



## Annual Report FY 2015-16

**New Frontiers is an organization dedicated to adults wishing to continue their discovery of knowledge, advance their learning and enhance physical wellness.**

*Greetings,*

*New Frontiers has kept its members active, involved, and engaged for the past 21 years. I am honored to work with such a remarkable group. The officers, Council members and Committee Chairs are the keys to this success. More than 100 other members volunteer in some way to keep the organization running. The number of volunteer hours equals more than three full-time staff. This commitment is the reason this innovative approach to lifelong learning continues to thrive.*

*During our three terms - fall, spring, and summer - we offered 179 classes for our 465 members, totaling over 1,200 classroom hours. Our members enjoyed over 20,000 individual class hours – all successfully coordinated by our Curriculum Committee. Our Social Committee was also very busy, organizing seven excursions to companies, museums, and other interesting places; monthly “out-to-lunch” gatherings; and our annual Holiday Party and our picnic.*

*Communication and Membership Committees kept our members informed by means of our website, newsletter, email, Open Houses, and New Member Coffees. Our ProClass software is working well for both membership records and class scheduling. Our continued thanks go to Peggy Randolph who has worked tirelessly on both the selection and implementation of the software.*

*We are grateful for the support we get from Mesa Community College (MCC). Neva Hansen, Red Mountain Office Coordinator, and Pat Esparza, Coordinator of Community Partnerships, help us with all activities, from ordering supplies to arranging rooms for classes and meetings. We could not function without them. Other people at MCC help us in many ways. It’s wonderful working with such a competent, dedicated group.*



*Marlin Fried  
President*

### **VOLUNTEER HOURS**

Council activities: 500 hours

Curriculum Committee: 5,136 hours

Social Committee: 250 hours

Membership Committee: 400 hours

Communications Committee: 500 hours

**Total: 111 volunteers 6,786 volunteer hours**

*To find out more about New Frontiers go to our website, <https://newfrontiers.mesacc.edu/> or call (480) 461-7497.*

## Committee Highlights

### Curriculum Committee

*Margo Heaps, Chair*

*Sharon Greer, Co-Chair*

- This year there were 179 classes offered to our members. The total enrollment in these classes for the year was 3,951 individuals and we had a percentage of attendance at better than 75%. We had 67 volunteers who facilitated these classes for a total of 5,136 volunteer hours.
- The majority of our classes were at the Dobson and Red Mountain facilities. Additional classes were offered at: Leisure World, Apache Wells Activity Complex, Mesa Active Adult Center, Resurrection Church and Mesa Fire and Police Stations. In addition to using our talented members for instruction, our classes have drawn talent from Mesa Community College faculty as well as ASU Emeritus professors and our surrounding communities.
- The classes offered cover a variety of subjects. To name a few, we have covered financial matters and estate planning, looked at the criminal law process, discussed the presidential campaign, learned about our brain and multiple intelligences, had classes to improve our health, learned about the Tonto National Forrest, taken hikes around our wonderful state, discovered interesting facts in history, art and music. Our travel courses have included the Apostle Islands, Flanders Field, Scotland and Paris.



### Membership Committee

*Mary Adamick and Kim Gillespie, Chairs*

*Mary Lindberg, Co-chair*

- Two open house events in September and January were planned and implemented. The Curriculum Committee coordinates class presenters and facilitators who can assist guests' and answer members' questions about the classes they will present. Open Houses provide an opportunity for new and current members.
- New Member Coffees were planned and implemented in October and February to provide an opportunity for these new members to meet the officers, committee chairs, and MCC support staff, and for us to get to know the new members.
- The Committee is responsible for producing and distributing member nametags and Membership Directories; and for distributing documents to new members at the Open House, including the class schedules. The Sunshine Lady, Diana Pearce, sends cards to members who are ill or hospitalized and condolences for those who have had a death in the family.
- Volunteer hours put in by this Committee were over 400 hours.



## Communications Committee

*Barbara Thelander, Chair*

*Peggy Randolph, Co-Chair*

- This year the Committee created a revised guide (pamphlet) so that all active members including Council and Committees, could become outreach presenters for and MCC.
- Continued to explore ways in which the website could be improved to provide quick, one-click, access to general information for the public.
- Go green! New Frontiers reduced overall mailings to September and January, and utilized the website and member e-mails for all communications throughout the year.
- We collaborated with MCC's Center for Community and Civic Engagement so that members could participate in meaningful volunteerism.
- The Communication Committee volunteer hour total is over 500 for the year.

## Volunteer Committee

*Bruce Reed, Chair*

*Gwyndolynn Gentry Co-chair*

The goal of the volunteer committee is to find ways in the community to help others.



- We participated in the MCC Empty Bowls event on both campuses, and worked with the Center for Community and Civic Engagement on other projects.
- We make our presence known and promote MCC throughout the East Valley by offering classes in other venues, such as retirement communities and Active Adult Centers; volunteering for other charities; and giving presentations about New Frontiers for other organizations.

## Scholarship Committee

*Diana Pearce, Chair; Dan Scarpone, Sissy Riley*

- During the year New Frontiers was able to offer five \$1,000 scholarships. This committee reviewed over 50 applicants and recommended the five students who were approved by the Council.

## Social Committee

*Lois Schaffer, Chair*

*Peggy Schultz, Co-chair*

The Social Committee gives our members other opportunities to stay active and involved. These activities are a wonderful way to let our members get to know each other better. The 10 committee members volunteered 250 hours.

Planned and implemented:

- Monthly "out to lunch" outings.
- Annual Holiday Party (200 attendees) and our spring picnic.
- Organized several very popular excursions to nearby places of interest, including trips to Gateway Airport and the Heard Museum.



## 2015 / 2016 New Frontiers Council Members

**President:** Marlin Fried

**Vice-President:** Richard Riley

**Secretary:** Sharen Kellogg

**Treasurer:** Fred Searing

**Member at Large:** Helen Jones

**Member at Large:** Con Downey

**Past Chair:** Pat DeBlake

**Curriculum Committee:** Margo Heaps/Sharon Greer

**Membership Committee:** Mary Adamick/Mary Lindberg/ Kim Gillespie

**Social Committee:** Lois Schaffer/ Peggy Schultz

**Communications Committee:** Barbara Thelander/Peggy Randolph

**Volunteer Committee:** Bruce Reed/Gwyndolynn Gentry



Wreath making Class



Posture Class



Scholarship Students: Georgina Deviasso, Dorna Singer Ryan Gudín. Scholarship Chair: Diane Pearce

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