

Membership Committee
Open House and New Member Coffee
Fall 2023

Membership Committee Report
November Council Meeting 2023

October 6, 2023, the **New Member Coffee** (NMC) was held at Red Mountain. Five new Members, including a New Member who signed up at New Member Coffee, joined us for refreshments, a NFLL Presentation, and Committee Chairpersons described their Committee function. Then each New Member gave us a brief overview of where they were from, what brought them to Arizona, and their background and/or special interests. As usual, we have an eclectic group of people with diverse backgrounds. Many thanks to Allan Zisner for his help with updating the Power Point Presentation and technical help.

After the NMC, Neva Hansen received an email from a Member (a retired MCC Employee). It was forwarded to me as Membership Chair. Following is the email:

Neva:

I'm writing to voice my disappointment over the unfriendly attitude of long-term members towards new members. I convinced a friend of mine to join NFLL after telling her about the friendly members and variety of classes. She attended the new members coffee, signed in and went to sit at a table with other members and introduced herself. She was informed that table was for long time members only so she ended up sitting alone and was later joined by 3 other new members. I assumed this an event was meant to welcome new members not ostracize them. So disappointing.

I sent an email apologizing for the rudeness shown at NMC and I asked for the name and phone number of the New Member so I could apologize.

She told me she went to sit at a table with three people. Someone told her the table was for long-time members only, so she sat at an empty table. Two new members joined her. She did notice no one else sat at the "long-term" table.

We are very fortunate that our New Member knows the walkers and that other New Members and Members were very friendly or we would have left a very bad impression.