Welcome

2017 Volunteer Conference Reunion Planning 2018

September 15-17, 2017

MOUNT OLYOKE

Introduction

Melissa Russell '01 Janet Glick



Goals for Today

- Reunion-Planning Timeline
- Identify your reunion goals and create your vision
- Updates on the new Community Center and how if impacts you
- Learn all about the Alumnae Association planning process
- Understand the College's rules and regulations
- Continue to build your budget
- Identify the tools you need to help plan Reunion
- 8 months starting now!

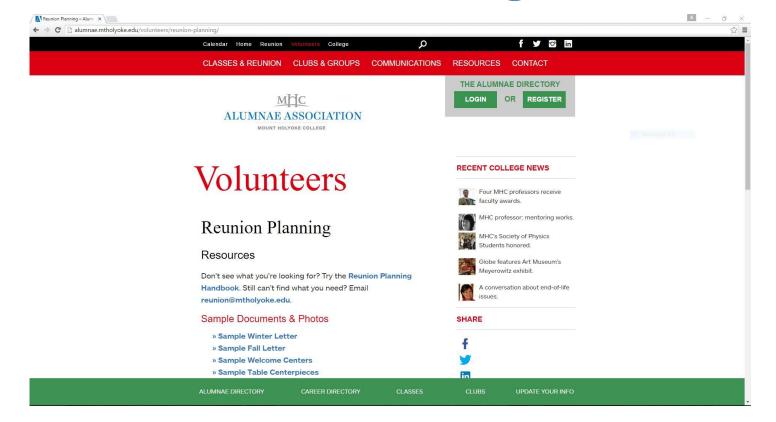


Resources

Alumnae Association Website	• <u>alumnae.mtholyoke.edu</u>
Volunteer Page	 <u>alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/volunteers/reunion-planning</u>
Reunion Page	• <u>alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/reunion</u>
Primary Contact Director of Classes and Reunions	reunion@mtholyoke.edu413-538-2652
General questions about the Alumnae Association	 alumnaeassociation@mtholyoke.edu 413-538-2300
Alumnae Association Classes and Reunion Committee Page	• alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/reunion/committees



Volunteer Page



http://alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/



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Reunion Committee

Mandatory Positions

- Class President
- Communications/Web Coordinator
- Reunion Chair
- Treasurer

Optional Positions

- Booklet/Questionnaire Chair
- Costume Chair
- Hospitability Chair
- Program Chair
- Reunion Scribe
- Sign Chair
- Social Chair



Getting Started with Reunion Planning!

General Reunion-Planning Timeline

		1	
WORK ON [THIS MONTH]	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE	DUE TO ALUMNAE ASSOC. ON:
	24 months prior to Reunion		
Spring/	Organize a conference call with class board to begin discussion of	Reunion Chair(s);	
Summer	reunion goals and objectives	Class President	
		•	
18 months prior to Reunion			
Summer/Fall	Continue reunion planning discussions with class board and	Reunion Chair(s);	
Summer/Fall	volunteers	Class President	
November	Have a second conference call with your class board to discuss your reunion	Reunion Chair(s)	
lanuary	Create a plan/timeline for your reunion; begin seeking additional	Reunion Chair(s)	
January	volunteers	Nominating	
lanuary	Class presidents and reunion chairs attend conference call on	Classes & Reunion	
January	reunion planning	Committee	



What Does Reunion Look Like?







What Does Reunion Look Like?







What Does Reunion Look Like?





Reunion Budgeting

Melissa Anderson Russell '01 Bridget Mahoney '06



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Our Goal: To ensure this is not you!





What Does Reunion Cost?



What Does Reunion Cost?

