

# Friends Newsletter



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## Volume 5, Number 8, *End of 2011 Editions*

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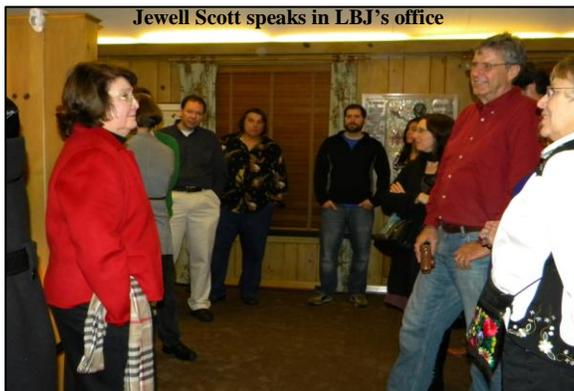
### What A Marvelous Conclusion for 2011

The Friends Board of Directors was thrilled so many of you were able to join us for the December 11<sup>th</sup> Reception and Silent Auction where we unveiled the completely restored ground floor of the Texas White House. What a wonderful example of what our partnership with the National Park Service and Western National Parks Association can achieve!

It was a magical evening; the air was cool, the tent erected to the north of the airplane hangar decorated in festive lights and poinsettias for the season. Our wonderful friends Luci Johnson & Ian Turpin, Lynda Johnson Robb & Senator Chuck Robb, and Catherine Robb were on hand to share the restoration with over 200 guests.



Libby Hulett speaks in LBJ's bedroom suite



Jewell Scott speaks in LBJ's office



Living Room of Texas White House

On December 22<sup>nd</sup>, what would have been Mrs. Johnson's 99<sup>th</sup> birthday, the National Park Service permanently opened the ground floor of the Texas White House for public tours. Our work with the park will now continue as we support efforts to restore the second floor. Mrs. Johnson, Lynda and Luci, have left us the majority of furnishings upstairs. The Friends Group contributed almost \$63,000 toward the first floor restoration!

Thank you again to our wonderful sponsors and supporters, especially Silver K Restaurant, Johnson City; Klepec Nurseries, Blanco; and Circle Brewery, Austin. An acknowledgement display with all silent auction and reception sponsors will remain on display in the LBJ Ranch Hangar through February.

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## Park Celebrates Christmas Season with the First Head Start School



Every year, just before Christmas, the original Head Start School, founded by President and Mrs. Johnson pays a visit to the president's birthplace home. The Stonewall area students sing Christmas carols on the front porch and then help park rangers decorate a tree in the house with their hand-made ornaments. After the tree is decorated, each student receives a "goody bag" filled with surprises and treats. There are always Jelly Beans involved as the early Head Start students knew the grey-haired, tall man who used to visit as "Mr. Jelly Bean." You see, President Johnson never visited without passing out bags of jelly beans to the students.

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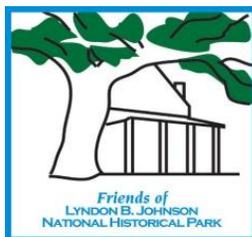
## Remember the Friends with End of Year Giving

First and foremost, Thank You for supporting the Friends and the national historical park with your annual membership. The Board of Directors has budgeted \$135,000 in financial support for 2012. Of course, we always want to do more. If you would like to support the Friends with an additional donation visit our website and click on the "Donations" button on the left. You may also copy and paste this link to go directly to the web page: <http://www.friendsoflbjnationalpark.org/donations.htm> If you would like to designate a project or educational program please let us know. Some of our projects and programs for 2012 include:

1. Funding a Lady Bird Johnson Centennial exhibit for the park's visitor center and museum, \$7500
2. Completing interior restoration of the JetStar and installing a platform to view the cabin and cockpit, \$6500
3. Support *Reflections of the 1960's* programming off-site in Austin and San Antonio schools, \$3000
4. Support construction of a "specialized" carport to house a Model T loaned by the LBJ Library, \$15,000
5. Sponsor a major fundraiser through the March 24, 2012, LBJ 100 Bicycle Tour, \$21,000
6. Sponsor a major fundraiser and community outreach event through the May 5, 2012, Barbeque on the Pedernales featuring the multi-Grammy award winners, *Riders in the Sky*, \$20,000
7. Support on-going exhibit development for the LBJ Ranch Hangar Exhibit Center, \$4000



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