



Bro Benno
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Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

Volunteers Making a Difference

July 2020



BROTHER BENNO'S AUXILIARY



**CHRISTMAS
IN JULY** GIFT CARD
FUNDRAISER

*Help make Christmas especially Merry & Bright
for Brother Benno's needy children!*

During the month of July, Brother Benno's Auxiliary will be collecting \$25.00 Target & Walmart gift cards for the Brother Benno's Center Annual Children's Christmas Party.

The goal is to collect 300 gift cards this year & they're counting on you!

Of course, you can send a monetary donation if you prefer to have the Auxiliary purchase gift cards in your name.



Send Gift Cards or your donation (make checks payable to Brother Benno's Auxiliary) with the form below to:

Brother Benno's Auxiliary, P.O. Box 334, San Luis Rey, CA 92068

Your Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ Zip Code: _____
Email (optional): _____

I am enclosing ____ Gift Cards @ \$25.00 each
____ Please purchase Gift Cards in my name. Donation \$ _____ Check # _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

THE INFORMATION YOU PROVIDE WILL BE USED TO SEND YOUR DONATION CONFIRMATION.

Your charitable donations to Brother Benno's Auxiliary may be tax deductible.

WOMAN LEARNS NEW WAYS TO DEAL WITH TRAGEDIES

Vickie was married with seven children. Things were going well in her life. Then her mother got cancer, and Vickie stepped up and took care of her until she died in 2005. It was a huge blow, as her family has always been very close. Two years later, her brother was killed, and Vickie fell apart.

She says she'd been a light alcohol drinker all her adult life, but now she started drinking heavily. When that wasn't enough to dull her pain, she added drugs. "I didn't care about my husband and children any more," she said. "I left them alone for days or weeks at a time, sometimes staying with other family members or just 'living in the bush.' I even spent a month and a half in jail because of the drugs."

In 2016, Vickie wandered into Brother Benno's because she had heard she could take a shower. Someone suggested she also talk to Jan and Jim, our Program mentors. "I listened to them, but I really wasn't buying what they had to say," she said. "But then Jan reached over and put her hand on my arm, and I felt something—I felt she really cared about me." But she left the Center that day without having made any kind of commitment.

She went to see her sister to find out if she knew anything about Brother Benno's. She did, and she urged Vickie to give them a try. And for the first time, Vickie asked God for guidance about making a decision whether or not to become part of Brother Benno's Recovery Program. Reluctantly, she told Jan she'd give it a try.

The first requirement was for Vickie to get an AA sponsor, and Jan suggested a woman named "Angie." When they met for the first time, Vickie told Angie she'd like her to be her sponsor; but Angie said she should give it 24 hours, think and pray about it, and then tell her whether or not she was really ready to be open-minded and make the commitment. The next day she couldn't wait to meet again with Angie, and she told her, "Yes, I'm ready!"

Vickie said the hardest things for her during her six months in the Program were to learn patience and tolerance toward others, and to let other people know when she needed help, instead of just

relying on herself. She did everything she was told to do, even when it didn't make sense at the time. After she graduated, she moved back home with her husband and children, and she felt strong and thankful for her new lease on life.

In November of 2019, her husband suddenly became very ill. She rushed him to the emergency room and waited there with him until the doctors told her she could go home; they would run some tests and contact her as soon as they knew something. She was certainly not ready for the call she received. Her husband had died.

Once again she was faced with a terrible loss, but she says it never crossed her mind to numb herself with alcohol and drugs as she had done before. Instead, she called Angie, her AA sponsor, and connected again with the Program mentors and other members. (Brother Benno's has always made it clear that "once part of the Brother Benno family, always part of it.") Although she's still struggling with the sadness of her husband's death, she said she's able to go on with her life.

After graduating from our Program, Vickie had gotten a job as part of the support staff with a mental health program where clients live in a facility while they are being helped. She's also going to school with the goal of becoming a certified drug counselor. And she continues to stay in touch with our mentors, her sponsor, and other Program graduates. "I just love being at Brother Benno's!" she said. "I feel like God has given me all these people!"

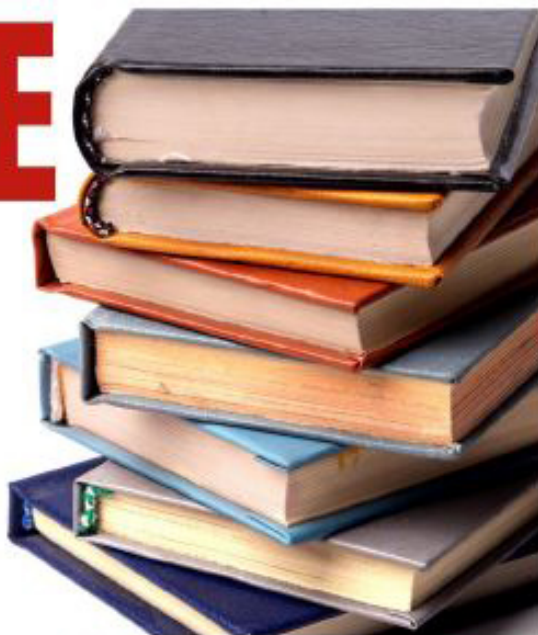
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Please consider contributing to the Brother Benno Foundation by way of your Will, Living Trust, Designated Beneficiary Account, Stocks, Life Insurance, Mutual Funds, or Real Estate. For more information, contact Suzy Martinek, 760-941-1876 or smartinek@miracosta.edu

