours, social events, and technical seminars. We're making safety a priority and designing these programs as virtual events.

Ideas for programs that you would find valuable are appreciated. Please reach out to me or any of the board members if there is an activity or topic you would like to see turned into a CSI event! We're still working out the details of our September program, more to come in the next Specigram.

Meanwhile, wear your mask, social distance, and wash your hands. "See" you soon.



Highlights from the Board

July 2020

June 9, 2020 - Conference Call

PRESIDENT

NOVA Chapter – Online meeting on networking with social media.

LEAD will be virtual this year Tuesday and Wednesday evenings.

LEAD may be in NOVA in August 2021.

North Central PA scheduled to host MARC but evaluating.

CONSTRUCT show still on in Grapevine TX. Registration is open. September 30 to October 2.

Chapter is looking for someone able to travel.

PROGRAMS

Top Golf moved to September.

Will post some webinar events.

Possibility of chapter using Zoom account. RSSC offered to host a chapter meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

Total Membership: 86.

Submit Phil and Sandra Hundley for emeritus status.

TECHNICAL / EDUCATION

Billy Cauley is the new technical education chair.

PRODUCT SHOW/HOLIDAY GALA

Holiday Party – Sponsorships may be difficult this year.

Review contract and see when final decision needs to be made.

CERTIFICATION

Classes complete.

CDT will require continuing education starting next year.

Highlights from the Board, cont'd

July 2020

June 9, 2020 - Conference Call

AWARDS

Will check on updated deadlines.

GBA LIAISON

Bill Vernon will act as GBA Liaison.

GOLF OUTING

Golf Outing – Quicksilver is currently closed. Plan on rescheduling for September (fall outing).

STUDENT OUTREACH

Looking for new student outreach coordinator. DeFilippo moving to Florida.

BY-LAWS

Thornton continues review of bylaws and chapter guide.

OLD BUSINESS

CONSTRUCT is September 30 to October 2 Grapevine TX; Hotel reservations opened.

NEW BUSINESS

Election results from survey monkey online voting.

Kelly Brown – President

Matt Lander – 1st Vice President

Brian Trimble – 2nd Vice President

Stephen Pries - Secretary

Jason Henze - Director

Kate Shuster- Director

Highlights from the Board, cont'd

July 2020

July 14, 2020 - Conference Call

PRESIDENT

Thank past president Thornton for transition.

Noted Chapter Leadership Roster has been updated with the Region and Institute.

Middle Atlantic Region Updates:

2020 Middle Atlantic Region Conference is officially cancelled.

2021 Middle Atlantic Region Conference is still on scheduled and hosted by the North Central PA Chapter.

2022 Middle Atlantic Region Conference will be hosted by the Richmond Chapter.

2023 Middle Atlantic Region Conference will be hosted by the Central PA Chapter.

Chapter Reports: Most are having virtual meetings. Philadelphia Chapter is still considering having their successful ax throwing event this year.

PROGRAMS

Reviewed Trimble's list.

September: Top Golf.

October: Discussed CMU student outreach type of event.

November: Discussed virtual tours of mfg plants such as glass or windows, or tours of construction sites.

December: Holiday Gala; see comments below.

February: Speed dating event.

Need to set programs 2 months in advance for notifications.

Ideas for Other Events and Meeting Discussions:

Special Programs: Everyone needs to help and coordinate events and allow Brian to be the overall coordinator.

Goal for more joint programs.

Designing and constructing building in a COVID world.

Economic Forecast.

ALMONO mill tour (may be difficult).

Consolidated Glass Tour (New Castle).

Paint Center Tour.

Uber Tour - Application in construction, autonomous vehicles.

Social Virtual Event (like CREW, "Coffee with CREW" virtual coffee break) as an idea for CSI Pittsburgh to implement.

Special Social Events: Biking and Kayaking.



Highlights from the Board, cont'd

July 2020

July 14, 2020 - Conference Call

HOSPITALITY

Supplement to and/or replacement of a Program night.

Host a happy Hour for members.

Topics:

Scavenger hunt. Bingo. Trivial pursuit.

Member forum bingo. Are you smarter than a Specifier?

Other "ice breaker games."

GOLF

Golf Outing – Barra reported we are still scheduled for September 24th at Quicksilver. Discussed social distancing and whether we can have a dinner after golf. Barra to contact Quicksilver about having dinner outside under a tent. Discussed moving to the spring for Quicksilver and relocate the fall event to a course allowing outside dining such as Birdsfoot.

