



Brother Benno  
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# Brother Benno's Newsletter

“Uplifting The Dignity of Those We Serve”

Volunteers Making a Difference

October 2023

Charity Navigator



FOUR-STAR



The Brother Benno Foundation celebrated its 40th anniversary celebration kick-off at our 5th annual charity golf tournament at Goat Hill Park Golf Course on Friday, September 1. The event was a remarkable achievement, raising over \$200,000 and reaching full capacity a month before the deadline.

We are thankful to our sponsors, underwriters, auction donors, financial supporters, and golfers who contributed to this great cause. Our staff and volunteers did an excellent job in organizing and running the event. This year's committee members were led by Co-chairs Amy Selich and Chuy Reyna. Committee members included DinaMarie Ahee, Kathleen Diehlmann, Belinda Smith, Nita Rodriguez, Debra Drew, Susan Westlund, Linda Engstrom, Anna Meyer, Alycia Anthony, and Board of Directors member, Jeff Bizzack.

We are also honored to have the support and presence of surfing legend Kelly Slater, surfing champion Rob Machado, and NFL star Drew Brees. We were delighted to have some active-duty marines

join us for a fun day of golf as well. Professional photographer Todd Glaser captured some amazing shots of the participants, which you can view on our website under “News and Events.”

We appreciate your generosity and enthusiasm for our mission to uplift the dignity of those we serve. Many made this day a memorable and meaningful one for us.



**Drew Brees signing footballs**

## MEET THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



If you haven't heard or read the announcement in last month's newsletter, the Foundation hired a new Executive Director, Paul "Mac" McNamara. Mac comes to us with a solid work back ground and as importantly with a commitment to the values and sense of serving that have been trademarks of Brother Benno's for forty years.

Mac has lived in Escondido with his wife and family for over 25 years. He has four daughters ranging in age from 11 to 36. He was the Executive Director of the MCRD Museum Foundation for 7 years. Aside from raising money for the Foundation he initiated programs that helped veterans and their families suffering from PTSD and Gold Star families.

Previously, he was the owner of a for profit corporation specializing in Technical and Engineering services. He also served as the GM and Vice President for two Native American corporations. He was an original member of two start-ups whose revenues eventually exceeded 10 million.

Prior to his industry career, Mac transitioned as a USMC Colonel after 27+ years of service. During his Marine Corps service, Mac served world-wide, to include diplomatic duty with the Defense Intelligence Agency in Mexico City, Mexico which

focused on counter drug efforts and immigration. He held operational command at the Capt., LtCol and Col ranks. He was the Chief of Staff for 3rd MAW (Miramar) and then I MEF (Camp Pendleton) leading the staff in the planning and execution of immediate post 9/11 Marine Corps operational activities in Afghanistan, Iraq and other parts of the world. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for this effort.

Mac is or was a member of numerous community organizations, including the Escondido Rotary Club, Escondido Charitable Foundation, American Legion, DAV and the VFW among others. He served 8 years as an elected trustee of the Palomar CC Governing Board and four years as the Mayor of Escondido. He still currently serves on the SD County Airport Authority Board. While he is grateful for the opportunity to serve as an elected official, he is particularly proud of appointing 4 women to the Escondido Planning Commission which brought to ten the total number of women who have served on the Commission in the last 50 years.

Mac has jumped into this role with both feet. You can read more about him and the foundation in these recent news articles:

<https://tinyurl.com/BennoED>  
<https://tinyurl.com/BennoPermit>

Welcome Aboard Mac!

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Please consider contributing to the Brother Benno Foundation by way of your Will, Living Trust, Designated Beneficiary Account, Stocks, Life Insurance, Mutual Funds, or Real Estate. For more information, contact Jim Napier, (760) 802-6884 or jim.napier@cox.net.

### DONORS CORNER

Dear Friends, Supporters, and Donors of Brother Benno's, as your new Executive Director, I want to start out by saying – Thank you!! Your support has helped change and save lives for 40 years. When you think about it, it is just incredible! As a veteran let me share with you a phrase that you richly deserve and means really well done – Bravo Zulu. If you are not feeling proud of yourself, you should be. In a world that often waits for someone else to solve the problem you have rolled up your sleeves and done something.

As we move forward, I want to be another point of contact for you at the Foundation. Please don't hesitate to call or email me with any of your ideas or concerns. Your voice is important to us and so we welcome your input. I plan to write this column each month to share with you my personal thoughts on what we are accomplishing thanks to you, and to keep you updated on what is going on.

As the new guy, I had to assess the team and I want to assure you, that we have top notch employees and volunteers. If you haven't been by lately, working alongside this team is just inspiring. Everyone works together with common purpose. As a simple example of the initiative of our team, we are soon going to partner with Neighborhood Health Care Services who will enrich the services we provide to the "least of these."

