

To the Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco

Dear Members All,

It is challenging to find words to express my deep gratitude for your outpouring words of praise at our October meeting in Williamsburg. Surely kind words and even some other acts of appreciation were expected, but the experience went so far beyond this that it quite knocked me off my feet. Even in hindsight, the overview of that day still lies beyond my “equilibrium.”

First, I wish to thank all who came to honor and celebrate with me — especially those who remembered the Memorial Scholarship. It is satisfying to know that the SDPF is now able to help others. Warmest thanks to Anne and the whole Wilson family, who conceived and organized the event. I also want to thank Scott, my son, who came from Oregon to escort me for a two day trip to Williamsburg, and thank others who came from out-of-state and other far away places.

It was a perfect Fall day, and the luncheon also seemed to match the occasion with beautiful flowers, delicious food and dear friends. The President Emerita award lifts me higher in the Society than I have ever been before—and do I love it! Even the “Williamsburg Remember Me” towel which covered the framed award was a treasure. Before I stop naming these wonderful surprises, let me thank Anne again for her role as leader and hostess — and also for the hardbound book of pictures and notes from all.

Thank you, Bill Wilson, for the timely and beloved blessing... Thank you to our Advisor, Gail Coffman, for lovely tall red roses which were later divided among my immediate family and other special guests. Thanks to Don Pruitt, Ph.D. for his research demonstration. Don’s research on Peter’s travels to Williamsburg exemplifies what we really care about – solid historical research with clear presentation.

And, for those of you who were unable to attend, you missed the last scene: Anne said, “No, don’t go to your car. Go to the end of the block.” Then we found out... There was a horse-drawn coach... complete with the Queen’s emblem, the one Queen Elizabeth rode through Williamsburg long ago. Thank you for a special tour of the Colonial capital — I will remember it for the rest of my life!

Dear friends, you have made me so very happy. I am doubly fortunate to have others appreciate my years working with Peter Francisco’s story, when actually the work with PF was my joy. The booklet that was distributed to all tells the story and is priceless. Thank you.

With fond love to all,

*Edith*