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# THE TORCH

the brooks college newsletter

Feb. 19, 2010

Volume 3 Issue 7

Published Since 2007

## Baylor welcomes new president



Katy  
McDowall  
*Editor*

Baylor introduced its new president 3 p.m. Tuesday in Barfield Drawing Room after a 19 month search.

Judge Kenneth Starr will become Baylor's 14th president on June 1, after being unanimously elected by the Board of Regents on Feb. 12.

Starr currently serves as the dean of Pepperdine University in California, and previously served

as both a Court of Appeals judge and Solicitor General. Most notably, he served as Independent Counsel while Bill Clinton was president and was responsible for a number of investigations, including Clinton's extramarital affair with Monica Lewinsky.

On Tuesday, I was unable to attend Starr's introduction in Barfield. Instead, I was outside of the SUB reporting on a story for the Lariat.

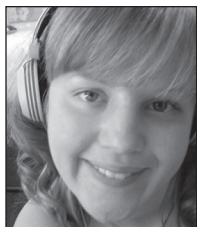
A group of students had chosen to protest Starr's appointment as president for a few reasons, includ-

SEE *PRES*, PAGE 3



PHOTO FROM BAYLOR.EDU

## Open doors on every floor



Megan  
Fitzgerald  
*Staff  
Writer*

There's a new tradition at Brooks...Open Door Night!

Have you heard about it? Well, here are some

cool things you might want to know about opening your door => Open Door Night is every Thursday from 8:30 to 10 p.m. All you have to do is open your door (oh, and it's completely okay if your room is messy... trust me!!). If you open your door, you could have people visit you from other floors, or may-

be Caleb will even drop by to say hi.

I've also heard some crazy stories about Open Door Night. For example, last Thursday, I heard the second floor was toilet papered! Also, one time on the first floor, we played "Heels" where everybody took their highest heels out of their closet and had a pretend fashion show

using the hallway as a catwalk. Another thing that's new to Open Door Night is that the second floor door between the boys' side and girls' side is open. You're allowed to wander onto both sides without an escort, which is pretty neat, and kind of feels like you're breaking

SEE *DOORS*, PAGE 3

## UPCOMING EVENTS

|                                       |                      |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Sing!</b>                          | 2/18-2/20, 2/25-2/27 |
| <b>Intersections</b>                  | 2/23                 |
| <b>Spring Break</b>                   | 3/8-3/12             |
| <b>Deadline for Torch submissions</b> | 3/13                 |
| <b>New issue of The Torch!</b>        | 3/19                 |

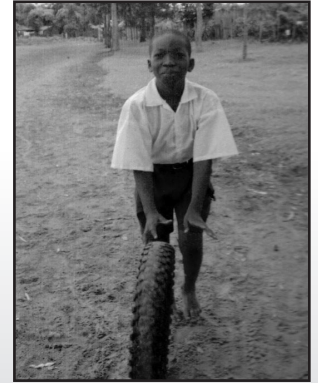
### THE COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

If you're interested in meeting other great people, contributing to the community that supports you and making Brooks even better, why not stop by a committee meeting this week? You can join any time, so visit and find the one that fits you!

- COMMUNITY AND TRADITIONS
  - Tuesdays - 9:30 PM - Seminar Room -
  - ARTS AND ACADEMICS
- Every other Sunday - 4:30 PM - Library -
- CAMPUS LIFE
- Every other Monday - 9 PM - Seminar Room
- SERVICE AND MINISTRY
- Mondays - 7 PM - Seminar Room

### Help support Victor!

For the third year in a row, Brooks is sponsoring Victor Omondi, a Kenyan child and honorary Brooks member. Let's bless him and pray for him, as well as give to support him! Just a dollar every few weeks will really make a difference...but only if EVERYONE does it!



### Need prayer?

The Brooks Prayer Team meets daily to pray for requests from the College and beyond. If you have a request, send an e-mail to [BROOKSPRAYER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BROOKSPRAYER@GMAIL.COM). Let us know how to pray! Also, if you are interested in joining, please do. The team is open to all.

For more information, e-mail us!

## Won't you please get out?



Jennifer  
Tran

*Staff  
Writer*

Ralph Waldo Emerson once said, "A man's growth is seen in the successive choirs of his friends."

