



CLUB HAPPENINGS

BETTY FRIES WAS THE IMAGE OF A TRUE ROTARIAN

~by Sharon Hunt - **Groveland Rotary** and the community recently lost a true Rotarian. Betty Fries died December 30, 2008 and left behind a rich legacy in Rotary and community service.

When the Sonora 49er Rotary contacted Betty in 1990 and offered to sponsor a new club, Betty immediately set out to recruit 23 active community members and the Groveland Rotary was born. She was also their first president.

Betty had various careers and homes over the years but was very connected to the Groveland area from the time she moved there in 1978. Friendship and community service became a huge priority for her. Many of the events that take place annually in the Groveland community were started under Betty's leadership, including the annual fundraiser at the PML stables, the Easter Egg Hunt, and the highway 120 clean-up.

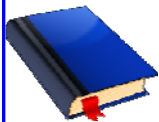
Betty truly set the tone for volunteering to give back to our community. To this day Rotary remains strong and is a vital service organization in the Groveland community. We will miss her dynamic spirit!

THE FBI COMES TO THE ROTARY CLUB OF TURLOCK

~by Bob Stammerjohan - FBI Agent George Piro, a 1985 graduate of Turlock High School, spoke to the Rotary Club of Turlock at the December 30 meeting. Agent Piro, who is fluent in several languages including Arabic, was assigned by the FBI to interrogate Saddam Hussein after the former President of Iraq was captured by U.S. Forces. He interrogated Hussein daily, for several hours each day, for a period of seven months – which elicited an amazing amount of information and insight about this brutal dictator. Agent Piro is currently assigned to an anti terrorist task force in Washington, D.C. and was visiting his parents in Turlock during the holidays. It was one of the most fascinating programs our club has ever experienced.



LODI ROTARY DONATES DICTIONARIES



From a Media Advisory from the Lodi School District - The Lodi Rotary Club has purchased and will donate a new dictionary to every third grade student (approximately 2,500) and third grade teacher in Lodi Unified School District. The goal of this donation is to assist all third grade students to complete the school year as good writers, active readers and creative thinkers by providing the students with their own personal dictionaries. The dictionaries are a gift to each student to use at school and at home for years to come. This will mark the fourth year that the Lodi Rotary Club has donated new dictionaries to Lodi Unified third graders. Lodi Rotary Club members, members of the Board of Education will be distributing the majority of the dictionaries the week of December 15-19, 2008. Superintendent Dr. Cathy Washer, along with LUSD administrators, teachers and members of the Board of Education, extend sincere thanks to the Lodi Rotary Club members for their continued support and generous gift to help educate students.