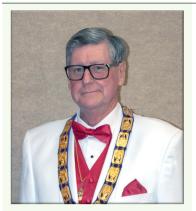


www.mddedcelks.org MARCH 2020



State President John Loftus MD-DE-DC Elks Association

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STATE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By John Loftus

Welcome to our Spring Conference! We are fortunate to have as our guests our Grand Exalted Ruler Robert L. Duitsman and Grand First Lady Beth. Please take a moment to say hello and give them a warm Maryland, Delaware, District of Columbia greeting!

This year is passing very quickly, I must say. I can only guess this is the result of the various activities associated with this office. I have completed nineteen Lodge visits. To mention a few, I traveled west to Oakland and Frostburg Lodges, to the north, Newark Lodge, onward south to St. Mary's County Lodge and Calvert Lodge. To the east, I visited Ocean City Lodge and Cape Henlopen Lodge.

I have attended Elks Camp Barrett meetings and interacted with the Trustees. I attended two hearings in Annapolis in support of our Western Gaming Initiative. Dover Lodge invited Eileen, and me to their Charity Banquet and Cape Henlopen invited me to join the festivities honoring our Veterans at their Veteran's Day dinner.

Last year, I was able to attend the Training Committee's "Elks Officer Training Program" at Washington-Rockville Lodge, and this year I plan on attending when it is at Milford Lodge.

I attended Drug Awareness Training at Camp Barrett, as well as the Youth Activities Committee's "Youth Appreciation Day." I planned the October Conference in Ocean City and our Spring Workshop here at Hagerstown Lodge.

On a more somber note, I attended the Memorial Services of some dedicated Elks, PSP Carl Vogt of Calvert Lodge, and PER Ken Palmer of Pocomoke Lodge.

It has been a pleasure to attend and participate in numerous Lodge, District, and State Soccer Shoot and Hoop Shoot events. All the while, Eileen was by my side serving as my "aide-de-camp" and represented you as "First Lady" in her down to earth-friendly style. As I have observed, without her proofing skills my work product would be profoundly impacted! With all this, we still managed to spend the holidays with our family and enjoy time with our grandkids!

I need to mention a few topics that impact all of us involved "in the noble work to which our Order is dedicated." Whether we serve in an elected, appointed, or volunteer position, we must conscientiously perform our duties. This includes not only doing the work, but following up with any necessary documentation. If we are working at the Lodge level, we need to submit reports to document our charitable hours, resources, and mileage, as well as any income and expense information related to each event. This information is essential in evaluating our success and is critical in future planning.

If you are a District Chair, you need to stay in contact with your Lodge counterparts to ensure they are aware of and know how to access your committee's support services.

If you are a State Committee Chair, you must stay in contact with your District Chairs and provide them with any required logistical support they may require and report on your committee's activity to the State Association leadership regularly. I know this all takes time and effort, but it is important "the right hand know what the left hand is doing".

Continued on page 3

7:00 PM - 8:30 PM..... Dinner & Entertainment

MARYLAND, DELAWARE, AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ELKS STATE ASSOCIATION SPRING WORKSHOP AGENDA MARCH 20–22, 2020 AT HAGERSTOWN LODGE #378

Friday, March 20, 20	019		Sunday, March 22	, 2020	
12:00 PM -5:00 PM	Registration		7:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Breakfast	
1:00 PM			8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Registration	
	State Trustees Meeting			•	
	ECB Exec. Cmte. Meeting	•	9:00 AM	Workshop Called to Order	
Saturday, March 21,	, 2019			Invocation & Pledge of Allegiance	
7:30 AM - 9:30 AM	Breakfast Buffet		0.00 AM 44.00 AM	Training Presentations	
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Registration		9:00 AM - 11:20 AM	Committee Reports	
8:00 AM - 8:45 AM			9:05 AM	2020 Convention	PSP Warren Johnson
	Workshop Called to Order		9·20 AM	Accident Prevention	Stu Rurgoon
9:00 AM - 9:15 AM	Introductions, Invocation, Pledge, Roll Call Etc.			Public Relations & Website	•
9:15- 9-30 AM	Presentations by State President			Elks Ritual and Special	Priscilla Schwab, PSP &
9:30 AM - 11:50 AM	Training Presentations		9:30 AM	Ceremonies	William H. Buttrill Jr, PSP
	Soccer Shoot	•	10:00 AM	BUSINESS MEETING	
	Directory			Advisory Report	. Connie deYoung
	Elks National Foundation			Trustees Report	
	ENVSC, Army of Hope	•		Secretarys Report	
	Welcome Home			Treasures Report	. Jackie Phillips
	Con-Con	,		Unfinished Business	
	DAP/Elks Camp Barrett	•		New Business	
	Lodge Activities ECB Hall of Fame			Nominations & Elections	
	Hoop Shoot	•		Announcements	
	Scholarship		Comments	President Elect	Ctu Burgoon
	Wm. J. Jernick Fund	-		President	
	Americanism Committee	1: 1 0 \ \tag{7.11}		GL Fraternal Committee	James Stewart
11:05 AM	Membership			Grand Lodge Esquire	
	Government Relations	=		Grand Lodge Trustee	
	Donate Life	, ,		Grand Lodge Sponsor	
	Youth Activities			Grand Exalted Ruler	Robert L. Duitsman
11:40 AM	20/20 Committee	Warren Johnson		DEPARTED MEMBERS	
11:45 AM	Announcements			SICKNESS & DISTRESS	
12:00 PM	Lunch			ECB 50/50 Drawing	
AFTERNOON MEETING	S			ADJOURNMENT	
	20/20 Convention Cmte (Committee Members Only Please)	Warren Johnson, PSP, Chair			
	VP, State Chairs	State Pres/Pres-Elect	Next meeting	June 5-7, 2020 at Ann	napolis Doubletree
	Exalted Rulers Mtg	State Pres/Pres-Elect		by Hilton Hotel	
	DDGER, District Leaders Mtg	Paul D. Helsel, PGER - GL Sponsor			
2:30 PM - 3:30 PM	Con/Con	Merrilyn Ramsey, Chair	News ette		
SATURDAY EVENING A	ACTIVITIES		DEADLIN	E	
6:00 PM - 6:30 PM	Cocktail Reception		MAY 8, 2020	0	



MESSAGE FROM OUR GRAND EXALTED RULER

By Robert L. Duitsman

NEW LEADERS STRESS COMMUNICATION, EDUCATION

March is an exciting month in the life of every Lodge. The installation of officers must be held after March 15 and no later than April 15. This is the time for new leadership to assume responsibility for the governance of the Lodge.

