Our entire staff and volunteers are saddened with the recent passing of our much beloved and admired Doug Milovicz, a Senior Caseworker in our Community Outreach Department. For many years Doug was a key member of our Outreach team working with and improving the lives of unsheltered persons, extremely low-income households, and persons suffering from substance abuse (our “Guests”). He offered patience, kindness and understanding with each person and gained their trust by respectfully listening to their troubles, encouraging them, and making the extra effort to assist them and give them hope. Dennis Pinnick, Community Outreach Coordinator, commented “Doug fully embraced our Guests by caring for them and being with them to overcome obstacles and to find a path forward”.

Doug was highly respected by the persons he helped and particularly by his co-caseworkers who understood and were consistently impressed with his efforts to improve the welfare of others. Doug handled some of the most difficult homeless, mental illness, and substance abuse cases. He never gave up helping each person.

We miss Doug’s sense of humor and positive attitude which sometimes helped offset very difficult and sad moments in the team’s efforts to help persons in need. We were particularly impressed with his work in supporting the First Step House, a detox center in Carlsbad, CA, over many years. His contributions as a volunteer at the detox center proved meaningful in helping men, many of whom were homeless, join a path to substance abuse recovery.

Doug will always be part of Brother Benno’s Outreach team. All of us have benefited from knowing and working with Doug. Our team is committed to continue Doug’s legacy of never giving up in helping others, always taking the time to listen to our Guests, and offering assistance and encouragement to uplift their lives.
Save the date for the 5th Annual Brother Benno Golf Tournament at Goat Hill Park on Friday, September 1st

The Brother Benno Foundation is pleased to announce our 5th Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, September 1 at a favorite local course, Goat Hill Park in Oceanside. In addition, we are pleased to continue the tradition of supporting a day of golf for active-duty military members.

This year’s event will help The Brother Benno Foundation kick off its 40th anniversary celebration. We are hoping to honor this milestone by surpassing the success of last year’s tournament, which included participation from 11-time world champion surfer, Kelly Slater and former New Orleans Saints quarterback, Drew Brees. “This year’s 10:30am shotgun start will have an awards celebration starting late afternoon with music and food from some of North County’s favorite food truck caterers” stated Chuy Reyna, Co-Chair of the Annual Golf Tournament and current Oceanside resident. “As a kid skateboarding to the beach, I recall the good work Brother Benno did for the community and I am honored to help grow the annual golf tournament.”

Last year’s tournament was extremely popular and sold out early. Interested golfers can register early at brotherbenno.org/golf-2023 or to learn more about the event. Check back often as we will be updating this page as more exciting details become available.

This is Brother Benno’s largest fundraiser of the year and is vital to raising the funds that directly support Brother Benno’s services to the most vulnerable in North San Diego County. Last year was an enormous success and we know this year will be even better. A variety of Sponsorship, underwriting and member volunteer opportunities are available for individuals, businesses, and organizations. We invite all members to participate by sponsoring, donating, assisting at the event or by spreading the word to your local businesses and golfers.

Email golf23@brotherbenno.org or contact Chuy Reyna@firewiresurfboards.com for more information.

Follow Up: Over 2,000 Blankets Arrive

Thanks to the diligent efforts of volunteer Dennis Martinek and the advocacy of Congressman Mike Levin and his staff, the Brother Benno Foundation received 2,016 blankets to distribute to our Guests at the end of March. These emergency blankets were provisioned by the Defense Logistics Agency and the Department of Defense. Blankets are one of the most requested items we distribute at Brother Benno’s. Over the past year, our volunteers and staff have given out 956 blankets to our Guests. Generous donations of blankets from Blue Shield of California and other kind donors also helped Brother Benno’s in its efforts to keep people warm and cared for.
Meet Toymaker: John Anderson
By Jim Napier, Board Member

For the past 20 years, John Anderson has crafted beautiful and unique wooden toys for disadvantaged children all over the world. This story begins in Prior Lake, Minnesota where John joined a group called TLC Toys creating more than a dozen different kinds of wooden toys. Over 25,000 individual toys made their way throughout the United States, Canada, Eastern Europe, the Middle East, as well as Central and South America.

After completing a 33-year teaching career, John continued making toys and perfecting his art. Four years ago, John and his wife, Joyce, moved to Southern California and so did his hobby. He also developed a network of local and international outlets for distribution. Today he creates more than 4,000 toys each year working mostly on his own.

John has been a key member of Helen Parson’s team that organizes the Brother Benno Christmas Party. This annual event entertains more than 450 children providing them with gift cards, clothing, and John’s toys. John previously contributed over 300 toys a year for the children at Brother Benno’s Christmas Party, and he has a goal of 400 for this year. His contribution to the Christmas Party is greatly appreciated and key to its success. The payment he receives is the gratitude, smiles, and the twinkling eyes of hundreds of children.

John’s Stash of Toys

John’s Stash of Toys

$2,500 Grant From Stater Brothers

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)________________________________

The Brother Benno Foundation
PO Box 308
Oceanside CA 92049

Or, donate online at http://brotherbenno.org
Volunteer of the Month: 
The Anonymous Volunteer

This month the Brother Benno Foundation celebrates our volunteers who prefer to remain anonymous. This volunteer might be a truck driver, a board member, a serving team volunteer, a member of our scholarship or grant committee, or any individual that helps our nonprofit to flourish. We have volunteers at Brother Benno’s that do not wish to draw attention to themselves or their actions. To be honest, this reluctance to have the spotlight shining on them is also true of our previous volunteers of the month.

Brother Benno’s is fortunate to have such kind and generous spirits dedicated to our mission and our community. “What amazes me about Brother Benno’s is its unconditional ability to embrace everyone in the North County community who are in need,” a volunteer shared with us. “It’s truly humbling to be on the front line and engaging with the unhoused and less fortunate to help them get through the day...that brings me back every week as a volunteer! I love Brother Benno’s!”

