

# NEW FRONTIERS NEWS

Volume 30, Issue 4 March-April 2022

## NEW FRONTIERS CALENDAR

**LUNCH AT MELLOW MUSHROOM**  
[11:30 AM] Thursday, March 10, 2022  
See Page 5 for more information

**SPRING BREAK (No on-campus classes)**  
Mon-Sun, March 14 -18, 2022

**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION LUNCHEON**  
[TBD]

**PICNIC AT DESERT BREEZE PARK**  
Thursday, April 14, 2022

**DEADLINE FOR SUMMER PROPOSALS**  
Friday, April 15, 2022



Monica Karels volunteering.

### SUMMER SESSION PROPOSAL FORM:

<https://newfrontiers.mesacc.edu/forms/library.html#classforms>

The new Class Proposal form is a Google form. When you click on the link, fill out the information and hit the Submit button, it will automatically save it to an NFLL drive. This will allow the Curriculum Committee to easily see all proposals, make any changes, and develop our class schedule.

**SPRING CLASSES END**  
Friday, May 6, 2022

Please check the NFLL Website  
for more information:

<https://newfrontiers.mesacc.edu>

## SUMMER SESSION PROGRAM PROPOSALS NEEDED

Summer Session 2022 courses are being solicited now. The Summer Term will run 9 weeks from June 6 – August 5, 2022. Both online and in-person proposals will be scheduled. Single classes, multi-session classes, CD/DVD classes, tours, discussion groups or activity-based classes can be proposed.

A new category of classes that have been suggested are activity classes or book discussions that can be multigenerational so that members can involve grandchildren or summer visitors. These classes will be online such as book or media discussions, or off-site activities such as museum visits, park walks, or field trips.

Put your thinking caps on and give us your suggestions.

To propose a class, please fill out the online proposal form linked on the New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning website.

Suzanne Brown, Chair Curriculum Committee, [suzannebrownpt@gmail.com](mailto:suzannebrownpt@gmail.com)

## NFLL CANNOT PROVIDE OUR COURSES WITHOUT OUR MANY VOLUNTEERS



Bob Dukelow's class: Visit to Queen Creek Botanical Gardens

### ***A big THANK YOU to the following individuals who made the Spring Term come together!***

Mary Adamick	Jacqueline May Carter	Don Larry	Daniel Mueller	John Schroeder
Cheryl Armstrong	Pam Carter	Randy Lindsay	Mel Munchinsky	Cindy Schrantz
Diane Batchlor	George Colliat	Jay Mark	Matt Norton	Richard Siek
Teresa Bitler	Brian Dille	Greg Masters	John Null	Nancy Spence
Ann Bloxam	Dovie Bryant	Jacki McDugle	Pam Ostrowski	Dan Taylor
Mary Boehlen	Bob Dukelow	Larry Merrill	Patty O'Brien	Barbara Thelander
Elton Bordenave	Richard Falconer	Laura Miller	Richard Riley	Jennifer Wong
Ruth Brooks	Marlin Fried	Lori Miller	Sissy Riley	Sam Wong
Orville Don Brown	Marie-France Ganansia	Archie Millhollon	Justin Rohner	Allan Zisner
Suzanne Brown	Diane Grogan	Shiela Millhollon	Marilynn Rydlund,	Linda Zweig
Jean Bruno	Anita Herl-Peterson	Nydia Montijo	Sonny Sampedro	
Ron Burda	Norma Hubele	Gail Morris	Scott Sandell	
Donn Cahill	Jane Severin	Larry Morrow	Lynn Sapyta	

**Who is missing from this list? YOU! Join our Curriculum group by contacting one of the Curriculum Chairs!**

## **New Frontier's French Connection Proves it's a Small World**

What are the chances two girls who were born and spent the first part of their lives in the North African country of Tunisia would be hiking together in New Frontier's hiking groups? Well, that is just the situation for Marie-France Ganansia and Odile Gres.

Both had fathers that were officers in the French Army stationed in Tunisia. After Tunisia, Odile's family moved to Morocco and then to Germany when she was only a year old, while Marie-France's family stayed in Tunisia until she was a teenager. Ultimately both returned to France for their higher education.

Odile's introduction to the States was through a student exchange with a family in California. Marie-France studied English in high school and then did her medical residency at Ohio State, following medical school in France. Both had careers in France. Odile made a significant mid-life change by following her entrepreneurial spirit to California where she started a bakery in San Francisco and had business dealings that ultimately lead her to Tempe, where she retired. Marie-France had family contacts in the States and began spending winters in Arizona while returning to southern France for summers, a lifestyle she follows today. Now both have multinational families with children in both France and the States.

