

Victor Reta of Goodwill Industries of Lubbock Receives 2008 Artie Lee Hinds Award for *Works Wonders* Employee of the Year

On October 15, 2008, Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped (TIBH) held its 30th Anniversary Banquet in Austin, Texas. With an attendance of over 400 people, this event truly marked a prestigious milestone in the history of the organization.

One of the special facets of the night was the presentation of the Artie Lee Hinds Award for *Works Wonders* Employee of the Year, named for Artie Lee Hinds, a lifelong humanitarian, and founder and chairman emeritus of TIBH. Among the nearly 60 nominees from various community rehabilitation programs (CRPs) across the state, Victor Reta, who works as a custodian at TXDoT through Goodwill Industries of Lubbock, Inc., emerged as the winner.

When he was in his early teens, Reta suffered a brain hemorrhage that left part of his body paralyzed. Prior to the injury, he maintained an A+ average in school and often had to be reminded by his mother, Rosie Rodriguez, to put the books away and go play outside.

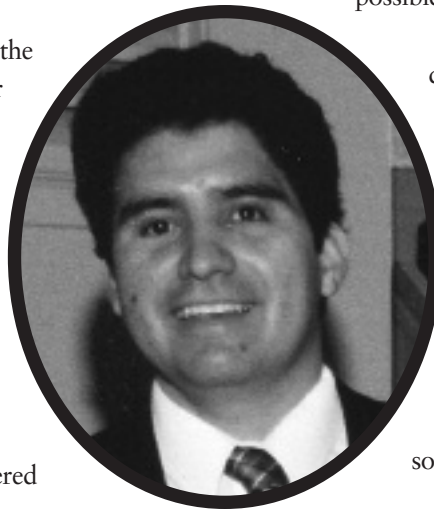
His trauma was considered to be nearly fatal, but Reta has consistently defied medical odds. He still maintains a thirst for knowledge, and, with the help of his mother, has actively participated in the Special Olympics, competing as a bowler. In addition, he participates in special education Sunday school, taught by his mother at the Bacon Heights Baptist Church in Lubbock.

His supervisor, Michelle Barrientez, also sees first-hand Reta's love of learning. "He can't get enough. Additionally, Victor sets a great example to other employees because he shows a strong work ethic, initiative to get the job done, and willingness to help co-workers and management whenever possible," she says.

"Victor learned his role very quickly, and he does a wonderful job completing the tasks put before him," Andrew Chavez, TXDoT contracts representative, said. "As an example, we had a problem with a rainwater leak and I told the crew not to worry about cleaning that area of the building. Victor said, 'No, I'm gonna handle it because that's what I'm hired to do.' I said good job and patted him on the back. He went after the work and we appreciated that so much."

Rodriguez also emphasizes that both his attitude and his commitment to excellence are outstanding qualities that have helped her son succeed. "He does not stress about the circumstances around him. He just goes about his life with such confidence and obedience, completely content," she adds.

Reta often boasts to his mother that he is the best vacuum cleaner operator in Texas, and now he has the title to prove it. Congratulations to Victor Reta and all of the Artie Lee Hinds nominees on a job well done in 2008!



Victor Reta, an employee for Goodwill Industries of Lubbock, Inc., emerged as the winner.

TIBH 30th Anniversary Banquet

OCTOBER 2018



About Artie Lee Hinds:

Born in 1925 in Pasadena, California, Artie Lee Hinds has led a life full of service to others. Early in life, she became a civic volunteer, helping communities across the country, and particularly in Texas.

A magazine article on Artie Lee once said “her distinguished record of service rivals any Nobel laureate.” Her goal was not the record, but rather the service. Her résumé reflects her tireless efforts as a volunteer and fund raiser for causes she believes in. Her recognitions include president of the Houston Junior Forum, member of the board of directors of the Greater Houston Partnership and member of the Houston Municipal Art Commission.

She has also received countless awards, including the “Monumental Defender Award” from the Smithsonian’s

National Museum of American Art and Heritage Preservation, the “Community Service Award” from the Lady Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the “Community Leader Award” from the University of Houston-Downtown Campus Alumni Association.

