

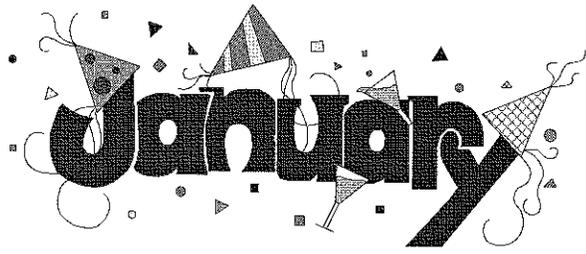
**GLADSTONE CITY COUNCIL
ADJOURNED MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
January 7, 2014**

**7:30 p.m. CALL TO ORDER
ROLL CALL
FLAG SALUTE**

REGULAR AGENDA

- 1. Discussion of New Information Regarding Siberian Lynx Issue** – City Council took action at its December 10, 2013 meeting to allow Mr. Clark 30 days to come into compliance with Gladstone Municipal Code (GMC) regarding exotic animals. City Council obtained information that the State of Oregon would not allow Mr. Clark's lynx to be permitted due to state statute. Therefore no action could be taken by City Council that would contradict state law. Some State of Oregon legislators may be considering proposing legislation to allow Mr. Clark to obtain a permit for his Siberian lynx. If City Council's previous motion stands Mr. Clark would need to come in to compliance with GMC by January 9, 2014.

ADJOURN



REGULAR AGENDA

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Tuesday, December 24, 2013 9:20 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Family Pet

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: Wayne Winter [ww69@bctonline.com]
Sent: Monday, December 23, 2013 10:37 AM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: Family Pet

Mayor Byers:

Mr. Mayor I am not a Gladstone resident but my son is I was wondering if this question regarding the wild cat that one of your residents has if common sense could prevail over an arbitrary rule that seems to not have caused any problems for years and all of a sudden the family has to give up a member of their family it just doesn't seem to make sense I was a firefighter and if we always went by rules we wouldn't have able to do our job Just my two cents I know I don't have any standing but I had to get out thanks for listening

Wayne Winter

Tribute to Honor

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Sunday, December 22, 2013 5:20 PM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: SAVE SOSHA
Attachments: save sosha.docx

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: Bill [grunt1024@yahoo.com]
Sent: Saturday, December 21, 2013 9:15 AM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: SAVE SOSHA

Mr. Mayor, please step in and end this nonsense. Not all laws need to be enforced. You represent the people of Gladstone and they have spoken. Please read the attach letter. thank you.

1-2

To: Mayor Wade Byers

My name is Bill Jones and I live in the state of Maine. I'm writing you of behalf of my good friend Patrick Clark and his fight to keep his pet lynx Sosha. I have known Patrick since 1990 when the two of us met while serving in the U.S. Marines. We spent the better part of four years together and during that time we shared the horrors of war in two separate countries. I'm not sure if you served your Country or not but I know your aware that friendships are set in stone when it comes to serving in a hostile environment. I consider Patrick to be part of my family. When I first learned about his issue with the town I thought that it would be handled with a common sense approach, apparently that is not the case. I understand that this issue came to light based one person making a complaint with the town and now you have hundreds of people from around the country coming out in favor of Patrick and Sosha. If you don't already know, Patrick suffers from P.T.S.D. His pet Sosha has been a healing mechanism to help deal with the struggles of P.T.S.D. I know this first hand as I too suffer from this terrible pain. I have a blk lab that has been by my side for over 7 years. My dog has saved my life. If it wasn't for her I can't possible know where I would be today. Patrick and Sosha have formed a bond of friendship for over 16 years. From what I understand Patrick was able to rescue Sosha when it was legal to own such a pet. If anything you should thank Patrick and his family for saving this animal and not try to take her away after 16 years. I am begging you to step in and do the right thing here. Please do not allow the town to take this precious pet away from Patrick and his family. Some small issues in this country need to be fought and this one is worth the fight. Do the right thing Mayor byers.

Bill Jones

Maine

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 3:57 PM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Patrick Clark and his pet Sosha

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: Risse Davis [rissedavis@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 3:54 PM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: Patrick Clark and his pet Sosha

Good afternoon, Mr. Byers.

I am writing you today as a concerned citizen of Clackamas County (I live in Happy Valley, work in Clackamas and have friends and family throughout the Clackamas area).

