

Wedding Celebration

Amanda Cosmero and David Hill were married at Calvary Chapel on Saturday, November 8, 2008

Performing the ceremony was Pastor Mike Casey of The Bridge. David had just completed his one-year commitment with the Bridge. They both are serving in leadership at the Most Excellent Way.

The newlyweds spent a couple of nights in Tiburon, just north of San Francisco, on their honeymoon. They will be making their home at the Pueblo del Sol housing complex on Fort Ord.

Dinner *Continued from cover*

a result of that have made a powerful impact on leaders in the city.

One of the highlights of the evening was when Moe Amare, who is the president of the Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce got up to speak. He assured everyone present that as a result of The Bridge's service to the community, they would be find approval for the use permit required to expand the number of residents in the home.

Somewhere around this point in the evening, Pastor Mike surprised everyone when his face appeared on the video screen in Richard Simmons' body, and everyone stood as Mike led the audience in "Recovery Aerobics" to the tune of "YMCA".

David Hill, who graduated from the one year program October 31, 2008 shared his powerful testimony. His fiancé Amanda Cosmero also shared what The Bridge has meant to her life, and of the hope for a brighter future.

Mike Yap, who graduated some time ago, shared his story of a marriage that was headed for divorce that has now been restored. With a wonderful wife Sylvia and eight children, this has impacted the future of many lives.

Jack Campbell celebrated receiving his graduation certificate, being the first to complete the one year program. He made the comparison of his experience at The Bridge with the man in the parable of the good Samaritan who

had been beaten, robbed and left for dead. God used Mike and Michele and the ministry of The Bridge as the good Samaritans in his life, taking him into their home and giving him the opportunity to let God heal him physically, emotionally, and spiritually.

Also receiving a certificate of completion was Micheal Szody for his finishing of a year in the program.

The evening concluded with Jacks daughter Cara telling her story of searching for and finding her father, who was living on the streets of Salinas and addicted to drugs, bringing him to the Bridge. What a wonderful blessing to have her father back in her life again, which was highlighted when he walked her down the aisle when she was married a year previous.

Many sincere thanks go to all those who attended, to those who sponsored a table, to the board of directors who helped in planning, and to all those who volunteered to help

Weekly Events At THE BRIDGE
Men's Bible Study
7-7:45 a.m. Mon.- Fri.

Tuesday Night Bible Study & Fellowship

5:30 p.m. Dinner
6-6:30 p.m. Worship in Song
6:45-7:45 p.m. Bible Study
7:45-10:00 p.m. Open fellowship



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in different capacities, and for those who donated auction items.

Special thanks go out to Al & Pam Larson who organized the auction items, Al also helping emcee the evening along with fellow board member Rick Barnett, Don Damborg flew from Colorado and proved himself a trooper as he ran the video presentation and the sound board on two hours of sleep.

In between clips, Pastor Mike Casey, who is the Director of the men's home with his wife Michele, discussed what life at The Bridge is like, along with discussing the growth of the ministry. Everyone was blessed by a song from The Most Excellent Way worship team, part of which is made up of men from The Bridge.

All in all it was a powerful evening, being evidenced by all the positive feedback afterword. God was glorified, and He is on the move in this work that is built upon Him.

Bridge Dinner a Success

The second annual dinner auction fund-raiser to help support The Bridge Restoration Ministry took place October 10th, 2008 at the Embassy Suites Hotel, and was attended by 350 people.

The Bridge, beginning its third year in ministry, has seen God do some amazing transformation in the lives of many who have entered the men's

home. Marriages have been restored, people have been delivered from drug and alcohol addiction, relationships with children and parents have been healed, and men have entered back in to gainful employment in the community. Above all else, they have either found a new life through faith in Jesus Christ, or re-committed themselves to the Lord, bringing healing and a hope for the future.

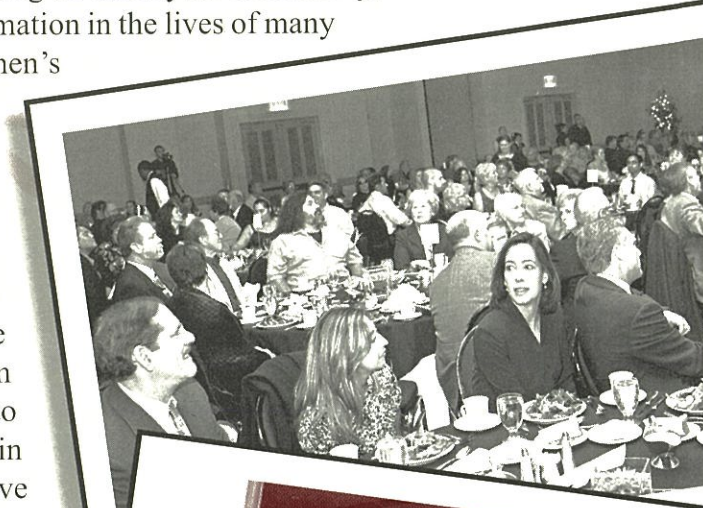
Pastor Nate Holdridge of Calvary Chapel Monterey Bay opened the evening in prayer, and as people enjoyed a delicious dinner, they were able to watch a video featuring current Bridge members explaining what the ministry means to them.

Upon arrival at the new location, which included expansion to a larger home in Pacific Grove, there was a bit of apprehension about this type of facility in Pacific Grove. Immediately the members of the home became active in serving the community at every available opportunity, and as

See **Dinner** back flap

Cover Photos By Tom McCartney

Special Fund-raiser for Christmas see inside.



