

The Virginia Giant

Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco

Volume 2

February 2012

Issue 5

Walking in Peter's Footsteps

Mr. and Mrs. James Morano, owners of Peter Francisco's historical home, *Locust Grove*, in Buckingham County, Virginia, graciously opened its doors for our annual meeting on October 16, 2011. Members came from as far away as Ohio for a first-hand experience of what the Francisco colonial home was like and to enjoy a picnic lunch on the grounds of the estate. A special thank you is extended to Willies BBQ which catered the event and to all members who helped set up for the picnic and make the day a success.

Our spring meeting will be a *special celebration of Peter Francisco Day*. (Please note the different meeting day and venue in the invitation below.) In addition to the presentation of a portrait of Peter Francisco to Masonic Lodge No. 19 from the Society, the program will include reading the "*Honor to the Dead*," (printed in the *Richmond Enquirer*, Thursday, January 20, 1831) and the *Proclamation of Peter Francisco Day* from the Governor of Virginia. A reception at the Lodge will be followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at Peter Francisco's gravesite at Shockoe Hill Cemetery.

The honor of your presence is requested at the

39th Annual Celebration of PETER FRANCISCO DAY

**Saturday, March 10, 2012
10:30 a.m.**

**Richmond Randolph No. 19 Masonic Lodge
1807 East Franklin Street
Richmond, Virginia 23223**

*A framed portrait of Peter Francisco
will be presented to the Lodge by the Society*

~ Reception ~

A wreath-laying ceremony at the gravesite of Peter Francisco
in Shockoe Hill Cemetery will follow



James Robeson, President of the Richmond Chapter, VASSAR, is presented with a check from the Society by J. Stuart Barret

11/11/11 Veterans Day Marking of Peter Francisco's Gravesite

On Veterans Day the Richmond Chapter of the Virginia Society of the Sons of the American Revolution marked the gravesite of Peter Francisco in Shockoe Hill Cemetery. Among our members who attended the ceremony was J. Stuart Barret, who is also a member of the Richmond Chapter. Stuart represented our Society at the November meeting of the Richmond Chapter when he presented President James Robeson with a donation to help pay for the marker.



Anne Linares, Jane McCroskey, Stuart Barret, Libby McLeod, Travis Bowman, Josh Bowman and Martha Beck at the marking ceremony

Trivia: Do you know what the Arch of Trees is? The first member to contact President Libby McLeod with the correct answer will win a 2012 Society magnet.

Society Members Attend PALCUS Gala

President Libby McLeod, 2nd Vice President Edith Francisco Buckley, and her son Scott Francisco Buckley attended the Portuguese American Leadership Council of the U. S. Gala at the National Harbor in Oxon Hill, Maryland, on November 12, 2011. Among those in attendance were the President and First Lady of Portugal, Mr. and Mrs. Cavaco Silva. During the evening, Edith presented the President with a scroll of the biography of Peter Francisco which was written by his son Dr. Benjamin Francisco, and prepared by Scott Buckley and Patrick Paul.



Libby McLeod; President and First Lady of Portugal, Mr. and Mrs. Cavaco Silva; and Edith Buckley at the PALCUS Gala

Being a Member of the Society...Personal Being a Committee Member...Purposeful Being an Officer...PRICELESS!

By accepting the responsibility to serve as a committee member or as an officer, you will further your understanding of how the Society works and help achieve its purpose through various means. The time commitment is minimal - the sense of achievement will make you proud - and the first-hand experience will increase your knowledge and make you a better ambassador for Peter Francisco and the Society! Email President Libby McLeod at lib1dog2@yahoo.com to volunteer. Election of officers will be held at our annual meeting in October 2012.



Members gather at the October 2011 meeting at Locust Grove

Society Archives

If you are looking for a permanent home for records or documents of the Society in your possession, please mail or deliver them to the Library of Virginia, State Records Center, Archives Reading Room, 1998 Charles City Road, Richmond, VA 23231 (phone 804.692.3888). *Records must be in good order and/or in labeled files.* The Library will catalog, maintain and store the archives for future reference.