I have been following the story of Patrick Clark, the Marine veteran, and his pet Lynx, Sosha. Coming from a family with many veterans who also risked their lives for our country, I am appalled at the treatment of one of our country's (and more specifically, Clackamas County's) servicemen.

Through my research regarding this story, it seems to me that this is nothing more than a petty neighbor whose temper tantrum has gone too far. The neighbors who filed this complaint had no justification in doing so...Sosha has never given anyone a reason to feel threatened or concerned for their safety.

I imagine that Sosha has been absolutely instrumental in Mr. Clark's ability to cope with his PTSD. It is unfair to Mr. Clark and inhumane to Sosha to expect Mr. Clark to give Sosha away, and there is absolutely no reason why this peaceful mature animal should be euthanized before her time. I saw a picture of Mr. Clark and Sosha that just broke my heart. He was holding her and she was looking up at him with such love...she knows that he is her dad! I cannot imagine how it must feel to have a member of your family forcefully removed, especially after more than 16 years!

I realize that laws are created with the intention to protect the community. However, it was legal for Mr. Clark to own Sosha when he rescued her and he should not be punished because a new law was later passed (much later). I truly believe that Sosha poses no more of a threat to our community than my neighbor's Chihuahua. I ask you to please reconsider and allow Mr. Clark to keep this member of his family. We need to respect our veterans and our neighbor.

Thank you for taking the time to read this email and for your consideration.

Happy Holidays to you and yours,

Risse Davis

1-4

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 9:44 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Save Sosha!!!!

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: Amy Kleczynski [Amykleczynski@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, December 18, 2013 11:05 PM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: Save Sosha!!!!

Dear Mayor,

I am writing to ask that you please refrain from taking Sosha from her owner, a man who has fought for our country and relies on his feline friend to help deal with his PTSD. Perhaps you have never had pets and cannot truly understand the bond that can be created between humans and animals. I myself have a 15 year old cat, who on occasion has felt like my only friend, and I will be completely devastated when he leaves me.

It would be a different story if this animal had attacked someone, or even attempted to. At that point I could understand the need to have this animal put down. But this cat has lived 16 years without harming anyone, in fact, this cat has made this man's world easier to live in, and that should not be taken lightly. I have seen first hand what this disorder can do to these veterans. Most of the time friends, family, and counseling are not comforting. If this cat can help this man feel better about the world, then you should seriously think twice about what the consequences will be for this gentleman if you take that away from him.

It is my understanding that he has also done everything he believed was required of him to abide by the law in the matter of owning an exotic pet. If he was given false or misleading information how can he be faulted? I hope to find out that instead of forcing this man to put down his basically lifelong best friend, companion, and confidant, that you are able to help him figure out a way to keep Sosha. Even if it just means giving him extended time to comply with the law.

Sincerely,
A Concerned Citizen,
Amy Kleczynski

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 9:42 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Lynx Issue - Plea to Dr. Brad R. LeaMaster and Mayor Wade Byers

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: Tami Bannick
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 3:53 PM
To: Peter Boyce; Wade Byers
Subject: FW: Lynx Issue - Plea to Dr. Brad R. LeaMaster and Mayor Wade Byers

From: Michelle Turner [<mailto:misha503@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 3:42 PM
To: ahid-office-manager@oda.state.or.us; Tami Bannick
Subject: Lynx Issue - Plea to Dr. Brad R. LeaMaster and Mayor Wade Byers

I recently read about Mr. Clark and his pet Lynx. I can't imagine how Mr. Clark must feel having to give up his friend of 16 years because he was NOT grandfathered into a new law saying he can't have his lynx. This TRULY, TRULY breaks my heart that the State won't create a permit for this case. I am an animal lover and don't have human kids of my own but my cats are my kids and they bring such happiness to my life and true companionship.

I understand where he's coming from. Imagine having a child for 16 years and then all of a sudden, because of a new law, you can no longer have your child but have to give it up for adoption to a home.

Please understand animal companions help SO many mentally and emotionally. Permits are given for the blind and for the disabled. This veteran fought for our country and can only imagine he has suffered emotionally and mentally.

Please reconsider. I beg you. Many people are torn about this but to have to put his companion down or give his companion up after 16 years is such a horrible and traumatizing experience in and of itself.

I can only hope you have the holiday spirit of kindness and understanding in your heart to open your heart to this.

Thank you.

