



# Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

Volunteers Making a Difference

May 2023



## Doug Milovicz - Always will be with Brother Benno's

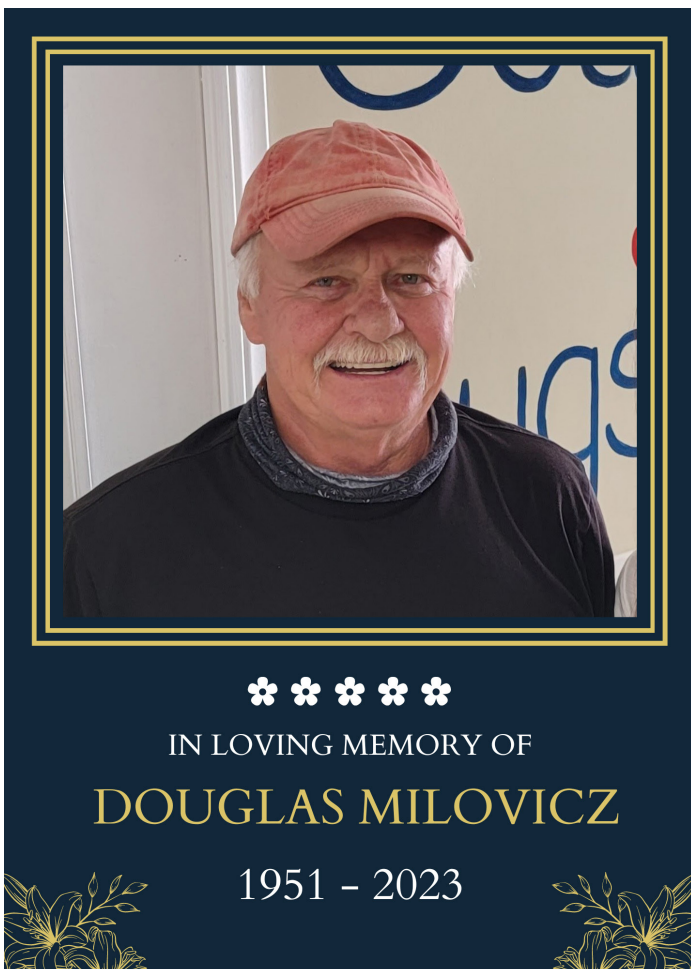
Our entire staff and volunteers are saddened with the recent passing of our much beloved and admired **Doug Milovicz**, a Senior Caseworker in our Community Outreach Department. For many years Doug was a key member of our Outreach team working with and improving the lives of unsheltered persons, extremely 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](http://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](mailto:golf23@brotherbenno.org) or contact Chuy. [Reyna@firewiresurfboards.com](mailto:Reyna@firewiresurfboards.com) for more information.

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### 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.



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### 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



\$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

**Printable version: <https://bit.ly/3PvfNET>**  
**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 work-

ing 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](mailto:volunteers@brotherbenno.org).

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## 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](mailto:servingteams@brotherbenno.org) or [volunteers@brotherbenno.org](mailto:volunteers@brotherbenno.org). Thank you!

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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.

### Information & Online donations:

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

### Follow Brother Benno's online:

**[Facebook.com/BrotherBenno](https://www.facebook.com/BrotherBenno)**

**[Twitter.com/brotherbennos](https://twitter.com/brotherbennos)**

**[Instagram.com/brotherbenno](https://www.instagram.com/brotherbenno)**

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

- 1) email: [unsubscribe@brotherbenno.org](mailto: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](http://www.brotherbenno.org)

### Memorials

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

### 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

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>May 2023 Monthly Serving Team Schedule</b>	<b>1</b> St. Elizabeth Seton #1	<b>2</b> St. John The Evangelist	<b>3</b> Juanita's Team	<b>4</b> Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	<b>5</b> San Luis Rey Mission	<b>6</b> St. Thomas More
	<b>8</b> North Coast Methodist	<b>9</b> Riverview Church	<b>10</b> Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary	<b>11</b> Servers R Us	<b>12</b> St. Patrick's	<b>13</b> Oceanside Young Professionals
	<b>15</b> Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista	<b>16</b> Christ The King Church	<b>17</b> Friends of Brother Benno	<b>18</b> Ernest Packaging	<b>19</b> St. Elizabeth Seton #2	<b>20</b> Girlfriend's Care
	<b>22</b> Open	<b>23</b> Rotary Club of Vista	<b>24</b> San Luis Rey Methodist	<b>25</b> Open	<b>26</b> Oceanside Sanctuary	<b>27</b> NMRTC Camp Pendleton Orthopedics Dept
	<b>29</b> Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	<b>30</b> Brother Benno's Volunteers & Staff	<b>31</b> Soroptomist International			



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

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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**

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**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 "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](http://www.brotherbenno.org)

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**Brother Benno's Services:**

	March 2023	Our 39th Year		March 2023	Our 39th Year
Meals	12,763	4,835,026	Loads of laundry	0	28,628
Nights of lodging	1,242	350,493	Food packs	1,124	380,968
Articles of clothing	3,240	1,510,748	Blankets	110	51,937
Showers	1,110	285,403	Tarps	78	7,691
Haircuts	0	23,357	ID Vouchers	15	10,697
Bus passes	63	88,889	HUGS	1,000	1,015,244

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