



www.thepaacc.org
assistance@thepaacc.org

Preserving the history of and making improvements to the grounds of the Pyland African American Cemetery.

MAILING ADDRESS
P. O. Box 40645
Fort Worth, Texas 76140

March 4, 2026

Re: PAACC Annual Membership Letter

Dear PAACC Members,

As we move into the 2026 year, I want to take a moment to reflect on how far we have come and express my sincere appreciation for your continued dedication to the Pyland African American Cemetery Charter (PAACC).

The past year has been one of resilience, progress, and renewed commitment. In 2024, we strengthened the physical integrity of the cemetery with the installation of approximately 250 linear feet of fencing along the west side of the property. This improvement was an important step in preserving and protecting this sacred ground for future generations.

We also faced unexpected challenges following the impact of Hurricane Beryl. Thanks to the hard work and unity of our members and volunteers, we were able to successfully clean and restore the grounds. Your willingness to step up during that time reflects the heart of this organization.

Throughout 2025, we focused on expanding our fundraising efforts and community engagement. Our participation in the Mardi Gras Festival in Jefferson provided valuable exposure, strengthened community connections, and helped raise awareness about our mission. Events like these are essential in helping us share the story and historical importance of Pyland Cemetery.

As we look ahead to 2026, our priorities remain clear:

- Continue preservation and maintenance efforts
- Expand fundraising initiatives
- Secure grant funding for future improvement projects
- Increase community outreach and membership engagement

We are actively working with a grant writer to pursue funding opportunities that will allow us to make additional improvements to the cemetery grounds. Our long term vision includes continued restoration, historical documentation, and ensuring that this sacred site remains a place of honor, dignity, and remembrance.

PAACC exists because of you. Your membership, financial support, volunteer hours, and advocacy make this work possible. Preserving Pyland African American Cemetery is more than maintenance; it is protecting history, honoring ancestors, and safeguarding a legacy.



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I encourage each of you to stay engaged, attend meetings, volunteer when possible, and invite others to become members. Together, we can ensure that the mission of PAACC continues to thrive for years to come.

Thank you for your commitment and support. I look forward to another productive and impactful year working alongside each of you.

We're looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming **Annual Board Meeting on: May 23, 2026, at Pyland African American Cemetery, at 11am.**

Thank you,

Robert Smith, President