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Editorial for the Communicator must reach the Editor on or before the third Thursday of the month for inclusion in that month's issue. Any and all articles are welcome, however the editors reserve the right to vet suitability for publication.

To submit articles, items for publication, letters to the editor or to ask questions of our technical writers, please address all correspondence to The Editor at the address shown on the front cover or via email to [phil48@adam.com.au](mailto:phil48@adam.com.au). If you know of anyone who wants to advertise in the Communicator, space and charges are available on request, speak to a committee member for more information.

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### **Meeting dates.**

*ACRM SA Inc. meetings are on the FOURTH TUESDAY of each month.*

ACRM SA Inc. August's meeting will be the 23rd at 20:00 Hrs.

September's meeting will be on the 27th.

*Gawler/Barossa general meetings are on the THIRD TUESDAY of each month.*

Next meeting will be September 20th 2011.

## *PRESSIE'S PRATTLE; Phil 48:*

I was hoping a few members would write in with their 'counts of the 24 this year and save me the trouble but alas 'twas not to be. Thus, a small ramble from me would seem fitting, even if only to thank a few people and perhaps iterate what Nev228 said last month and that is to urge all monitors to introduce some new blood into the organisation.

John 232, came out of retirement, as it were, and did his 30<sup>th</sup> 24Hr, something only equalled by Chris and myself, he also celebrated 21 years working with the same controllers (Atajara) this year and has always spoken highly of the comradeship and cooperation he has been afforded. There have been a few similar liaisons over the years and one that comes to mind is Derek 40 and the BMW team. Dick 21 and the Ulyses MCC also forged a good working relationship. Unfortunately, you can count on one hand the number of controllers who took to ACRM and accepted us. I have to accept that in the early days some of our members were a bit brusque and attitude goes a long way to acceptance.

### *What a stuff-up!*

I wouldn't have thought it possible for so many things to go wrong at the same time and the worst part about it is that it was entirely my fault. Here is how it all panned out. Chris got a phone call from Lynton from Gawler asking if we could assist at the ROSA trial on August the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Being our only weekend off in ten, I should have seen the writing on the wall but no; I said we would do it (mainly because it was close and only one day). Now what could go wrong with that you may ask, well you are about to find out. The repeater allocated to Mt Gawler was what I call Gawler Repeater 3 and is fitted to all our radios, or so I thought. Fortunately I carry spares that I never expect to need. Radio 1 is an Electraphone 3800 fitted permanently in the vehicle, which as it turned out had the wrong frequencies programmed into it. I'd never needed to use that channel before so it was untested. Radio two was a hand held which could be hooked up to an antenna so on it went, dialled up the channel and voila, there were the dulcet tones of the operator at base and the occasional word from the repeater location. By now we had heard that we were being sought as SOS Alpha was the only control that hadn't called in so we frantically tried to call base to let them know we were there but no answer, a quick check revealed that the TX frequency was wrong and it was now panic time so in the rush I dug out radio three, an Icom Pro 400 that I was fairly certain I had programmed correctly, and immediately began to hook it up. Got the polarity wrong didn't I and a fuse went, big deal, change polarity, throw in another fuse and all should be okay. Bummer the reason the fuse went

was because the reverse polarity protection diode in the radio had blown and was now a dead short so every new fuse blew. I can fix that, just remove the diode and make sure the polarity is correct for there is nothing to protect the radio with no diode. I opened the back on the Icom to find the back of the board and the diode is hidden underneath, now what? With Base still frantically calling for SOS Alpha I hooked up my Little Ripper 12 volt soldering iron and heated the pins on the diode until I could push them out through the board, dropping the diode into the cavity on the other side. After a little pushing a test with my multi meter showed the short had gone so I hurriedly connected the power and antenna up and we finally made contact with base, much to everyone's delight. Some 5 hours later we were home sipping on a coffee wondering what all the fuss was about. The next day I did a proper repair on the poor old Icom and spent hours reprogramming all our radios so that, with a bit of luck, we won't have to go through that again. Now the ironic bit, I also had a radio four, another small hand held but the paperwork mentioned 25 watt mobile as suitable for the location so didn't even try it until the show was over and bugger me – not a problem. The moral, never assume, it will always make an *ass* out of *u* and *me*. Under normal circumstances I would have had my lap-top with me and could have reprogrammed the offending channels there and then but I was only doing a control for a change and left the unwanted bits home.