Although we cannot count how many friends Emerson had, we can ponder his words and count the amount of friends we have now. Many of us can say that we've met some of our closest friends here at Brooks. And all in all, that's a wonderful thing and I'm sure Brooks College is proud to know that that is so.

But you're at Baylor University not some fantasy Brooks "University." Don't get me wrong,

Brooks is wonderful, but Brooks is a small section of our school. It's just a residential hall. There are more people out there to befriend and the moral of the column is: you can't limit your friends in college to just the people who live next door to you and live in your dorm.

What will happen when you leave Brooks? Do you even make contact with people when you're in class?

C'mon folks, everything starts with a "hello" - so start a conversation with a stranger. Don't be weird about it. Just be casual and maybe say, "Hey, I like that sweater!" (You don't even have to really like that sweater at all! It would be nice though...)

There are many clubs and organizations to be involved with and although I really support

you going out to one of Brooks' committee meetings (Campus Life - 9:30) I also really stress the amount of friendships you can gather around campus if you step outside your room/dorm/comfort zone.

I love my friends here, but I also cherish my moments with the friends I make in my classes and in the clubs I'm in.

In relation to Emerson's quote, you definitely grow a little when you expand and broaden your horizons and meet new people.

You also have a group of people you can escape to when you're tired of the kids you live with and see every day.

So please, make friends with kids other than Brooks' kids. Words of encouragement: If I can do it, you can do it. :)

## Letter to the Editor

I absolutely loved Emilie's article "Promises." That was touching and very beautifully written. I didn't expect that she would tie in community living to a marriage covenant and our promise to keep the greatest commandment in the Bible - to love God and love one another.

For me, it was a great encouragement to invest in eternity by how I build up my character today. And it was also a good reminder of what college life is all about beneath the hodgepodge of deadlines, exams and extra-curriculars.

Thanks,  
Melissa Philip





PHOTO BY NOSSE OVIENMHADA

**PRES**

CONTINUED, PAGE 1

ing Starr's support of Proposition 8 in California, his ties to Blackwater and the fact that they, as students, had little to no say in the choosing of a new president.

Starr supporters joined the protestors outside of the SUB, wielding signs and chanting. The entire

experience seemed oddly surreal.

The effects of Starr's presidency, however, have yet to be seen. We are fortunate to have finally found a new president, who will hopefully be a good fit for Baylor. Despite the conflicting views out there, in the end the outcome of Starr's election is something only time will show.

## Contribute to The Torch!

*It's not too late!*

Send an e-mail to

BROOKS.TORCH@GMAIL.COM

for more information!

**DOORS**

CONTINUED, PAGE 1

the rules!

Open Door Night encourages bonding with people on your own floor, as well getting the chance to perhaps meet a few new people from the other floors too. It helps

the community at Brooks grow, and you really might meet somebody new. All you have to do is open your door (well, except if you have tons and tons of homework)!! So every Thursday - you never know who, from what floor, will happen to drop by your door ;D

## One thing we have in common



Kyndall  
Renfro

*Chaplain*

If there's one thing we all have in common, it might be how sleepy we are most of the time. We live a roller-coaster ride—climbing up on stress-induced adrenaline, cresting the top of the hill as we meet a deadline, and then plummeting back to exhaustion. It can be thrilling or nauseating—depending on your preferences and what you last ate for lunch—but even the thrill-lovers among us occasionally wonder if they're making progress or if they're just going in circles.

You may recall that even Jesus' own disciples suffered from heavy eyelids. On the night of his arrest, Jesus is praying fervently, but the Bible says the disciples fell asleep because they were exhausted (Luke 22:45). This isn't the only time the disciples are caught dozing. In Luke 9, we have the Transfiguration story—Jesus glows really bright and two dead prophets show up alive and chatty. The disciples nearly miss this strange event because they have in common what we have in common—they're just plain tired. The text reads, "Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory..." (v.32).

I find this verse fascinating. They were very sleepy, but when they

became fully awake, they saw his glory.

Eugene Peterson has commented that the reason we get too busy (and thus exceptionally fatigued) is because we are vain—we mistakenly think the overload makes us important. It seems to me that we try to be Christ, and the attempt wears us out. If we weren't so exhausted from the struggle to be in control, we might slow down enough to see Christ. When the disciples wake up, they do not accomplish something as if they are gods themselves. Instead they do something seemingly simple—they see God.

