



FOCUS

The Newsletter of the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library
Volume 2020 Issue 1
February 2020



Dick Piernot,
FTOL President

Friends,
Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays and took the time to renew relationships with friends and family. Fortunately during this holiday season our sales online and at the li-



braries were fairly robust. The uber-successful second children's books overstock sale at the start of December was a harbinger for the overall sales performance later in the month. Thank you to the efforts of the many volunteers that contributed to these results.

The disruption of the Friends' sorting and searching capabilities at the Newbury Park Library has not ended but has temporarily ceased. Though there may be future disruptions due to further renovation of the facility our activity has returned to a more normal state, and overstock and cart sales are being considered going forward.

We are now well into preparations for our next big event, the Open House, at the Thousand Oaks Library on February 8th 1-4

PM. This event calls attention to the newly named Friends' Bookshop in the Thousand Oaks Library as well as to the materials, services, and programs provided to the community by the Library which are funded by the Friends.

With the continuous advances in technology for downloading of digitized books, movies, and music via the internet, the Friends must consider the possibility that revenue from the sale of books, DVDs, and CDs may be significantly reduced over time. Fortunately, adaptation of such technological advances takes place slowly, and FTOL's financial position and revenue streams remain strong thanks to the efforts of our dedicated volunteers. Because we would rather be proactive than reactive to any changes in our situation, investigation of potential new sources of revenue while maximizing revenue from current sources is prudent. To that end the organization is committed to developing and executing a strategic plan to do just that.

Libraries will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no libraries. - Anne Herbert

—Dick Piernot

Join Us for Our Open House! February 8th at the GRB Library

The Friends are hosting our first-ever Open House on February 8th from 1:00pm to 4:00pm to highlight the expanded Friends' Bookshop and celebrate the many library programs your Friends of the Library helps support!

This event is designed for everyone in the community to enjoy, and will feature a kids' activity zone with a bookmark-making station and library treasure hunt; a story hour with service dogs; guest speakers and authors; library tours; multiple raffles and prize packages, including "Buy one, get one free" coupons; and presentations on how FTOL efforts fund special programs that support the library community.

This community event is free and open to all. Come and join in the celebration!

FTOL
Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library

SATURDAY, FEB. 8
1-4 p.m.

OPEN HOUSE

GRANT R. BRIMHALL LIBRARY
1401 E. JANSSE RD., THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91362

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AT THE LIBRARIES

Summer Concert at the Grant R. Brimhall Library Community Room

February 23, 2:00pm—Brother Yusef guitar concert

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

February 3—Judy, February 24—Downton Abbey

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

February 4—If Beale Street Could Talk, February 11—Shaft, February 18—Moonlight,
February 25—Harriet

Open Mic Poetry Night!

Bring your poetry and join us, 6:00 to 8:00 PM, Feb 12 at the NP Branch Meeting Room,
Feb 26 at the Grant R. Brimhall Library. Free to the public!

For more events and information updates,
visit the online Thousand Oaks Library Event Calendar at www.tolibrary.org.

Treasurer's Report



Ed Craven,
FTOL Treasurer

We have completed our funding of the Library under the fiscal year 2019/2020 grant by delivering a check for more than \$46,000 to the City. It's been a record year, thanks to those of you who donated books and supported our Pop Up sales and especially to our sorters and online sales team for turning them into cash and making our financial support of the Library possible. Keep those book donations coming!!!

Regards, Ed Craven, FTOL Treasurer

New and Renewed Members

New Members

Life

Todd & Cynthia Bersley
Melissa Roghani

Booster

Susan Schwartz

Advocate

Rodney Volkmar
Mary Welz

Renewals

Sponsor

Barbara Adams
Richard & Rita Caro
Gregory Jarrett
Laura Joseph
Jill & Ron Lundgren
Betty Nealis
Ray O'Loughlin

Patron

Melanie Ashen
Donald J. & Ola Barnett
Nancy Berry

Bob & Donna Coffey
Mickey & Diana Deeb
Richard Durand
Robert Fassl
Sandra Hansen
Susan & Robert Hurwich
Lou Kirby
Bill Lingle
Aurora Mordey
Suzanne Ruffner
Diane Stones
Bruce & Rebecca Wetzel
Joyce Wiechert



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: www.ftol.org

Library Closures

February 17—GRB & NP closed for President's Day

Library Statistics for 2018-2019

- The Library was open 5309 hours in 2018.
- There were 847,754 checkouts.
- 58,099 people have a TOL library card
- We lent our items to libraries outside our system 253 times.
- 1,008,681 people came through our doors in 2018-2019.
- We had 39 dedicated full-time staff.
- The TOL library website had 2,254,000 visitors
- 60,162 reference questions were asked.
- In-library use totaled 153,352.
- There were 577 items brought in by patron request.
- The TOL collection contained 433,490 items.
- There were 971 total programs offered, with a total of 35,073 people attending.
- There were 98,868 downloads of e-content.

IT'S NEVER TOO SOON TO . . .

Consider joining the Friends Board of Directors. All officer positions are up for election, as well as several appointed At Large and Coordinator posts. Interested? Contact current president Dick Piernot at rwpiernot@aol.com.

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.**

February 13 – *Einstein's War* by Matthew Stanley

March 12 – *The Tragedy of the Templars* by Michael Haag

April 9 – *The Women's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote* by Elaine Weiss

May 14 – *The Women Who Smashed Codes* by Jason Fagone

June 11 – *The South Vs. The South* by William W. Freehling

July 9 – *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* by Daniel Okrent

August 13 – *A Traveler's History of China* by Stephen G. Haw

September 10 – *This America: The Case for the Nation* by Jill LePore

October 8 – *Dereliction of Duty* by H. R. McMaster

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.**

February 6 – *Lethal White: A Cormoran Strike Novel* by Robert Galbraith

March 5 – Thousand Oaks Reads: One City One Book – TBA

April 2 – *The Post-American World* by Fareed Zakaria

May 7 – *Democracy and Its Crisis* by A.C. Grayling

June 4 – *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

July 2 – TBA by William Shakespeare

August 6 – *The Best American Short Stories 2019* by various authors

September 3 – *The Only Game in Town: Central Banks, Instability, and Avoiding the Next Collapse* by Mohamed A. El-Erian



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>.



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!

The Thousand Oaks Library welcomes donations of used books, audiobooks, CDs, and DVDs. Donations from the public are what make our book sales a success and help raise funds for ongoing FTOL programs and library materials.

Donations are accepted at the Grant R. Brimhall Library and the Newbury Park Branch Library during regular library 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	10 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