Genealogy of Peter Francisco

The genealogy of Peter and his *second* wife, Catherine Fauntleroy Brooke, is being compiled for inclusion on the Society's website www.peterfrancisco.org. If you are descended from one of their four children: Susan Brooke; Catherine Fauntleroy; Benjamin Morris; or Peter Johnson, please mail your genealogy to Sue Terminella, 11402 Lindenshire Lane, Henrico, VA 23238; or email it to terminella@mac.com. Please include full names; dates of births, marriages, and deaths, and where the events took place; occupations; education; and any other pertinent information.

The genealogy of Peter and his *first* wife, Susannah Anderson, is already included on our website. If you are descended through that line, please check your family's information and advise 1st Vice President Erin Mwalwanda of any changes.

~ Among Our Members ~

New members: Kyan Alexandra, born December 5, 2011, to Erin and Christopher Mwalwanda of Cedar Park, TX; Ryan and Annie Bonney of Midlothian, VA; Mollie, Kate and Jane Bowman, daughters of Ed Bowman, of Richmond, VA; Suzanne Brown of Richmond, VA; Albert Costa (former President of the Portuguese Continental Union) of Waban, MA; Mary R. "Dot" Fogg and Penny Geiger of Tappahannock, VA; William and Meg Geddy, and their daughter Lizzy, of Macon, GA; James Murray and Gary Hicks of Columbus, OH.

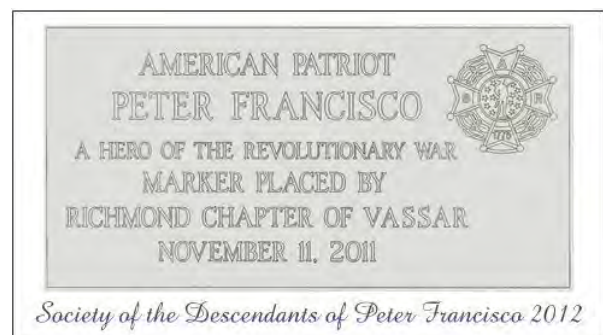
Major J. Eric Wilson, Dr. of Physical Therapy at Little Rock Air Force Base, has been selected the Category 1 Field Grade Officer Biomedical Sciences Clinician of the Year for 2011 for the United States Air Force.

James Murray has written [Cornerstone: A Story of Peter Francisco & American Independence](#). While holding book signings in Virginia, he and fellow new member, Gary Hicks, attended the Society's annual meeting. Visit www.cornerstone-book.com for more information and photographs.

Mount Vernon was the setting on Saturday, November 18, 2011, as Travis Bowman entertained a group of ladies, which included the First Lady of Portugal, Mrs. Cavaco Silva, with his portrayal of Peter Francisco. Travis will perform his 100th portrayal in 2012.

2012 Magnet Available

This year's magnet depicts the marker recently placed at Peter Francisco's gravesite. Order form is enclosed.



SOCIETY OF THE DESCENDANTS OF PETER FRANCISCO

www.peterfrancisco.org

Purpose: To compile and maintain the documented records of Peter Francisco and his descendants and to give him his rightful place in history.

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-- open --

**If you have any news for the next issue of "The Virginia Giant,"
please send it to writers/editors: Anne Wilson and/or Erin Mwalwanda**

MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDRAISERS

Dues for 2012 are now due.

\$10 for adults; \$2 for children, 17 years and younger.

Please send completed form and check for dues, magnets & notecards made payable to SDPF to: **Anne Wilson, Treasurer, 2613 Moray Lane, Cedar Park, TX 78613**

Magnets

Our SDPF magnet for 2012 depicts the marker recently placed at Peter's gravesite. Magnets will be available for purchase for \$2.50 each at the March 10 meeting, or you may place your order below.

Notecards

Locust Grove notecards make unique gifts and help spread Peter's legacy when you use them to write to friends and family. Cost is only \$12 for 8 cards and envelopes. Please place your order below.

RETURN FORM

Please send ___ magnets at \$2.50 each. My check is enclosed.

Please send ___ sets of Locust Grove notecards at \$12.00 each. My check is enclosed.

___ My check for dues is enclosed.

Name, address, phone number and email address:
