Join Us for Reunion 2017!

Next June might feel like a long time from now, but Reunion 2017 will be here before we know it. I had such an enjoyable time at my first Middlebury reunion last summer, and I’m ready to hear more alumni stories, recollections, insights, and ideas about the future. I love learning how passionately Middlebury alumni feel about the College—and sharing how passionately I’ve come to feel about Middlebury too.

If you’ve attended reunion before, you know what it’s like to celebrate your commonality with more than 70 years of Middlebury graduates. If you haven’t yet come, I hope we can inspire you to make your plans. I’m certain that you and your classmates will be delighted by what’s in store. We’re creating a weekend filled with social, recreational, athletic, cultural, and academic events, and working with volunteers from your class to make sure your time is memorable.

So please learn about what’s to come for Reunion 2017 in these pages, and then connect with your classmates and friends and let them know how much you’d like them to join you next June. We’d love to have a record turnout—and for you to be part of it.

Warmest regards,

Laurie L. Patton, President
The Celebration Starts Now

A number of your classmates have volunteered to help plan a fabulous reunion celebration and they’ve come up with great ideas. But they still need your help! It’s not too late to get involved. Suggest activities and events and volunteer to organize them. Call your classmates and encourage them to attend and to consider making a gift in honor of this reunion. Get the word out: help generate class connections using your class’s Facebook page and your own social media to build buzz. And mark the dates—June 9–11—on your calendar!

REUNION HIGHLIGHTS

**FRIDAY**
- College admissions workshop, information session, and tour
- Open houses, faculty lectures, tours
- Cane Society luncheon (by invitation)
- 1800 Society and volunteer reception (by invitation)
- Class dinner and entertainment

**SATURDAY**
- 5k alumni fun run
- Class-specific reunion activities planned by class volunteers
- Presentations by Alumni Achievement Award winners
- Conversation with President Laurie L. Patton
- All-class golf scramble
- Children’s games and festivities

**SUNDAY**
- Readings, lectures, open houses, receptions, tours
- Ice cream social
- Reunion parade and Convocation in Mead Chapel
- All-class reception, dinner, dancing, and fireworks

**FAQ CONTINUED**

weekend for alumni. The cost of reunion includes housing, events, six meals, open bars on Friday and Saturday nights, and entertainment. Prices will be posted in early spring.

**Q.** What counts toward our class gift and participation goals?
**A.** Gifts of any size count toward the class gift totals and the class participation goal. We encourage you to consider stretching your gift this year beyond what you might normally give in a nonreunion year. To learn more, please be in touch with a reunion committee member or your staff liaison.

**Q.** Can I stay off campus?
**A.** We encourage you to stay on campus, so you can easily meet up with friends and explore all that the College has to offer. But there are many lodging options in the area. Visit addisoncounty.com and vermontinns.com for more information.

**Q.** Will there be programming for children?
**A.** On Saturday afternoon and evening, we will have a robust schedule of child and teen activities, including a bouncy house, face painting, a children’s musician, teen movie night, and other kid-friendly options. We do not have child care for children under five years of age.

**Q.** What is the 1800 Society?
**A.** The 1800 Society recognizes donors who support Middlebury at a leadership level, beginning with annual gifts of $2,500. The Panther Society offers specific membership levels for young alumni according to the number of years since graduation. For the 5th reunion class, a gift of $500 qualifies for membership. Members of the 1800 Society are invited to a special reception during Reunion Weekend.
Bring the Kids!

Reunion is a great party for kids as well as parents, and many alumni do bring their children.

Saturday afternoon take the kids to Battell Beach to play games, enjoy balloon animals, jump in the bouncy house, and get their faces painted.

On Saturday evening, the College offers child care for children ages five years and older, while teens are invited to hang out in the Grille at the McCullough Student Center to play pool or watch a movie. Pizza and beverages are served at the Grille. For children under five years of age, we encourage you to contact babiestoboomersvt.com or care.com for help in finding appropriate child care.

CLASS QUIZ

CLASS OF 2002

1. What television policeman came to Middlebury in 1997 and served as the Alexander Twilight Artist in Residence until his retirement in 2013?
2. What building transformed academic life during our time on campus and what year did it open?
3. What film about a brilliant mathematician won the Oscar for Best Picture in 2002?
4. What song topped the charts in 2002?

CLASS OF 1997

1. What opened at Middlebury on November 23, 1996, to the sound of splashing and applause?
2. Name three of the seven buildings that were constructed or renovated between 1992 and 1996.
3. What film was nominated for 12 Academy Awards and won nine of them in 1997?
4. What was Billboard’s number one song in 1996?

(Answers on other side)
A Joyful Celebration of Middlebury

When we walk with our class from Old Chapel to Mead Chapel for Convocation on Reunion Weekend, we’ll be part of a living tradition—one that goes back more than 165 years.

In 1850, the year of the College’s 50th anniversary, graduates with a known address received an invitation to what appears to have been the first organized gathering for all alumni. For the next 88 years, alumni joined graduating seniors in marching from Old Chapel to the Congregational Church in Middlebury for Commencement. In 1938 the popular parade changed its destination to Mead.

Even as Commencement moved to the Memorial Field House in 1950, alumni continued to march with the graduates. The first year reunion became a separate event was 1978. Each year since then, alumni have paraded from Old Chapel into Mead, lining up from youngest to oldest, with the 50th reunion class marching in last to wild applause.