In 1968, Artie Lee joined the board of directors of Houston Lighthouse for the Blind, where she eventually served as president for two years. During her service with the Lighthouse, its industrial division moved from a deficit operation to a surplus position able to guarantee a minimum wage and a sound benefits package to all its blind workers.

In 1975, she was elected to the board of directors for the National Industries for the Blind (NIB), and in 1999, was awarded the R.B. Irwin Award, NIB’s highest award, as “recognition for having devoted more than 30 years of volunteer service to people who are blind throughout the United States.”

Her experience at the Federal level led her to help form the Texas Industries for the Blind and Handicapped (TIBH). As its incorporating director and chairman, she helped TIBH implement a program to comply with the Texas Code of Human Resources Chapter 122 for purchase by state agencies and political subdivisions of products and services produced by persons who are blind and severely handicapped.

Artie Lee served as chairwoman of TIBH for 19 years. She is a true inspiration and beacon of support for employees with disabilities. As such, TIBH has named tonight’s award the Artie Lee Hinds Award for *Works Wonders* Employee of the Year.



Banquet Awards Program

15, 2008



The Honorable Elliot Naishtat, Texas State Representative, was honored with the Outstanding Legislator Award for his continued support and dedication to the Texas State Use Works Wonders Program and its mission to employ Texans with disabilities.

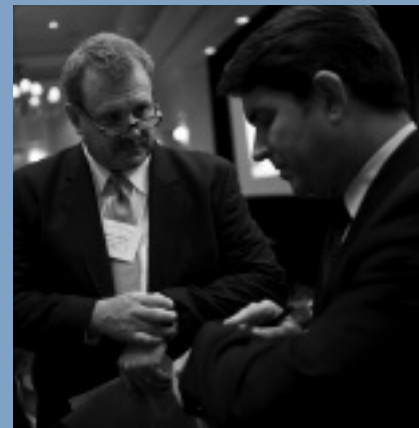


Additionally, Bev Kearney, head coach for the University of Texas women's track team, was asked to deliver the keynote address at the 30th Anniversary Banquet.

Artie Lee Hinds Award Nominees

Freda Willis—ABG FulFillment
Freed Sessions— Abilene State School
Robert White— Aldersgate Enrichment Center
Allen Ray Bennett—A Lift for Life
Virgil Collum—Andrews Diversified Industries
Shante Shree Yett— Austin Helping Hand
Brenda Terry—Beacon Lighthouse, Inc.
Carl E. Briggs, Jr.— Beaumont Products & Services
Charles Guertin—Border TM Industries, Inc.
Joshua Manning—Border TM Industries, Inc.
Joseph Minjares—Border TM Industries, Inc.
Jose Tom Hernandez—Camino Real Community MHMR Center
Leroy McFarlin—Central Plains MHMR
Colleen McClellan—Community Healthcare
Frankie De La Rosa—Concho Resource Center
Valton Criss— C.C. State School
Curtis Laird— C.C. State School
Charles Washington—David & Ivory Ministries, Inc.
Raul Garcia—Earthly Visions Outreach
Vicente Hernandez— East Texas Lighthouse for the Blind
Blanca Valdiviez—El Paso Lighthouse Industries
Charles Whittaker—Expanco, Inc.
Charles Andrew Jr.—Goodwill of Central East Texas
Leroy Lacy—Goodwill Industries
Victor Reta—Goodwill Industries of Lubbock
Raul Benavidez—Goodwill Industries of South Texas
Gregory Rankin—Goodwill Staffing Services of Central Texas
Carlton Russell—Goodwill Temporary SVC of Fort Worth
Sandra Retana—GTS Staffing Solutions
Jesus Carrillo—Hill Country Community MHMR Center
Alicia Hernandez—Hill Country MHMR
Eddie Poye—Janie Clements Industries
Jackie Vannoy—L&D Industries - Lubbock Regional MHMR
Annie Young—Lakes Regional MHMR Center
Robert Minter—Liberty Proclaimed Ministry
Paulette Patterson—LifeNet/DBA Fairweather
Richard Simpson—Lighthouse for the Blind of Fort Worth
Ernestine Minix—Lighthouse of Houston
Willie Segura—Marian Moss Enterprises
Lucas Uballe—Marian Moss Enterprises
Cesar Solis—MHMR of the Concho Valley
James Cuellar—MHMR of Nueces County
Roy Dale Bowers—MHMR Services of Texoma
Kennedy Harrell—New Direction Industries
Will Spizzirri— Oak Creek Center
Juan Rios—On Our Own Services
Michael Healer—Peak Performers
Roy Lopez—Permian Basin Community Centers
Raul Gamez—San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind
Robert Harrison—Spindletop MHMR
Curtis Williams—The Arc of Harrison County
James Thompson—The LC Foundation, Inc.
Timothy LaCombe—The Texas House
Jonathan Teague—TIBH Industries, Inc.
Charles Shavers—Travis Association for the Blind
Geoffrey Estrada—VRC - Austin State School
Mary McKamie—West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind
Corey Amie—Williams and Stroble Youth Foundation
Darron Naillon—Work Services Corp.
Lawrence Carson—World Technical Service, Inc.