### ***RALLY ROUND-UP; Nev 228:***

Okay, so the bike events are out of the way for this year but a few endurance rides still await our services, including the Quilty at the end of September. The next ride is Starkey's two on 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> Aug and we have been advised that G B Div may need assistance with a couple of events later. One, Mannum Bikes, is on the weekend of 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> and clashes with the Bute Ride so be prepared to put your hand up for one or the other if asked.

### ***TREASURE TROVE; Chris 49:***

Mallala is always the start of the Hamper Season so there was a bit of a rush to get the tickets ready for the 13th. Luckily the only things that change each year are the dates, draw night and current year so Phil was able to get them done in time. The support last year was fantastic and the club even managed to boost the coffers a bit so please put your all into it again this year. The Xmas Hamper is valued at \$250 and includes enough food to have a complete cold, Xmas dinner. There are 1000 tickets valued at \$1 ea so contact me on 8522 6081 or Denise 350 on 8252 5229.

*What you do when it's quiet? Phil 48.*

Long before computers, I, like others, used to make notes for any articles that might be relevant to an event and rely on memory to hand write an article, which was then sent off to our editor or typist to have the words put on paper. Now I just switch from the event programme to Word and start typing. This is sort of how it unfolded at Monarto.

Well, here I am, all set up, nothing to do and waiting for something to happen, even if it is only a call to say a checkpoint has seen horses so I can enter it on the computer. Instead I'm writing this drivel. The ride is the Monarto Back 2 Back and this is day 1 of 2 so I have all day tomorrow to look forward to the same thing. The ride is a 160 K consisting of an 80 each day (Sat & Sun) but – yep there is always a but, with a grand total of 6 horses entering in the 160, It didn't take long for the controls to clear. Nev 228 went over to Andrew 11's control, which was a little more active as it was on the second leg and Dick 21 came into Main to assist with riders coming home and going out again. The preparation leading up to this event was to say the least, frenetic. The preparation during the week leading up to Monarto shared the same space as producing and printing the Communicator so the candle was burned at both ends somewhat, thus Friday night was a welcome early to bed, at about 8:30pm.

Just as an aside, one day while packing the van Chris noticed water in it so we dried everything and searched for the offending rain's entry point. With nothing obvious we could only hope it wasn't serious but within a week everything was saturated again and water appeared to be getting into an aluminium extrusion that the pop top is anchored to and then finding its way into the van depending on what angle the van was parked at. In this case the front was lower than normal so it was the front curtains and seating that copped the deluge. Fortunately I found 10 minutes on Thursday to take everything out to start it drying and then sometime Friday, whilst packing, I found about 40 pop-rivets around the top edge that had been previously covered with a white compound that had gone hard and was lifting from the aluminium. I have now removed the old, cleaned each one and re-sealed it with silicone. The next decent rain will paint a picture of success or failure and by the way it is starting to rain now, I reckon I will know by morning. Guess what?? Not a drop of H2O, repair 1, leaks nil.

'Smee again but I'm at Starkey's now, it is Sunday morning on the 7<sup>th</sup> Aug, there is an annoying drizzle happening out side and Chris is out in it down at the start line seeing off the nineteen 80k riders. My excitement so far has been stoking the generator into life, which is how I know about the annoying drizzle, and writing this drivel. Nev 228 has called in to say his checkpoint (Check 1) is set up and ready.

Checkpoint 1 called his first two horses through at 6:55 and for the next 40 minutes the last 17 went through. If they continue to ride at about the same pace the first horse should be back here at Ride base at 7:05.

Ahh... Predictions, either hit-and-miss, like a weather forecast or fairly spot-on like my ETA's for the first riders. The first two riders were over the line at 7:06am – mind you if the course conditions had been different on the second part of the leg my predicted times may well have been a weather forecast.

A quizzle; What's worse than no info?

