



# Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

## Interdenominational Volunteers Making a Difference in This World

August 2012

### YEAR-ROUND WAYS TO HELP

Hygiene items show up on our Needs list almost every month, so we decided to get specific as to what our needs are and how they're used. These are the items we need: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, lotion, bar soap, single-blade Bic razors, and shaving cream.

The small motel-size articles are given to the homeless, and the regular sized items are used for the men's and women's houses. (Men's houses are for Program Members; women's houses take care of homeless women and children and women in need of a sober-living environment.)

Hygiene packs (about 1,000 a year) are put together for the homeless for the five major holidays, and they include a new pair of socks and tee shirt, as well as a deck of playing cards (donated by the Pechanga and Valley View Casinos). The Staff is already looking ahead to the needs for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Next time you're out shopping, consider dropping a package of one of these items into your cart for Brother Benno's. The need is year-round, and the smiles you'll get when you drop them off at the warehouse in back of the Center are priceless. (Greg, the warehouse manager, promised!).

Ω

“Do not wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person.”

“Each of us feels that we are just a drop in the ocean, but the ocean would be less without that missing drop.”

~ Mother Teresa

### LIKE A HUMMINGBIRD

by Frank Doherty

The other day I was taking my lawnmower out, when I noticed a hummingbird on the patio. I walked over, and it scooted a bit, indicating to me that it was sick and scared. By the time I finished mowing, I had forgotten about the bird, until I saw that it was just about a foot in front of my mower. It was scooting again with its wings outstretched, looking terrified by the big machine looming toward him. I felt bad that I had scared the poor bird again.

The sick hummingbird reminded me of some of the fragile and helpless poor whom we serve at Brother Benno's. There are so many of them, particularly those with children, who are in a survival mode and are powerless to get out of poverty. The slightest problem could be a catastrophe. Many live in conditions where the safety of the family can be an issue every day. Having shelter and enough food is a daily struggle.

So much of what Brother Benno's does is devoted to helping those who are vulnerable, like that hummingbird. We who support the Foundation in any way are given the opportunity to give our three most valuable resources—our time, talent, and treasure. And we receive unimaginable riches in return.

I think each one of us needs to recognize that we can make a difference and find real meaning in our lives. That may require getting more involved at Brother Benno's, or simply performing “random acts of kindness” toward the poor—perhaps just giving someone a smile. When I do that, I usually get a smile in return, as well as a feeling that I am in the right place to try to make a difference.

*(Frank Doherty is the Operations Manager on Saturdays.)*

## EXPERIENCING THE BROTHER BENNO SCENE

by Barbara Ladwig

**A Voice From Above.** On Saturday, July 7, I walked into the Center expecting to hear a band that has performed for our Guests once before, and that I thought would be there again. Scheduling problems got in the way, however; and I was about to chalk up the day as an “almost,” when I heard a familiar voice over the loudspeaker in the dining room. It belonged to **Kay Kutler**. Because someone had the foresight a long time ago to record Kay's introductory greetings and closing song, she continues to “reach down from heaven” and do what she did almost every day for more than 20 years.

There she was, saying a hearty Good Morning, leading the Pledge of Allegiance and the Serenity Prayer, and asking for blessings on everyone—including the people ready to serve the food. She then said how good it was to have everyone there, and she ended by belting out her exuberant version of Zip-a-Dee Doo Dah.

At the end of the meal, Kay's voice again filled the dining room. She sang a sweet song that begins: “May the good Lord bless and keep you...” and ends with “...until we meet at Brother Benno's again.” What makes it uniquely Kay is the way she draws out the word “Benno's” until you think no one could possibly have that much breath in one body! Then she says, “Thank you for giving us the privilege of serving you today. Thank you, thank you, thank you.”

I left the Center that morning feeling Kay's arms around me, as I had so many times over the years. She hugged with her entire being, and now her voice will continue to touch us as long as we live.

**Attention, Barbers.** Getting a haircut is the highlight of the week for many of our Guests. This service is available whenever we have volunteer barbers able to spend a few hours at the Center, and we are now looking for a certified barber or hair stylist to come in on Saturday mornings. Most of the people using this service are men, but we do get the occasional woman or child. If you can help on any number of Saturdays, please contact **Denise** (760-439-1244, ext. 107).

**Correction.** We need to correct a notice in the July issue about tours. The tour for potential volunteers is on the first Saturday of the month at 9 a.m. Those wishing to be part of the Immersion Program can come in any Saturday by 9:15.