Peter tries to respond to the vision by doing something. "Let's build three shelters!" he cries. But his offer goes virtually unnoticed as the scene is dramatically overtaken by the looming presence of God. His eager but misguided enthusiasm is quickly silenced. And if you're wondering how building shelters was remotely relevant, well, you're thinking the same thing as the biblical author. Humorously, the next line of the text says, "He [Peter] did not know what he was saying." In other words, poor Peter would have been better off if he had just kept his mouth shut and his eyes open.

What if you and I slowed down or even brought the roller-coaster to a grinding halt? Would we finally be able to see?

May it be said of us: "We were very sleepy, but when we became fully awake, we saw His glory..."

# The New Wave of the ifuture



Nathan  
Fischer  
*Staff  
Writer*

So as most of you know, the newest addition to the Apple family was just released and will be shipping soon next month. The iPad, as it's called, is not without its controversy within the walls of the Apple community. It isn't spared much from the non-Apple family either. Attacks from both sides are very strong.

There people who hate this product and the people who love it have their points. I wish to, in this article, make known the most common advantages and disadvantages presented about the iPad so maybe, if the mobs of crazed people let you, you can make up your own mind about how you

feel regarding this new product.

To start off with the cons, probably this biggest one for me is no ability to multitask. This makes it pretty hard to check email and listen to Pandora at the same time, or surf the web while texting at the same time. For something that is supposed to replace tablet computers, this is a very big downfall.

Another con that really pulls heavily on a decision to buy the iPad would be the fact that Safari doesn't support Flash. This makes it hard to watch most web based videos or use the interactive interface on some sites. While this is large mistake, I have read on article that tells why this is the case. AT&T's network is already taxed having 30 million iPhones on the network and having a feature that would allow people to use streaming video might

overtax the network. This would large amounts of traffic that would slow everything tremendously. While these are large cons to the iPad, I don't want anybody to think I'm going to stop here. I will now present two advantages.

One of the more important things to note is that the iPad is not meant to replace and iPhone or a Macbook. When PC companies started to sell netbooks, those sells began to cannibalize their sells of laptops. Apple knew that if they put everything their Macbook did into a cheaper and more portable version, they significantly decrease their Macbook sells. It is no doubt that the Apple Company likes to please its customers, but truthfully it's always about money in the end.

With that said, I will now briefly describe two advantages of the iPad.

First of all, the price of this entry line Apple product is very low, starting at \$500. This is going to allow a market similar to those that were willing to spend \$300 for the iTouch when it originally came out.

Another advantage would be the ease of which textbooks could be viewed on the iPad. The Amazon Kindle may have a larger bookstore, but it is designed for linear reading and doesn't work well with anything that isn't such, ie. Textbooks or the Bible. The color screen also allows for the viewing of comic, and children's books.

I, like most people, am interested in something of this nature, but want to wait for the 2nd or 3rd generation models. I can feel there are many good things to come from this device, but we may just have to wait a little to see them.

*Sammy says...*



I'm lost in  
thought.

Decide what Sammy says!  
E-mail your idea to  
BROOKS.TORCH@GMAIL.COM  
and maybe you'll see it here  
next issue!

\*DISCLAIMER\* Dr. Samuel Palmer Brooks did not, to our knowledge, actually say the above quote. We also have no record he ever went by the nickname 'Sammy.'

**in**

working out  
Spring Break  
Baylorguys.com  
Moody Library  
Catchphrase  
Ebay

rain

cold

Jersey Shore  
references

iPad

**out**

What's in and what's out?

E-mail your ideas to BROOKS.TORCH@GMAIL.COM.

# And it comes with a Book Light Too!



Matthew  
Carrington  
*Staff  
Writer*

It's the greatest idea ever to grace the likes of mankind; it's sleek; it's sophisticated; it puts the robe to shame...it's the Snuggie! You heard me correctly. I don't speak of the ShamWow or the Dreamie, but rather their supreme commander—the king of comfort, the father of fleece, the warden of warmth.