Finally, I'll end with saying thank you again. I don't know that I can say it enough, but I'll try. I look forward to meeting all of you in person at some point. My door is always open.

God bless you all!

Mac



### ONLINE REVIEWS



**Cyndi Ann Cross**

Local Guide • 234 reviews • 413 photos

★★★★★ 12 mins ago

I had the privilege to have been asked to help a neighbor serve breakfast to the homeless yesterday at Brother Benno's. It was an amazing & humbling experience that I would absolutely do again. Thank you to all who show up & do this outreach service every day. You are who I aspire to be.



**Children's Christmas Party Gift Card Drive**  
Now thru December 8

Donate Online or via check and we'll purchase the gift cards in your name!  
Our goal is to collect 400 WALMART gift cards this year & we're counting on you!

<p><b>ONLINE</b></p> <p>To make an online donation to the gift card fund, visit</p> <p><a href="https://bit.ly/3ZbLijS">https://bit.ly/3ZbLijS</a></p>	<p><b>SCAN ME</b></p> 	<p><b>SEND</b></p> <p>Gift Cards or your check with the form (below) to:</p> <p>The Brother Benno Foundation P.O. Box 308 Oceanside, CA 92049</p>
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Gift Cards can also be dropped off at the Thrift Shop. Please label your envelope "Children's Christmas Gift Cards."

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Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing \_\_\_\_\_ Gift Cards @ \$25.00 each  
 Please purchase Gift Cards in my name.  
Donation amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY  
DONATION CONFIRMATION WILL BE SENT TO THE ADDRESS YOU PROVIDE



**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/459yTau>**  
**Or, donate online at <http://brotherbenno.org>**

**VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR:  
JOHN CATERINO**



**John volunteering to drive a truck**

Brother Benno's is fortunate to have over one hundred hard working and devoted volunteers. Choosing one individual as Volunteer of the Year is a tough task when there are so many worthy candidates.

John Caterino has been volunteering for over 13 years. He shows up five days a week to drive a truck for our Food Rescue program. Heading out at 5:30 a.m. with our program members, John has a full day of rescuing tons (literally!) of food from around North San Diego County. He mentors our program members and is an integral part of our Food Rescue program.

"Thanks to John's selfless volunteering," said Ben Meyer, Essential Services Manager, "thousands of

people have been able to get the food they so desperately need."

When John learned he had been chosen for this honor, he commented that "there are so many other volunteers that give every day that are just as deserving."

John expressed his gratitude and shared that he is rewarded every day to be able to volunteer for The Brother Benno Foundation. He is grateful to help those who are less fortunate in life. In addition, he enjoys the opportunity to see real "giving in action" every day.

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**Brother Benno  
Amazon Wishlist Online**  
<https://amzn.to/3MHFGSD>

**Information & Online donations:**  
[brotherbenno.org](http://brotherbenno.org)  
**Follow Brother Benno's online:**  
[Facebook.com/BrotherBenno](https://Facebook.com/BrotherBenno)  
[Twitter.com/brotherbennos](https://Twitter.com/brotherbennos)  
[Instagram.com/brotherbenno](https://Instagram.com/brotherbenno)

**Brother Benno Foundation  
Recovery Program**  
760 439 1244 ext. 101  
recovery@brotherbenno.org  
Changing people's lives through the 12 Steps  
of Alcoholics Anonymous.

**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

Ron Alexander	Chance Hales	Jane Pfau	Arthur Vitello
Dixie & Lou Bales	Tom & Louise	Ruth Hazel Pierson	Bertha Weist
Frank Barnet	Hayward	Alan Port	Bill Stone
Brother Benno	Elizabeth Holms	Mary Pullman	Carol Safarik
Edith Blaiser	John Jarvie	Catherine L. Quinlan	Ron Beckman
Andrea Boersma	Dorothy and Walter	Dora Ramirez	Don Dewhurst
Roland Bond	Jellig	Dick & Terry Riley	Donna J Brown
Bill Boster	Alice Jordan	Margaret Rossini	Frank Beeson
Agnus & Joan Boyd	Ben Kouns	Ann & Nick Sauer	H. Edward Smith
Bill Buckner	Richard Kurtz	Mary Shankle	Family
Deacon Art & Mary Carr	Carole Kutler	Naomi Shelton	Hagan Family
Anna Correia	Harold & Kay Kutler	Bernice, Samuel & Milton Silver	Jack & Jane Trayer
Don & Dorothea Daybell	Bill & Louise Lakoff	Will Skinner	Janice Opat
Don & Lael Dewhurst	Ben & Ozelle Lewis	Ann Grier Smith	Kevin Ehringer
Phyllis H. Dierlam	Helen Lucas	Alva & Frances Snider	Lew Gary
Frank S. Dolley	Bill & Joan Maloney	Squirrel Family	Lois Batchelor
Anita H. Donahue	Helene McGill	Mike Stendahl	Mary & Jos Opatkiewicz
Dorothy M. Donahue	Douglas E Milovicz	Margaret Stephan	Molly Wilbur
Fr. Luke Dougherty	Peggy & Beverly Miville	Virginia Sylwestrzak	Nick Jellison
Roseanne Dreibelbis	Monty, Natalie, & Michael Nares	Harold Thompson	Timothy Diem
Fr. Abbot Claude Ehringer, OSB	Zeferino & Dancy Nares	Carol & Herb Thornberg	Toni Keane
Myron Eichen	Mary Nordstrom	Rosemary Tucker	Charlene Belprez
Richard Farhquar	Nysewander Family	Walter Ulloa	David Easterbrooks
William & Vennita Flanagan	Bud & Blanche Ogle	June Williams	Beverly Stiles
Louise Foussat	Ben Osgrove	Fred Williamson	Lorraine Seeuws Brown
Joe & Ida Friend	Kathryn D. Pent	Andrew & Jane Yandura	<b>Happy Birthday</b>
Mary Gerrity	Mary Peterson		Dr Richard Shlemmer
Bob Gleason			

