CRMVet Newsletter

December 2025

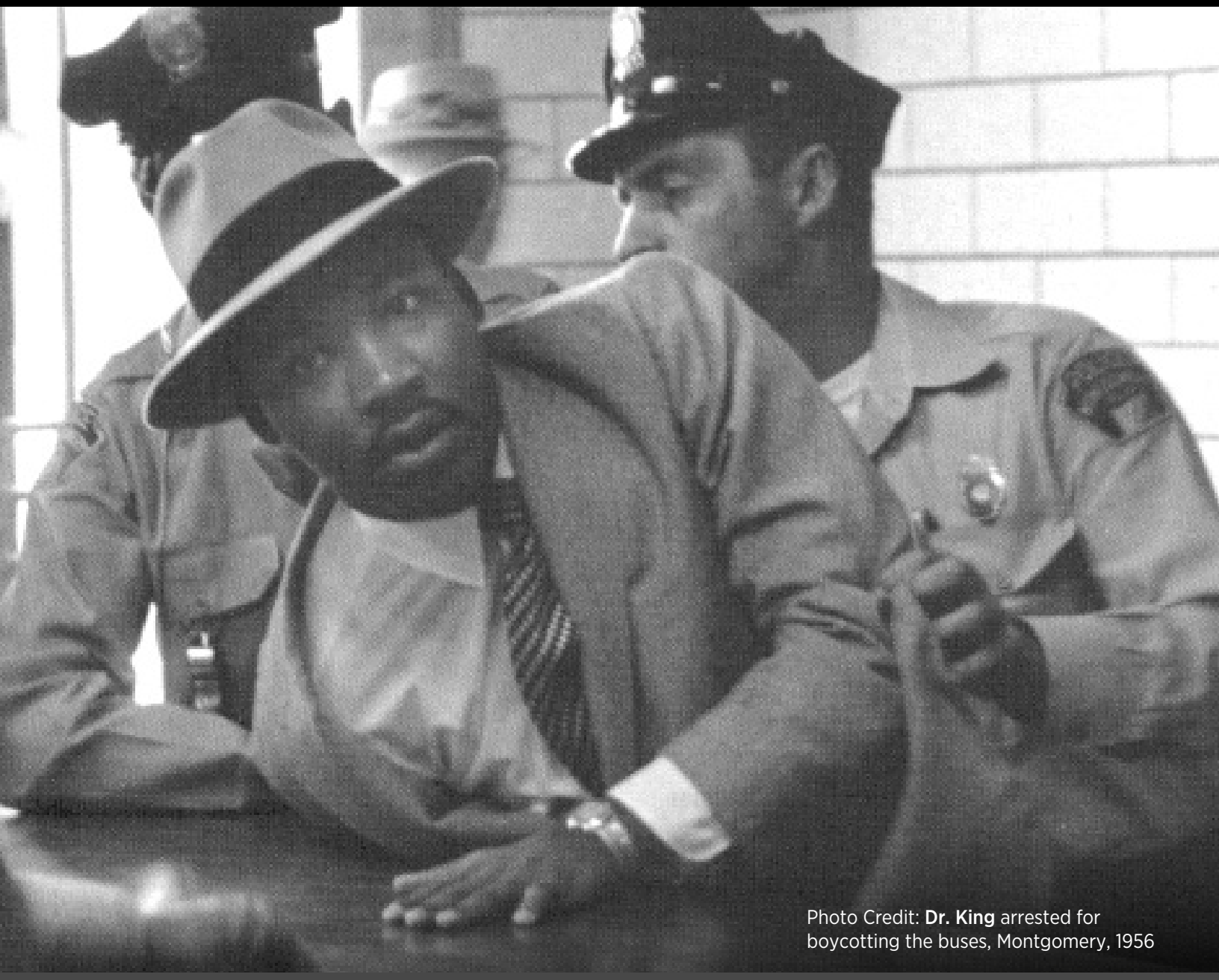

Photo Credit: **Dr. King** arrested for boycotting the buses, Montgomery, 1956

For more information on the Montgomery Bus Boycott, please visit the articles and original boycott documents

Articles: www.crmvet.org/tim/timhis55.htm#1955mbb
Original Documents: www.crmvet.org/docs/mbbdocs.htm

Civil Rights Movement ARCHIVE

www.crmvet.org

CRMA
CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT ARCHIVE
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

November 1st, 2025

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PLEASE DONATE

With a Little Help From Our Friends,
We'll keep on keeping on.

