

## **WAS President's Letter**



Well campers, spring is here and flight has been experienced, then there's the rain and snow that our friend & foe Mother Nature teases us with. Such is life

at this time of year for aeronauts. The Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival has opened their spring gala. I look forward to joining the tradition.

On April 19th we have a club meeting then, Cory Miller's Pacific Northwest safety Seminar on the 26<sup>th</sup>. That's different from Terri Bryan's Pacific Northwest safety seminar in Phoenix, Oregon of last month. I attended and agreed to join in a power drive to the Yamhill area for some flight time the next morning, courtesy of Koh. It's good to be current for Walla Walla.

Speaking of Walla Walla, it seems that the plans for a "back to the future tour" for our favorite opening day event are going pretty well. Scott & Laurie have certainly stepped up to make the fortieth year memorable for multiple reasons. The fairgrounds are out of the equation and we're a bit less of an event than years past. Yet we are again invited to put on a show and I hear that the local residents have pitched in and are happy to keep the tradition alive. Walla Walla is a special community that I'm pleased to visit every year.

On a sadder note, with Bill Dewhurst's passing, we've lost another member of our community. Bill brought a special enthusiasm to his tasks and had fun with people. I'm pleased to call him a friend. May we

all keep his memory in a comfortable place within our hearts.

To close: I hope to see balloons in the air and join them in the hope and glory of spring flying where our part of the world displays so many shades of fresh green and flowers. Spring is a season of moving forward

to better times and a boost to the soul sharing it with our natural world and good friends.

Gentle breezes, clear skies and dry spots big enough in which to land.

Tim Gale



## **2014 WAS Officers**

**President**Tim Gale

Secretary / Treasurer Leslie Berning

Newsletter Editor Shari Gale

**Activities** Directors

Pasha & Justin Luber

Vice President Koh Murai

**Community Relations Jim Smith** 

**Past President** Mark Trujillo

FAA Liaison

Mark Trujillo & Jim Smith

## Secretary/Treasurer's Report

### Willamette Aerostat Society General Meeting Minutes Saturday, March 15, 2014; 10:00am SLE FAO

#### In attendance:

Tim Gale, President; Koh Murai, Vice President; Leslie Berning, Secretary, Treasurer; 16 WAS members, and one guest.

10:08 call to order by Tim G

### **Minutes Approval**

February 2014 General Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously as published in March 2014 Aerostats by members present.

### Treasurer's report – Leslie B

\$1,607.31 balance as of 2/21/14

\$1,354.36 balance as of 3/15/2014 deposits from mem-

bership dues; debits for cards, chairs, labels, award

#### **Bill Dewhurst**

Tim talked about Bill's passing. Members shared remembrances of Bill. A card was circulated. Bill passed after a long battle with leukemia on March 9, 2014. A motion was made to donate \$100.00 from club funds to the Leukemia/Lymphoma Society. Passed unanimously.

### **Chairs and Meeting location** – Tim G

Tim had sent an email to WAS members asking where we should meet. Comments favored SLE. Votes were one off of even. It was noted that WAS members had this discussion some years ago.

As noted in the Treasurer report above, WAS now owns 12 folding chairs which will stay at SLE FAO unless needed at a WAS function (Christmas Party) or if we hold a general meeting elsewhere.

#### **Are You Ready For The Season?**

The group discussed things to do while we wait for good weather.

Clean-out the chase rig

Secure loose items in the trailer

Check vehicle condition - wheel bearings & tires, lights, etc

Critter issues – rabbits, mice, raccoons, etc

Review your briefing card / sheet

Safety Seminar

Crew lists

First aid kit & training

Get those gloves in order

Ropes & lines

Fire extinguishers

Is your basket clean, your envelope

Fan maintenance

Radio batteries

Accidents or incidents – none discussed

**Manufacturing issues** – none discussed National Ballooning in Iowa is getting back into business.

FAA Issues – none discussed

### **Events and Happenings**

- Phoenix, OR Seminar on 22 MAR / Terri Bryan
- Salem, OR Seminar on 26 APR / Cory Miller also on-line. Most in attendance at today's meeting indicated they plan to go.
- Walla Walla Balloon Stampede plans are coming along. There will be a night glow at the community college. Launches will be from Garrison School.
- Madras weekend after Walla Walla, before Memorial Day. Dale Justice is the contact person.
- Relay for Life night glow on 11 JUL. Contact Robert Prinslow if interested in participating in the glow.
- Albany Art and Air Festival there are a few slots open. The contact person is Chris Whitfield.

