

TONA General Meeting

Thursday, February 22, 2018, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
 Thousand Oaks Baptist Church Auditorium, Catalina at Colusa
 Enter on Catalina about half a block east from the main church entrance.

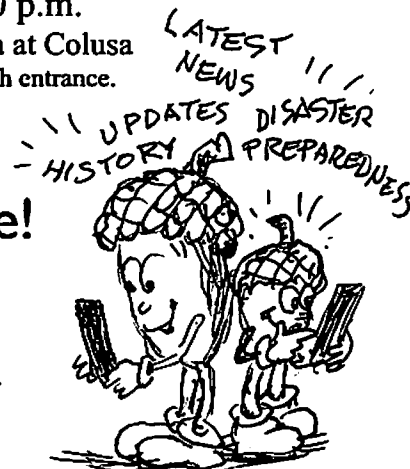
Agenda:

Thousand Oaks... Online!

Speakers:

board members

David Peattie and Jonathan Marr



Every household in Thousand Oaks gets a hand-delivered, printed

newsletter. But now there are options for us to connect and remain

informed as a community in addition to (but not replacing!) meeting face to face.

Facebook, Twitter, Nextdoor, Slack, Berkeleyside, Yahoo and Google groups, and email distribution lists are just some of the online platforms available to us. Some of us don't want any part of that, and that's certainly a reasonable choice. Others of us are interested but nervous about privacy issues, or getting hit with a ton of email notifications every day. If you are interested in exploring social media but haven't dipped your toe in yet, or have signed up, but aren't sure how to get the most out of it, or use it quite a bit but have questions, come to the meeting where we'll explore in depth some of the choices out there. We'll also share some other communication options to stay abreast of crime and safety problems in our area when they occur.

✓ Dave Peattie is TONA president, Nextdoor Lead (moderator) for Thousand Oaks, and spent much of 2017 as a conflict resolution contractor for Nextdoor. He is president of the Berkeley Disaster Preparedness Neighborhood Network and the Economic Justice team lead for Indivisible-Berkeley.

✓ Jonathan Marr joined the TONA board in 2017 and has lived in Thousand Oaks for 2 years. He works in San Francisco but runs and walks around the neighborhood regularly with his dog and preschool-aged son.

TONA BOARD ELECTIONS!

Elections!

FEB 22ND!



TONA board elections will take place at the general meeting on February 22nd. If you're interested in joining the board, come and stand up to offer your services. We have two spots that need to be filled! If you're a TONA member (and you should be . . . all you have to do is pay your dues; see the back of this newsletter!), you can volunteer to be on the board, or you can vote for those who are!

And the Award Goes to . . .

TONA's Golden Acorn Award goes to **Zachary's Pizza**, 1880 Solano Ave., the neighborhood stalwart for Chicago-style pizza since 1985. Besides being a great place for pizza, Zachary's has been supporting our neighborhood by hosting fundraisers for the Berkeley High School Band and Orchestra in 2014, among other local causes. Zach Zachowski and Barbara Gabel, founders of Zachary's, retired in 2003 after eighteen years



on Solano Avenue. Rather than sell the restaurant to a conglomerate, they decided to sell to their dedicated and experienced crew, and by 2010, the pizzeria was 100 percent employee owned. The long-term Zachary's employee-owners have preserved the founders' vision and have remained successful at keeping appetites primed for their popular fare. Thanks for all your efforts to remain local, and congratulations!



On the Avenue by Tanya Grove



At 1615 Solano Avenue, the spot next to Subway Deli that used to house **UniTech** electronics, a Metro PCS store, is empty and has a For Lease sign up in the window.

Although it's officially an Albany address, **Blesk Salon & Spa** seems to have moved out of its spot at 1580, between Cugini's and the Stone Room. We'll have to wait to see what takes its place.

Another way to get fit is coming to Solano Avenue at 1637 between Lhasa Dreams Boutique and the Himalayan Tandoori and Curry House. **Center Strength's** website is up, but the newest Pilates studio has not yet opened for business at the time of this writing.



