

The Virginia Giant

Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco

Vol 1

February 2001

Issue 2

"NAME THE NEWSLETTER" CONTEST WINNER IS ANNOUNCED

The winning name for our newsletter, selected by members who attended our October 15, 2000, meeting in Buckingham, Virginia, is . . .

"The Virginia Giant"

submitted by member Robert F. Grimes, Jr. of Suffolk, Virginia. Fourteen entries were received and each one would have done justice to Peter's greatness! For his winning entry Mr. Grimes was presented with a copy of Peter Francisco - the Portuguese Patriot by William Arthur Moon.

Membership in the Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco

How do I join? What's involved? How much does it cost? What are the benefits, if any? These may be some of the questions you have asked and here are the answers!

All members must be elected by the board.

Membership Status: Motion has been made to change the membership designations as follows:

Descendants (formerly Active members) - adult descendants who are at least 18 years of age

Associates - spouses of descendants (formerly descendants under 18 years of age; and in-laws of the families of descendants)

Friends - those showing an interest in the society and who are approved by the board (unchanged)

Descendant children - descendants who are under 18 years of age (formerly associates)

These designations will in no way affect your status but will help with research/records.

To join the Society and remain on active status, members must pay annual dues as follows:

Descendants and Associates	\$ 5.00
Friends	\$10.00
Descendant Children	\$ 1.00

Motion has been made to increase the dues to \$10 for Descendants and to \$2.00 for Descendant Children. Dues for Friends would remain the same at \$10.

If approved, these changes would not take effect until October 2001. If you have paid dues in advance, the increase would not take effect for you until the next year your dues are payable.

Please vote on these motions on the attached form or e-mail your vote to sdpf2000@aol.com.

The benefits of active membership in the Society are numerous and include:

- Invitations to our two meetings per year: March (meeting in the Capitol Building in Richmond, VA, and wreath laying at Shockoe Cemetery where Peter Francisco is buried); October (fall business meeting and luncheon).
- Receipt of newsletters
- Access to records for personal research
- Access to official website - www.peterfrancisco.org
- Access to e-mail sdpf2000@aol.com
- Access to webpage by society member John Duke <http://personal.picusnet.com/jdman>
- Sharing of information, personal research, etc. with other "family" members
- Doing your part to keep history alive and pertinent in today's fast-paced world

THE SOCIETY OF THE DESCENDANTS OF PETER FRANCISCO INVITES YOU TO A CELEBRATION OF

Peter Francisco Day

SUNDAY, MARCH 11, 2001 AT 1:00 P.M.

OLD HALL, HOUSE OF DELEGATES, STATE CAPITOL
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

WREATH-LAYING CEREMONY IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS AT SHOCKOE CEMETERY

In Remembrance ...

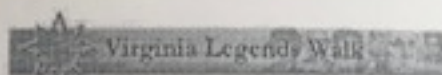
We are saddened to inform you of the passing in recent years of the following Society members:

Louise Albertson DeVere (November 19, 2000) of Athens, GA. She was a teacher for the Navy's PACE Program and served on the board of the Society.

Two sisters **Miss Elizabeth Shorter** (February 4, 1999); **Evelyn Shorter (Mrs. Lynwood) Glenn** (November 20, 2000), both of Roanoke, VA; and one sister-in-law **Marguerite Hudgins (Mrs. Howard A.) Shorter** of Farmville, VA (March 20, 2000) had all been members of the Society since the 1970's.

Charles Bowman (Fall 2000) and his wife **Sallie Edwards Bowman** (February 2001). Sallie was the Society's first Recording Secretary.

Please let us know the names of other members who have passed away recently.



Peter Francisco Receives Most Nominations for The Virginia Legends Walk

Although Booker T. Washington was the only nominee that was selected to be included in the Virginia Legends Walk for the year 2000, Peter Francisco was the name with the most nominations—121 to be exact! These nominations came from 24 states and from 15 countries. When all were tallied, 64 Virginians were eligible for consideration as inductees for the Virginia Legends Walk, including Katie Couric, Steve Case, Booker T. Washington, Tom Wolfe, Bruce Hornsby, George C. Scott, Curtis Strange, Dave Matthews and Douglas S. Freeman.

A statewide committee of 624 judges selected their top seven candidates; those candidates named on 60% of the ballots would become the Virginia Legends for the year 2000.

TREASURY NOTES

Balance as of 2/6/01: \$3,697.04 *

Membership: 93

*includes sale of 500 copies of The Portuguese Patriot for \$2,500

HELP THE SOCIETY BREAK THE 100 MEMBER MARK! JOIN NOW!

SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES SPEAK TO PORTUGUESE CONTINENTAL UNION AT PETER FRANCISCO AWARD CEREMONY

On October 29, 2000, Edith Francisco Buckley and her son, Scott Francisco Buckley, attended the presentation of the Thirteenth Peter Francisco Award by the Portuguese Continental Union of the United States of America (PCUUSA). The reception and dinner, which marked the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PCU, took place just outside Boston in Woburn, Massachusetts.

The Portuguese Continental Union is a fraternal benefit society for Portuguese-Americans with over 70 lodges and more than 10,000 members throughout the U.S. The Peter Francisco Award is currently presented by the PCU at five-year intervals, and represents the highest honor bestowed by The Portuguese Continental Union. The first recipient was John F. Kennedy, who received the Peter Francisco Award in 1959, the year before he was elected President.

Recipient of this year's Peter Francisco Award was Elmar Oliveira, "one of the most commanding violinists of our time." Each guest at the dinner received a recording of Oliveria in concert with the Seattle Symphony. The banquet was presided over perfectly by a Supreme Master of Ceremonies, Ms. Edite E. Furtado. The award was widely covered in the Portuguese-American press.

The Honorable Edmund Dinis, Tenth Peter Francisco Award Recipient, was the main speaker. Mr. Dinis has been a distinguished friend of the SDPF for many years. In the 1950's, when he was a member of the Massachusetts State Senate, Mr. Dinis brought the name of Peter Francisco to national attention by sponsoring legislation that made March 15, the date of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, "Peter Francisco Day" in Massachusetts. Most recently he is remembered as the person who purchased our surplus books (Peter Francisco: The Portuguese Patriot, by William Arthur Moon). Mr. Dinis, who is now distributing

these books to 250 schools (mainly high schools) on the East Coast between Boston and Newark, reports that they are being well received.

Edith and Scott thank the SDPF for this unusual opportunity for fellowship between the SDPF and the PCU.



Edith Francisco Buckley and the
Honorable Mr. Edmund Dinis

Come Visit Us On The World Wide Web

We are pleased to announce that our website, www.peterfrancisco.org is up and running! Although the site is "still under construction," come see how it is developing, and continue to check back, as it is being updated regularly.

On the site, you can browse the following general topics: About Peter, Locust Grove, Society Information and Newsletter. Some of the information included in these topics will be membership, directions to our meetings, photos from Society gatherings, meeting minutes, by-laws, officers, and links to related sites.

The Society would like to thank Mr. Scott Martin of Arlington, Virginia for hosting our website—free of charge!

Feel free to submit information that you would like included on the site to Erin Wilson (webmaster) at sdpf2000@aol.com.

Address Service Requested

a non-profit organization

Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco
109 Justice Grice
Williamsburg, VA 23185

SOCIETY OF THE DESCENDANTS OF PETER FRANCISCO

*The mission of the Society of the Descendants of Peter Francisco
is to compile and maintain the documented records of Peter Francisco and his descendants
and to give Peter Francisco 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 and/or Erin Wilson**

SOCIETY OF THE DESCENDANTS OF PETER FRANCISCO

If you have not already joined the Society, please complete the following information and mail this form, along with your check for dues made payable to SDPF, to Anne Wilson, 109 Justice Grice, Williamsburg, VA 23185. Be sure to vote on the motions also.

If you have already joined, please use this form for voting on motions.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____ Interested in becoming an officer? _____

Relationship to Peter Francisco _____

Related through his 1st wife? _____ 2nd wife? _____ Member Since _____ New Member? _____

Status: Descendant(\$5) _____ Associate(\$5) _____ Friend(\$10) _____ Descendant Child(\$1) _____

Do you have any documents/information that would be of interest to the Society? _____

If so, what? _____

Would you be willing to share them or provide copies for our records? _____

I will help with fundraisers _____ Favorite fundraiser suggestion _____

Any suggestions/comments for newsletter, meetings, etc. _____

<u>VOTE</u>	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
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Change in membership status (See Newsletter article)	_____	_____
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Change in dues (See Newsletter article)	_____	_____
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Signature(s) _____

We sincerely hope you will want to remain a member of the Society. But, if for any reason you are no longer interested in membership, would you please inform us of your decision by checking the blank below, signing and returning this form to us.

*Please discontinue my membership and remove me from the mailing list. _____
I understand that my name will be removed from active status and I will no longer receive newsletters, invitations or other correspondence from the Society.*

Date _____ Signature _____