### **Fire Training**

A motion was made to explore options for fire extinguisher class and training exercise. Passed unanimously. Randy Fuehrer will contact the Tualatin Valley Fire Department about possible training; and if there could be a discount on fire extinguisher refills for those who used their own. Koh and Alan Sanderson may provide a cut away basket and other parts for the exercise.

### Good of the Order

Cheryl isaccs, Carmen Blakely and Dale Justice participated in Winthrop with "three good days of flying and beautiful afternoons." The snow was knee-deep, leading to some ingenious retrieval methods. We hope there are photos!

Bob and Marianne LeDoux are getting an enclosed trailer. The OPB *Oregon Field Guide* episode highlighting Bob and Maryann LeDoux, and Chris and Jennifer Whitfield aired. At a future meeting, the club hopes to offer CPR/First Aid training.

Next meeting: April 19<sup>th</sup> @1000 in SLE FBO 11:28 Adjourned

Submitted by
Leslie Berning
2014 WAS Secretary/Treasurer



### **April 2014**

The entire month of April Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival March 28 - May 4 Woodburn, Oregon www.woodenshoe.com See information on page 6

April 26
Pacific Northwest Safety Seminar
Salem, OR

Organizer: Cory Miller 503-510-1215

### May 2014

May 8 - 11 40th Annual Walla Walla Balloon Stampede Walla Walla, WA

Contact: Scott Spencer www.lighterthanairamerica.com

### **June 2014**

June 20 - 22 Festival of Balloons in Tigard Tigard, OR

Contact: info@tigardballoon.org 503-612-8213

July 18 - 20

**Balloons Over Bend** 

Bend, OR

**July 2014** 

Contact: Lay It Out Events

541-323-0964

### August 2014

August 16 - 17 Loose GooseVI McMinnville, OR Contact: Laura Hancock, dayshancock@aol.com

August 22 - 24 Wah Chang NW Art & Air Festival

Albany, OR

Contact: Chris Whitfield

541-791-3830

August 27 - 31
Spirit of Boise Balloon Classic

Boise, ID

Organizer: Scott Spencer Event is by invitation only

### September 2014

**September 5 - 7 The Great Reno Balloon Race** 

Reno, NV

Contact: Dixie Craig, 775-826-1181 e-mail: admin@renoballoon.com http://www.renoballoon.com



\ \ I I	
Sandy Grove	4/8
Mike Layman	4/14
Alan Brandt	4/19
Carol Whitney	4/20
Janna Ingram	4/25
Bob LeDoux	4/25



### **Send off for Bob Gilmore**

by Mike Layman

A Celebration Of Life for Robert E. Gilmore took place on Saturday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of March at Scharbach's Columbia Funeral Chapel in Quincy, Washington. Bob Gilmore, a well known and accomplished balloonist, passed away on January 23, after having suffered a heart attack.

The celebration was attended by several hundred people, including many balloonists and included Military Honors for the Desert Storm veteran. Bob is survived by his wife, Theresa, and two adopted daughters, Susan and Samatha.

You can view Bob's obituary at the following link: <a href="http://www.obitsforlife.com/obituary/842812/Gilmore-Robert-Bob.php">http://www.obitsforlife.com/obituary/842812/Gilmore-Robert-Bob.php</a>



This photo of Bob was taken in 2012. He barbecued a whole pig for the pilot check-in party during the Quincy, WA rally.

Photo by Shari Gale

## A Passionate WAS Supporter Gone Much Too Soon

by Shari Gale

WAS member Bill Dewhurst lost his long battle with leukemia on March 9<sup>th</sup>. Bill had many, many friends in the ballooning community, but we are only a tip of the iceberg. Bill touched many lives during his lifetime. Read his obituary in the Bend Bulletin to get an idea of the impact Bill had on those around him.