A challenge that may exist is the failure to properly train new officers for their duties. Many Lodges have their practices and traditions in some respects, but there are fundamental responsibilities provided in our statutes that all officers should be familiar with. Are you holding an officer training program within the Lodge or district that gives new officers the knowledge and tools to help them do their jobs? Knowing what to do must be learned, and new officers may not know where to look to get the best information.

And please, don't forget to get your committees appointed and provide

committee members with the information they will need to do their jobs. I've often thought how helpful it would be for every committee chair to be asked to attend a Lodge meeting every month or at least every quarter to give a report on the activities of the committee. It will provide meeting attendees with updates of committee activities, and it will instill in committee chairs an understanding that the activities of their committees have value and their reports are appreciated.

All eyes are also on Lodge finances. Budget preparation should be underway, with serious thought being given to rightsizing Lodge spending plans to keep them within anticipated receipts. Too often budgets are prepared just because they have to be without serious consideration of what will be needed to maintain long term Lodge viability.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM COVER PAGE

The monthly charitable report you submit to our Government Relations Chair is used to create a compilation that provides a clear picture of all we do for our communities youth, veterans, and more. When we go before a Legislative Body, Regulatory Authority, or other Government entity this information provides crucial support and clarity to our positions. Last but hardly least, it allows us to demonstrate for our benefactors, be they fellow Elks, ENF Grants, Public or Private Grants or partnerships, what we do with the resources that we receive!

It has been a great pleasure to serve as your President thus far this year, and I know I speak for Eileen as well. I look forward to the remaining months until we meet again! Have an outstanding weekend, and thank you for taking the time to attend our Spring Workshop, meeting our Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady, and furthering the work of our great Elks Association! Don't forget my slogan, "Growth Thru Community Awareness" and don't be afraid to share with others the good news of our Order.

In recent months, I have received many calls reporting that members of our Association are suffering from various illnesses. Please keep our fellow Elks in your prayers. I know with absolute certainty when I was going through my health issues, your support and prayers were an essential part of my healing process. I believe God guided the hands of my surgeons and inspired my caretakers, and that was, in significant part, due to prayers offered on my behalf.

Finally, we have lost a few members of our team due to personal and health issues. I want to thank Sharon Hinton, Bill Meekins, and Teresa Boileau, for their service and welcome Dane Kane, Sergeant at Arms, Ben Stone, Inner Guard, and Dave Reihl, State Trustee, to our team.

Fraternally, John & Eileen

MD. DE & DC ELKS ASSOCIATION NEWS OFFICIAL PUBLICATION 2019—2020

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MESSAGE FROM OUR STATE SPONSOR

By Paul D. Helsel, PGER & Sponsor P.O. Box 8173, Newark, DE 19714-8173 Phone: (302) 737-4460 Fax: (302) 737-4465 E-mail: pdhelsel@verizon.net

Welcome to Hagerstown Lodge No. 378 and the Spring Conference of the Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association. The Hagerstown Lodge and our President have planned a full weekend of fun and fellowship for your enjoyment, with a bit of business sprinkled in. It promises to be a great weekend, and Jane and I look forward to enjoying the fellowship and visiting once again with each of you.

At this Conference, we are honored to host Grand Exalted Ruler Robert L. Duitsman and First Lady Beth on their official visit to our Association. They hail from California and have come to us by way of Missouri and DC to spend some quality time with us. I know they are excited to meet each of you and learn about Elkdom in MD DE & DC. Please join Jane and me in welcoming them, and please take a few minutes to greet them personally and explain to them how your Lodge and our Association are "Honoring the Past – Embracing the Future"!!!

Once again, a good portion of this workshop will be devoted to training and providing needed information to individual officers (leaders) and members, so they are better prepared to handle their specific Lodge operations and Elk Programs in their local communities. Please participate in the activities planned, learn, and take what you learn back to your Lodge and apply

it – hopefully helping to make your Lodge a more involved and stronger Lodge!!!

Membership retention and growth are still the number one priority, and we have a little over a week remaining to pull in those who are delinquent and initiate the candidates who are still in waiting. The numbers today (five weeks back) would suggest it will be close there is a chance that with a lot of work, we may have a gain again this year, but there is an equal chance we may fall a bit short. We'll know more about where we are at the Conference, and we'll still have a week plus to give it that final push. We've done it before; we can do it again - we will show a gain, again in 2019/2020!!!

This year has seen a major undertaking at the Lodge level - the rolling out of the new Financial Reporting System (FRS) approved for implementation by the Lodges at the St. Louis Convention. The goal is/was to have all Lodges using the FRS by April 1. Over the past six months, our Association Auditing and Business Practices Committee lead by Chairman Bill Simonds has worked diligently to get our 37 Lodges up and running with the required FRS. They, the committee, and the Lodges have done a phenomenal job, and it appears that about 90% of our Lodges will be compliant by April 1 a far better accomplishment than about 95% of the Associations across our Order. The Lodges not on the FRS by April 1 face the requirement to complete an Audit or Review and file an AFR as in past years. They also will be subject to fines when they fail to submit the **FRS** required data for April. Congratulations and thank you to all the Lodges which are up and running with the FRS and a special thank you to Bill Simonds for his relentless and dedicated effort to get all our Lodges on the FRS we certainly wouldn't be where we are today without his guidance, help, and perseverance.

New Lodge officers are in the process of being installed across our Association and our Order. Best wishes to each of you taking on leadership responsibility. It's now your turn to build on the strengths of the past, as well as to correct and/or improve on shortcomings of the past. Always remember you are not alone in this effort to make your Lodge the best it can be. There are a multitude of Elks out there who want you to succeed and want your Lodge to be the best it can be. There is a wealth of knowledge and know-how waiting to help you, should you need it. hesitate to ask Don't ever information, guidance, assistance, etc. that will help you do your job, perform your duties, and move your Lodge forward.

