

## **Virginia Society Looks Forward As Well**

by Frank Hyland, Deputy Governor, VA OFPA

By definition, The Order of Founders and Patriots of America (OFPA) maintains a constant and much-needed focus on the past, on the people and the events that have led us to today. The Virginia Society of the OFPA is a proud participant in that historical focus, from presentations to ROTC Cadets, to parades and other ceremonies, to the placement of cemetery plaques honoring the gravesites of Virginia's finest in history.

In recognition that all organizations, including The OFPA, must induct members or cease to exist, the Virginia Society simultaneously maintains a forward-looking focus. At present the Virginia Society has 10 Youth Associates among its membership. It is the newest of the Youth Associates who is the center of attention, both in Virginia and beyond.

Master Lewis Turner Cowardin II -- son of present Virginia Society Governor L. Taylor Cowardin and Virginia Society First Lady Mrs. Jodi-Beth Cowardin -- became not only the Virginia Society's newest and youngest member on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012, he did so at the ripe "old" age of 29 days. An effort will now be made to determine if Lewis Turner Cowardin II is the youngest OFPA member in history. If any OFPA Associate across the country knows of a Youth Associate who was inducted before the age of 29 days, we ask that you contact Virginia Society Historian Jerry Hubbard.

We also offer our congratulations to Governor and Mrs. Cowardin on the birth of their son and convey our best wishes for his future.

