



## Guide Dogs of Texas March Volunteer Newsletter

We are settling in at our new location. Just a reminder, our address has changed to 1503 Allena Drive, San Antonio, TX 78213. The phone numbers to the office will remain the same 210-366-4081. We will no longer be using the training annex phone number.

The big event for March will be our Supporter's Day / Open House. It will be held on March 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 until 3:00. Look for your invitation in the mail soon. Please fill out the R.S.V.P. card and get it back to us as soon as possible. This will be a great time for all the volunteers to come out and see the new location and visit with each other. Let us say our special thanks to you for enabling us to fulfill our mission to provide guide dogs to visually impaired Texans.

The other milestone that we will reach this month is on March 13. We will have two clients start their training at the new facility. This will be the first time that we have housed and trained two clients at the same time. Once again, I am looking for Client host and hostesses to prepare meals for these clients. If you are able to help the training process by preparing meals and providing an at home relaxed atmosphere, please call the office or e-mail Ernie at [ernie@guidedogsoftexas.org](mailto:ernie@guidedogsoftexas.org).

The training staff has set an aggressive goal for placing dogs with clients this year. In order for them to meet this goal the trainers must spend more time training and less time on non-training duties. To help the trainer meet their goal we have added Volunteer Kennel Assistant to our volunteer activities. The Kennel Assistant volunteers will be asked to come in daily to help by cleaning the kennel area, washing and changing the dogs bedding. These volunteers will also be asked to do other duties such as give the dogs in the kennel an opportunity to relieve themselves outside, groom and feed them. I have also told the trainers that we would try and get a volunteer to come in on the weekends to wash and clean the training van. If you are interested in getting the whole family involved in volunteering, this would be a wonderful experience. If you are interested in this new volunteer activity, please call the office.

We have sold about 100 bricks for the Guide Dogs of Texas Walk of Independence. We are almost halfway to our goal of 250 bricks. This amount of bricks will give us a price break and get us a good start on the walk. Please remember that these sales are a volunteer fund raising activity and we are really excited about getting the walk started. If you need more brick forms to hand out we have them on the website or you can call the office and we will mail them to you.