



RESCUE CHATTANOOGA

News from Chattanooga Rescue Mission

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Dale Grisso, Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries

Pg. 2



Freedom! How Sweet It Is.

Pg. 2



Thank you for your generosity in the past . . .

Pg. 2

Every night 46 broken hearts come to the Mission

. . . and I'm privileged to lend them a hand

My name is Woody. The Chattanooga Rescue Mission is a safe haven for me, a resting place from the world I used to live in. I can't begin to tell you how many hearts I've broken in my life, but even when I broke her heart again and again my granny never turned her back on me. I will always remember her kindness. During those years of hard drinking, 30 years to be exact, I lived with the shame of addiction. It was nothing for me to put down a half pint of vodka a day along with 12 big beers. All I would do is drink — all day long. I knew the officers at the police department and at the detox centers so well it was like they were kinfolk. My lifestyle was terrible. I would steal from you and then help you look for it.

If I leave this place I know I will die

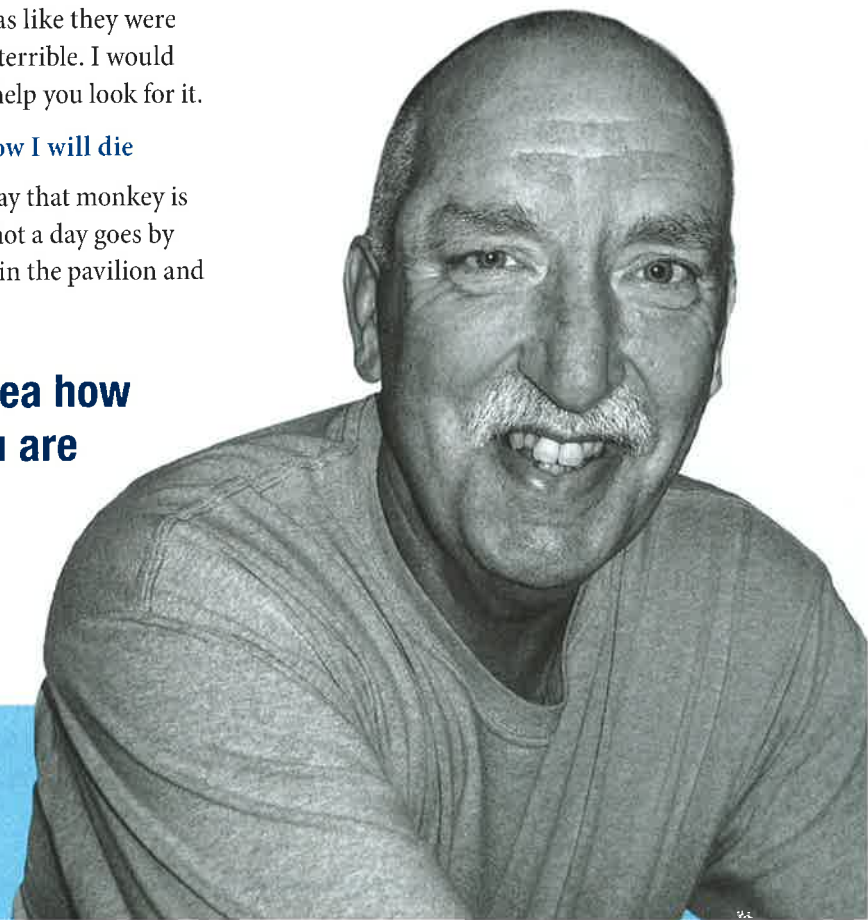
I won't lie to you. Every day that monkey is still on my back. There's not a day goes by when I don't sit out there in the pavilion and

want to leave the Mission. But if I leave, I know I will die. One of the things I appreciate most is the opportunity to be a servant here. 46 broken hearts come to the Mission every night, and I have the privilege of helping them in anyway I can. I also want to say a word of thanks to you who give so much to help so many. You have no idea how many lives you are touching. God bless you, not only during the summer season, but every day of the year. Thank you.

Your friend,

Woody

“You have no idea how many lives you are touching.”



Dale Grisso, Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries

Dear Friend of Chattanooga Rescue Mission,

My heart is filled with gratitude for all you continue to do to bring hope and healing to those who come through the doors of Chattanooga Rescue Mission. Whether it's winter or summer, we can always count on your involvement in seeing lives changed by the power of the living God. And now we've come again to that summer season when the needs of the homeless are just as great as they are when the weather turns cold. In fact, the demand for the services of the Mission is higher during the summer than at any other time of the year.

Many more like Kenny are coming through our doors this summer

When Kenny came to us he said he had no hope for either the present or the future. But after receiving weeks of Christian counseling here he told me hope had once again been restored and that he now saw life as something worth living. Today he has a good job. He is following the Lord and is no longer addicted to alcohol. In a recent note to me he said, "I am staying in a motel without a bar. And I'm doing that on purpose because I no longer want alcohol in my life." It's people like Kenny you keep helping every day of the year. I can tell you many others like Kenny are already coming through our doors during these summer months. So as you prepare to take a well-deserved vacation, it's my prayer you will also remember the needs of those who continue to come to us for rescue. Thank you for all you've done in the past and God bless you for your ongoing support.

Your servant to the needy,

Dale Grisso

Dale Grisso
Director of Men's Discipleship Ministries



"... the demand for the services of the Mission is higher during the summer than at any other time of the year."

Freedom! How Sweet It Is



While in her missionary home in Costa Rica, our Ladies Director noticed a hummingbird writhing on the garage floor as if fighting an invisible enemy. She watched for a bit, wondering if it was sick or poisoned. Curiosity finally prompted an investigation, upon which she found that the bird had been caught by the almost-invisible strands of an old spider web. In compassion, she tenderly brushed the web away, not sure whether her help had come too late. Soon, however, it flexed its wings and flew away — likely one very happy bird.

The plight of this bird reminds me of the souls whom Satan has bound by his subtle traps. Just like this hummingbird, mankind does not see the dangers until he is ensnared. As he begins to fight off the consequences of his choices, he finds that he becomes even more trapped. Eventually, gloom sets in and the situation becomes virtually hopeless. Fortunately, the Savior is watching, and He is more than willing to step in to set us free from the things that bind us, that is, if we will allow it. Surprisingly this bird offered no resistance; it was just glad that help had come. For this bird — as well as for any battered, sinful soul — freedom came in its surrender. When we turn to "Somebody bigger than you and I," glorious freedom can be manifest in our lives. It's not too late. There's help. There's hope. There is a Savior! And CRM is here to proclaim Him to a world in desperate need of deliverance.

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Thank you for your generosity in the past . . . and thank you in advance for your continued support

A guest from India was walking along with his friend in New York City, when he suddenly said, "I hear a cricket." His friend asked, "How could you possibly hear a cricket with all these people bustling around, horns honking and taxis squealing?" Quietly, the Indian gentleman crossed the street and began digging beneath some shrubs in a large planter until he found the cricket. He then said to his amazed friend, "My ears are no different from yours. It simply depends on what you are listening to." And like the preacher said, *there has to be a message in that story.*

Well, we at the Mission believe our message is this: in the midst of the noise and pain of life we listen to *and respond with God's love* to those in physical and spiritual need. But we cannot carry out this ministry of compassion alone.

That's why we continue to seek your generous support during these summer months. To send your donation today, please use the remit slip enclosed, or make your donation online at www.chattanoogarescuemission.org. God bless you for caring . . . *and for helping us listen.*

"... in the midst of the noise and pain of life we listen and respond to those in physical and spiritual need."

