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Sent: Friday, August 24, 2007 12:51 PM
To: 'Mark Klaas'
Subject: Auburn Rotary Press Release

Attachments: Handicap Fishing 060.jpg; Handicap Fishing 030.jpg
-FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE-
8-24-07
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Auburn Rotarians host 25th annual handicapped fishing event

On Monday, August 20th, over 40 participants took part in what has become a local tradition at Springbrook Trout Farm. Starting 30 years ago, a group of Auburn Rotarians, led by member Sauce Shimojima, dedicated an afternoon each year to helping local disabled individuals experience the simple joy of catching a fish. Hundreds of participants over the last three decades have felt the tug on the line, the arc and vibration of the pole and the excitement of seeing their fish break the surface of the water for the first time.

Last year, after 29 continuous years of service, Sauce finally handed over the reins of planning and running the event to fellow Auburn Rotarian Bob Hardy. Of course he still couldn't resist lending a hand at this year's event! Rotarians, their families and Parks Department staff experienced the good feeling that comes from seeing the broad grins on the faces of the participants. After the fish were caught, cleaned and cooked, the whole group sat down together to a meal of fresh fish, corn on the cob, watermelon and sodas. The last catch of the day was the biggest... a whopping 22 inches! A wonderful time was had by all, with the possible exception of the fish!

Part of Rotary International with over 1.2 million members in over 29,000 clubs worldwide, the Auburn Rotary Club is a group of community-minded individuals dedicated to fellowship within a framework of doing good in their local community and around the world. They meet at noon on Wednesdays at Grace Community Church. Visit their website at www.auburnrotary.org to learn more.

Photo 060.jpg shows Sauce Shimojima (L) and Bob Hardy (R). Photo 030.jpg shows participants and Rotarians fishing.



