The Lighthouse Celebrates the Spirit of the Season

The annual holiday activities at the Lighthouse this year began with the traditional Thanksgiving barbeque lunch from Riscky’s on Wednesday, November 21st. At the luncheon, Teresa Dodd, Alex Rosalez, and Sharon Young were recognized for their work of over twenty-five years at the Lighthouse for the Blind. On Thursday and Friday, the employees took some time off from the Lighthouse to celebrate the holidays with family and friends.

The Lighthouse employees will celebrate the Christmas season with a traditional turkey and dressing luncheon on December 20th. At the luncheon, Board Chairman, Michele Hahnfeld, will name the 2007 Employee of the Year. Employees share time with family and friends on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Years Day. Employees also enjoy time off from the Lighthouse for a winter vacation to celebrate the season.
Artist Lewis Daniel-designed and created the 21st Christmas card for the Lighthouse for the Blind. Daniel has had a very long career working with many different organizations. Daniel began his art career in the display department of Leonards Department Store. He then moved to Texas Refinery’s print shop and advertising department in 1951. It is there that he met his wife of 47 years, Shirley. He later joined Wallace Photography, then Witherspoon for 25 years, before he opened his own design firm.

Daniel also works within the community, donating his time and services. He was co-founder of the Fort Worth Art Directors Club, which became the Dallas Society of Visual Communications, to which he was named a lifetime member in 1993. Daniel was recognized by the Advertising Club of Fort Worth with its highest honor, the Silver Medal Award, in 1996. His work has graced programs and posters for Casa Mañana for about 25 years, the Shrine Circus program cover, Zelli shoe catalog, and much more, including recent architectural renderings for the expansion of the Museum of Science and History. Daniel says he enjoys working and will continue to help and give back to the community any way he can.

Daniel is the 18th recipient of the Lighthouse Lumen Award, which he received at our last Annual Meeting in January. The Lighthouse featured on the Christmas card drawing this year is one of the Apostle Island lighthouses that is on Lake Michigan. The lighthouses were built in the late 1800s.

(Top Right): The 2007 Lighthouse Christmas card drawing of one of the Apostle Island Lighthouses on Lake Michigan.

(Bottom Right): Artist Lewis Daniel, who has drawn the Christmas card for the Lighthouse for 21 years.

Visit our Web site at www.lighthousefw.org
Tess Shell Hired to Work in the Seniors Program

The Lighthouse is proud to announce Tess Shell as the new head of the Seniors Program. The program at the Lighthouse aids those 55 and over who are going blind. The goals of the program are to assess the needs of seniors, encourage independence and help set up programs that are available for the blind. Shell, who started in October, is the first blind person in this position. “My biggest challenge is helping elders adapt to the change,” she said, “but it helps that I know what they are going through.” She added: “I couldn’t be more thrilled. I love the people here. At the Lighthouse, we don’t close cases because we care.”

(Left): Tess Shell, the new head of the Seniors Program at the Lighthouse for the Blind.

Beat the Deadline on IRA Charity Tax Break

Getting ready to take a required annual withdrawal from your IRA? Until December 31st of this year, an individual who is at least 70½ years old can donate any amount up to $100,000 to the Lighthouse from his or her IRA. The donor will not be taxed on this distribution, and the donation counts toward the required minimum distribution that IRA holders must withdraw from their accounts each year.

An individual’s IRA custodian must send the funds directly to the Lighthouse. There is no charitable tax deduction for this gift. By June of this year, people had contributed over $75 million through this program to qualified charities across the country.

For more information about this remarkable opportunity, please contact Wayne Pound at the Lighthouse at (817) 332-3341, or your financial advisor.
Kevin Horrigan Completes Selective Business Program

Kevin Horrigan, an employee at the Lighthouse was one of 26 to participate in a 20-month Business Management Training program sponsored by the National Industries for the Blind (NIB). The program, which selects participants from Lighthouses across the nation, is conducted by the University of Virginia’s Darden Graduate School of Business Administration. The training program targets employees who are blind, are motivated to succeed and have demonstrated leadership potential.

Horrigan, one of two participants from Texas, enjoyed the program and hopes to grow as a business professional. “My biggest intent is to grow and bring others up as well,” said Horrigan. “The program is a crash course in business skills and helps to prepare me for a management position.” Kevin received his graduation certificate at the NIB and Lighthouse awards dinner at the annual meeting in Chicago.
Donations June 16, 2007 through November 30, 2007

Memorial Contributions

In memory of
Katherine Alexander
Rod and Deanna Hailey

In memory of
Tillman Campbell
Tom and Joanne Turner
Wachovia – matching donation

In memory of
Victoria Collins
LeNelle Campbell

In memory of
Dr. Edgar Etier, Jr.
Zella Mae Horton

In memory of
Ethel Foy
Garrick Montgomery

In memory of
Katherine Johns
Zella Mae Horton

In memory of
Marilyn Jones
Art and Sandra Buhl

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M. T. and Patricia Smith
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Dave Tolbert
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In memory of
Willie Fay Lewis
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In memory of
Marie Mosteller
Philippe Arrighi
Danny and Charlotte Hoya
Wayne and Becky Pound
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wood

In memory of
Bill Stapleton
Wayne Pound

Honorarium Contributions

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Donald Hudgins
Virginia Stocker

In honor of
Ann Lindgren
James and Cornelia Blake

In honor of
Wayne Pound
Frank and Tolli Macalk
Dr. Irvin and Libby Robinson

In honor of
C. T. and Julie Scott
Howard and Mary Scott

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J. T. and Carolyn Rogers
Jerry Taylor

Equipment Donations

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Gay Troutman

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Debra Warren, 2006 Employee of the Year

Debra Warren, an employee at the Lighthouse, was named Employee of the Year last December. Debra, who has worked at the Lighthouse for over seven years, was overjoyed to be this year’s honoree. Debra attended the Lighthouse National Conference November 14th-17th, 2007 in Chicago. “This is my first visit to Chicago,” said Warren, “I went with my sister!”

Debra was one of 45 honorees at this year’s national conference and is the 21st Employee of the Year for the Lighthouse. The conference opened with an introduction of the honorees. The conference program included several sessions to provide useful information, with the highlight being a tour of the Chicago Lighthouse and other sights of the city. There were also many opportunities for Debra and her sister to make new friends.