Answer: wrong info and thanks go to Dick 21 for standing in at the last moment and covering a control we never knew about until Saturday morning. From the info we got we had him come in for a 0900 hrs set up but in reality it was closer to 1100 hrs when he saw horses. Thus he had a bit of a wait, however he took it in his stride and got us out of the poop nicely, thanks Dick. I hope you can join us again on the weekend of the 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> when it all happens again.

Upon arrival Saturday 'arvo, we were keen to get set up so we could shoot out and put the repeater up. After a bit of to and fro-ing twixt us and the officials we settled on a spot near the SAERA van (close to Start finish) so Nev & I went off to place the repeater in the spot we have used in the past. Now for some interesting geography lessons in topography, it turns out that the new Start line is about 458 Metres high and the spot we used before is 435 so after driving around in a circle we ended up back at camp and erected the tower within 30 metres of us. Communications were excellent and provided us with another location worth remembering. The site turned out good for visibility too but next time they want us on the opposite side of the road. We had one wee debacle that involved me putting the generator about 25 metres away so noise would be at a minimum but it meant the extension lead was across the ground, for a short while anyway because when Boss lady returned it was deemed unsuitable and the genny was stuck under my van, now do you reckon that wasn't noisy, even with the exhaust extension fitted and aiming up into the air?

At the end of the shindig we decided it would be better if we set up on the other side of the road next time.

## *What the!!! Phil 48*

I mentioned a month ago that Adrian 423 got stuck with a call via Triple-Zero to S A Ambulance at Robby because for some reason the first aid people, in that case EMT weren't able to organise it, well, at Mallala with St John and a SA Ambulance present, Chris got told the same thing. Now I'm sorry but we were left dumfounded at that because we had received a call from the Chief Steward, who had assessed a situation where a rider was experiencing symptoms of chest pains and possible heart attack so he requested an ambulance to the scene. Chris went over to the St. John Caravan and requested just that, she was met with "you will have to ring 000". With thoughts going through her head of "What the hell are you lot here for – if we are the ones who have to ring for an ambulance?" she came back to the van and relayed the story to me. I was getting my phone out to ring when one of the bit higher up the ladder in command at St. Johns came to the caravan to get more info, he must have figured out that the uniform he wore said St Johns and that maybe he should do something, whatever the reason, he did take the info and handle the call. Apart from first-aid personnel around the course, a four-wheel drive and first response vehicle there was already an ambulance at the ride. Maybe these ambos need to look at some pictures of ambulances and learn what they look like so they can study up on what they are for.

I'm sorry if this sounds a bit harsh but it seems that the purpose for St. Johns at these meetings has been forgotten and it is alarmingly clear that tragedy will be the end result. I don't mind telling you, I wasn't looking forward to making that 000 call, the Robby fiasco with 423 and his call to 000 was all too clear in my head and I'm afraid I would have lost it if I got the questions Adrian so politely answered. Can you imagine what you would do if confronted with a dopey question like, "Is the person still trapped in the vehicle?" and that was immediately after you explained that the rider had been thrown off a motor cycle. I commented to others at the time that things have changed. When we were taking calls from motorists or the general public via CB, we as monitors, gave our name and ACRM call sign to the operator and explained the situation without question.

Luckily this rider is okay, despite early reports of suspected angina, the person had really had a heart attack requiring a stent to be fitted in hospital.

Now I know this is a big what if but consider this. Firstly what if the Steward had not called for an ambulance and/or secondly the ambulance wasn't forthcoming. Hence the title "What the." You can imagine the rest but it is something like what Chris really said when she came back to the caravan after being told to call Triple Oh. Why Oh? Maybe its "Oh" my God, here we go again.

If this is going to be a pattern then a code word or some other authorisation needs to be worked out to allow the operator to know that the call is genuine and get the help on the way in seconds – not minutes. It used to be identify yourself, explain the situation and provide an address. An alternative is to have someone at SA Ambulance on a normal phone number who can be reached to bypass the Triple Oh bullshit. I'm sure the cost of a call is cheaper than a life.

## MALLALA (Theo Nixon 2011) by Phil 48



This is a novel idea to let competitors know where the ACRM Guy is.

Gordon 69 placed his safety vest around a tripod and put a fluoro in it so the night lap looked quite spectacular. He also provided a fairly accurate photo of a Pit-stop.



