

**Please use the enclosed envelope to make your tax-deductible donation to the Brother Benno Foundation**

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, case-worker support, nights of lodging, medical and mental health referrals, prescriptions, ID replacement, mail services, food packs, shelter for women and small children, men's drug and alcohol recovery program, shelter for women in recovery, and assistance with rent, jobs, Social Security, and veterans' issues. 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)



3260 PRODUCTION AVE.  
OCEANSIDE, CA 92058  
(760)439-1244

**Brother Benno's Services:**

	August 2010	Our 28th Year		August 2010	Our 28th Year
Meals	11,446	2,997,312	Loads of laundry	18	25,475
Nights of lodging	1,023	201,493	Food packs	2,381	142,451
Articles of clothing	4,928	830,850	Blankets	69	30,764
Showers	1,016	148,967	Prescriptions	48	6,070
Haircuts	147	11,518	ID Vouchers	10	8,054
Bus passes	121	73,374	HUGS	1,800	786,694

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

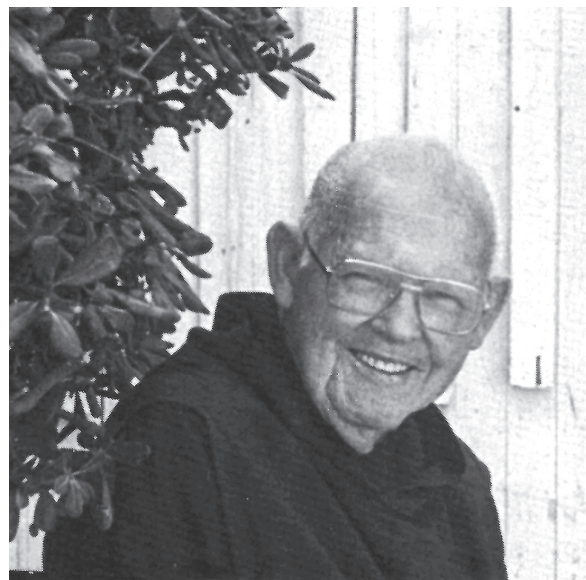
**The Thrift Shop**

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

Shop open Mon-Sat 10 a.m. to 4 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**



# Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

October 2010



## HELP US CELEBRATE OUR ANNIVERSARY!

By Harold Kutler

Brother Benno's started feeding the hungry 27 years ago. On that momentous day, October 21, 1983, we fed 21 people—18 homeless men and Kay's and my three teenagers. Brother Benno Garrity brought a big cauldron of soup he'd made at the Abbey, and he talked to everyone and made them feel welcome.\*

Now, as we begin our 28th year, we want to celebrate the many milestones we've reached over the years with the help of our wonderful volunteers and donors. On Saturday, October 9, 2010, everyone is invited to the Center to share in the joy of what has been accomplished in our service to the poor and homeless in our area.

Besides food, we provide blankets, clothing, showers, and help with rent and utilities. We have a Recovery Program for men and a sober-living residence for women. And if you're into numbers, these are some of the things you've helped us provide:

- 3,000,000 meals**
- 150,000 40-pound food packs
- 200,000 nights of shelter
- 832,000 articles of clothing
- 780,000 hugs
- and a whole lot more.

We'll have music and tours of the Center, plus a few surprises, on October 9, starting at 12:30. Please come and join us—we couldn't have done any of it without you!

Brother Benno Center  
3260 Production Avenue  
Oceanside, CA 92058

\*(from *Soup Soap Hugs Hope, The Story of Brother Benno's Life-Changing Soup Kitchen* by Harold Kutler)

Ω

## THRIFT SHOP IS A WINNER!

by Helen Parsons

Brother Benno's Thrift Shop was included in the *North County Times* Reader's Choice Top Business Winners for 2010. Our new Manager, **Kristin Paddock**, Assistant Manager **Michelle Hoppe**, and Cashiers **Mary Yett**, **Diane May**, and **Pat Raetz** have enthusiastically made our shop an organized and fun place to get incredible bargains. While making our bounty affordable for the neediest, they also provide quality products.

Our volunteer staff is a hard-working, fun group. At any given time, you'll find them dancing to the music or belting out a song! We can always use more helping hands, especially in the afternoons. We encourage potential volunteers to take a tour of the Center any first Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m. At that time, an application can be filled out. Besides working at the Thrift Shop, there are many other volunteer opportunities.

(See the ad on the back page of the newsletter for Thrift Shop information.)

Ω

## PARALLEL STORIES OF RECOVERY

by Barbara Ladwig

Two women are on the same path, working toward a lifetime of sobriety. **Jessie** has been clean and sober for ten years. She has a daughter, son-in-law, and three grandchildren. **Ellen** is three years into the journey, and she has two young children. They both started using drugs and alcohol when they were in their early teens; and they both came to this new place of sobriety with the help of Brother Benno's.

Jessie has been House Manager for five years at the House of Dorothy Barbara Rosemary and Joan (DBRJ), Brother Benno's sober-living residence, where she helps other women go through the process of healing after years of abusing drugs and alcohol. Ellen moved into the house in 2008 and is now living on her own in an apartment.