Michelle Turner
West Linn, OR

1-6

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 9:42 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Patrick and Sosha

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: trinamcnair . [tnm0813@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 12:49 PM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: Patrick and Sosha

Mr. Mayor,

I am writing in support of Patrick Clark and his right to keep his pet lynx Sosha. Patrick is a friend of a friend and I know of his struggles with PTSD and how Sosha has helped him heal. She is clearly a tame animal with no desire to hurt anyone. Patrick has the necessary caging and should be allowed to keep Sosha peacefully until she passes. They both deserve that. Please do what you can to stop this heart-breaking event from happening. Sosha is more than a pet, she is a friend, she is family. Please don't let this man lose a member of his family. Thank you.

-Trina McNair

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 9:42 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Hello there

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: ben@oregonhempworks.com [ben@oregonhempworks.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 12:00 PM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: Hello there

Hello there,

My email is in regard to this story: <http://koin.com/news/fight-to-keep-pet-lynx-in-gladstone>

They want a Gladstone man to give away his pet lynx he's had for 16 years. He's a vet with PTSD. We cannot continue to perpetuate this nanny state and jump every time someone complains about something.

This needs to stop with the harassment of people trying to live their lives. This guy was told he was in his rights to have this animal by the state. If you have an animal you can understand what kind of influence they have on a person's life. This cat is his family.

This cat needs to be with the only person it really knows and trusts.

Thank you.

1-8

Peter Boyce

From: Tami Bannick
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 4:22 PM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Please Keep That Poor Lynx With His Vet Owner!

From: Raissa Hassenger [<mailto:rh65@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 4:19 PM
To: Tami Bannick
Subject: Please Keep That Poor Lynx With His Vet Owner!

Hello City of Gladstone,

I hope that you are well! You have got to put the brakes on this action immediately! It's not right! We're talking about a veteran who served our country that suffers from PTSD! Many vets do and rely on animals to help them live better lives. This owner's best buddy he relies on happens to be a 35 lb, declawed, fully caged lynx who lived on this property years before the complaining neighbor moved in.

City of Gladstone and State of Oregon need to make an exception on this and allow the owner to stay on his existing property with his lynx as he has done the past 16 years. The law may have changed back in 2009 but this poor man is grandfathered in.

I have faith in City of Gladstone and State of Oregon to do your due diligence on this and determine in favor of our vet and his companion lynx. Do not force him to have to put down his own pet for the Holidays! Do you not think that's going to cause an adverse reaction from his PTSD? Have some mercy on this case! Or it's coal for 'The Grinch' at City of Gladstone and State of Oregon! Do the right thing and let them remain together as many years as God allows.

Sincerely,

Raissa Hassenger

Peter Boyce

From: Tami Bannick
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 3:53 PM
To: Peter Boyce; Wade Byers
Subject: FW: Lynx Issue - Plea to Dr. Brad R. LeaMaster and Mayor Wade Byers

From: Michelle Turner [<mailto:misha503@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 3:42 PM
To: ahid-office-manager@oda.state.or.us; Tami Bannick
Subject: Lynx Issue - Plea to Dr. Brad R. LeaMaster and Mayor Wade Byers

I recently read about Mr. Clark and his pet Lynx. I can't imagine how Mr. Clark must feel having to give up his friend of 16 years because he was NOT grandfathered into a new law saying he can't have his lynx. This TRULY, TRULY breaks my heart that the State won't create a permit for this case. I am an animal lover and don't have human kids of my own but my cats are my kids and they bring such happiness to my life and true companionship.

I understand where he's coming from. Imagine having a child for 16 years and then all of a sudden, because of a new law, you can no longer have your child but have to give it up for adoption to a home.

Please understand animal companions help SO many mentally and emotionally. Permits are given for the blind and for the disabled. This veteran fought for our country and can only imagine he has suffered emotionally and mentally.

Please reconsider. I beg you. Many people are torn about this but to have to put his companion down or give his companion up after 16 years is such a horrible and traumatizing experience in and of itself.

I can only hope you have the holiday spirit of kindness and understanding in your heart to open your heart to this.

Thank you.

Michelle Turner
West Linn, OR

1-10

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 1:14 PM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Patrick and Sosha

Ditto

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: trinamcnair . [tnm0813@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 12:49 PM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: Patrick and Sosha

Mr. Mayor,

I am writing in support of Patrick Clark and his right to keep his pet lynx Sosha. Patrick is a friend of a friend and I know of his struggles with PTSD and how Sosha has helped him heal. She is clearly a tame animal with no desire to hurt anyone. Patrick has the necessary caging and should be allowed to keep Sosha peacefully until she passes. They both deserve that. Please do what you can to stop this heart-breaking event from happening. Sosha is more than a pet, she is a friend, she is family. Please don't let this man lose a member of his family. Thank you.