Thanks again everyone for your efforts on behalf of their individual Lodge and our Association. Best wishes for a most enjoyable Conference weekend, and a most successful 2020/2021 Lodge year.

Paul Jekel

Sincerely and fraternally,

- March 29—State Americanism Banquet
- March 31—ENF Fiscal Year Donation Deadline
- April 12—Easter Sunday
- April 16—19 Hoop Shoot National Finals
- April 23—26 MVS Leadership Weekend
- May 8—Newsletter Deadline
- May 10-Mother's Day
- May 24—ECB Family Day
- May 25—Memorial Day
- June 5—7 June Convention @ Doubletree by Hilton, Annapolis
- June 14—Flag Day



- June 20—Pickin' for Troops @ECB
- June 21—Father's Day
- July 4—Independence Day
- July 5—8 Grand Lodge, Baltimore -State assigned Hotel is Sheraton Inner Harbor
- August 1—TBA-New Elk DDGER Clinics

NOTE: Lodges, please refrain from scheduling conflicting events so key officers and members may attend all meetings.



PRESIDENT-ELECT MESSAGE

By Stu Burgoon



Elk Members, Friends, and Families,

Welcome to Hagerstown for our annual Spring Workshop honoring our Grand Exalted Ruler Robert L. Duitsman and his First lady Beth for their visit. Please take the time to say hello.

By this time, I'm sure most of the Lodges have elected a new team of officers and are busy preparing for their Lodge year. Thank you for the hard work and dedication of our now Past Exalted Rulers. It is an exciting time to be a member. We have a chance to reflect on last year and move forward to come up with new ideas and find new ways to improve how we can help our communities and charity programs. I am very excited about the upcoming Lodge year 2020-2021. It is going to be an "Elkstanding" time hosting our Lodge Convention Baltimore. Have you signed up to volunteer? We NEED You!!

Since January, Julie and I have been attending many wonderful Lodges and events. We spent the weekend in Chestertown for our State Hoop Shoot competition. We had the opportunity to meet many outstanding kids and their parents. Then onto Frederick for the Elks Regional Shoot. Our kids showed impressive comradery and great sportsmanship. I did have to show off some of my "Old Man" basketball skills by helping to rebound.

Julie and I enjoyed attending the 50th Anniversary Celebration for Waldorf Lodge #2421. Thank you, Exalted Ruler Renee Rivituso, for inviting us to be a part of Waldorfs great milestone; Congrats. I also

attended several well-run District Deputy Clinics.

Our organization continues to lobby and testify in support of our "Slots for Homeless Veterans" bill. With Corey Bradley's leadership, I, and many other dedicated Elk members testified in the State Senate and House. This year we have gotten further in the process than ever before. Keep the pressure on with your emails and letters. "Tenacity," I believe, this is our year.

I attended the Leadership Training at Washington-Rockville Lodge # 15. It is always well attended, and the newly elected officers get some great input from our speakers and forum panel.

Before you know it, summer will be here, and we will be having a great adventure hosting our National Grand Lodge Convention. I have been extremely busy assisting our Chairman Warren Johnson with this huge endeavor. Most of the merchandise has been selected, and we will begin purchasing. I have been meeting with Warren and some of our Grand Lodge logistic along with Downtown Convention teams. We are well on our way.

Moving forward, I look forward to seeing you all at our weekend in Hagerstown. Please make a point to say hello to Julie and me.

Have an Elk kind of weekend,

Capt. Stu

"Shake a Veteran's Hand, Keep a Smile on Your Face and a Song in Your Heart"



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

By Lynn Evans, State Scholarship Chairperson

The MVS (Most Valuable Student) Scholarship Contest deadline was February 24, 2020, for the state judging. Eighty-two applications went from the district level to the state competition.

North Central had 18 of which five were from Annapolis, four from Glen Burnie, three from Laurel, two each from Broadneck, Essex, and Towson.

North East had 17 of which five were from Wilmington, four from Milford and Newark, and two each from Abingdon and Dover.

Southeast had 22 of which five each were from Easton and Ocean City, four from Salisbury, three from Selbyville, two each from Seaford and Cape Henlopen, and one from Pocomoke City.

South West had 15 of which seven were from Washington-Rockville, three from St. Mary's County, two from Waldorf, one each from Camp Springs, Deale, and Prince George's County.

West had 10, four were from Westminster, and three each from Frederick and Hagerstown

The names of the winners will be announced at the Spring Meeting on Saturday, March 21, in Hagerstown.

The Skilled Trades Scholarship application was posted on November 1, 2019, on the state website, www.mddedcelks.org. The deadline for applications is midnight April 15, 2020. Remember, this scholarship is designed for those seeking a career in skilled trades and is open to high school graduates who graduated between 2016 and 2019, or will graduate in 2020. Ten scholarships are awarded each year. The top female and top male will receive \$2,000 per year for 2 years, and the other eight will receive \$1,000 per year for 2 years. Please encourage students to apply.



ACCIDENT PREVENTION REPORT

IT IS THE START OF A NEW LODGE YEAR

By Stu Burgoon

tees change. Members take on new responsibilities.

Please take a few minutes to review the information below. Exalted Rulers, Officers, Secretaries, Treasurers, and Trustees should all become familiar with where these documents are These are a few suggestions. stored and how to access if needed. All committee chairs should try and understand what applies to their team.

One topic that continues to arise is Lodge liabilities with rentals and Lodge events. It is suggested and recommended even a member using the Lounge or Hall for a private affair should get Have an Elk kind of day, Capt. Stu some form of insurance. Whether it is a blanket coverage

Lodge year to Lodge year, new officers are elected. Commit- through an organization, homeowner rider coverage, or easily applied for on our Grand Lodge Safety and Insurance Center. Even though a member rents or uses a Lodge facility, they should, or the Lodge should require insurance.

If you have any questions or need information, please call or email me.

Let's all have a great prosperous and SAFE New Lodge Year.