In past years the average cost to attend Reunion for alumnae was approximately \$380.00



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Reunion Packages

Three-Day Reunion Package

Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and dinner, registration fee, and reunion programming Friday through Sunday

Reunion Package with Overnight

Friday Dinner, Saturday lunch and dinner, registration fee, and reunion programming Friday through Sunday and overnight Thursday, Friday, and Saturday



- Package (does not include class fee) \$219.00
- Package for 5th Year (does not include class fee) \$154.00
- Package for 2nd year (does not include class fee) \$129.00

Two-Night Minimum Friday & Saturday



- Reunion Package (does not include class fee)
- Thursday optional overnight \$50.00 (includes breakfast)
- Friday & Saturday overnight \$100.00 (includes breakfast)

Reunion Packages

Two-Day Reunion Package

Saturday lunch and dinner, registration fee, and reunion programming Saturday through Sunday

Reunion Package with Overnight

Saturday lunch and dinner, Registration fee, and reunion programming Saturday through Sunday and overnight Friday and Saturday

Two night minimum Friday & Saturday



- Package (does not include class fee) \$201.00
- Package for 5th Year (does not include class fee) \$136.00

Saturday & Sunday

Reunion Package

Package for 2nd year (does not include class fee) \$111.00

Two Day Reunion Package

Friday & Saturday overnight \$100.00 (includes breakfast)

Reunion Charges - Packages

Friday through Sunday

What's included:

- Friday Dinner
- Saturday Picnic Lunch
- Saturday Dinner
- Alumnae Association Registration Fee
- Class Fee (you set the price)

Saturday through Sunday

What's included:

- Saturday Picnic Lunch
- Saturday Dinner
- Alumnae Association Registration Fee
- Class Fee (you set the price)





Reunion Charges - Meals

Meals included in Package

- Friday Night Dinner
 - \$18.00 in New Community Center
 - Dinner in your dorm (you set the cost)
- Saturday Lunch
 - Reunion I Picnic \$15.00
 - Reunion II In New Community Center \$16.00
- Saturday Night Dinner
 - \$35.00 in the New Community Center
 - Willits-Hallowell Center cost determined by menu choice
 - Off Campus cost determined by menu choice



Reunion Charges – Association Fee

Alumnae Registration Fee

Fee pays for administrative costs including:

- Set-up and clean-up by Alumnae Association & College staff
- Student workers
- Reunion programming
 - Golf carts for parades and loyalty classes, wheel chairs, reunion signage on campus, security for parade and non class events, marching band for the parades, flowers for presidents and seniors, food at affinity receptions, activities on the green during Reunion I, registration refreshments, printed schedules, and brochures.

Alumnae Association Registration Fee's

- 2nd Reunion \$50
- 5th Reunion \$75
- All other classes \$150



Reunion Charges – Class Fee

Class Fee (you set the price)

Fee pays for class expenses including:

- Parade Accessory
- Booklet/Special Project
- Decorations for dorm
- Hospitality (alcohol, hosted breakfast, snacks, water bottles, supplies)
- Reception Saturday before dinner
- Parade Signs
- Other miscellaneous expenses



Reunion Charges – Overnight Bed & Breakfast

- \$100 per bed, Friday/Saturday overnights (includes breakfast)
- \$50 per bed, Thursday overnight (includes breakfast)
 - Thursday Reunion I 50th reunion class returns
 - Thursday Reunion II 55th & 60th reunion classes return
- This money goes directly to the school and is not part of the class's reunion budget
- 8 free beds for committee members Thursday night with reimbursement after Reunion*

*Reunion committee arrival Thursday

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Creating your Reunion Budget



Step 1: Remember your vision

- What is your goal?
- Your answers will:



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Step 2: What's in the piggy bank?





Treasuries can be used to supplement the cost of Reunion

Use funds to defray specific costs such as:

- Reunion mailings
- Reunion committee administrative costs
- Honorary guests (meals, accommodations)
- Reunion scholarships
- Gifts
- · Projects that exceed standardized fees



Treasurers and Treasuries are key

- Leading up to Reunion, class treasuries pay up front costs of all reunion expenses
- A check from the Alumnae Association for class andguest fees collected are sent to the class treasurers in late April
- Treasurer is responsible for recording all reunion transactions and closing the books with the reunion chair
- A final budget, including actual reunion costs, must be submitted to the Classes and Reunion Committee liaison by July 31



Set up PayPal Account for your Class

Set up PayPal Account

Go to <u>https://www.paypal.com/us/home</u>, then click Sign Up Choose the Business Account, then Standard Follow the prompts to create an account

Create a PayPal button

Log into your PayPal account and then click on Tools, then All Tools Go to PayPal buttons and click Open, then Related Items, then Create New Button. Follow instructions from there

Copy PayPal Button onto Website

Copy the HTML snippet from PayPal and go to your website Paste to the body of your website or add a PayPal Widget and paste your snippet there

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Bottom line....

