

LEIF ERICSON VIKING SHIP NORSEMAN

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*Honoring America's First Hero - 1000 A.D.
Leif Ericson Day, October 9*

www.vikingship.org

February, 2004

Dear supporters of LEVS and crew members of the *Norseman*,

Thank you for your past support towards our annual membership appeal. Without your help, we as volunteers couldn't represent our organization and the ship at so many places that are starving to hear about the Vikings.

Last year, was a very rewarding one for the board and crew members as, we visited many ports and towns throughout the Northeast and St. Petersburg, Russia. We had 12 crew members, who paid their own way to represent the ship and USA at the city's 300th birthday festivities. Your support helped us bring the ship and van to Russia and our other local ports. While the trip to Russia was a cultural enlightening experience, joining our Viking friends from Sweden and Norway with their beautiful ships was the highlight of the trip.

Unfortunately, securing our ship and van back to America was a major costly and unexpected ordeal. Now we have a better appreciation of graft and cohesion. While we were excited to get the Norseman back for our October 9th activities, the long delay, stolen personal items totaling \$5,000, our van vandalized and unusable and our bank account less \$2,500 for "transportation fees" has hurt our efforts to prepare for the 2004 season.

We need your continued support, today! If you can, please move your membership level up or earmark a second donation to our equipment/capital needs fund (see the order form in the "Norseman News" for details). If you haven't been a member for a while, here's the chance to show us your dedication to LEVS by rejoining.

So, what's stopping you from showing your family roots or love of the Viking period of history or the lore of sailing a beautiful unique ship! Join your friends of LEVS in 2004 with a generous donation to guarantee a smooth sailing season for the *Norseman*.

Sincerely,
The Officers and board of Leif Ericson Viking Ship, Inc.



Norseman News

Leif Ericson Viking Ship *Norseman*

Vol. 12 No. 1

Spring 2004 Edition

www.vikingship.org

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LEVS Mission Statement

1. To educate Americans about Leif Ericson as the first European to discover and settle on the North American continent.
2. To promote knowledge and a realistic historic image of Viking people as merchants, navigators, shipbuilders, artists, explorers and warriors.
3. To provide sail training and practice in recreating the experience of traveling on water as Vikings did a thousand years ago.

Distributed 4 times a year

In Philadelphia, April 2004: International Viking Legacy Symposium

What do you imagine when you hear the word "Viking"? If what you think of is a warrior, a raider, and a looter, you might want to be in Philadelphia this April for a different, more modern view of Vikings and their international culture.

The Leif Ericson Viking Ship, Inc. (LEVS) and the American Swedish Historical Museum (ASHM) will present *The Viking Legacy: A Symposium About Viking History, Culture, and Contributions to World Civilization* on Saturday, April 24, 2004.

Vikings traded and settled from Russia to North America, and founded or contributed to societies in Iceland, Russia, France, Ireland, and the north Atlantic islands. They made important advances in navigation and ship building and founded a democratic society in Iceland. Their culture produced the sagas about life in Iceland and elsewhere in the Viking world that people still read today.

This symposium will examine several aspects of Viking history and culture that are overlooked by the prevailing popular image of Vikings merely as warriors and raiders. Topics include Viking nation-building (Russia), the democratic culture of Iceland that produced the sagas, important ship building and navigational advances, the roles women played in Viking society, and Norse efforts to settle in North America around the year 1000 C.E.

The program features prominent students of Viking culture from Canada,

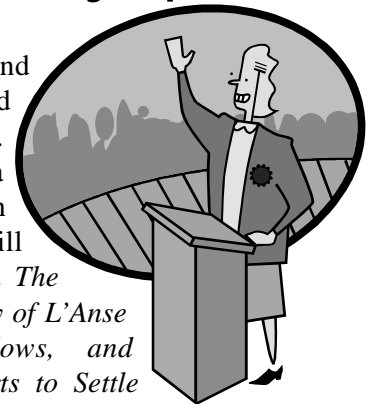
Sweden, and the United States.

Birgitta Lindroth Wallace will speak about *The Archaeology of L'Anse aux Meadows, and Norse Efforts to Settle North America*. Dr. Wallace, formerly a Parks Canada archaeologist, is well known for her study of the Viking site at L'Anse aux Meadows in Newfoundland.

