

FOCUS

The Newsletter of the
Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library
Volume 2019 Issue 6
December 2019



Dick Piernot,
FTOL President

Looking back it has been a busy time for us - successful children's overstock sale at TO, successful quilt and crafts book sale at NP, Rotary Club Street Fair participation, relocation of NPL sorting/searching area, successful cart sales at both TO and NP, and resignation of two board members.

Going forward we have another children's overstock sale set for December 7th, more cart sales (depending on inventory) and related calendar events (Holidays, Valentines Day, President's Day, and so forth), plus an Open House to bring more awareness to expanded sales areas in both libraries in February. While we are busy with these events we continue to sell books, CDs and DVDs online and in both libraries. Fortunately, we have recently begun orientation and training of some new volunteers to help out.

As we approach the middle of the Fiscal Year we have

experienced a decline in our revenues. Because the Library did not spend all of the money granted during Fiscal Year 2018-2019, the mid-year grant amount will be reduced by the amount of the unspent funds. This affords us the opportunity to determine whether the revenue decline is temporary or longer term without concern about meeting our grant obligation to the Library in Fiscal Year 2019-2020. In the meantime we shall continue to refine our sales activities, complete the work space transition at Newbury Park, encourage donations, promote the daily sales areas in both libraries, and adjust our sales prices as needed.

Enjoy the Holidays everyone!

"I'm really a library man, or second-hand book man." —John le Carre

—Dick Piernot

Next Book Sale: Kids' Overstock Book Sale, December 7, 10:00am - 12:00pm, GRB Library Lobby



The Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library will hold a **Kid's Overstock Book Sale** on Saturday, December 7th at the Thousand Oaks Library, from 10AM-12PM or while supplies last. The sale will feature a wide range of picture books, story books, middle grade chapter books, children's classics, and young adult books at the unbelievable price of **TEN BOOKS FOR ONE DOLLAR**. Yes! Ten books for a dollar!

At these prices, the books won't last, so arrive early for best selection. All proceeds, as always benefit our wonderful library. The library is located at 1401 E. Janss Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91362. For more information, please contact Kate O'Brien at sales@ftol.org.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT THE LIBRARIES

CSUCI Lecture

Watch for announcements of future lectures

Monday Free Movie Matinee at 1:00pm at the GRB Library Conference Room

December 9—Scrooged, December 23—Elf

Tuesday Night Is Free Movie Night at 6:30 PM at NP Library!

December 3—The Ref, December 10—The Man Who Invented Christmas,
December 17—Polar Express

Please see the library website for January movies!

Open Mic Poetry Night!

Bring your poetry and join us, 6:00-8:00pm December 11 at the NP Branch Meeting Room,
Free to the public!

For more events and information updates, visit the online Thousand Oaks Library Event
Calendar at <https://www.tolibrary.org/home> .

FTOL Activities Recap for 2019

- February 9 – History Lobby Sale at Newbury Park
- April 27 – Arbor Earth Day Library/Friends Promotion Booth
- May 15 – Summer Reading Sale at Newbury Park
- August 17 – Children’s Sale at Newbury Park
- September 21—Kids’ Overstock Sale at GRB
- October 20 – Rotary Club Street Fair Promotion Booth
- November 7—Veteran’s Day Cart Sale at GRB
- December 7 – Kids’ Overstock Book Sale at GRB
- Ongoing** – Scanning, posting, sorting, and shelving at both libraries’ online and Daily Book Sales



Many thanks to our terrific volunteers!



A non-profit organization of library supporters dedicated to promoting and enhancing the Thousand Oaks Library System

2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President — Dick Piernot
- First Vice President — Dan Ruth
- Membership VP — David Moutrie
- Book Sales VP — Kate O’Brien
- Past President—Geri Trail
- Treasurer — Ed Craven
- Secretary — Janet Doman
- Members-at-Large — Jessie Fowler, Kathy Leslie, Jane Meade, Caryl Piernot
- Online Book Sales Coordinator — Caryl Piernot
- Publicity Coordinator—Kathy Leslie
- Cultural Bus Tour Coordinator — Open
- FOCUS Editor — Dan Ruth
- History Book Discussion Leader — Jack Heller
- Friendly Book Discussion Leader — Sai Chandavarkar
- Library Advisors:
Heather Cousin, Library Services Director
Judi Bumstead, TO Library Volunteer Coordinator

Board Meetings

Held at 10:30 a.m. the 2nd Monday of each month (except August) in the Tech Training Room of the Grant R Brimhall Library. Members are welcome to attend.