I must say that eighteen years, one month, and two days of my life were all misguided until I discovered the Snuggie—or rather, until the Snuggie

found me. You see, it was at the last Torch meeting that Nosse Ovienmhada found me in my state of oblivious transgression. She saw that it was her duty, her sole responsibility, to grant me the retribution offered by the Snuggie. I must admit that I was a skeptic at first; that was until I slipped my arms in the sleeves, sat back, relaxed, and began to enjoy a fine novel.

How can I describe such a majestic thing as the Snuggie? The extra long sleeves ensured that my fingers were impeded as I fumbled to turn the pages in my book. I was enthralled by the contrast of feeling between the cold on my back and the inner warmth of my

body. I've decided that the fleece fabric is just the perfect thinness for those cold winter nights when the biting cold is a necessity for keeping one's mind alert.

Intermittently, as I would rise to refill my cup with water, I could only help but think about the time when I was six years old and in the hospital getting my tonsils removed. If only I had had a Snuggie to comfort me back then instead of a hospital robe and those wretched paper shoes! The Snuggie would have made a perfect walking pad for my short legs as it would have slowly been dragged beneath my every step. But alas, I must enjoy the Snuggie now twice as much so as to

make up for my former loss.

I implore you, if you are blinded now as I was only days ago, do not hesitate to open up your life to the soothing embrace of the Snuggie. And don't leave out your dog either! Make sure and get the Snuggie for Dogs as soon as possible so that your pet's stomach can stay just as cold as usual (also be mindful that if your dog thrashes to and fro, gnashing incessantly at the cape on its back, its Snuggie should probably be removed and used for a blanket in its bed).

And don't think that the Snuggie sensation stops there. I still have to try the leopard print out! Have fun with your new product, and try to stay warm!

## Cussin' Camp



Megan  
Williams  
*Staff  
Writer*

When I was eight years old, my mother loaded my little brother, sister, and me into our family's suburban so that we could take a trip out to Limestone, Texas for "Cousin's Camp."

My grandfather had recently remarried, and his new wife was adamant about inviting out little lot to her annual family religious retreat. My brother was four at the time, and my sister was two... at that perfect age where she

was more than willing to repeat whatever came out of anybody's mouth.

The three of us were prepared for a fun-filled day, loaded with Jesus coloring-book pages, hymn-singing, and most importantly: Bible-verse-memorizing at "cousin's camp."

Imagine my mother's confusion when the three of us came back to her at the end of the day looking baffled and overwhelmed with the wealth of information that our new older cousins had given to us. My sister, always the first to speak, finally blurted, "Mamma, I didn't know we was goin' a' cussin' camp!"

As it happened, that

day we had been taught by our new cousins (and coincidentally, their parents as well) practically every swear word known to mankind... from the four-letter variety to those particular words whose full meaning can only be grasped through the use of a variety of hand gestures.

Who knew such things even existed outside of the realm of soldiers, sailors, and Irish rock-stars? Needless to say, we left "cussin' camp" later that evening...my baby sister reciting the new words that she had learned all the way home...somehow, however, we never managed to nail those Bible-verses.

In Colossians, chapter four, verse five, we are told by the apostle Paul to "be wise in the way [we] act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. And let [our] conversation always be full of grace." In other words, don't get caught cussin' at "Cousin's Camp."

You can share Christianity through your actions towards others rather than the flamboyant religious outbursts that are so popular these days. Shouting "I am a Christian!" from the rooftops doesn't make you one any more than standing in a garage makes you a car.



# THE ABC'S OF BROOKS



Shannon  
Moore  
*Staff  
Writer*

A Archway



C

Caleb Farmer



B Brooks Bust



D

Dr. Douglas  
Henry



K Kyndall

L

Library



M

Minglewood Bowl



N

Nate



Open Door Night

T

The Torch

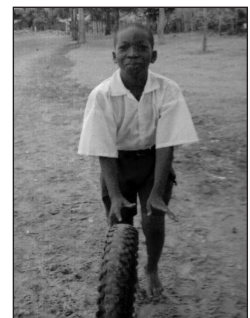


U

Ukulele

V

Victor



E

Elevator



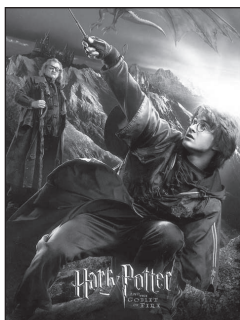
G

Great Hall



H

Harry Potter



F

Front Desk

J

JCR



I

Intelligence



R

Robbins Chapel

P

Portrait



Q

Quad



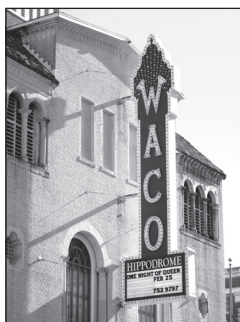
S

Samuel Palmer Brooks



W

Waco



Y

Yellow and Blue



X

Xylophone

Z

Zachary

Get to know your Community Leaders!