William Miller, from the University of Michigan Law School, will speak about *The Icelandic Culture That Produced the Sagas*. John Hale, from the University of Louisville, will present *Viking Ship Construction and Navigation*.

Jenny Jochens, from Towson University, will speak about *Women in Viking Society*. Dan Carlsson from the Center for Baltic Studies at Gotland University in Sweden, will discuss *The Eastern Face of Viking Culture: Founding Russia, Exploring to Constantinople*. Ruth M. Karras, University of Minnesota, will provide a summary of the day's program.

The Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation has provided major funding for the symposium. It is also supported by generous grants from the Elis Olsson Memorial Foundation, The American-Scandinavian Foundation, Volvo Group North America, Inc., Viking Termite &



Continued on Page 4

A Word from the President

Land Ho! We have just completed another exciting year — a difficult one financially, but enjoyable nevertheless. We still draw warm receptions, and we are slowly but steadily getting our message across: which, of course, is that Scandinavians played a major role in the start of America as we know it, including Leif Ericson's courageous first explorations to the "new world."

From late July to early August, twelve of us visited St. Petersburg, Russia, with our longboat *Norseman*. We were invited to join in the 300th Celebration of the founding by Czar, Peter the Great. The *Norseman* was moored at the Fortress of Peter and Paul right across the river from the elegant "Hermitage." One has to travel to Russia to realize how different their culture really is. Become an active member so you can take advantage of these great opportunities! Admittedly, this was a costly trip for our organization but we were able to visit there quite inexpensively.

Speaking of costs, we could sure use generous donations to help in developing our 2004 program. We also welcome your ideas, as well, on how you would like to see us present our Viking rituals so that you can experience vicariously the settlements and voyages of our earliest founders. Please contact us by e-mail, through our web site at www.vikingship.org, or by "snail mail". Let us know what turns you on!

Best wishes for a Happy New Year,

Marty Martinson
President

Focus On: Marlyse Lindblad A Second-Generation Member

Marlyse Lindblad is extremely proud of her Swedish/Viking heritage. She grew up in a family that treasured and taught Swedish customs and traditions. Her father, Harold Graden, is an active LEVS member and encouraged Marlyse to become a member in 1998.



In 2001, Marlyse decided to also join the crew. It was not a difficult transition, as she often accompanies Harold on his sailboat and is an avid water-skier.

Since joining the crew, she has learned more about the Vikings. The long design and the shallow hull of the ships enabled them to go where other boats could not, so the Vikings could stealthily attack unsuspecting villages. Marlyse also enjoys correcting the misconception that only men used weapons — some women also learned to use weapons in case they were attacked while the men were away. At events, she occasionally gets asked some odd questions. "One of the strangest questions I've heard was 'Did you sail it [the *Norseman*] over to Russia and Sweden?'" said Marlyse.

Marlyse's favorite aspect about being on the crew is the camaraderie and going to the events to get the word out about Leif Ericson. Marlyse's favorite event was the Viking Invasion of Stockholm in 1998. She said, "We took a side trip to Birka where they are still excavating and finding Viking artifacts. I also visited with my Swedish relatives and had much fun!"

Marlyse is very vocal about LEVS and its mission. She once had the opportunity to go to West Bradford Elementary School with Dave "Wolf" Sutton and Steven Clarke to help educate the fifth graders about Vikings. The kids enjoyed it, and she also learned from them.

When Marlyse is not involved with LEVS, she enjoys her career as a realtor at Century 21 Alliance's West Chester, Penn. office as well as hanging out with her husband and two teens. However, Marlyse would like to get more people - non-Scandinavians - out to the LEVS events; and actively tries to recruit new people. She has brochures and postcards in her car that tell about LEVS and the *Norseman*, and she gives them out at every opportunity to tell people of LEVS events.

Come meet Marlyse at one of our events!

"Our Russian Adventure" by Marty Martinson

Indeed, it was an adventure! A Russian and Swedish Viking consolidation invited LEVS to help celebrate the 300th Anniversary of St. Petersburg.