Bill loved ballooning, and he did what he could to support the Willamette Aerostat Society. He created the current format of this newsletter while he was the editor, a position he held for several years. Bill, also, created the original WAS web site. When the new web site needed to be built from the ground up, he helped Shari Gale with all the technical aspects even though he was an outpatient at Oregon Health & Science University's cancer center. He truly had a giving spirit.

Bill will be missed. A Celebration of Bill's Life will be held at The Spiritual Awareness Community in Bend, Oregon on April 12, 2014 from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. All are welcome.

You can view Bill's obituary at the following link: <a href="http://www.bendbulletin.com/obituaries/1934724-151/bill-dewhurst">http://www.bendbulletin.com/obituaries/1934724-151/bill-dewhurst</a>



Bill was always ready and willing to crew for any balloonist. This photo was taken in 2012 during the Balloons Over Bend rally. Bill flew in Checkmate that morning. It sadly turned out to be his last flight.

Photo by Shari Gale

Wooden Shoe Tulip Festival

March 28 - May 4, 2014
Festival information: <a href="https://www.woodenshoe.com">www.woodenshoe.com</a>

Again this year the Iversons welcome balloonists to come participate in their annual Tulip Festival. We are welcome to launch from their fields, all they ask in return is that we respect their property.

### **Balloonist's behavior:**

- Don't drive into the fields if they are wet or damp. Leaving ruts or crushing new grass is not good behavior. There is room in the parking lot to back rigs/ trailers up to the edge of the field to unload.
- Drive carefully. Foot traffic is everywhere (especially when you return). Drive slow and give way to foot and vehicle traffic.
- Serving alcohol is discouraged. If you include alcohol in your post flight routine, do it discretely and avoid calling attention to your party.
- Carry out what you bring in (especially alcohol bottles). Trash barrels provided by the farm are for their customers, not our trash.

### **Launch Fields:**

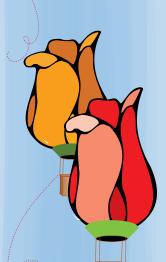
This year the Iversons would like us to use the field south of the tulip field. Another choice would be the field to the northwest. Please do NOT use the field west of the tulips. If in doubt ask one of the workers.

### **General:**

- Come out and participate in this year's non-sponsored event. Fly when you want each day of the event.
- Be responsible for all costs. Obey all flight regulations; there is no waiver for these flights.
- W.A.S. is posting this notice as a courtesy to its members and is not acting as a sponsor of these flights in any way directly or implied.















## Winthrop Balloon Roundup

Continued from page 5



Oregon was well represented in Win-throp this year. Left to right, Dale, Steve, Mary, Bales, Carmen, Jodi, Cheryl, Jon and Michael.



# Pacific Northwest Safety Seminar Talent, Oregon edition by Shari Gale

Tim and I traveled down to the Medford/Talent area to attend a safety seminar organized by Terri Bryan. We'd heard good things about this seminar. We weren't disappointed.

Our own Mark Trujillo gave an excellent presentation on Flight Planning. He got everyone involved in breakout groups. Tim made a presentation on Aeronautical Decision Making. He's been working on a presentation for the FAA's web site, and this was his first run through. It was well received.

Two things stood out in my mind. The first was a piece of advice Terri had for everyone when dealing with waivers. Do NOT print the waivers back-to-back with something else, like a pre-flight checklist. If there is an accident and it goes to court there can be complications with a double-sided document. If the opposing lawyers get the checklist thrown out of court, the waiver on the other side will go out also. There goes your

case! Up until I heard this statement, I was ready to change the way we print out our waivers. Now, I won't!

Another presentation that really stood out was one called "Aviation Dancing in Flight" by John Barnes. John was down in Lake Havasu crewing for Terri last January. The balloons fly over the lake. Usually the pilots can catch a wind that takes them back to shore, but if they can't there are boats out on the lake set up for towing. The boat owners have all gone through training, so they know what to do. They fly a yellow flag to designate they have had the training.

A boat owner flying a yellow flag was towing Terri to shore when her towline became tangled with a line towing another balloon. A gust of wind came up at that moment. In fact, the sudden gust may be the reason the lines got tangled. The result was memorable, even though no damage was done to either balloon.

