



# No Other Place

Spring 2026

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## Message From The Board Chair

Spring is always a great time to visit the Texas Hill Country. The Texas Bluebonnets are showing their radiant blue color, which is refreshing after the cold winter months.

The Friends organization has been working on many activities this year. We have committed to attend and participate in all the adjacent area Chambers of Commerce, including Stonewall, Johnson City, Fredericksburg, Marble Falls, Hye, and Blanco. This allows the Friends to network and talk about the many programs at the LBJ National Historical Park.

We have confirmed our keynote speaker for the August 27 wreath-laying ceremony at the LBJ Ranch. Mark Updegrave, the President and CEO of the LBJ Foundation, has graciously accepted the invitation. Mark is the author of six books on the presidency and is the host of the PBS series, "Live from the LBJ Library with Mark Updegrave". He has written for the New York Times, Politico, TIME, National Geographic, the Daily Beast, and USA Today, and serves as the Presidential Historian for ABS News and has conducted exclusive interviews with seven U.S. presidents. We hope to see you all on August 27!

In September, we are bringing back the BBQ at the LBJ Ranch with a new name – Back to the Ranch – The LBJ BBQ Returns. Mark your calendar for

September 26 and plan to enjoy a delicious BBQ from KG BBQ and local Texas wine, dance the night away to western swing with the very popular Two Tons of Steel, and bid on your favorite silent auction items...all underneath the Texas sky on the LBJ Ranch!

Lastly, it is with great excitement that we announce that we are over 90% of our funding goal to restore the Texas White House complex and open it back up to the public for tours. With the almost \$18M grant from the Great American Outdoors Act received by the National Park Service, we need only \$2 million to get us to the finish line to fully fund the renewed visitor experience at the ranch. If you would like more information on how you may participate in this endeavor, please visit our [website](#).

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**Our Heart's Home  
Campaign to Restore and Preserve  
the Texas White House Complex**

We are excited to announce the launch of *Our Heart's Home Campaign*—an effort dedicated to transforming the visitor experience across the Texas White House Complex.

The National Park Service received almost \$18 million from the Great American Outdoors Act for the Texas White House rehabilitation project and is seeking additional support from the Friends to cover the remaining \$2 million needed to complete the project. In response, the Friends launched Our Hearts Home: Campaign to Preserve and Restore the Texas White House Complex to raise the remaining funds.

Through this campaign, we are raising money to deepen visitor engagement with one of the most consequential periods in American history. These new upgrades will improve visitor accessibility throughout the complex while creating flexible, reimagined spaces that support a variety of audiences and uses. These adaptations will allow the National Park Service to expand and evolve public programs and educational opportunities—responding more effectively to visitor needs while strengthening the ways the park tells Lyndon B. Johnson's story.

The Campaign's funds will go towards new, modernized exterior way-finding features and the Hangar Visitor Center with a new orientation area, a custom Ranger Information Desk, and improved navigation tools, including tactile

maps. These enhancements will complement the park's efforts to conserve, restore, and reproduce historic artifacts within the House and Hangar. The Klein Shop will also feature upgraded exhibits exploring the daily lives of the people who worked and lived on the ranch.

*Our Heart's Home Campaign* reflects a shared commitment to preserving this legacy while ensuring it resonates powerfully with today's audiences—and for generations to come.

[Visit our Website](#)



### Spotlight Story: Jewell Malechek and the Malechek Family of LBJ Ranch

Jewell Malechek Scott is a long-time resident of the LBJ Ranch and still lives in the house that the President and Mrs. Johnson built for her family. The Malechek family moved to the ranch in 1961. At that time, Lyndon Baines Johnson was Vice President of the United States.

[Read More](#)

## Friends Event Calendar



**August 27, 2026**- Annual Wreath Laying Ceremony

**September 26, 2026**- Back To The Ranch-The LBJ BBQ Returns



Friends of Lyndon B. Johnson  
National Historical Park

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