



# OSDC GSOC

Meetup 2023

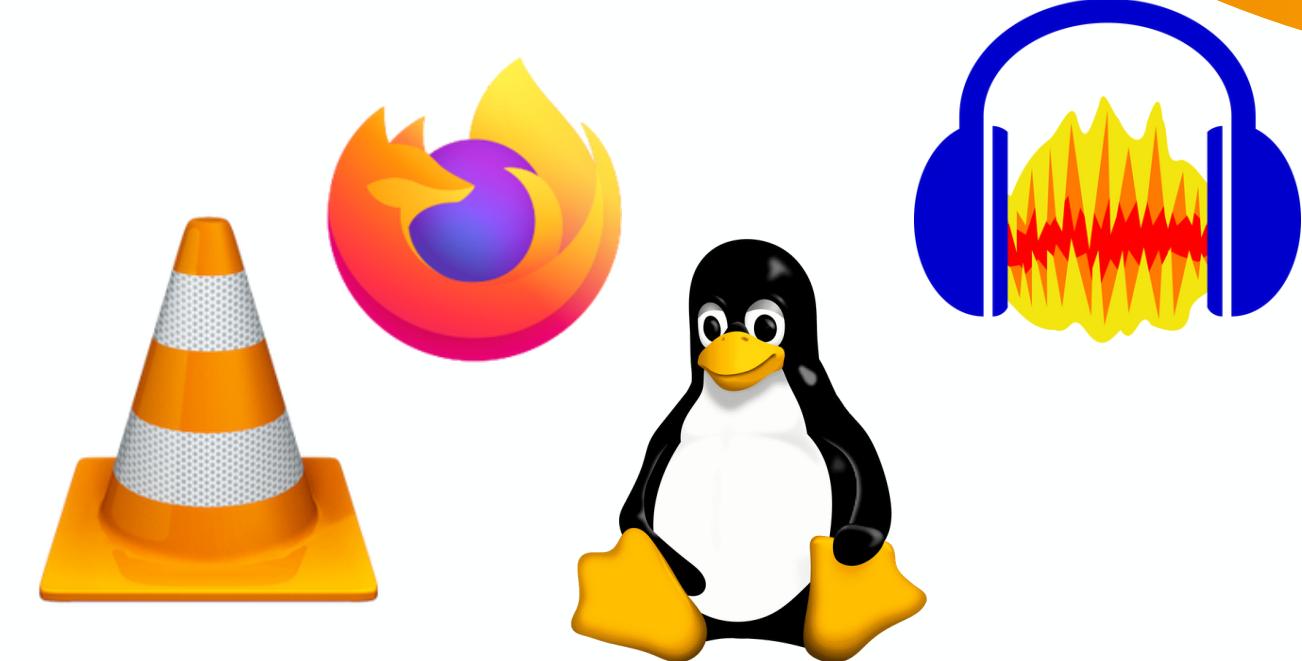
## Agenda

1. Brief intro to open source
2. Top Open Source programs
3. What is GSoc
4. Talk by GSoC alumni

# What is Open Source Software?

**Open source software is code that is designed to be publicly accessible.**

**Open source software fosters open exchange, collaborative participation, rapid prototyping, transparency and community-oriented development.**



# WHY OPEN SOURCE

1. Make a difference
2. Gain Experience
3. Learn and collaborate with global talent
4. Make meaningful connections
5. Build a portfolio with real proof of work



# Prerequisites:



Git and Github



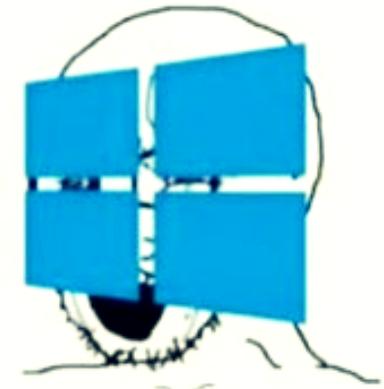
Some familiarity with  
programming and linux