You can see the end of the episode on a YouTube video here: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zc-vm0zlh8s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zc-vm0zlh8s</a>

The video does not show the beginning of the "dance," but it shows the end. The educational section is within the first minute of the video, after that you get to watch pretty pictures and listen to music. (Instead of the other pilot shouting, "Let go! Let go!" to his tow boat operators.) Be sure to watch the video. You'll see that balloons, tow straps and boats can be an "interesting date."

It was a long drive down to Medford, but we added a little fun to the drive by meeting part way down with Dale Justice, Mary Heath and Randy Fuehrer for dinner. We had dinner with them on the way home at the same restaurant, as well as Mark and Kris Trujillo. It's always fun to have some socializing along with the education.

To the Members of the Willamette Aerostat Society:

I am a Portland based photographer and Professor of Photography at Oregon State University embarking on a new photography series. As part of this work I will be capturing majestic landscapes.

The series I am creating deals with Corrections Officers at incarceration facilities throughout Oregon. Whatever your beliefs about the justice system, these officers are generally unseen by the public and endure tremendous amounts of stress. My photography project aims to offer an opportunity for a strong sense of pride to the Officers and this project could have a strong, positive impact. To that aim, I will be photographing landscapes throughout the state in addition to the portraits.

Having had the experience of photographing from a hot air balloon once in my past, I believe this would be the ideal way to complement the portraits of the Officers.

I would love the opportunity to make these photographs and provide any pilots with photographs for websites and other promotional or recreational uses. Additionally, my partner and I would be happy to create portraits before, during and after any flights.

Are you interested in working together? Do you know other pilots who might take interest in this type of collaboration?

Anyone working with me will be listed in all of my promotional materials and in the exhibitions that will be held in communities around the state where I will be photographing the Officers.

If you'd like to have a conversation in person or over the phone that would be great. I can be reached at (917) 589-9767 or lorenzo@lorenzotriburgo.com

My sincerest thanks, Lorenzo



## Alan Sanderson Pilot of the Mariposa By his loyal crew (really Gen)

Our Pilot, our leader, is wise, calm, and fair
After years of crewing these things we do declare

He has a reluctance to use a CB Mind readers we are expected to be

He never gives us a a single clue
What he expects his crew to do.

We watch him float for an hour or so Wondering where he might possibly go

We follow the balloon the best we can Without a hint of the pilot's plan

Radio silence is suddenly broken Our pilots first words are finally spoken.

In tones distinct, concise and true "I have landed, where the hell are you?"

## **FAR** out

### by Stephen Blucher, reprinted from The Tetherlines, newsletter of the Ballooning Society of Pikes Peak

Must a pilot have a copy of the Federal Air Regulations? The answer is no. If one has the knowledge of the FARs, there is none that dictates owning a hard copy or even knowing where to find them on the Internet. But, who can say they can comply totally with, for example, FAR 91.155 without having the reference available?

As time is spent in safety seminars hearing about the FAA Wings program, we learn that if a pilot partakes, it will substitute for a Flight Review (24 calendar months). There are other ways to "by-pass" the review listed in the regs.

Pilots who wish to keep their skills extra sharp, especially after months of inactivity, may want to participate in the Wings program. It can be completed yearly or every two to keep up with 61.56. The regulation accepts "one hour of air training"

and one hour of ground training". The Wings program includes two hours in the air.

Does a pilot have to comply with the rule concerning three takeoffs and three landings every 90 days? No...bet that got some attention... only if he or she wants to fly the aircraft with passengers on board.

In another article we discussed interpretation of the rules. In certain situations a pilot must bring the aircraft to a full stop with each landing. Does that apply to a hot air balloon? One FAA representative thought so.

What about night-time tethered flights? When IS "nighttime"? How must recent flight experience show in your logbook? And let us not even get into lights at night because it changes...nighttime that is and is the subject of a totally different discussion.

At the beginning of this column

the question was asked if all pilots should have a copy of the FARs. This writer can see no reason for NOT having one. However, some pilots do not feel the need to buy a new issue each year as the rules that most concern aeronauts do not change... that often. That becomes the pilot's choice.

Did you ever notice most FARs are odd numbered...61.113, 91.103, 91.155 and so on? That is because the FAA wants space to add new regulations from time to time. Depending on how it is interpreted, it may conflict with an existing FAR. Isn't that special? Research is being done.

In any event, in this writer/pilot's opinion, one can never have too much reference material.

