



Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

Interdenominational Volunteers Making a Difference in This World

March 2013

NEW THRIFT SHOP IS OPEN!

by Helen Parsons

The new Brother Benno Thrift Shop will open its doors on Monday March 4. Be ready to be amazed at all the extra space and added inventory! The biggest addition to what is already an abundance of bargains will be the new and gently used furniture in our nearly 2,000 square-foot showroom.

We will also have a grand opening celebration on Tuesday, March 12, from 6-8 p.m. Please bring a pair of new socks as your “admission” to our Grand Opening Sock Hop; and wear dancing shoes so you can dance to Fifties music supplied by **Chris Williams**, a professional record-spinner. Stroll through our unique new boutique, carefully planned out by students from Palomar College with the guidance of Professor **Sandra Andre**. Sip on a root beer float, have a slice of pizza or some home-made sweets. (The Shop will not be open for sales that night.)

Shop hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Saturday. The new address is 3955 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, east of Albertson's. We need more donations, especially gently used or new furniture. For furniture pickup, please call 760-439-1244, ext. 115. For smaller donations, our truck remains parked out in front of the Shop, or they can be dropped off at the Center marked FOR THRIFT SHOP.

An added note: we also need more volunteers, and we're offering them “free workouts.” Build up your body and recharge your soul, because our new shop is so long that it'll be a true workout, just walking from the front to the back! To volunteer, call our Volunteer Coordinator, **Denise Seymour**, (760-439-1244, ext. 107).

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IT'S ALL ABOUT LOVE

by Barbara Ladwig

“God puts things together for us; it's all in His hands,” **Harold Kutler** said, as he mused about the way Valentine's Day had brought good things to Brother Benno's. First there was the graduation of a Program Member we'll call “Matthew” on February 13; then on the 16th, an anonymous donor paid for lunch at the Claim Jumper in Carlsbad for about 40 lucky Program Guys, Servants of the Poor, and a couple Board Members.

Brother Benno's celebrates the graduation of all its Program Members, but Matthew's was extra-special because eight or nine of his family members had flown out from Philadelphia to be part of it. It was through one of those serendipitous connections that brought him here in the first place—a Staff member's friend who happened to be Matthew's relative—and he went from failing other programs to succeeding very well at Brother Benno's.

“Seeing him with his family there to support him was so special,” Harold said. “I can't stop thinking about it.”

Lunch at the Claim Jumper a few days later was bittersweet for Harold, because the day before was the one-year anniversary of the death of his beloved **Kay**. “Both she and **Brother Benno** seemed to be present with us that day,” he said. As most people know, Kay's unconditional love for everyone is at the heart of the Brother Benno mystique, and she continues to inspire all who are connected with the ministry. In fact, the person who paid for the lunch said that his main purpose in doing so was simply to let the Program Members know that they are loved and appreciated for the hard work of cleaning up their lives and for the service they provide at the Center.

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Harold and former Program Member now on Staff

Part of the festivities included a gift to each Program Member—a copy of the booklet, *Brother Benno's Collection Plate: A Collection of Jokes for the Poor and Homeless*, by Brother Benno. It's also well known that the good monk told the corniest jokes this side of Kansas. (For a few "groaning" examples from the booklet, please see below.)

In memory of Kay, the group sang one of her favorite songs, "Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah," followed by a ditty that she created: "Thank you, God, For Giving Us (name inserted)". In this case they thanked God for giving them Harold.

Harold seemed energized by the camaraderie at the lunch and by the warmth of Matthew's family. Family—a word and a feeling that often defines what goes on at Brother Benno's, a togetherness that feeds the body, mind, and soul of those who give and those who receive. The concept of "family" is core to everything at Brother Benno's, whether it involves Program Members, Guests, or volunteers. And when one member of that family succeeds, all the other members feel proud and humble at the same time. And as Harold said, God is always a big part of the results.

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BROTHER BENNO'S GROANERS

Joe went to the doctor because his leg was very sore. The doc told him it was old age. "But Doc, my other leg is the same age, and it's not sore!"

A woman came to the priest and asked if he could have a funeral for her dog. "Absolutely not!" he said. "We don't have funerals for animals. Try the Protestants down the street; maybe they'll do it."

"Well, Father," she said, "all I have is \$10,000 set aside. Do you think that will be enough for them?"

"Oh!" said the priest, you didn't tell me it was a Catholic dog!"

"What were Harry's last words?" "I don't know. His wife was with him to the end."

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A PLETHORA OF APPRECIATION

by Helen Parsons

We have so many people to thank this month, many of them helping us in our Thrift Shop. First there's **Callaway Golf** in Carlsbad. They've been donating their well-made golf clothing for many years, and we can sell them at very affordable prices. We are forever grateful, and we award you two dozen long-stemmed roses!

Target Stores in Encinitas and Vista have been helping by sorting items at the Shop. Their volunteers work hard and bring joy to all. A bouquet of roses and sunflowers to both groups! Come back any time!