Thanks for the pix 69, it sure helps fill a page. Gordon said thanks for the easy control at Mallala, it lived up to its name, *Stretch Out*, so stretch out he did.

Meanwhile, back at main, things were

anything but stretched out, in fact we had a busy initiation to the new venue. As one would expect, uncharted ground, would be fraught with its own problems and although minor, meant a bit of stuffing around to get set up. Communications were okay from an antenna on a pole but hand-helds at main proved to be useless unless you were in just the right spot, strangely enough this improved towards evening. The new place has a million big steel sheds all acting as radio-wave absorbers. A few controls had no reception without a high antenna but most accessed the repeater at Cleland okay and many controls got away with hand-helds too. We serviced the repeater at Cleland about 3 years ago but unlike Ch3 Rep 1, which is only used when needed, Ch 4 is on continuously. It may have to come out again for another service OR we look at another location for the repeater when we do Mallala. From previous experience, that is not an easy option. I remember one year we were given directions to the hill the Trig point was on and were assured it was the highest in the area. It turned out to be about 10 metres above sea level and useless. Needless to say a rethink is needed. Because the area is so flat we have done the whole course simplex in the past but the old problem of doubling up occurred because not all controls could hear the others.

LAST MONTH'S  
CROSSWORD ANSWERS

1	P	A	C	K	3	B	A	R	5	N	A	C	L	7	E
R		Y		8	I		P		O		R		A		
9	I	N	S	E	N	S	E		10	N	O	O	K	S	
M		L		S		X		F		U		Y			
11	A	N	E	S	T	H	E	T	I	S	T	S			
T				A		S		C		O		12	L		
13	E	M	14	A	I	L	S		15	S	T	A	N	Z	A
S		B		L		16	A		I					N	
	17	H	A	R	M	O	N	I	O	18	U	S	L	Y	
19	A		L		E		T		N		E		A		
20	C	L	O	W	N		21	L	E	A	R	N	E	R	
I		N		T		E		L		D		D			
22	D	R	E	S	S	E	R	S		23	I	S	I	S	

GREETINGS

Many Happy returns of the day for September go to: Jean 318 for the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Elaine 43 for the 10<sup>th</sup>, Karl 372 for the 12<sup>th</sup> and Phil 48 for the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Congratulations to you all.

A get well soon goes to Di 74, we wish you a speedy recovery. An Elaine update, she is out of hospital and doing well. She doubts being at the meeting on Tues and has put in an apology.

We all wish you a continued and speedy recovery.

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*For Sale:* Rear springs (new) to suit SWB Land Rover Series III. \$80 ea. Contact Lyall 190 on 8834 2137

Wanted to sell, buy or exchange ads are free to members. Please contact a committee member or send your ad to The Editor at the address on the cover or email it direct to ACRM c/- [phil48@adam.com.au](mailto:phil48@adam.com.au).

## *MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR INSANITY:*

*10 things to remember as you slide Down the Banister of Life in 2012.*

1. Jim Baker and Jimmy Swaggert have written an impressive new book. It's called *'Ministers are more than just Lay-Men'*
2. Transvestite: A guy who likes to eat, drink and be Mary..
3. The difference between the Pope and your boss, the Pope only expects you to kiss his ring.
4. My mind works like lightning, one brilliant Flash and it is gone.
5. The only time the world beats a path to your door is if you're in the bathroom.
6. I hate sex in the movies. Tried it once. The seat folded up, the drink spilled and that ice, well, it really chilled the mood.
7. It used to be only death and taxes, now of course, there's shipping and handling, too.
8. A husband is someone who, after taking the trash out, gives the impression that he just cleaned the whole house.
9. My next house will have no kitchen - just vending machines and a large trash can.
10. Definition of a teenager: *God's punishment...for enjoying sex.*

*As you slide down the banister of life, may the splinters never point the wrong way.*

*Finally. Be who you are and say what you feel – because those who matter don't mind – and those who mind...don't matter!*

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement centre were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says: “Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age. How do you feel?” Slim says, “I feel just like a newborn baby.” “Really Slim!? Like a newborn baby!?” “Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants.”