-Trina McNair

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 1:14 PM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Pet lynx in Gladstone

More Ditto

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: Dawn Allison [dawndallison@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 11:39 AM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: Pet lynx in Gladstone

Good morning, Sir.

When I saw the article below, it brought tears to my eyes. I believe that you need to visit this man's home yourself to make an educated decision.

<http://www.koin.com/news/fight-to-keep-pet-lynx-in-gladstone#.UrCVymVQLPo.facebook>

The cat is not a threat to anyone and it appears that the person has done everything to provide the cat and the humans with a safe environment.

Please consider allowing this man to keep his family pet.

Thank you for your time.
Dawn Allison

1-12

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 1:13 PM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Patrick J Clark & Sosha - THIS CAT SHOULD NOT BE PUT DOWN!!!

Ditto

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: tawny king [kingtawny85@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 10:47 AM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: Patrick J Clark & Sosha - THIS CAT SHOULD NOT BE PUT DOWN!!!

Dear Mayor Byers,

Im writing you in regards to a recent news story I saw on KATU News in regards to a Veteran and his pet Lynx Sosha under your jurisdiction of gladstone.

First off - I live in Milwaukie - borderline Gladstone and I HAVE NO PROBLEM with this cat being left alone to live its last remaining years (maybe 2-3 max) with its rightful owner that has had her since she was born. In talking to others in the community, i hear that this is more of a personal vendetta - 1 angry neighbor, who has made a point to make patrick suffer and sacrifice his cat - but for what? this cat has never endangered anyone - i also had a neighbor that didnt like my dog because he barked, then they vandalized my house because of it - we cannot reward people for acting out of spite - which this is exactly what this sounds like.

I beleive you as the mayor need to stop the states ruling and override it, this lady cannot be rewarded for her malice behavior.

I look forward to hearing that Sosha will be able to live peacefully in gladstone for the next couple of years, thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Tawny King
503-926-3766

Peter Boyce

From: Tami Bannick
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 11:51 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Patrick Clark

From: Brandon Schilling [<mailto:brandon.schilling@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 11:47 AM
To: Tami Bannick
Subject: Patrick Clark

Greetings,

My name is Brandon Schilling and I am writing to you out of concern for an issue that is occurring in Gladstone, OR. US Veteran Patrick Clark rescued a siberian lynx from a furrier almost 16 years ago and has had the pet ever since. Due to it's low weight he was under the belief that the animal didn't need to be registered per the local ordinances. Because of this violation the city has now elected to have the animal destroyed which I find to be incredibly unjust resolution to the problem. This individual has more than paid his duty to his country and we cannot repay his service by destroying his service animal. Please do the right thing and work with this individual in order to avoid negatively impacting this individuals right as well as the animals right to life.

Best regards,
Brandon Schilling

1-14

Peter Boyce

From: Tami Bannick
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 8:06 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Pet Lynx

From: Cynthia Brown [<mailto:clbrown08@comcast.net>]
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2013 11:52 PM
To: Tami Bannick
Subject: Pet Lynx

Hi. I'm unsure to whom I should direct this request, so writing to you and asking that you please forward it to the appropriate city official.

Can Gladstone city officials not figure out a way to save the veteran's pet lynx, while assuaging the neighbor's concerns? There must be a way to negotiate a solution that addresses both, but it seems a drastic and inhumane step to take away a veteran's beloved pet, especially when the owner would have received a permit had he known to apply for one. The pet has committed no crime, and apparently the cage is secure. Please do not let bureaucracy trump humanity. A man who has served our country and comes home damaged with PTSD should not have his beloved pet removed or destroyed because he misunderstood a deadline. That would just be wrong.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cindy Brown

Peter Boyce

From: Tami Bannick
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2013 8:07 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Lynx

-----Original Message-----

From: dencie olson [<mailto:dencieo@gmail.com>]
Sent: Sunday, December 15, 2013 6:24 PM
To: Tami Bannick
Subject: Lynx

The man owning the Lynx in Gladstone should be allowed to keep it, after all it is 16 years old and a pet! I'm sure the city can waive the law on an exception ??? It's amazing, you allow sexual predators and murderers out of prison and they can live in your city but an old, quiet Lynx has to go > not right! Perhaps that "concerned" neighbor can go check out the Lynx and see for himself that his concerns are unfounded.

