



“Memorial In May - Cemetery Preservation Conference”

**Preservation of African American Cemeteries Workshop
Reclaiming Our Past to Preserve Our Future
May 4 - 5, 2007**

**Southwest Community Center
6401 Baseline Road Suite A * Little Rock, AR 72209 * At Baseline & Oman Roads**

Conference Schedule - Friday, May 4, 2007

The Preservation of African American Cemeteries, Inc., was founded January 8, 2003. The goal of PAAC is to form a network of persons and/or groups committed to locating, researching, educating, documenting, reclaiming and preserving African American Cemeteries.

Co-Founders

Phyllis Hammonds
West Helena, AR

Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis
Little Rock, AR

Charter Members

Carla Hines Coleman
Little Rock, AR

Arthur L. McClinton, Sr.
Helena, AR

Chestina Tobar
Forrest City, AR

Annie Winfrey
Madison, AR

Peggy Robinson Wright
Forrest City/Jonesboro, AR

Advisors

C. Calvin Smith
Jonesboro, AR

Curtis H. Sykes
North Little Rock, AR

PAAC, Inc.
P.O. Box 25923
Little Rock, AR 72221-5923
501-221-3824 (fax)
501-425-5578 (contact)

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|-------------------------|--|
| 9:15 - 12:00noon | Registration |
| 10:00 - 10:30am | Welcome & Purpose
Advisor - Phyllis Hammonds
PAAC - President, Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis |
| 10:30 - 11:15 am | Reclaiming Our Past to Preserve Our Future
Presenter: Dr. C. Calvin Smith |
| 11:15 - 12:00pm | Saving Indian Burial Ground And How It Relates To Federal Policy
Presenter: Carrie V. Wilson |
| 12:00 - 1:15pm | Panel Discussion - Aketa Gulliorry (Lakeport Cemetery Project) Dr. Ann Early (State Archeologist), Stephanie Webb (Former Receiver Haven of Rest Cemetery), Melvin Brown, (Funeral Home Director), Dr. Jamie Brandon, (Archeologist - SAU) Tony Burroughs (Author) |
| 1:15 - 2:00 pm | Lunch - Photo Exhibit of African American Cemeteries, Presented by Johnson's Studio, Oak Grove Cemetery Assoc. & PAAC, Inc. |
| 2:00 - 2:40pm | Grant Funding Availability for African American Cemeteries
Presenter: Jama Best – Program Officer
Arkansas Humanities Council |
| 2:45 - 3:25pm | How The Board Fits Into Arkansas Cemeteries
Presenter: Attorney Mike Spades
Arkansas Cemetery Board
Arkansas Securities Department |
| 3:30 - 4:10pm | Do's & Don'ts of Cemetery Preservation: Problems Encountered on Cemetery Properties
Presenter: Brian Driscoll
Arkansas Historic Preservation Program |
| 4:10 - 4:25pm | 15 minute break |
| 4:30 - 5:30pm | Q & A |
| 6:00 - 7:30pm | Reception & Book Signing
Authors: Tony Burroughs & Angela Walton-Raji |



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Conference Schedule - Saturday, May 5, 2007

**PRESERVATION OF
 AFRICAN AMERICAN
 CEMETERIES**
**“RECLAIMING OUR PAST
 TO PRESERVE OUR FUTURE”**

ESTABLISHED 2003

**ELECTED OFFICERS
 2007-2008**

TAMELA TENPENNY-LEWIS
 PRESIDENT

CARLA HINES COLEMAN
 VICE PRESIDENT

MICHELLE HOOD
 RECORDING/
 CORRESPONDENCE
 SECRETARY

PATSY K. THOMPSON
 FINANCIAL SECRETARY

ARTHUR MCCLINTON, SR.
 TREASURER

STEPHANIE WEBB
 PARLIAMENTARIAN

ADVISORS

PHYLLIS Y. HAMMONDS
C. CALVIN SMITH
CURTIS H. SYKES

**APPOINTED OFFICERS
 2007-2008**

KENNETH HENDERSON
 HISTORIAN

EVELYN TENPENNY
 FUND RAISER CHAIRPERSON

TAMELA TENPENNY-LEWIS
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR

PHYLLIS HAMMONDS
 PUBLIC RELATIONS LIAISON

VACANT
 CHAPTER ESTABLISHMENT
 CO-CHAIRS

NEWSLETTER RATES
 FREE WITH PAID MEMBERSHIP
 \$2.00 PER ISSUE
 TO NON-MEMBERS

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
 PUBLISHED
 FOUR TIMES A YEAR. DEADLINES
 FOR
 SUBMISSION OF MATERIALS ARE
 FEBRUARY 20TH, MAY 20TH,
 AUGUST 20TH, AND NOVEMBER
 20TH.