**Check It Out.** Even if you're not a member of the Brother Benno Auxiliary, we hope you read their news every month, usually found on page 4. The seemingly endless energy of these wonderful women (with the help of a few men, I hear) results in a great deal of money that is used to directly serve our Guests and Program Members. This month, it'll be school kids who will benefit, as the Auxiliary hands out well-stocked backpacks. And if you enjoy eating out, you might want to keep track of their restaurant fundraisers. You eat well, and Brother Benno's reaps the funds!



Ken & Karen Gallagher,  
Marilyn Callendar & Betty Cox



Mayor Jim Woods with servicemen

### AUXILIARY NEWS

by Vikki Ramey

Many, many THANK-YOU's for all the help, support, donations, and participation in Brother Benno's Outback fundraiser in July. More than 68 service personnel, including family members, were our guests. Special thanks to **Vicky Squires**—what can I say? You did a great job in getting members and non-members to assist with greeting, seating, delivering prizes, and whatever else needed to be done. It is wonderful to see an organization come together to make an event a success. Thanks also to **Maureen Tutino**, “the money lady,” for handling the Name Game all over the restaurant. Congratulations to the winners, **Vera Bayliss** and **Lela Heyak**.

To **Janice Koehler**, manager of Outback Steakhouse: On behalf of Brother Benno's, we are very grateful to you for supporting us every year. We hope to continue holding our Back-to-School fundraiser at Outback. And thanks to your employees, **Carlos, Lindsey, Scott, Tanner, Anson, and Erica**.

On Tuesday, August 14, we will tour the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station. The day will consist of a two-and-a-half-hour tour, plus lunch and an Auxiliary meeting. If you haven't signed up yet, please contact me, **Vikki** (760-803-6267). The tour is limited to 40 people.

We're having another fundraiser on August 22, this time at Shakey's Pizza in Oceanside. The Auxiliary will receive 25 percent of all food sales. Please see the flyer on page 3 for details.

A reminder: We'll be assembling back-packs on Friday, August 10, at 9 a.m., in the warehouse; and distribution will be on Saturday, the 11th, also at 9 a.m.



Maureen Tutino

**Your donation enables us to do all the wonderful things we do**

My enclosed tax-deductible gift is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 (make payable to: Brother Benno Foundation)

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send a card to:

(name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (address) \_\_\_\_\_

For a special occasion (birthday, anniversary, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Send a card to: (name) \_\_\_\_\_  
 (address) \_\_\_\_\_

Or, donate online at <http://brotherbenno.org>

**Information & Online donations**

**brotherbenno.org**

**Soup...Soap...Hugs...Hope:**  
 The Story of Brother Benno's Life-Changing Soup Kitchen

This book is offered as a gift to donors who contribute whatever their budget allows...The important thing... is that you have one...

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Number of copies \_\_\_\_\_

### Memorials

Brother Benno	Ron Alexander	Helen Lucas	Kathy Reid
Pope John Paul II	Mary Peterson	Bill & Joan Maloney	Linda Baker
Mother Teresa	Frank Barnet	Dora Ramirez	Valerie Gilbert
Kay Kutler	Frank S. Dolley	Dick & Terry Riley	Myron Mooney
Ann Sauer	Phyllis H. Dierlam	Bill Buckner	Bill Morrison
Joe & Ida Friend	Monty Nares	Mary Shankle	Mike Stendahl
Mary Nordstrom	Margaret Rossini	Walter Ulloa	Stanley LaMonte
Myron Eichen	Dorothy M. Donahue	Fred Williamson	Jean Tweedle
Alice Jordan	Mary Teresa Carr	Carole Kutler	Sam Domenici
Roseanne Dreibelbis	Ruth Hazel Pierson	Will Skinner	Gilbert Brown, Jr.
Richard Farhquar	Elizabeth Holms	Fr. Abbot Claude	William Flanagan
Deacon Art & Mary Carr	Edith Blaiser	Ehringer, OSB	Jean Sinclair
Don & Dorothea Daybell	Ben Kouns	Fr. Luke Dougherty	Bill Pry
Catherine L. Quinlan	Bill Lakoff	Naomi Shelton	Molly Beth Martinek
Kathryn D. Pent	Bernice, Samuel &	Rosemary Tucker	
Mary Pullman	Milton Silver	Ben E. Lewis	<b>Father's Day</b>
Joan Boyd	Anita H. Donahue	Roland Bond	R.E. Mather
Agnus Boyd	Margaret Stephan	Anna Correia	
Harold Thompson	Bill Boster	Geraldine Howard	
Bud & Blanche Ogle	Louise Foussat	Helene McGill	
Bob Gleason	Tom Hayward	Alice Condren	
Jane Pfau	Richard Kurtz	Katherine Butman	