George Hartt from **Premiere Properties** in Carlsbad gathered a group of volunteers to help us move. Many of them have helped in other ways throughout this past year. A daily rose to each of you!

How do we thank the incredible **Marines** and **Sailors** who not only serve their country but who also come to Brother Benno's on their days off to help us? I know I speak for all of us when I say we love, appreciate, and honor your service. We are indeed blessed with your kind hearts and strength. We send you daily bouquets and prayers for your well-being!

And finally to our **Apple Store** volunteers, the most fragrant of flowers to you for putting together our many boxed toys. Thank you! All the volunteers at the Thrift Shop and the Center deserve bouquets. You are God-winks! You are Brother Benno's!

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SOCIAL MEDIA CLOTHING DRIVE PROVES SUCCESSFUL

by Amanda Martinek

San Diego may be synonymous with sunshine, but that doesn't mean temperatures don't plummet in the winter months, leaving those without a home struggling to survive. Luckily, Vista native **Cory Glazier** decided to do something about it.

"We were concerned about the people who were sleeping on the streets as it was getting colder," Cory said, prompting him to create an event on his Facebook page called "Cold Weather/Warm Clothing Drive for the Homeless" and inviting his friends and members of his Cardiff community to donate.

Fourteen hours after the event was posted and shared throughout the Internet, the drive had rallied fifty-plus people in North County to donate 59 blankets, 138 jackets, 96 sweaters, 117 pairs of pants, and many more items. They all arrived at Brother Benno's pre-sorted and ready to distribute to those in need.

"I was looking around, making phone calls," Cory said, "and somebody recommended Brother Benno's. I actually had stopped by a couple places in Encinitas and Carlsbad; but when I got to Brother Benno's, I really felt like that was the right place to leave the materials."

Cory is no stranger to helping those in need. "Volunteering is what I do professionally," he said. "I'm involved with international volunteering, poverty-alleviation work, and disaster-relief work. I am also an educator, so I teach people who are interested in international volunteer work."

He did not act alone in this drive for the homeless. "I was the main driving force behind it," he said, "but my friend **Raj Lahoti's** company, DMV.org, was the sponsor. They paid for the U-Haul truck and a couple other expenses that we had. We live together, so we were able to rally a lot of our friends and our community to help drop off and sort the clothes."

With a simple Facebook event, some YouTube videos, and the decision to help those in need, many North County homeless will get through this winter a little warmer. Ω

(Editor's note: Amanda, 22, is the granddaughter of Dennis and Suzy Martinek, long-time Brother Benno volunteers. She graduated from UCSD, where she majored in Communications and Writing.)



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>

AUXILIARY NEWS

by Vikki Ramey

Thanks to everyone who came to our annual Membership Drive on March 2. We toured the new Thrift Shop, the Center, and one of the Women's Houses. A light lunch was served after the tour, with a brief talk about the Auxiliary. Our thanks to **Harold Kutler, Helen Parsons, Michelle Hoppe, and Denise Seymour** for helping us tremendously in making our Membership Drive successful. Also, thanks to **Linda Garvey**, Auxiliary Vice-President, who chaired the drive. We presented a check for \$25,000 to the Foundation to support the Women's Houses as the result of our fund-raising efforts in 2012.

A reminder that dues are \$10 per year, or \$150 for a lifetime membership. The deadline is March 15 for directory printing. Contact Linda Garvey (760-295-3638 or vegas762@aol.com) for an application and more information.

Be sure to buy tickets for the Flapjack Breakfast Fund-Raiser at Applebee's on March 16. All the details are in the next column.

SAVE THE DATES:

March 16 – Applebee's Breakfast

March 27 – General meeting

May (date to be announced) – Letter Carriers Collection

May (date to be announced) – Prince of Peace Abbey Day

May 11 – Mother's Day

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Information & Online donations
brotherbenno.org

Brother Benno's Auxiliary

Applebee's Flapjack Fundraiser

Saturday, March 16, 2013



Applebee's Restaurant

2146 Vista Way, Oceanside (Jefferson/Hwy 78)

**Breakfast will be served
8am to 9:30am**



\$10.00

You will be served scrambled eggs, 2 pancakes, 2 pieces of sausage, along with juice, milk and coffee.

for tickets, contact:

Judy Harris – 760-724-0227

Vera Bayliss – 760-295-0059

Make checks out to **Brother Benno's Auxiliary** and send to Vera Bayliss, 4684 Adra Way, Oceanside, 92056

We hope you will be able to join us. Please call if you have any questions.