Flying season is here, be safe and have a happy flight.

### Salem's Safety Seminar Information

Pacific NW Safety Seminar? It will be held in Salem, Oregon. Seminar organizer, Cory Miller, will also be opening up the registration for online viewing of this seminar. He will be running a chat room for comments and questions to be asked as well as have an email address to send all of the questions to during the seminar. Please note that this is *not* the BFA online seminar as that is another seminar.

### **Pricing is set as follows:**

1 Pilot physically attending-\$45.00

2 Pilots physically attending-\$75.00

2 Pilots and 1 crew member-\$100.00

1 Crew Member- \$35.00

1 person viewing online- \$40.00

### **Speakers and topics include:**

- Gordon Schwontkowski- Crewing, and Accidents
- Andy Baird- Pilot Decision Making, and Making yourself a better

pilot through competition

- Kathy Smith-Tethering
- Brad Temeyer- Weather
- Portland FAA Office- FAR's
- Maintenance
- Cory Miller- Powerlines Step potential

This seminar has received BFA sanctioning for both the physical and online webcast.

It will begin at 7:30 a.m. Pacific Time and go to 5:00 p.m.

To register go to <a href="http://jotform.co/">http://jotform.co/</a> form/33125273931854

### **Pre-Flight Check Lists**

The topic of discussion at the February WAS meeting was pre-flight check lists. Many members sent in their list. The first three check lists were printed in the February newsletter, here are three more. This first one is by Alan Sanderson and his crew chief, Alan Brandt.

## PASSENGER AND CREW PREFLIGHT BRIEFING GROUND OPERATIONS

- 1. Do not smoke in or near the aircraft. PROPANE CAN BURN OR EXPLODE.
- 2. Wear gloves when handling the balloon equipment.
- 3. Do not step on the balloon fabric.
- 4. Tarps can be slippery and the ground can be uneven. Walk carefully.
- 5. Stay clear of inflator fan. Long hair and hoodie or jacket cords can be pulled into the fan. Face away from the fan.
- 6. Do not wrap ropes around any part of your body.
- 7. Keep all body parts outside of cables or top webbing.
- 8. Do not stand or let anyone else stand between the truck and the basket. You could be crushed when the basket stands up.
- 9. Keep toes clear of the bottom of the basket.
- 10. Never get in front of a moving basket.
- 11. Enter the basket carefully. Hold onto uprights, do not touch fuel hoses.

### **FLIGHT OPERATIONS**

- 1. Follow the pilot's instructions. They are for your safety.
- 2. Keep all parts of your body inside the basket.
- 3. Please point out any power lines, antennas, nearby balloons, or other obstacles in our path.
- 4. Do not exit the basket until the pilot tells you it is OK. Your weight helps keep the aircraft under control.
- 5. Do not touch any fuel lines (black) or vent lines (red, green, white, or white/blue).
- 6. Landings may include hard, fast, rough impact with the ground that can result in serious injury.
- 7. Hold on to rope handles below the top edge of the basket and keep knees away from fuel cylinders when instructed in preparation for landing.

## **Pre-Fl**

not exit basket until instructed by pilot.

## **Pre-Flight Check Lists, continued**

## **Balloon Chase Checklist & Tips**

### From Jeff Kessenich

- Keys in the truck (not in the pilot's pocket)
- Black Motorola Radio under dash on; Set to Channel 1
- Spare handheld radio in truck; Set to Channel 1
  - o For use if you need to leave the truck
  - Remember to turn it on when leaving the truck
  - o "Prairie Sun chase to balloon"..."Prairie Sun balloon to chase"
  - o If you hear "beep...beep" battery is low
- Take C-clamp off back hitch; put clamp and rope in toolbox
- Tarps in toolbox
- Fan back in trailer secure with strap to the 2 eyelets next to the helium tank.
- Close trailer tailgate pins in to lock in place
- Toolbox latched hang onto the lock
- Check trailer for loose items people set on it
- Drive slowly over the grass avoid sprinklers
- One person drive the other spot the balloon and work the radio
- Try to keep even with the balloon along major roads
  - o If you stop, try not to get in situation if you have to back out
  - o If you do, remember steer the opposite direction you want the trailer to go
- If we lose communication, stay close and look for hand signals
- Near landing, if pilot points to a spot on the ground he wants you there
  - o If you hear "dropline" pilot is planning to throw a line to the ground
  - o Stay clear until after it hits the ground
  - Then grab it and follow pilot's instructions
- Respect all property & attempt to contact landowner prior to the landing
  - Warn pilot if:
    - No-trespass sign
    - Landowner refuses landing permission
    - Locked gate, can't drive in
    - Animals out
  - Use your people skills to calm agitated landowner
  - o Radio the pilot and communicate the situation

Followed by Jeff's cell phone number in huge, bold type.

