



The West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind

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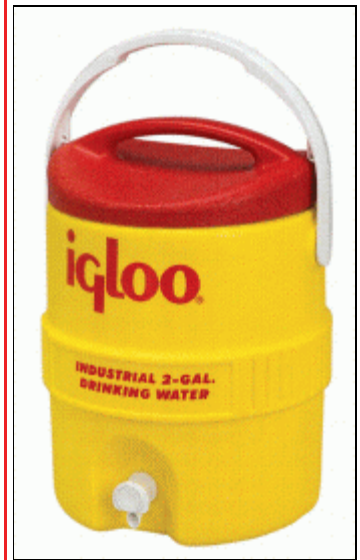
Please bear with us. We are in the process of improving our website.



The West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind is a manufacturing facility in San Angelo, Texas which employs people who are blind or have severely impaired vision. The Lighthouse was established in 1963 and now has close to 50 team members. We are primarily engaged in the production of writing instruments and over the years have developed several unique pens for niche markets. [Read more....](#)

We also sell pen parts to other lighthouses. They assemble and package these pens and then sell to their own state use program. We offer low minimum orders. Contact us for more information.

Featured Product



Igloo Coolers

Rugged, durable Igloo 400 Industrial Water Coolers keep water cold, clean and available. The right choice for any job site.

- Recessed plastic push button spigot
- Wide-mouth, pressure fit lid
- Safety colors for easy identification
- Will not fade in sunlight
- All plastic, rustproof construction
- Sanitary white liner
- Foamed Ultrathem insulation
- Available in 2, 3, 5

and 10 gallon

If you would like to help, Click on our [Donations Page](#) and help the Lighthouse achieve its Mission of "Creating Jobs and Changing Lives".

We invite you to browse our products page to learn more about the items that are produced by our visually impaired employees. Please consider purchasing your office supplies from us the next time you are running low. When you do this, you are helping us to provide jobs for our blind employees.



This company is an Equal Opportunity Employer. As a result, its policy is to afford equal employment opportunity to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, national origin or disability.



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As a 501(c)(3), we have a Board of Directors that provides oversight and makes policy decisions. They appoint the Executive Director who is responsible for running the day to day operations. The West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind is an equal opportunity employer and seeks to build a diverse workforce.

Steve Cecil, Chairman

Barbara Rogers, Vice-Chairman & Secretary

Stephen F. Marx, Treasurer

Paul Millican

Pierce Miller

Sharynn Tomlin

Stormy Kimrey

Zane Willard

Maurice Westmoreland

Al Owen

Lindsay Peck

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Ballpoint Pens

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[Store](#) > [Ballpoint Pens](#)

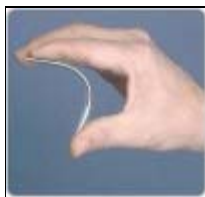


A-1000, Round Stick Pen for Economical Office Use

White barrel with colored caps and end plugs to match ink color. Medium point. Packaged one dozen in a plastic box. Guaranteed to write 5000 feet. Specify options by listing product number. List price for each product number, \$1.86 per dozen We can also imprint your name and business information o...

Place Order

\$1.86



Bend EZ Ballpoint Flexible Black Ink

Home of the Original Bend EZ Pen. We developed this pen in 1992. Many have tried to imitate us, but we think you will agree, there is no comparison. The Bend EZ has a flexible barrel instead of a hard molded plastic (that could be used as a weapon.) Recommended i...

Place Order

\$29.90



Bend EZ Washable Blue Ink

Save thousands of dollars with our new Bend EZ with Washable Ink. The ink washes right out of uniforms with no pre-wash needed. It will also wipe right off of walls and furniture with just a damp cloth. Stop replacing furniture and uniforms, or painting over walls because of ink stains. \$34.68 pe...

Place Order

\$34.68



Bio-Write Ergonomic Ball Point Pen

The new "Ergonomic" ball point pen is 60% biobased and compostable, leaves no chemical residue in landfills is definitely earth friendly. Comes with an ergonomic wide barrel and grip to reduce fatigue, smooth writing and no-skip. Available in black and blue medium point.&nbs...

Place Order

\$7.15



Bio-Write Retractable

The "Earth Friendly" pen. Biobased, biodegradable

Place Order

barrel reduces the use of petroleum and leaves no chemical residue in landfills. Renewable resource, biodegradable and compostable producing less waste than traditional pens. Excellent writing pen, has a ring grip for c...

\$6.64

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RB-500 Rollerball Pens

Features a rubberized body for ergonomic comfort and fatigue-free writing. Has a stainless steel tip and carbide ball. Smear-proof ink writes more fluidly than ballpoints. Color coded caps denote ink color. List price for each RB-500 product is \$8.08 per dozen.



RB-500 Options

RB-50012-8-8 Silver Barrel, Black Cap, Fine Point, Black Ink

Add to Cart

Price

[Return to Ballpoint Pens](#)



About Us

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Our Motto:

"Creating Jobs-Changing Lives"

Our Mission:

The Lighthouse exists to serve people who are blind or visually impaired with job training and competitive employment. We teach them skills which they can use here or elsewhere to support themselves and their families. We encourage them to accept personal responsibility for their economic well being and social development. This promotes individual independence and self-reliance.

