



Brother Benno's Newsletter

"Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve"

Interdenominational Volunteers
Making a Difference in This World

October 2013

PROGRAM MEMBERS KEEP CENTER HUMMING

The men in Brother Benno's Recovery Program are "the backbone of our Center," according to one of the Servants of the Poor. To back up that statement, here's the schedule these men follow:

For the first three months of the Program, they work six days a week; the second three months it's five days a week. They get up at 4 a.m., arrive at the Center at 5, and work until 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. On Saturday, it's 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The men clean bathrooms, sweep and mop floors, man and maintain the shower hygiene station, wash trays and cookware, prep food, cook meals, pick up, load, and unload food and household donations, pick up and deliver furniture donations and sales, and wash vehicles. They also staff special projects like food drives, and they carry trays and food boxes for Guests who can't manage on their own. In the evenings, they attend twelve-step meetings.

At least once a year, the Brother Benno Foundation tries to give these men a day of rest and fun by taking them to an amusement park or other tourist attraction. In the past, Knotts Berry Farm was a favorite outing, but the cost has become prohibitive, so last year they spent the day at the USS Midway in San Diego and by all reports had a great time.

In addition to the admission price for the attraction, there's the cost of transportation and meals for the day. And this year, that money simply isn't available. We have 30 men currently in the Program, plus eight senior Program members,

continued on page 3....

BUY YOUR TICKETS NOW FOR SPECIAL LUNCHEON

"Harvest Gold" is the theme of the Annual Luncheon to be put on by the Brother Benno Auxiliary on Saturday, October 26, this year celebrating 30 years of service to the poor and homeless in coastal North County. Good seats are still available, but don't wait too long to make your reservations—this is a sold-out event every year.

The Luncheon will be held at 11 a.m. at the Sheraton Carlsbad Resort at 5480 Grand Pacific Drive in Carlsbad. Tickets are \$60 per person, or \$600 for a table of ten. All proceeds benefit the many people we serve every day.

Two of the highlights of this event are the array of items available for silent auction, and the exquisite opportunity baskets that will be won by guests having the lucky tickets. Even if you don't happen to win a basket, just seeing them is worth the price of the tickets! And again, the proceeds all go back into the work done by Brother Benno's.

If the auction and baskets aren't enough to entice you, there will also be cash and centerpiece drawings; and entertainment will be provided by The Harmonettes.

To make your reservations, please call Vera Bayliss (760-295-0059), or send her a check made out to Brother Benno Auxiliary with the names of all in your party to 4684 Adra Way, Oceanside, CA 92056.

Please see page 4 for a list of the Silent Auction items and Harmonettes picture.

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EXPERIENCING THE BROTHER BENNO SCENE

by Barbara Ladwig

Kindness and Patience. A volunteer shared an experience he had with a Guest recently. "He was a homeless older man who came just for the morning meal," the volunteer said. He could tell that the man was reserved, so he respected the man's boundaries. After a while, he asked the man if there was anything else he might need besides the meal; and finally one day the man said he could really use a local bus pass. More time passed, and he admitted that he'd like to talk to his daughter in Oregon; they hadn't spoken for a long time. That phone call resulted in the daughter sending him bus fare to her home. The moral of this story seems to be that if you're gentle with someone, and are willing to be patient, you can probably make something wonderful happen in the end.

Chili! The Woman's Club of Oceanside will have a western-style Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, October 19, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., as a fundraiser for Brother Benno's. It'll be \$5 a bowl, or \$5 for five samples and cornbread. Beverages will be sold. The Club is located at 1606 Missouri Avenue in Oceanside. Lunch for \$5 sounds like a really good deal, and all proceeds will benefit Brother Benno's. C'mon down!

Hang in There. I'd like to share one of the lunch-bag poems mentioned in the article in right-hand column.; it's quite profound for a high school freshman:

Hang In There, Boo
Life is like weather
You feel stuck in a storm
Everything seems dark and drowsy

But it will get better!
After every storm is a rainbow
A rainbow full of life and love

Rain makes grass grow
The tough times will make you grow

Hang in there, Boo
Good times are coming
I promise you.

Want to Volunteer? It pays to advertise. Heather Pine reports that our blurb in the September newsletter about her need for help with her work at the assisted living facilities in Vista paid off, and she's very thankful for the people who came forward to volunteer. She's always trying to think of new ways to keep the residents happy and busy, so if you have any special talents you'd like to share with others, don't hesitate to call Heather (760-433-8623). And if you'd like to find out about other volunteer opportunities at Brother Benno's, contact Denise Seymour (760-439-1244, ext. 107) or denise@artistofyourmind.com.

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STUDENTS CREATE POEMS ON LUNCH BAGS

Ninth grade students in **Catherine Close's** English class at La Costa Canyon High School in Carlsbad were given an assignment to write a short poem as part of a commemoration of the March on Washington in 1963, where **Martin Luther King, Jr.** gave his famous "I Have a Dream" speech.

