



# FOCUS

The Newsletter of the  
Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library  
Volume 2020 Issue 2  
March 2020



Dick Piernot,  
FTOL President

Friends,

*The FTOL Open House at the Thousand Oaks Library is done, and by all accounts it was a success. Because this was our first attempt at staging such a complicated event, it went surprisingly smoothly, and the attendees enjoyed the event, especially those that were winners of the raffle drawings, and the FTOL volunteers enjoyed interacting with those attendees and promoting the Friends' Bookshop.*

**Thank you to everyone that helped with this event and attended it.**

*Rest, relax, and reenergize for the Spring events - One City One Book kickoff at the Thousand Oaks Library on February 29th, Overstock Book sale at the Newbury Park Library on Sunday,*

*March 29th from 1 to 3pm (yes, the Newbury Park Library will be open that day because the Thousand Oaks Library will be closed that day), and Arbor Day celebration at the Thousand Oaks Library on April 11th. None of these events are as labor intensive as was the Open House, but we will need volunteers nevertheless to continue our awareness campaign in support of the Library.*

*Finally, there is a need for new Board members to serve in the 2020-2021 year, so if you have time, treasure, or talent, and/or you know of persons that do, and would be willing to serve, please let Dan Ruth, our vice-president, or me know.*

*"You will never plough a field if you only turn it over in your mind." - Irish Proverb*

*—Dick Piernot*

## FTOL and Library Upcoming Activities

**February 29 thru April 26— Thousand Oaks Reads/One City One Book  
Meredith May's *The Honey Bus: A Memoir of Loss, Courage and a Girl Saved by Bees*  
See inside this Focus for a list of related activities**

**March 29—Kids Overstock Sale at the Newbury Park Library, 1:00pm—3:00pm  
\* Books 10 for \$1 \*  
(GRB closed due to activities in Conejo Creek Park)**

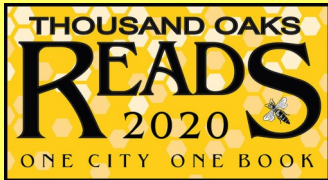
**March 29—Grant R. Brimhall Library will be closed owing to activities in Conejo Creek Park**

**April 11—Arbor Earth Day at the Library, 11:00am—3:00pm**

For information, see <https://www.toaks.org/departments/public-works/sustainability/arbor-earth-day>

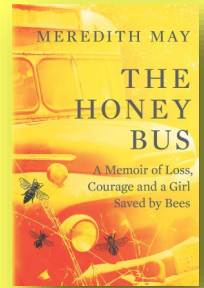
### A LITTLE EXTRA TIME ON YOUR HANDS?

Consider joining the Friends Board of Directors. All officer positions are up for election, as well as several appointed At Large and Coordinator posts. Elections are held in June. Watch for information in upcoming issues of Focus or contact current president Dick Piernot at [rwpiernot@aol.com](mailto:rwpiernot@aol.com).



# Thousand Oaks Reads 2020 / One City One Book

## *The Honey Bus*, by Meredith May



Since 2007, the Thousand Oaks Library's Thousand Oaks Reads: One City One Book program has served as the community's signature literary event. This year's title was announced in January, Meredith May's *The Honey Bus*, an unforgettable story about finding home in the most unusual of places, and how a tiny, little-understood insect could save a life. The OCOB program comprises book club discussions, musical presentations, lectures and other related activities leading up to the author event in April, 2020 - the finale of National Library Week.

**Kickoff** – Saturday, February 29, 1:00-4:00pm, Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room—LA Beekeepers Association presentation, crafts, Newbury Park High School Orchestra

**Book Discussions** - Thursday, March 5, 6:30pm - 8:00pm GRB; April 4, 11:00am - 12:00pm NP

**Film: The Biggest Little Farm - Special Guest: Director John Chester** - Friday, March 6 • 7:00pm - 9:00pm Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room (Early entry for FTOL members!)