Focus

A bimonthly newsletter focusing on the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library, the Thousand Oaks Library System and topics supporting literacy. Submit articles to: FOCUS Editor, Friends of the Library, 2331 Borchard Road, Newbury Park, CA 91320 or to the email address that follows: Editor: Dan Ruth
Email: drutheditor@gmail.com
Circulation: 450
Friends’ website: <http://ftol.org/>

New and Renewed Members

New Members

Booster

Robin Roth
Eleanor Schuermann

Advocate

Debbie Henderson
Marilyn Scrafield

Renewals

Life

Katherine O’Brien

Sponsor

Marshall Knowlton
Keith & Donna Langley
Doris & Mo Liu
Jill Smalling

Patron

Marilyn Becker

Geri Conlan
Carol & David Freeman
Gerald & Bettie Rae Hall
Mark Kajiwara
Beverly & Monte Khoshnevisan
Yvonne & Paul Lux
Robert & Joanne Stellwagen
Mel & Carol Weiner
Robin & Avery Willis

Library Holiday Hours & Closures

GRB

Dec 24: 11am—5pm
Dec 25: Closed
Dec 26-31: 12pm—5pm
Jan 1: Closed

Newbury Park

Dec 24: 12pm—5pm
Dec 25-Jan 1: Closed

Kids’ Overstock Book Sale

Grant Brimhall Library Lobby, Saturday, December 7, 10:00am—12:00pm

HISTORY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The History Book Discussion Group meets from 7:00 to 9:00 PM on the second Thursday of the month in the Goebel Adult Community Center, 1385 E. Janss Road (next to the GRB Library). For more information, contact Jack Heller at 805-341-7585 or jheller14@roadrunner.com. **Books are available for checkout.**

December 12, 2019 *An Empire of their Own: How the Jews Invented Hollywood* by Neal Gabler

FRIENDLY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Friendly Book Discussion Group meets at 6:30 PM on the first Thursday of the month in the Grant R. Brimhall Library Technology Training Room. For more information, contact Sai Chandavarkar at 805-241-5205 or chitra.sai.chandavarkar@hotmail.com. **Books are available for checkout.**

December 5, 2019 Annual Year-End Event

The Friends Need You!

The Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library (FTOL) is seeking volunteers and applicants to the FTOL Board. For information about joining the Board, please contact Dick Piernot at president@ftol.org. For information about volunteering, please contact Judi Bumstead at jbumstead@tolibrary.org or (805) 381-7325 for more details. Also visit our website at <http://ftol.org/>.



FTOL Endowment Fund

In 1995 the Friends established an Endowment Fund as a perpetual resource for the purchase of items for the libraries. All monies deposited in the Fund are kept intact. Only the interest generated annually is used to make such purchases. By contributing to the Fund, you can give a gift to the community that keeps on giving. The Endowment Fund is administered by the Executive Board of the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library, in accordance with the organization's bylaws. Once a year the interest earned on the Fund is gifted to the Thousand Oaks Library. Professional library staff members select and order the books and other items to be purchased with these funds. For more information, please contact Ed Craven, Treasurer, Phone: (805) 493-2024, treasurer@ftol.org. To download a contribution form, please go to <http://ftol.org/endowment>.

Renew and pay your dues online at

<http://www.ftol.org/membership>

OR

Complete and mail the application below

Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library Membership Application

(Please print)

New member Renewal Gift membership

Today's date _____

Last name _____

First name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Email address _____

If you provide an email address, the Focus and renewal notices will be sent by email.

Membership Level:

Life \$500+ Sponsor \$100 Patron \$50

Booster \$25 Advocate \$10

I want to get involved! Please contact me about current Friends volunteer opportunities

Make check payable and mail to:

Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library
Attn: Membership Vice-President
2331 Borchard Rd., Newbury Park CA 91320

The Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Check to see if there is a matching gift program where you work.

Shop at Ralphs for the Friends!

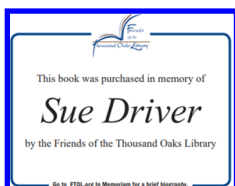
Register your Ralphs card at www.ralphs.com and select Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library as your organization for the Community Contribution Program. This will earn the Friends from 1% to 4% of your Ralphs purchases—at no additional cost to you!

All participants (past and new) must re-register every year at <http://www.ralphs.com>.

In Memory of Sue Driver

The Board of the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library have approved funds for the purchase of books for the library's circulating collection, in memory of Sue Driver, Online Sales Coordinator, who passed away after a brief illness on August 4, 2018.

Sue was a devoted volunteer for the Friends of the Library; with her husband, Jim Neilson, Sue dedicated countless hours to the Friends and their mission. Sue envisioned, created, and implemented the Friends' online sales team, maximizing the value of donated books by selling them on Amazon and eBay. Within a year of beginning the program, Sue's online sales team was meeting and then exceeding the funds raised by the Friends' daily sales, doubling the amount of monies raised for the library. Many of the programs, materials, and technology that the Friends sponsor have been made possible by Sue's vision and tireless efforts.



Sue is remembered by the Friends for her cheerful, tireless work ethic and her dedication to the library. We like to think she would be pleased to know that library patrons will have access to books dedicated to her memory. Each of these books will bear a commemorative bookplate in Sue's name, with a link to her biography on the Friends of the Library's website. Sue is greatly missed, but lives on in the programs she helped to sponsor, in the books that bear her name, and in the memories and hearts of the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library.

What's New?



Kathy Leslie
Publicity Coordina-

Have you visited the Friends' Used Book Sale at the Thousand Oaks area recently? If not, swing by at your very next opportunity, so you can see our new feature: special cart collections and the bonanza book bags!