Photos from the Awards Banquet



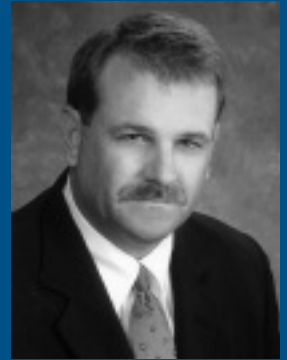


More photos
from the
Awards Banquet



A Message from the President and CEO, Fred M. Weber, Jr.

Happy New Year! I'd like to begin by congratulating all of our customers, dedicated CRPs and employees on a job well done during 2008. Last year marked the 30th anniversary of TIBH



Industries, Inc. and the State Use *Works Wonders* Program.

Our 30th Anniversary Banquet was an overwhelming success, honoring both purchasers and workers with disabilities throughout the State of Texas. Our thanks to everyone who made this great celebration possible.

I would also like to congratulate Victor Reta with Goodwill Industries of Lubbock on being named the winner of the 2008 Artie Lee Hinds Award for *Works Wonders* Employee of the Year. Victor is not only a remarkable man who embodies the spirit of this Program; he represents the more than seven thousand Texans with disabilities that take pride in their jobs.

It was truly a spectacular year, and we couldn't have done it without the help and support of all of you. I am confident that 2009 will match and even surpass last year's level of excellence.

I look forward to another great year and am excited to see what is ahead for TIBH and all of our partners in 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in white ink on a blue background, appearing to read 'F. M. Weber, Jr.'.

Fred M. Weber, Jr.



TIBH 20th Annual Prod



Products included:

- Office and school supplies
- Furniture items
- Medical supplies
- Automotive supplies
- Bed and bath supplies
- Food supplies
- Storage supplies
- Janitorial supplies
- Safety supplies

Services included:

- Landscape services
- Parks/grounds maintenance
- Litter pick-up
- Vehicle washing
- Window cleaning
- Accounting and clerical support
- Engineering information
- Technology data entry

Additionally, more than 400 purchasers from state, city, county, school district, university, hospital and political organizations attended the event, where they had the opportunity to view the diverse products, services and temporary employment services created and offered by Texans with disabilities through the Texas State Use *Works Wonders* Program. Thank you to those who made the Expo such a success by attending or participating.



On Thursday, October 16, 2008, TIBH hosted the 20th Annual Products and Services Expo to raise awareness for the State Use *Works Wonders* Program, which helps to employ Texans with disabilities. The event marked a great milestone for TIBH, the CRPs and customers alike, and featured 27 exhibitors from across the state.

CRPs from Austin and the surrounding areas set up booths to display a sampling of products, services and temporary employment services available to purchasers and customers.



ucts and Services Expo

A Few Comments from Expo Attendees:

“Although Lubbock MHMR employees have been assembling clocks for TIBH customers for over 20 years, screen printing is a relatively new facet of work for the program. Lubbock MHMR products are open to school districts, churches, public sports organizations, and even Texas Tech University’s intramurals division. Some of the purchasers associated with TIBH and the *Works Wonders* program include Texas Parks & Wildlife and the Texas Youth Commission. Lubbock MHMR employees are proud of the work they do and feel a great sense of accomplishment.”