**Big Accomplishment.** For the past three years, Jessie has been attending classes part-time at Palomar College, and she received her license as a drug and alcohol counselor from the State of California in August. The license is designated as CAADAC (California Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors), "the most difficult license to get," Jessie said, partly because it requires both a written and an oral test. Along with her course work, she also completed more than 6,000 hours of work in the field; and she is actively looking for employment.

**Hard Road.** Ellen started using drugs when she was 13. It's what her family did—parties and get-togethers meant drugs and alcohol. Now, at 31, she's been clean and sober for more than two and a half years, has a good job, and says she sees the world in an entirely different way.

Like many addicts, Ellen supported her habit by stealing. "Anything to get enough money for my next fix," she said. That, plus several DUI's, led to at least 15 stints in jail over the years. Her last jail sentence brought her to Drug Court, a program that offers a release from jail in exchange for a tightly controlled program of recovery. After many previous failed attempts with a variety of

programs, she was finally ready to succeed; and in April of 2008 she moved into DBRJ.

At first, Ellen had a common reaction to the rules at the House—she fought against them. But she wanted to please Jessie, the House Manager. "I didn't want to have to leave," she said. "I felt so much at home there. I don't like to go back to my family home because things are the same as they always were. So when I need to 'go home,' I go to DBRJ."

A turning point in her relationship with Jessie, and with her own recovery, came when Jessie invited Ellen to go on a "call" with her. Former addicts can put themselves on a list of people who can be called when another person in recovery gets into a bad spot. "We picked up this girl at a supermarket parking lot," Ellen said, "and we took her to a meeting." She said this experience made her feel she could be of help—she could be part of the solution for someone else.

**Losses.** Ellen's years of drug abuse have taken a huge toll. First, she lost her four-year-old son for good. He'd been taken away from her many times, but the last time was final. The boy, who is now eight, is being raised by Ellen's aunt and uncle, who have refused to let her have any contact with him. "They did send me a picture of him on his birthday last year," she said, "but that's all. I don't blame them—I relapsed so many times. Now I'm just leaving it in God's hands and hoping that some day they'll see I've changed and will let me see him. I think about him every day; I dream about him."

Her second sorrow involves her five-year-old daughter, who was also taken away a number of times; but after Ellen's ten months at DBRJ, she was finally granted custody again. It was a hard fight—she had to hire an attorney—but they now live together.

Ellen has to work full-time, and she can't afford day care, so the child stays with the child's father and his family. "But it isn't a good environment, because they have no rules," she said.

continued on page 3....

## Memorials

Brother Benno  
Pope John Paul II  
Mother Teresa  
Ann Sauer  
Joe & Ida Friend  
Mary Nordstrom  
Myron Eichen  
Alice Jordan  
Roseanne Dreibelbis  
Richard Farhquar  
Deacon Art & Mary Carr  
Don & Dorothea Daybell  
Catherine L. Quinlan  
Kathryn D. Pent  
Mary Pullman  
Joan Boyd  
Agnus Boyd  
Harold Thompson  
Bud & Blanche Ogle  
Bob Gleason  
Jane Pfau  
Ron Alexander  
Mary Peterson

Frank Barnet  
Frank S. Dolley  
Phyllis H. Dierlam  
Monty Nares  
Margaret Rossini  
Dorothy M. Donahue  
Mary Teresa Carr  
Ruth Hazel Pierson  
Elizabeth Holms  
Edith Blaiser  
Ben Kouns  
Bill Lakoff  
Bernice, Samuel & Milton Silver  
Anita H. Donahue  
Margaret Stephan  
Bill Boster  
Louise Foussat  
Tom Hayward  
Richard Kurtz  
Helen Lucas  
Bill & Joan Maloney  
Dora Ramirez

Dick Riley  
Bill Buckner  
Mary Shankle  
Walter Ulloa  
Fred Williamson  
Carole Kutler  
Will Skinner  
Fr. Abbot Claude Ehringer, OSB  
Fr. Luke Dougherty  
Naomi Shelton  
Ann Donker  
April Burgess  
Nysewander Family  
Squirrel Family  
Edward Zincavage  
Leo Reuter  
Kathleen Reuter  
Foley  
Bernie Weiler  
Carolyn Halsey  
Ann Witherow  
Margaret Zachan

Gloria Orofini  
Stanley LaMonte  
Marshall Button  
William Flanagan  
Harold Muir  
Knobby Tyler  
Clarke Rowe, Sr.  
Clarke Rowe, Jr.  
Zeferino & Dancy Nares  
Michael Russel  
William Fry  
Anna Correia  
Robert Nair  
Rick Provost  
Bob Lydon

### Happy Birthday

Elisa Velasquez  
Bill Pollock

### Happy Anniversary

Abbot Charles Wright,  
46 years a priest

## Needs

Volunteer Drivers (any morning) Men's clothing Socks for all ages Aluminum cans for recycling  
Frozen turkeys, Canned cranberry sauce, sweet potatoes, chicken stock, Dressing Mix Dinner rolls