PRODUCT SHOW

Holiday Party – Geist reported he contacted the Chadwick. They are willing to work with us. We can reschedule for next year and honor our deposit.

Zell (and Geist agreed) reported that companies have pulled back on monies available for travel and attending product show. Discussed virtual product show and how that would look.

PUBLICITY / ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

Website – Thornton to verify board positions have been update.

Congratulations to Shuster on her new baby.

MEMBERSHIP

Discussed Hundley as a retired or member emeritus status. Need to get this done. Vargo will contact Kathy Stegmier or LeeAnn Slattery.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Discussed seminar type events we could provide virtually. Topics include:

IMI Seminar. IBC Update. NFPA 285. ANSI.

Is the MBA facility available?

CERTIFICATION

Bosco reported that CDT renewal will require continue education credits.

AWARDS

Outstanding Chapter Award: Award was submitted and confirmation from Institute that award was received.

Region Awards: Awards will be presented virtually on August 19th.

Institute Awards: Awards were submitted on time.

Highlights from the Board, cont'd

July 2020

July 14, 2020 - Conference Call

GBA LIAISON

Refer to Programs; need chairperson.

Vernon discussed his company may be able to be a liaison with the GBA.

STUDENT OUTREACH

Refer to Programs; need chairperson.

LONG RANGE PLANNING

Thornton reported starting with the last plan and revamp.

BYLAWS

Thornton is working a proposed changes and will discuss at August meeting.

Asked board members to consider reducing size of board to match size of chapter.

NEW BUSINESS

Institute's Construct Show has been cancelled.

Certification

CSI is renowned in the industry for its rigorous certification programs, which include:

Construction Documents Technology (CDT®) Certificate

A comprehensive overview for anyone who writes, interprets, enforces, or manages construction documents.

Certified Construction Specifier (CCS)

Demonstrates excellence in specifications and contract document preparation.

Certified Construction Contract Administrator (CCCA)

Truly understand all facets of the construction process and contractual relationships.

Certified Construction Product Representative (CCPR)

An in-depth understanding of the construction process and superior ability in effective representation.

Member News

July 2020

May Anniversaries

7th	Brad Bridges	RJ Bridges Corporation
2nd	David Mosovsky	

June Anniversaries

10th	William Fiedler Jr.	Cintar Engineers
7th	Damian Carnegie	AVT Inc.
4th	Colleen DeFilippo	Bonitz Inc.
4th	Susan Henshaw	The Bekon Group

July Anniversaries

30th	Gail Lynn Nagie	Catherine Houska Consulting LLC
25th	Catherine Houska	Eastern Architectural Products
7th	Patrick Harding	Florida Consulting LLC
3rd	Kristin Kennedy	Duro-Last Roofing
1st	Spencer Reading	

Current Membership: 84

Member News, cont'd

July 2020

Congratulations to **Kate Schuster**
on the birth of her son **Hunter David Haley, July 12, 2020**.
The little guy checked in at 6 lbs 9 oz and 21" long.



Join CSI !

CSI is a must for any professional involved in designing, supplying, building, negotiating, planning, contracting or any other function in the construction-building industry. CSI members bring real world solutions to this ever-changing climate. Learn more about our different membership types, discounts, resources, and educational opportunities.

Becoming a CSI member gives you a wealth of benefits, including construction industry news and resources, standards and formats, networking opportunities, webinars, events, and member discounts.

Member News, cont'd

July 2020

Bob Molseed, FCSI, FAIA

Robert Molseed, age 87, passed away on July 2, 2020. He was President of the Washington DC Chapter of CSI and ultimately served as the National President (1995 - 1999). He was a double fellow in both the AIA and CSI, one of only 35 people to have achieved this.