# CL Spotlight: Alex Tworkowski

FLOOR: 2D

YEAR: JUNIOR



**1. WHAT IS YOUR DEGREE/MAJOR/MINOR?**  
Religion major

**2. WHAT IS YOUR HOME-TOWN?**  
Washington, D.C.

**3. WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE YOU INVOLVED IN?**  
Brooks College Service and Ministry Committee, serving Brooks, Antioch Community Church, unofficial Brooks College bicycle repairman-in-residence

**4. WHAT ARE YOUR LIKES?**  
God, talking about Him, Hillsong, joyful people who live for something

(Someone) other than themselves, skyscrapers and public transit, quoting Scripture, nature, hot, sunny, clear weather, Truth and sound doctrine, Texas, running, biking, reading, playing the saxophone, different languages, edifying theological conversations, spending time with Jesus

**5. WHAT ARE YOUR DIS-LIKES?**  
The devil, poor hygiene, noise and cacophonous/offensive music, living in an urban area that hinders physical activity, references to and exercises of certain bodily functions, cold, windy, overcast weather, D.C. traffic, D.C., theology devoid of the Word and/or the Spirit of God, Western distortions of Christianity

**6. WHAT ARE SOME FUN FACTS ABOUT YOU?**  
I soak up both random



and purposeful facts about things. This helps me function as a human GPS/dictionary/Bible concordance/biology textbook/etc.

**7. WHAT IS YOUR PURPOSE AS A CL?**  
I want people to find God and experience Him in new ways. I desire that they would discover a life that is extraordinary and beyond their original assumptions. I want my residents to lose their life for the sake of Jesus Christ and truly find it with Him.

**8. WHY DID YOU CHOOSE BROOKS?**  
I LOVE intentional community, and I need it. In an environment like Brooks, people can sharpen one another (Prov. 27:17) and live life as God intended for us. Brooks College is a community

in which we can learn to love one another and lay down our lives for the sake of each other (1 John 3:16).

**9. WHAT ARE YOUR DREAMS AND AMBITIONS?**  
I believe the Lord has called me to church-related vocational ministry as a pastor. I believe He has gifted me to teach within the Church. Ultimately, I want to rely on Him and trust that He will make my paths to the future straight (Prov. 3:5-6). I also want to love people better, because "love never fails" (1 Cor. 13:8) and "God is love" (1 John 4:8).

**10. WHAT IS ONE OF THE BEST PARTS OF THE CL EXPERIENCE?**  
Living life together with my residents (and having them ambush me with Nerf guns while working the front desk...)



photos courtesy of alex tworkowski



# 2010: 15 Movies to look forward to



Katy  
McDowall  
*Editor*

**1** Shutter Island  
Feb. 19

**2** Alice in Wonderland  
March 5

**3** Green Zone  
March 15

**4** Babies  
April 16

**5** Wall Street 2:  
Money Never Sleeps  
April 23

**6** Iron Man 2:  
May 7

**7** Robin Hood  
May 14

**8** Prince of Persia:  
The Sands of Time  
May 28

**9** Sex and the City 2  
May 28

**10** The A-Team  
June 11

**11** Toy Story 3  
June 18

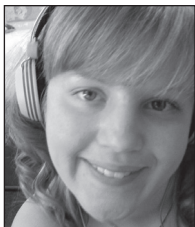
**12** The Last Airbender  
July 2

**13** Despicable Me  
July 9

**14** Salt  
July 23

**15** The Expendables  
Aug. 20

## Being a beginner



Megan  
Fitzgerald  
*Staff  
Writer*

This semester, I picked up a new hobby ~ trying to play guitar. And boy, it is really a lot harder than I thought!

