

# Annual Report

## July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022



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

**FAST FACTS:** The last two years were challenging, but as the numbers show there is light at the end of the tunnel.

- Membership increased by 20%
- Class attendance improved by 30%
- Volunteer hours grew by 87%

### Greeting from Roland Tanner, President:



As New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning (NFLL) moved into FY 2021-22 COVID issues continued, but as an organization we were now adapting to the new “normal.” In all categories we grew by significant numbers as noted in the Fast Facts

In the early moments of CoVid we scrambled to develop training classes for WebEx and Zoom and discovered that there were some wonderful benefits to having classes on-line. For example, anyone, anywhere, could participate and we were no longer limited to a physical room size. We were only limited to 100 participants on Zoom or WebEx.

We did lose a significant number of members initially, but we increased membership this year. Marketing and advertising in the years ahead will be key to bring our numbers back up. We slowly opened our “Out to Lunch” in the Fall 2021 to Spring 2022 and our last outing at Broken Yolk Cafe had 37 attendees which may have set a record! So, there certainly is demand for face-to-face interaction.

**Spring Membership Meeting** We were finally able to have our Spring Membership Meeting in person for the first time in three years on May 19<sup>th</sup> at Red Mountain Community College. Dan Taylor greeted the group and commented on how it was wonderful to see everyone in person. Councilmember David Luna gave greetings. David has always been a strong supporter and told our group he will be joining NFLL soon. We heard an insightful presentation by the outgoing MCC President, Lori Berquam. She shared a truly meaningful quote with us: *“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did. BUT PEOPLE WILL NEVER FORGET HOW YOU MADE THEM FEEL.”*



Lori Berquam is staying in the area and has plans to join NFLL. She also treated us with ice cream. In the business meeting portion, we elected Cindy Schrantz as NFLL President. All the other officers and at large members were re-elected for another year. Mary Boehlen graciously took on the Membership Chairperson responsibility.

## Your NFLL Council in Action:

- ✓ The Council has always been very generous in its limited budget to provide student scholarship funds of at least \$3,000 per year and often more. The Council made a unanimous decision to increase that to three \$2000 scholarships for this year, and the Scholarship committee is in the process of selecting those students. We were able to do this due to our current reserve.
- ✓ The Council took action on raising the membership dues back to \$80 per year for all returning and new members. The development of virtual classes allows for our local and winter visitor friends to take classes from anywhere in the world.
- ✓ Overall, the Council members are truly dedicated to continuing to increase membership, class opportunities and volunteer support. Please note that these dedicated persons give countless hours to our organization. This year alone the Council members, committees, facilitators, and instructors gave 5,364 hours for a value of \$150,192. WOW!
- ✓ Our website has a new contemporary look thanks to our webmaster, Allan Zisner.
- ✓ The Council wants to recognize MCC staff support over the last year. We would like to thank Neva Hansen, our Program Facilitator and Michelle Chambers, Program Assistant, Lori Berquam, Interim President, Kris Bliss, Interim Associate Dean, and Nora Reyes, Senior Associate Vice-President. We welcome our new advisors, Carmen Newland, Senior Associate Vice-President, Kathleen Perales, Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Careers and Community Connections and Monica Margailan, Community Outreach Coordinator, Office of Associate Dean of Student Services.

### Council Members for 2021-2022

President: Roland Tanner  
Vice president: Bob Dukelow  
Treasurer: Fred Searing  
Secretary: Mary Boehlen/ Diane Grogan  
Immediate Past President: Dan Taylor  
Members at Large: Margo Heaps, Ron Schueman, Allan Zisner

Committee Chairs:  
Curriculum Co-Chairs: Suzanne Brown/Cindy Schrantz  
Support Services: Peggy Randolph/Kathee Rutherford  
Social : Peggy Schultz/Arllys Medlicott  
Membership: Mary Boehlen  
Volunteer: Barbara Thelander  
Sunshine Lady: Diana Pearce  
Scholarships: Sissy Riley /Barbara Thelander

### Committee reports:

#### ***Volunteer Committee: Barbara Thelander, Chair***

At long last we were able to have a Volunteer Recognition at EVIT on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Dan Taylor was the MC for the event and as usual we were treated to a wonderful meal and convenient location at East Valley Institute of Technology. The EVIT superintendent Chad Wilson (photo) gave greetings and was very complimentary of our program. Kathleen Perales, Associate Dean, Student Affairs and Careers and Community Connections, gave a very heartfelt introduction about her commitment to the importance of lifelong learning. We completed the meeting with a major send off to Gary and Vina Kleemann who are moving to San Diego, but promised to remain as current NFLL members.



