

# The Virginia Giant

## *Newsletter of the Peter Francisco Society*

Volume 3

February 2023

Issue 7

### **WALKING IN PETER'S FOOTSTEPS...**

*After four long years of COVID, we finally are able to walk in Peter's footsteps in his beloved Richmond, Virginia. Peter passed away in a small apartment in Shockoe and is buried at Shockoe Hill Cemetery—where we will hold a wreath-laying ceremony. He was Sergeant-at-Arms in the House of Delegates—where our meeting will take place. Peter saved many lives during the tragic fire at the Richmond Theater in 1811—where Edgar Allan Poe's mother had performed. As a small child, Edgar played in the area of the historic Lindon Row Inn which is adjacent to the Parterre—where we will dine together. When Peter accompanied his friend, the Marquis de Lafayette, during his return tour of Virginia in 1824, Edgar served as a member of the junior honor color guard. How interesting that their paths crossed and that Edgar Allan Poe may have walked in Peter's footsteps too!*

## *Peter Francisco Society*

*cordially invites you to its Peter Francisco Day Celebration*

**SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023 – RICHMOND, VA**

*~ Remember to wear your PFS Pin! ~*

- 10:30 a.m.** Wreath-laying Ceremony at Gravesite of Peter Francisco  
~ Shockoe Hill Cemetery ~
- 11:30 a.m.** Celebration of Peter Francisco Day & Tribute to Edith Buckley  
Business Meeting and Election of Officers  
~ Capitol Building, Old House of Delegates Chamber ~
- 2:00 p.m.** \*Brunch at Parterre Restaurant 804-381-5810  
~ 100 East Franklin, Richmond, VA ~

**Reservations: RSVP** to [peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com](mailto:peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com) or use enclosed form  
**Deadline:** March 5, 2023

*\*Brunch is complimentary for members who have paid their dues for 2023.  
~ You may join the Society or pay dues for 2023 on the day of the luncheon. ~*

## *Dedicated to the memory of Edith Mae Francisco Buckley*



*April 26, 1925 – October 1, 2022*

Edith Mae Francisco was born in Fredericks Hall, Louisa County, VA, to Latine Nucholls and Maurice Garland Francisco, Sr. She was one of eight children and grew up in Beaverdam, VA, where her father owned Francisco's Store. Family members were accomplished storytellers who often told about Edith's great, great grandfather, Peter Francisco—whose story became a big part of Edith's story too.

Edith married Ralph E. "Buck" Buckley on August 17, 1942. After Buck joined the army, the couple moved to NC and then to El Paso, TX, where Edith attended El Paso Tech and also studied piano. When Buck was transferred to the Philippines, Edith enrolled in Mary Washington College in VA. She worked in various positions including secretary, substitute teacher, and real estate agent. Her many interests included painting and writing poetry.

In 1971, Edith joined Providence Chapter NSDAR, and also became a founding member of our Society. She helped with the initial research into the life of Peter Francisco and the restoration of Locust Grove. Edith and Buck had one son Scott who has helped maintain her treasure of Society documents which she donated to the Library of VA. Honors bestowed upon Edith include the *Peter Francisco Award* presented by the Portuguese Continental Union in 2010; *PFS Lifetime Membership* in 2002, and *President Emerita* in 2016, before her move from Annandale, VA to Bothell, WA. Edith had held every office in the Society and was still serving as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President at the time of her death.

### ***Tributes***

*My mother was a stickler for documented historical accuracy...although Peter inspired countless myths and legends. She was there when the Peter Francisco Society was officially created...she helped craft the stated Purpose for the Society...In over 50 years since the Society's inception, its purpose has not changed.* Scott Buckley

*Edith was definitely an inspiration to me for writing LUSO.* Travis Bowman

*...a great and wonderful lady and so proud of Peter Francisco and the Society...* Albert Costa

*...a wonderful lady and supporter of the Society.* Karen Kardian

*Edith's spirit and memory will live on in the Society and with us individually.* Anne Linares

*I pledge in Edith's honor to continue to keep the legacy of Peter Francisco alive.* Libby McLeod

*She has always been such a constant in the Society and her years of experience, memories and unbridled joy for all things "Peter" will never be matched.* Erin Mwalwanda

*We are very sorry...she was the heart and soul of the Society.* Don & Alla Pruitt

*We met Edith when we began attending Society meetings in the 1980's...she was very knowledgeable and encouraged Anne to accept an active role in the Society...she is irreplaceable!* Bill & Anne Wilson

~ ~ ~

**Scott has requested that any financial memorials for his mother be donated to the  
Peter Francisco Memorial Scholarship Fund**

~ ~ ~

## **LUSO, the MINI-SERIES**

The *LUSO* miniseries project continues to move forward. Producers Travis Bowman and Brian Wade were not satisfied with the short film created in 2022, and had a new version filmed in January 2023, which is currently in post-production and should be available on [Angel.com](http://Angel.com) later this spring.

## **AMONG OUR MEMBERS**



*Bill & Suzanne Brown w/ newlyweds, Alex & Kaleigh (Beronja) Brown; and Will Brown & his fiancée Sorina Rosoiu - September 3, 2022 - River Run Manor, Goochland County, VA*

**William M. Brown, IV** of Richmond, VA, nominee for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, has been a member of the Society for 15 years. Will is a VP in Operational Risk Management with E\*TRADE/Morgan Stanley and works on matters related to Compliance, Risk Management, and Governance. He believes his experience as secretary on two firm committees will be beneficial to our Board. Will is engaged to Miss Sorina Rosoiu.

