

Annual Report FY 2016-17

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

Greetings,

For the last three years it has been my honor and privilege to be the President of an innovative idea that came out of Mesa Community College 22 years ago. A self-sufficient group of lifelong learners planning and taking their own classes! This concept, which is totally run by volunteers, continues to be the “best kept secret in the East Valley” despite the fact that we had over 470 members this last year. It takes over 100 different volunteers and thousands of hours to pull this project off, but year after year, we continue to improve, expand and enhance the experience. This year we had a volunteer recognition luncheon at the East Valley Institute of Technology it was a great way to thank everyone, a special thanks to Dan Taylor for planning and implementing the event. Throughout this report you will note the energy and vibrancy of our members. I want to especially thank those members who serve on the New Frontiers Council for their dedication and ability to look to the future.



As a Mesa Community College (MCC) affiliate we are grateful for their support and vision by providing a lifelong learning environment in our community. Pat Esparza, Coordinator of Community Partnerships and Neva Hansen, Red Mountain Office Coordinator, help us with all activities, from ordering supplies to arranging rooms for classes and meetings. We could not function without them.

Marlin Fried, President

Treasurer’s Report

Fred Searing, Treasurer

For the last three years New Frontiers has been operating at a slight deficit, this has not been a problem due to the fact that we have a modest fund balance. In fiscal year 2016-17 we were under budget and over membership projections, therefore providing a small surplus as noted below.

Revenue: \$23,223 Expenses: \$21,914

Revenue over expenses: \$1,309

VOLUNTEER HOURS

Council activities: 1,222 hours

Curriculum Committee: 4,531 hours

Social Committee: 255 hours:

Totals: 113 volunteers 7,572 hours

Membership Committee: 512 hours

Communications Committee: 902 hours

Volunteer Committee: 150 hours

Committee Highlights

Curriculum Committee

Margo Heaps, Co-Chair;

Jennifer Wong, Co-Chair

The Curriculum Committee role is to develop and oversee classes for each semester.



- During the 2016-17 school year, the curriculum committee planned and implemented a total of 175 classes for the Fall, Spring and Summer semesters to its members. Total enrollment for these classes totaled 4,879 with a 78% attendance rate.
- Many of our classes were presented by our own members. Other classes were presented by MCC Emeritus Faculty as well as well as by individuals who are experts in the legal, financial, health and arts industry.
- While a majority of our classes were held equally at the Red Mountain and Dobson campuses of Mesa Community College, we also held classes at non-MCC venues such as the Mesa Active Adult Center, Resurrection Church, Mesa Fire and Police Stations, Leisure World, Las Palmas, Apache Wells, The Orchards.
- This year the class offerings expanded in scope to include:
 - Political issues both current and past,
 - Arizona history, i.e., the Salt River, Ghost Towns
 - Homeopathic medicine, i.e., herbs, dietary supplements.
 - Documentaries such as Life After People and Mark Twain
 - Road trip to Cornville and Page Springs.

Membership Committee

Kim Gillespie, Chair

Barbara Dixon, Co-chair

The Membership Committee is responsible a variety of tasks that enhance and benefit the members.



- Two open house events September 2016 and January 2017. Our partner in this event, the Curriculum Committee, invited class facilitators and class presenters to receive guests' and members' questions about classes.
 - Two New Member Coffees were held in October 2016 and February 2017 during which new members met and mingled with current members, MCC staff, New Frontier officers and committee chairs and co-chairs.
 - Sent out cards to members who are ill, hospitalized, or who have experienced a loss in the family.
- Produced and distributed nametags, directories, lanyards, and documents to new members at the open houses, including class schedules.

<https://newfrontiers.mesacc.edu/>

480.461.7497

Scholarship Committee

Diana Pearce, Chair; Dan Scarpone, Sissy Riley

There were 63 applications submitted for our Scholarship Awards. The budget was for three \$1000 scholarships and members donated another \$2000 giving us the ability to provide five scholarships. The five persons receiving the scholarships were honored at the NF All Member meeting on March 24, 2017. Three of the recipients were present: Alex Follett, Areli Miller, and Victoria Erran. They shared their stories about their educational plans and how our scholarship has helped them move forward.

Communications Committee

Barbara Thelander, Chair

Peggy Randolph, Co-Chair

The Communications Committee's key role is to coordinate the flow of information about activities and events to members and prospective members.

- Primary communications were through the quarterly eight page newsletters which were sent out via mail and/or digitally through email distribution. The newsletter provided an ideal opportunity to showcase events in print and photos. Periodical announcements were also utilized to keep the membership informed and up to date.
- Created a revised guide (pamphlet) so that all active New Frontier members including Council and Committees can become outreach presenters for NFs and MCC.
- Partnered with MCC and ASU students to explore ways in which New Frontiers can effectively "brand" the organization.
- Inventoried current NFLL History items that had been accumulating in MCC storage-

Volunteer Committee

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.
- A volunteer recognition luncheon was held at East Valley Institute of Technology on April 27, 2017. The EVIT students served a wonderful meal and enjoyed an intergenerational opportunity.



Social Committee

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 committee planned and implemented:

- Nine monthly "out to lunch" outings.
- Monthly excursions to nearby places of interest, including trips to Airbase Arizona, Chandler Railroad Museum, Turf Paradise, Dolly Steamboat and Museum of the West.
- Annual Holiday Party (120 attendees) and our spring picnic.

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2016/17 New Frontiers Council Members

President: Marlin Fried

Vice-President: Dan Taylor

Secretary: Gretchen Hirni

Treasurer: Fred Searing

Member at Large: Steve Johnson

Member at Large: Dan Scarpone

Member at Large: Anne Stehr

Member at Large: Sandra Whitley

Past Chair: Pat DeBlake

Curriculum Committee: Margo Heaps/Jennifer Wong

Membership Committee: Kim Gillespie/Barbara Dixon

Social Committee: Peggy Schultz

Communications Committee: Barbara Thelander/Peggy Randolph



Volunteers at the Recognition Luncheon



Open House Event



FOUNDING & CHARTER MEMBERS
– Millicent Salm and Frank Rickey,
1994 to 2017