Ever since we established the CRMA (originally known as "CRMVet") in 1999, it has been almost entirely funded by personal donations from Freedom Movement veterans and individual supporters. We carry on this work with almost zero institutional support, foundation grants, or philanthropic contributions. So if you find our CRMA site useful and worthy, please click donate to keep us alive and growing. You can donate via **check,** your bank's **Bill Pay** service, or **PayPal.** Thank you for anything you are able to contribute.

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WEBSITE REPORT

As of November 1st, our online archive contained 11,596 viewable pages, documents, images, and recordings, 486 videos in our Vimeo video channel, and listings for 696 Freedom Movement veterans.

According to Google, there were 36,812 visits to the CRMA website during October for an average of 1187 per day. This is approximately 52% **higher** than October of last year. But there is an **unexplained mystery.**

When we dig deeper we see that whereas normally 75-80% of our visitors at this time of year are from the U.S, last month the U.S. percentage was only 47%. Back in September there had been a sudden spike in visitors from China, and last month in October there was an enormous jump — 43% of all our visits were from China. We have no explanation for this. (An AI experiment gone wacky? A change in educational curriculum? A change or temporary glitch in Google Analytics? Something else?) We don't know. However, when we subtract visits from China from our October totals, we arrive at an average of 765 visitors per day which is essentially the same as October of last year, and a normal distribution of domestic and international visitors.

OUR SISTER SITES

SNCC Legacy Project (SLP). SLP preserves and extends SNCC's legacy. Although SNCC the organization no longer exists, we believe that its legacy continues and needs to be brought forward in ways that continue the struggle for freedom, justice and equality today.

Movement History Initiative. A collaborative effort by multiple organizations to build an integrated platform for preserving — and continuing to make freely available to the public — the history, thoughts, stories, strategies, images, videos, and materials of up-from-below peoples' struggles for freedom, justice, and equality. It is being created by veterans of the 1960s Freedom Movement and modern-era, grassroots social- justice activists in Black communities who share their lives-lived experiences from the inside-out to combat distortions, false-narratives and censorship. And to provide momentum for movement building today.

SNCC Digital Gateway (SDG). A joint project of SLP and Duke University, SDG tells the story of how young activists in SNCC united with local people in the South to build a grassroots movement for change that empowered the Black community and transformed the nation.

Black Power Chronicles. The SNCC Legacy Project created the Black Power Chronicles (BPC) in 2015 to help fill the informational void that exists in our historical record about the impact of the Black Power Movement in local communities throughout America.

SCOPE 50. Preserving Civil Rights and the Story of Voting. Website of SCLC/SCOPE project activists.

Veterans of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement. Empowering the next generation, passing it on to carry it on by preserving the history of the Mississippi Movement.

Teaching for Change and Zinn Education Project. Provides teachers and parents with the tools to create schools where students learn to read, write, and change the world by promoting and supporting the teaching of people's history in middle and high school classrooms across the country.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Protest to Power Podcasts SNCC Legacy Project (SLP). The central theme of these visual podcasts is the ongoing effort of the Black community to achieve the power to define its existence in America.

Movement Art: If you are aware of any works of art related to the Freedom Movement such as paintings, drawings, murals, statues, and so on, please take a look at our Civil Rights Movement Art page to see if we already have an image of it in our collection. If it isn't included in our collection please email us an image we can post, or a weblink, or some other information that we can use. Thanks.

Movement Materials: Please continue to email to us documents, letters, reports, stories, and other Southern Freedom Movement materials from the period 1950-1970. See Submissions details.

TOP-TEN MOST VIEWED

According to Google, here are the top-ten, most-visited sections and individual pages in October. (Note that Google does not count how often PDF files are accessed. Since most of our documents are in PDF format, the "Top Ten" lists are not all that accurate.)

Sections, Landing & Reference Pages

1. C.R. Movement History 1950-1970
2. Freedom Movement Bibliography
3. Freedom Movement Photo Album
4. Poems of the Civil Rights Movement
5. Our Words, Articles & Speeches
6. Roll Call of Freedom Movement Veterans
7. Freedom Movement Videos
8. Civil Rights Movement Web Links
9. Our Stories & Interviews
10. Civil Rights Movement Major Topic Resources

Individual Pages & Documents

1. The Other America, Dr. Martin Luther King. (1967)
2. C.R. Movement History: 1960 (student sit-ins)
3. *Birmingham Manifesto,* Shuttlesworth & Smith. April 3, 1963
4. *Poem: Ain't I A Woman?* Sojourner Truth
5. C.R. Movement History: 1961 (Freedom Rides, MS voter registration, Albany GA)
6. Louisiana Voter Application and Literacy Tests
7. Photo Album: Freedom Movement Posters
8. Alabama Voter Literacy Test
9. Poems of Langston Hughes
10. Documents From the Montgomery Bus Boycott

Top Ten Sections & Pages That Others on the Internet Link To

Google reports that out on the global internet there are 35,807 backlinks to materials on our site by people, organizations, grade schools, and universities using us as a trusted information resource.

