



# 2016 1st Quarter Newsletter



## 1st Quarter Meeting – January 9, 2016 – Mosaic Templars



**Dues Reminder: Membership Dues for 2016 are Past Due.**

Annual dues January 1 through December 31.

Please make checks payable to PAAC, Inc

PO Box 25923

Little Rock, AR 72221-5923

### Chapter Membership Breakdown

- Student - \$10 (Undergrad, Graduate)
- Individual - \$25.00
- Family (Includes Spouse) - \$35.00
- Church Membership - \$50
- Organization - \$60.00

Includes up to 3 individuals

### Junior Preservation Society Membership

- Individual - \$3.00 (Elementary)
- Individual - \$5.00 (Middle School)
- Individual - \$8.00 (High School)
- Youth Group Organization - \$25.00

## 2016 Tentative Schedule

- February 2 – University of AR Monticello - Maintaining African American and Historic Cemeteries
- February 6 – PAAC Junior – Family Tree/Heritage Mapping Competition Workshop – 11:00 – 1:30pm Larry’s Pizza
- February 20 - Pan-African Day Black History Program UAM – Presentations by PAAC Junior & PAAC
- March 2016 – PAAC Fundraiser – Quapaw, Oklahoma - Bus Trip to Downstream Casino
- April 9 – El Dorado, AR – PAAC 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter meeting (Pre-conference) (PAAC Junior Workshop)
- May 13-14 – El Dorado, AR – PAAC 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Cemetery Preservation Conference – St. John Family Life Center
- August 13 – 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter meeting - Osceola, AR
- November 12 – 4<sup>th</sup> quarter meeting – Monticello, AR



### The Tunican Chapter

Maintaining African American and Historic Cemeteries



Kathy Anderson & Carla Coleman  
Preservation of African American Cemeteries (PAAC)

Holly Hope  
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program

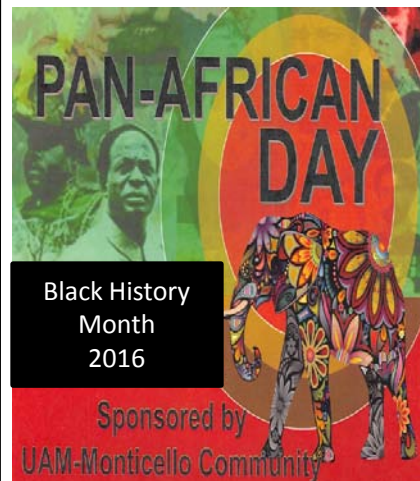
Deterioration from natural forces such as weathering and uncontrolled vegetation and insensitive development threaten our historic cemeteries. The involvement of individuals and organizations with an interest and commitment to saving local history and culture is critical to protecting and preserving Arkansas's historic cemeteries. Join the Tunican Chapter for this informative discussion and learn about the Preservation of African American Cemeteries (PAAC) and the proper practices for maintaining historic cemeteries.

Tuesday, February 2 at 6:30 PM  
School of Forestry and Natural Resources Conference Room, University of Arkansas at Monticello

Sponsored by the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences  
University of Arkansas at Monticello



## PAAC February Events



Sadie Johnson Center UAM  
February 20, 2016



### NEW MEMBER ALERT

Steven & Bernice  
Wright  
Moreno Valley, California

Hey!  
**WELCOME**  
We're *very* **GLAD**  
you're here!

# SAVE THE DATE MAY 6-7, 2016

## Celebrating 10 Years of the “Memorial In May” Cemetery Conference

The 2016 “Memorial In May” Cemetery Preservation Conference will be held in El Dorado, Arkansas May 6-7, 2016. Hosted by Reverend Barry Dobson and St. Johns Missionary Baptist Church. The conference will be held in the St. John’s Family Life Center, 1016 East Wilson Street so mark your calendars.

**Hotel Reservations**—The room block for the PAAC Conference is now open for reservations. Rooms are reserved at the **Hampton Inn, 2312 Junction City Road, El Dorado, AR**. There is a flat rate of \$99 per night for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights. If you have AARP or AAA the room rate is \$89.00 (price listed does not include taxes, taxes will be charged). Check in time is 10:00am, check out is 12:00pm. For reservations please call 870-862-1800 and ask for the **PAAC Conference Block Rate**. **This reduced rate is available until April 22, 2016.**

### PAAC Junior Preservation Society “Grant Project & Recruiting”

January 9, 2016

Family Tree/Heritage Mapping Workshop  
Mosaic Templars Cultural Center

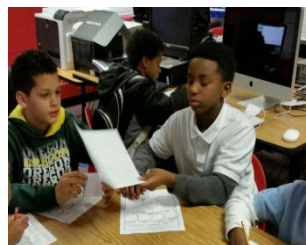


PAAC Jr. starts the new year with a mapping workshop as part of their grant project. In attendance LtoR: Allison Belin, Kennedy Bell, Joshua Johnson, Anna Belin and Junior PAAC 2009 charter member Bailey Buck. Below PAAC Junior poses with PAAC Senior LOL



January 19, 2016

Family Tree/Heritage Mapping Workshop  
Martin Luther King Elementary East Lab



# PAAC 2015 Awards Luncheon

## PAAC 2015 Honorees

### The Leo Dunning - Alfred Billingsley, Sr. & Jr., Cemetery Preservation Award

Honoring those who labor in restoring and preserving African American Cemeteries.



