

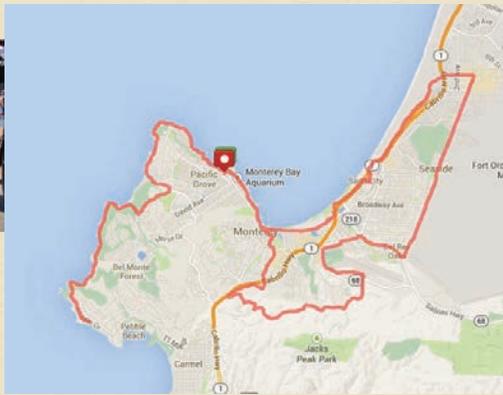
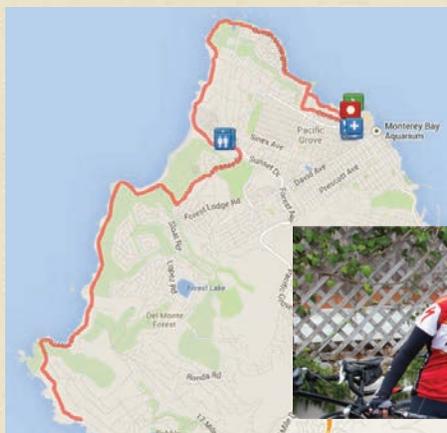
B2B 2014 - Ride to Restore with us!

Why do we ride? The answer is easy: because we care for the men of the Bridge. It is that common care that inspires us to take action and become part of the B2B Fundraising Bike Ride. The mission of the Bridge to Bridge Ride has always been to raise funds and awareness for the Bridge Restoration Ministry. Over the past three years more and more people have caught the vision and supported this project through riding, donating or volunteering. What began as a ride from the Golden Gate Bridge to the physical Bridge House in Pacific Grove has grown into a local 8, 20, 50 or 100 mile event that is accessible for almost everyone.

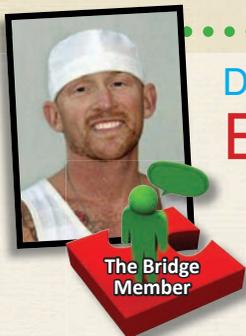
Why should you ride? The greatest reason is because the men of the Bridge need you. This ride is all about them. The riders show them that the community cares about their lives and their rehabilitation. Seeing the donations come in reminds them of the real costs to feed, house and provide support for themselves and the other 27 men who participate in the program each year. The volunteers remind them of how many people give freely of their time and talents each year to make this ministry possible.

A second reason to ride is because there is a distance for almost every ability level. This year we are adding a brand new 8-mile course which is about as flat and picturesque as earthly possible. Combine this short course to the already stellar 20, 50 and 100 mile courses and you have an appropriate distance ride for just about anyone. This May 17th we will see the full spectrum of participants from men and women who have not ridden a bicycle since junior high to seasoned semi-professional riders. Take a look at the route maps below to see which course fits you. All distances are fully supported with aid stations, SAG (support and gear) and a complete finish meal at the Bridge house!

Remember, that the men of the Bridge don't just need the community; they need you! Won't you take the next step and show them you care?



The 4th Annual Bridge to Bridge Bike Ride will begin at the Bridge House in Pacific Grove on Saturday, May 17th, 2014 at 8AM. Register to ride, donate or volunteer with us at www.b2bBikeRide.com today. Sign up before April 18th to receive the lowest price.



Duke Kelso Educational Scholarship

BACKGROUND

Duke Keslo graduated from the Bridge Restoration Ministry Program in 2012. Desiring to give back to the program that gave him a second chance, he began the Duke Kelso Educational Scholarship during the 2013 Bridge to Bridge Ride. This scholarship is funded by donations he receives during his participation in the annual fundraising bike ride. Last year Duke raised over \$5,500 dollars to offset the costs of Bridge participants going back to school to finish their education. In 2013, Edward Ruiz, was the first recipient of this scholarship.

The Real Duke - Meet the Man Behind the Scholarship

The Bridge: Where were you before The Bridge?

Duke Kelso: I was living a life void of hope. Things were a wreck. I was homeless, in and out of jail, and a hopeless drunk. I wanted to change but nothing I

could ever do seemed to create lasting change. Then while I was in prison one day, another inmate took the time to ask me how I was. I told him the truth about how lost I was and how dark my life felt. He then asked if I would be willing to try faith. On any other day I would have turned him down and walked away, but I was at rock bottom. Something inside me told me to go for it, so I did, and my new friend led me in the sinner's prayer. It was the first glimmer of hope I had received in a long time. Soon after, I was released from jail, but before long I found myself back on the streets, homeless and drunk.

