NEW FRONTIERS NEWS

Volume 25, Issue 4 Spring 2017

NEW FRONTIERS SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS

Alex Follett
Areli Miller
Victoria Erran

NFs offered five $1000 scholarships this year both from budgeted dollars, and from your generous donations.

Alex Follett, Areli Miller, Victoria Erran joined us at the NF All Member meeting. They shared their stories about their educational plans and how our scholarship has helped them move forward.

Thank you to the NF Scholarship Committee, Diana Pearce, Sissy Riley and Dan Scarpone for their efforts.

NEW FRONTIERS ALL MEMBER MEETING

Friday, March 24, New Frontiers members gathered in the Community Room at the MCC Red Mountain Campus. Pizza and soft drinks with bowls of candy at each table for dessert provided a fun and congenial environment. Music was played by Betty Edwards and Kathy Burnhardt. Tom Ranavaro led the Social Hour and Vice Provost, Dr. Nora Reyes, welcomed all in attendance. Committee Chairs each gave a summary of their activities and current volunteers. Members were urged to list what they could do on forms found on each table and visit with the Chairs following the meeting.

Thank you to Peggy Randolph for her superb coordination of the event.
SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS

**Definition:** A volunteer is a person who freely offers to take part in an enterprise or undertake a task.

Many of our New Frontiers’ members find that volunteering has positive benefits for them as well as for New Frontiers. Whether you are a member who wants to provide leadership, give input into how NFs operates, enjoys facilitating learning opportunities, or would like to assist with the hundreds of tasks required to run this organization, we need your help.

Here are a few of the stories of outstanding volunteers who make New Frontiers what it is today.
FOUNDING & CHARTER MEMBERS –
Millicent Salm and Frank Rickey,
Members from 1994 to 2017

Millicent Salm and her husband, Ray, moved from New Jersey to Queen Valley in the early 1990’s when they retired. Millicent was Development Coordinator for the Telecommunications Department at a local community college. She found she needed something in addition to reading, bridge and golf to fill her time so she found that MCC was exploring a new learning in retirement program. She was invited to join the planning group of three, that became ten, to today’s membership of over 400. Millicent became a charter member in 1994.

Millicent has served in many capacities including NFs president and facilitator for the National Issues Forums and Great Decisions Classes. As an advocate for lifelong learning, she is a member of the Mesa Community College Commission on Excellence in Education and she served on the Advisory Council for the developing Red Mountain Campus. And, Millicent drives over 30 miles each way to volunteer for New Frontiers!

Frank Rickey was searching for folks with which he had something in common following his retirement in 1993. Frank too joined the new MCC Learning in Retirement group as a charter member and quickly found the opportunity to develop something meaningful in New Frontiers, the name he suggested.

Frank’s background with the Honeywell Process Computer Department, prompted him to share his knowledge and teach beginning computers to NF members. He served as Curriculum Chair, and has facilitated the Coffee and Conversation Class(es) for past 17 years. His favorite people include Millicent and Dick Shifler, both founding members, as well as his wife Wanda and three daughters.

When asked what he does for fun, Frank said his whole life has been fun. He served in the Coast Guard, helped build a vacuum tube computer while in grad school, and was involved in developing the first computer to be used for airline reservations. And, he says that New Frontiers has been a joy and fun in his senior years!

Peggy Randolph retired from IT at Arizona State University and soon was invited to learn about New Frontiers at Open House. She said that because NFs was affiliated with Mesa Community College, it piqued her interest and she joined the organization in 1997.

Peggy has chaired the Membership Committee and started the first New Frontiers’ database. She now leads the team that handles all of NFs class registration and many of the associated tasks. She is also co-chair of the Communications Committee. When Peggy slows down a bit, she said she loves to read.
The most special people in her life are her children and grandchildren and she counts Bob Becker as her closest friend outside of her family. When asked what we would never guess about her, Peggy said that she was a “majorette” in high school and throughout college, prancing at the front of the band and twirling a baton. “Embarrassing now that I think about it” she said.

Pat DeBlake came from the cold winters of Chicago without knowing anyone. She connected with her church, the Tempe Library and the Pyle Adult Center where she heard about New Frontiers. She attended the 1998 NF Open House and became a member.

Education and people have always been a major part of Pat’s life. Her interests led her to teaching, to becoming a principal, to directing the training program for a design engineer company. She spent two years in the Peace Corps in Botswana, Africa, has provided private tutoring, and has a desire to always learn something new.

Pat was the first Social/Volunteer Co-Chair. She has served as Curriculum Chair, Vice President, President and she is currently the Acting Past President. She has served on the Board of East Valley Adult Resources, teaches English as a second language, and enjoys reading to adults and children. She is a fan of her Kindle because she says she is an “escape reader.”

Her special people are her family, friends and others who enjoy sharing a good laugh. When Pat was six years old, she had a painting displayed at the Chicago Art Institute. And currently, she usually can be found at the Mesa Arts Center in their series of art classes for older people.

