

Committee Reports

December 18, 2025

BOOKS

Members: Sara Boskovich, Diana Carr, Siobhan Grogan, David Myler, Kate Hart, Joyce Hinton, Gabrielle Larew, Peter McCallion, Cathy Pekel, Liz Renn, Patricia Saull, Shannon Sheppard.

Board liaison: Gail Ament

Circulation: 973 items

Book Sale income: 4,365 pesos

Fine income: 3,160 pesos

Mobile Book Display: "Bilingual Books"

Mobile Book Display "All Things Italian"

Staffed Circulation Desk

Communicated with Finance Committee re 2026 Budget

Provided library tours to visitors and new members

Continued English Fiction weeding/de-accessioning project

Repaired books

Ordered new books: English and Spanish

Trained new and returning volunteers

Managed Wish List: donors and donations

Communicated with several authors for upcoming Book & Author Talks

Cataloged new and donated titles: English, Spanish, Children, Teen

Participated in 60th Anniversary Task Force

Accepted, evaluated, dispatched, and cataloged book Children and Adult donations

Administered and managed Book Sale: in-house and online

Continued "Authors' names on shelves" project

Provided readers advisory to children and adult users

Supplied "Did You Know...." (fun facts about the library) list to be added to monthly newsletter

-Siobhan Grogan

TERRACE TALKS

Members: David Myler, Carol Ringold, Linda Farthing, Gail Ament

We did not meet in December with Linda and Carol out of town.

Fall training of volunteers Nov. 24 attracted several new volunteers and we've trained a couple of others individually.

We're stressing fundraising in our introductions to talks.

Following Día de los Muertos, we had dismally low registration, cancelling 3 events. Seasonal visitors are showing up now and our attendance is improving. December has few talks, but January and

February calendars are pretty full. Ralph helped Gail submit a Budget for TT.

- Gail Ament

60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION KICKOFF

Friday, 23 January 2026

10 am to 7 pm

10 am: Tables-Fundraising, OLL Events, 60th Celebration-Courtyard

10 am: Open House with Tours (Volunteers)

12 pm: Catered Food, Terrace (Chefs Conners, Martinez, Craig)

1 pm: Welcome, Terrace (Ament)

1 pm: Clowns in Performance for Children, Terrace (Ayala)

3 pm: Dance Performance, Terrace (Danzon)

4-6 pm: Calenda Literaria (Santo Domingo, Llano Park, OLL)

6 pm: Music Concert, Terrace

12-6 pm: Clean-up crew (Volunteers)

Saturday, 24 January 2026

10 am to 6 pm

10 am: Open House with Tours (Volunteers)

10-12:30 pm: Intercambio, Niños Adelantes, Jóvenes Adelantes

10 am: Tables-Fundraising, OLL Events, 60th Celebration-Courtyard

1 pm: Acknowledgment of Adriana and Flor, Terrace (Dumser)

1 pm: Catered Food, Terrace (Chefs Conner, Martinez, Craig)

1 pm: Clowns in Performance for Children, Terrace (Ayala)

3 pm: Music Performance, Terrace

1-6 pm: Clean-up crew (Volunteers)

-John Hunter & John Dumser

NOMINATING

The nominations committee has completed its decision-making process. All relevant documentation will be submitted to the board.

Our slides about the process and our four nominees, will be available for the board to go through at the meeting on the 18th. I am also still working on digitizing the NomCom handbook, will try to have that done in a week or so.

-bj Ferguson

WELCOME TO OAXACA

Our committee met and brainstormed ideas to reach out to the public. We have devised a poster and a list of old/new public contacts that we need to keep updated. We are stressing that the WTO covers topics that the internet does not. Attendance remains at 5 and under.

-Bliss Wilson

SOCIAL

We've enlarged the holiday celebration to accommodate 110 persons from 100. The potluck is selling out. The annual bazaar takes place this Sunday. We have a mountain of donations. We are hoping for spectacular returns this year. We've had a lot of enthusiastic volunteers! Social will also be contributing to the volunteer committee's volunteer appreciation event in February.

-Bonny Weil

TECH

Tech is still in the process of planning for a online workshop in early January.

