THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION
Squadron 124
38 Broad Street
Westfield, Massachusetts 01085

S.A.L. Squadron124 Meetings – Second Tuesday of every month at 7:00 P.M.

WE HONOR THOSE
WHO SERVE

COMMANDER'S Message

I am writing to convey my very best wishes and sincere thanks to all as we wrap up an eventful 2017 and shift our momentum into the next calendar year. These past twelve months have been marked by noteworthy achievement and successes. Without the support of your membership to the Sons of The American Legion, these accomplishments would not have occurred.

The Squadron won its share of awards at the Detachment of Massachusetts Convention held in June at Plymouth, Massachusetts. At the Detachment Convention, the squadron received the Thomas W. "Wiggy" Wigemore Four Pillars of Service Consolidated Squadron Report Memorial Award for 2016-2017. The Thomas W. Wigemore Four Pillars of Service award is the most prestigious award presented at the Detachment Convention. Among the citations of achievement were 100% in membership by both the National Organization as well as by the Detachment. The squadron was presented the George "Al" White Memorial Award for community service by the American Legion Department of Massachusetts. The award was for the 3rd Annual Chot Baginski Ice Fishing Outing which raised $1776 for the Friends of the Soldiers Home in Holyoke. Squadron 124 member Jonathan D. Huntley) won one of two Detachment of Massachusetts Past National Commander Scholarships. In addition, Jonathan was the 2017 American Legion Department of Massachusetts Eagle Scout of the Year and a national first runner-up. At the National Convention of the Sons of the American Legion, the squadron was awarded the National Children & Youth Award 2017 of the Eastern Region for conducting and promoting Children & Youth activities.

The Squadron has been progressing to obtain or to exceed the goals for the 2017/2018 membership year. In addition, the squadron has been diligent to meet or to exceed the goals established by the S.A.L. National Commander. The S.A.L. National Commander Danny Smith has asked the S.A.L. to donate the following amounts per member from the $ 7.00 per capita collected from dues: $ .50 per member to the Endowment Fund; $ .50 per member for National Emergency Fund; $ 1.00 per member for the Child Welfare Foundation and to encourage all members of the S.A.L. to promote and support Americanism programs. In the last couple of months, Squadron 124 has donated $ 187 to the Child Welfare Foundation and $ 100 to the National Emergency Fund. I anticipate the Squadron will donate $100 to the American Legion Endowment Fund. The American Legion Endowment Fund since its creation by WW I veterans in 1925 has delivered nearly $ 29 million in financial assistance for disabled veterans, military families and young people who lost parents in service to our nation. Each and every penny donated to an American Legion charity goes to that specific charity.

The fourth annual Squadron 124 Chot Baginski Ice Fishing Outing is scheduled for Saturday, February 3rd, 2018 at 8 A.M. to be held at Otis Reservoir/Tolland State Forest. Donation is $ 10.00 and there is a raffle for a 48" wide screen HD LED TV for $1.00 per ticket. All proceeds will be donated to the Friend of the Soldiers Home in Holyoke. The Legion Golf Outing is scheduled for Sunday, June 3, 2018 at Tekoa Country Club. The golf outing is the major fundraiser to support Post 124 family Americanism and Children & Youth Programs. We have submitted an application to the American Legion Department of Massachusetts Baseball Chairman to sponsor an American Legion junior team. The junior team will provide a place for 16 year-olds to place baseball and provide a feeder or farm team to the Westfield Post 124 Senior American Legion Baseball Team.

Happy New Year and I wish the best of health and happiness to you and to your family.