Get guidance from your class board on how much money is available to offset reunion expenses.



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Step 3: What you need to start your budget

Things to keep in mind...

- Buying your own alcohol and beverages is less expensive than ordering from Willits-Hallowell
- One bottle of wine yields 4.5 glasses on average but not everyone will drink wine
- Don't forget non-alcoholic drinks.
- Ordering hors d'oeuvres costs more at Willits-Hallowell, but it's easier
- Friday night activities are individually planned.



Step 3: What you need to start your budget

Even more things to keep in mind...

- Remember to account for honoraries and speakers
- Do not forget to figure in tax and gratuity where appropriate
- Will your class offer scholarships

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND KITCHENS ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR USE IN DORMS





Reunion Budgeting:

- Estimate Mailing Expenses
- Mailings for Reunion are a class expense and therefore come out of the class treasury
- Mailing expenses which consist of:
 - Fall Letter (sent in Nov.) Can be sent via email at no cost
 - Winter letter (sent in February) mandatory hard copy mailing
 - Any additional mailings for surveys, etc. the class plans
- A reasonable estimate is \$550.00 per mailing for an all-paper mailing; choosing to send your letter via broadcast email can reduce costs



Step 4: Creating the Reunion Budget

WORKSHEET A: ESTIMATED EXPENSES

				Total
Fall Letter			\$	0
Winter Letter		\$		
Total Reunion Mailings		s	\$	0
Attendance Expenses				
	Estimated # of alumnae attendees	Cost per person	Total (Multiply the two columns at left to obtain this total.)	
Class Fee The class fee includes the items listed below; it is separate from the Friday dinner fee and the Saturday social hour and dinner fee.				
Parade Costume		\$	\$	0
Booklet (optional)		\$	\$	0
Decorations		\$	\$	0
Name Tags (if choosing to produce on own)		\$	\$	0
Refreshments		\$	\$	0
Signs		\$	\$	0
Memorial Flowers (optional)		\$	\$	0
Class Programming		\$	\$	0
Alumnae Scholar Fund Contribution (optional)		\$	\$	0
Friday Social Hour		\$	\$	0
Misc/Reunion Committee Administrative Expenses		\$	\$	0
Misc/Class Projects		\$	\$	0
Misc/Reunion Scholarships (optional)		\$	\$	0
		1.2		0



Questions?



Lunch Morrison Room Willits-Hallowell

12:45–2:00 p.m.

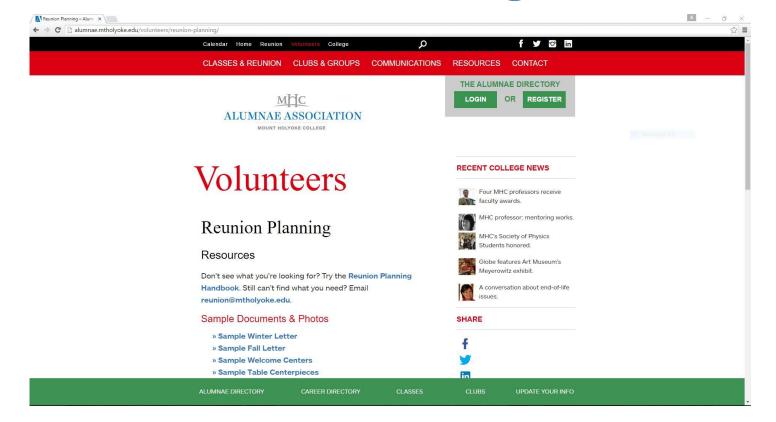


Welcome

2017 Volunteer Conference Reunion Planning 2018 Reunion I

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Volunteer Page



http://alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/volunteers/reunion-planning/



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Getting Started with Reunion Planning!