The ability to google



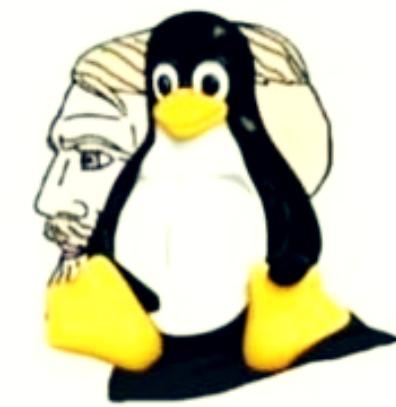
hey can i uninstall edge



NOOO!!! YOUR SYSTEM WILL  
BREAK

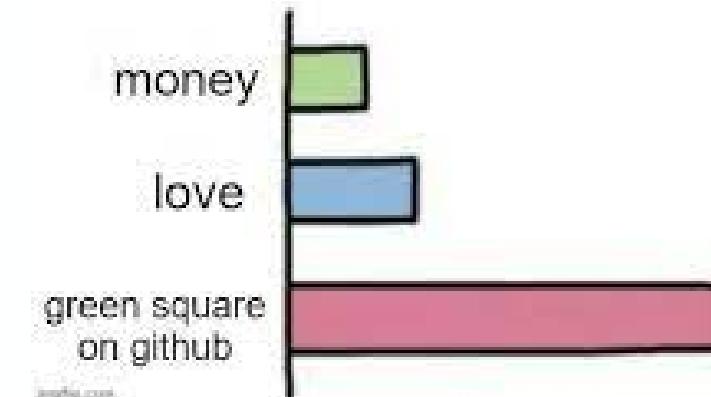


im going to uninstall the  
bootloader



go ahead lol

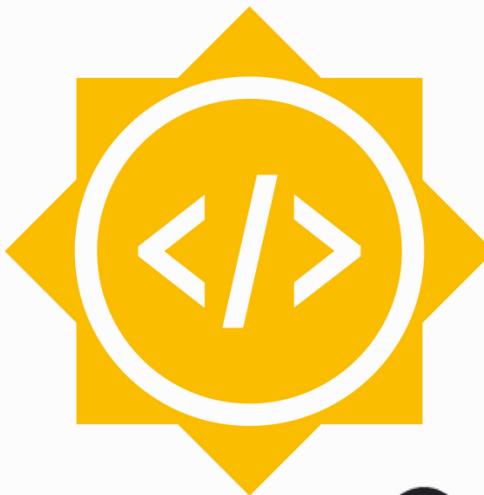
WHAT GIVES PEOPLE  
FEELINGS OF POWER





# Top Open Source Programs

- **Google Summer of Code (GSOC)**
- **MLH Fellowship (Fellowship and Prep program)**
- **Hacktoberfest**
- **Linux Foundation Mentorship (LFX Mentorship)**
- **Outreachy**
- **Microsoft Reinforcement Learning Fest**
- **Season of KDE (SoK)**



Google Season of Docs



**HACKTOBER  
FEST** 000010



**GSOC**

- **Every year hundreds of OSS Organizations apply to GSoC in order to find new talent.**
- **As of 2022, the program is open to anyone aged 18 or over, no longer just students and recent graduates. It was first held from May to August 2005.**
- **Participants get paid to write software, with the amount of their stipend depending on the purchasing power parity of the country where they are located**



## **Organizations want someone who is:**

- Passionate about the community.
- Has almost enough technical skills required to pull off a project.
- Is a good communicator and is proactive.
- Has a strong work ethic.
- Someone who honors their commitments.
- Shows willingness to stick around in the community for the long term

# So, What's



?

Google  
Summer of Code

# STEP I: 💪 Getting Started

- Read the **official GSoC Contributor Guide by Google** (UNDERRATED RESOURCE!)  
<https://google.github.io/gsocguides/student/>
- Familiarize yourself with the **Eligibility Criteria** and **Timeline**
- Read blogs written by the organizations you'd like to get into.  
E.g.: [http://wiki.musicbrainz.org/Development/Summer\\_of\\_Code/Getting\\_started](http://wiki.musicbrainz.org/Development/Summer_of_Code/Getting_started)
- Learn in public. Build up your GitHub and LinkedIn Profiles.  
(Not compulsory, but it helps.)
- Best time to start: **Early November**

# R we Running Late?

## GSOC Timeline

Feb 7 - 21	Organization Application Period
Feb 22	Organizations Announced
<b>Mar 20 - April 4</b>	Contributor Application Period
April 4 - April 26	Proposal Review Period
<b>May 4</b>	Contributor Projects Announced
May 4 - 28	Community Bonding
May 29	Coding Period
July 10	Mid Evaluations
Aug 21	Final Evaluations
Aug 29	Mentors Submit Final Evaluations
Sep 6	Results Announced

# STEP II: Find an Organization

- Visit <https://summerofcode.withgoogle.com/programs/2023/organizations> and **explore organizations.**
- **Explore all the resources** (Contributor guides, GSoC guides, past projects, etc.) thoroughly.
- If your organization already has a GSoC guide, follow it thoroughly.
- **Find previously selected GSoC contributors** from your organization, and ask them questions.
- Make sure to **do your own research before reaching out**. It creates a good impression. Ignorance will breed a negative impression.
- Best time to start: **November**

