

The Virginia Giant

Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco

Volume 1

September 2006

Issue 13

“Walking in Peter’s Footsteps”

During the past several years, as we have “walked in Peter’s footsteps,” the Society has met in Buckingham Courthouse, Richmond, Petersburg, Hopewell and Yorktown, Virginia. We have experienced “firsthand” the history of our great nation in which Peter Francisco played such an important role.

It is exciting that, once again, we will hold our annual meeting in Buckingham, the area where Peter once lived, and will have the opportunity to visit his beloved home, Locust Grove.

Our guest speaker will be Mr. Wesley T. Joyner, who was born in Hopewell, Virginia, and whose family still lives in City Point. Mr. Joyner is a graduate of the University of Virginia and is presently working on his Master’s Degree in History at Virginia Commonwealth University. He is researching the life of Peter Francisco for his thesis and will share his research and findings with us.

Our business meeting will be held after lunch and will include election of officers and reports of board members.

You are cordially invited to attend

LUNCH and the ANNUAL MEETING

of the

Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2006

12:00 o’clock noon

**The Courthouse Café in the
Arts Council Center of Buckingham, Virginia**
Located 60 miles from Richmond on route 60 west

Guest Speaker: Mr. Wesley T. Joyner

RESERVATIONS: 757-431-9168 OR

COST: \$10.25

EMAIL: dukester1@verizon.net

(Society will pay tax & gratuity)

Please join us after our meeting for a visit to Locust Grove.

Peter Francisco Day 33rd Anniversary

The 33rd Anniversary Celebration of Peter Francisco Day was held Sunday, March 12, in House Room 1 of the Executive Office Building in Richmond, Virginia. (Renovations are still under-way at the Capitol Building and we hope to be able to meet there in 2007.)

Twenty-three members attended the celebration. Highlights included the reading of the official account of Peter's funeral, enlistment of several new members, and the decision to purchase a stone in the name of the Society at the Peter Francisco Monument erected by the Grupo Amigos da Terceira in Pawtucket, Rhode Island.

Following the meeting, members attended the wreath-lying ceremony at Peter's gravesite in Shockoe Cemetery.

Genealogy Update

Don Pruitt, Genealogy Chairman for the Society, has completed a draft of the genealogical chart of the descendants of Peter Francisco and Susannah Anderson through their daughter, Polly Francisco and her husband Richmond Allen. (This line was omitted by Nannie Porter in the chart published in "The Romantic Record of Peter Francisco.")

This is just the beginning and much work remains to be done; however, thus far, ten generations have been included. Eventually, the chart will be placed on the Society's website which is being updated. If you would like to see the chart and help make any corrections/additions, please email Don at stedon@earthlink.net and he will forward a copy. If you do not have email, write Don at 8247 Doctor Craik Court, Alexandria, VA 22306, and he will mail you a printed copy.

Inauguracao do Monumento a Peter Francisco



Peter Francisco Monument in Pawtucket, RI
Inauguration - September 4, 2006

Inauguration of Peter Francisco Monument by Grupo Amigos da Terceira

Second Vice President Edith Buckley represented the Society and attended the inauguration of the Peter Francisco Monument in honor of all Veterans on Labor Day, September 4, in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. She was filled with overwhelming pride by the occasion and had the following to report:

"The inauguration ... was even more impressive than I could have imagined. What a glorious day it was ... more than 350 people who admired Peter ... established this beautiful and enduring structure for all veterans in Peter Francisco's name ... I sat with numerous dignitaries ... and met the Counselor of the Embassy of Portugal."

Edith was one of the speakers and congratulated the Grupo Amigos for their uniqueness, their imagination and foresight in the creation of the memorial. She presented the organization with a copy of Peter's signed petition to the U.S. Congress for a pension in 1828.

Due\$ are now Due

Please remember to send in your annual dues for 2007 (and for 2006 if your dues are in arrears). Membership for 2007 begins in October 2006. Your prompt payment is appreciated as your dues help cover the costs for printing newsletters, stationery, postage, domain name, state registration, phone, prizes, honoraria, etc.

Categories for membership are:

Descendant; Associate (spouse of a descendant); **Friend** (non-descendant); **Descendant/child** and **Friend/child**. To be an **“active”** member and to receive newsletters, etc., the current year’s dues must be paid.

Dues for Adults (18 and older) are \$10.00; for Children (17 and younger) dues are only \$2.00.

Remember to enlist other family members and to join for your children and grandchildren, too. Membership in the Society makes a great gift!

Please use the form on this page to send any updated information, i.e., email, address change, etc. when sending in your dues.

“Was this revolutionary war hero the best soldier in U.S. History?”

Michael Hull’s article about Peter Francisco, “George Washington’s One-Man Army,” in the July/August Issue of *Military History Magazine*, certainly helps answer this question.

The Colonial Williamsburg Journal, Autumn 2006 Issue, includes the article by Ed Crews, “The Hercules of the American Revolution - Peter Francisco.” A photograph of SDPF member, Quintus Massie, is also included in the article.

Peter made the cover of both magazines!

These publications should certainly help raise public awareness of Peter’s unique contribution to the birth of our nation.

~ Christmas Ornaments ~

The Society’s **6th Limited Edition Ornament** will be available at our Annual Meeting. This year’s ornament is a beautiful textile design depicting “white magnolia blossoms with green leaves on a background of black or natural” and is in honor of Peter’s first wife Susannah Anderson and their daughter Polly; and his second wife Catherine Brooke and their daughters, Susan Brooke and Catherine. With the Society’s current emphasis on genealogy, we thought it fitting to have our latest ornament honor these Colonial ladies.

Cost is only \$12, including shipping and handling. If you cannot attend the annual meeting, you may place your ornament order by using the form below.

Please complete and mail this form with your dues and/or order and payment for ornaments to:

**Anne Wilson, Treasurer SDPF
2613 Moray Lane
Cedar Park, TX 78613**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Dues \$ _____ **for** _____

Please check appropriate membership:

Descendant Associate

Descendant/Child

Friend Friend/Child

No. Ornaments @ \$12 each _____

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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**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.**