**Blue Ridge Honey Speaker** - Saturday, March 7, 11:00am - 12:00pm Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room; Saturday, March 7 • 2:00pm - 3:00pm Newbury Park Library, Meeting Room - Beekeeper Donovan Mitchell will talk about the life of the honeybee and the beekeepers who tend them. He will also exhibit a live contained hive.

**Cal Lutheran Faculty Panel Discussion** - Wednesday, March 11 • 7:00pm - 8:30pm California Lutheran University, Lundring Events Center

**SEEd Tour** - Saturday, March 14 • 9:00am - 11:00am California Lutheran University, SEEd (Sustainable Edible Education) Project Garden - Free tour.



**Honey Whiskey Trio** - Sunday, March 15 • 3:00pm - 4:00pm Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room - Los Angeles based Honey Whiskey Trio tells stories through song and stomp, highlighting the musical traditions of American Folk Music.

**Springtime Photo Contest** - Thursday, March 19 - Friday, April 17 - Submit your original photo with the theme of Springtime. One entry per person. Selected images will be displayed at the Library and online, with the winner and prize announced on Friday, April 24. Submit your photo, phone number and artist statement by Friday, April 17 to: [library@toaks.org](mailto:library@toaks.org).

**Story Slam** - Friday, March 20 • 7:00pm - 9:00pm Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room - An after-hours reading of selected stories read on stage by the authors. Audience favorite will win a prize! Interested in submitting a story? Find details at [www.tolibrary.org/adults/story-slam](http://www.tolibrary.org/adults/story-slam). Submission deadline: Friday, 3/6 at 5:00 pm Submissions and questions to: [TOLibrary.StorySlam@gmail.com](mailto:TOLibrary.StorySlam@gmail.com)

**Bees in the Garden** - Ventura County Master Gardeners - Tuesday, March 24 • 6:30pm - 7:30pm - Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room - Master Gardener Dani Brusius will talk about how to keep the bees in your garden happy, and the plants that attract them.

**Bee Crafty** - Sunday, April 5 • 1:00pm - 3:00pm Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room - Three garden themed family crafts will be led by Jemma Wildermuth of CREATE Studio. All materials will be provided while supplies last. *School age and up.*

**MOVIES—Matinees at GRB:** Mondays • 1:00pm - 3:00pm Grant R. Brimhall Library - Marvin E. Smith Community Room - March 9 - *The Secret Life of Bees*; March 23 - *Ulee's Gold*; April 13 - *The Bee Movie* **Evenings at NPL:** Tuesdays • 6:30pm - 8:30pm Newbury Park Library - March 3 - *Microcosmos*; March 10 - *The Biggest Little Farm*; March 17 - *Ulee's Gold*; March 24 - *The Bee Movie*; March 31 - *More Than Honey*; April 7 - *The Secret Life of Bees*; April 14 - *Queen of the Sun*; April 21 - *The Last Beekeeper*

**The Buzz about Bees and Climate Change: Why You Should Care** - Wednesday, April 8 • 6:30pm - 7:30pm Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room - A CSUCI panel will explore the effect of climate change on the bee populations, and how the public can help sustain them.



**Film: Honeyland** - Saturday, April 18 • 7:00pm - 9:00pm Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room – This film presents the life of a beekeeper in north Macedonia, who digs out honey from trees and mountainside crevices. An examination of honey, the environment, family, and greed.

**Lifting The Stigma: A Mental Health Awareness Discussion** - Saturday, April 25 • 1:00pm - 4:00pm Grant R. Brimhall Library, Marvin E. Smith Community Room



**An Afternoon with Meredith May, Author of *The Honey Bus*** - Sunday, April 26 • 2:00pm - 4:00pm Bank of American Performing Arts Center Thousand Oaks – Fred Kavli Theatre Tickets are required for this event and are available at both the Newbury Park and Grant R. Brimhall Libraries beginning March 15, 2020. Members of the Friends of the Library will be given priority admission 30 minutes before the event. Membership details can be obtained at the Information Desks.