Reunion-Planning Timeline



Reunion Budgeting



Reunion Planning Nuts & Bolts Fun, Food and Felonies Reunion I

Linda Crootof '67 Janet Glick



Reunion is a complex event that balances people's expectations with the College's available resources

• In 2017, **1,758** alumnae and guests came to campus

	Reunion I	Reunion II
Alumnae	737	545
Guests	299	177
Total	1036	722

- 19.53% of alumnae returned for their reunion
- Reunion I also includes planning for seniors and their families; an additional 1,000+ people



Fun

Saturday morning is taken up with Association planned activities

- Laurel Parade
- Alumnae Association Meeting
- Class Photo



Fun

The best times for class activities

- Friday evening: Game night ٠
- Saturday afternoon: Class meetings, hikes, scavenger hunts, community service • project, seminars, and speakers
- Saturday evening: Social hour, DJ •
- **Sunday morning:** Activities, hikes, class memorial service



Fun Ideas for class activities

- Common Read Discussion
- Mohos at the Movies: Friday night movie in the dorm living room
- Service Project: Donations and/or volunteering for a food bank, Birthday Wishes, homeless shelters, animal shelters
- **Travel Discussions:** Talk about the great places you've traveled
- Visit to Mary Lyon's Grave: Consider bagpipes for memorial service
- Art Museum: Schedule a formal tour
- **Music or other performance:** Sing-a-long, performance by musical classmates, open mic reading, skits, etc.
- Visit your old haunts: Odyssey Bookshop & Tailgate





What is available:

Most equipment that you will need is available through the College.



Fun Plan for your class meeting

- Each class must hold a class meeting during Reunion
- Sample agenda is on the volunteer page of website
- Representative from the Alumnae Association Board of Directors will discuss updates on the Association at the beginning of the meeting
- Class Loyalty Award presentations can be done at class meetings/social hour. Timing is coordinated with the Alumnae Association and class president
- Come to Reunion prepared with a slate of officers



Fun

Class Nominating Committee

- Class president should make any final appointments to the nominating committee
- The committee works to identify good candidates and gets their agreement to run for office
- Names for the slate are due on January 15
- Names for slate must be prepared prior to Reunion





Will your class offer scholarships for classmates to come to Reunion?

Scholarship Form



Food

Meals & Catering



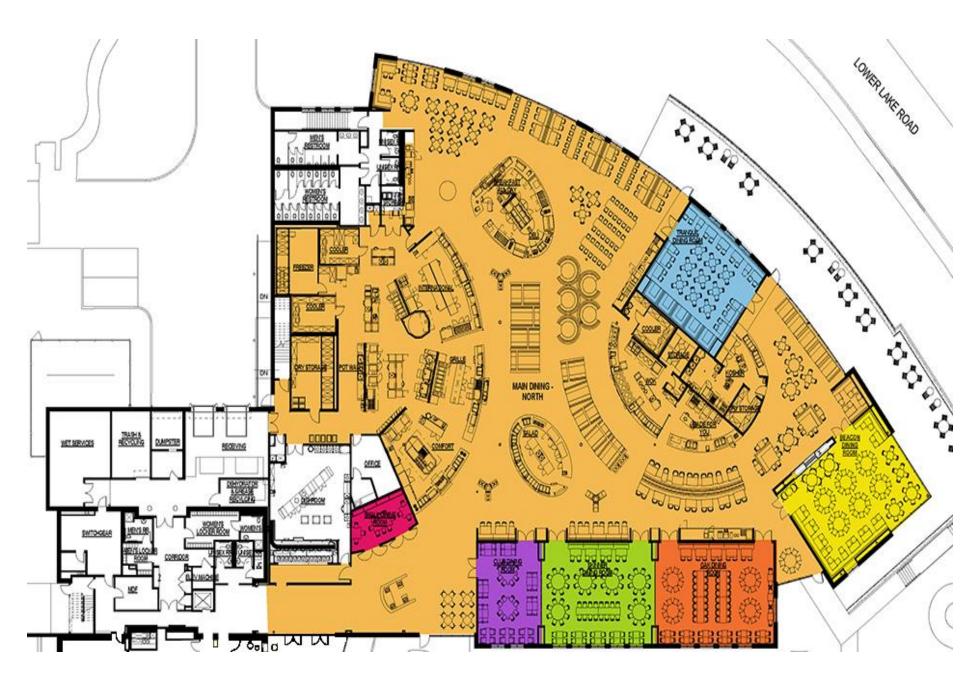
Imad Zubi, Director Willits-Hallowell Center Mount Holyoke College