## 2014 WAS Membership Application

Name:		
Birthday: Month		
Address:		
City:	State: Zip:	O Poos
Date Submitted:		
Phone #: ()		
Cell Phone #: ()		
E-Mail Address:		
BFA Membership #:		
Pilot/Crew Achievement Aw	ards	
BFA Crew Level:	BFA Pilot Level:	
FAA Wings Level:	Other:	
Family Member Information		
Name:	Birthday: Month	Day JB □ Yes □ No
Name:	Birthday: Month	Day JB 🖵 Yes 🖵 No
	Birthday: Month	
Name:	Birthday: Month	Day JB 🗖 Yes 🗖 No
Name:	Birthday: Month	Day JB 🖵 Yes 🖵 No
Membership Type		
	dual (\$15) 📮 Family (\$20) 📮 Junior Bal	loonist (\$15 per JB)
	lloonists to the BFA Office. Be sure to include	•
Mamhayahiya		
Membership The MCHanatta Association of the Marketine Association of the M	land of later and an artist and an alternative	and the state of t
	dron publishes an annual membership director d communicates via e-mail and the website. V	
	ot wish personal information about you publish	
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	assumed it is OK to publish this data in our ar	nnual directory:
<ul><li>□ Do Not publish name</li><li>□ Do Not publish address</li></ul>		
☐ Do Not publish phone numl	ber	

Mail completed form with fees to:

Willamette Aerostat Society c/o Leslie Berning P. O. Box 3784 Salem, OR 97302

☐ *Do Not* publish cell phone number

□ Do Not publish e-mail□ Do Not publish birthday



## Willamette Aerostat Society

### **Willamette Aerostat Society Mission Statement**

- → To promote the sport of Hot Air Ballooning
- → To educate new balloonists and the public
- → To embody safety in all aspects of Ballooning
- → To do all we can to support and encourage land owner relations
- → To support our fellow balloonists and crews personally and in our sport

## To obtain Member Contact information, send an e-mail to the Secretary/Treasurer.

For Privacy reasons, *AeroStats* will not publish member contact information without their express permission.

### **Contact and Submissions**

Submissions of articles and photographs are encouraged and welcome! The editorial staff reserves the right to determine the suitability of a submission for inclusion in the newsletter.

Please email your pictures, articles, and comments to:

sharigaleOR@gmail.com

### **Advertising Policy**

Club member's ballooning related or event information is published on a space available basis at no charge.

Business Advertising by Club members is considered Commercial Advertising, subject to fees shown below.

Material must be submitted in computer word processing format with pictures in JPG format.

AeroStats reserves the right to decline publishing submitted information.

### **Commercial Advertisement Space Rates**

Ads will be published for 3 consecutive months, or until withdrawn, for the fee shown above.

The publishing of advertising in *AeroStats* does not imply an endorsement of the ad or its contents.

Text and images will be printed as submitted by advertisers.

### **Front Cover Photo:**

Wiinthrop Balloon Roundup, Winthrop, Washington. Photo by Dale Justice.

### Waiver

AeroStats is a monthly publication of the Willamette Aerostat Society.

WAS welcomes you to reprint material from this newsletter by individuals or balloon club organizations for their personal or organization use.
We ask that you credit WAS, AeroStats and the author in any reuse of newsletter material.

Comercial use of material
(articles or images)
for any reason is prohibited
without the express
written consent
from the
Willamette Aerostat Society.

Material to be considered for publication should be mailed or e-mailed to the Newsletter Editor at sharigaleOR@gmail.com

Publication deadline is the 2nd Saturday of each month.

AeroStats reserves the right to deny publication of submitted material for any reason.

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of an event.
Nor does it imply agreement with
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