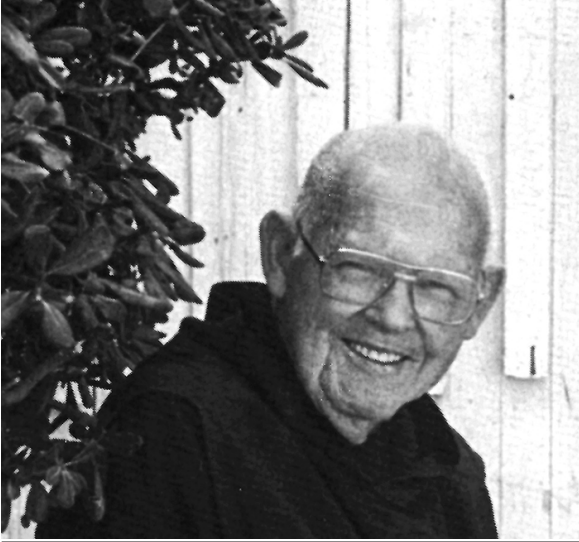
### Needs

Gently used furniture (Thrift Shop)    1 oz hand sanitizer    Baseball caps  
 Men's tennis shoes (size 9-13)    Medium-sized adult diapers    Q-tips  
 Boys & girls pullups 3T    Towels    Insect repellent  
 Bottled waters, sodas, & juices    Sunscreen    Women's underwear, sizes 4 & 5

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>October</b>	<b>2</b> St. Elizabeth Seton #1	<b>3</b> St. John The Evangelist	<b>4</b> First Wednesday Team	<b>5</b> Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	<b>6</b> San Luis Rey Mission	<b>7</b> St. Thomas More
<b>2023</b>	<b>9</b> North Coast Methodist	<b>10</b> Riverview Church	<b>11</b> Carlsbad Hi-Noon Rotary	<b>12</b> Servers R Us	<b>13</b> St. Patrick's	<b>14</b> St. Vincent De Paul
<b>Monthly</b>	<b>16</b> Sunrise Kiwanis of Vista	<b>17</b> Christ The King Church	<b>18</b> Friends of Brother Benno	<b>19</b> Ernest Packaging	<b>20</b> St. Elizabeth Seton #2	<b>21</b> Girlfriend's Care
<b>Serving</b>	<b>23</b> Open	<b>24</b> Rotary Club of Vista	<b>25</b> San Luis Rey Methodist	<b>26</b> Signal	<b>27</b> Oceanside Sanctuary	<b>28</b> NMRTC Camp Pendleton Orthopedics Dept
<b>Team</b>	<b>30</b> Oceanside Pacific Kiwanis	<b>31</b> Brother Benno's Volunteers &				
<b>Schedule</b>						

**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: Tues-Sat 10-5; Donation Hours Tues-Fri 10-1, 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 "How 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, bus vouchers, nights of lodging, medical and mental health referrals, ID replacement, mail services, Social Security and veterans' issues, food packs, men'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  
(760) 439-1244

**If you wish to drop off donations in person, our physical address is: [3260 Production Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92058](http://3260ProductionAvenue.com)**

**Donations accepted Monday through Friday: 6:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. (no furniture or household items) and Saturday: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

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

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**Brother Benno's Services:**

	<b>July 2023</b>	<b>Our 39th Year</b>		<b>July 2023</b>	<b>Our 39th Year</b>
Meals	13,773	4,887,862	Loads of laundry	0	28,628
Nights of lodging	1,196	355,231	Food packs	1,462	386,127
Articles of clothing	3,660	1,524,560	Blankets	91	52,348
Showers	600	287,838	Tarps	54	7,957
Haircuts	0	23,357	ID Vouchers	24	10,781
Bus passes	106	89,214	HUGS	1,000	1,019,244

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