For more information, pick up the OCOB brochure at either library, or visit the library website at <https://www.tolibrary.org/home>. This program is sponsored by your FTOL Friends of the Library.

# FTOL Open House—A Great Success!



**Kate O'Brien**  
VP Book Sales

February 8th witnessed the first FTOL Open House in recent memory at the Thousand Oaks Library. We all came away feeling it was a big success. Attendance was well over our goal of 100 – we had over 110 people sign up for our raffle, so total attendance was probably double that! Each activity was well attended, especially our primary speaker Grant R. Brimhall. We signed up new members, sold lots of books and gave away lots of prizes (20+). But best of all we brought lots of people into the Library and raised awareness of the Friends and our Bookshop.



My co-chairperson Caryl Piernot and her husband (and FTOL president) Dick were instrumental in making the Open House happen. They both contributed hugely to the event, from proofreading all of the signage to corralling our speakers to running around picking up prizes and then leading the presentations. The rest of the Open House Committee each played their part as well: Jessie Fowler, Kathy Leslie, Dan Ruth, Sue Schwartz, Samantha Galicinao, Janet Doman, and Susan Bullard. Many thanks to our great team of volunteers from both the GRB and NP libraries for undertaking everything from putting together the publicity packets and maintaining the Bookshop shelves to staffing the various tables and stations during the event. We couldn't have done it without you!

|                  |                    |                |               |                |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| Hank Apgar       | Karen Etcheverry   | Jean Heimsoth  | Kathy Leslie  | Sue Schwartz   |
| Susan Bullard    | Judy Freel         | Audrey Helix   | Carol Lucas   | Jean Staley    |
| Mengjie Chen     | Debra Foreman      | Jack Heller    | Jane Meade    | Rodney Volkmar |
| Virginia Chounet | Jesse Fowler       | Debbie Hubbert | Dave Moutrie  |                |
| Ed Craven        | Samantha Galicinao | Jessie Fowler  | Caryl Piernot |                |
| Janet Doman      | Jeanne Glover      | Darrel Jones   | Dick Piernot  |                |
| Carol Eltise     | Bettie Rae Hall    | Ian Leslie     | Robin Roth    |                |

Behind the scenes, Jane Meade was able to work with our webmaster and get copies of our handouts up on our webpage in record time. If you didn't get a packet, here's the link so you can see what was given out: <http://ftol.org/friends-of-the-thousand-oaks-library-open-house/>. We also plan to get the swag up for sale on the website, so if you want your own FTOL mug tote or t-shirt, stay-tuned, we will let everyone know when it's available.

Mustang Marketing was an invaluable resource for us. All that great signage you saw...that was them, including our great new Friends' Bookshop sign that sits on top of our shelving units and is visible from the front door!

Of course, a big thanks to Heather Cousin, our Library Director and her great team. They helped with so much of the planning, set-up (and take-down) for the event as well as traffic control. Heather made a great presentation about the programs the Friend's provide and gave a Library Tour for the attendees...culminating in feeding the fish in the aquarium! Thanks also to our invaluable colleagues on the Library staff, Russell Paris and Judi Bustead. Special thanks to Charlotte Burrows, the Library Children's Services Division Manager, who oversaw the Kid's Story Hour with the therapy dogs.

All-in-all this was a great event, lots of fun and definitely achieved our goal. The Library team was even asking about next year's Open House and the possibility of combining it with the rollout of OCOB. In the interim, stay tuned for our next FTOL event: KID'S OVERSTOCK on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 3pm at the Newbury Park Library!!! These Overstock sales are typically crazy busy and lots of fun, so if you want to volunteer, get your name in early!







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 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](mailto:sales@ftol.org)

**THOUSAND OAKS LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
[www.toaks.org/library](http://www.toaks.org/library)

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

Newbury Park 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 Library**

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