Twelve crewmembers joined the entourage, and Atlantic RO/RO transported our longboat *Norseman* across the ocean — roundtrip from Baltimore. We met up with Viking groups that we have sailed with in past adventures, since several Viking longboats attended from Sweden, Norway and Russia. A great number of Viking enactors also camped on the shore in front of the gigantic Peter and Paul Fortress. Most of the boat crews stayed overnight in a school building that had very limited toilet facilities, and some crewmembers chose to stay in youth hostels.

Our crewmembers enjoyed the camaraderie we had with fellow Vikings; taking visitors on sailing trips along the picturesque waterways; meeting over evening meals with Consulate representatives; and hosting the visiting populace on board while we were at our mooring. Some of our crew stayed ashore — impressing the crowds with their skills at making typical early costumes and also playing ancient games against other Viking crews. We flew the American flag on the *Norseman*, which attracted many people, including lovely young women who wanted photos of themselves hugging the rugged Vikings!

We enjoyed meeting the Russian people, and "discovering" more about them and their culture. Russians in St. Petersburg acknowledge their history was influenced heavily by Sweden, and they consider Estonia an early Russian/Viking community. The young people dressed stylishly and obviously dominated the professional and white-collar work force. Those people, although best off in the populace, were rather outspoken in their concern for their future. The majority of the Russian people in general were quite pleasant to meet and talk with, however we found those in authority such as the police or customs

officials were very austere and rather corrupt in their continuous attempts to extort money from us.

The city was interesting as well. St. Petersburg is a city of islands and is designed with many bridges. The traffic was rather heavy and quite reckless during the day, and those many bridges stayed open after 1:00 AM to give right of way to boats and ships. We had to plan ahead to make sure we were where we wanted to be before 1:00 AM. When we had free time, the LEVS team visited the famous Hermitage museum; once Czar Peter the Great's palace. We also found the churches and mosques fascinating and beautiful.

Eating in Russia was another adventure! The food was salty and rather unimaginative but cheap. Several of us met for supper and drinks one evening, and the total cost for all of us came to just over \$10 in US dollars. Everyone consumes beer constantly — night and day, and vodka comes into play at night; yet we didn't see many obvious drunks. We were never bored.

Overall, we consider the trip a success; with the exception of the unexpected amount of money we had to pay due to the corruptness that we encountered nearly everywhere. We wish we had the space and time to tell you our many individual adventures. Perhaps, if you see us at an event, you can ask for more personal stories. Russia has a very different culture!

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The Norseman gained attention while sailing on the Neva River in Russia.

International Viking Legacy Symposium

Continued from Page 1

Pest Control, Inc., and other corporate sponsors.

This symposium will interest elementary and secondary teachers, college and university historians, Viking history and culture students, reenactors, and other enthusiasts, but will still appeal to the general public.

Approximately 300 people are expected to attend; however, tickets are still available through LEVS or ASHM. The registration deadline is April 12, 2004. For information about the symposium or to purchase tickets:

Leif Ericson Viking Ship

Phone: 410.275.8516

Fax: 410.275.2633

Email: info@vikingship.org

www.vikingship.org



American Swedish Historical Museum

Phone: 215.389.1776

Fax: 215.389.7701

Email: ashm@libertynet.org

www.americanswedish.org

You are Invited to a VIP Dinner!

After the Symposium and Reception, the Leif Ericson Viking Ship, Inc. and the American Swedish Historical Museum will be hosting a VIP dinner for the speakers of the symposium.



The VIP Dinner will be held at Popi's Italian Restaurant, located near the Museum on 20th Street. Popi's is one of south Philadelphia's premier destinations for pleasant dining and great Italian culinary favorites.

Reservations are for 7:30 PM, and the dinner will cost \$35, which includes taxes and gratuities.

If you are interested in joining us at the VIP dinner, please RSVP to either LEVS or ASHM via the contact information given in the Symposium article.

All about the Symposium Speakers

Birgitta Wallace

Parks Canada

Dr. Wallace is a retired Parks Canada archeologist. She helped to excavate the 11th century Viking site *L'Anse aux Meadows*, and has become an authority on the site.