An elderly gentleman had serious hearing problems for a number of years. He went to the doctor and the doctor was able to have him fitted for a set of hearing aids that allowed the gentleman to hear 100% The elderly gentleman went back in a month to the doctor and the doctor said, 'Your hearing is perfect.. Your family must be really pleased that you can hear again.' The gentleman replied, 'Oh, I haven't told my family yet. I just sit around and listen to the conversations. I've changed my will three times!'

Minutes of the 334th Open Committee Meeting of ACRM SA  
Inc, held on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at Collinswood.

*Meeting Opened at 2003 hrs*

**President:-** Welcomed All

**Present:-** 141, 232, 44, 228, 350, 75, 48, 49.

**Visitors:-** Nil.

**Apologies:-** 233, 66, 64, 120, 370, 371, 372, 43, 21.

**Minutes of previous Meeting:-** Moved by 75 & Seconded by 232 that they be accepted as read. Carried.

**Matters Arising** Nil.

**Correspondence** In 11/21 to 11/24 Out 11/7

Moved 228 Sec 44 that correspondence be received. Carried.

**Reports:**

President:- We will use two repeaters at the Quilty, Central Belt's will be the other.

Diplexer is faulty, new one on order.

Two new repeaters received, appear quite good, will be ready for testing soon.

Both comply with new regulations.

Secretary:- Nothing to report

Treasurer:- Running Balance \$3019.24, Income 100.90 Out 1870.75

Rally Coordinator:- Almost forgotten but nothing to report.

Social Sec:- Bottle of wine for Dutch auction and hamper tickets will be ready next month.

Resources:- Reminded has items to sell. New badges (30 years of the 24) available next month.

**General Business:-** Nil

**Next Meeting 23<sup>rd</sup> August.**

**Meeting Closed 2025**



## *In the Kitchen with Chris 49*

Some more healthy recipes, the first was chosen and submitted by John 232. Almost healthy anyway as there is a bit of decadence chucked in for good measure. The cake started off as a conversation that I just had to follow up.

### **SPINACH & FETTA CHICKEN BREASTS.**

100g baby spinach leaves, wilted and coarsely chopped.

80g soft feta, crumbled

8 slices prosciutto

1 cup frozen peas

¼ cup milk

4 (about 800g) chicken breast fillets

4 Sebago potatoes, peeled coarsely chopped

½ cup sour cream.

2 tsp olive oil

Mix spinach and feta in a small bowl. Cut a small pocket in the side of each chicken breast. Spoon the spinach mixture into each pocket. Wrap 2 prosciutto slices around each chicken breast to enclose filling. Cook the potatoes in a large saucepan of boiling salted water for about 15 minutes or until tender. Add the peas and cook for 1 minute or until heated through. Drain well and return to pan. Use a potato masher or fork. Mash until smooth. Add sour cream and milk and stir to combine. Taste and season with salt and pepper.

Meanwhile, heat the oil in a large frying pan over medium high heat. Add chicken and cook for 4-5 minutes on each side or until golden brown and cooked through. Spoon mashed potato evenly among serving plates. Slice chicken and arrange on the potato and serve immediately. Serves 4.

*Phil used to make these but he hadn't heard the recipe exactly and used bacon instead of prosciutto. He also used grated cheese and the result was still great.*

### **GREEN TOMATO CAKE**

2 ¼ cups sugar

3 eggs

3 cups flour

1 tsp baking powder

½ tsp nutmeg.

1 cup raisins

coconut (optional)

1 cup vegetable oil or melted shortening

2 tsp vanilla

1 tsp salt

1 tsp cinnamon

1 cup pecans or walnuts

2 ½ cups diced green tomatoes

Method: -Preheat oven to 350°. In a mixing bowl, beat sugar, vegetable oil or shortening, eggs and vanilla until smooth and creamy. Sift together the flour, salt, baking powder, cinnamon and nutmeg; slowly beat into egg mixture. Blend well. Stir in pecans, raisins and tomatoes.

Pour into greased 9x13-inch pan. Top with coconut if desired. Bake for one hour, or until a wooden pick or cake tester inserted in the center comes out clean. Serves 12.