The New Community Dining Center



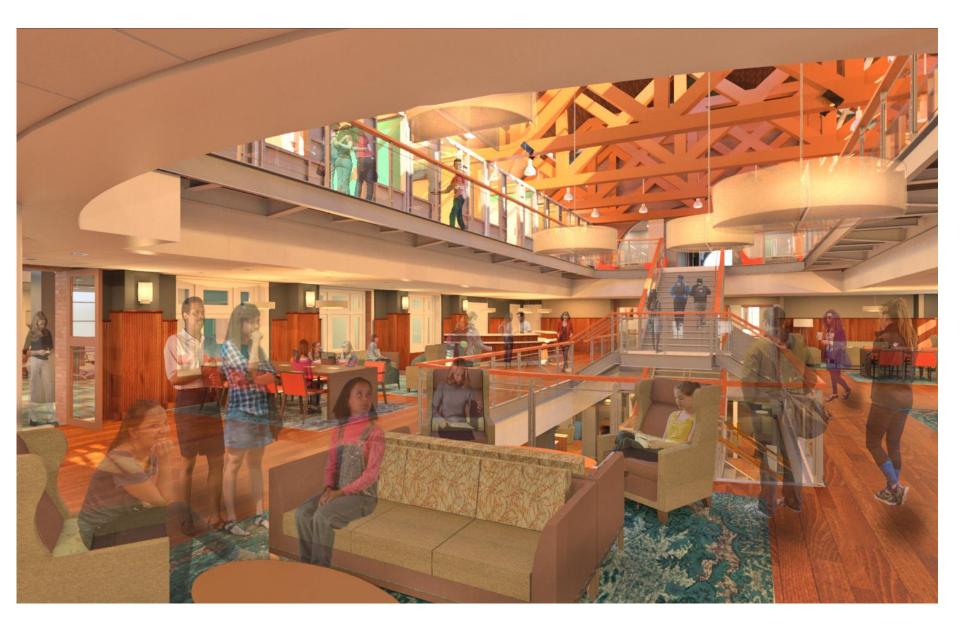












Food

Meals & Catering

- Classmates will have dietary options available
- Meals are now included in a package
- Menus will be pre-set and will offer stations
- Friday night (Taste of Mount Holyoke) open until 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday night buffet stations with options
- Breakfast will be hot and cold items
- Parents can sign children up for meal package only
- Meal pricing reduced because of packaging







Are you inviting honoraries, special guests, or speakers to your meals and/or are they staying overnight ?



??? What spaces are available on campus?

- Almost all spaces on campus can be used by a class if they are available
 - Reunion I is more difficult to reserve space because of graduation-related events and activities
 - o Alumnae Association staff can help you determine what space is available



Felonies We must be in compliance with Liquor Laws

- South Hadley law: No open containers are allowed outside in public space
- Bartenders are required if the event is at a location on campus governed by MA state liquor law (i.e. Blanchard, Chapin)
- Class should consider hiring outside bartenders to avoid possible liability issues



Felonies Crowd Control Policies

- Massachusetts Law (527 CMR 10.13 (d)) requires "Massachusetts-certified crowd managers" be used at venues with a capacity of 100+ persons that are set up for dancing
- Mount Holyoke's policy requires campus police to be on hand for events at these locations, and capacity restrictions are enforced
- Spaces on campus typically impacted by Massachusetts crowd control law: Blanchard, Chapin, Kendade Atrium, Willits-Hallowell
- Expected costs:
 - Certified crowd managers: \$240 for 2 for the length of the event
 - Campus police: \$350 for 2 officers for 5 hours

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When in doubt, reread your mission statement and check the Reunion Planning Handbook





When will the class dorm be assigned?