William Miller

University of Michigan Law School

William Miller, has been a member of the University of Michigan faculty since 1984. His areas of interest are: Icelandic Sagas; Medieval History; Social and Political Theory and more.

John Hale

University of Louisville

John Hale is an archaeologist and director of the Liberal Studies Program at the University of Louisville. For more than 20 years, Hale has researched the ancient ship-building techniques that culminated in the elegant Viking longship.

Jenny Jochens

Emeritus professor, Towson State University

As a leading expert on women in Viking culture, Jochens is best known for her recent books on the topic, *Women in Old Norse Society* (1998) and *Old Norse Images of Women* (1996).

Dan Carlsson

Ctr. for Baltic Studies, Gotland University, Sweden

Dan Carlsson is an Associate Professor at Gotland University, dealing with Archaeology & Human Geography. For many years he has been conducting research projects about Viking society.

Ruth Karras

University of Minnesota

Ruth Karras' field is medieval European history, with special emphasis on the history of gender. She teaches courses on medieval England, the Vikings, the history of women and more.

Vikings Invade West Bradford Elementary!

On a cool, sunny day, the combined 5th grade classes of West Bradford Elementary School filed out of the class rooms to one of the athletic fields in the schoolyard. The reason, a "living history" event about VIKINGS!

Steven Clarke, Marlyse Lindblad, and D. J. "Wolf" Sutton, Sr., all dressed in Viking-style outfits, took the students "back in time" so they could learn about Viking history, lifestyle, tools, transportation, weapons, and exploration. The three crewmembers brought swords, axes, spears, shields, helmets, and

tools, as well as ancient arrow tips, money, toys, and many other Viking items. There was even some music!

Steven was loaded with historical facts and stories. He explained about some of the types of music that the Vikings listened to. Marlyse informed the classes about the women's role in Viking times as head of the house and keeper of the keys. She also taught the kids that the women ran the farms when husbands went "A Viking", raiding and exploring.

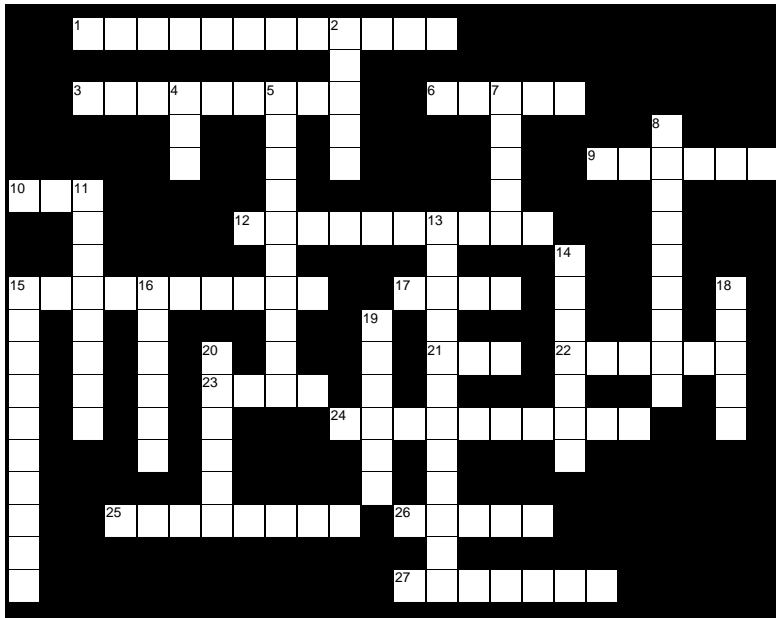
Wolf helped out with a display of how weapons may have been



Wolf and a student show off some Viking gear at West Bradford Elementary School.

