

NBCC/CHESS BIOGRAPHY OF NELSON CASTANEDA

On August 9, the NBCC hosted a quick chess tournament in recognition of FM Nelson Castaneda for his longevity in our organization. Nelson joined our family in 1999, and his story in the annals of our institution is impressive. The master's most significant milestones in the club are his rankings as second place leader in regular time-controlled events and first place leader in quick chess time-controlled events. Recounting some of his most memorable victories, the professor notes that he is very proud of earning first-place titles in the 1st Planet Earth Chess Championship and the 1st Arkadijs Strazdins Cup. Of course, Mr. Castaneda has won many NBCC championships, ranking second behind the legendary Arkadijs Strazdins. Nelson is one of the most affable members in our family. For over fifteen years, the professor, who is a faculty advisor of the Central Connecticut State University Chess Club and a mathematics instructor at the university, has graciously welcomed friends and family from our chess community into his home for social activities, chess events, and instructional sessions. Beyond the club, you will often find Nelson reviewing games with his friends at his home and at Barnes and Noble on the weekends. Some of you also may recollect that Nelson, with the efforts of his wife, Nancy, was instrumental in securing our club's home at the Armenian Church of the Holy Resurrection, which is only one-third of a mile away from his home! After an evening of spirited competition, Nelson won his own honorary event, becoming only the second member in NBCC history to accomplish this, behind USCF NM Ted McHugh. Joseph Mansigian, Jithu Sajeevan, and member John Twombly tied for first place in the U1800 section.