



Summit Lodge 1246
40 Maple Street
Summit, NJ 07901

Welcome to Summit NJ Lodge #1246 of the **Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks!**

Thank you for visiting our website and your interest in the Elks and our Lodge. The Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has been in existence since 1868 and our Summit Lodge, serving the greater Summit, New Providence and Chatham areas, was chartered in its current location back in 1911. Throughout the USA, the Elks is a premier charitable organization and our Summit Lodge has provided over \$14.5M in donations to Summit area charities since our founding.

We have many committees made up of men and women members who are involved with and support worthy organizations in our area. Most recently we obtained a grant from the Elks National Foundation to provide bullet proof vests to the Chatham and New Providence police departments. Each year we support families with special needs children at no cost to the family by sponsoring between 15-20 children at Camp Moore, the NJ State Elks Special Project, which is specifically designed for children with physical and developmental challenges. The experience provides families with a respite and campers with a full week of activities with the goal of developing the recreational and social skills of each child promoting their independence and self-confidence in a relaxed, safe and accepting atmosphere.

We sponsor numerous events for local children including an annual holiday party and Flag Day celebration. Our annual Hoop Shoot and Soccer Shoot contests provide school children with the opportunity to compete for local, state and national prizes. We once had a girl from our area go all the way to the national hoop shoot finals at the Basketball Hall of Fame!

We Elks have a special commitment to our Veterans. We have pledged that "As long as there are Veterans, the Elks will never forget them." To that end, we support our Veterans each year with visits, an annual Thanksgiving Dinner at the Lyons VA Center, and organizing a coat drive for homeless Vets. We also provide furniture and "Welcome Home Kits" to Veterans who are transitioning to permanent homes. The Lindsey Street Post of the American Legion calls our Lodge their home as well, and they have commissioned a memorial in the Summit Green to honor two World War I Medal of Honor recipients who were from Summit, for which our Lodge has provided a good portion of the funding.

Our membership has grown dramatically in recent years and we are the fastest growing Elks Lodge in NJ since 2013. We now have more 2,000 men and woman of all interests and backgrounds among our Lodge members, and we anticipate continued interest as we complete our renovated rooftop lounge at the top of our Lodge which is just around the corner from the Summit Train Station. We are proud of our Lodge and would love to tell you more about it, and how you too might become one of the **Best People On Earth!**

Thanks and hope to see you around the Lodge soon!

Michael Helmer

Michael E. Helmer
Chairman of the Trustees