

Peter Francisco Society
The Virginia Giant

Volume 3

September 2021

Issue 4

~ **October 16th Fall Meeting - CANCELLED** because of COVID ~
NEXT MEETING: JUNE 2022 – See announcement below

Join us in Celebrating these Historical Events of the Peter Francisco Society

50th Peter Francisco Day in Virginia
and the
51st Anniversary of the Founding of the Peter Francisco Society

Friday—Sunday, June 10-12, 2022



Historic Maysville Manor Bed & Breakfast
23 Courthouse Road
Buckingham, VA 23921

***Reservations: 434.221.8942 or nancymaxey@yahoo.com**

***Make your reservation as soon as possible. Space is limited.**

Overnight accommodations for 24: 15 in the Manor House; 4 in the cottage; 5 folding beds
Other convenient local accommodations are available, as well.

Friday, June 10 – Casual Gathering at Maysville Manor B&B for early arrivals

Saturday, June 11 – Tours of Housewright Museum, Adams Museum, and Locust Grove
*Dinner/Meeting

Sunday, June 12 – Tour of Veterans' Memorial Park, Crewe, VA; Farewell

*Make dinner reservations with Linda McLeod at 804.731.2196 or lamcleod@outlook.com

“VIRTUAL TOUR” for Peter Francisco Day in Virginia

The “Virtual Tour” created by 1st Vice President Erin Mwalwanda in celebration of the 49th Peter Francisco Day in Virginia on March 15, 2021, is still available for viewing. Included in this tour are Terceira Island; Hopewell, VA; a Colonial blacksmith shop; St John’s Church and Patrick Henry’s famous speech, Richmond, VA; the Battle of Camden, NC; Discovery Channel’s “The Strongest Man in History”; Guilford Courthouse, NC; The Battle of Yorktown, VA (per the musical “Hamilton”); Locust Grove; and Peter’s gravesite at Shockoe Hill Cemetery.

Begin the virtual tour at www.peterfrancisco.org/virtual-tour

Comments: *I really enjoyed this tour of Peter’s life. It’s a great tribute to him, and a great job was done! My favorite part was seeing Terceira Island where his story began. Thanks so much for putting it together.* Sue Terminella

I liked the Terceira Island video and the Feat of Strength. Good job, Erin! Linda McLeod

I really enjoyed it. Job well done! Gail Tonkens

Thanks so much for organizing this virtual tour of sites the Society has not visited or promoted before. Interesting, educational & entertaining! We learned new information about the cannon that Peter carried! Bill & Anne Wilson

...hyperlinks that show Peter’s times, his environments, and several of his battles...variety of styles and showmanship: drone tours of Terceira Island and Hopewell; a colonial blacksmith shop; the rousing rhetoric of Patrick Henry; battlefields where Peter made his reputation; a Strongman competition to see...Peter’s famous cannon rescue at the Battle of Camden; the dazzling showmanship of “Hamilton” (Battle of Yorktown); excavation of Locust Grove; finality of Shockoe Hill. This Virtual Tour has...something for everyone! Edith Buckley, Scott Buckley, and Patrick Paul

NATIONAL MUSEUM of the U.S. ARMY – Path of Remembrance

An abridged biography of Peter Francisco and a list of books, articles, and honors, compiled by Anne Wilson, are now included in the archives of this museum.

The \$500 granite paver honoring Peter on the Path of Remembrance was financed by donations from the following: John L. Barret - *In memory of William Pettus Barret*; James Bechter; Edith Buckley & Scott Buckley; Zady Carlton; William Corum; George Farias; Anne Linares; Jorge & Natilia Medeiros; Mary Ellen Poindexter; Don & Alla Pruitt; Sue & Francis Terminella; Gail Tonkens; Bill & Anne Wilson; and Richard Wilson.

IN MEMORIAM

Our condolences are extended to Beverly Spencer Morano and family on the death of her husband James F. Morano, Jr, a respected and successful attorney in Richmond, VA. Beverly is the owner of Locust Grove, and the Society is grateful that she and Jim have always been very gracious in making Locust Grove available for visitation.