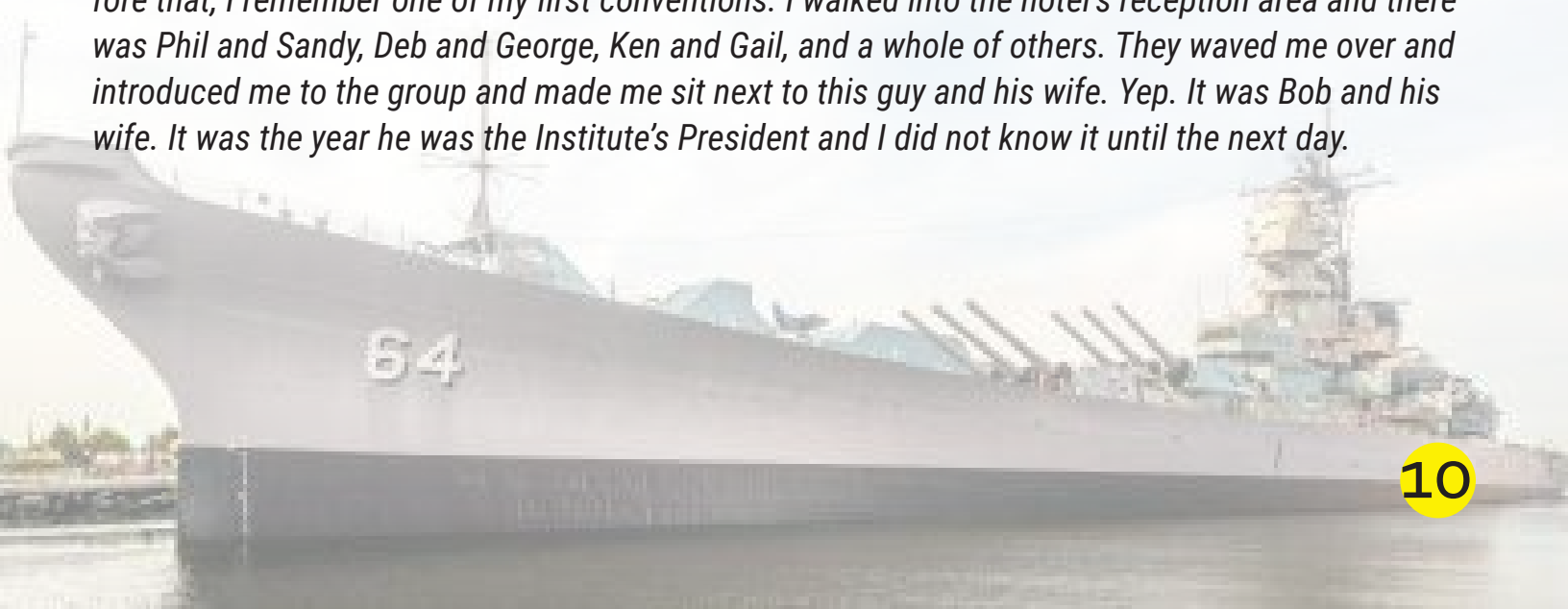
Bob was a well-respected architect in Washington, DC, working for many years for Chatelain and Samperton Associates, and the American Institute of Architects. He finished his career as a Sr. Architectural Specification Writer with ARCOM Master Systems. Bob was active in the Construction Specification Institute and served on many committees with CSI throughout his career.

Tom Feulner of CSI Baltimore:

I met Bob as I was beginning my CSI career in the DC Metro Chapter. He was already moving toward retirement when we met. He seemed to be one of those "get out of my way" kind of guys, but once I got to know him, he was very open with advice and wisdom. He was also very opinionated. As an "old school" member, he disagreed with the Institute's merging of Professional and Industry memberships. I am going to miss him greatly.

Marty Thornton:

I have lots of memories of him. I remember at the Middle Atlantic Region Conference in Norfolk where the Battleship Wisconsin is moored, he took us all on a guided tour that even those that were on the ship as tour guides tailed along and heard things they never knew about the ship. He described a fire that took place and how he was one of the first on the scene to put it out. The other guides only knew there was a fire but did not know the extent and how many were hurt. Years before that, I remember one of my first conventions. I walked into the hotel's reception area and there was Phil and Sandy, Deb and George, Ken and Gail, and a whole of others. They waved me over and introduced me to the group and made me sit next to this guy and his wife. Yep. It was Bob and his wife. It was the year he was the Institute's President and I did not know it until the next day.



Member News, cont'd

July 2020

Ray Brooks

Ray Brooks, the last surviving Charter Member of our Pittsburgh Chapter, passed away in October, 2019, at the age of 94. Ray was a sales representative for Beechview Mantel and Tile.

Years ago I happened to have breakfast with Ray one day and he told me about spending time in a little place in Fayette County called Mill Run...

"My grandparents lived in Mill Run, which is right next door to Bear Run," Ray Brooks told me over breakfast. "We often went there on weekends and spent time there in the summer. When Fallingwater was being built, one of the workmen invited my father to come out and look at this house they were building for Edgar Kaufmann. Of course, it had no fame at that time, other than the fact that it was for Edgar Kaufmann. I had no idea who Frank Lloyd Wright was; probably my father didn't either. We went out and I remember piles and piles and stacks and stacks of stone and steel. It was 1936; I was eleven years old."