8:15am - Noon	<i>Registration</i>
9:00 - 9:30 am	<i>Welcome/Greetings</i> <i>PAAC - President: Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis</i> <i>Senator Tracy Steele</i>
9:30 - 10:45am	<i>Researching Cemeteries and Funeral Homes</i> <i>Keynote Speaker: Tony Burroughs</i>
10:45 - 11:00am	<i>(15 minute break)</i>
11:00 - 12:15pm	<i>Locating, Researching, and Honoring Black</i> <i>Civil War Soldiers in our Cemeteries</i> <i>Presenter: Angela Walton-Raji</i>
12:15 - 1:00pm	<i>African American Archeology In Arkansas</i> <i>Presenter: Dr. Jamie Brandon</i> <i>SAU Archeological Survey</i>
1:00 - 2:15pm	<i>Awards Luncheon - Photo Exhibit of African American</i> <i>Cemeteries, The Past and Future</i> <i>Presented by Johnson's Studio, Oak Grove Cemetery</i> <i>Association and PAAC, Inc.</i>
2:30 - 3:20pm	<i>Jim Crow - In Life & Death?</i> <i>A Case Study: Fraternal & Oakland Cemeteries</i> <i>Presenter: Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis</i>
3:30 - 5:00pm	<i>Tour - Fraternal, Oakland, and National Cemeteries</i>
5:15 - 6:00pm	<i>Closing Remarks/Next Steps</i>

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Registration Form

Name _____
(please print name like you want it on your name tag)

Address _____

Phone & Email _____

Name of group/organization _____
(If you want a receipt for registration please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope)

Please circle your choice of conference options below:

Registration postmarked by April 27th

		<u>Students</u>
Friday only	\$ 20	\$ 12
Saturday only	\$ 25	\$ 18
Friday and Saturday	\$ 40	\$ 25

Registration after April 27th or On-Site

		<u>Students</u>
Friday only	\$ 25	\$ 17
Saturday only	\$ 30	\$ 23
Friday and Saturday	\$ 50	\$ 30

Conference Tour of Cemeteries

Saturday, May 5 - 3:30pm
Will you attend the tour? YES NO

Exhibit Booth

One Day Only - Please Indicate Friday or Saturday \$15
Both Friday and Saturday \$25

Full conference registration includes: Friday Lunch & Reception, Saturday Awards Luncheon, Tour & Break Refreshments.
If you are not registering for the conference but would like to attend the Awards Luncheon please include: \$12.50

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ _____

This payment is for () Entire Conference () Friday only () Saturday only () Awards Luncheon () Exhibit Booth

Mail completed form and make checks payable to: PAAC, Inc. * P.O. Box 25923 * Little Rock, AR 72221

Special Features of the Conference include the Awards Luncheon where distinguished honorees who have fought the battle to maintain, reclaim and preserve Arkansas Cemeteries will be recognized.

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To all of you dedicated to cemetery preservation, it is apparent you have been selected as the chosen ones from your ancestors to protect and reclaim their sacred burial grounds. Answer the call we would like to know about your activities in cemetery preservation issues, what type of services you are providing in your communities, including cemetery and burial identifications, mapping, preservation plans, archeology and conservation treatments. Have you managed to document those interred in various cemeteries and what did you apply in doing so? Is your work documented and published? We are also very interested in knowing if you have been active in political and legal efforts to identify and stop desecration and destruction of cemeteries. I would request that each of you submit to the organization a brief, outlining your respective cemetery group's location, when founded, your purpose for being, what you have accomplished and what your goals are and if you are interested in joining PAAC. Please define what you hope to gain as a member and what you are prepared to contribute. Please send our P.O. Box and address them to me. Looking forward to working with all of you. In addition, please submit articles for newsletter, as well as your upcoming events.

