



2020 Year End Summary

In the year following the passing of Quanah and Hardeman County native E. Eugene Johnson, his family began exploring the ways in which it could honor his legacy. Since he was so active in the community he loved both professionally and in many volunteer capacities, the Johnson family founded the E. Eugene Johnson Memorial Foundation.

The process started with simply finding out more about the activities he had recently been involved with and working to try to connect some pieces of information, which was initially focused on the Quanah Friends of the Park. From there, the idea was born to start an entirely new charitable organization in honor of E. Eugene Johnson. On May 27, 2020, the E. Eugene Johnson Memorial Foundation was officially formed.

During the year, we have worked to set out the initial structure of the organization, achieve tax-exempt status as a public charity, and begin our work in a few key areas. We created two separate committees consisting of both members of the board of the Foundation as well as other volunteers from the community.



The Foundation has worked with the Quanah Friends of the Park Volunteer Corps, and has also formed a committee that will carry on the work of the Friends of the Park. During 2020, Friends of the Park has continued its relationship with the Quanah Historical Preservation and has done much work through that organization, which included beginning the installation of new shade structures, disc golf nets, and BBQ grills thanks to a generous grant from the Gene Conley Foundation.

In 2021 and beyond, the group will primarily work with the Foundation to carry on its mission to support the Quanah City Park including replacement of basketball goals and working on new activities and artwork. During 2020, this included sponsoring two cleanup days, planting new trees in the park, working with the City of Quanah to replace the surface around the playground, repairing the band stand, and hosting the Fall Concert at the Park featuring Austin Cunningham with Darby Sparkman.



In conjunction with the West Kessler Native Arbor Initiative (WKNAI), the Foundation initiated the Tremendous Quanah program in 2020. This involved working with the WKNAI and the Lewisville Aquatic Ecosystem Research Facility to secure a donation of native trees. Thanks to the support of so many from the community, volunteers helped to plant over 40 new trees in September in the Quanah City Park, near the Hardeman County Historical Museums, at the Quanah Community Center, and at the Goodlett Cemetery. As part of this program, the Foundation worked with the Quanah Parker Society and Center in planting two new Comanche Marker Trees in front of the QA&P museum as well as at the Downtown Medicine Mound Museum.



The Foundation has also recently formed a committee with the intention and purpose to work with the Goodlett Cemetery Association to seek to make improvements and identify specific projects for the Goodlett Cemetery. The committee held its first meeting, which involved discussions about a new entryway for the cemetery. Much work lies ahead for the committee in 2021, and the Foundation looks forward to working with the Goodlett Cemetery Association on this initial project and other initiatives.

The E. Eugene Johnson Memorial Foundation is a Texas non-profit corporation and 501(c)(3) tax exempt public charity (EIN 85-1255191). Our purpose is to enhance and improve public spaces, including parks, cemeteries, and museums, in Quanah and Hardeman County, Texas, and improve the quality of life of residents through the use and enjoyment of those spaces.

As a public charity, the Foundation relies upon the generous donations from many in the community to help us carry out our work. To learn more about the E. Eugene Johnson Memorial Foundation and to make a donation online today, please go to www.eejfoundation.org/donate. Thank you to all who have supported us in 2020, and we look forward to more good work ahead in 2021.