

# **New Frontiers News**

March 2025 Volume 33 Issue 8

#### Take Note!

NFLL calendar <u>HERE.</u> Find classes, socials, and more.

March 10-14 Spring Break No on-campus classes

March 10, 10:00-11:30 a.m. NFLL Council Meeting Mesa Library Downtown and via Zoom (email mcdugle@gmail.com for the link)

March 13, 11:30 a.m.
Out to Lunch by the Social
Committee (BJ's). Out-toLunch is the second
Thursday of the month.

March 18, 2:00-3:00 p.m. City of Mesa Town Hall, RMC, DW131

March 24, Free Tour 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mesa PD Family Advocacy Center

March 25 Study Hall To be announced.

Summer and Fall Class proposals now welcomed.

Report Volunteer Hours
If you volunteered for
NFLL or MCC during the
month, please record your
hours. Access the form
HERE.

## **Annual Spring Picnic**

The Social Committee, with input from the NFLL Council, has made changes in the format for the annual spring picnic. A more central location, individual ordering from the menu, and an earlier date are all upgrades for this year's event.

Here is a preview of the event details. Watch your email for the official spring picnic flyer/invitation.

When: Thursday, April 3, 2025, 11:30 a.m.

Where: Joe's Real BBQ

301 N. Gilbert Road, Gilbert

Theme: "The Coolest Person Here"

Optional: Dress for the theme; prizes awarded!

\$25 Gift Card Prizes for best "Cool Looks"



Games \* Book Exchange \* Socializing
FUN FOOD FRIENDSHIP

# **Update from Curriculum Committee**

Classes are in full force for the second half of our Spring Term. Mesa Community College will have Spring Break the week of March 10-14, with oncampus facilities unavailable. If you have an online or off-site class, be sure to check with the facilitator to see if the event will be held.

Requests for proposals for Summer and Fall 2025 classes are open now. The form to submit courses and ideas is available on the website. The Curriculum Committee welcomes members to submit suggestions for classes and/or to help finalize arrangements by contacting speakers. Contact <u>Suzanne Brown</u> if you are interested.

## **Understanding NFLL Committees**

Have you ever wondered about the different committees that make up New Frontiers? Maybe you would be interested in joining one but aren't sure which might fit your interests or talents. For the next few months, one or two committees will be featured by listing the current members, describing its mission, and identifying regular meeting days (if scheduled).

A part of Mesa Community College, volunteers make up the NFLL Council and standing committees that lead and guide our organization. Other members volunteer by assisting in determining our programming, conducting or facilitating classes, helping at member events such as Open House and Out to Lunch, and many MCC events. To ensure a future of continued success, New Frontiers needs dedicated members to assume responsibility in these positions so all members will be able to continue their discovery of knowledge, advance their learning and enjoy continued social opportunities with new friends. Wouldn't you like to try your hand in helping at an event or serving on a committee?

The **Volunteer** and **Membership Committees** are highlighted in this issue.

#### **Volunteer Committee**

This committee acts as a conduit between New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning members and Mesa Community College and community organizations to share volunteer opportunities. Volunteer Committee Co-Chairs are Mary Adamick and Dan Taylor. This committee does not meet regularly but responds to requests for volunteers as they are received.

Volunteering allows New Frontiers members opportunities to give back to Mesa Community College and, in some cases, community organizations by providing a service while sharing our time and talents as non-credit students.

Examples of volunteering opportunities include Mesa Community College Student Life programs and MCC Open Houses. Another example is We Care Wednesday which is a food distribution event that takes place on the first Wednesday of every month at the Southern/Dobson campus, and the third Wednesday of every month at the Red Mountain campus. From 10:00 a.m. to noon. It is open to all students, staff, and community members in need of food assistance.

MCC sends a request for each event needing volunteers to our NFLL liaison, Debby Smith. Debby gathers the event details and point person contact information and then forwards the information to the Volunteer Committee. The Committee assesses the event to make sure it meets our guidelines.