"In the late 1940's my father was Justice of the Peace at Mill Run," Ray recalled. "Edgar Kaufmann was a sometimes visitor to our house for whatever reason; to get papers notarized, maybe to just get out and meet the natives. I remember him often sitting in my Dad's office on a Saturday morning."

"I lived at Mill Run for about a year after graduating from college. We often drove past the Kaufmann estate on the way to Uniontown. To show how naïve I was," Ray chuckled, "the thing that impressed me most was Edgar Kaufmann's barns! I think their cows lived better than we did, in air-conditioned barns, clean as a whistle. You could see the barns from the road. They were more impressive to me than a house hidden back in the woods that you couldn't see anyway."

"Our place was kind of like the poor man's Fallingwater," he continued. "The house was right across from Mill Run. You could hear the water splashing on the rocks. It was a pleasant way to go to sleep. After my father retired, my parents went back and lived on the homestead, which was two miles from Fallingwater. The property was sold in the early 1960's for something like \$7000 – one of the things I look back on and think, 'Oh my God, why didn't I hang on to that?!' I would dearly love to own that today."

Middle Atlantic Region L E A D

July 2020

Leadership Education and Development

This year's LEAD sessions are taking on a whole new look, as we all are experiencing the effects of the pandemic. We will be hosting virtual LEAD session this year. These sessions are designed to allow you, as a leader or future leader, to choose the session that you are serving in, or are interested in. You can choose one, two, or as many as you wish. You must email Mitch Miller (M2Architek@hotmail.com) to receive an invitation to the session you have an interest in. Please review the sessions list below and email Mitch.

Zoom meetings in 30 minutes segments, led by each Region Position and Chair

ALL chapter leaders are invited to participate in their session of interest

Sessions will be lunch time frames (12:10pm to 12:40pm) in the months of July and August.

Mitch Miller will host and moderate each session. Sessions will be recorded and archived on Region Website for future use.

Presentation Content: Each session will lay out each position responsibilities via PowerPoint presentation, open up for questions and comments.