The **Brazilian Bread Company** is opening a storefront next to the Xocolate Bar where the short-lived **Riveter Café** used to be (1707). The featured product from this San Francisco company is a special gluten-free cheese bread. No word yet when it will be open for business.



No discernible progress of the **Oaks Theatre** being turned into a rock-climbing gym yet (at least by way of peeking through the windows). They are awaiting word from the city regarding their permitting.

A sign hangs in the window at 1820 Solano (formerly La Farine) that promises there will soon be a **French Bakery & Café**. I can't wait!

If you know of a new business that I missed, let me know at tona.board@gmail.com so I can include it next time.

Acknowledging the Ohlone



As we look around our beautiful neighborhood of Thousand Oaks, it is good to remember the Ohlone people, the very first human inhabitants of the Northern California coast. Evidence suggests that these people were living here as long ago as 4000 BCE, hunting and gathering in the hills and along the bay and seashores that we enjoy today. The TONA board would like to begin the practice of acknowledging the Ohlone and their part in the history of this area at the start of our General Meetings.

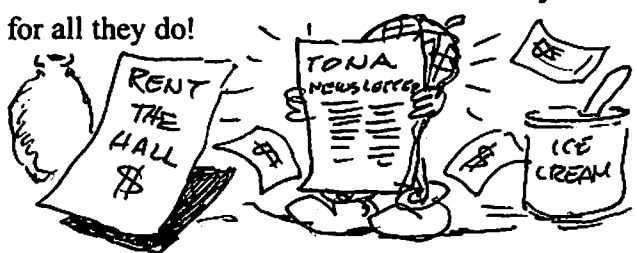
TONA Dues and News Go Electronic

For those who are interested in the convenience of electronic payment and communication, TONA is making it easier to contribute membership dues online and stay in touch via email. You can now pay via PayPal at www.tona.org. No more filling out forms, hunting down stamps and envelopes, and trekking to the mailbox—you can pay online! There are no extra fees for this payment option, and all membership dues remain the same (\$4 Senior, \$6 Single, \$10 Family). You are of course welcome to donate at *any* amount to support TONA.

You can also stay in touch with TONA electronically by signing up for our new email distribution list. We will use the list only to distribute our newsletter and notify you of important community news and events. Don't worry—we won't spam you! We expect to send only 1-2 emails per month. This list is managed by MailChimp, and you can unsubscribe at any time.



In 2017, we received \$2,568 in membership dues and donations from 235 households, up from \$1,784 from 163 households in 2016. There are a total of 1800 households within the TONA boundaries. The average donation for 2017 was \$10.93. The TONA Urn Project is separately funded through urn contributions to Berkeley Partners for Parks. The major expense for TONA is the printing of the newsletter three times a year (\$1,906), which is created and distributed through the efforts of at least 50 TONA volunteers. Additional expenses include our general meeting hall and post office box (\$284), audio visual equipment maintenance, ice cream social expenses once a year, and other miscellaneous costs. This year's ice cream was donated by iScream, the popular Solano Avenue ice creamery. Thanks to all our members and our many volunteers for all they do!



School Corner

by Karen Tompkins, VP of Programs

Greetings from Thousand Oaks Elementary! We have two exciting announcements to share with our Thousand Oaks neighbors. *MAKE LEARNING FUN!*



First, our annual spring fundraiser, A Toast to Thousand Oaks, is scheduled for Saturday, March 24, 2018. We would like to invite neighborhood families and businesses to participate by making a tax-deductible donation to our lively auction or by sponsoring a teacher's ticket to the fun event. We are actively soliciting goods, activities/experiences, and gift certificates to auction off. If you donate, you should know that 100 percent of the proceeds support programs that benefit the students at Thousand Oaks, such as music education, MOCHA art classes, and physical education programming. If you or your business have something you'd like to donate, please contact Karen at kktompkins@gmail.com.