NEW FRONTIERS
SPRING 2017 CALENDAR

Please check the New Frontiers calendar at: http://newfrontiers.mesacc.edu/Mem-Calendar.html

Thursday, APRIL 6
ANNUAL SPRING PICNIC
Desert Breeze Park, Chandler
Deadline for reservations is March 29, 2017
$12 members / $15 non-members
Check to MCC – mail to Lois Schaeffer

Tuesday, APRIL 25
DESERT BELLE BOAT CRUISE
Saguaro Lake Marina
Deadline for reservation is April 18, 2017
$19 each for 10 or more people
Check to Mary Kay Owen – risk form #3 required

Tuesday, MAY 16
SCOTTSDALE MUSEUM OF THE WEST TOUR
Scottsdale - Limited to 20 members
Deadline for reservation is April 28, 2017
$10 each – Check to Janice Overdoff

Fridays in MAY, JUNE, JULY & AUGUST
OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH
Please check the on-line calendar for restaurant, address and member to call for reservations.
SOCIALS & TOURS
https://newfrontiers.mesacc.edu/SocialEvents.html

Curiosity Never Retires

Phoenix Zoo - 2017

Sunshine Acres Tour - 2017

Turf Paradise - 2017
NOTES FROM Marlin Fried

By now you probably realize that New Frontiers is looking for people to help run it. We’ve stressed the need at our membership meetings, at Open Houses, in newsletters, emails, wherever. We haven’t tried skywriting yet – that’s next. The truth is – we really need help. We need people to help with the Open Houses, membership meetings, social lunches & outings, writing articles, keeping the website up to date, preparing the Class Schedules & class registration. We need people to help new members sign up and always need facilitators and presenters. If you attended the All Member Meeting, you probably heard other needs as well. I know most of our members volunteer in many ways and feel that they are stretched as much as they can be, but, if you can spare a few hours from time-to-time, talk to one of the committee chairs, officers, or members-at-large; or attend a committee or Council meeting. With all the talent and experience within our membership, we should be able to make New Frontiers even better than it is now.

One area where we have really been lacking recently is volunteering within MCC and the community. New Frontiers does not make a profit for the college. With shrinking revenue, MCC could use justification for maintaining support. We can help by volunteering for campus events such as Empty Bowls, performances, etc. We need people who can coordinate these activities – communicating between college staff and our membership.

The same holds true for events in the greater community. We are a significant part of the college’s outreach and can help both MCC and NFLL by being a known presence in the community. If you would be willing to help with one or more events on campus or in the community, please contact me.

Another way to help: class proposals for summer are due April 15 and the deadline for fall class proposals is July 1. If you want to teach a class in kick boxing, or basket weaving, lead a discussion group on volunteering, lead a trip to a blue-grass festival in Wickenburg, (or anything else), get your proposals in. See you in class.

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

NFs Fall 2016 membership was 408, and Spring 2017 membership was 71. New Frontiers membership is currently 479.

The committee will not meet April-July, but will begin their monthly meetings in August. There is a need for a co-chair, a volunteer to take the minutes at meetings, and a coordinator of the four Membership events each year. Please call Kim Gillespie or Barbara Dixon for additional information.
FROM THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE

The 2016-17 school year began the year with a big bang, starting with the departure of Co-Chair Sharon Greer and the arrival of Jennifer Wong as Co-Chair of the Curriculum Committee.

For the 2016 Fall semester New Frontiers offered 75 classes, and for the Spring 2017, 78 classes to NF members.

The end of the 2017 Spring semester will mark a changing of the guard at the Curriculum Committee with Co-Chair Margo Heaps stepping down after serving a two-year stint at the helm. Other changes are: Grid-Master Peggy Randolph, to Jean Burda; Guest Speaker Coordinator Pat Schindler, to Ruth Brooks; Secretary Barbara Dixon, to Membership Committee Chair; and David Ramis is coming onboard as the Inventory Coordinator. Members are encouraged to contact Dave to borrow courses on DVD with a view to facilitating the class.

This summer we will be offering a limited number of classes that will start as early as late May and end in mid-August. Check New Frontiers’ website after April 15 for the summer class schedule.

As we approach the end of the 2016-17 school year, we are appealing to our New Frontiers’ members to consider volunteering with the Curriculum Committee so we can continue to bring new and exciting classes to our New Frontiers’ members. We are actively seeking a Co-Chair and Secretary. For more information on these positions, you can contact Jennifer at nfljwong@outlook.com.

For those of you who have a class or an interest which you want to share with your fellow peers, go to New Frontiers’ website, download and complete a class proposal and send it to the Curriculum Committee at nfljwong@outlook.com.

In the meanwhile, let us take this opportunity to thank our departing Committee members for all their hard work on the Curriculum Committee and wish them well as they pass on the torch to us newbies.

FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Please join us on the fourth Monday of the month at 10AM usually at the Mesa Main Library for a “no obligation” look at how you too can help. Check the on-line calendar for the latest information.
President – Marlin Fried
Vice President – Dan Taylor
Secretary – Gretchen Hirni
Treasurer – Fred Searing
Members at Large – Sandra Whitley, Steven S. Johnson, Dan Scarpone & Anne Stehr
Membership – Kim Gillespie
Curriculum – Margo Heaps & Jennifer Wong
Social – Lois Schaffer & Peggy Schulz
Communications – Barbara Thelander & Peggy Randolph

Remember, New Frontiers is peer led and NF volunteers, people like you and me, make this organization work!

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

Phone: 480-461-6330
Fax: 480-461-6329
email: communications@newfrontiersaz.org

NEW FRONTIERS NEWS
Is published five times each year by the NF Communications Committee

Barbara Thelander, Communications Co-Chair & Editor
Peggy Randolph, Communications Co-Chair & ProClass Manager
Shirley & Gary Epp, Mailing
Caroline Cline, Publicity & Outreach
Allan Zisner, Webmaster
Pat DeBlake, Affiliates
Gary Kleemann, Affiliates – e mail blasts
Elyse Espinosa, Graphic Designer
Marie-france Ganantsia, Photographer
Mary Kay Owen, Photographer
Arlys Medicott, Photographer
Marlin Fried, NF President

A Maricopa County Community College
Maricopa County Community College District is an EEO/ AA Institution