The Volunteer Committee then sends an email to all NFLL members about the specific event using ProClass (the database program used for member communication, program and class registration, etc.). Each email includes a link to the volunteer form. Members interested in volunteering indicate willingness to participate by completing that form and/or contacting the point person directly.

NFLL members who volunteer for events, act as class facilitators, serve on the Council or on committees are asked to report their volunteer hours monthly using the online form. Each month the total hours are reported to the NFLL Council. End-of-year totals are used in MCC reports as well.

A luncheon to express appreciation for all NFLL volunteers is held each spring. The Volunteer Committee coordinates arrangements for this lunch.

Contact Mary Adamick or Dan Taylor if you would like to be part of this committee.

### **Membership Committee**

Current members of this committee include Mary Boehlen (chair), Peggy Randolph, Kathee Rutherford, Shirley Epp, Carol Stanton, Dan Scarpone, and Diana Pearce.

Overall, the Membership Committee's responsibility is to assist each prospective member to navigate the path to joining NFLL with such tasks as:

- enrolling as a non-credit student at MCC at the Enrollment Center
- registering for the NFLL program
- obtaining a MEID account for email and class registration
- obtaining a MCC student ID
- · obtaining an NFLL nametag and lanyard

To accomplish these tasks, the Membership Committee organizes an Open House for both returning and new members to learn about the classes being offered in the next semester. Committee members are joined by Council members to welcome attendees and address questions. A New Member Coffee event organized by the Membership Committee provides new members with the opportunity to explore the benefits of NFLL membership, meet other members, and obtain assistance as needed.

Administratively, the Membership Committee prepares the requests for room reservations and refreshments when required for both the Open House and New Member Coffee. New members are contacted by email to encourage attendance at the Open House.

Peggy Randolph, Kathee Rutherford, and Suzanne Brown currently administer ProClass, the database used by MCC/NFLL for member communication, class registration, and so on.

If you are interested in learning more or joining this important committee, email Mary Boehlen.

# City of Mesa Offers Town Hall Sessions for NFLL

Mesa voters elected a new Mayor and passed several important measures in the November election. With the decline of local news coverage, however, residents often don't get the information until later. This year, the Curriculum Committee is working with Councilwoman Alicia Goforth (representing the Red Mountain and Dobson areas) and Vice-Mayor Francisco Heredia to bridge this information gap.

On Tuesday, March 18, at 2 p.m. at Red Mountain Campus, Room DW 131, Councilwoman Goforth will help us explore the variety of programs and services the City of Mesa offers for seniors. Representatives from Parks, Recreation, and Community Facilities; Community Services; and Arts and Culture will provide an overview of their resources and activities. Whether you're interested in staying active, accessing support services, or enjoying Mesa's vibrant arts scene, this session will connect you to valuable opportunities tailored for seniors.

On Tuesday, April 15, at 2 p.m. at Red Mountain Campus, Room DW 131, join Councilwoman Goforth on Tax Day, no less, to gain a comprehensive understanding of the City of Mesa's budget process with the Office of Management and Budget. This session will cover the fiscal year cycle and how budget decisions are made. Learn where Mesa prioritizes its spending across key areas like public safety, infrastructure, and recreation. This informative presentation will help you better understand how the city manages its resources to serve the community.

We hope all NFLL members will register for these events. If you have neighbors or friends who would enjoy these Town Halls, please invite them to come along!



Enjoying February's Study Hall at Uncle Bear's Grill and Tap—outside on a perfect weather day!







**Duane Roen** demonstrates one of the many instruments he and his wife Maureen brought for the Making and Playing Simple Percussion Instruments class.

#### Photos courtesy of Suzanne Brown, Bill Lentz, and Marie Ganansia

New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning Mesa Community College Office of Community Partnerships 7110 East McKellips Road Mesa, AZ 85207



Phone: 480-461-7497 Website: <u>New Frontiers</u>

Debby Smith, MCC Liaison, NFLL Email: <a href="mailto:newfrontiers@mesacc.edu">newfrontiers@mesacc.edu</a>



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