- Spring of reunion year
- Selection is based on factors including:
 - Seniors staying in dorms
 - Number of attendees in your class
 - Special logistical needs



???

When will we know how many people have registered?

- Weekly reports are available two weeks before registration deadline, starting around April 1
- Reunion chairs are responsible for disseminating information to reunion volunteers and class officers
- You may want to post the link on your Facebook page of classmates who are coming—but be sure to keep in mind privacy concerns



How do I get a list of classmates?

• Memorial Service (list of deceased classmates)

<u>???</u>

- Birthday celebrations (celebrate those who return to campus)
- Awards at Reunion (farthest away, early-bird registrations)

http://alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/







Building Momentum for Reunion

Linda Crootof '67 Bridget Mahoney '06



Starting Now

- Continue getting your class engaged for Reunion
- Continue communication by social media, email blasts
- Explore affinity groups within class—use social media
- Encourage class officers to participate in outreach



Photos and Letters

Encourage classmates to send photos of their life events, babies, new business, art work, visits with classmates, wildlife in the yard – anything they are interested in.

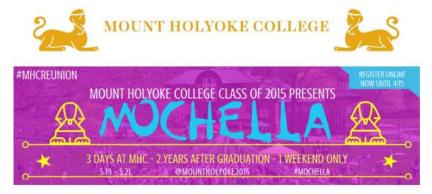
Keep your class informed involving the upcoming reunion with a fall reunion letter and winter reunion letter.

1962 created a "Creative62showcase" slideshow to be shown on a loop in the dorm all weekend.

https://sites.google.com/site/holyoke62creative/products-services



Photos and Letters



Dear 2015 Sphinx,

Our first reunion is almost a month away—don't forget to register by April 15 to reserve your spot! Reunite with your classmates from around the world for this special weekend to catch up with your friends on Skinner Green, go "back-toclass" with your favorite professors, and celebrate our little siblings during the Laurel Parade—our first as alumnae!

See below for five important updates and announcements:



2015's Two Year Reunion Theme: Mochella!

This music festival inspired weekend will feature a mix of class and campus wide activities—think Pangy Day meets Spring Weekend meets Senior Week with serious some hella 'chella peace and love vibes. The line-up includes a totally chill pizza night with an open mic, devilishly delicious M & Cs, seriously good food trucks from across the Valley and totally wacked out Big/Little Party, and much more. Stay tuned via email and check out the Reunion Facebook Event page for more #Mochella updates.



The Official Lineup

We are proud to announce this ~groovy~ lineup for 2015's campus events at our reunion festival. More of your favorite activities like Back to Class, Canoe Sing, and Department At-Homes TBA!





Brainstorm



Internal Awards

- How it works
- What to tell classmates at this point



Class Planning Time

Work on budget and ideas for Reunion 3:30–5:00 p.m.

Classes & Reunion Committee members and Alumnae Association staff are available for any questions



Welcome to Sunday's Reunion-Planning Workshop



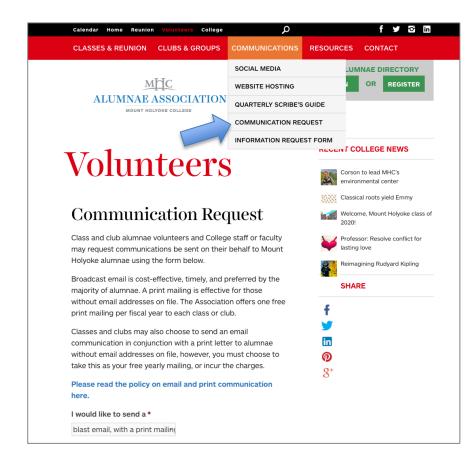
Ways to Engage Your Classmates for Reunion



Janet Glick



Blast Emails & Print Letters



Submit Communication Request form on website

Choose:

- Email only
- Print only
- Email & Print (will only go to those without email addresses)
- 5 business days for emails
- 14 business days for letters



Blast Emails



Hello, Class of '77!