### Needs

Diapers (All sizes, especially 4 & 5)      Soup      Men's belts, shoelaces of all sizes and colors.  
 Hygiene items: toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, lotion, bar soap, single-blade Bic razors, and shaving cream.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>August</b>			<b>1</b> Brother Benno's Auxiliary	<b>2</b> Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	<b>3</b> San Luis Rey Mission	<b>4</b> St. Thomas More
<b>2012</b>	<b>6</b> St. Elizabeth Seton #1	<b>7</b> St. John The Evangelist	<b>8</b> Naval Hospital	<b>9</b> Oceanside Civitanis	<b>10</b> St. Patrick's	<b>11</b> Oak Hills
<b>Monthly</b>	<b>13</b> North Coast Methodist	<b>14</b> Friends from Vista	<b>15</b> Grace Anglican	<b>16</b> Carlsbad Rotary	<b>17</b> St. Elizabeth Seton #2	<b>18</b> Girlfriend's Care
<b>Serving</b>	<b>20</b> Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista	<b>21</b> Christ the King Lutheran	<b>22</b> San Luis Rey Methodist	<b>23</b> Pilgrim Creek	<b>24</b> Fallbrook Presbyterian	<b>25</b> Catholic Daughters
<b>Team</b>	<b>27</b> Christ Anglican	<b>28</b> St. Mark's San Marcos	<b>29</b> Sorooptimist International	<b>30</b> Grace Anglican	<b>31</b> King of Kings Lutheran	
<b>Schedule</b>						

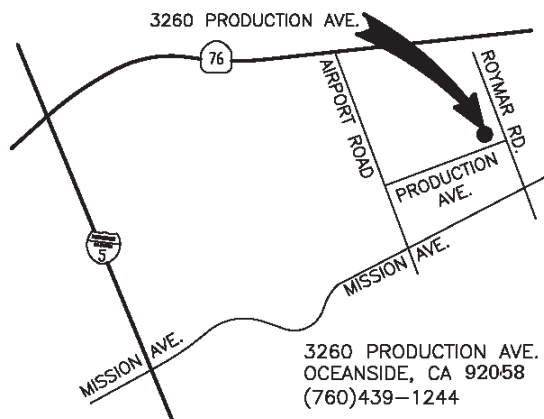
### Brother Benno's Furniture Sales

3242-B Production Ave., Oceanside (next to Center) 760-967-2742 **Open Mon. - Sat. 9 am to Noon**  
 We welcome your saleable furniture items. Please call 760-439-1244 ext.115 for free pickup.

**Please use the enclosed envelope to make your tax-deductible donation to the Brother Benno Foundation. If you are viewing this online you can donate by going to [brotherbenno.org](http://brotherbenno.org) and click on Donations. This will allow you to make a secure donation using PayPal or a Credit Card.**

Your donation is used each month at our main center and eight operational houses to provide: meals, clothing, personal hygiene items, blankets, showers, laundry facilities, bus vouchers, nights of lodging, medical and mental health referrals, prescriptions, ID replacement, mail services, Social Security, and veterans' issues, food packs, shelter for women and small children, men's drug and alcohol recovery program, shelter for women in recovery, rent and utility assistance when funds are available. We thank you for your continued support. 100% of your contribution goes directly to assist those we serve. Our modest administration costs are paid for by our Thrift Store revenues.

[www.brotherbenno.org](http://www.brotherbenno.org)



### Brother Benno's Services:

	August 2012	Our 28th Year		August 2012	Our 28th Year
Meals	13,133	3,274,010	Loads of laundry	25	26,120
Nights of lodging	1,046	227,049	Food packs	2,731	197,989
Articles of clothing	5,563	926,177	Blankets	101	33,148
Showers	876	168,473	Prescriptions	16	7,045
Haircuts	112	14,206	ID Vouchers	10	8,283
Bus passes	59	75,672	HUGS	2,250	829,444

*Our services are the same for everyone  
without regard to race, religion, national origin, age, sex, or disability.*

### The Thrift Shop

3965 Mission Ave. (East of Albertsons) 760-967-7505

Shop open Mon-Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. -- Stop by to check out our Special of the Week Sales!!

**Brother Benno Foundation, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 308, Oceanside, CA 92049

Non-Profit Organization  
**U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID**  
Oceanside, California  
**PERMIT NO. 166**

