

West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind

THE SPOTLIGHT



Summer 2009

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Associated Agencies

- NIB
National Industries
for the Blind
- TIBH
Texas Industries
for the Blind and
Handicapped

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It's in the Bag!

The Lighthouse has been busy on two sewing projects for the U.S. Navy; the submarine "wet bag" and the "laundry bag".

The "wet bag" is made from 100% cotton and is bio-degradable. This bag is used for food waste on the submarines when they are submerged.

The submarine "laundry bag" is just like it sounds, it is for soiled clothing. This bag is made from nylon material, has eight snaps and is very detailed.

Other sewing products made by the Lighthouse are: Texas rock sample bag, Texas reusable shopping bag and Texas laundry bag. We continue to research and add additional products to our sewing line.



John McCarthy and Kevin Brown running drawstrings in the U.S. Navy "wet bags".



Safety Glasses Required in this Area

In February, safety glasses and ear plugs for hearing protection were added to the list of products packaged by the Lighthouse. Well known brands such as Smith & Wesson, UVEX and Crossfire are among the list of glasses that we now carry.



We also offer a wide variety of gloves in our safety products line. We have over 21 styles of gloves from general purpose to a glove with heat resistance up to 300 degrees.

Our safety products continue to grow and we are excited about two new products which will be added to our line, ear muffs and dust masks.



Work zone safety is always important and we hope our personal protection products will help keep "Safety 1st".

The Sports Challenge

The West Texas Lighthouse's Executive Director, David Wells, took the entire group of employees on an adventurous field trip-- Bowling and a hamburger lunch. This outing was a reward for all the hard work and dedication it took to meet the monthly sales goal for April. This year, we have met our sales goal every month.

The Lighthouse extended a sports challenge to one of the local sportscasters' of the KLST television crew. Ryan Salinas and his partner showed up ready to win this bowling match. These guys did not know what was in store for them.



They were blind folded to even the odds. While being at a disadvantage (being blind folded), they still did a pretty good job. They were just not good enough to win, despite the effort they put into it. One of our employees, Kevin Brown, bowled outstanding. He rolled strikes, frame after frame to win the game!

Many of the employees stated, "This has really been fun and maybe we can do this again in the future."

**"Creating
Jobs
Changing
Lives"
Since 1963**

Celebrations

The lighthouse employees are a close knit community. We celebrate birthday's with cake and ice cream. These cakes are made by some of the ladies here at work. Everyone really enjoys them.



On Cinco de Mayo, the ladies got together and prepared a traditional Mexican lunch. The food was great and the music to go along with the celebration was wonderful.

Monthly lunches are provided by the Lighthouse for reaching our sales goals. This year, there has been a sales lunch every month for the employees. Everyone looks forward to these celebrations. It is really special to the workers because they know they earned it by their hard work.

DEVELOPMENT EXPANDS

We are pleased to announce the addition of Tracie Bell as our development specialist.

She has been promoted from our sewing department and assigned to our newly remodeled development office. Tracie is working with our office staff on mail outs, and other office duties. She will also assist in providing tours of our facility.

Tracie has been working diligently at familiarizing herself with our donation software. Her efforts have proven to have a positive impact on the Lighthouse.



Tracie and Fred. Fred is 4 1/2 years old and has been with Tracie for 3 years.

THE LIGHTHOUSE "GOES GREEN"

Just like any business today, the Lighthouse is taking part in making “earth friendly” products. We would like to introduce you to our products made from bio-degradable materials. Our Bio-Write Highlighter and Bio-Write Retractable pens are bio-based, bio-degradable. In fact, the pens are made of corn material. These products will leave no chemical residue in the landfills.



Another step we are taking is that we are capitalizing on recycled materials. The Enviro Stick and Mini Stick pen are both made of Recycled Post-Consumer products. These are just some of the ways we are trying to make our writing instruments environmentally safe.



This new line of pens adds to our already existing bio-degradable “wet bags” and our shopping bag, the Texas Earth bag that we introduced last year.

The Lighthouse is constantly looking for ways to expand our products lines and at the same time, sell products that will keep the environment safe for years to come.

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

A *Thank You* goes out again to the Garden Club for another wonderful lunch. These ladies have been providing our Christmas Luncheons for more than 26 years. We truly appreciate their dedication to the Lighthouse year after year.



VISIT OUR LIGHTHOUSE

We are always happy to show our Lighthouse and the products we manufacture. Past visitors included;

- Leadership San Angelo
- Base Service Store at Goodfellow AFB
- United Way

If you would like to schedule a tour please give us a call: 325-653-4231

FRIENDS OF THE LIGHTHOUSE

The top donors to The Lighthouse during the first quarter of 2009 are Eva and Ernest Mayden and Eugene Curtis. These individuals are from Midland, Texas.

Their generosity means a lot because it helps create jobs for blind men and women who desire to work and want meaningful employment. These jobs help to bring greater independence, dignity, and joy to those who are blind.

These donations assist us to achieve our mission of *"Creating Jobs; Changing Lives."*

WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD 2008/2009

David Wells presents Kevin Brown with an award for the Worker of the Year. Kevin was commended for his excellent work and positive attitude.



PERFECT ATTENDENCE



These employees received gift cards as an incentive to continue their good work.

Left: Kevin Brown, Mary Perez, Helen Glenn, Scott Fischer

WE SAY GOODBYE...



The Lighthouse is sad to report the passing of two employees. John Knight (left) and Roque Garcia (right). Even though they will not be around, their memory will be in our hearts forever. Our sympathy goes out to their family and friends.