Now is a great time to examine the Lodge's legal wellbeing:

- Where are the Lodge's legal documents located?
- Are state and local filings and registrations maintained?
- Become familiar with all Lodge contracts.
- The officers and trustees should know all Lodge obligations.
- Lodge officers and trustees must maintain proper records.
- Contracts should avoid a conflict of interest.
- Does the Lodge have written personnel policies?
- The Lodge should have written work rules for its employees.
- Does the Lodge have an attorney that can review contracts?
- Now is the time to diary important dates such as renewal of licenses and permits.
- Does the Lodge have service contracts with repairmen, plumbers, electricians, etc.?
- If so, such service contracts should provide the Lodge with indemnification.
- Indemnification includes the obligation to protect the Lodge from claims made by the contractor's employees.
- Service contracts should require that all contractors provide evidence of liability insurance.
- Service contracts should include contractual liability coverage.
- The Lodge should be named as additional insured on the contractor's insurance policy.
- It is unacceptable for the Lodge to indemnify other individuals or corporations.
- Are the Lodge's financial and business records properly filed for retrieval and provided with back-upredundancy?
- Has the Lodge prepared a rental agreement or contract to be signed by individuals or entities using the Lodge, according to the Laws of the Order?
- In these agreements, the entity using the Lodge should hold the Lodge harmless for activities and provide evidence of insurance coverage (see Pages 10-11 of the Liability Insurance Program booklet).
- Now is the time to review the Accident Prevention Manual and Liability Insurance Program booklet, which are posted on the Safety & Insurance page of the Elks website.





On behalf of the ENVSC District Chairmen and VAVS Reps, I would like to welcome Grand Exalted Ruler Robert L. Duitsman and First Lady Beth to the MD, DE & DC Spring Conference here in beautiful western Maryland.

Congratulations to all the newly Elected Exalted Rulers and Lodge officers for the upcoming year 2020-2021, and I wish you all a successful and gratifying year.

The Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Representatives honor the "Elks Pledge" by never forgetting our sheltered veterans by visiting them at our State Homes and the VA facilities. One particular VAVS Rep, Past State President H. Lee Davis, has honored that pledge and will receive the Loch Raven VA's Presidential Award recognizing him for over 4000 hours during his years of service. The award will be presented to Lee in April at the Loch Raven Veterans Administration Medical Center. In addition to the Presidential award, the VA's National Advisory Committee for Voluntary Service has named Lee, the National Veterans Volunteer of the Year. Lee will receive this award on May 1st in San Antonio, Texas. Congratulations Lee! You deserve this recognition, and you have made your Elks family proud.

I would also like to recognize our seven other VAVS Reps for their service to our Veterans as they have reported 953 volunteer hours and contributed both cash and non-cash donations in the amount of \$18,873.00 from April 2019 through January 2020. Welcome Joe Lancaster from Towson Lodge #469 to our VAVS family. Joe has agreed to become the VAVS Rep for the Baltimore VAMC, replacing George Larkins. Although George is stepping down as the VAVS Rep, he will continue as the Deputy Rep at the hospital. On behalf of all Elks, thank you George for your many years of service to our veterans, both at his Lodge and at the VA.

The Welcome Home Project and the Army of Hope continue to receive requests for assistance. The Welcome Home Project has provided Welcome Home Kits and purchased much-needed furniture for our Homeless Veterans transitioning into their new homes. The Army of Hope provided a Welcome Home kit and purchased furniture for a disabled veteran moving into a new home, and also partnered with the VA to replace a blind veteran's home air conditioning unit. This winter, the Army of Hope received 8 requests from veterans who needed assistance with energy bills and helped with the completion of a bathroom renovation for the widow of a deceased veteran who passed away before he could complete the project. The Army of Hope spent over \$14,770.00 assisting our veterans this year and collected \$6,700.00 in donations. Thank you for your continued support of our Veterans.



By Bob McIntire

A widow of a deceased veteran contacted the Army of Hope asking for assistance, Her husband died before he completed a bathroom renovation. She asked if the Army of

Hope could complete the bathroom and pay for the expenses. The Army of Hope District Chairmen approved the project. An Elk member Richard Mayes completed the bathroom. Below are pictures of the renovation the before and after:







Mr. William Richardson, representing the Sons of the American Revolution presented Cape Henlopen Lodge #2540 Exalted Ruler, Ralph Patterson (left) with two awards recognizing the Lodge's devotion and reverence for our Country's Flag.





WEST DISTRICT

By Jim Mills, VP Hagerstown Lodge #378 |ames22@yahoo.com

I am honored to welcome Grand Exalted Ruler Robert "Bob" L. Duitsman and his wife, Beth to Hagerstown Elks Lodge #378, my home Lodge. Our Lodge is 152 years old and located in Washington County, Maryland, home of Antietam Battlefield and the C&O Canal. We are very close to the Baltimore and DC regions. I surely hope your stay in this great Historic part of Maryland is enjoyable.

Thank you for your Honorable Presence to the 2020 Spring Workshop of the MD-DC-DE Elks Association. Our Western District #3840 is made up of 5 great Lodges: Westminster, Oakland, Frostburg, Frederick and Hagerstown.

Thank you to all the Western District Elks Lodges for a good 2019/2020 year; you all have done well. Remember to send in your Charity reports by March 31st. It's is your duty for all Elks who donate their time.

New Exalted Rulers, your focus needs to be on lapse members and getting them back into your Lodge. Maintain good financial records, train your paid and volunteer staff in great customer relations, have fun, treat all Elks, and their guests, with the utmost respect (key to retention). Your Lodge should be a place everyone wants to visit and be part of.

Thank you to all of the incoming officers for 2020/2021 year. Serve with pride.

Remember donating your time is true Elk Valor but comes with Sacrifice as your time is valuable and I know that. I thank you all.

TERRI LYNN NUT CAMPAIGN TO BENEFIT ELKS CAMP BARRETT

By Hilda Davis | hildaleedavis@aol.com



Thank you to all who purchased nuts this year to support Elks Camp Barrett. We started this campaign only a couple of years ago, but it doesn't not seem to have taken a good hold as of yet.

This year we sold 248 bags of nuts. The profit from the sales of the nuts for Elks Camp Barrett is \$663.15. Hopefully, we will do thus again next year.

Thank you one, and all for your participation.





NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT

By Mark A. Walp, VP Annapolis Lodge #622 ma38rk@comcast..net

Welcome, all to the beautiful Hagerstown Elks Lodge Spring Conference. Speaking of winter, I hope everyone had as pleasant a winter as Sandy and I. If this is global warming for Maryland, Delaware, and Washington DC, I'm in!