Why does a person volunteer at Brother Benno’s? “I enjoy volunteering because I meet new people every day and they enrich my life by their journey in life,” a long-time volunteer answered.

“When looking for a place to volunteer,” an unnamed volunteer shared with us, “I reviewed a number of organizations. I found Brother Benno’s origin story compelling and genuine. I love that as a volunteer, I can use my strengths as well as develop new skills. It’s a pleasure to be working with an organization committed to helping struggling individuals in my community.”

We thank these volunteers for sharing their experiences with us. If you would like to volunteer or know someone who would, please contact us at volunteers@brotherbenno.org.

Ω

New Serving Teams Needed

Do you belong to a service group, business, or church that would like to give back to the community? Brother Benno’s is now recruiting three new serving teams to help serve breakfast once a month. The dates available are the 4th Monday, 4th Thursday, and 4th Friday of each month. Volunteering on the serving line is an early morning activity beginning at 6:15 a.m. and ending at 8 a.m. If you are interested, please contact us at servingteams@brotherbenno.org or volunteers@brotherbenno.org. Thank you!

Ω

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.

Information & Online donations:
brotherbenno.org

Follow Brother Benno’s online:
Facebook.com/BrotherBenno
Twitter.com/brotherbennos
Instagram.com/brotherbenno

To unsubscribe from this print newsletter, please provide your name, mailing address, & phone number to:

1) email: unsubscribe@brotherbenno.org; or
2) Call (760) 231-1619; or
3) Use the enclosed donation envelope and mail it with your name, mailing address, and phone. Please indicate that you no longer wish to receive the Brother Benno newsletter.

If you would like to subscribe to the online version of the newsletter, please go to our website: www.brotherbenno.org
Memorials

Ron Alexander
Dixie & Lou Bales
Frank Barnet
Brother Benno
Edith Blaiser
Andrea Boersma
Roland Bond
Bill Boster
Agnus & Joan Boyd
Bill Buckner
Deacon Art & Mary Carr
Anna Correia
Don & Dorothea Daybell
Phyllis H. Dierlam
Frank S. Dolley
Anita H. Donahue
Dorothy M. Donahue
Fr. Luke Dougherty
Roseanne Dreibelbis
Fr. Abbot Claude
Ehringer, OSB
Myron Eichen
Richard Farhquar
William & Vennita
Flanagan
Louise Foussat
Joe & Ida Friend
Mary Gerrity
Bob Gleason
Chance Hales
Tom & Louise
Hayward
Elizabeth Holms
John Jarvie
Dorothy and Walter
Jellig
Alice Jordan
Ben Kouns
Richard Kurtz
Carole Kutler
Harold & Kay Kutler
Bill & Louise Lakoff
Ben & Ozelle Lewis
Helen Lucas
Bill & Joan Maloney
Helene McGill
Peggy & Beverly
Miville
Monty, Natalie, &
Michael Nares
Zeferino & Dancy
Nares
Mary Nordstrom
Nysewander Family
Bud & Blanche Ogle
Ben Os grove
Kathryn D. Pent
Mary Peterson
Jane Pfau
Ruth Hazel Pierson
Alan Port
Mary Pullman
Catherine L. Quinlan
Dora Ramirez
Dick & Terry Riley
Margaret Rossini
Ann Sauer
Nick Sauer
Mary Shankle
Naomi Shelton
Bernice, Samuel &
Milton Silver
Will Skinner
Ann Grier Smith
Alva & Frances
Snyder
Squirrel Family
Mike Stendahl
Margaret Stephan
Virginia Sylwesterzak
Harold Thompson
Carol & Herb
Thornberg
Rosemary Tucker
Walter Ulloa
June Williams
Fred Williamson
Andrew & Jane
Yandura
Barbara Havens
Barbara La Mothe
Bert Manuel Jr.
Bill Carrothers
Bill Stone
David C. Coulter
Deacon Bill Pollock
Deacon Bob Troy
Don Dewhurst
Fr. Patrick Grace
Frank Beeson
Frank Rutherford
Harry Opatkiewicz
Hope Wrisley
June & Drue
Williams
Leo Pacheco
Mike Sifferlen
Molly Wilbur
Mr. & Mrs Joseph
Mazzella
Ron Beckman
Stanley Jarrett
Thomas Kennedy
Timothy Diem
Timothy McCoy
Toni Keane
Wayne Patterson

In Honor Of:

Brady Vornsand
Michael Goodwin

Needs

Gently used furniture
Diapers size sizes 4, 5 & 6
Men’s 2x and 3x t-shirts
Towels
Blankets
Adult Unisex Diapers
Baby wipes
Bottled waters, sodas, & juices
Baseball caps
Women’s underwear, sizes 4 & 5
Travel-size toothpaste & deodorant
Travel-size shampoo & body wash

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<td>Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis</td>
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<td>St. Elizabeth Seton #2</td>
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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 Tues or Thurs 10-2, Saturdays 10-Noon

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 “Ways You Can Help”. We’ve expanded your donation options to include bank transfers, Venmo, Apple Pay, and Google Pay in addition to PayPal. You can scan this QR code to make an online donation too.

Your donation is used each month at our main center and seven recovery and sober living 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.

Please Note Our Mailing address:
The Brother Benno Foundation
Post Office Box 308
Oceanside, CA 92049-0308

If you wish to drop off donations or deliver donations in person, our physical address is:
3260 Production Avenue
Oceanside, CA 92058

www.brotherbenno.org

Brother Benno’s Services:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
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<th>March 2023</th>
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<td>Loads of laundry</td>
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Your donation is used each month at our main center and seven recovery and sober living 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.