Our cart collections are carefully curated collections of books with a special theme, at *very* special prices. Our Veteran's Day Sale cart featured books and DVDs on veterans, U.S. wars, military history, and more, and shoppers were so excited that the cart sold out completely—twice! Keep an eye out for the next special cart collection coming soon—you'll find it by the CD display.

The other exciting new addition is our new book bags—check the bottom shelf in our Bargain section. Each bag holds ten paperback books in a particular genre: romance, mystery, westerns, sci-fi and more—for the unbelievable price of just \$1.00. That's right! A bagful of new reading for just ten cents per book. Discover new authors, new titles, and help us help the library.

We're always coming up with new ways to delight our shoppers, so come early and often and browse our shelves. And thanks for your support!

Effortless Giving

Love your library? Want to help support it? In addition to shopping the Friends' used books sales here's a couple of other ways to help with almost no effort! Both Amazon and Ralphs have community giving programs which will contribute a percentage of your purchases to the charity of your choice, so consider designating the Friends of the Library as your organization, and have the satisfaction of knowing that your shopping supports the library.

For Amazon:

AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice. Simply go to smile.amazon.com, select "Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library" as your organization, and every eligible purchase will result in a donation.



At Ralphs:

Ralphs donates a generous percentage of your purchase to the nonprofit of your choice. It's as simple as linking your loyalty card to the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library—simply go to your account online and search for the Friends' listing. Within 10 days of linking your card, you'll be supporting the library while grocery shopping!



The holidays are almost upon us, so please consider making your holiday shopping go even further with no additional cost to you, by signing up with Amazon and Ralphs today!

This season, try a Holiday Book Calendar!

Traditional Advent Calendars and Hanukkah Punch Boxes are a great way to help little ones count down the long wait to the holidays. But this year, consider a change and try a **holiday book calendar**.

The idea behind a holiday book calendar is simple—you wrap 24 individual books and each day, you and the child unwrap and read the book together. It's a wonderful way to deepen and broaden the experience of the holiday through story. If your young ones have progressed beyond picture books, consider reading a particular chapter in a book on that day. The holiday scenes, for example, in the Little House series, or Little Women, Anne of Green Gables, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone are all guaranteed to put the readers in the seasonal mood. Or just use the calendar as a way to expand your family's home library, with an assortment of books of every kind.



"But that's so expensive!" you say. Not if you shop our abundant collection of children's and YA books at our Daily Used Book Sales. All are in excellent condition and just waiting to be wrapped and read. You could potentially provide a child with 24 days of holiday reading and a lifetime of memories, all for just \$12.

Our holiday books include every holiday, so don't overlook a book a day as a great way to celebrate the eight days of Hannukah! And remember, your purchase supports the library, so shop early and often.

Time to Clean out Your Old Books!

We're looking for a few (or more) good books! If you're Marie Kondo-izing or just planning your New Year's purge, please consider donating your gently loved books, DVDs, and CDs to the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library. You'll get a receipt for tax purposes, and we'll turn your donation into money for the library.



The Friends' used book sales—in both libraries and online through Amazon Marketplace—raise the funds needed to support the library's operating costs. Your generous donations of books, CDS and DVDs help the library provide new books, materials, technology, databases, programs, classes, and more.

The used book sales are the Friends' main source of funding, so please help us help the library stay awesome!—and bring us your gently used books and media. Collection bins for book donations are at the entrance to both libraries, and tax receipts are available upon request. Thank you for helping us

help the library!

Coming in a future issue of the Focus—"Behind the Scenes With the Friends of the Library." Don't miss it!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

From your Friends Board and Volunteers





2331 Borchard Road
Newbury Park, CA 91320
Return Service Requested

Is it time to renew? Your membership expiration date is printed on your mailing label.

Clean Your Attic and Basement— Donate Your Used Books!



We welcome donations of your gently used books - fiction, non-fiction, children's books and recent textbooks if they are in good condition. We also accept CDs, DVDs and Audiobooks.

We cannot accept Encyclopedias, dirty, water-damaged or moldy books, records and VHS tapes.

Donations from YOU are what make our books sales a success and help us raise funds for ongoing programs and services at the Library.

Donations are accepted at the Grant R. Brimhall Library and the Newbury Park Branch Library during regular business hours.

If you have questions or need help regarding donations, please contact Kate O'Brien, VP Book Sales at sales@ftol.org.

THOUSAND OAKS LIBRARY SYSTEM www.toaks.org/library

Grant R. Brimhall Library
1401 E. Janss Road
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362
(805) 449-2660

Newbury Park Branch Library
2331 Borchard Road
Newbury Park, CA 91320
(805) 498-2139

SCHEDULE OF HOURS

Grant R. Brimhall Library

Monday—Thursday	11 a.m.—8 p.m.
Friday	10 a.m.—6 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m.—5 p.m.
Sunday	12 p.m.—5 p.m.

Newbury Park Branch Library

Monday—Wednesday	Noon—8 p.m.
Thursday—Friday	10 a.m.—6 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m.—5 p.m.
Sunday	Closed