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>October 2010</b>					<b>1</b> San Luis Rey Mission	<b>2</b> St. Thomas More
<b>Monthly Serving Team Schedule</b>	<b>4</b> St. Elizabeth Seton #1	<b>5</b> St. John The Evangelist	<b>6</b> Brother Benno's Auxiliary	<b>7</b> Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	<b>8</b> St. Patrick's	<b>9</b> St. Vincent de Paul Rancho Bernardo
	<b>11</b> North Coast Methodist	<b>12</b> Friends from Vista	<b>13</b> Naval Hospital	<b>14</b> Oceanside Civitans	<b>15</b> St. Elizabeth Seton #2	<b>16</b> Girlfriend's Care
	<b>18</b> Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista	<b>19</b> Christ the King Lutheran	<b>20</b> Grace Anglican	<b>21</b> Carlsbad Rotary	<b>22</b> Fallbrook Presbyterian	<b>23</b> Catholic Daughters
	<b>25</b> 5/11 Marines	<b>26</b> St. Mark's San Marcos	<b>27</b> San Luis Rey Methodist	<b>28</b> Pilgrim Creek	<b>29</b> King of Kings Lutheran	<b>30</b> Shiloh Church of God In Christ

## Brother Benno's Furniture Sales

3242-B Production Ave., Oceanside (next to Center) 760-439-1244 x115 **Open Tue. - Sat. 9 am to Noon**

To view photos of our wonderful used furniture: go to [brotherbenno.org](http://brotherbenno.org), click on Thrift Store, then click on the 3 >>> above Thrift Store, scroll down to view photos.

We welcome your saleable furniture items. Please call for free pickup

....continued from page 2

“My daughter hasn’t learned anything about respecting others, and she’s insecure. Her father’s hardly ever around, and when he is, he’s often angry. And he’s still using.”

Ellen is looking at the possibility of moving closer to family members who could provide a more stable situation. In the meantime, she says she tries to give the child the guidance that she herself never got; and she continues to trust that God is taking care of them.

**Helping Others.** Jessie and Ellen both share their stories with others in recovery programs whenever they have a chance. And Jessie said she sets an example at the House, too. “I’m on the chores list, just like everyone else,” she said, “and I go to at least three meetings a week and take along anyone who wants to go.”

Jessie believes that the more contacts the women have with others in recovery, the better network they can build to support them in their own journey. “At first, they’re reluctant to let anybody else into their lives,” she said, “but I encourage them to ask for help.”

Ellen tells her story once a month to women at a residential recovery center where she herself once stayed. “I want to give them hope,” she said. “I tell them, never let go of your dreams. Anything is possible.”

Both women believe that helping others is the right thing to do, and it comes back to them as support as well.                   Ω

**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>**

**Benno's**

This place they call Benno's of which I'm a part has cleansed my soul and opened my heart.

To think this all started with two gracious men whose love and whose kindness we freely extend.

A hand up not hand out would become the creed for so many families and people in need.

When they come in we see the despair we clothe and we feed and show them we care.

To give them some hope with respect and a smile things they might not have had for a while.

So how does this blessing continue to grow from the unselfish kindness of so many we know.

For without the donor or caring volunteer this thing that was started would all disappear.

God put us together it's not just by chance for he plays the music and we merely dance.

So thank you to Benno's for this new start for filling my soul and touching my heart.

-by a Thankful Program Member



# AUXILIARY NEWS

By Vikki Ramey

**Caroline Richards**, who chairs the Teen Baskets Committee, asked members to bring toiletry items to assemble the baskets in November. Items suggested are lotions, nail polish, hair products, etc.

For those planning to go on the Alaskan Cruise, please get your \$250 deposit in as soon as possible. It is refundable before the final payment is due, in the event you are unable to travel. Tickets will be available at the Fall Luncheon on October 16 to win the trip for two; tickets will be \$25, and only 100 will be sold.

Nominating Committee members **Barbara Barreras** and **Alma Boone** will be contacting members for the 2011 Board. The slate of officers will be presented to the members at the October 27 meeting; installation will be in November. Also, if you're interested in being on a committee in 2011, please contact **Vikki Ramey**.

My thanks to the Board, who really showed that teamwork does work, in connection with putting together the Fall Luncheon. I am proud of all of you for an excellent job in making this event successful. Many thanks also to all Auxiliary members for making the opportunity baskets, ticket sales, assisting in the silent auction and cash drawing sales, setting up and cleaning up. We hope to see you all again next year!

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 27, at 1 p.m.

Ω

## Thank You for Your Support

The cards, calls, and prayers extended by everyone from the Brother Benno Auxiliary, the Thrift Shop, and HOW were helpful and appreciated. They gave me and my family the strength needed to face the sorrow in the passing of my daughter Druann Landreth into the arms of the Lord. May God bless you all, and bless the work you are doing with Brother Benno's.

~ Charlotte Wilson

We need saleable furniture.  
Pickup available on Tuesdays  
and Thursdays.  
Call 760-439-1244, ext. 115.

## 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 \_\_\_\_\_