Message from the President

Lee Underwood

What a privilege it has been to serve as President of the Board this past year. Working with Director Mike Casey and his wife Michele, members of the Board, and the several advisory members has been a complete joy. To see, first hand, the restoration of not only the lives of the men at The Bridge, but the restoration of relationships between husbands and wives, fathers and their children, and other family members and friends is nothing short of a miracle. None of this could happen without the mighty hand of God reaching down and rescuing us through the resurrection power of Jesus Christ.

It is important to note that drug and alcohol addiction does not just affect the addict alone. It impacts all those around them: spouses, family, friends, and community. So, if you help just one person recover from drug or alcohol addiction, you are actually helping several other people and the community as well.

We are excited about expanding the Pacific Grove facility from the current six (6) residents to twelve (12) residents within the next few months in an effort to better meet the need.

We thank all of those who have helped support the efforts of the Ministry this past year through your prayers and financial contributions.



Message from the Director — Mike Casey

Run, Forrest, Run!

Mike Casey & Louie Stephens

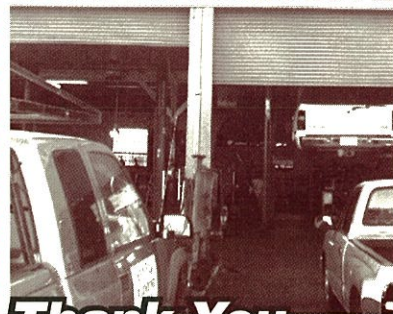
Running for me in the past was a way to escape the verbal and physical abuse of a drug and alcoholic addicted father. When I was running, everything seemed okay. After many years it became something I was good at. In high school it became a source of pride for me as I was getting recognition and beginning to excel. There were offers of College scholarships, and for a time I had set my mind on running in the Olympics. I was literally running for my life.

My Dad's motto was "If you can't eat it, smoke it or drink it, it is not worth doing." He was okay with settling for less, and this mind-set and way of life was common and familiar to me. Familiar is comfortable, and comfortable can be dangerous.

Well, in the years to come I followed in the footsteps of my father. However, when I met the Lord in 1999 my life began to change. It no longer became okay to settle for less. I began to want my life back. I wanted to do the things that I missed out on. So, in June of this year I decided it had been long enough. In the past running was a way of escape. This time I would be running to regain a lost dream and running a marathon.

With my running partner from the Bridge, Louie Stephens, I began working toward this goal. At the end of October, by the grace of God, Louie and I successfully completed the Silicon Valley Marathon in San Jose, CA. We are now training for a marathon in Redding at the first of the year. It has been a great blessing for me that God has restored this healthy outlet to my life in a new way.

ROSE AUTOMOTIVE



Thank You

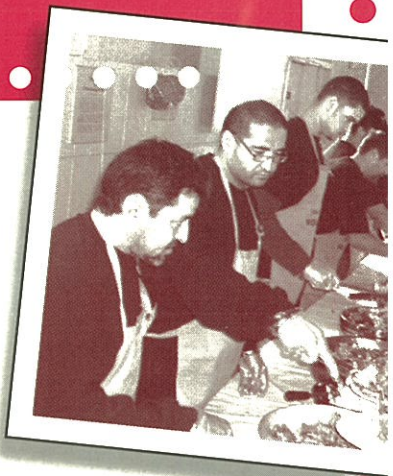
We would like to thank Mike and Sue Rodrigues from Rose Automotive for all their support and for all the recyclables they help to support The Bridge as well as missions.

Serving the City of Pacific Grove

As part of the process of restoring lives through a renewed relationship with God, family members, and the Community, members of The Bridge have contributed close to six hundred hours of volunteer labor to the City of Pacific Grove.

Some of the activities have included helping to clean up at the Butterfly Sanctuary, directing traffic at the Car Rally, assisting at the games and stage setup at the Feast of Lanterns, serving patrons at the Feast of Salads, helping with the Fourth of July barbecue, handing out water at the triathlon, and picking up trash along the bike path and throughout the City.

Since addiction is such a self-centered problem, serving in this way is a positive step in healing and establishing new priorities in the lives of the men at The Bridge.



Left: Guys from The Bridge help out at the Food Bank of Monterey County.

Below: Worship time at The Bridge Home lead by one of the guys, Jack Campbell.



Mike and Michele Casey directors of The Bridge enjoy a dance at the wedding of David and Amanda Hill in November.

Christmas Gift Donation Cards

Can't find the right gift for the hard to find person?

How about a donation made in their name to a worth cause like...

The Bridge
Restoration Ministry

See the inclosed envelope with some color tags to place in your Christmas greeting Cards.

Christmas 2008

A donation has been made in your name to further the good work of...

THE BRIDGE MINISTRY
Restoring the lives of Men overcoming addictions

To find out more about The Bridge Ministry go to...

www.thebridgeministry.blogspot.com



Wish List

HOME ITEMS:

1. Lawn mower
2. Commercial refrigerator
3. Twin blankets and pillows
4. Individual portable Media players for teachings
5. DVD player
6. DVD movies –(PG ratings only)
7. Gift Cards (Costco, Target) for clothing like underwear & socks

IN-KIND DONATIONS:

1. Used Cars, trucks, & vans
2. Boxed food, canned goods
3. Meat, dairy, & produce
4. Recycling materials – glass, plastic, copper, aluminum
5. Professional services – dental, medical, etc.
6. One-on-one time (discipleship)

HIRE BRIDGE FOR WORK:

1. Yard work
2. Minor construction
3. Painting
4. Maintenance, janitorial services
5. Minor plumbing
6. Other