Today, both Marie-France and Odile are hikers in New Frontiers hiking groups, proving that the world is a small place and coincidences really happen.

*Greg Master*



# SPRING CURRICULUM [ UPDATE ]

The Spring 2022 classes are well underway. NFLL members have enjoyed presenters on butterfly gardens, music, political science, self-development, health and wellness, and just plain fun! But there is much more to come in the second half of the term!

Members can still register for a variety of classes that will start after March 1. Travelogues on Guyana, the Netherlands, and Aotearoa, are still to come. History of the Buckhorn Baths and the 1939 New York World's Fair will still take place. Book reviews and book discussions, classes on insurance options, and aging and retirement are coming up, so check your schedule and work in some lifelong education!

The options of in-person or online classes has been successful with enrollment split almost equally between the two options. A decision was made to open all online classes to all members and response has been good in the online programs. In-person classes still need registration to attend in order that classroom capacity is not exceeded.

*Suzanne Brown, Chair Curriculum Committee*



Walkers Explore Parks



Class on Artificial intelligence



Arlys and Marie at the Desert Botanical Garden



Visit to the Phoenix Desert Botanical Garden



## FAREWELL - Gary and Vina!

This spring NFLL two long term NFLL members, Vina and Gary Kleemann, will move to San Diego. While not being able to participate in-person in NFLL classes, they do hope to stay connected from California. Let's take a moment to look back on their interesting lives and contributions to NFLL.

Vina and Gary met at the junior officer's club at North Island Naval Air Station in San Diego in 1968, Vina was an elementary school teacher and Gary a Navy Ensign preparing to deploy to Vietnam. Vina was born in Los Angeles and raised in Ajo, Arizona. She graduated from the University of Arizona before accepting a teaching position in California. Gary grew up in Whittier, California – the hometown of Richard Nixon. After graduating from high school, he went to the local community college for a year and earned a scholarship to attend San Jose State College where he received his BA in Social Sciences. After graduating, the Vietnam war was on, and Gary joined the Navy. He started training in San Diego where he met Vina. They started to write to each other while he was in Vietnam. He was a navigator for a squadron (group of ships) deployed to Vietnam. After two years in the Navy he volunteered for an early discharge.

Vina and Gary got married and Gary got a job as Director of Student Activities at Boise State College. They then went to Oregon State University where Gary earned his Master of Science. After graduating from OSU, they spent a year at UC Irvine before moving to the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California for five years. It is during this period that two sons were born and Vina was a busy mom at home.

In 1979, Vina and Gary moved to Tempe. Vina returned to teaching elementary students and Gary joined ASU to pursue a PhD in Higher Education. He retired from ASU with Emeritus status twenty-nine years later after having served in different administrative and faculty positions. He is one of the founding members of the ASU Polytechnic campus. The couple has been living in

Tempe for 43 years. Vina retired in 2000 and joined New Frontiers in 2003. Gary retired in 2008 and joined New Frontiers right away. Before Gary retired Vina said: "I married you for better and for worse but not for lunch". Gary had to keep busy! Vina has been an active member in NFLL, helping the Membership committee, helping with Open Houses, and being part of the Welcoming committee. She has also volunteered for Call for Action, first with NBC channel 12 and then with the Arizona Republic, working to mediate and help solve problems between consumers and businesses. Gary has occupied many NFLL positions over the years. He served as treasurer for three years, served as a member of the Council, helping rewrite by-laws, as a photographer and online editor for the Communications Committee and on special committees as needed. Vina says: "He always sticks his fingers somewhere".

Both see NFLL as "a unique, special organization, where everybody is a learner, where everybody continues to grow as a senior. NFLL is about great classes, yes, but overall, it is about people. It is run by volunteers, which is pretty unusual for an organization." Gary adds that he "is always amazed at the number of people who step up to help out all the time".

The pair will miss NFLL when leaving for San Diego this spring but most of all they will miss friends and acquaintances. NFLL has been a big part of their lives since retiring. But they intend to keep active in their new community which offers three nine-hole golf courses. Gary and Vina are already part of a hiking group there. Gary is also a member of the Community Education Center, and he is on the board of the North County Chapter of the World Affairs Council.

We wish them a happy California life.

*Marie Ganansia*

## OUT TO LUNCH



### Flyer



**Mellow Mushroom**

**Thursday, March 10, 2022 at 11:30 AM**

**1665 South Stapley Drive, Mesa, AZ, 85204**

**We will plan to eat on the patio.**

**[Google Map Link](#)**

It is recommended that everyone attending be vaccinated. It is also recommended you bring and wear your mask when not eating.

The contact person is Monica Karels at [phxsunshine@cox.net](mailto:phxsunshine@cox.net). Be sure Monica acknowledges your email to reserve a spot for you. Please contact her by email no later than Tuesday, March 8, by late afternoon if you want to attend.