### **Scholarship Committee: Barbara Thelander, Chair**

- The NFLL Scholarship Committee members: Mary Boehlen and Shirley Epp met with Adela Bob, MCC Financial Aid Office, on June 14 to finalize the NFLL Scholarship plan for 2022-23.
- Three \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded to three MCC students, \$1000 in the Fall 2022 - and \$1,000 in the Spring 2023. Applications will appear online in Academic Works, and opened June 13 with awards anticipated on August 20.
- Scholarship Criteria: minimum of 12 credit hours completed; 3.0 cumulative GPA; financial need; enrolled in a minimum of six credit hours at MCC.

### **Support Services: Peggy Randolph and Kathee Rutherford, Co-Chairs**

Support services include a wide array of key components for NFLL:

- Website: Support Services' most visible component is our website, with Allan Zisner as Webmaster. Allan introduced an updated version of the website in May 2022.
- Newsletter: The newsletter is produced by Marie-France Ganansia five times a year.
- Database: The database is important to both Curriculum and Membership. This is where members create and maintain their New Frontiers accounts, and where they login to register for classes, Peggy Randolph continues as the database administrator.
- Mailing Team: The mailing team assembles packets to be mailed to members in spring and fall. Packets include the schedule of classes, the newsletter, and an Open House flyer.
- Nametags: Suzanne Brown graciously volunteered to continue assembling and mailing members' nametags after she took on the role of Curriculum Chair.
- Publicity Team: Distribute flyers, submit articles, etc.

### **Curriculum Committee: Suzanne Brown and Cindy Schrantz, Co-Chairs**

- We tried something new for Summer 2021. We did not require registration for any classes. Every Friday an email was sent with information listing all classes and links. We received such positive feedback, that the process will continue in Summer 2022.
- Successfully transitioned to having a mix of on-line, in person, and simulcast classes in Fall 2021. Attendance for on-line or in person is roughly the same, showing how our members have enjoyed having options on how to attend classes.
- Began holding curriculum-based field trips.
- Attendance increased over 30% from the previous year (2020-2021).
- Organized hosts and facilitators with clear directions on their role in providing classes online.
- Recruited new facilitators.

<b>Semester</b>	<b># Of classes</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b># Guest Speakers</b>	<b>Facilitators</b>
Summer 2021	20	240	2	12
Fall 2021	56 (31 in person; 2 simulcast; 23 online)	1,408	20	27
Spring 2022	67 (34 in person; 5 simulcast; 28 online)	1,844	18	26
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>3,492</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>65</b>

**Membership Committee: Mary Boehlen, Chair**

The Membership Committee has been primarily inactive for two years because of COVID. We had virtual open houses this last year and plan to have in person Open House's in the future. Our goal is to continue to increase membership and create new socialization events.

**Social Committee: Arlys Medicott, Chair**



We finally got back in the swing of things this year with Out to Lunch restarting in September 2021 which included eateries: Ranch de Tia Rosa, Crackers & Co, Nando's, B J's Brewery, Broken Yolk, Charleston's, and Lone Spur Café. Attendance ranged from 12 to 27. Special events included the Holiday party in December (52 attendees) and in April 2022 the Picnic (45 attendees) with a luau theme. Other events included - Desert Botanical Garden - free event, Mesa Historical Museum, and Eddie Basha art collection - also free

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**Spring Picnic**



**Jennifer and Sam Wong; Vina and Gary Kleemann  
Volunteer Recognition**



**Hikers at Camp Creek Falls**