## HONEY PRAWN STIR-FRY

1 tblspn sesame seeds	1 ½ cups carrots
1 ½ cups snow peas	1 cup broccoli
½ cup shallots	400g peeled prawns
cooking spray	½ tsp crushed garlic (in jar)
½ tsp crushed ginger (in jar)	1 cup water
1 tsp reduced salt chicken style stock powder (Massel®)	
1 tsp soy sauce 43% less salt	2 tblspns cornflour
1/3 cup honey	

Method: - Toast sesame seeds under griller (be careful as they can burn quickly). When toasted leave to one side. Peel carrots then cut in half lengthways then slice at an angle. Cut snow peas in half on an angle. Slice shallots. Cut broccoli into small florets. To butterfly the raw peeled prawns (this makes the prawns more tender), using a sharp knife run the blade down the back of the prawns being careful not to cut all the way through, scrape out the vein. Rinse prawns. Coat a wok or non-stick frypan with cooking spray, sauté garlic and ginger for 30 seconds, add prawns and cook 2 to 4 minutes (depending on size) until just cooked. Remove prawns from wok, leave to one side. Re-heat wok, add ¼ cup of water, carrots and broccoli, cook for 2 minutes then add shallots and snow peas, cook for 2 minutes. Add stock powder and soy sauce. Combine cornflour with remaining water then add to wok. Add honey, sesame seeds and prawns, combine well.

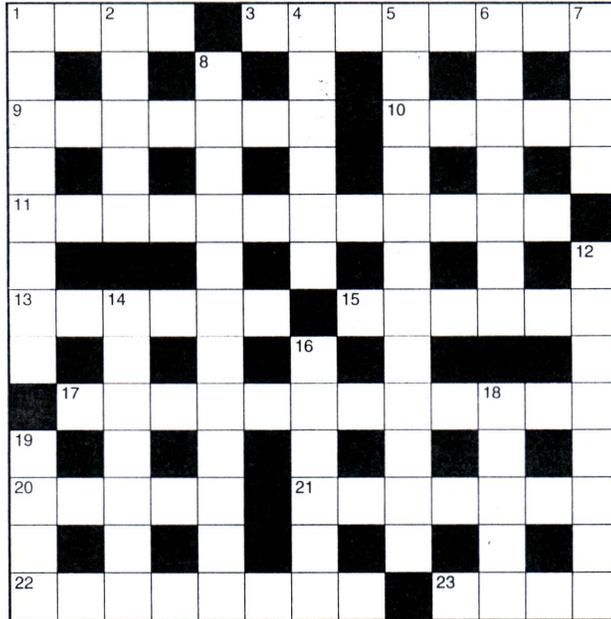
### PONDER THIS

1. I can please only one person per day. Today is not your day. Tomorrow is not looking good either.
2. I love deadlines. I especially like the whooshing sound they make as they go flying by.
3. Tell me what you need, and I'll tell you how to get along without it.
4. Accept that some days you are the pigeon and some days the statue.
5. Needing someone is like needing a parachute. If he/she isn't there the first time, chances are you will not be needing him/her again.
6. I don't have an attitude problem; you have a perception problem.

Last night I lay in bed looking up at the stars in the sky, and I thought to myself, where the hell is the ceiling?

## Crossword Puzzle Chris 49

Answers next month.



### ACROSS

1. Church dome.
3. Polygamist.
9. Wed.
10. Romany.
11. Breakfast 4, 3, 5.
13. Walkie \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Photographic machine.
17. Abilities to perform.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ Arabia.
21. Trainee.
22. Non attendances.
23. Enquires.

### DOWN

1. Sides of lounge chairs.
2. raise shoulders.
4. Medicinal paint.
5. Annoyances.
6. Beg.
7. Playthings.
8. State of being rundown.
12. lands beside a road.
14. Old Nautical measures about 5k's.
18. Jot.
19. The Orient.

You know what they say about *Locals* helping *locals*. Well in the case of these companies it is certainly true. Apart from an old stalwart, Foodland @ Gawler, It is a pleasure to welcome some new sponsors on board this year.



Robern Menz, Office Works, Maccas & K Mart. Their assistance is greatly appreciated. Please show your support by supporting them.

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