

GOOD
TIMES
-
AT
THE
-
2024
BALL
DROP



NOV./DEC. NEWSLETTER 2024

EST. 1989

FAITH HOME ADULT TEEN CHALLENGE

WWW.FHTC.LIFE



RICK SOUZA *Happy Holidays To You*



Hope all of you have a wonderful Thanksgiving and Merry Christmas. Can't believe it is that time of year again. This year has been tremendous in so many ways but gone by too quickly. "Faster than a speeding bullet, more powerful than a speeding train and able to leap tall buildings in a single bound. It's Superman!" Actually, it was a Super Year!

Volunteers help this ministry to accomplish our vision of "putting hope with reach of everyone struggling with life-controlling issues." We have a vast group of tremendous people helping us.

This issue is about the Ball Drop and two men that helped make it a grand success. Louie Moreno assisted Brad Hansen this year. The Ball Drop (this was our fifth year) originated with Lewie Roche III and Brad Hansen during Covid. Lewie passed away two years ago. He was an incredibly special staff member and is sorely missed.

I want to introduce Brad to you. I have included his story as well and Louie's. Brad came into the office over six years ago to hire some of our students to do work around the house. As a result, he fell in love with this ministry. He was introduced to Lewie Roche III to assist with the Golf Tournament. A deep friendship was developed, and they worked together extremely well. After Lewie passed away, Brad felt led to get more involved. He has become a friend and super volunteer. I want you to meet him.

Many blessings.

Rick Souza
CEO /Executive Director

HELP US SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS

Programs like our Auto Donations program substantially help in offsetting costs to host our students through our long-term care facilities. Donate through our website: fhtc.life/auto-donations

We partner with an Auto Donations company called "CARS." They help us facilitate vehicle acquisition, promotions, donor management, and they supply us with metrics on donations data every month.

CALL 855.550.4483 OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE @ FHTC.LIFE/AUTO-DONATIONS

Administration Office & Men's Care Facility
6643 Faith Home Road Ceres, CA. 95307
209.537.0606 info@fhtc.life

Lodi Contact Office
715 S. Central Ave Lodi, CA. 95240
209.294.9454 lcontact@fhtc.life

WANT TO GIVE?

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS OUT TO "FAITH HOME TEEN CHALLENGE"
MY GIFT AMOUNT IS: \$ _____ MONTHLY?

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST. _____ ZIP: _____

SUPPORT FOR: _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

PLEASE SEND GIFT ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST. _____ ZIP: _____

FOR CREDIT CARD DONATIONS CALL 209.537.0606 EXT. 117 OR FOR SECURE ONLINE DONATIONS VISIT WWW.FHTC.LIFE/GIVING

PRAYER REQUESTS?

MEMORIAL GIVING



GREGORIO AZEVEDO
Joe & Jayne Azevedo

NEIL JOHNSON
Stanley Johnson
Timothy Johnson

DIANA CURRELL
Steven & Joyce Eveleth

ROSAIRO AZEVEDO
Joe & Jayne Azevedo

DAVID SOISETH
Richard & Erlene Swanson

HANK HARRIS
Curtiss De Oliveira

BARBARA STUMP
Joy Rose

Thank You!



I grew up in Hayward, CA. When I was born, my mom was 14 and my dad was 15, so I was raised by my dad's mom. I was the first grandson on my dad's side of the family.

In my teenage years, my behavior started getting bad. I made poor choices and was living a destructive life. I was brought up as a Catholic so I knew about God but I didn't follow him. My grandpa took me to church only on Palm Sunday, Ash Wednesday and Easter.

Early in my life my mom got introduced to someone who gave her heroin. After that, she was no longer a part of my life, and that made me even more defiant. In high school I was angry and started acting out, not listening and leaning on my own understanding. I started hanging with the wrong friends and drinking and doing drugs. As I was doing drugs, one of my friends who sold drugs asked me if I wanted to make money selling drugs. I said yes, so I started selling. I thought it was cool that I not only had drugs but I had many friends—I thought. I thought my life was good but it started going out of control.

As a young adult I started doing drugs to numb my pain and I didn't want to think about growing up. Doing drugs and selling them started getting to me. I started stealing and getting in trouble with the law. So I told myself that if I got married I would have a better life and that would help me stop doing drugs. There was a girl I used to date. We started talking again and before I knew it, we fell in love and got married. I was still doing drugs but hiding it from her. This went on for most of the seven years we were married. During that time, I would ask her why she got sick so often and she finally told me she was born with a rare disease. After seven years of marriage, she tragically passed away. I didn't know how to handle it.

Three months later my mom passed away. Then my great uncle and then my grandpa—all within six months of each other. Not only that, my parents didn't want me around because of my past and because I was using drugs. I felt lost, hopeless and really didn't care about life, so I used even more drugs to numb my pain. I got a car and got a job doing Door Dash to support my drug habit. Then I got in a car crash. I fell asleep at the wheel because my sugar dropped drastically low. From that wreck I got a blister on the bottom of my foot. Being homeless and on the streets, I couldn't take care of my foot. My foot became infected and it led to MRSA. I ended up getting my toes amputated. When I got out of the hospital, I went back to using drugs.

Then one day, I was sick and tired of my lifestyle. I was depressed and I didn't want to live any more. I was going to drive my car into a canal, but the Holy Spirit came to me and told me if you want a better life and a brighter future, follow me! One day, a Care Team walked through a park I was at. They asked if anyone needed help and I said, "I do." Then I went to SRC and graduated from there. I went to a sober living home for a month, then I was going to be homeless again. That's when I reached out to Adult Teen Challenge. That was the best decision I ever made in my life. That was when I found God. I went into the program broken and hopeless. I began asking God to heal my brokenness.

