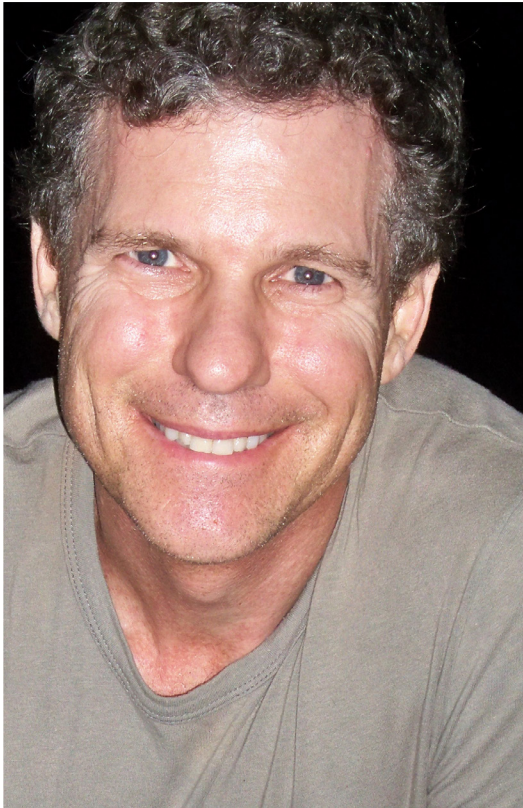


- Scott Johnson -



Scott grew up near a large park in New York State, where he discovered a love of open spaces. His earliest experiences outdoors include playing baseball and learning to ski and sled on snowy hills. Later when he and his family moved to Houston, He and his friends discovered nature at nearby Buffalo Bayou River. Scott always preferred to spend his free time in the great outdoors discovering bugs, birds, small mammals and reptiles.

In the 1990's Scott moved to Austin where he discovered that there was much to learn about preserving nature. Scott and others joined together to help protect our valuable air, water and land resources.

In 1995, the City of Austin awarded Scott the prestigious Beth Brown Boettner Award for individual environmental excellence. This would be the first of many prestigious awards and recognition to follow.

Learning that Austin's Parks and Libraries System needed more funding for programs and services, Scott conceived the idea for a Parks and Libraries Fund in 2003. In the 10 years to follow, Scott worked tirelessly to get the necessary approvals to bring his idea to life. As a result of his efforts, residents now have the ability to donate to this fund when they pay their electric and water bills. These generous donations help more youth attend City of Austin Parks and Recreation Department youth programs at a reduced cost; a fun and exciting experience they may not otherwise get to be a part of.

A special note from Scott Johnson to scholarship recipients: "I hope you make new friends during your experience and learn to love and appreciate nature as I have by asking questions and reading about how important plants and animals are to making the world a happy and healthy place."