The first step in the process was learning how to read the notes of the strings and the tabs online. After I learned how to read tabs is when it got really fun, because then I looked up my favorite songs that had simple guitar parts and it was fun just trying to play them.

But then, things started going really downhill because I realized I had to sing while playing, which is much more difficult than it looks when I see a real musician do it! Strumming the chords in the correct rhythm and singing at the same time can be tricky for me.

Now, I'm starting to get a little bit better, but I have lots more respect for people who can gracefully play guitar, and sing, at the same time. I also have a new respect for my roommates...they've been with me through this whole process, and luckily haven't cut my strings yet!!

## 'Lightning Thief' impresses



Nosse  
Ovienmhada  
*Staff  
Writer*

caught my eye.

After watching the movie, I found that it was inappropriately rated.

I found myself jumping out of my seat at times. The CGI of the ancient Greek creatures were done well and the acting was acceptable. I was also surprised at how many stars made an appearance in the movie; among them were Pierce Brosnan and Uma Thurman.

I left the theatre happy, and felt my money was well spent. It is a must see, and I hope there's a sequel in its future.

"Percy Jackson & The Olympians: The Lightning Thief" may not be the new Harry Potter, but it was half way decent.

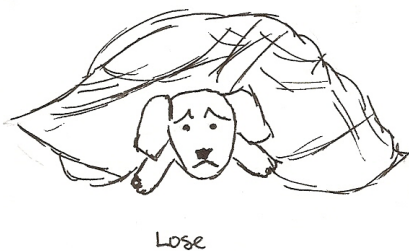
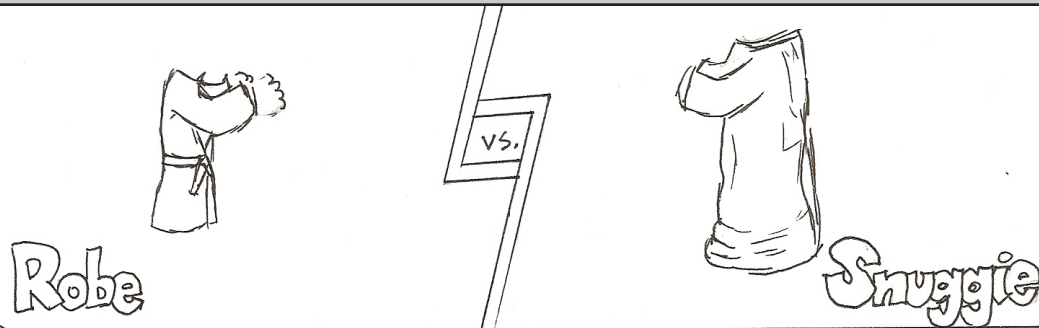
It opened in theatres worldwide at number two after Valentine's Day this past weekend. After a horrible time at the premiere of Wolfman, I decided to go to a movie a little lighter hearted.

"Percy Jackson," a rated PG 'children's' movie



# TorchJoons

Andrew  
Hwang  
Cartoonist



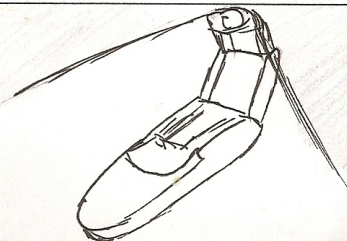
Round 1:  
Made for  
Animals



Round 2:  
Alienating your child  
from the rest of  
society at a sporting  
event...



Round 3:  
Reading in the  
dark...



Book light win!

## HANDING OUT THE TORCH SINCE FALL 2007

Matthew Carrington *Staff Writer*  
Nathan Fischer *Staff Writer*  
Megan Fitzgerald *Staff Writer*  
Sarai Ingram *Staff Writer*  
Anson Jablinski *Staff Writer*  
Emilie Moore *Staff Writer*

Shannon Moore  
Nosse Oviemhada  
Jennifer Tran  
Megan Williams  
Andrew Hwang  
Katy McDowall

*Staff Writer*  
*Staff Writer*  
*Staff Writer*  
*Staff Writer*  
*Cartoonist*  
*Editor*

Join the Torch team! If you have any interest in writing, photography or other useful skills, please consider contributing. No former background is required. Please contact us at [BROOKS.TORCH@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BROOKS.TORCH@GMAIL.COM), or attend a meeting!

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