Do you remember when Star Wars first opened in May 1977, taking the moviegoing world by storm? Of course you do, because MHC Class of '77 was taking the world by storm as well, having graduated just days before. So when it came time to choose our class theme for this year's Laurel Parade, Star Wars was the clear favorite-a tour de FORCE, if you will.

From light sabers, to Princess Leia get-ups, to pearls of Yoda wisdom, the force WILL be with us as we rock our 40TH REUNION in South Hadley this May 19 -21-and we want YOU to be with us, too!

In fact, you can order a white Princess Leia costume for the parade online at Target, Party City, or Amazon if you wish. Or, you could make your own. But that's up to you; regular whites are perfectly great!

- Preferred channel for most • alumnae
- Extremely high open and • click-through rates
- Timely and cost-effective •



Mhc ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

Dear Classmates,

received a challenge from the Alumnae A Directory.

This is the first reunion year when almost schedules that can allow us to get togeth and sisterhood. Our Reunion Chair Susan conference call for class officers to talk at that "celebration" will be the key. She inv Reunion and/or interest in joining the cor at smozena@ameritech.net or 313-885-

Print Letters

CLASS OF 1962

Dear Classmates,

Our 55th reunion is less than three will join us for a terrific experience.

 Renew your bonds with Mount H Upper Lake in spring, and connect
 See classmates you have not seen

We are planning a variety of activiti

At our 50th reunion we connected ceremony and during the panel disc look forward to reconnecting at a 'l we will share until our 75th. A num can be forged this May. Expect an

Martha Lee Edmonds Owen asks t "Creative62Showcase." This will be your gardens, artwork, theater perfe you are doing with your classmates computer for details and submissio

Judy Osborne is in charge of the re Common Read, Between the World an author's 15-year-old son about racia put excellent preparatory materials discussing it.



February 2017

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

Dear Classmates,

Our reunion is now only a few short months away, and we hope those of you who are still unsure will decide to join us for what we think will be a great weekend. Just in case you haven't heard, the dates are May 19–21.

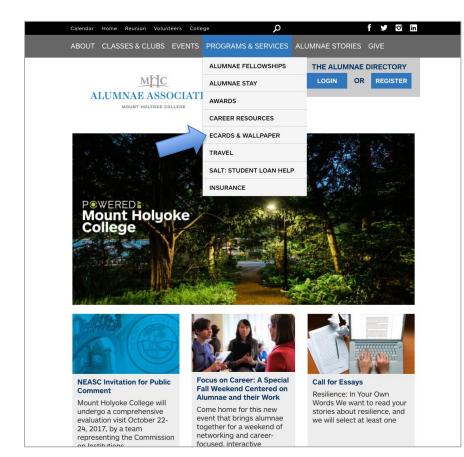
We are planning a variety of activities, in addition to the campus-wide events, to ensure there is something for everyone. Here's an early preview (thanks to all who have volunteered to help thus far):

- Friday afternoon: The Back-to-Class sessions have become extremely popular, or join the '92-sponsored Alumnae Fun Run.
- Friday evening: Meet up with classmates upon arrival at our class headquarters. (Dorms are allocated based on # of attendees and rooms are assigned by the Alumnae Association, so register early and make sure to indicate your family or roommate arrangements on the form.)
- Saturday morning: Yoga before breakfast, followed by the Laurel Parade, Alumnae Association Annual Meeting, Class Photo and lunch on the Green. Don't forget your white outfit—we are hoping to win one of the reunion cups, which are based on class counts from the parade.
- Saturday afternoon: Join our Mountain Day in May (transportation provided, with ice cream at the top), visit the Class of 1942, or attend a Department-at-Home.
- Saturday evening: We'll begin the evening honoring the memory of lost classmates. We will elect new officers during the class meeting, followed by a social hour, dinner, Canoe Sing, and an '80s Rule Dance Party."

