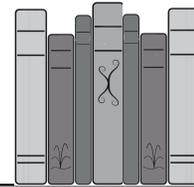


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Newsletter of the Ventura Friends of the Library P.O. Box 403, Ventura CA 93002
Fall 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Mary Olson

As summer draws to a close, I'm happy to report that our truly dedicated volunteers have been on the job, creatively coping with a heavy influx of book donations (emphasis on the "heavy") with impressive results. In August, we had our best month ever in eBay sales, in excess of \$4,000 and our book sale on September 6 at the Vons at Telegraph & Victoria raised \$3,000 -- the highest earnings on an outdoor sale since before the pandemic. The greatest reward our volunteers could receive is more people to join them.

Our bookstore in E.P. Foster Library is now open 7 days a week, Monday through Saturday, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 pm. The roster of bookstore volunteers currently numbers about 50 -- and more would be very welcome. Volunteers may work as little as one 2 1/2 hour shift a month or be available to be called on when a substitute is needed.

If you would like to see some of the fruits of our labors, take a look at the Recap of the Summer Reading Program on page 4, provided by Tyler Mayer, Senior City Librarian. The Friends' fundraising supports the Summer Reading Program and the teen volunteer program, both of which enhance the library's impact in the community.

This Fall, there are three exciting events for book lovers. The first is the Friends Annual Membership Meeting on October 5. Our meeting is a little earlier in the month than usual because of the other events scheduled in October. Our guest speaker is Elisabeth Haggblade who will discuss her memoir, *Trauterose: Growing Up in Postwar Munich*. Details are on page 3. The One County One Book selection for this year is *The Art Thief: True Story of Love, Crime, and a Dangerous Obsession* by Michael Finkel. Copies of the book are available at all branches. The author will give a talk at the Museum of Ventura County on October 11. Details are on page 2. And, on October 19, the Ventura County Library Foundation is holding a fundraiser, **Books, Butterflies and the Botanical Garden**, at the Botanical Garden, featuring Wood Woodburn. Details are on page 2.

In the coming year, we are looking forward with excitement and some trepidation to the beginning of work on the refurbishments to E.P. Foster Library. After another summer with closures of E.P. Foster Library due to excessive heat, a new heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) system will be greatly appreciated. Improvements to the electrical wiring, elevator and new bathrooms are also scheduled. We do not know exactly when or how much dislocation will be involved. We may have to be nimble in adapting our bookselling activities once again, as we were during the pandemic.

It's Time for our
Annual Membership Meeting
October 5 in the Topping Room
with guest author Elisabeth Haggblade
discussing her memoir
**Trauterose: Growing Up in Postwar
Munich**
See page 3 for details

If it's time for the Annual Meeting,
It's time to renew your membership for
2026

Please send in your renewal
in the enclosed envelope
or renew online



<https://venturafol-107753.square.site/s/shop>

**Get more involved --
Become a volunteer!**

Volunteer commitment may be
as little as one 2 1/2 hour shift a month
at the bookstore in E.P. Foster Library
or at an outdoor sale.

There's a place for every skill set, from
public facing jobs in the bookstore to
transporting heavy boxes of books.

For more information or to volunteer, email
bookstore@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org

Keep up with all the news at
<https://venturafriendsofthelibrary.org>
Email: friends@venturafriendsofthelibrary.org
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