

## Share the Bounty

Richard Bellows

Woodland Kiwanis created “Share The Bounty” to benefit local groups that feed the homeless and those-in-need. The local newspaper announced that Kiwanis was picking citrus from local backyards. Several community members volunteered their oranges, grapefruit, tangerines and lemons. Most citrus, (except Valencia oranges) ripen from February through May. These trees often go unpicked, wasting the fruit and possibly drawing vermin.

Local food groups are facing a dire situation. Funding is down and their clientele are up. As a result, some organizations were forced to cut staff and to limit meals. These organizations typically depend on canned and dried foods provided by government agencies. Fresh fruit is an unusual treat. When the fruit is in good condition, citrus will keep for a few weeks without refrigeration.

Picking was a lot of fun. Kiwanis picking parties donated over 3000 pounds of citrus. In addition, some local churches also organized their own picking parties, providing even more fruit.

Photos by Gil Robles, Woodland Kiwanis