May I begin by saying congratulations to all of the elected Officers for 2020/2021? May you all have a great year servicing your Lodge members, Veterans Programs, Youth Programs, and your community.

By now, I am sure most of you have heard of "Slots for Homeless Veterans Act SB 59 and HB131 2020". I would like to personally thank Corey Bradley for continuing the great work of our dearly departed Brother Carl Vogt who worked so vigorously to help our Veterans. Also, thank you President-Elect Stu Burgoon and all Lodges that showed up for the hearings in Annapolis, and to everyone who sent letters and postcards to their Representatives.

As I write this, I have just learned the Bill did not pass. Corey Bradley will surely give us the full report at the Spring Conference Saturday Meeting. Had it passed, what a celebration it would have been for our Western Shore.

As all my Vice President visits are complete, I would like to thank you for keeping Elks the greatest people on earth. I sincerely thank all North Central Lodges for your friendship and hospitality.

"In reading the Lives of Great Elks, I found that the first victory they won was over themselves, self-discipline with all of them came first."

By Linda Vibbert, State Chair Americanism



We have had great success with this year's Americanism Program in our Lodges and the Americanism Banquet is set.

The Americanism Banquet will be March 29, 2020, at the Westminster Lodge #2277 at 12pm. I am happy to report the following Winner's of this year's Americanism Poster and Essay Contest listed below. This list will be on the State Website for everyone to read.

I want to send a big thank-you to the Lodge and District Chairman who worked very diligently to educate, promote and send in entries. Americanism is a very important Committee that teaches our youth what it means to live in this great Country, our home of the brave and land of the free. It also demonstrates working with each other and examining your individual and unwavering pride to be an American. And, it helps our youth learn more about what it means to be a Patriot and to support the basic ideas in which this Great Country of America has been built. Thank you to everyone who helped with this program. God Bless America and The B.P.O.E Elks Organization!

POSTER CONTEST:

1. George Zander, Calvert Lodge #2620 Ages 0-3

2. Legend Myers, Abingdon Lodge #2354

1. Clare Frank, Havre De Grace Lodge #1564 Ages 4-5

2. Braden Smith, Calvert Lodge #2620

3. Rosemary Fongemie, Havre De Grace Lodge #1564

Ages 6-7 1. Delaney Geppi, Havre De Grace Lodge #1564

2. Dominic Pesseto, Deale Lodge #2528

3. Lucy Tapera, Havre De Grace Lodge #1564

4. Ryland Rynesk, Abingdon Lodge #2354

5. Lianna Miller, Calvert Lodge #2620

Ages 8-9 1. Aeris Genovese, Deale Lodge #2528

2. Danielle Hollinshead, Calvert Lodge #2528

Ages 10-13 1. Eli Donithon, Havre De Grace Lodge #1564

2. Madelyn Hopwood, Chestertown Lodge #2474

3. Jeremias Avila-Morazan, Deale Lodge #2528

4. Dylan Hurtt, Chestertown lodge #2474

5. Sofia Miller, Calvert Lodge #2620

Ages 14-17 1. Xander Williams, Deale Lodge #2528

ESSAY CONTEST:

Division 1

1. Michelle Nyasa, Salisbury Lodge #817

2. Morgan Neall, Salisbury Lodge #817

3. Ryley Spademan, Cape Henlopen Lodge #2540

4. Tessa Figliozzi, Chestertown lodge #2474

5. Brennen Dean, Chestertown lodge #2474

Division 2

1. Marianna Freda, Salisbury Lodge #817

2. Mackenzie Yuska, Cape Hanlopen Lodge #2540

3. Connor Gebhardt, Havre De Grace #1564

4. Kane Bowers, Abingdon lodge #2354

5. Molly Durkin, Deale lodge #2528

The 1st place Winner's of each category will be displayed on our Americanism board at our Spring Conference and Both contest's winners' will be listed with their category, placement and entry on our State Association Website.

May, God Bless these young Americans with never ending creativity and potential! I hope to see everyone at the Americanism Banquet!



ELKS CAMP BARRETT IMPROVEMENT FUND RAFFLE

By Lou Schmeltzer, PDD, Chairman

The tickets have been mailed and mailing rate. Your checks, however, can should have been delivered by the time be made out the same old way. you read this. If you haven't received your tickets, or would like some additional ones, please contact me. My e-mail address and cell phone number are in the directory.

addressed envelope is "Fundraiser" rather than the "Raffle". This change was made due to postal regulations regarding the non-profit

We are offering the tickets for \$10.00 each or 6 for \$50.00. We are requesting every member purchase at least one ticket and sell the rest to neighbors, coworkers, friends, family, etc. Of course, if You may have noticed the return you are able to purchase all 6, then we the thank you very much.

> We are in hopes this year's raffle will be another great success, but it can only U + ME @ ECB = A GR8 Place 2B! happen with your help. Please be as

generous as you can to help keep our wonderful Major Project beautiful and well maintained.

I look forward to having a very favorable report for you in Ocean City as the deadline for the June newsletter will be before the final figures are tabulated.

I look forward to opening a lot of envelopes and seeing everyone at the Family Picnic May 24th.





SOUTH WEST DISTRICT

By Dolly Broom, VP St. Mary's Co. Lodge #2092

The South West District has had a great start to the new year. District Deputy GER Robert Broom held his DD Clinic on January 18, 2020. Thank you to St. Mary's County for hosting. Thank you to John and Merrilyn Ramsey for making the trek down to discuss plans for Baltimore 2020. There was a great turnout and participation from all the Lodges despite everyone's busy schedules in January.

Many completed their trip down south with a visit to Waldorf Lodge for their 50th Anniversary Celebration on the same day. It was quite the milestone for their Lodge, and fun was had by all while dancing to the music of Dr. Robert's Band. Two of their Charter Members were in attendance, Neil Myers and Jim Kelleher. They were joined by



several visiting members, Past Grand Officer Lodge and Past State President Bruce Howell and his wife Bonnie, Past State President Mary Cardinal Vogt, State President-Elect Stuart Burgoon Sr. and his

wife Julie, Past District Deputy Trent Manson and his wife, and current Exalted Ruler of St. Mary's County Lodge, Waverley Manson. February brought sales of pink & red hearts for Elks National Foundation. Congratulations Waldorf!