Our Vision:

Our vision is to improve the quality of life for individuals who are blind or visually impaired through job opportunities that will lead to enhanced dignity and increased independence.

About the Lighthouse:

Throughout the history and growth of the Lighthouse, we strive to meet the ever-changing needs of our customers. This has ranged from specialty pens for the Federal Government to providing work gloves for the State of Texas. The Lighthouse takes great pride in its commitment to making earth friendly products. We make various types of pens from post consumer recycled plastic, bio-degradable pens and highlighters.

The West Texas Lighthouse is a private, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization which is affiliated with the National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped (TIBH). We receive no financial assistance from any public or government entity. Our income is based almost solely on the products we make and sell. We do, however, accept monetary donations and have Friends of the Lighthouse who are long time contributors.

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Congressman Conaway Visit

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From Left: Tracie Bell, TX Congressman Mike Conaway, and Dave Wells

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On August 4, 2009, the West Texas Lighthouse was honored to have Congressman Michael Conaway visit our facility. Congressman Conaway is a supporter of the blind and visually impaired and took time out of his extremely

busy schedule to tour our operation. He and his staff were impressed with the diversity of our product lines and the way our Blind employees are able to make products for both the Federal and State Governments.



Employee Picnic 2009

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The Lighthouse gang is ready to have some fun

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On October 8, 2009, we closed the Lighthouse and headed to the Goodfellow AFB Recreation Camp, located on Lake Nasworthy.

It was a typical West Texas Day-WINDY!! The day started with a wild game of horseshoes. Doyle Bell our self proclaimed horseshoe champ was beaten by some novice throwers. Doyle says "wait till next year". Other activities included

bingo, beep softball, and rides on a horse drawn buggy, compliments of Tina Lira's brother.

The day ended all too soon. Plans are already in the works for next years' picnic and to make this an annual event. This was a day of food, fun, and games for all the West Texas Lighthouse employees.



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[Getting To Know Us](#)

Hello, my name is Tracie Bell and I've been working at the West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind since 2005. The Lighthouse is a workshop for the blind. Some of my duties have included assembling pens, sewing, silk screening, and many other projects. I have enjoyed working here because it makes me feel like I can contribute to my family's income. This job gives me a feeling of self worth.

Your continued support of the Lighthouse makes it possible for us to purchase new equipment and offer other job opportunities for the blind. I would like to personally thank you for your support!

[How You Can Help](#)

The West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind is a non-profit organization serving 29 surrounding counties. The Lighthouse plays a vital role in providing blind or visually impaired people with the training and work skills needed to excel in life.

You can help in our Mission of "Creating Jobs - Changing Lives". Take a few moments, make a donation and change a life. If you share in our Mission, you may make contributions:

[Via Check or Money Order](#)

West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind
Attn: Internet Contributions
2001 Austin Street
San Angelo, Texas 76903

[Via Credit Card](#)

If you are interested in making a contribution via credit card, please click the Donate button below.





New Director of Development, Tracie, with Fred.

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State of Texas
National Industries for the Blind
Virginia Industries for the Blind
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
U.S. Dept. of Defense
U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Commonwealth of Virginia
GSA
Sunshine Industries for the Blind
Central Association
United Stationers
SP Richards
Corporate Express
Office Depot
Milwaukee Lighthouse
Town and Country Food Stores
Blind Industries of Maryland
Winston Salem
Tri-County Association
Seattle Lighthouse
AbilityOne.com
South Texas Lighthouse
San Antonio Lighthouse
Envision Base Service Centers



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Join our mailing list for up to date information on new products and services offered by The West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind.

Email

Full Name

Please select the mailing group(s) you would like to join:

Donors

General Public

[Unsubscribe](#)



THE SPOTLIGHT

West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind, 2001 Austin St., San Angelo, TX 76903
www.lighthousefortheblind.org 325-653-4231

Fall Issue 2008

A Tidbit of History

The West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind is a manufacturing facility in San Angelo, Texas which employs people who are blind or have severely impaired vision. The Lighthouse was established in 1963 and now has close to 50 team members. We are primarily engaged in the production of writing instruments and over the years have developed several unique pens for niche markets. We are celebrating our 45th anniversary this year.

The West Texas Lighthouse is a private, not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization which is affiliated with the National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped (TIBH). The majority of our income comes from the products we make and sell. We do, however, appreciate monetary donations and have many Friends of the Lighthouse who are long time contributors.

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We invite you to visit our updated website at www.lighthousefortheblind.org and browse our products page to learn more about the items that are produced by our visually impaired employees. When you purchase from us, you are helping us to provide jobs for our blind employees.



Employees Attend TIBH and NIB Conferences

In early October, Lighthouse employee Mary McKamie attended the TIBH 30th Anniversary Banquet in Austin, Tx. She was nominated for the 2008 Artie Lee Hinds Award for Works Wonders Employee of the Year for the State of Texas. TIBH Industries helps provide employment by assisting us in selling our products to the State of Texas.