Second, BUSD has been testing the drinking water for lead at all school sites. This is something that is required by a new state law. We have been working with our water provider, East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), to sample the water at five drinking locations at every school, which is the standard that was set by EBMUD. The five locations were spread around the school so that they can be representative of all fixtures there. All sampling was completed during the week of December 11th. The action level for lead in water, set by the state and EBMUD, is 15 ppb (parts per billion). At BUSD we feel that 15 ppb is too high and have established our own action level of 1 ppb. There were no fixtures at T.O. that tested above the action level of 1 ppb. This is great news for our students and the Thousand Oaks neighbors who use the drinking fountains!

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Almost There!

by Elizabeth Sklut and Trish Hawthorne
Co-chairs TONA Urn Project

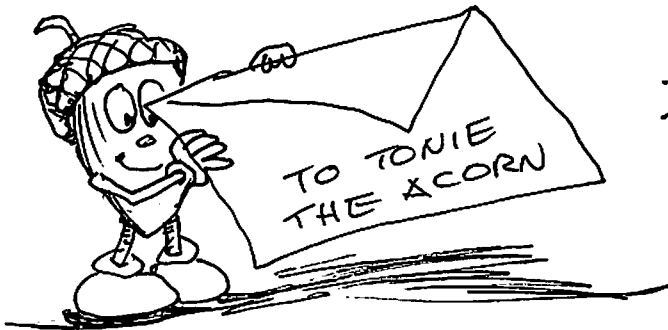
With your generous donations in hand, Urn co-chairs Trish Hawthorne and Elizabeth Sklut are happy to announce that the pedestals for the neighborhood's two new urns have been poured. The new locations on the south median at the Arlington and Thousand Oaks and in Frederick Hink Park at Yosemite and the Arlington are now ready for the actual installation. (Both locations were sites of original urns.) We are waiting for a break in the workload of the concrete specialists who installed the first two urns to actually finish the installation process and attach the new urns to their pedestals. As with Phase One of the Urn Project, the installation process is being coordinated by McCutcheon



Construction, our volunteer community partner, as a gift to the community. We hope to announce a dedication celebration for our two new urns in the Spring newsletter. The response to our last request for funds was overwhelmingly positive and we are very grateful. We're almost there, but are still in need of some additional donations to cover the final installation and to establish a maintenance fund for the future. Please make out a check to Berkeley Partners for Parks (our fiscal partner to ensure that your donation is tax-deductible) and mail it to TONA, P.O. Box 7572, Berkeley CA 94707. Thanks to all of you, we are finally almost finished with our 15-year project.

Ask Tonie the Acorn!

Each newsletter, Tonie the Acorn will (try to) answer any question about Thousand Oaks. You can ask questions by posting on Facebook, Nextdoor, emailing tona.board@gmail.com, or writing in to our P.O. Box.



Acorn Illustrations: Nancy Gorrell

TONA Board of Directors

David Peattie	510-508-7619
<i>President</i>	
[To be determined]	
<i>Vice President</i>	
Jane Tierney	510-289-9057
<i>Treasurer</i>	
Virginia Logan	510-528-9993
<i>Secretary</i>	
Lucia Blakeslee	510-701-9386
Warren Keller	510-524-0571
Jonathan Marr	617-306-3938
Diane Perea	510-434-4438
Martha Salzman	510-524-9795
Elizabeth Sklut	510-527-5512

Editing: Tanya Grove

Layout: David Peattie

TONA Membership Form

Dues per year: \$4 Senior, \$6 Single, \$10 Family.

Send dues to: TONA, P.O. Box 7572, Berkeley, CA 94707

Name: _____

Address: _____

Comments: _____

Yes, I will deliver newsletters in my neighborhood.

I am enclosing a donation to the Urn Fund of \$ _____, made payable to BFPF, with "TONA Urn Fund" on the memo line.