~ TOUR THE AZORES in 2022 with SAGRES VACATIONS ~

The Azores of Peter Francisco

Jun 23, 2021 – Jul 3, 2021 ~ \$3,299.00 per person

Contact Travis Bowman at travis@travisbowman.com to make your reservation.

Capacity is limited to 25 ~ \$650 single supplement

Included: Round trip airfare from Boston; Hotel Accommodations for 9 nights; 16 meals; private transfers from/to airports; English Speaking Guides.

2021 SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to the winners of our 2021 Scholarships!



Katie G. Stuart graduated as Valedictorian from North Kitsap High School in Poulsbo, WA, where she was active in student government, co-founder of a peer mentoring program, and cheerleading. During her high school years, Katie received many honors, including the DAR Good Citizen Award. She is attending Pomono College in Claremont, CA, where she is majoring in French and minoring in Spanish.



Abigail “Abby” K. Lindsey graduated from New Kent High School in New Kent, VA, where she participated in varsity soccer and field hockey, as well as the gifted program, Beta Club, and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Abby has participated in many mission trips and is active in her local church. She is majoring in elementary education at Sweet Briar College in Sweet Briar, VA.

In addition to a \$500 scholarship, each winner received a Certificate of Scholarship and a free year’s membership in the Society.

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Donations from the following members completely paid for one of the two \$500 scholarships presented this year: **Revolutionary:** Gail Tonkens - *In Memory of Ross Tonkens and In Honor of Edith Buckle*; **Patriot:** William Corum - *In Memory of Rena J. Brown*; Elizabeth Finley - *In Memory of Glenna Corum* **Militia:** Edith Buckley & Scott Buckley; Zady Carlton - *In Memory of J. Winston & Y. Edwards*; William Corum - *In Honor of Caroline and Ashby Corum*; Anne Linares - *In Memory of Allen B. Childress, Sr*; Anne & Bill Wilson - *In Memory of Ida Shorter Craig*; George Farias - *In Memory of Anastacio “Stacey” Farias*; James Bechter - *In Memory of Betsy Bechter*

Donation Levels: Revolutionary \$200; Patriot \$100; Cavalry \$75; Infantry \$50; Militia \$25; Colonial \$10

~ Use the attached form to make your donation to our 2022 Scholarship Fund ~

The Society is appreciative of the commitment and dedication of our 2021 Scholarship Committee—Jane McCroskey, Penny Geiger, Karen Kardian, and Kathleen Whanger. We are especially grateful to Jane McCroskey who has served on this committee for eight years, and as Chair for the past five years with Penny, Karen and Kathleen.

Jane, Penny & Kathleen are “stepping down”—it’s time for **you** to “step up!” Please contact Linda McLeod at lamcleod@outlook.com to volunteer to serve as chair or as a member of the Scholarship Committee.

~ NEW FUNDRAISERS ~

*Support the Society's purpose by creating opportunities to share Peter's story.
Listed below are two new fundraisers to help you do just that!*

At the suggestions of Anne Wilson and Bill Brown, the Society is proudly offering
“PFS” Pins and Membership Certificates.

*As an introductory offer, the “PFS” Pin and Membership Certificate
may be purchased together for only \$22.00, including S&H.
If purchased separately, the Pin is \$20, and the Certificate is \$8.*

~ Place your orders on the enclosed form ~

“PFS” Pins

Purchase a 1-1/4” goldtone “PFS” pin with beveled edges to wear on your suit, shirt, blouse, or hat to create interest in Peter’s story. These pins are suitable for both men and women and will make unique gifts and family heirlooms.



Peter Francisco Society Membership Certificates

Each certificate will have the member’s name and relationship to Peter and the Society – either as a Descendant of Peter and Susannah, or as a Descendant of Peter and Catherine; as an Associate (spouse of member); or as a Friend of the Society. You will want to frame your certificate and display it in your home – another means of creating interest and promoting Peter Francisco and the Society!

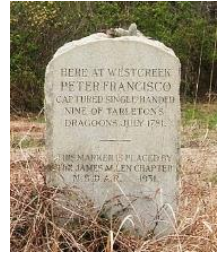
A few examples of the certificates can be found on page 6 of this newsletter.