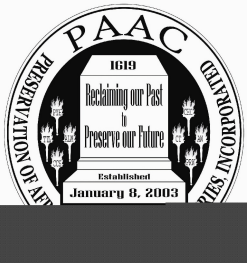
Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis

Gilbert Hill Cemetery Association
Jamesella Kountz-Proctor
Lexa, Arkansas

Oak Grove Cemetery Association
Virgie Phillips, Charlotte Robinson
West Helena, AR

W. E. Leach Searcy, AR
Robert McGruder - Wrightsville, AR
Samuel Tenpenny - Wrightsville, AR

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The two day conference on Friday, May 4, and Saturday, May 5, 2007 will give Arkansas citizens an opportunity to convene, network, and learn innovated techniques to research and care for perpetual care of cemeteries as one place out of which the historical/cultural/religious heritage is authenticated. Our panel of speakers will, in their lectures project the goals of the PAAC organization: to instruct and teach the humanities the valuable information necessary for the education and preparation of cemetery restoration, documentation and preservation.

PAAC, Inc. President-Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis will open the conference by defining the purpose and necessity of the two-day conference, explain the goals of the PAAC organization and recognize the various cemetery associations, groups, organizations and state agencies that have gathered. The opening lecture will be conducted by retired Professor of History at Arkansas State University, scholar and advisor Dr. C. Calvin Smith who will address the audience African American Cemetery Preservation. His writing of the History of the Magnolia Cemetery (Phillips County) and Black Pioneers interred, offers this workshop an insight to the importance of cemetery preservation. The Carrie V. Wilson will educate the audience regarding her shared experiences to save and preserve Indian burial grounds across the nation. She will share how the cultures of some Indian burial grounds are similar to African American cemeteries. Her presentation will also focus on educating participants regarding the sacredness of the grounds.

Following Ms. Wilson, there will be a panel discussion led by Aketa Guillory, Lakeport Cemetery Project Panelist include, Tony Burroughs, Nationally known Historian/Genealogist Dr. Ann Early, Arkansas Archeological Survey, State Archeologist Melvin Brown, Funeral Director with Watson Northcrest Funeral Home, Stephanie Webb Former Receiver of Haven of Rest Cemetery and Dr. Jamie Brandon, SAU Archeological Survey to discuss the rituals of burial, the complexities of cemetery preservation, describe their respective roles with the ongoing maintenance of the respective facilities/cemeteries and the hardships found in requesting information needed to maintain, restore and preserve cemeteries as that they are not considered as a residence and viewed as an outsider. Panel members will share preservation techniques such as landscaping, road building, maintaining tombstones, relate stories of individuals buried and make aware the pitfalls and problems seen. They will share stories on how desecration of cemeteries in Arkansas have a dramatic affect on the history and heritage of African American community.

Afternoon Sessions: Session A: Jama Best a representative from the Arkansas Humanities Council will present the AHC process for organizations to apply for grants to research and document their cemeteries.

Session B: Mike Spades, Attorney for the Arkansas Cemetery Board will discuss: How The Board Fits Into Arkansas Cemeteries and explain the difference between perpetual & non-perpetual care cemeteries.

Session C: Brian Driscoll a representative from the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program will provide a presentation on the Do's & Don'ts of Cemetery Preservation: Problems Encountered on Cemetery Properties. Explain the criteria and application process of the Registry and how AHPP is available to provide assistance with this effort.

Q & A: Following a break, PAAC Advisors & Scholars, Dr. Smith and Mr. Sykes will moderate the question and answer period for our speakers. Friday's sessions will end with a book signing and reception for our keynote & guest speaker.

Day two: The conference will open with greetings from PAAC President Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis and Senator Tracy St. Senator Steele sponsored the bill that proposed funding to the Arkansas Archeological Survey and the Arkansas Humanities Council to continue the granting of funds for the documentation and preservation of African American cemeteries.