St. Mary's County Lodge #2092 has been a bunch of busy bees to kick off the start of 2020! Their Elk Of The Month for January and February selected an ELKstanding charity



for the Lodge's patronage: WARM (Wrapping Arms Around Many) Numerous volunteers prepared and served a feast to twenty-five homeless members of our county and sponsored one of these families when they were approved for housing and moved into their own home. Their New Year's Day Quarter Auction was a rousing success! The beginning of the year heralded several of their much anticipated annual events such as, the Pitch Tournament, the Chili Cook-Off, and a Gun Bash.

Congratulations to Deale Lodge's Elizabeth "Lizzie" Fitzwater for winning the State Hoop Shoot in her age group. Good luck at Regionals! Kudos to Linda Buchanan for nominating Cpl. Richard Brookman for and receiving the National Enrique S. Camarena Award.

Prince George County Lodge #1778 held a special needs Valentine's Day dance for a little over 500 students on February 14th and 21st, which composed of Schools from the area all geared for special needs children. What a great way to support the children in their community!

Be sure you are capturing Member's charitable hours for all of these great projects.

The South West District will be holding the Caucus to elect a new Vice President, a Trustee and a Camp Barrett Executive Committee member to represent the District following the District Deputy Clinic scheduled on April 4, 2020, at 1 pm at St. Mary's County Lodge #2092.

See you all soon!



ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.

By Margie McIntyre, State ENF Chair

DEADLINE DRAWS NEAR

ENF DONATIONS

As the end of our Elk year is quickly approaching, so is the deadline for our ENF contributions. MARCH 31, 2020 is the deadline. This means Lodges must work quickly to remit any donations that have not been submitted to the ENF office. Individuals may access their annual giving total on the elks.org website at My ENF, and quickly make an individual donation by visiting enf.elks.org/MakeAGift.

CIP GRANTS

March 31, 2020 is the deadline for all 2019-2020 CIP Grants to be completed. The Grant deadlines have now transitioned to be in line with the Lodge year, and Final Reports are due 30 days from the completion date of the project. Grant Coordinators, remember to check out the new CIP Grant History Report to make sure that your Final Reports are submitted on time.

- April 1, 2020 Grant Applications Open
- December 31, 2020 Grant Applications Close
- March 31, 2021 Projects must be completed

Final Reports will be due 30 days after project completion. Both the Grant Applications and Final Reports are now submitted online.





Our Website has finally attained the elusive 5-star rating from the Grand Lodge State Website Committee. The State Website: MD, DE, DC, Elks.org—has over 100+ Pages—so explore the many pages information regarding our State Association Programs. There are numerous downloads available; Forms, Manuals, Programs, etc. While surfing through our Web Pages, it should be noted that each Page has a Header, Footer, Graphics, and Photos. Typically each one of these aforementioned items, on each page, is also a hyper -Link to either another section within our Website or to the Grand Lodge Website; Elks.org. Also, the Drop-Down Bars have information inside, just click on the + sign, and it will drop down all information for your review.

We also have our second Website. associated with our State Major Project: Elks Camp Barrett (ECB) @ www.ElksCampBarrett.org. Asst. Webmaster, Ted Reinhold

(Annapolis #622) has done a fantastic job of keeping up with the change of information with ECB. Summer Camp (Boys & Girls) Pre-Registration Forms and other information regarding the Summer Camps are available on this website, as well.

While surfing the pages, please note any old info., corrections needed, deletions needed, or simply something that is not there, that may be available, and you would like to see it added to our Website. Then, send an email to your State Webmaster Joe McGeeney joemcgeeney58@gmail.com or give me a call @ (443) 610-0935. We would appreciate any feedback for the continuing improvement of our State Website, Additional items will be added to our Website as they become available.

Yours in Elkdom,

Joe Mc.Geeney, State Chair Webmaster Ted Reinhold, Asst. Webmaster

DONATE LIFE

By James Stewart

At the 2019 Fall Conference of the MD, DE & DC Elks Association, President John Loftus presented Danelle Chapman of Broadneck Lodge #2608 a plague in honor of her donation of a kidney to a co-worker. Pictured are James Stewart, PER, Fraternal Committee Donate Life Chair, Danelle, President John Loftus and Paul D. Helsel, PGER, Sponsor.



CONVENTION/CONFERENCE **COMMITTEE**

By Merrilyn & John Ramsey

now in preparation for the June and GL aspect of Con/Con for the GL Convention The forms for the polo shirt (w/pocket, no Conventions.

June Convention dates are 5th through 7th and will be at the Annapolis Doubletree by Hilton, a beautiful facility with lots of amenities. It is also within 5 minutes of the Annapolis Lodge if you want to stop in there and say, "Hi." They have given us a reservation forms are on the State website, so feel free to get yours in early. We will be soliciting volunteers for Hospitality duty which is always fun.

It is a real honor for our State Association

to Host the GL and we want to have a quickly. good showing of volunteers and have a We have been taking orders for Presidentsuper Hospitality suite. We will be working Elect Capt. Stu's GL shirt and have gotten a with the DDs for dedicated times to work Hospitality. Rob and Dolly Broom from St. "show on the road" by going to 4 DD Things are beginning to move a bit faster Mary's have volunteered to head this and have lots of good ideas. We are at the Sheraton Inner Harbor, which adjoins the Convention Center via a walkway, and is close to lots of things to do and see. We are finalizing the meal plans and will have the reservation form out by the March Conference. Gl will start taking great space for Hospitality as well. The reservations from us early in April. Remember, Con/Con plans both the June and GL Conventions for you and we are happy to answer any questions you may have. Remember, our room block is for 65, so if you are going, get your reservation in

great response. We were able to take our Clinics, where we found a new audience. pocket, and Tall for Men). A companion Ladies polo shirt and Ladies blouse are also on the website. These are customized, and we will only be taking orders until the March Conference.

We will have some new merchandise items for the March Conference and look for a good "sale". For GL Convention, we will have a merchandise booth at the Convention Center and plan on taking some new merchandise. If you have suggestions for what our members may like to see, let us know.



SOUTH EAST DISTRICT

By Susan Caldwell, VP, Ocean City Lodge #2645 susu610@comcast.net

As I write this for the Spring Newsletter, I could sing "Baby It's Cold Outside", but I'm thrilled to say that the Southeast District is "hot" bringing in new Elks. We still have until March 31st to improve our already outstanding numbers.

Please make every effort to make our membership even better. It's not just about new members; we also need to make one more contact with those who still have not paid their dues and keep them in the Elk family. I have found a personal phone call works best. Unfortunately, the South East also has the largest number of members who have passed away, while others retired and moved away from our area.

We have elected officers for the new Elk year, but it doesn't mean we wait for them to move into their new positions. Your job as an officer, committee person and volunteer continues to make your Lodge a place of which to be proud.

President Loftus and I finished visitations in early January of the Southeast Lodges. All in all, the visits to these Lodges were quite interesting experiences. We encountered the initiation of 25 new Elks at Cape Henlopen, a snowstorm, but warm welcome, at Kent Island and viewed the changes and upgrades at Salisbury. I want to thank every Lodge for their hospitality and kindness.

The Southeast District Hoop Shoot finals were held in Seaford on January 19th. Thanks to Marty Vandergrift and his helpers for handling this event. One of the largest Lodge hoop shoots was held by Ocean City, with approximately 50 kids and 33 volunteers, a wonderful example of Elks caring and sharing.

I trust that every Lodge in the Southeast will have more than one member attend the Grand Lodge Convention, which is being held in Baltimore this year. Volunteers are still needed to help. Please check our State web site for details and plan on helping and/or attending, even if only for one session. You will come away with a good feeling about our organization and everything we do!

Remember, the State officers and committees comprised of members from all Lodges in MD, DE. & DC----we are here to assist in any way we can. Do not hesitate to contact us. Also, don't forget to get the news of your Lodge out into your community.

People will want to join when they learn the good we do.



pa nis?

SE DISTRICT HOOP SHOOT VOLUNTEERS

STATE HOOP SHOOT WINNERS





NORTH EAST

Bv CP Kina, VP Milford Lodge #2401 cpkingelksofnortheast@gmail.com

Welcome to Hagerstown and our spring workshop. The Northeast is loud and proud to be here and to share Elkdom with our brothers and sisters and especially our Grand Exalted Ruler Robert L. Duitsman and First Lady Beth. The Northeast is alive and well, having made it to our 3rd quarter and spring. Hopefully, we are out of winter weather and ready to heat up. I know that I'm ready for some warm days as well as hot Elk activities.

Congratulations to our Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot participants. It's great to see the children succeed, and if you didn't attend, you missed a lot of smiling and happy contestants. Also, I'm looking forward to the new batter up contest in Chestertown. Come out and cheer the vouth and show them your "Elkthusisam". As another year is beginning, remember Camp Barrett, our State Association's Major Project needs your support. Soon the camp will be BUZZING with cleanup and campers.

By now, our Lodge 2019 - 2020 year is ending, and we are all working hard on initiations so we can have a plus in membership - Let's Get -ER-Done!! As this Lodge year ends and a new Lodge year begins, I wish all the new officers the best for a successful 2020 - 2021. Remember to hold on tight and guide your Lodge in the forward direction. The Northeast District has been doing great things and keeping Elks in the news. Keep up the good work.

As we move forward in our State Association, I am proud to see the Northeast election for State President-Elect take place this weekend. I wish both candidates the best. They are exceptional Elks. As always, remember what great leaders we have in our association.

WE ARE ELKS! Get out and show off our Elk pride. Maybe someone else will like us and want to be one of us. With that said, I would like to say I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Elkdom this weekend. As always, see you at the Lodge.

STATE SOCCER SHOOT By Dolly Broom, VP SW District

The State Soccer Shoot was held on January 11, 2020, in Jessup, MD. A special Thank you to President John Loftus, First Lady, Eileen, and President-Elect Stu Burgoon and his wife Julie, for your assistance with registration and shagging balls. We had a total of 24 children compete! Soccer advisor,



PSP Ron Lamot has been a great help in making this such a great suc-

South West had 9 participants South East had 8 participants North Central had 5 participants West had 2 participants

Lodges that sent participants include Milford, Crisfield, Prince Georges, St. Mary's, and Oakland. We had a total of 90 attendees at the event!

I want to thank the Local and District soccer chairs for taking the time to get involved this year and putting in all the hard work toward the Soccer Shoot.

Thank you to NE VP and District Soccer Chair, CP King, and SW District Chair Mike Palmer for making the trip and helping at the State Shoot.

Special thank you to ER Joe Stratton and Laurel Lodge for hosting the pizza and awards ceremony following the shoot.

Thank you to Mary Underwood for getting the room ready and taking the pictures. You guys stepped up and made it possible for the day to go smoothly.

We have ten children from 4 Districts moving on to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Shoot on March 13-15, 2020 in York, PA. Wish them Luck!





Angela M. Meyer, Director of Operations Elks Camp Barrett ecbsecretary@outlook.com | 410-224-2945 (camp) | 410-739-5575 (cell)

There are still no leaves on the trees, but the unusually warm winter weather has all of us at Elks Camp Barrett thinking Spring! Summer Camp planning is well underway, and many improvement projects are coming to completion. There is so much activity at the camp right now that it's difficult to tell if our busiest season is Winter or Summer.

The stream restoration project is coming to an end with the Bridge installation to be completed the first week in March, and the plantings and postings to finish in Mid-March. The completion of those two stages should be the end of the project. We are very excited to see all the work that has

been done. The transition of the stream area is amazing, and we are happy to see that we may have the opportunity to have a fishing project for the campers in a year or two. We are hoping to have a video of the entire project to show you at the Spring Convention.

Improvements are being made to the bathhouse, with the installation of new countertops and sinks, replacement of the rusty metal doors. New flooring will be installed in the Directors Cabin and the Health Cabin. A new back door for the kitchen will be installed too! The materials and labor for all these repairs were donated by a kind and generous benefactor of one of our

partner camps, Camp Sunrise. Camp Sunrise is a medically oriented camp for children who are patients of Johns Hopkins Pediatric Oncology and are currently undergoing treatment for cancer.

Pool resurfacing began the third week of February and is moving along nicely. It is a large and expensive project, and we had to hit our improvement fund pretty hard. Please remember to push the sale of tickets for our yearly Improvement Fund Raffle held at the Family Picnic this May and help us get that fund built back up.