Sincerely,
Dencie Olson

1-16

Peter Boyce

From: Tami Bannick
Sent: Monday, December 16, 2013 8:07 AM
To: Wade Byers
Cc: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: The Lynx

From: psidaho@comcast.net [<mailto:psidaho@comcast.net>]
Sent: Sunday, December 15, 2013 6:19 PM
To: Tami Bannick
Subject: The Lynx

Dear Mr. Mayor Wade Byers.

My email is in regard to the news of the Lynx and Patrick Clark:

When Mr. Clark had the Lynx, the law said it was fine. The law changed after he had the cat for years....but I believe there should be a retroactive judgement in this case. It would behoove you, Dear Mayor, to do the right thing, and allow this man to keep his cat. That you are ordering him to get rid of this Lynx now, after all these years, is unconscionable. This new law should not apply to him at this juncture. Not after all these years. I hope you allow him to keep the Lynx.

Sincerely,
Pamela South

Peter Boyce

From: Kimberly Benson <kspersian@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2013 9:55 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: Sorcha the lynx

To take a member of this mans family for 16 years since she was a bottle baby is not only wrong, its reprehensible! Sorcha only has a few years left so let her spend them with her beloved family. To have this lynx removed from the only family she has ever known out of ignorance & fear should haunt you for the rest of your days....

Patrick Clark has done everything he can to do the right thing not to loose his much beloved family member & shame on you & your council for making this impossible.

Kimberly Benson

H18

Peter Boyce

From: Reptile Shop UK <reptileshop@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2013 9:51 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: Patrick Clark's Lynx

Please have a heart that poor family will have to say goodbye to there pet after 16yrs that has done nothing to harm anyone. the Lynx only has about another 4yrs left of its life what harm is it going to do to anyone? Non.
Regards Jason

Peter Boyce

From: Ken Walker <reddwarf@mchsi.com>
Sent: Wednesday, December 11, 2013 9:29 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: Leave the War Vet's Lynx alone

You should feel real proud of what you are doing to the war vet that once the lynx that you are forcing him to put down. You're sick. His cat is of no danger to the public. Issue him a permit or zoning exemption for this one animal that he has had since before the 2009 law and leave him be. YOU and EVERYONE in this country owes him that after his service for this country.

This story is going viral, you and your city council/mayor have a lot to answer for. And thank you so much for honoring this man, Patrick Clark's service to our country. You are a coward! People fear what they do not understand, then ultimately try to destroy or ban it. Make sure he has a safe enclosure, security barrier and then leave him alone.

1-20

Peter Boyce

From: Wade Byers
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 9:40 AM
To: Peter Boyce
Subject: FW: Patrick Clark /Sasha the Lynx

Another email.

Wade Byers
Mayor
City of Gladstone, OR
503-656-1213

From: Colton [coltonbowers@hotmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, December 17, 2013 7:28 PM
To: Wade Byers
Subject: Patrick Clark /Sasha the Lynx

Dear Mayor Byers,

I am writing you today regarding Patrick Clark, the Marine veteran that may lose his pet Lynx, Sosha. I understand that you may grant Patrick an exception and grandfather him in under the "old" rules. I am asking you to please consider the exception, there are plenty of the obvious reasons that I will not list as I am sure you aware of most.

I tried to consider what this may mean for you as Mayor to grant the exception, my guess is a possible backlash from neighbors/community and also the risk that Sosha the lynx may at sometime in the future do something undesirable.

I think your decision to make this exception for Patrick can be justified solely on the fact that he is a war veteran of our country, we grant our veterans exceptions every day of our lives...in the airport, on airplanes, in restaurants, etc... and for good reason, they have granted us the freedom to spend our days in the lap of luxury wondering what we are going to do about such things as exotic cats in captivity and what we are going to throw on the BBQ when we get home.

As far as Sosha goes, I have some limited experience with wild cats and animals in general, and a 35 pound, 16 year old de-clawed lynx that has lived her entire life in captivity poses no threat to anyone or anything. I cannot say that I have met Sosha personally, but my guess is she will spend her final days sleeping and laying around farting a lot.

Again I hope you will consider this, and also I hope you will look back on this as something you did as Mayor that you are proud of.

Respectfully,

Colton Bowers

1-22