In time, I began to heal and my life was getting better. I came to God and was literally blind and hopeless. By submitting to God and drawing closer to Him, my life did a turn-around. God has brought me from being hopeless to having hope. I am loved and I have a better future. Turning my life over to God was a big change, and change is hard, but let me tell you, it's worth whatever it takes to have God in the center of your life. I now have peace and joy. God brought me out of addiction to living a sober life for three years now, and He healed the issues between me and my family. I've gone back to school to get my diploma and I plan to go to college to become a radiologist. None of this would have happened without God and the Holy Spirit in my life. Thank you, God!

OUR ANNUAL 2024

Ball Drop Recap



BRAD HANSEN

An Introduction



Bradley Chet Hansen was born in 1950, in Pasadena, California. He was raised by loving parents in Arcadia, California, in the same home with one older brother. Brad preferred climbing trees and playing baseball in the street over school and homework. He played in the percussion section of his high school band and orchestra. His drumming high point was marching in the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, and performing at Disneyland.

Brad attained the rank of Eagle in the Boy Scouts of America and loved being outdoors. Surfing, rock climbing, skiing, and golfing were all a big part of Brad's development.

Brad met his first crush in 8th grade and after his first year of community college Yolanda and Brad were married. In 1970, Brad and Yolanda started their family. A daughter and a son completed their family. The Hansen family made San Clemente their home for the next 41 years.

Brad found faith in 1970 during the JESUS MOVEMENT and began attending church regularly. His faith continued to grow and an interest in Marriage and Family began to grow. In the early '70s Brad and Yolanda began leading their home church's Couples' Retreats.

After a few years in the grocery business Brad launched a Marketing firm called Hansen Marketing (1980) which specialized in package design, sales, and promotion of packaged bakery products. With early success Brad was able to return to college to complete his business degree from Pepperdine University. Brad also pursued graduate studies at Simon Greenleaf School of Law and Pepperdine University School of Psychology.

In the early '90s, Brad became Director of Couples Ministry at Forest Home Christian Conference Center in Forest Falls, California, while launching a new career in fundraising. He developed a new fundraising concept in the golf industry. In the mid '90s the GOLF 100 CLASSIC raised a historical fundraising level for junior golf in Southern California. Soon the national office of the Professional Golfers Association invited Brad to take his idea to every PGA Section in every state. Once again, a new fundraising level was achieved for junior golf in America. Proceeds were distributed exclusively to high school golf teams, inner city charitable programs like First Tee, and college scholarships for graduating high school team golfers.

In the early 2000s, Brad was ordained as a Christian pastor at his home church, Ocean Hills Community Church, in San Juan Capistrano, and continued a pro bono service in pre-marital counseling and officiating marriages.

In 2009, Yolanda was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. After 41 years of marriage and friendship and a two-year battle with cancer, Yolanda passed away in 2011.

Brad's son Chet, now 50, lives in Southern California and serves at Calvary Chapel Menefee. Daughter Joy, 52, lives in Prescott Arizona. Both remain single and never married.

In 2013, Brad met Lori and in 2014 they were married. Brad relocated to Turlock and was welcomed into Lori's family which included 3 children and their spouses. In addition to 10 grandchildren, all living in Turlock. Brad and Lori just celebrated their 10th anniversary.

Brad retired from all business interests in 2014, and has found a new passion in helping others and spending time with Lori and their 10 grandchildren. Golfing remains an interest but physical activity is mostly centered on riding e-bikes with Lori on various rail to trail bike paths throughout the West.

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Ball Drop Recap



In 2020, Lewie Roche, a graduate of Faith Home Adult Teen Challenge, had an idea to help replace the revenue lost because of the cancellation of every fundraiser due to covid restrictions.

The idea was exciting! He called it THE BALL DROP. Revenue would be raised by selling individual golf balls for \$25 for a chance to win \$1,000 if their ball, after being dropped with thousands of other golf balls from a hovering helicopter, landed closest to the target. Additional revenue would be raised by recruiting local businesses and friends to sponsor the event.

When Sheriff Dirkse agreed to send the Stanislaus Country Air Support Helicopter to drop the balls the idea became a reality. And now after five Ball Drops over \$400,000 has been raised to support the work of Faith Home Adult Teen Challenge.

The 5th Annual BALL DROP FOR HOPE was held at noon on Saturday October 26, 2024. The public purchased balls at La Mo Café, Village Fresh Market, and at the Turlock Farmers Market. Balls were also available to purchase directly from Adult Teen Challenge and at the Ball Drop. The Sheriff Swat Vehicle and First Responders from Turlock Fire Department also attended and passed out free stickers for the kids.

This year we had over \$4,000 in prizes including \$1,000 in groceries at Village Fresh Market with nearly 100% of the prizes donated by local business. The GRAND PRIZE was a Certificate for a 2-hour helicopter ride for 2 adults donated by The Stanislaus Sheriff's Air Support Unit.

The Ball Drop for Hope was once again a wonderful success with ball sales totaling 739 and donations totaling \$109,782!

Plans have already begun to raise the bar even higher next year and a tentative date of October 18th, 2025, has been inked for our next Ball Drop for Hope.

Make plans to attend. Your entire family will never forget it!