LEAD: "The Virtual Future, Here Now" - July 28, 2020

"Virtual Meetings and Virtual Networking",

Led by Cory Robbins and Jon Lattin

LEAD Zoom for Presidents and VP's – July 29, 2020

Led by Tom Feulner, Robert Vaughn

LEAD Zoom for Secretaries – August 4, 2020

Steve Weisensale

LEAD Zoom for Treasurers – August 5, 2020

Dan Cudney

LEAD Zoom for Program Committees – August 6, 2020

David Wrigley + Mitch Miller

LEAD Zoom for Membership Committees – August 11, 2020

Robert Vaughn

LEAD Zoom for Academic Affairs Committees –

August 12, 2020

Kevin Grega + Thad Goodman

LEAD Zoom for Certification Committees – August 18, 2020

Mary Ellen Pfiester + Winne Sung

LEAD Zoom for Awards Committees – August 19, 2020

Lauren Anderson + Marty Thornton

LEAD Zoom for Education/Technical Committees –

August 25, 2020

Mitch Miller

LEAD Zoom for Communications Committees – August 26, 2020

Katherine Good

CONSTRUCT 2020

July 2020

CONSTRUCT 2020 goes digital

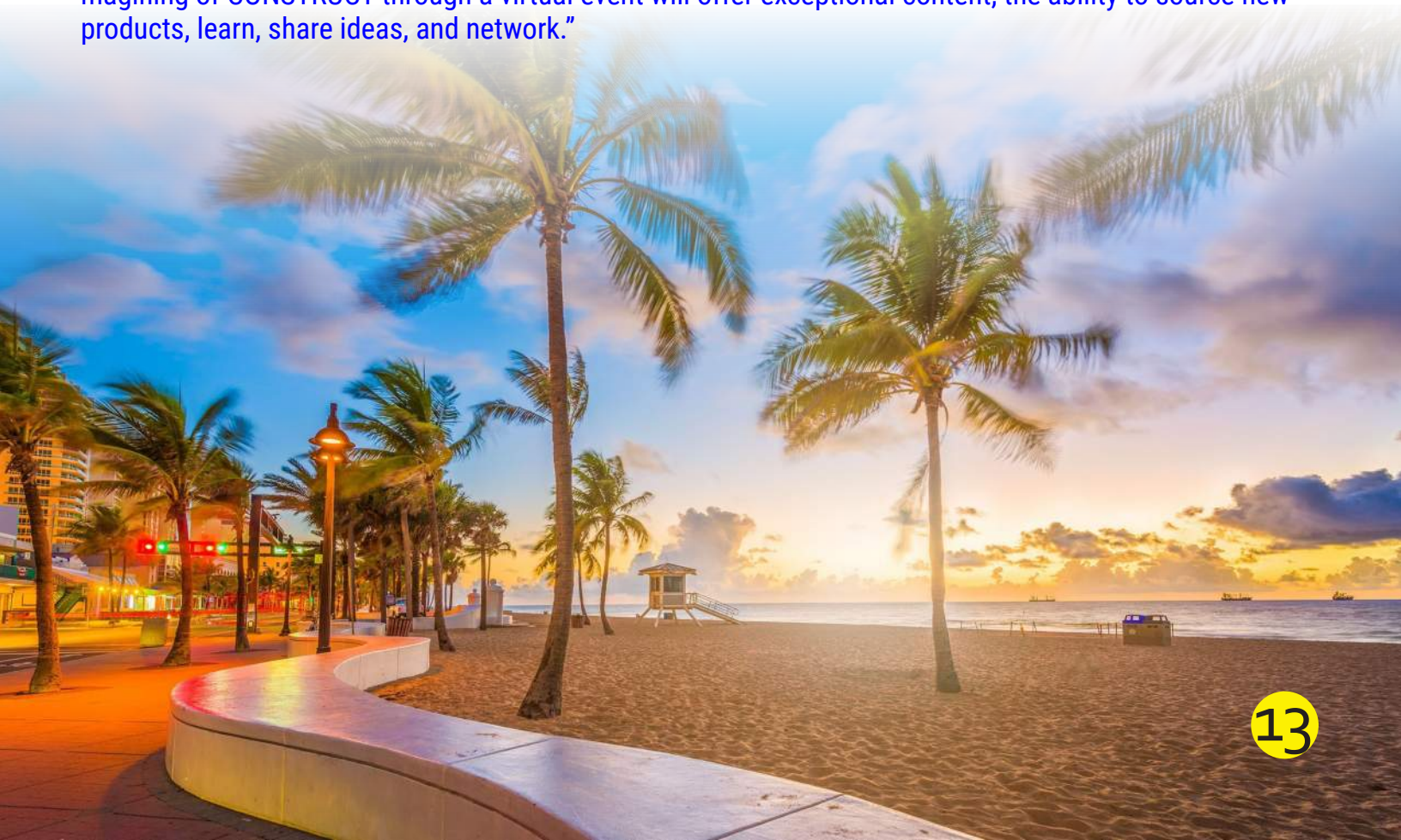
CONSTRUCT 2020 will now be a digital experience. The CONSTRUCT virtual event will take place from October 7 to 9, one week later than the originally planned in-person event. It was initially scheduled to be held from September 30 to October 2 at the Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center, Grapevine, Texas.

“The CONSTRUCT and CSI teams understand the importance of connecting and celebrating the architecture, engineering, and construction communities. Therefore, we are excited to offer a unique virtual event that will allow the industry to source, learn, network, gain inspiration, and overcome challenges in this new environment,” the organizers said in a press release.

CSI events associated with CONSTRUCT, such as the Honors and Awards Celebration and the Annual Business Meeting, are being rescheduled as well. Full details will be announced soon.

All attendees will receive a full refund, and answers to frequently asked questions are on the CONSTRUCT website.

“Although the decision to transition this year’s in-person event was difficult, and we will miss seeing everyone in Grapevine, we are excited about a new way to engage and interact with our industry,” the organizers said. “We know the construction community is eager to come together face-to-face. Our reimagining of CONSTRUCT through a virtual event will offer exceptional content, the ability to source new products, learn, share ideas, and network.”



Project Delivery Practice Guide

July 2020

Project Delivery Practice Guide (PDPG), 3rd Edition: From Concept to Construction

Available August 3 in the CSI Bookstore



Completing a successful construction project today depends on moving intent and information from the owner's mind, through the design team, and to the job site. It's organizing thousands of moving parts so they work towards the same goal. It's mastering how to integrate concepts, documents, and activities to deliver a project that performs to its fullest capacity. It's understanding the latest theories, technologies, and team structures so that design concepts become reality.

Considered the instruction manual connecting the architecture, engineering, construction, and owner (AECO) sector, the PDPG focuses on the art and science of common project delivery methods. Learn the roles and responsibilities of every player in the project, how construction is delivered, what needs to happen during each phase of the facility life cycle, and the types of information flow-- including agreements, drawings, and specifications-- that help ensure a successful project.

The new 3rd Edition of CSI's Project Delivery Practice Guide arrives exclusively in the CSI bookstore on August 3rd.

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July 2020

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July 2020

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