- One free print mailing for each class per year, sent at bulk rate (one page, single or double-sided)
- Can send more than one mailing or more than one page and incur charges



eCards

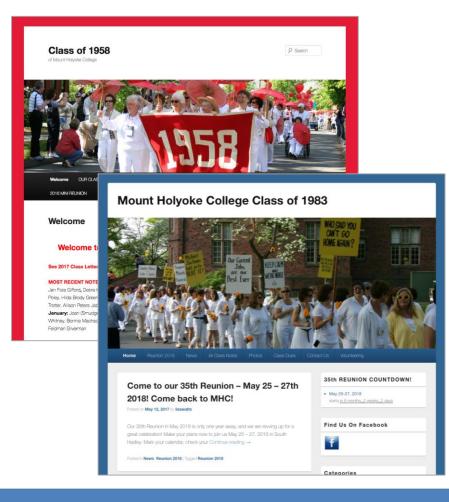


- Free through website
- Send anytime
- Select a fun image
- Personalize your message





Class Websites



Websites should be clean, simple, and evergreen

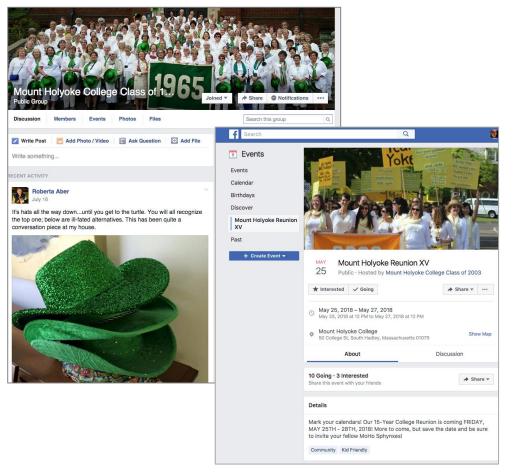
- Class board
- Dues payment
- Contact information
- Links to social media

Websites aren't for everyone

They take a lot of care. Social media may be a better option.



Social Media



Facebook Groups: Great for classes

- Can be set to "open" or "closed"
- Can send direct messages
- Can house the same information as a website
- Added benefit: can push out messages to all followers
- Events function to promote Reunion



Association Promotion





For website and social media coordinators:

- We will post weekly promotions on our Facebook page and email to you to share
 - Slideshows of campus
 - Class scarves drawing
 - Promotion video
- Don't forget that our website and the College website always have interesting content to share
 - Quarterly articles
 - Profiles of alumnae
 - Class products
 - Updates on campus





Proposed Timeline & Tactics

Fall Letter Email: Text due October 10 Happy Holidays Email: December/January Winter Letter: Send via print mail / text due January 10 Registration Opens Email: March

Send an eCard in between other mailings.

Post on social media once per week:

- Shorter posts do better.
- Photos perform 53% better than other types of posts.
- Posts with questions garner 100% more comments than those without.
- Share from Alumnae Association Facebook page.

Keep your website up to date if you have one.



Welcome to Sunday's Reunion-Planning Workshop Reunion I



Report Out on Budget and Reunion Ideas

Bridget Mahoney '06



Managing your Reunion

Linda Crootof '67



It is not always smooth sailing

When challenges arise, reach out to:

- Other class officers
- The Classes and Reunion Committee
- The Alumnae Association Office



Many classes have faced the same challenges

- Reunion chairs who do not communicate with the class board
- Illness or unforeseen events which keep class officers from fulfilling their duties
- Treasurers who have become non-responsive
- Reunion chair that tries to do it all



How might you handle these dilemmas?



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Share your stories....

Has your class had a difficult situation to manage pertaining to Reunion?

How did you handle it?



Through the Gates...

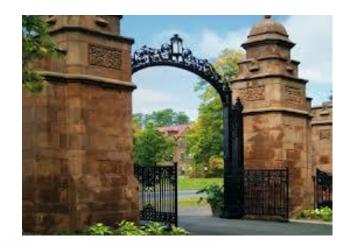
Linda Crootof '67 Bridget Mahoney '06



Through the Gates...

What are the first three things you will do when you leave here?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.





Resources

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Thank you for your participation in the Reunion-Planning Workshop for Reunion I

