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# Tennessee State FOP

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APRIL 20, 2012

## A message from President Johnny Crumby

As we approach our 29th Biennial Conference, I have been privileged to attend several of the planning meetings of our host lodge. Hotel reservations must be made by May 1st. At the end of that day the Sheraton will release any extra rooms from the FOP block. They have a waiting list for guests to fill those rooms since that begins the CMA/Fan Fair week in Nashville. The event packets are also available for purchase through May 1st.

The trustees will be mailed the 2012-2013 proposed budget upon completion. It will address the mileage rate due to the rising cost of fuel.

I am looking forward to a very productive conference and hope every lodge send their full allotment of delegates to participate in and set the agenda of business to be carried out by the State Lodge for the next two years.

*Johnny*

## Welcome to the Political Endorsement Season by Duane Phillips, National Trustee

I recently attended the Presidents Meeting (March 22, 2012) and the Grand Lodge Spring Board Meeting (March 23-24, 2012) in Baltimore Maryland. Almost every speaker talked about the problems with our most recently elected officials or the upcoming elections. Several talked about the Governor of Ohio. I am sure as dedicated FOP members you have heard about or read about the situation that happened in Ohio. The Ohio Governor signed into law a bill that prohibited public employees the ability to negotiate for wages and benefits which voided most of their contracts. The FOP joined the IAFF, Teachers Union, and other unions, including those in the private sector, to oppose this bill. Ohio has in place a way for the public to overturn legislation by a vote. After a huge campaign the voters in Ohio overturned this anti-labor legislation by 62%. I bring this up because a lot of the Police Officers in Ohio said they voted for this governor.

Every member has his/her right to their own political and religious beliefs, but when you are acting as an FOP Leader and voting to endorse a candidate you have to make sure that candidate supports FOP legislation and will oppose legislation that hurts law enforcement. You cannot let your personal views on abortion for instance interfere with your responsibility to employee rights when making endorsements with the FOP name. I know this happened in TN during a statewide endorsement meeting several years ago. A candidate for the U. S. Senate told us directly that he would NOT support any of the five issues the GLFOP had identified as priorities in the U.S. Legislature. TN FOP endorsed him anyway. He was elected and never co-sponsored or voted for any of our Bills.

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## Political Endorsement Season continued...



I would like to also point out that a **No-Endorsement Vote** can at times send a very powerful message. If none of the candidates can support law enforcement bills the candidate that gets elected will likely come to you to see what they can do to get your support in the future.

The FOP Endorsement is a powerful tool. Please use it wisely. Before voting to endorse a candidate make sure you know his/her views on our issues and how they have voted on these issues in the past.

In Ohio they also discovered that 12% of their members were not registered to vote. Thousands of men and women have died protecting your right to vote. As a veteran, I beg you to exercise your rights, so take the time to vote.

**Coming Next  
Issue...**

**A message  
from**

**Mike Embrey,  
Secretary**



**National Peace  
Officer's Memorial  
Day May 15, 2012**

**For more information  
go to  
[www.policeweek.org](http://www.policeweek.org)**

## State Conference Info

### Credentials

Must be returned to the State Lodge by May 15, 2012.

### Hotel Information

Hotel reservations for the Music City Sheraton can be made by calling the Star Group Link at 888-627-7060 (mention you are with the FOP) or on line at [www.starwoodmeeting.com/book/FOP2012](http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/book/FOP2012). Deadline is May 1, 2012.

### Event Packets

Event packet purchases must be sent to Andrew Jackson Lodge No. 5 at 440 Welshwood Drive—Nashville, TN 37211 by May 1, 2012. For more information call Jeannine Hale at 615-831-2464.

**Associate License Plates sold as of**

**April 19, 2012: 95**

## Chaplain's Corner

Since the last newsletter the State Lodge has received information on the following member deaths in March & April:

Oscar C. Davison	Lodge #5
Frances Gill	Lodge #22
Russell Hackett	Lodge #5
George Henderson	Lodge #2
Richard Hudson	Lodge #44
Gene Leonard	Lodge #15
Robert Mitchell	Lodge #23
Bobbie Overton	Lodge #2
Thomas Stiles	Lodge #2
Joseph Wheeler	Lodge #35

**If you know of a member currently not receiving the TN State FOP Newsletter please have them call Daylene to be added to the distribution list.**

## State Memorial Service

The Tennessee State Lodge will host the Police Week Memorial, May 16 at 10:00 a.m., at Legislative Plaza in Nashville. We will gather by the Law Enforcement Memorial Wall, and memorialize our brothers and sisters lost in the line of duty during 2011.

Our keynote speaker is Tennessee State Attorney General Robert C. Cooper, with special music by national recording artist Buddy Jewell, past winner of Nashville Star.