# STEP III: Get Involved with the Community

- Find Your Organization's **Discord/IRC/Slack Channel** or **Email List** and reach out to them about the projects you're excited about, and introduce yourself
- Start contributing. **Tackle easy issues, contribute documentation**, try to **get some PRs merged**.
- Try to build a good reputation within the community when interacting. (VERY IMPORTANT)
  - Be early
  - Be consistent
  - Demonstrate passion
  - Be proactive
  - Be respectful of your (soon to be) mentor's time and schedule

# STEP IV: Select a Project

## Clean up the Music Listening Histories Dataset

Proposed mentors: *alastairp*

Languages/skills: Python/Postgres/Apache Spark/Typesense

Estimated Project Length: 350 hours

Expected outcomes: Debugged and tested code that can clean up the

The [Music Listening Histories Dataset](#) is a very large dataset with matching their scrobbles (listens in our world) to the MusicBrainz d

## Send a track to another user as a personal recommendation

Proposed mentors: *lucifer, monkey*

Languages/skills: Python, React

Estimated Project Length: 1/5 hours

Expected outcomes: A finished feature ready to be merged into production

A popular music service had a feature long ago that allowed a user to send a track to another user as a personal recommendation. We think this would be a neat feature of have in ListenBrainz, so we're offering

## Add Timezone support to ListenBrainz

Proposed mentors: *monkey, mayhem*

Languages/skills: Python, Postgres, React

Estimated Project Length: 1/5 hours

Expected outcomes: A finished feature ready to be merged into production

ListenBrainz currently does not have the concept of timezones. We know when it is day/night for the users, as to be

# Pick One.

## Coalesce feature in ListenBrainz

Proposed mentors: *akshiaall, monkey, lucifer, mayhem*

Languages/skills: Python, React, Postgres, Troi

Estimated Project Length: 1/5/350 hours

Difficulty: Medium

Expected outcomes: A finished feature ready to be merged into production

## Create a 'Release Radar' plugin for the Troi toolkit

Proposed mentors: *mayhem*

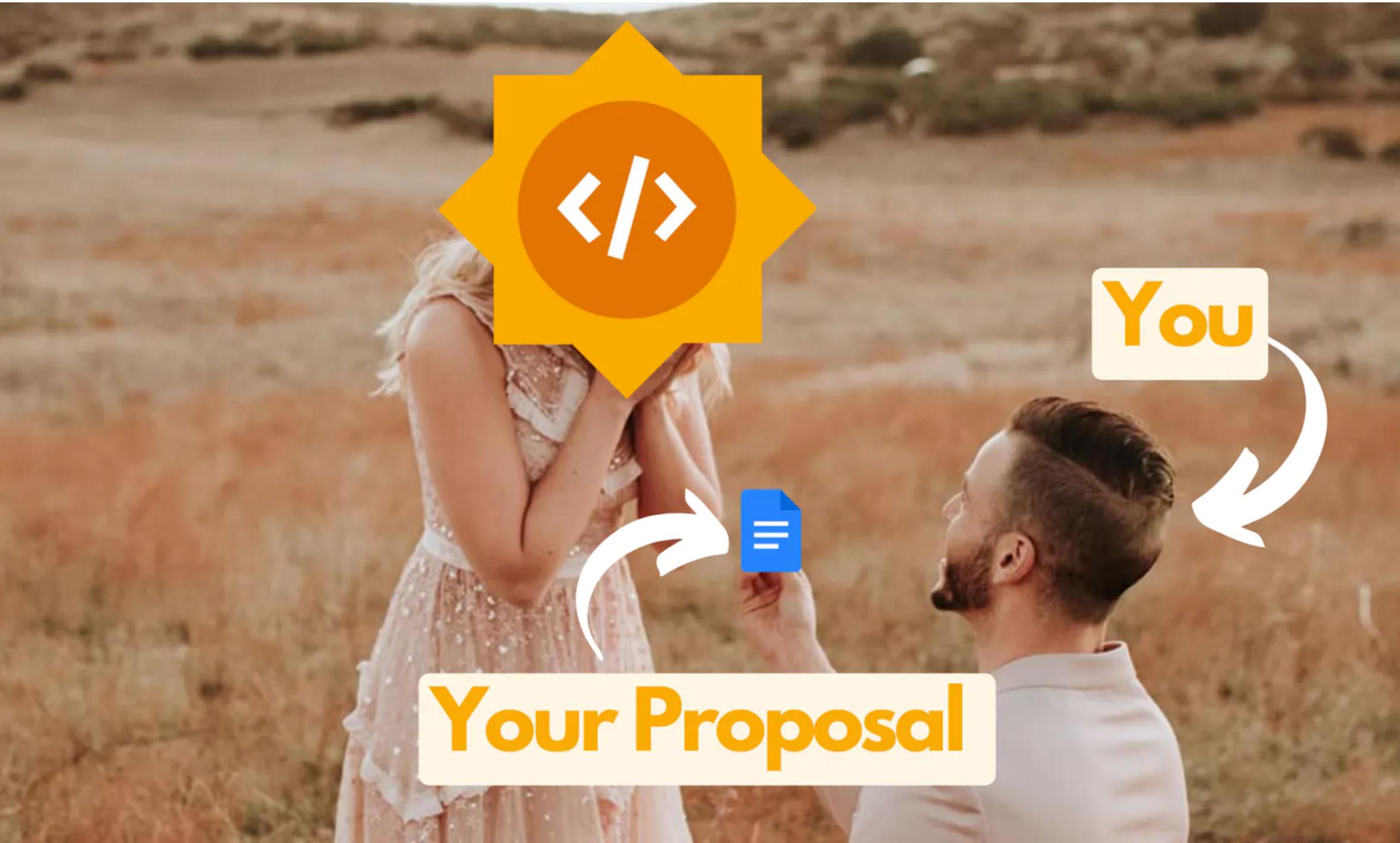
Languages/skills: Python, postgres possibly