“Being part of the parade and Convocation is a fantastic, moving experience,” says Beth Connor P’12, ’12, ’14, director of Alumni and Parent Programs. “During Convocation, classes share memories from their time at Middlebury going back 70, 75, or even 80 years. You see your place in the continuum of time and realize how much has changed and how much has stayed the same. Don’t miss it!”

Rockin’ Out at Reunion

“It’s so special to be back for reunion—the vibe is so jubilant,” says Peter Day ’01. He’s got a great vantage point: Day sings and plays bass in the Grift, the crowd-pleasing band of Middlebury alumni that has played the Saturday night dance at Reunion Weekend since 2004.

Choosing songs for a crowd whose ages range widely is “kind of the fun of it, and I think that comes through,” says Day, whose bandmates include guitarist/vocalist Clint Bierman ’97 and drummer/vocalist Jeff Vallone ’98.5. “We want to play songs that excite us, and we want people dancing all the time.”

A REUNION TOP FIVE

The Grift has been playing the Saturday night dance since 2004. Here are five songs that really get the crowd dancing.

- “Like a Prayer” —Madonna
- “I Saw Her Standing There” —The Beatles
- “Mr. Brightside” —The Killers
- “Boogie On Reggae Woman” —Stevie Wonder
- “Runaround Sue” —Dion

Class of 2002 answers: 1. François Clemmons, the singer, actor, and playwright who performed the role of Officer Clemmons, the friendly neighborhood policeman on Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood. 2. McCardell Bicentennial Hall. 3. A Beautiful Mind, directed by Ron Howard, which beat out Gosford Park and Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring. 4. “How You Remind Me” by Nickelback.

Class of 1997 answers: 1. The natatorium. 2. The Center for the Arts, Ridgeline Woods housing, and the natatorium were built; Kelly, Lang, Milliken, and Hadley were expanded and renovated. 3. The English Patient, directed by Anthony Minghella and based on Michael Ondaatje’s book. 4. “Macarena” by Los del Río.
Share the Middlebury Experience with Today’s Students

Reunion is an opportunity to celebrate your time at Middlebury and its impact on your life. It also provides a chance to make that experience available to the next generation of students through a gift in honor of your reunion.

There are two key ways you can help.

The Annual Fund: Supporting the Middlebury Experience
Year after year the Annual Fund plays an important role in helping not only to sustain Middlebury but also to make it thrive, providing essential funding that supports every aspect of the Middlebury experience.

Funding the Future: Supporting Students through Scholarships
Financial aid ensures that a Middlebury education is accessible to the most qualified students from all backgrounds, regardless of their financial circumstances.

Participate in the Class Gift
Each class sets a reunion fundraising goal. Gifts of every size count toward the goal. It’s easy to make your gift online at go.middlebury.edu/give. Or you can call 888-647-6433 or mail your gift to Office of Advancement, 700 Exchange St., Middlebury, VT 05753.

THE GIFT OF OPPORTUNITY
Meet a Middlebury Student

ELLIOTT MILLER ’18

Q: Tell us about yourself.
A: I’m from Coventry in the U.K., a political science major, and a student phonathon manager.

Q: What activities are you participating in at Middlebury?
A: I work with Middlebury’s Mac and Choose truck. It’s a student start-up that got seed funding from MiddSTART (the College’s microphilanthropy site). We provide late night mac ‘n cheese with a choice of toppings. It’s been great to see the business move forward. We’re hoping it continues to expand and offers other students an opportunity to get involved in such an exciting start-up.

Q: Why do you enjoy the phonathon?
A: Alumni and parents have great stories to tell, and it’s always fascinating to hear how Middlebury has changed over the years. As a student receiving significant financial aid, I find it heartwarming to see alumni give back to the College and support the experiences of students like me.

Q: Why Middlebury?
A: I chose Middlebury because I love languages, and I wanted to continue my studies in French while also picking up Chinese. It also seemed like such a beautiful and inviting campus, and that was a big draw for me.

Q: What’s surprised you the most about your experience here?
A: It’s been fantastic to have the opportunity to get to know my professors really well and to sit down with them and talk about the topics that fascinate me—something that I don’t think I’d have gotten elsewhere.

Q: What are your long-term goals?
A: I’m hoping to work in Washington, D.C., for some sort of political organization. I see myself returning to the U.K. to work in politics in the long term, so working for a think tank in the U.S. first is definitely in the cards.

Q: How has Middlebury prepared you for that?
A: Middlebury’s academic rigor has taught me to think critically, to ask searching questions, and not to take everything I read at face value—helpful attributes for a career in politics!
MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March: Online registration opens for reunion

Late May: Deadline for reunion registration

June 9–11: Reunion Weekend

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Check out Middlebury’s social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

FACEBOOK
- Like MiddAlum, the official alumni page, at facebook.com/middalum.
- Like Middlebury College, the official Midd page, at facebook.com/middleburycollege.
- Reconnect by joining your class Facebook group at go.middlebury.edu/alumnigroups.

TWITTER
- Follow @middalumni and @middleburycollege.

INSTAGRAM
- Follow @middalum and @middleburycollege.

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Don’t miss out on reunion news. Most information will be provided via email. You can update your contact information at www.middlebury.edu/alumni/update.

REUNION BY THE NUMBERS

2,116 Alumni and friends who attended in 2016

61 Student reunion hosts

1,500 Cups of lu-lu ice cream served before the reunion parade

350 True Blue Society tattoos distributed

285 Gallons of coffee consumed

81% Alumni attending reunion who made a gift