The Top-Ten linked to pages by number of sites are:

1. CRMA Home Page
2. Civil Rights Movement Web Links
3. Are *You* "Qualified" to Vote?—Literacy Tests & Voter Applications
4. Public Opinion Polls on Civil Rights Movement activities, 1961-1969
5. C.R. Movement History: 1963 Jan-June (Birmingham, Greenwod, Danville)
6. *Martin Luther King and the Montgomery Story* Comic Book. (Fellowship of Reconciliation)
7. C.R. Movement History: 1961 (Freedom Rides, MS voter registration, Albany GA)
8. C.R. Movement History: 1960 (student sit-ins)
9. Speech to Anti-War Protest, Dr. Martin Luther King. (April 15, 1967)
10. C.R. Movement History: 1963 July-Dec (Mass Protests, March on Washington JFK assassination)

New Movement Documents

???? The Civil Rights Act of 1866 and Enforcement Act of 1870, description of long-standing law requiring federal law enforcement offices to enforce the Constitution and civil rights. By implication countering FBI claims that they had no legal standing to defend southern Blacks or protect civil rights activists. Unsigned, undated.

???? Mississippi State and County Government Salaries. Unsigned, undated.

56-60 Listen! Some Reasons Why Everyone Should Register and Vote, Mississippi. Unsigned. Undated (probably 1956-1960)

1963 SNCC and the Big 10 of the March on Washington confidential memo. Political continuation of march coalition. Eleanor Holmes, SNCC. 9/6/63. 3 pages.

???? Teacher training application form, SCLC Citizenship Schiools. Undated.

???? Answers to Citizenship Test on Constitution and Government. Unsigned, SCLC Citizenship Schools. For learning how to pass literacy test. Undated. 7 pages.

1964 Responsibilities of Project Leaders Unsigned Louisiana CORE. Undated (possibly 1964).

1964 Observations and Recommendations re youth program. T.A. Lassiter, Louisiana CORE. Undated (possibly 1964 or 1965).

1964 Study Questions (possibly for freedom school). Ronnie Moore, Louisiana CORE. Undated (possibly 1964 or 1965).

1964 Community Survey Report. Unsigned Louisiana CORE. Undated (possibly 1964 or 1965).

1964 Decisions Made at the Recent Executive Session Unsigned, SNCC. Memo re staff hiring authority, field reports, staff discipline, Administrative Council members. 2/24/64.

1965 Speech by state attorney re Quadricentenial celebration. Speech by state attorney re Quadricentenial celebration. St. Augustine FL SCLC chapter affiliate. January 1965

1965 An Open Letter to All Potential Customers of Hammermill Co., re boycott in support of Selma voting rights campaign. Unsigned SNCC. Undated (probably February or March 1965).

65-67 Do You Think Negroes Should Own Their Own Stores and Businesses? Flyer. Unsigned, Opelousas, LA. Undated (probably 1965-1967).

1965 Rules of Procedure for Executive Committee Meetings Unsigned, SNCC. 3/5/65.

1965 Executive Committee Meeting August 23, 1965, summary. Unsigned, SNCC. 8/23/65. 4 pages.

65-67 Sweet Potatoe Marketing Co-Op flyer, Louisiana (possibly Feliciana parishes). Unsigned CORE. Undated (possibly 1965-1967)

1966 Memo to Central Committee re whites work in white communities decision. Jack Minnis, SNCC. 8/2/66. 3 pages

1967 Sunflower County Political Handbook, Freedom Information Service (FIS). Undated 1967. 20 pages.

1968 Program Coodinator's Report for the Poor People's Campaign Bernard LaFayette, SCLC. 8/13/68. 3 pages.

1968 Statement on James Earl Ray and James Bevel of SCLC re assasination of Dr. King. Rev. Ralph Abernathy, SCLC. 1/28/68.