Summer camp registration packets have been distributed to the Lodges and available on are elkscampbarrett.org website. We have added a new program this season with the Co-Ed Teen Leadership Camp the final week, July 26th - 31st. As always, we need volunteers to share their skills with our counselors so they can, in turn, teach that skill to our campers. So, if you have talents that you can share, like baking, building, bird watching, dance, yoga, music, or gardening, please call Angela.

ECB wants to thank every member and Lodge who donated time or funds to Elks Camp Barret this past year. Your generosity is the only way ECB can continue to support needy youth in the community with our summer camp programs. Great things happen at ECB because of Elks like you.





When is Camp?

Staff Week	June 15 - 19			
Girls Week #1	June 21 - June 26			
Boys Week #1	June 28 - July 3			
Girls Week #2	July 5 – July 10			
Boys Week #2	July 12 – July 17			
Girls Week #3	July 19 – July 24			
*Co-ed Teen	*July 26 – July 31			
Leadership Week	This week is a co-ed camp week for teens ages 13 through 15*			



This is the stream taken from near where the new footbridge will go, looking upstream to the left from the bottom of the hill.

*This week ECB welcomes Co-Ed Campers who are age 13 through 15. Along with our traditional camp programs this week our camp program will include leadership, and inspirational programming provided by local churches, business leaders, sports figures and faith-based organizations.

WANTED

A FEW GOOD MEMBERS

At the June Convention, I will announce the recipient of the Maryland, Delaware and District of Columbia Elks Association Elkof-the-Year award. I need your help in finding this person. The criteria for this award are very much like your Lodge Elk-of-the-Year award. It is someone one who has shown exemplary efforts in furthering the work of Elkdom, but on the State Association level. This is someone who has gone "above and beyond" in performing their duties.

And to that end, there are a couple of classes of our members who are NOT eligible this year:

- Any currently serving District Deputy Grand Ex-alted Ruler
- Any currently serving State Association Vice President
- Any Past State President

The thinking being in the first two cases, they are basically doing their job and should not get special recognition for it. And in the case of the PSP's, well, this is a group of Elks who have "been there, done that" and have already been recognized for their efforts.

Your nomination for Elk-of-the-Year must be sent to me in writing. It can be by snail mail: 32729 Blackwater Road, Frankford, DE 19945, or e-mail: k9sgt2x@gmail.com, but NOT by phone please. I would prefer e-mail. It does not have to be elaborate; not how long they have been an Elk or a list of all their past positions. Just a simple "who" and "why."

Thank you for helping me make this decision and I look forward to hearing from you. John C. Loftus, President



DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

By Angela Meyers

The DAP Program is getting two new trailers! We are so excited to tell you the Drug Awareness Program is completing planned projects for year

two of their 5-year plan.

Last year, as you may recall, the DAP purchased two new Elroy costumes and sent the old one for repairs.

This year our goal was to start cycling out some of the older heavier trailers and replace them with smaller lighter weight and easier to haul trailers that will be easier for everyone to transport. These "suitcase style" trailers will be wrapped with a great DAP design and fully stocked with all means of DAP event items. Each trailer will be equipped with ten by ten canopy, brochures holders, tables, chairs, tablecloths, display racks, and banners. And, of course, our exceptional DAP informational materials.

Look for one of these new trailers at an Elks Lodge near you. All trailers and Elroy costumes may be reserved for your community events by contacting the DAP District Chairperson in your district.

Look for the pictures at the DAP display at the State Meeting in Hagerstown.



Please come and support this annual event on June 20 for our Veterans programs, Welcome Home and Fisher House. The last 3 years we have raised over \$12,000 for our Veterans. Our Bluegrass family strongly supports this. Can you attend this year?



FOR THE TROOPS!

Saturday June 20, 2020

DRAFT BEER ICED TEA and LEMON-ADE

INCLUDED

All Proceeds will Benefit House & Elks Veteran Welcome **Home Program** Contact Stu Burgoon at:

mdrodman@yahoo.com or (410) 608-4587

1001 Chesterfield Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Saturday, February 22nd we held a "Marathon Bluegrass Jam" for Fisher House. Julie and Stu are presenting a check for \$1,574.00 from our annual "Pickin' for Troops." Every year half of the total proceeds gets equally divided between Fisher House and our Elks "Welcome Home Program." In 3 years we have raised over \$12,000 for our Veterans.

Pictured are: Julie Burgoon, Neil Hamrick, the coordinator of the Fisher House event, and Capt. Stu Burgoon Sr.









Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia

www.ElksCampBarrett.org - State Major Project

Elks Association

VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM **ELKS NATIONAL CONVENTION**

Baltimore, Maryland July 5-8, 2020

First Name		Last Name					
Spouse (for guest registration	v	(If spouse is also	o a volunteer, use se	parate	form)		
Lodge Name & Number			Membership No.				
Highest/Current Grand Lo	dge or Lodge Office						
Address		City/State		ZIP			
Best Phone	2 nd Phone	E-mail	[.				
Additional Comments or Work Preference *							
Any Work Limitations							
Staffing needs:							
Airport Greeting	Standing	(1st Mon, Tue a	(1st Mon, Tue and Wed)				
Registration	Standing and Sitting	(Sat and Sun, a few Fri, Mon and Tue					
Ushering	Standing	(Sun PM, Mon thru Wed AM)					
Ritual	Standing and Sitting	(Fri thru Tue)					
Legislative	Standing and Sitting	(Tue morning)					
Manpower Room	Sitting, Errands	(Fri thru Tue)	(Fri thru Tue)				
	33-332						

Please Check All Days You Can Work

	JULY					JU	ILY		
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
		1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th

*Your Membership Number is Required:

...to have your convention registration fee waived. Volunteers are not "paid" and are responsible for their expenses, including travel and hotel.

Exalted Rulers or Lodge Representatives, and DDGER-designates are not eligible for waived registration fees, but are still welcome to assist!

Register by mail, email or fax:

Vincent A. Pingitore, Jr., PSP

MD-DE-DC Host Committee Registration Chair 12200 Peabody Ln., Charlotte Hall, MD 20622-3725

Email: vinniep@hughes.net

Phone: 301-704-8323

General Chairman: Warren H. Johnson, BOGT

Email: johnsoncomputer@verizon.net

Cell: 301-606-6133