



Building the Connection: Mini Reunions

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What is a Mini Reunion?

- An opportunity for classmates to connect
- An important class activity that helps reinforce ties to Wellesley, strengthen old friendships, and establish new ones
- Any opportunity for your classmates to connect in person

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1967's 60th Birthday Mini in Napa Valley, CA



Ideas for Mini Reunions

Mini reunions needn't be 'work' and needn't cost anything!

- Three '85 alumnae meeting at Panera is a mini reunion.
- Five class of '60 women connecting at a Chicago Club event is a mini reunion!

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Ideas for Mini Reunions

- Meet at a coffee shop or restaurant
- Tour a museum
- Piggyback onto a local Wellesley Club Event
- Attend an outdoor concert or picnic
- Visit a resort or historic location
- Volunteer together
- Host a faculty speaker
- Have a potluck or cookie swap at an alumna's home

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Ideas for Mini Reunions

- Set an annual date for your class to connect
 - » Alumnae everywhere gather on that date
 - » Take pictures and post to your website

It's a Coast-to-Coast mini!

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2005 Mini Reunion in New York City



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Who Plans Mini Reunions?

Class Vice President



Regional Chairs



State Chairs



Mini reunion Planners



Where Should We Hold Mini Reunions?

Resources for you and your team:

- Your classmate friends
- Your class list
- Your local Wellesley Club
- Your staff contact

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Class of 1990 Mini Reunion in Naples, FL



How Often Should We Hold Mini Reunions?

- Depends on your class demographics
- Set a goal as an executive board of how many/what percentage of alumnae you want to reach and engage each year
- Once a year in each area is a good target

Getting The Word Out

We all know: “Tell ’em what you’re going to tell them; tell them; tell ’em what you told them”

Well for mini reunions, it’s:

- “Tell ’em about the event to come; have the event; tell ’em what fun the event was (and when the next one is/ how they can help)”

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Getting The Word Out

Set dates of mini reunions well in advance, then publicize, publicize, publicize!

- Broadcast email
- *Wellesley News*
- Website
- Hard copy invitations
- Facebook
- Newsletter / Class notes
- Phone tree

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Broadcast Email to Promote a Mini



Wellesley Class of 2001

[Image]

August Mini Reunion- Boston Area

Greetings, 01'ers!

As reunion is less than a year away, it's time to beef up our participation in Mini Reunions. Many of you see each other on a regular basis, but we want to extend those informal gatherings to include all 2001'ers.

To get started (or re-started, as the case may be) please join me at the Beer Garden at [Charlie's Kitchen](#) in Cambridge, MA on Thursday, August 12, 2010 at 6pm. If it's raining or too hot, we'll simply go inside. Grab a bite to eat or a drink and reconnect with classmates. Significant others and friends are welcome.

Look for more Boston area minis in the near future. To arrange for a mini in your area, please [contact me](#) ASAP!

Finally, as always, join our [Facebook group](#) to keep up to date on the goings on of our class.

Thanks and happy summer,
Alex Somers
Class of 2001 VP
asomers@alum.wellesley.edu
781-316-1550

-----Over 15,000 alumnae are registered for the Online Community - are you?

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Hard Copy Invitations

- Budget for them- postcards work well
- Download a class list from the Volunteer Connect
 - » Sort by area code

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Hardcopy Invitations to Promote a Mini



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*Come celebrate
old and new friendships
at a special 1954 luncheon!*

October 16, 2010 • 12:00 noon

Cost: \$45 per person

Pera Mediterranean Brasserie

303 Madison Avenue, NYC

Please R.S.V.P. with a check payable to Class of 1954
no later than October 6th to:

Janet Blakeman

222 East 80th Street, Apartment 5C

New York, NY 10075

Funding Your Mini Reunion

- If separate hard copy invitations are wanted, propose and budget for them as an executive board
- Plan dates in advance to include in the annual class newsletter to save costs
- Use free publicity:
 - » Broadcast emails
 - » Your class website
 - » Facebook
 - » Volunteer phone trees

Getting Classmates Involved

- Involve classmates by encouraging participation in organizing the mini reunion
- Telephone classmates in the area ten days prior to the mini reunion as a reminder

Class of 1964 Mini Reunion in Maine



During The Mini

- Provide nametags
- Bring a guest book or laptop to capture attendee contact information, (especially email), and class notes
- Take pictures
 - » for your website
 - » for a reunion slide show
- Bring a lost classmates list
- Distribute an interest form to solicit future volunteers, ideas for locations, etc.

After The Mini

- Post pictures to class website
- Include a link to the web posting in your next broadcast email
- Send the class secretary class notes received in the guest book
- Forward any updated alumnae contact information to updates@alum.wellesley.edu
- File a mini reunion report

Mini Reports

Wellesley Alumnae Class Mini Reunion Report

Name of hostess/organizer: _____

Class: _____

Day: _____ Date: _____ Time: _____
(Friday, Saturday, etc.) (Month, Date, and year)

Location (alumna's home, restaurant, museum, etc.): _____

City: _____ State: _____

Number of alumnae in attendance: _____ Non-alumnae guests: _____

Event was publicized by: Mailed invitation Email Website Phone Calls
(circle all that apply) Facebook Class Newsletter Other: _____

To whom was the publicity sent? Whole Class Class Subset (explain) _____

How was the event funded? Dutch treat pre-paid by alumnae Fully funded by class treasury
(circle all that apply) Partially funded by class treasury Other? _____

Potential class leaders in attendance: (names and skills/recommended roles)

Please share any comments or additional information you think would be helpful or interesting:

Please complete within 30 days of the event and submit to the class vice president and welclasses@alum.wellesley.edu

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Destination Minis



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Recap

- A mini is any gathering of 3 or more classmates
- Mini reunions needn't be 'work' and needn't cost anything!
- Piggyback on club events
- Set an annual date for your class to connect

Structure Recap

Class Vice President



Regional Chairs



State Chairs



Mini reunion Planners



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Recap

- Set a goal as an executive board of how many/what percentage of alumnae you want to reach and engage each year
- “Tell ’em about the mini to come; have the mini; tell ’em what fun the mini was (and when the next one is/ how they can help)”

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Questions?



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We Are Here to Help!

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Have fun!

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