Our opening lecture will be presented by keynote speaker, Tony Burroughs. Mr. Burroughs will focus on how to locate cemeteries and funeral homes, the sometimes hard to find records, and the genealogy can contain. The sometimes small bits of life information in funeral home records that are not found in cemetery records. Sources discussed will include - sexton records, headstone records, grave registrations, national vs private cemeteries, local cemeteries and funeral homes and their records, home sources, and Internet sources.

After a break, our guest speaker Angela Walton-Raji will present on Locating, Researching, and Honoring Black Civil War Soldiers in our Cemeteries (See Attachment) There were more than 130 Regiments of Black soldiers who fought for their freedom on the Union Army in America's Civil War. As African American researchers are beginning to explore the history of their ancestors many are discovering that their ancestors were among the more than 200,000 black men who served the Union Army. Much of their research is expanding to include the search for a loved one's gravesite and to locate the distinguishable marker that displays their service with the United States Colored Troops.

Following Mrs. Walton-Raji, will be the Awards Luncheon and the second day presentation of Photo Exhibit of African American Cemeteries, The Past and Future Presented by Johnson's Studio, Oak Grove Cemetery Association and PAAC, Inc. Our final presentation of the day by Tamela Tenpenny-Lewis, Jim Crow - In Life & Death? A Case Study of Fraternal & Oakland Cemeteries. Followed by a tour of Fraternal, Oakland and National Cemeteries where a large section of USCT Soldiers are buried. The tour participants will return to the conference site to conclude with closing remarks and brainstorming on what areas still need addressing.

Tony Burroughs FUGA - Researching Cemeteries and Funeral Homes

The cemetery is the final resting place for our ancestors, and a primary source for records to trace the family tree. Cemetery records often lead to new ancestors. You need to visit each cemetery where all ancestors are buried, and obtain copies of Funeral homes are another excellent source for genealogical data. Before your ancestors were buried, their remains were normally handled by the local undertaker. In addition, if you don't know where an ancestor was buried, the funeral home records will often reveal the name of the cemetery. Sometimes a funeral home record may be the only written record of the ancestor's death.

Tony Burroughs is a professional genealogist who has been teaching genealogy at Chicago State University for fifteen years. He was a guest expert on Oprah's Roots (PBS 2007), Remembering Roots (BBC 2007), African American Lives with Henry Louis Gates (PBS 2006) and was the genealogist in search of the family of Jesus on three continents in The Real Family of Jesus. The documentary was produced by the BBC and aired as a two hour special on The Discovery Channel (2005). He was a featured genealogy expert in episodes of the PBS television series Ancestors 2 (2000), and was the African American Genealogy expert in the original PBS Ancestors (1997). Burroughs has also been interviewed on CBS Sunday Morning, CBS News, ABC World News Tonight, and BET Nightly News. His book, Black Roots: A Beginner's Guide to Tracing the African American Family (Simon & Schuster, 2001) was number one on Essence Magazine's Best Seller list and is now in its fourth printing.

Angela Y. Walton-Raji - Locating, Researching, and Honoring Black Civil War Soldiers in our Cemeteries

Angela Walton-Raji is a native of Ft. Smith Arkansas, and has distinguished herself as a specialist in Black Civil War Soldiers west of the Mississippi, as well as her research on Indian Territory of the Five Civilized Tribes. Her personal family research has revealed nine ancestors who served in the United States Colored Troops in Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee and she has closely researched black soldiers who served in the Indian Home Guards, most of whom were from Indian Territory.

In 2004, she and a close colleague researched the community of Crockett Arkansas, and have located a number of black men in the community who were soldiers in the United States Colored Troops. They documented the lives of these men with both military pension files and military service records, and were successful in obtaining 8 official military headstones honoring these men. The stones were placed at the historic Fairview Cemetery in Van Buren Arkansas. Since that time, the cemetery has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places, and one of the reasons for this honor was that the cemetery held the remains of both Confederate and Union soldiers, with official military designations. The Union soldiers honored were the United States Colored Troops.

Ms. Walton-Raji continues to research the Civil War history, of the western Arkansas and eastern Oklahoma communities, and plans are underway to honor additional soldiers known to be buried at Fairview Cemetery.

She lives in Maryland, and works at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.