Continued on backside

Second Chance Thrift Store

A Ministry of  The Bridge

Support the Second Chance thrift store by shopping there often, volunteering your time to work, or donating items to the store. Additionally, we offer complimentary home pick up of your donated items.

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www.b2bBikeRide.com

Continued

The Bridge: *How did you come to be a part of the Bridge?*

Duke Kelso: While I was so alone, homeless and drunk, I had not really left my hometown. Though I was lost I continued to pray to God to help me change my life. Then one fateful day, my dad found me and gave me a second glimmer of hope. He told me there was a faith-based addiction recovery home in Pacific Grove that had room for me. I felt like my prayers were answered and I took the opportunity to become a part of the Bridge.

The Bridge: *What changed while you were in The Bridge?*

Duke Kelso: During my year in the Bridge, the biggest change was the depth of my relationship with God. My faith was grown and stretched day in and day out through Most Excellent Way, Calvary Monterey, daily bible studies, serving others and interacting with strong Christians who cared about me. I had begun the year a Christian but I ended the year with a real relationship with Jesus Christ.

The Bridge: *Where are you now?*

Duke Kelso: Today, I am stronger in my faith than I have ever been. I have been reconciled to my family and am now a positive and active part of my nieces' and nephews' lives. My legal issues are resolved and I have received my license back. I have been living independently for almost two years now. Currently, I am enrolled as a full time student finishing my associate's degree. I have already received my graphic design certificate and am working on getting another one in solar technology. I work two part-time jobs at Cedar Street Times and Tri-California Events. Finally, I volunteer in the community as a way to give back.

The Bridge: *What distance are you riding?*

Duke Kelso: Last year I rode the 100 Mile and I would like to do that again. Unfortunately, this year I was injured during training and will probably only be able to do the 50 or the 20 mile ride. I will be doing the longest and hardest ride that is safe for me to do.

The Bridge: *Why are you volunteering to raise funds for an educational scholarship?*

Duke Kelso: Before I got trapped in my addiction, I was going to school and had dreams of becoming a graphic designer. So when I was finishing my time in the program I asked Mike Casey, the Program Director, if I could go to community college full time to pursue my degree instead of

the traditional path of getting a full time job to pay program fees. No one had ever done that before but Mike took a risk with me and let me begin my studies again while I was in the program. It was a powerful step for me and really launched me on a path for success. The Lord has placed a desire upon my heart to make a difference in other people's lives like the Bridge has done in my life. Education has been a pivotal stepping-stone for me. I believe that helping the men of the Bridge to finish their education will be a powerful tool to help them in their future and currently it is not something we have the budget to support. That is where the scholarship comes in.

The Bridge: *How does the Duke Kelso Educational Scholarship work?*

Duke Kelso: Currently the men of the bridge, if in good standing, are eligible to begin working full time after they have been in the program for 10 months. Additionally, we have what's called "Second Phase," where graduates can choose to spend a second year living with other graduates also looking to solidify their foundation as they transition out of the program working full time and abiding by all the program rules. After their tenth month in the program, Bridge participants are responsible for paying \$500 of their room, board, and program costs per month. This scholarship pays for those monthly program fees, tuition, books and even a laptop so that instead of just working a job to be able to continue to participate in the program, the men of the Bridge have the opportunity to apply to go back to school full time and advance their career opportunities.

The Bridge: *How much money are you looking to raise?*

Duke Kelso: Last year I raised over \$5000 and I am hoping to double my donations this year for a goal of \$10,000!

The Bridge: *How can readers support you and your educational scholarship?*

Duke Kelso: It's really easy. Just go to the ride website - www.b2bBikeRide.com and click the "Donate" tab. It will redirect you to the online fundraising site for all the participants of the B2B Bike Ride. Click the orange "Donate" button and select my name, "Duke Keslo," from the Team Member drop down menu. If you are not comfortable giving online you can write a check made out to "The Bridge Restoration Ministry" with a note on it saying this is for Duke Kelso Education Scholarship and mail it to The Bridge Restoration Ministry P.O. Box 113 Pacific Grove, CA 93950. We prefer check donations because then 100% of your donation will go directly to the scholarship.

www.b2bBikeRide.com