**Leroy Williams** received his former education in Phillips County, Arkansas; graduating from Eliza Miller High School in 1963. Received a Bachelor of Science from A.M.&N. College in Pine Bluff, Arkansas in mathematics and physical science in 1967 and a Master of Science Degree from Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Arkansas. He got involved years ago by volunteering to do clean up work in cemeteries during Memorial Day. Upon retiring from the teaching profession after 40 years of service, he joined the Magnolia Cemetery Association (MCA). His primary focus has been on the upkeep and preservation of the **Historic Magnolia Black Cemetery**. Personally, giving his time and financial resources to help maintain the cemetery. After much time spent during meetings researching the history and compiling information, the MCA was able to secure non-for-profit status.



**Wilbert Gaines** is a retired Associate Professor Emeritus in the Department of Health Physical Education and Sport Sciences HPESS at Arkansas State University. He has served PAAC for many years with his observation and experience in cemetery preservation. Most recently the torch of responsibility has been passed on to him to assure the survival of Oak Grove Cemetery. One very important aspect is that through his efforts he has realized that cemeteries are more than a place to bury the dead. They represent the community and with that comes the opportunity for businesses to bring in financial opportunities.

### The Roy "Bill" Lewellen Legislative Award

Honoring those Governmental Officials who support the preservation of African American Cemeteries.

The 2015 recipients are the members of the Arkansas Black Legislative Caucus of the 90th General Assembly for their previous years of support in financially funding state agencies in support of preservation of African American cemeteries. The members of PAAC, forerunners of African American cemetery preservation are honored that their labor of the last 10 years is finally coming full circle and their dedication has been recognized by the Arkansas Black Caucus.

### Award of Appreciation

#### The Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma

## PAAC 2015 Guest Luncheon Speaker

Roy C. Lewellen, Attorney at Law  
Former Arkansas State Senator



Attorney Lewellen of Marianna, AR and of which the PAAC Legislative Award is named, graces us today. He is married to Mrs. Doris Lewellen and together they have 2 children. For more than a decade Attorney Lewellen has dedicated his influence to the success of PAAC and cemetery preservation. We applaud and appreciate his influence and the changes it has brought about in the awareness and success of African American Cemetery Preservation and calling our legislatures to action in supporting preservation efforts in their districts.

## IN LOVING MEMORY

August 1, 1960

May 10, 2015



On behalf of the members of PAAC and AAHGS (Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society) we dedicate this luncheon to the memory of our beloved member and friend, Archie Lee Moore, Jr.

Archie loved life, his state and his home town of Little Rock. He was a collector of African American memorabilia, historian, community developer, philanthropist, church trustee and lifelong member of Wesley Chapel UMC. He served on the board of the Arkansas Humanities Council, AAHGS, Central Arkansas Library System among others. A member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity and in 2009 he was appointed by Governor Beebe to the Arkansas Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission. Archie is being eulogized today and we ask that you cherish his memory and the wonderful things he did for the preservation of African American history and heritage.



LtoR: PAAC members applauding Dr. Gaines on receiving PAAC award. PAAC Co-founder Phyllis Hammonds accepting award on behalf of Leroy Williams. Senator Chesterfield accepting award On behalf of the Black Caucus. Former Senator Bill Lewellen signing autographs after his "drop the mic" luncheon speech! Dr. Gaines accepting his award and the last photo is Chairman Berrey accepting award from Rusty on behalf of the Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma.

**PAAC 2015 "Memorial In May" Conference – Quapaw, Oklahoma  
Pictorial Highlights Courtesy of Elvin Lang**



**Richard Bullard receives the PAAC 2013 Cleo Dunnings - Alfred Billingsley, Sr. & Jr., Cemetery Preservation Award**

*This Award was presented to Richard at the November 14, 2015 PAAC meeting as he was not able to attend the "Memorial In May" Cemetery Preservation Conference in 2013 held in Wynne, AR. It was indeed my pleasure and privilege to present it to him in person. This Award is given in honor of those who labor in restoring and preserving African American Cemeteries Richard this award is long overdue and we truly appreciate your dedication in the recognition and preservation of both black and white cemeteries.*

**Pictured:** Mrs. Clara Mae Cross, member of the Senior Center and PAAC member Elsie Dodson standing by the Center Memorial Christmas Tree. The tree memorializes members of the center that have passed on.



**Richard Bullard center receiving PAAC award.**  
The November 2015 meeting was held in Stuttgart, AR and hosted by Richard Bullard and Nisa Rasool, Manager at the Stuttgart Senior Center. In addition to the meeting we celebrated with Ms. Rasool her 32<sup>nd</sup> birthday!





# PAAC Reflections of 2015



## PAAC 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Memorial In May – Tribal Dancers



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 2015

- Bernita Polk – St. Louis, MO
- Tina D. Davie – Little Rock, AR
- Carrie V. Wilson – Fayetteville, AR
- Glen Glover – El Dorado, AR
- Dr. John House – Pine Bluff, AR
- Don Tilton – Little Rock, AR
- Barbara & Teresa Cole – Little Rock, AR
- Rita & Denise White – Little Rock, AR
- Linda E Emry Chesterfield – Little Rock, AR
- Bill & Doris Lewellen – Marion, AR
- Asst. Professor Hannah Rosen – Williamsburg, VA

Madison Mobley – PAAC Junior

Thank you for your membership in 2015 please renew!!!!

Photo Courtesy of Richard Bullard



## VOLUNTEER we need your help!

**PAAC IS IN NEED OF A  
WEBMASTER AND  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR...  
PLEASE VOLUNTEER**

## Congratulations!

Junior PAAC for receiving the Curtis Sykes Memorial Grant from the Black History Commission of Arkansas

Project Title:  
Moving Cemetery Preservation Into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with the Online Experience