Mary Garcia

Screen Print Shop Supervisor - Lubbock MHMR

“I like to come to the TIBH Expo every year to see what new products and services are available. The Expo gives me an idea of what options to bring into TABC offices. Not new to the TIBH *Works Wonders* program, TABC works with office supplies, including highlighters, tape, paper, pens and scissors, for district offices across the state.”

Robert Scruggs

Purchaser - TABC

“The TIBH Expo provides a great opportunity for purchasers to see the actual products they are buying and vendors they are partnering with. It is also an excellent way to see products and services on a regional level. I would tell potential purchasers that these are not just office products, but opportunities that they are creating. The Central Store carries many of the products available in the catalog, and is there to make purchasing more efficient for customers.”

Marvin Davis

Manager - TIBH Central Store

“PCSI has been coming to the TIBH Expo for over 10 years. It is a great place to get new service contracts and referrals. It is really a win-win situation for PCSI--the company is represented in Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado and Illinois, so being able to attend the Expo greatly contributes to our efforts and productivity.”

Susan Krieger

PCSI

“Forth Worth Lighthouse has been attending the TIBH Expo for 15 years. I enjoy seeing all of the purchasers, and after so many years, I know 90 percent by first name! Over the course of our time at the Expo, I’ve managed to sell more than \$100,000 worth of products. I like that purchasers can see and sample, and the merchandise speaks for itself.”

Charlie Wood

Fort Worth Lighthouse

2008 Products and Services Expo Participants

ABG Fulfillment

Texas Correctional Industries

Beacon Lighthouse

Camino Real Community

MHMR Center

Horizon Industries

Fort Worth Lighthouse for the Blind

Texas Association of Public Purchasers

PCSI

Austin Task

Expanco

Screen Print Enterprises/Lubbock

Regional MHMR

World Technical Services

GTS Austin

El Paso Lighthouse for the Blind

Peak Performers

Ready One Industries

Oak Creek Center

Hill Country MHMR

The Lighthouse of Houston

TIBH Central Store

VRC Industries-Austin State School

West Texas Lighthouse for the Blind

Travis Association for the Blind

Woods, etc.

Goodwill of Central Texas

TexSpice

South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind



Scenes from the 2008 Expo



Customer Appreciation Day



convenience of purchasing its office supplies through a pick-up or delivery method through a spot purchase authority. With its perfect Central Texas location, it is designed to be a one-stop shop for both local governmental and non-profit organizations, as well as out-of-town purchasers just passing through. Purchasers can see the product, view its quality and purchase on site. TIBH purchasers can also order products via the TIBH catalog and the TIBH Web site, and have their order shipped directly to them.

The Central Store has a combination of both brand-name and State Use products. As Community Rehabilitation Program (CRPs) employees make comparable supplies, the

Central Store carries them and displays them together. According to Marvin Davis, the Central Store manager, the store carries 2,600 individual products. That number just keeps getting bigger.

“We’re happy to provide the Central Store for our customers,” Fred Weber, president and CEO of TIBH Industries, Inc., said. “We’ll continue to strive to bring you all of the products you need.”

On September 30, 2008, TIBH Industries, Inc. held its annual Customer Appreciation Day at the TIBH

Central Store in Austin, Texas.

Established as a way to say “thank you” to all of TIBH’s loyal customers, the event was well attended.

The TIBH Central Store, formerly the State Central Store, was purchased and privatized by TIBH to continue to provide all state agencies the

“The TIBH Central Store is the main place we get items for our store room. 95 percent of our items are purchased from here.”

**David Maynard,
TEA purchaser**





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**Watch out for these
important dates in 2009:**

Friday, March 27, 2009
TCPPD Quarterly Meeting

Friday, June 26, 2009
TCPPD Quarterly Meeting

Friday, September 18, 2009
TCPPD Quarterly Meeting

Friday, December 4, 2009
TCPPD Quarterly Meeting

VISIT THE TIBH ONLINE CATALOG AT www.tibh.org