

BUILDING THE CONNECTION: MINI REUNIONS



WHAT IS A MINI REUNION?

- ③ An opportunity for classmates to connect
- ③ An important class activity that helps reinforce ties to Wellesley, strengthen old friendships, and establish new ones
- ③ Any opportunity for your classmates to connect in person.



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

IDEAS FOR MINI REUNIONS

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

- ③ Three '82 alumnae meeting at Panera is a mini reunion.
- ③ Five class of '67 women connecting at a Chicago Club event is a mini reunion!





IDEAS FOR MINI REUNIONS

- ② Meet at a coffee shop or restaurant
- ② Tour a museum
- ② Piggyback onto a local Wellesley Club Event
- ② Attend an outdoor concert or picnic
- ② Go to a resort or historic location
- ② Volunteer together
- ② Host a faculty speaker



IDEAS FOR MINI REUNIONS

- ② Set an annual date for your class to connect
 - ② Alumnae everywhere gather on that date
 - ② Take pictures and post to your website



1991 Baby Shower Mini Reunion in New York

WHERE SHOULD WE HOLD MINI REUNIONS?

Class Vice President



Regional Chairs



State Chairs



Mini reunion Planners



alumnae

Wellesley

WELLESLEY COLLEGE ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION

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



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:

- ③ “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)”



GETTING THE WORD OUT

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

- ◎ Broadcast email
- ◎ Website
- ◎ Hard copy invitations
- ◎ Facebook
- ◎ Newsletter / Class notes
- ◎ Phone tree



HARD COPY INVITATIONS

- ③ Download a class list from the Volunteer Connect
 - ③ Sort by area code
- ③ Call Christine for a list

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



Sail On

1937 Fall Mini-Reunion

*Thursday, October 19, 2006, at Noon
Wellesley College Club*

*Husbands and guests are welcome.
If you can't be with us, share your news.*

*For reservations, please reply to Mary-Leigh Smart by Monday,
October 16. Please make checks for \$17.95 payable to Mary-
Leigh and mail to her at: 30 Surf Point Road
York, ME 03909-5053
207-363-3637*



Wellesley 1943

Dear '43 Classmates,

President
Dorothy Jane Whitcomb Andrews
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Vice President
Anne Mather Jenkins
PO Box 655
Cotuit, MA 02635
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Frances Brezner Shuman
403-B Dedham Street
Newton Center, MA 02459
(617) 332-4889

By popular demand, Anne Mather Jenkins and I have arranged to have a summer luncheon at the College Club on Thursday, July 20. And once again, all '43ers who attend will be guests of the Class.

The library has been reserved for us, and the chef has planned a delicious luncheon. We'll gather at the Club at 11:30 AM and hope for a big turnout. This is always a very popular party.

We know many of you like to have a husband or a friend help with the driving, and your chauffer is welcome to join us. The cost of the luncheon for guests will be \$20, which will include tax and tip. For those who wish, drinks will be available on a cash basis.

We have to know how many of you will be attending. Please make your check for **\$20 per guest** payable to me. And, be sure to call or write to me **before July 17** to tell me how many will be coming.

Dorothy Jane Andrews
22 Tabor Hill Road
PO Box 267
Lincoln, MA 01773
(781) 259-8706

With love to all,

D. J.

GETTING CLASSMATES INVOLVED

- ③ Involve classmates by encouraging participation in organizing the mini reunion
- ③ Telephone classmates in the area ten days prior to the mini reunion as a reminder

DURING THE EVENT

- ⊙ Provide nametags
- ⊙ Have a guest book 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 EVENT

- ⊙ 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



AFTER THE EVENT

- ⊙ Evaluations:
 - ⊙ what worked well/didn't in terms of publicity
 - ⊙ what worked well/didn't in terms of venue
 - ⊙ attendance
 - ⊙ feedback from attendees
 - ⊙ Comments from the organizer
 - ⊙ Consider [surveymonkey.com](https://www.surveymonkey.com)

TRIPS AS MINIS



Class of 1976 Mini to Portugal

RECAP

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

STRUCTURE RECAP

Class Vice President



Regional Chairs



State Chairs



Mini reunion Planners



RECAP

- ③ Set a goal as an executive board of how many/what percentage of alumnae you want to reach and engage each year
- ③ “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)”

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

Christine Kurtz

Assistant Director of Classes

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781-283-2336

Have fun!

QUESTIONS?