Ms. McKamie has been employed by the Lighthouse for 27 years. Mary learned Braille, typing and mobility training after becoming blind



Employees (continued)

Also attending the TIBH conference was Lighthouse employee Kevin Brown who makes writing instruments and operates a tubing cutter. Kevin was blind at birth, after extensive surgery at age six he had partial tunnel vision until the age of 35 when he lost his sight completely. Kevin enjoys playing Jazz music, which he has been doing for 37 years. His credits include opening for the Jazz great BB King and performing for the Queen of England. His specialties include the saxophone, keyboard and percussions. His saxophone playing was the highlight of the TIBH 30th Anniversary celebration. Visit Kevin's website at www.cursebustersound.com for his story and music information.



Kevin Brown



Dave Wells and
Donald McCutcheon

In late October, Donald McCutcheon attended the 2008 NIB Training Conference in Houston, TX. Donald was nominated for the Peter J. Salmon Employee of the Year Award. Donald has been working for the Lighthouse for 33 years. He transferred to the West Texas Lighthouse from the Waco Lighthouse after the Waco Lighthouse closed. He lost his sight at age 21 from cataracts. Donald had a wonderful time at the conference and enjoys working at the Lighthouse.

Lighthouse has New Executive Director

As of August 29th, the Lighthouse announced the selection of David Wells as the new Executive Director. With 20 years of experience, Wells will develop strategies that continue to enhance economic and personal independence of West Texans who are blind through the production of products for the state and federal government.

Wells, a retired Army Corps of Engineers officer, is a graduate of McMurry University in Abilene, Texas, and Webster University in St. Louis, Missouri. After retiring from the U.S. Army, he

worked with various government contractors in the area of facilities maintenance and repair. In addition, prior to joining the West Texas Lighthouse team, Wells worked as an operations manager for Maryland Environmental Services. His goal is to continue to create jobs for people who are blind and visually impaired in San Angelo.

*"Creating Jobs, Changing Lives"
for over 45 years*

Upcoming Issue

- Blood Drive
- Holiday Celebration
- Remodeling Completion
- Meet our staff and board members



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Other Lighthouses for the Blind

[Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind](#)

Arkansas Lighthouse for the Blind

[Central Association for the Blind](#)

Central Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

[Dallas Lighthouse for the Blind](#)

Dallas, Texas Lighthouse for the Blind

[East Texas Lighthouse](#)

East Texas Lighthouse for the Blind in Tyler, Texas.

[Industries for the Blind, Inc.](#)

Industries for the Blind - Wisconsin

[NIB](#)

National Industries for the Blind

[San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind](#)

San Antonio, Texas Lighthouse for the Blind

[Seattle Lighthouse for the Blind](#)

Seattle Lighthouse for the Blind

[The Lighthouse of Houston](#)

The Lighthouse of Houston

[TIBH](#)

Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped

San Angelo Links

[2-1-1 Texas](#)

Texas 2-1-1 is connected to many state services including government agencies, food pantries, career services, after-school programs and many other state and local resources.

[Mosaic](#)

Mosaic of San Angelo, Texas provides services to more than 180 individuals with disabilities.

[San Angelo Chamber of Commerce](#)

San Angelo, Texas Chamber of Commerce

[Texas Commission for the Blind](#)

The DARS Division for Blind Services (DBS) assists blind or visually impaired individuals and their families. Depending upon their goals and needs, DBS offers services to help regain independence or find a job.

[Texas Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services](#)

In depth programs offering training, counseling, and education services.

Other Links

[eBay](#)

eBay, America's online auction.

[Family Connect](#)

An informative website for parents of children with visual impairments.

[Kevin Brown](#)

Lighthouse employee entertains with Saxophone Jazz Music.

[Lions Club International](#)

Lions Club International

[National Federation of the Blind](#)

National Federation of the Blind

[West Texas Lighthouse Community Blog](#)



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The West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind currently employs more than 40 individuals. The vision level necessary to qualify as a blind employee in our facility is 20/200 acuity or 15° central vision.

Over the course of its 45-year history, the West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind has successfully employed blind and visually impaired individuals. The Lighthouse exists to serve people who are blind or visually impaired with job training and competitive employment. We teach them skills which they can use here or elsewhere to support themselves and their families. We encourage them to accept personal responsibility for their economic well being and social development. This promotes individual independence and self-reliance.

We have various employment opportunities at the Lighthouse, which include hand assembly, clerical, packaging, sewing, imprinting, development and management areas.

To be considered for employment, please fill out an application (found below) and bring it to the Lighthouse. You may also email your résumé to Human Resources at f.galindo@lighthousefortheblind.org or mail to:

West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind
 Attn: Human Resources
 2001 Austin Street
 San Angelo, Texas 76903



Click icon for employment application

This company is an Equal Opportunity Employer. As a result, its policy is to afford equal employment opportunity to all individuals regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sex, age, national origin or disability.

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