"I had my students read two poems by **Langston Hughes**, including *A Dream Deferred*," she said. "We discussed the fact that Martin Luther King Jr.'s speech built on the dreams that others had before him. Then I talked about the importance of my students having dreams and that others in our community might have dreams that they are struggling to realize. I told them about Brother Benno's and suggested that they could write the final draft of their poems on lunch bags to inspire a homeless person to keep going. We all have dreams."

The students' poetry-on-lunch-bags are hanging on the wall in the Brother Benno dining room. When they are taken down, they will be filled with the typical nutritious lunch that is available to our Guests five days a week after the morning meal is served.

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BROTHER BENNO'S HONORS 20-YEAR VOLUNTEER

The dining room at Brother Benno's overflowed with well-wishers on September 30, as we gathered to honor 20-year volunteer **John Jarvie** on his 90th birthday. John, in his typically humble fashion, deflected the attention being paid to him by saluting all the Program Members—past and present—who he said were the real heroes at Brother Benno's.

"Every day is a birthday for them," he said, "a new beginning for the sober life they are trying to live." He pointed to a few of the men standing nearby, mentioning their names and how many years they've been sober.

John knows these men well, because they often help him with the many projects he oversees at the Center and the various Houses.* As Board member **John Blasier** pointed out, John Jarvie's fingerprints are

on every square inch of Brother Benno's facilities. Two former Program members also spoke about John's influence on them. One said

the beautiful tile floor in the dining room was just a rough cement surface when he arrived at Brother Benno's 20 years ago. Another said he owes his



John Jarvie and Heather Pine



John Jarvie and Harold Kutler

skills in the construction business directly to John's tutoring. Getting back to the reason for the celebration, that of John's turning 90, he quipped: "I don't think about my age anymore; I stopped having birthdays when I turned 60." He expanded on this idea of age not mattering when he said that having something valuable to do every day is what keeps

people going. And he ought to know: he shows up at the Center five days a week, quietly creating beauty and function in every corner of the building, and mentoring the younger guys in the process.

And what kind of birthday gift do you give to a man who has lived as long as John has, and who appears to have everything he needs? You give him a new hammer—an apt symbol for a man with his talents—and just as an added bonus, you add an inscription that reads: "To John Jarvie for 20 years of service."

**(Brother Benno's has nine Houses for homeless women and children, women needing a sober-living environment, men in the Recovery Program, and Servants of the Poor.)*

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twelve alumni, and several Servants of the Poor who go along as support staff. It would cost approximately \$1,500 to take this group to the USS Midway.

If one or several donors would like to provide the money for the outing this year, please contact **Dennis** (760-439-1244, ext. 116). As with all donations to Brother Benno's, it's tax-deductible, and the gratitude of the men would be beyond measure.

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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>

ANNUAL LUNCHEON SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

- Calloway Golf Equipment/Lawrence Welk Golf Fees
- WIVC La Paloma Timeshare, Rosarito Beach, Mexico, One-week Stay
- Photography Studio – Edith Jones
- Pine Cone Arrangement, Isobel Haring
- One-night Stay at Sheraton Carlsbad, Spa Treatment, Legoland Discount Tickets
- Orchid Arrangement
- Two-night Stay at Buena Vista Hotel, Catalina Island
- Disneyland One-day Hopper Tickets for Four
- Southeast Asian Dinner for Eight, prepared by Kay Sim, Hosted by Elena Gonzalez and Vikki Ramey

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The Harmonettes




Vikki Ramey, Vera Bayliss, Harold Kutler and Mary Vernaci at Auxiliary 2013 Membership Luncheon.


In Harold Kutler's book, Soup Soap Hugs Hope, The Story of Brother Benno's Life-Changing Soup Kitchen, he had a story about one of our donors:

"Jenny, 3 years old, reminded us of the story in the Bible about the widow who gave up a small coin, almost all she had. Jenny's mom Susan drove up to the Kitchen...and handed us a dollar. She pointed to the back seat. 'Jenny wanted Brother Benno to have her dollar. She got it from the Tooth Fairy to spend as she wanted. I told her she could buy candy, a toy, or whatever, but Jenny said, I want to give it to Brother Benno.'"

Information & Online donations:
[**brotherbenno.org**](http://brotherbenno.org)

Follow Brother Bennos online:

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

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

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

Brother Benno	Jane Pfau	Tom Hayward	Helene McGill
Pope John Paul II	Ron Alexander	Richard Kurtz	Andrea Boersma
Mother Teresa	Mary Peterson	Helen Lucas	Ben Osgrove
Kay Kutler	Frank Barnet	Bill & Joan Maloney	Floyd & Rose
Ann Sauer	Frank S. Dolley	Dora Ramirez	Caldwell
Joe & Ida Friend	Phyllis H. Dierlam	Dick & Terry Riley	Gilbert Brown
Mary Nordstrom	Monty Nares	Bill Buckner	Paul Collins
Myron Eichen	Margaret Rossini	Mary Shankle	Bernie Weiler
Alice Jordan	Dorothy M. Donahue	Walter Ulloa	Nyswander Family
Roseanne Dreibelbis	Mary Teresa Carr	Fred Williamson	Squirrell Family
Richard Farhquar	Ruth Hazel Pierson	Carole Kutler	Dot & Ford Geeuns
Deacon Art & Mary Carr	Elizabeth Holms	Will Skinner	Mary Ann Williman
Don & Dorothea Daybell	Edith Blaiser	Fr. Abbot Claude	Deacon Bill Pollock
Catherine L. Quinlan	Ben Kouns	Ehringer, OSB	
Kathryn D. Pent	Bill Lakoff	Fr. Luke Dougherty	BLESSINGS TO
Mary Pullman	Bernice, Samuel &	Naomi Shelton	Bill & Debbie Ipsen
Joan Boyd	Milton Silver	Rosemary Tucker	
Agnus Boyd	Anita H. Donahue	Ben E. Lewis	
Harold Thompson	Margaret Stephan	Roland Bond	
Bud & Blanche Ogle	Bill Boster	Anna Correia	
Bob Gleason	Louise Foussat	Geraldine Howard	

Needs

Gently used furniture
 Underwear and socks for men, women, children
 Regular gloves and mittens, also fingerless gloves

Diapers
 Men's jeans and chinos

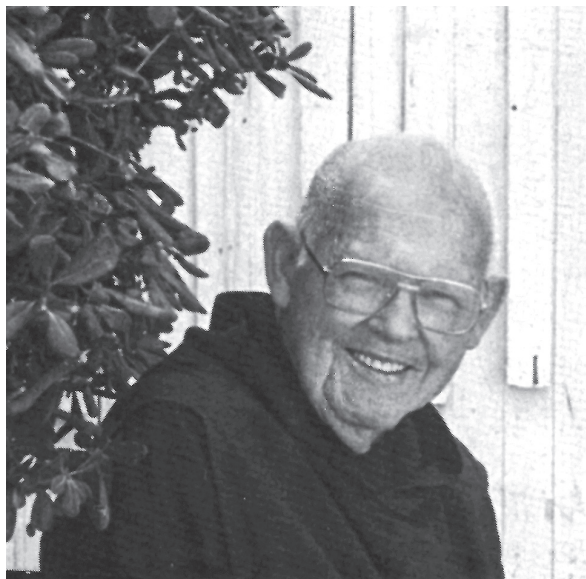
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
October		1 St. John The Evangelist	2 Brother Benno's Auxiliary	3 Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	4 San Luis Rey Mission	5 St. Thomas More
2013	7 St. Elizabeth Seton #1	8 Hawkes Home	9 Stew's Crew	10 Oceanside Civitans	11 St. Patrick's	12 Oak Hills
Monthly	14 North Coast Methodist	15 Christ the King Lutheran	16 Grace Anglican	17 Carlsbad Rotary	18 St. Elizabeth Seton #2	19 Girlfriend's Care
Serving	21 Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista	22 St. Mark's San Marcos	23 San Luis Rey Methodist	24 Pilgrim Creek	25 Fallbrook Presbyterian	26 Catholic Daughters
Team	28 Christ Anglican	29 Welk Resort	30 Soroptimist International	31 Grace Anglican		
Schedule						

Furniture Sales at the Center

3242-B Production Ave., Oceanside 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



Brother Benno's Thrift Shop

(Helping the poor, one sale at a time)

Clothing, Household Goods, Furniture

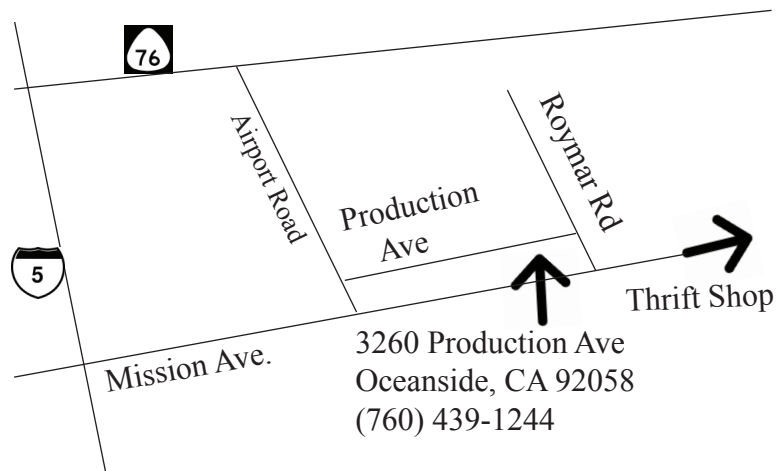
Shop open Mon-Sat 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. -- Stop by to check out our Special of the Week Sales!!

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, 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:

	August 2013	Our 29th Year		August 2013	Our 29th Year
Meals	13,762	3,461,252	Loads of laundry	26	26,502
Nights of lodging	1,147	242,026	Food packs	2,339	231,452
Articles of clothing	7,478	1,012,493	Blankets	137	35,195
Showers	1,158	182,996	Prescriptions	8	7,156
Haircuts	146	15,909	ID Vouchers	11	8,455
Bus passes	148	77,190	HUGS	2,250	856,894