Continued on page 7

All About the Norseman



Down

- 2 To secure a line, you fasten it to a _____
- 4 How many countries are represented on the shields?
- 5 The ship's manufacturers
- 7 There is a silhouette of a _____ on the sail
- 8 Norseman's birthplace
- 11 The Norseman also has a _____ (spell out) horsepower engine
- 13 In which city does the Norseman sail every October 9th?
- 14 The oars are patterned after those found with the _____ ship
- 15 The Norseman has sailed the _____ River the most often
- 16 Norseman's "ancestor"
- 18 One of the figurehead's eyes is red, the other is _____
- 19 To be a part of the crew, you have to be a _____ crewmember
- 20 The only non-Scandinavian flag represented on the shields

Across

- 1 The name of the shipyard where the Norseman is located off-season
- 3 The hull simulates a wood _____ construction
- 6 The Norseman is _____ feet long overall
- 9 The Norseman's maiden voyage was in _____ in 1992
- 10 How many oarsmen does it take to row the boat?
- 12 The figurehead is a _____ built by Marty Martinson
- 15 How is the Norseman steered?
- 17 The area where the mast sits when it's upright
- 21 The oars are made of _____ wood
- 22 The shape of the sail
- 23 The Norseman is a member vessel of the _____ (acronym)
- 24 The hull looks like wood, but is made of _____
- 25 In what state is the Norseman stored?
- 26 The sail has red and _____ stripes
- 27 The ship's weight of 5860 lbs includes 500 lbs. of steel _____

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a

Rune Scratchings

b

c

New Viking finds in the British Isles include the remains of an eighth century Viking, buried with his weapons and shield, unearthed in present-day downtown Dublin, Ireland.

site of Cedar City. The festival in the town of 22,000 people will include a “Smorgas-Luau”, with roast pig, pickled herring, and poi. (The town is also noted for a lighthouse, over 400 miles from the sea).

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The Viking is thought to have been an early raider who preceded the first Norse settlement of Dublin by some 50 years. Also found, in Northern Yorkshire, was a bronze Viking brooch from about 650 A. D., with four runic letters scratched on the back of the 6-inch cross-shaped brooch.

d

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g

b

The Orkney Islands, off the north coast of Scotland, were the home of Viking pirates in the early 9th century. By 875, Harald Fairhair of Norway subdued the pirates and annexed the Islands to Norway. The Orkneys, or “seal islands”, belonged to Norway for nearly 600 years until 1468. In that year, King Christian I of Denmark (and Norway) pawned the Islands to James III of Scotland as part of his daughter Margarethe's dowry. Since the King and his successors were never able to pay to redeem the Orkneys, they remained part of Scotland and, later, the British Crown. Old Norse, or “Norn” was spoken in the Islands through the 18th century, and many place names date to the Viking period.

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A Viking village known as “Vikingabyn” in Tofta on the island of Gotland, Sweden, has been named by a Swedish travel magazine as one of the ten best theme parks in Europe. Vikingabyn has joined the ranks of “Legoland” in Denmark, “Marineland” in France and others as places to visit in Europe. See www.vikingabyn.se for more information.

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A

On April 14-17 this year, the town of Cedar City, Utah, will have its Festival Royale of Himmelsk. Described as a Norse Mardi-Gras, the Festival of feasts, shows, and pageantry celebrates a fictional secret Norse kingdom that existed once upon a time in Cedar City.

c

l

m

All tongue in cheek, the festival was cooked up by Mayor Gerald Sherratt to boost tourism in Cedar City. A legend has been created of a Norse settlement originating from a Pacific Island carried by a tidal wave to the

From “The King's Mirror”, a Viking Guide to good business, ca. 1240:

n

o

“Guard your tongue carefully and know that this is a noble approach. For your tongue may do you honour or your tongue may condemn you. Even when you are angry, say little and speak nothing rashly. For if a man is not careful, he may speak in anger one little word that he would later be willing to pay gold never to have said.”

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"What kind of residuals did you get on the endorsement deal?"

Are you loopy for limpa? Kooky for Koettbullar? Send us your favorite recipes!

We would like to collect your favorite Scandinavian recipes — from beverages to desserts, and everything in between. Recipes will be posted in future editions of the *Norseman News*, and if we get enough of a variety, there might even be a LEVS Cookbook added to the catalog in the near future.

If you would like to share your recipes, please contact Karen Johnson via email at kasj@comcast.net (please put "LEVS Recipes" in the subject line) or mail your recipes to Leif Ericson Viking Ship; 4919 Township Line Road #303; Drexel Hill, PA 19026-5017. Please include your name, city and state (or country) for proper recognition.