Estimated Project Length: 1/5 hours

Expected outcomes: One or more finished, debugged and tested Troi

Our [troi recommendation toolkit](#) is our playground for developing Troi components. It includes a simple API for interacting with

# STEP V: 🖌️Work on a Proposal



# STEP V: Work on a Proposal

- Before starting, **check if your organization already has a proposal template.** If yes, follow it like bible.
- Make sure to adhere with your organization's proposal requirements.
- Building a relationship with (soon-to-be) mentors and community members is essential. Without it, even the best proposals will be rejected.
- E.g.: My GSoC proposal that got me selected:  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OeEGn973kj0BWKWw\\_YIGVF4NbDonEIZQnDXtpEG-al/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OeEGn973kj0BWKWw_YIGVF4NbDonEIZQnDXtpEG-al/edit?usp=sharing).
- Include a detailed 12 week plan of how you'll be executing the project if selected.
- Mention your time allowances. Taking classes? Traveling? Moving? Getting married? Mention how you plan on managing your time with other activities.
- **MAKE SURE TO DISCUSS YOUR PROPOSAL THOROUGHLY WITH YOUR MENTOR.**

# General Structure of a Good Proposal

1. Your Contact Information:
  1. Name
  2. Email
  3. GitHub Profile
  4. LinkedIn/Twitter (Optional, but recommended)
  5. Your username for IRC, Discord, or Slack (whichever your organization uses).
  6. The username of your Project Mentor.
  7. Your time zone.
  8. Your preferred languages of communication.
2. Project Introduction/Abstract
3. Problem statements
4. Proposed solutions for each problem statement
5. Clear end goals, and their specific outcomes.
6. A list of stretch goals (if any)
7. A DETAILED timeline (A weekly timeline with a few milestones is best)
8. Personal Introduction & Misc. Information
  1. Give your brief introduction
  2. Demonstrate your passion for a project
  3. Demonstrate your past accomplishments, open-source contributions, work experience, etc.
  4. Talk about your relevant personal projects.
  5. Discuss your time availability and other commitments - How much time do you have available? How you're planning on using it?
  6. Show off your skills.
  7. Share your resume if you have a good one.

- Start building your proposal **AT LEAST 2-3 weeks before the deadline.**
- **If you have any extra ideas for the project, include them in your proposals.** This will show your ability to think creatively on your own.
- **Refer to other proposals** that got selected in your desired organization.
- Include relevant **images, diagrams, flowcharts, database tables, design mockups**, etc.
- The proposal should be **comprehensible to someone unfamiliar with the project.**
- **Make sure to ask for feedback** on your proposal from your mentors, members of the open-source community, and other experts. Go through plenty of iterations of improvement before submitting. **This step is CRUCIAL** - at the end of the day, it's your project mentor who's going to approve/reject your proposal anyway.



# Bonus Tips

- **START EARLY** (November onwards)
- Try to **interact with your fellow community members daily.**  
Consistent participation shows your passion.
- Your first pull request doesn't have to change the world. You can start by:
  - Fixing typing errors
  - Fixing simple HTML errors
  - Adding/Removing/updating documentation.
  - Leveraging “good first issues” type issues that most organizations keep aside for newcomers.
- Get rid of your imposter syndrome.

# FAST & MERCURIUS

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Our  
bimonthly  
newsletter