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 _____

Donation \$ _____

Address _____

Number of copies _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Memorials

Brother Benno	Mary Peterson	Dora Ramirez	William & Vennita
Pope John Paul II	Frank Barnet	Dick & Terry Riley	Flanagan
Mother Teresa	Frank S. Dolley	Bill Buckner	Jo Jensen
Kay Kutler	Phyllis H. Dierlam	Mary Shankle	Jeanne Nickel
Ann Sauer	Monty Nares	Walter Ulloa	Bill Foran
Joe & Ida Friend	Margaret Rossini	Fred Williamson	Bud Maloney
Mary Nordstrom	Dorothy M. Donahue	Carole Kutler	Douglas Faught
Myron Eichen	Mary Teresa Carr	Will Skinner	Jerome Hanson
Alice Jordan	Ruth Hazel Pierson	Fr. Abbot Claude	Virgil & Evelyn
Roseanne Dreibelbis	Elizabeth Holms	Ehringer, OSB	Stahelin
Richard Farhquar	Edith Blaiser	Fr. Luke Dougherty	
Deacon Art & Mary Carr	Ben Kouns	Naomi Shelton	
Don & Dorothea Daybell	Bill Lakoff	Rosemary Tucker	
Catherine L. Quinlan	Bernice, Samuel &	Ben E. Lewis	
Kathryn D. Pent	Milton Silver	Roland Bond	
Mary Pullman	Anita H. Donahue	Anna Correia	
Joan Boyd	Margaret Stephan	Geraldine Howard	
Agnus Boyd	Bill Boster	Helene McGill	
Harold Thompson	Louise Foussat	Andrea Boersma	
Bud & Blanche Ogle	Tom Hayward	Ben Osgrove	
Bob Gleason	Richard Kurtz	Myron Mooney III	
Jane Pfau	Helen Lucas	Nyswander Family	
Ron Alexander	Bill & Joan Maloney	Squirrel Family	

Needs

Women's New Underwear Men's belts Socks for all ages
 Warm Jackets, Sweatshirts, Hoodies Diapers Peanut Butter
 Canned Vegetables and Fruits

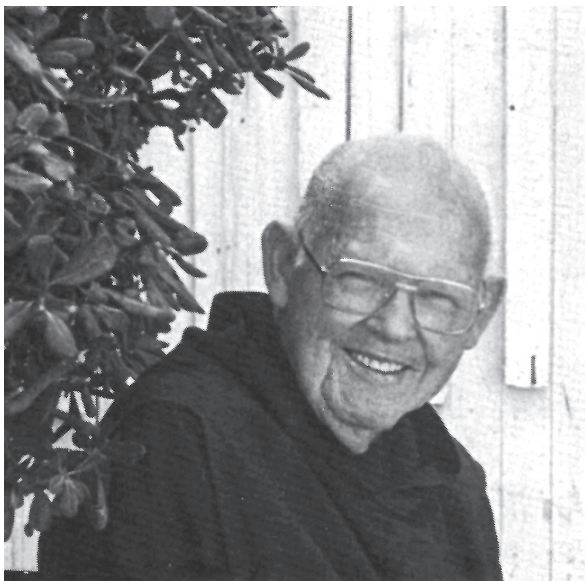
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
March					1 San Luis Rey Mission	2 St. Thomas More
2013						
Monthly	4 St. Elizabeth Seton #1	5 St. John The Evangelist	6 Brother Benno's Auxiliary	7 Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	8 St. Patrick's	9 TVIA
Serving	11 North Coast Methodist	12 Friends from Vista	13 Naval Hospital	14 Oceanside Civitans	15 St. Elizabeth Seton #2	16 Girlfriend's Care
Team	18 Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista	19 Christ the King Lutheran	20 Grace Anglican	21 Carlsbad Rotary	22 Fallbrook Presbyterian	23 Catholic Daughters
Schedule	25 Christ Anglican	26 St. Mark's San Marcos	27 San Luis Rey Methodist	28 Pilgrim Creek	29 King of Kings Lutheran	30 Shiloh Church of God In Christ

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.

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

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



The Thrift Shop

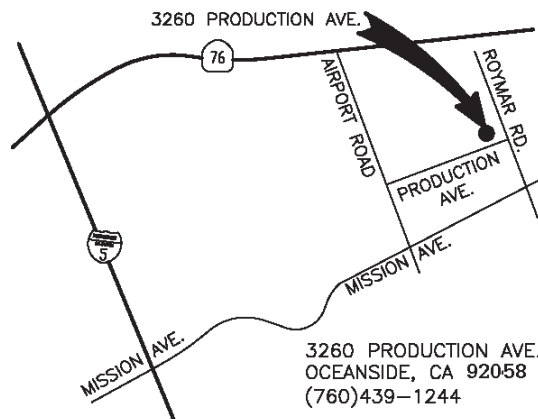
3955 Mission Ave. (East of Albertsons) 760-967-7505

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

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, 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



Brother Benno's Services:

	January 2013	Our 29th Year		January 2013	Our 29th Year
Meals	13,733	3,367,934	Loads of laundry	27	26,320
Nights of lodging	1,109	234,865	Food packs	2,781	215,989
Articles of clothing	6,618	967,922	Blankets	210	34,166
Showers	1,007	175,489	Prescriptions	12	7,121
Haircuts	60	14,863	ID Vouchers	15	8,382
Bus passes	127	76,331	HUGS	1,800	842,944

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