West Bradford Invasion!

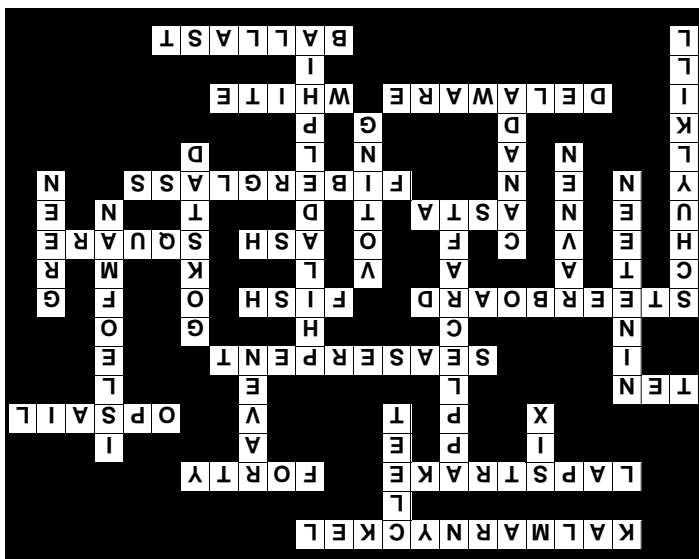
Continued from page 5

used and the damage they could do. He added a few of his own stories on Viking history and helped pass the artifacts around to the students.

As always, there was a question and answer time, and that started five minutes into the program. The students showed a great deal of interest in the weapons and wars. Marlyse, Steven and Wolf were also asked such questions as: where the Vikings went when they explored and traded; how hard life was for someone their age and what type of work they did; and where the Vikings went to the bathroom and if they bathed.

At the end of the "living history" event, Wolf was asked to give a "toot" on his cow horn to signal the end of class. The students didn't want to end this class because they were having so much fun! Alas, sooner or later, all good things have to come to an end. But now the students know more about the Vikings: who they were, where and how they lived, and most importantly, that five hundred years before Columbus sailed from Spain, Leif Ericson and his followers had established a colony in North America.

- Wolf Sutton



Answer key to crossword puzzle on page 5

Win Free Travel on Icelandair!

LEVS will be hosting a raffle this year for a pair of tickets on Icelandair.

Ask a crewmember for more details at any upcoming event, or contact LEVS at info@vikingship.org.

Looking Ahead: 2004 Events & Projects

February

21st **Work Party**

March

13th & 27th **Work Parties**

April

10th **Work Party**

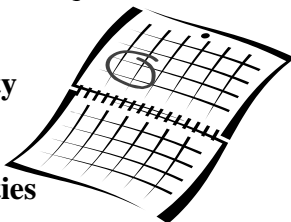
17th & 18th Viking Festival in Waco, Texas
(Details to come)

24th **Viking Legacy Symposium**
(See inside for details!)

May

29th & 30th Viking Festival in Ashville, Ohio
(Details to come)

* Work parties might be used as training days.
Items in **bold** are confirmed.



Viking Symposium Quick Facts

Date:April 24, 2003

Registration Deadline:April 12, 2004

Time:Symposium: 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Reception (incl. in cost): 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Cost:\$50 per person,
\$40 for sponsors' members & students with ID

Location:Independence Seaport Museum
(Reception at ASHM)

Lodging:Sheraton Society Hill, 215.238.6000
RSVP by 4/2 under "Viking Legacy Group"

Directions:

Take I-95 (from North or South) to Exit #20 marked either: Historic Area, Penn's Landing, Columbus Blvd, or Washington Ave. At the traffic light turn left onto Columbus Blvd./Delaware Ave. Drive approx. one mile. Immediately after the Hyatt Regency Hotel on your right at the light, there is a driveway under the Walnut St. Pedestrian Bridge. Turn right into the Penn's Landing Parking Lot. The parking lot is in front of the Museum. Parking is also available at several attended lots along Penn's Landing.

For information about the symposium, contact LEVS via email at info@vikingship.org.

Norseman News

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Spring, 2004 Edition!