1969 Dear Fellow Freedom Fighters memo to supporters. Rev. Ralph Abernathy, SCLC. 4/23/69

WATS & Phone Reports (Log of daily phone-in reports)

SNCC May 20, 1964 Pascagula arrests, Greenwood imprisonment of welfare mother.

SNCC May 23, 1964 Hattiesburg, Canton shots fired.

SNCC May 30, 1964 Canton freedom day arrests, violence, telegram to RFK, highway attack/violence.

COFO May 31, 1964 Jackson night harrassment and window breaking of COFO office, police "visit" to office.

COFO June 24, 1964 Moss Point & Pascagula lawyers phone report about Kirschenbaum & Ridenour arrests.

Documents from the Northern Wing of the Movement

3/12/45	NY State	State Commission Against Discrimination, law establishing.
6/1/48	NAACP NJ	Report on Black woman being held in peonage in Trenton NJ. Clifford Moore, NAACP. 5 pages.
10/5/53	NCADH	Some Facts on Segregated Housing in America. Unsigned National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing. 4 pages
3/14/55	NCADH	Address to Housing Conference, Loren Miller, National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing. 6 pages.
1/04/64	OFC	Minutes of Operation Freedom Meeting, Browley & McKart.
1/30/64	????	Memorandum for the Discussion, regarding opposition to apartheid in South Africa. No location, unsigned.
9/9/64	CORE NJ	Police incidents in Passaic County New Jersey, August & September. Unsigned
8/66	SNCC PA	Questions We Should Ask Ourselves ..., re Philadelphia dynamite case and police. Unsigned Philadelphia SNCC
66-70	AAAWV	The Real Demands. Boston MA Afro-Americans Against the War in Vietnam. Afro-Americans Against the War in Vietnam (AAAWV). Undated (probably 1966-1970)
66-68	CRIS	Proposal: Civil Rights Information Service , Chicago IL. Robert McNamara III. Undated (possibly 1966-1968). 9 pages.
66-68	CORE	How Long Can the U.S. Government be Hypocritical Liars to Black People at Home and Abroad. Re U.S. support for apartheid in South Africa and the Vietnam War. Unsigned CORE. Undated (probably 1966-1968)

New Letters & Reports From the Field

3/13/64	Unsigned, CORE	Diary of Freedom Day, Canton MS
3/13/64	Unsigned, CORE	People Coming to Freedom Day From Valley View with A.L. Green. Canton MS
9/1/66	Unidentified	Record of Trip to Lowndes County Alabama With Dennis Roberts. LCFO. 3 pages.

9/8/66	Yale Rabin	Letter to Hulda Coleman, Lowndes County Alabama Board of Education, re board of education election information.
11/8/66	Yale Rabin	Letter to J.H Brockholdt, Alabama Department of Education, re Title 1 information.
12/21/66	Anthony Amsterdam	Letter to Don Jelinek, re obtaining education-related materials about Lowndes County from the Alabama Board of Education,

New Letters & Reports From Mississippi Freedom Summer

6/21 Dear Mother, John Stevenson. Arrival in Meridian

6/25 Dear Mrs. M, Chips Somerwine? Letter from training session describing Freedom Sumer and requesting financial help. 3 pages.

7/16 Dear Snoopy, Wally Roberts. News from Shaw.

7/19 Honey, Roy Torkington. Testimony before LeFlore County Grand Jury

7/21? Rights Worker Writes, Gretchen Schwartz. (Sunnyvale Standard) Report from Indianola, arrests & difficulties.

7/27 To: SAF-SNCC, George Winter. Report from Sunflower County. 4 pages

7/24 Dear Folks, Doug. Update from Crenshaw community.

7/25 Dear Mom, Dad, Grandma, Bob, and Bill, Jerry Parker. Intimidation on the road. Holmes County.

New Stories & Narratives

Black Power Chronicles

Gaynelle Henderson, interviewed by Greg Carr, Howard University. Henderson Travel Service, Afro-centric tours and African Diaspora Heritage Trail. Undated.

Jennifer Lawson, interviewed by Josh Myers. Birmingham and Lowndes County AL, SNCC, Tuskegee University, NCNW, Pan-Africanism, CLR James, and Walter Rodney. May 17, 2017

Jay Nightwolf, interviewed by Josh Myers. The Black Power Movement and its connections to the American Indian Movement and the historical ties between African Americans and Native Americans, highlighting their shared struggles and the role of Native Americans in the Underground Railroad before the Civil War.