Brother Benno's Auxiliary

BOOK SALE

Saturday, July 11, 2020
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



*Gently used Mystery, History, Romance, Gardening, Decorating, Cooking and Children's Books
5 for \$10 / 2 for \$5 / 1 for \$3 All proceeds benefit Brother Benno's.*

**Hosted by Edith Jones & Karen Gallagher
Private Home/Driveway in Oceanside**

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

If you'd like to shop our Book Sale, email auxiliary@brotherbenno.org by July 7th and we'll email directions to our host's home and parking instructions to you. Social distancing and safety measures will be observed.

I cannot attend, but would like to donate to the Brother Benno's Auxiliary. Amount: \$

DONATION INFORMATION – PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Your Name:		IF PAYING BY CHECK	Check #
Street Address:		City:	Zip Code:
Email Address:			
Best Phone No. (___ ___) _____ - _____			
<input type="checkbox"/> VISA/MC	<input type="checkbox"/> AMEX	<input type="checkbox"/> DISCOVER	CVC
NAME AS IT APPEARS ON CARD		ZIP CODE	CARD EXP DATE
			MONTH YEAR
Signature Authorizing Payment (required):			Date:
If donating by check, please make your check payable to "Brother Benno's Auxiliary" and mail to: Brother Benno's Auxiliary/Book Sale, P.O. Box 334, San Luis Rey, CA 92068			

Questions about the Book Sale: Contact Karen Gallagher 760.710.7083

This seems like a good time to let Brother Benno himself cheer us up. This is one of his famous "groaners":

After looking around town for three months, my brother finally got a job at the zoo. They were short on gorillas, so he had to dress up in a hairy gorilla suit. He really didn't mind, though; and actually he had a lot of fun. One day he got a little carried away when, in front of a large group of people, he took a running jump for the trapeze at the end of his cage and missed it, tumbling down into the lion's den. He didn't know what to do except cry out HELP! The lion said, "Shut up or we'll both be fired!"

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>

DONATION OF VAN INCREASES ABILITY TO SERVE

Brother Benno's has received the gift of a refrigerator truck from Feeding San Diego. Known as a Food Rescue Van, it makes it possible for us to collect perishable items such as meat, milk, eggs, and produce from local supermarkets and other retail food stores, which are then given to the poor and homeless people we serve. According to a recent article in Times of San Diego, last year Brother Benno's rescued almost one million pounds of high-quality food that would otherwise have gone to waste.

Every Thursday since the COVID-19 crisis began, these perishable items, as well as other non-perishables, are given out at the Brother Benno Center as people drive or walk through the parking lot.

Since Guests are still not allowed to come into the Center, we've just recently started giving out clothing as well, by setting up long tables and racks outside. On the first day of this distribution, we gave out 61 items.

While most volunteers have not come back to work at the Center, a very small group of staff members and volunteers continue to carry out the mission of service that is at the heart of Brother Benno's. The Foundation Board and staff continue to explore the best ways to keep things moving until we can "get back to normal."

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Brother Benno Foundation
Recovery Program for Men and Women
760 439 1244 ext. 101
Changing people's lives through the 12 Steps of Alcoholics Anonymous.

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

Ron Alexander	Bob Gleason	Mary Pullman	Bernie Weiler
Dixie & Lou Bales	Chance Hales	Catherine L. Quinlan	Barbara LaMothe
Frank Barnet	Tom & Louise	Dora Ramirez	Jim Carroll
Brother Benno	Hayward	Dick & Terry Riley	Elizabeth P Darrish
Edith Blaiser	Elizabeth Holms	Margaret Rossini	Keith Quigley
Andrea Boersma	Alice Jordan	Ann Sauer	Betsy Vincent
Roland Bond	Ben Kouns	Nick Sauer	William Pry
Bill Boster	Richard Kurtz	Mary Shankle	Alva & Frances
Agnus & Joan Boyd	Carole Kutler	Naomi Shelton	Snider
Bill Buckner	Harold & Kay Kutler	Bernice, Samuel &	William Daley
Deacon Art & Mary Carr	Bill & Louise Lakoff	Milton Silver	
Anna Correia	Ben E. Lewis	Will Skinner	
Don & Dorothea Daybell	Helen Lucas	Ann Grier Smith	
Phyllis H. Dierlam	Bill & Joan Maloney	Alva & Frances	
Frank S. Dolley	Helene McGill	Snider	
Anita H. Donahue	Michael & Monty	Squirrell Family	
Dorothy M. Donahue	Nares	Mike Stendahl	
Fr. Luke Dougherty	Zeferino & Dancy	Margaret Stephan	
Roseanne Dreibelbis	Nares	Virginia Sylwestrzak	
Fr. Abbot Claude	Mary Nordstrom	Harold Thompson	
Ehringer, OSB	Nysewander Family	Carol & Herb	
Myron Eichen	Bud & Blanche Ogle	Thornberg	
Richard Farhquar	Ben Osgrove	Rosemary Tucker	
William & Vennita	Kathryn D. Pent	Walter Ulloa	
Flanagan	Mary Peterson	June Williams	
Louise Foussat	Jane Pfau	Fred Williamson	
Joe & Ida Friend	Ruth Hazel Pierson	Vivian Rowe	
Mary Gerrity	Alan Port	Bill Corrothers	