Monica can be reached by phone at 480-835-9190 if you are unable to email her.



## **PORTRAIT - Mary Boehlen, NFLL Secretary, Chair Membership Committee**

Mary was born and raised in the Chicago land area. She attended Moser Secretarial school in Chicago and made a career working for U.S. Steel and American Reinsurance Company. Her last job was with CalPERS, the California Public Employees' Retirement System.

She retired in 2016 and moved to Arizona to be close to her brother. As she was inquiring to enroll on a class in MCC Junior College, she was directed to NFLL that she joined in 2016. One or two years later, Dan Taylor told her "Why don't you stand up and be chair of the Membership Committee?" To do that was a lot of work, mostly focused on the two annual Open Houses and New Members Coffees, but with the help of Mary McGonigle, it worked out beautifully.

Mary has always had two passions in her life: Books and animals. She didn't have any pet during her childhood but when she felt responsible enough, on the month she turned 30, she adopted her first dog, a doberman. In total, Mary has been taken care of a dozen dogs and a few cats.

In Illinois she was part of the North Shore Dog Training Club where she participated in obedience classes and tracking tests where a dog has to find objects following a path by smell.

In Arizona now, she works as a volunteer two days a week at the Maricopa County Animal Shelter, the Arizona Pet Project, the Chi Town Rescue and Dog Enrichment in Phoenix. These charitable associations provide critical support to pets and their owners, keep the animals healthy and fit.

The suffering of animals is everywhere. It is unfortunate that in Arizona, the law authorizes Pet stores to get some of their animals from Puppy Mills which are commercial dog breeding facilities characterized by quick breeding and poor conditions.

Mary's second passion is reading. She is an avid reader and despite all of the NFLL volunteering and the animal volunteering and the care of her own pets, she finds time to be attracted by non fiction books, history books, biographies, mysteries. Natural disasters like the Peshtigo fire in 1871 which made more victims than the Chicago fire fascinate her.

Her favorite mystery author is Louise Penny from Quebec, author of "cozy mysteries". For readers who love a mystery but cannot stomach the relentless violence of much modern crime fiction, a kinder, gentler alternative exists: the cozy.

Mary, it was a true pleasure to get to know you a little.

*Marie Ganansia*

## **HIKERS - Plan Extended Trips For Exotic Hikes**

Members of the hiking groups are planning two unsanctioned, unsponsored trips for extended hiking.

The first, from April 11-13 is the **Torrey Pines State Park** on the Pacific coast near San Diego. In addition to the hikes in the park, participants can enjoy the southern California night life and attractions.

The second will be in mid May to the **White Pocket Formation** south of Kanab, Utah.

Since these hiking trips are unsponsored and in no way sanctioned or supported by NF or MCC, participation is open to all, including NF members, family, friends and other interested hikers.

Those interested should contact Greg Master for further details. [gamst51@gmail.com](mailto:gamst51@gmail.com)





Hiking in Usery Regional Park



Lunch after hiking



Hiking Balanced Rock in Scottsdale



Happy Hour after visiting Mesa Historical Museum

# NEW FRONTIERS FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

New Frontiers is an organization dedicated to adults wishing to continue their discovery of knowledge and advance their learning. Founded in 1995, New Frontiers for Lifelong Learning was created through the sponsorship of Mesa Community College.

The community college is located in Mesa, Arizona and serves the communities of the East Valley of metropolitan Phoenix. We are a peer-led, self-governed organization with interests in volunteer opportunities, travel, hiking, and healthy lifestyles.

Discovering new, lifelong friendships is an added bonus.



## Curiosity Never Retires

- President – Roland Tanner
- Vice President – Bob Dukelow
- Secretary – Mary Boehlen
- Treasurer – Fred Searing
- Members at Large – Allan Zisner, Ron Schueman, Margo Heaps
- Past Presidents – Marlin Fried, Dan Taylor
- Curriculum – Suzanne Brown, Cindy Schrantz
- Social – Arlys Medicott
- Membership – Mary Boehlen, Bob Dukelow
- Support Services/Communications – Peggy Randolph, Arlys Medicott
- Volunteer Committee – Barbara Thelander, Mary Adamick, Cathy & Mary McGonigle
- Interim Associate Dean – Kris Bliss, MCC – Red Mountain
- Program Coordinator – Community Partnerships – Neva Hansen & Michelle Chambers

*Education is not something you can finish.  
Isaac Asimov, American writer and professor  
of biochemistry at Boston University*

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**NEW FRONTIERS NEWS**  
Is published five times each year by  
the NF Support Services/Communications Committee

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