**Sue Terminella**, Genealogy Chair, met with **Karen Kardian** to peruse the history contained in the *Francisco/Pettus Family Bible* before Karen and her family donated the Bible to the Peter Francisco Society archives at the Library of Virginia.

If you have a family Bible or other documents of interest to our Genealogy Committee, please contact Sue Terminella at [peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com](mailto:peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com). You also may want to follow Karen's example by donating your items to our archives.



## **Welcome, New Members**

Kaleigh Beronja Brown (wife of Alex Brown) of Arlington, VA  
Rhett Francisco of Cincinnati, OH

## ***In Memoriam...***

Our condolences are extended to the family of **Dr. Mary Jane Francisco Sale** of Glen Allen, VA, who passed away on January 19. She is survived by her life-partner Dr. Stefan Feyock and sisters, Martha Beck and Becky Duke, all members of the Society.

**PETER FRANCISCO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

***\$1,000 Scholarship ~ Deadline to apply is April 15***

Please inform your family and friends of our Scholarship which has been increased to \$1,000 this year! All information and criteria for applying are listed on our website:

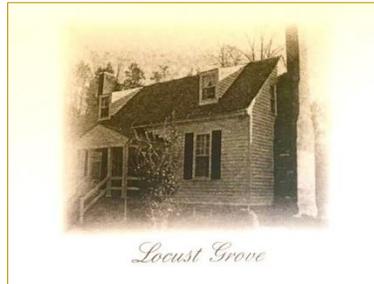
[www.peterfrancisco.org](http://www.peterfrancisco.org)

A list of donors for 2023 will appear in our September newsletter.

**FUNDRAISERS**

**Membership Certificates & PFS Pins**

This fundraiser has proven to be one of our most successful—36 certificates and 37 PFS pins have been purchased. *Every PFS member should have a Membership Certificate and PFS Pin*, not only to support our fundraiser, but especially to show pride in being a member of the Society and to honor and promote Peter Francisco’s legacy. (Use enclosed order form.)



**Locust Grove Notecards and Peter Francisco Postcards** (Use enclosed order form)

***Amazon Smile has been discontinued by Amazon as of February 20, 2023.***

**OFFICIAL BALLOT – MARCH 12, 2023**

If you attend the March 12 meeting in person, a ballot will be provided for you then.  
If you cannot attend the March meeting, email your votes to [peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com](mailto:peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com) or text Anne Wilson at 512-636-8197. Votes must be submitted by March 5.

***We are pleased to submit the following nominees for Society officers:***

**PETER FRANCISCO SOCIETY**

***TO VOTE:*** Check the space in front of each nominee’s name or add a different nominee’s name

**NOMINEES:**

- President – [Ed Bowman](#)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – [Erin Mwalwanda](#)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – [Will Brown](#)
- Recording Secretary – [Caroline Corum](#)
- Treasurer – [Ed Bowman](#)

**Other Nominees:**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# PETER FRANCISCO SOCIETY

## ~ RECIPIENTS of PRINTED NEWSLETTERS ~

PFS will be “paperless” soon and all newsletters and correspondence will be sent via email. To continue receiving newsletters, send your email address, or one to which you have access, to [peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com](mailto:peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com).

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Please complete this form and mail it, along with your check made payable to PFS, to:  
**Ed Bowman, Treasurer PFS, 3715 Belt Blvd., Richmond, VA 23234**

### DUES & SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE \$15

**Adults:** A \$40 value for only \$25 – a savings of \$15!

Pay \$15 dues + an additional \$10 to receive your Membership Certificate and PFS Pin

**Children/Full-time Students:** A \$27 value for only \$12 – a savings of \$15!

Pay \$2.00 dues + an additional \$10 to receive your Membership Certificate and PFS Pin

Adults: Dues/\_\_\_orders x \$25 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Children/Full-time Students: Dues/\_\_\_orders x \$12 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name on Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

*Membership Designation for Certificate:*

\_\_\_ D1 (Descendant of Peter and Susannah Anderson)

\_\_\_ D1 Associate (Spouse of D1)

\_\_\_ D2 (Descendant of Peter and Catherine Brooke)

\_\_\_ D2 Associate (Spouse of D2)

\_\_\_ Friend of the Society

If only paying dues ~ Name: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Adults \_\_\_ x \$15 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

No. of Children/Full-time Students \_\_\_ x \$2 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

### TAX-EXEMPT DONATIONS

**2023 Scholarship Fund** *In Memory of* \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_

*In Honor of* \_\_\_\_\_ \$\_\_\_\_\_

### FUNDRAISERS

**Locust Grove Notecards** Set of 8 cards & envelopes for \$12 No. Sets \_\_\_ x \$12 = \$\_\_\_\_\_

**Peter Francisco Postcards** 5 for \$5 - or - 15 for *only* \$10 No. Ordered \_\_\_ = \$\_\_\_\_\_

### BRUNCH RESERVATIONS

Email [peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com](mailto:peterfranciscosociety@gmail.com) or complete and mail this form. **Deadline is March 5.**

No./Names of Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL for Dues; Certificates & Pins; Donations; and Fundraisers:** \$\_\_\_\_\_

## **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 *pro tem*** ~ Ed Bowman  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President** ~ Erin E. W. Mwalwanda  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** ~ open  
**Recording Secretary** ~ Caroline Corum  
**Corresponding Secretary** ~ open  
**Treasurer** ~ Ed Bowman  
**Historical Advisor** ~ Gail Tonkens

**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**