Kojo Nnamdi, interviewed by Ray Baker. Washington DC. Black Power Movement, anti-colonialism, Center for Black Education, Black Panther Party, SNCC, Daily Drum radio broadcast at Howard University. Undated.

James Phillips & Nelson Stevens, conversation facilitated by A.B. Spellman. Potter's House in Washington, DC. Coalition of Black Revolutionary Artists (AfriCOBRA), Black Arts Movement, influence of music and the broader cultural context of the 1960s and 1970s. Undated.

Frank Smith, interviewed by Dr. Clarence Lusane, Howard University. SNCC, Black Power, impact of Civil Rights Movement on the Black Community. Undated.

Irving and Elvira Williams, interviewed by Karen Spellman, Univ. District Columbia. Improving lives in Africa, Adventures in Health, Education, and Agricultural Development (AHEAD). Undated.

New Thoughts & Commentaries

Howard students who participated in sit-ins, freedom rides, and voter registration, 1960-1964. Unsigned. Undated (possibly 2014)

Frequently Asked Questions, New Answers:

No new answers added this month.

In Memory, New Tributes

No new memories or tributes added this month

New Poems

No new poems added this month.

New Photos, Art, & Posters

Before I'll Be a Slave...

Freedom Movement Art

Freedom Movement Art, Special Collections

Web Links and Bibliography updated, revised, & expanded.

Archive of Previous Monthly Newsletters

Recent Books by or About Movement Veterans:

Spell Freedom: The Underground Schools That Built the Civil Rights Movement. Atria/One Signal Publishers (Simon & Schuster) March 2025. The little known story of how four activists in the 1950s created and built a semi-clandestine network of Citizenship Schools across the Jim Crow South. A network that formed a foundation for the Freedom Movement's voting rights battles of the 1960s. Septima Clark, Esau Jenkins, Bernice Robinson, and Myles Horton of the Highlander Center.

Mississippi's Black Cotton. By MacArthur Cotton and John Obee, foreword by Nikole Hannah-Jones. University of Georgia Press. May 1, 2025. A personal history of the 1960's Mississippi Civil Rights Movement by SNCC Field Secretary MacArthur Cotton, who lived it.

If Anybody Should Ask You ... This Is What Happened: A Memoir, by Gwendolyn J. Dennis-Mack. 2024. The personal story of an African American high school girl who joined the movement of young people to desegregate American classrooms in Deep South Georgia.

More Voices of Civil Rights Lawyers: Continuing the Struggle, by Kent Spriggs. Stories and descriptions by 23 Civil Rights Lawyers about their struggles to advance and maintain human rights in the United States South.

Putting the Movement Back Into Civil Rights Teaching, Second Edition. By Menkart, Murray, and View. 2024. Lessons, quizzes, images, essays, articles, primary source documents, and poetry, to help teachers go beyond a "heroes and holidays" approach to teaching about the Freedom Movement in K-12 classrooms. The focus is on people of color, women, youth, organizing, culture, institutional racism, and the interconnectedness of social movements — Desegregation of Public Spaces, Voting Rights, Black Power, Labor and Land, Transnational Solidarity, and Student Engagement.

Unlawfully Incarcerated At Age Thirteen, by Emmarene Kaigler Streeter, 2024. Personal story of one the "Stolen Girls of the *Lee County Stockade* arrested in Americus GA, and imprisoned in 1963.

Marching in Montgomery, by John J. Hartman. IPBooks. 2024. First-hand account by a participant of the March 1965 voting rights protests in Montgomery Alabama in support of the movement in Selma AL.

Ma Lineal: A Memoir of Race, Activism, and Queer Family, by Faith Holsaert. Memoir of NYC childhood, SNCC in Southwest Georgia, and raising her own children in the coalfields of West Virginia.

The Rise and Fall of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee, by Martin Oppenheimer. Native Publishers, 2024. Concise history including the historical antecedents, the Greensboro sit-ins, Freedom Summer, the violence of KKK and police, and its demise around 1973.

As always comments, suggestions, corrections, and submissions from Freedom Movement activists are welcome. Veterans of the Southern Freedom Movement who are listed on the website's Roll Call are encouraged to contribute to the website their stories, thoughts, documents, and memories & tributes of those who have passed on by emailing them in to us.

Recent Books by or About Movement Veterans:

If you're not already a **subscriber** to the monthly email version of this newsletter, send us your email address and let us know you'd like to be added to the list. To unsubscribe (heaven forfend!) do the same.

— Bruce Hartford
webspinner@crmvet.org

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