Facilities are in discussion about the increasing cost of electricity. We will be consulting with an electrician to check the usage balance on our 2 meters

Tech Team preliminary proposal for January:

I propose holding this workshop on January 7, when more of our regular-season members are in Oaxaca. This also gives us time to plan, promote, recruit participants, and shape a productive agenda. It is important that we complete this work prior to the January 23 and 24 kickoff events for the OLL's 60th anniversary celebrations. There may be some media

expansion necessary prior to this meeting specifically related to the 60th anniversary celebration and ongoing fundraising campaign.

Arrangements will need to be made to accommodate other scheduled terrace events on this day including: Book Committee meeting, Mahjong and Friends of Oaxaca water.

An announcement will be placed in the January 1 newsletter and on the website inviting interested individuals to attend the morning session. Any person interested in presenting during the workshop needs to contact me to discuss their intended input to be included in the final agenda.

The final workshop agenda should be distributed to the workshop contributors on or about January 1. *See attachment 1. below* for proposed agenda

-Doug Long

VOLUNTEERS

The committee met to plan the 2026 Volunteer Recognition event which will be on February 14, 3-5 pm. Since two members of the committee (Dottie and Suzanne Grant) will be out of town for a substantial period, we asked the Social Committee for help and they responded with help and great ideas. Both Bonny Weil and Mary Rankin attended our meeting and offered their talents. A big thank you to them! Carol Ringold will emcee the event, which will include a variety of music, snacks, drink, cash bar, a raffle, and..... a skit! To recognize the 60 years of OLL, we are offering one free alcoholic (or non-alcoholic) drink from the bar to all volunteers.

-Dottie Bellinger

EXCURSIONS

In addition to the DOD tours,

- The Out and About tours conducted four more tours attended by 51 people and netted \$16,010 pesos from these.
- The Hoofing It in Oaxaca program offered 5 hikes for 37 people and netted -\$850. Some of these hikes were first-time and were more of an exploration for future hikes. The total net income for November (not including DOD events) for Excursions was: \$15,160.

We conduct surveys for both programs. On a scale of 1-5, participants rated the question, "Did you enjoy the outing?" 4.7 for hikes and 4.5 for tours. A few other questions on the survey about information provided and value for the money received similar ratings. We look forward to more participation in December as tourists and part-time residents return.

-Dottie Bellinger

FINANCE

No actions to report but budget preparation. Work done on many days over much time with committee members.

-Ralph Gault

FACILITIES AND DESIGN

No report

FUNDRAISING

No report

OUTREACH

No report

ATTACHMENT 1

Tech Workshop Structure (Proposed):

Morning Session 10:00 – 12:00 Open to all OLL members

Reviewing our current online presence: website, newsletter, kiosk, OLL Facebook, and Friends of OLL Facebook

Short presentations from current online contributors explaining their roles and the challenges they face.

Doug Long – Website, OLL Facebook page

David Myler – OLL Friend of OLL Facebook page

Marc Sitkin – OLL Kiosk

Joan – Newsletter

Other -

Overview of usage and engagement data for various OLL online platforms

Open floor for member feedback, concerns, and ideas — a community brainstorming session

Brainstorm the audiences we want to reach and why

Youth Pre university

University

Oaxaca adults

Tourists, International and National

Understanding the challenges we face in updating and expanding our online presence.

Volunteers

Paid creators

Costs

Identify and recruit additional talent to join the media team

Midday – Break for a working lunch for informal discussion (contributors only) 12:00 – 1:00

Contributors begin distilling the themes, suggestions, and concerns raised in the morning

Afternoon Session – Contributors only 1:00 – 4:00

Evaluate which suggestions are workable

Exploring potential expansion to platforms such as Instagram and TikTok (Evelia)

Other

Prioritize next steps

Create an action plan and assign responsibilities

Break into task specific groups to start detailed planning

Website

Kiosk

Newsletter

Facebook

Other

Schedule a follow-up meeting for contributors to report on progress and share any new information gathered after the workshop.

A Google Group may be set up to finalize plans for this meeting and continuing discussion after the meeting.

I look forward to hearing from you.

-Doug Long

OLL tech team