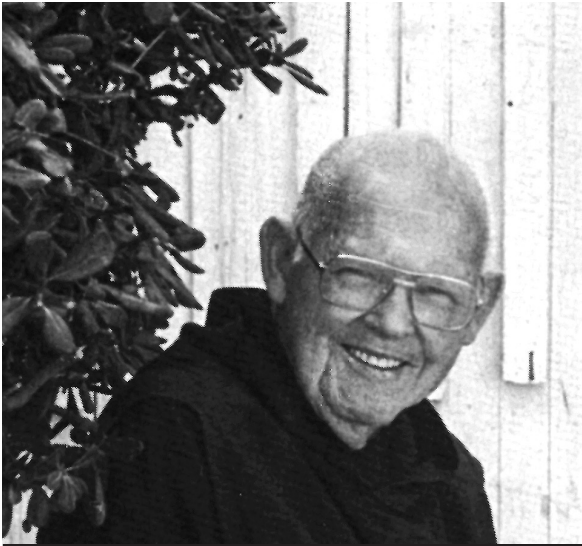
Needs

Small bags of Chips, variety packs	Adult diapers
Fruit cups	Baby wipes
Protein bars	
Crackers	Commercial Grade:
Small juices	Washing machines (2)
Gatorade	Dryers (2)
Bottled water	Lawn mower
	Weed eater
Face masks (for the homeless)	Plumbing snake, 100 ft.
Plastic hangers	Power washer

Items can be dropped off at the Brother Benno Center on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8-11 a.m., and on Saturday from 9:30 to noon. If you have any questions, please call Darryl Harris (760-231-1607, ext.102) or Jan Roberts (760-231-1613, ext. 104).

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

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



Brother Benno's Thrift Shop

(Helping the poor, one sale at a time)

Clothing, Household Goods, Furniture

Store Hours: Tuesday-Saturday 10-5; Donation Hours Tuesday-Friday 10-4, Saturdays 10-2

We welcome your saleable furniture items. Please call 760-967-7507 for free pick up

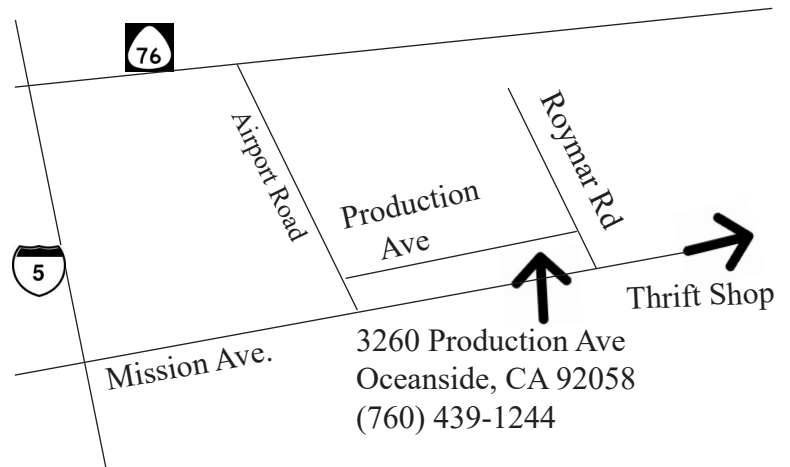
Stop by to check out our Daily Specials!!

3955 Mission Ave. (East of Albertsons) 760-967-7505

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 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, men and women's drug and alcohol recovery program, 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



Brother Benno's Services:

	May 2020	Our 36th Year		May 2020	Our 36th Year
Meals	9,663	4,507,123	Loads of laundry	0	28,628
Nights of lodging	818	318,800	Food packs	415	354,821
Articles of clothing	700	1,417,871	Blankets	0	48,373
Showers	0	271,001	Tarps	0	6,007
Haircuts	0	22,827	ID Vouchers	0	9,928
Bus passes	12	86,006	HUGS	0	1,011,244