



New Frontiers News

Volume 4

www.newfrontiers-mesa.org

May/June, 2007

EVALUATING OUR NEWSLETTER

By Raymond Spatti, Treasurer

At the February 23, 2007, All Members' meeting a questionnaire was distributed seeking members' input regarding the New Frontiers newsletter. With a response rate of 77%, the members overwhelmingly appreciate the newsletter and offered recommendations for the future.

Our members value the newsletter immensely, but they strongly oppose raising dues without implementing other technologies to control costs. They recommend cost saving measures such as electronic distribution of the newsletter to those who have e-mail, varying mail out formats and frequency of mailings, and taking other cost-saving measures to reduce expense.

Detailed responses are as follows:

84% of the respondents say they usually read most of the articles or the entire newsletter.

94% said that the newsletter is either somewhat important or very important to them.

36% said that the newsletter is excellent, 47% say it is good and 17% say it is o.k.

85% agree that the newsletter should be used to recognize New Frontiers members who make outstanding volunteer contributions to the organization.

77% favor distributing the newsletter by e-mail or web site AND mailing it to those who do not have e-mail (about two-thirds of our members have e-mail).

60% favor reducing the newsletter cost by mailing periodic news briefs, fliers and announcements instead of a complete newsletter.

54% favor publishing the newsletter less frequently, as a cost reducing measure.

91% oppose raising dues so that we can continue to mail printed newsletters to everyone.

29% of the respondents have been members for 0-2 years; 28% have been members for 3-5 years, and 43% have been members for 6 or more years.

The New Frontiers Council is currently using this data in formulating guidelines for future, continued publication of our newsletter. Council members expressed strong appreciation for the fine work of volunteers Chris Dugandzic and Maria Goldsmith who organize, format, and publish the newsletter. Working together we can make a good thing even better for all of us.

Curriculum Committee Pat De Blake

The 2007 Spring Semester is still in session with requests from some facilitators to extend their teaching time period to permit additional sessions. There will not be any formally announced classes for the summer, but plans have begun for the 2007 Fall Semester. The committee is considering some new locations, and is always interested in members' suggestions for classes. We strive to have something of interest for everyone. Don't overlook your own personal talents that can be shared with us! Ask any new or long time facilitator how much they have enjoyed the experience. The **deadline for proposals is August 1st** to permit the compiling of the schedule booklet for the publishing deadline.

There is a need for members to introduce guest speakers. This can be a one time occasion or many times. Any offer in this area lessens the burden of all.

Your faithful attendance at scheduled classes is a nice tribute to our facilitators, but to sincerely express appreciation to our facilitators for their generosity, we are having a buffet luncheon in their honor on May 9th.

Gratitude is expressed to the attendees of classes at Resurrection Church for their generous goodwill offerings in appreciation of the free classroom space. It was not expected, but certainly appreciated!

Save the Dates Marie Allen

New Frontiers fall Open House will be held on **Friday, September 21, 2007** from 1:00pm-3:00pm in the Navajo Room, Mesa Community College, 1833 W. Southern Avenue, Mesa 85202 .

New Frontiers Annual Meeting will be held on **Friday, October 26, 2007** from 1:00pm-3:00pm in the Navajo Room, Mesa Community College, 1833 W. Southern Avenue, Mesa, 85202

Social Committee Mary Willingham

Let's Play Ball

40 New Frontiers members enjoyed a great game of baseball on March 29 when the AZ Diamondbacks played the Chicago Cubs at Hohokam Field in Mesa. The seats were first class, the weather was tops and everyone enjoyed the game even though the Diamondbacks lost.

New Frontiers Picnic

A breezy day didn't stop 66 members of New Frontiers from attending our annual picnic on April 12 at Desert Breeze Park in Chandler. Tom's BBQ provided the meal. Door prizes were awarded. Some people visited while others took part in Bingo games and a game called Ladder Golf. Many books were brought for exchange among members. All remaining books were taken to the MCC Library for their book sale on April 18 and 19. Many thanks to Pauline Cabaniss, Elaine Shea, Phyllis Kramer, June Campbell, Marcie Wooton and Bill Still for their help

Studio Art Class

The Studio Art Class and MCC were honored to have a visiting instructor of exemplary credentials for their enlightenment last month.

Jay Yerema Weafer is an artist/curator and graduate of the Ontario College of Art & Design in Toronto, Ontario - Canada. She is an experienced and enthusiastic instructor who infuses discipline and passion into her teaching style. Her two hour session with the Studio Art group encouraged students to create art in various styles, and to apply a variety of techniques in a wide range of artistic medium and color. In addition to techniques and color, her discussions related to the artist's greatest enemy; 'Fear'. Individual attention, group sharing, critiques, and simply playing with paint helped each student identify and develop their own style to overcome their fears.

Jay's personal work is inspired and influenced by the creative energy experienced while living and painting in Florence, Italy. She and her mother own a commercial gallery and began to paint in the tradition of the Renaissance artists. Her work has been exhibited in Canada, the United States and Europe as well as found in many private, public and corporate collections. Jackie Marchant



2007

Bookshelf Potluck

Feeding their bodies while feeding their minds

Top: Ann Nereim, Susan McMichael, Beverly Schleigh, Ann Kunzelman

Rt: Norma Taliaferio
Caroline Cline



Arizona Wagon Train Adventures

Our members have participated in two enjoyable trips this Spring. We had a good day trip to the Boyce Thompson Arboretum in Superior and the Besh Ba Gowah museum in Globe in February.

Our March trip saw us in Tombstone for lunch followed by an overnight stay and dinner in Bisbee. We journeyed home via the Chiricahua National Monument.

Next up is the trip to Durango/Silverton in May. Plans are underway for the Fall Semester. **Member suggestions are welcomed.** Bruce and Joy Reid

Tour of Olive Mill Bob O'Brien

Recently a group of New Frontiers folks spent an enjoyable spring morning learning about growing olives and pressing olive oil in Arizona. The Queen Creek Olive Mill is Arizona's only working olive farm and mill. Only five years old, this boutique business already has over 1,000 olive trees producing fruit. We liked the tasting table where you can try-before-you-buy. Some of our members brought home one or more of many varieties of Extra Virgin Olive Oil available in the gift shop.



Bill Mc Fadden &
Molly Krmpotich

Beverly Travor
& Elaine Shea



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Editorial Policy

*"Due to limited space,
articles submitted may be edited."*

a Maricopa Community College
The Maricopa Community College District is an EEO/AA institution.



New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning Newsletter

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