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Please continue to use AmazonSmile – PFS receives a donation from Amazon with every purchase you make. For details – See *www. peterfrancisco.org* – Current News

~ AMONG OUR MEMBERS ~

-With a little investigation and the help of Mr. Ben Vogelgesang of the Southside RC Flying Club, **Anne Wilson** found the site of this Peter Francisco monument for the Cameron Parish Chapter, NSDAR VA, which is locating markers and historic sites as part of its *America 250! Project*. The monument was placed in 1931 by the James Allen Chapter NSDAR (*now inactive*) and is located at 2901 West Creek Road, Crewe, VA.



-**Connor and Kaiden Wilson** (18) graduated from Cottage School Program & College Pathways of Colorado Springs, CO, from which they earned high school diplomas as well as Associate Degrees from Pike's Peak Community College. Both are attending Western Colorado University in Gunnison, CO, where Connor is majoring in Engineering, and Kaiden, in Psychology. Proud parents are Drs. Eric and Jennifer Wilson of Colorado Springs, CO.

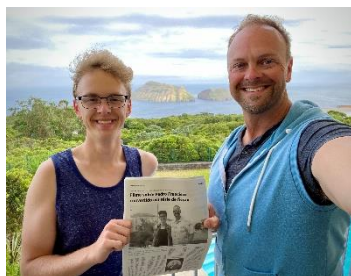
-Webmaster **Brad Vogler** was presented with a framed *Commendation* from the Society for his design and updates to the Society's website.



-**Camryn Mwalwanda** (15), daughter of 1st Vice President Erin Mwalwanda, was one of ten finalists in the solo category for the Heller Awards for Young Artists in Austin, TX. More than 300 students from 30 high schools were nominated in select musical theater categories. Camryn was nominated for her role of Ms. Hannigan in Summit Christian Academy's production of "Annie."

-**Bill & Suzanne Brown** attended the NSDAR Commonwealth Chapter's ceremony recognizing the Richmond Randolph Lodge No. 19, Richmond, VA, as the oldest continuously used Masonic building in the United States. A tour of the Lodge included a display featuring Peter Francisco.

Portrait of Peter Francisco donated by the Peter Francisco Society in 2010, Certificate of Memorial Life Member in Perpetuity, Certificate from the Governor of the Commonwealth of VA in recognition of Peter's 250th birthday, and a replica of the sword Peter carried in the American Revolutionary War.



-This summer **Travis, Michelle, Austin and Josh Bowman**, along with Travis' father Paul, travelled to Portugal and the Azores where Travis was interviewed by VITEC TV which produced a special about Peter Francisco. (See VITEC Azores TV.com – Acores – click on videos and scroll for the news special about Peter Francisco.)

Travis Bowman and son, Josh, displaying a Terceira newspaper article about Peter Francisco

Peter Francisco Society

Founded in Virginia in 1971

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

hereby certifies that

YOUR NAME HERE

is a Member of this Society

and a Descendant of Susannah Anderson and Peter Francisco, a hero of the American Revolutionary War, who was known as The Virginia Giant, Hercules of the Revolution, and Washington's One-Man Army

Linda A. McLeod
President, Peter Francisco Society



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and the Spouse of a Descendant of Susannah Anderson and Peter Francisco, a hero of the American Revolutionary War, who was known as The Virginia Giant, Hercules of the Revolution, and Washington's One-Man Army

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hereby certifies that

YOUR NAME HERE

is a Member and Friend of this Society

who honors and promotes the legacy of Peter Francisco, a hero of the American Revolutionary War, who was known as The Virginia Giant, Hercules of the Revolution, and Washington's One-Man Army

Linda A. McLeod
President, Peter Francisco Society



Peter Francisco Society

www.peterfrancisco.org | PeterFranciscoSociety@gmail.com

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

OFFICERS

President ~ Linda McLeod

1st Vice President ~ Erin E. W. Mwalwanda

2nd Vice President ~ Edith F. Buckley

Recording Secretary ~ Caroline Corum

Corresponding Secretary ~ open

Treasurer ~ Ed Bowman

Historical Advisors ~ Gail Tonkens, Edith Buckley

If you have news for the next issue of “The Virginia Giant,” please send it to writers/editors Anne Wilson and Erin Mwalwanda at PeterFranciscoSociety@gmail.com