Join us for Reunion 2016!

We are still six months away from Reunion 2016, but I hope that you already have it in your minds and on your calendars. This will be my first reunion as president of Middlebury and my first opportunity to meet a large number of the alumni representing more than 70 years of the College’s eventful history. I look forward to hearing your recollections, insights, and suggestions as you reacquaint yourself with our beautiful campus, rekindle old friendships, and make some new ones.

Reunion is a milestone—in your lives and in the life of the College. The Advancement staff is already working with volunteers from your class to plan a program of events—social, recreational, athletic, cultural, and academic—that will appeal to every interest and every age.

If you haven’t already decided to attend your reunion, I hope this newsletter will inspire you to come. Reach out to your Middlebury classmates and friends and tell them how much you would like to see them. We hope to have a record turnout for Reunion 2016, and we need you here to make it a complete success.

Warmly yours,

Laurie L. Patton, President

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. I haven’t been back in a while. What should I expect?
A. Welcome back! You’re in for a great time. Reunion Weekend is filled with activities—from class dinners and panels to hikes, golf, a conversation with the president, and open houses—along with time to hang out with friends and unwind on Battell Beach. Regardless of how much or how little you choose to do, you’ll reconnect with old friends and make new ones. And you’ll enjoy the campus at its most beautiful.

Q. Is there a way to connect with classmates before reunion?
A. Yes, check out your class Facebook page where you can post photos, start a conversation, plan a mini-reunion, and find friends. You can also find contact information for classmates at Middlebury’s online community at go.middlebury.edu/moc.

Q. What counts toward our class gift? Toward our class participation goal?
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 non-reunion year. To learn more about how to do that through a multiyear pledge, please be in touch with a reunion committee member or your staff liaison.

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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 10–12—on your calendar!

FAQ

Q. Does the cost of attending Reunion count as a reunion gift?
A. It doesn’t. Middlebury actually subsidizes a good portion of the 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 January.

Q. Can I stay off campus?
A. We encourage alumni 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 Middlebury and the surrounding towns. 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. How should we dress for the weekend?
A. Vermont casual. You’ll find people wearing everything from shorts and jeans to sundresses during the day. People tend to dress up a little more for the Saturday evening dinner under the tents, but there are no formal events. It does get cool—bring layers!

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 or more for alumni who graduated 10 or more years ago. The Panther Society offers specific membership levels for young alumni according to the number of years since graduation. For the fifth reunion class, a gift of $500 qualifies for membership. 1800 Society members are invited to a special reception during Reunion Weekend. To learn more, visit go.middlebury.edu/The1800society.
Reunion is an opportunity to celebrate your time at Middlebury and its impact on your life. It’s also a chance to make that experience available to the next generation of students through a gift in honor of your reunion.

Here are two key ways you can help:

**The Annual Fund**
Gifts to the Annual Fund create the Middlebury experience. They provide opportunities for learning and discovery. They give the College the flexibility to take advantage of unexpected opportunities and fresh ideas and the ability to respond to immediate needs. Because Annual Fund gifts can be directed to the College’s highest priorities and can be spent as they come in, they make an immediate difference in the lives of students and faculty.

**Scholarship Support**
We know that students learn best when they come together with others from different backgrounds and experiences to explore complex issues or tackle difficult projects. Scholarships enable us to create a community as diverse as the country and world we live in, so we can prepare all students to be tomorrow’s leaders and change makers.

Each class sets a participation goal. Gifts of any size count. In fact, last year gifts under $250 amounted to $843,759. It’s easy to make your gift online at go.middlebury.edu/give. Or call 888-367-6443, or mail your gift to Office of Advancement, 700 Exchange St., Middlebury, VT 05753.

“I hope to utilize the intercultural competence I’ve gained at Middlebury in both professional and daily spheres. I want to help people from different parts of the world to understand one another better.”

**THE GIFT OF OPPORTUNITY**
**Meet a Middlebury Student**
Name: Chuyou “Chelsea” Wang ’16
Hometown: Shenyang, China
Majors: Art history and German
Community service: Community Friends mentor to a local fifth-grader

A MiddSTART International Student Scholar, Chelsea was drawn to Middlebury by its reputation as a supportive community with challenging academics—but the College has also opened her up to the wider world. An art history and German major, she studied dance in Trinidad with the Middlebury Dance Company, then spent 2014–15 at the Free University of Berlin, where, in addition to doing her coursework, she interned with a local fashion brand. Reunion gifts enrich the experience of all students and prepare them to engage the world.
Alumni and Parent Programs
Middlebury College
Middlebury, VT 05753

go.middlebury.edu/reunion

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March: Online registration opens for reunion

Late May: Deadline for reunion registration

June 10–12: Reunion Weekend

JOIN THE CONVERSATION

Check out Middlebury’s social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Reconnect by joining your class Facebook group at go.middlebury.edu/alumnigroups.

FACEBOOK
• Like Midd Alum, the alumni office page at http://facebook.com/middalum.
• Like Middlebury College, the official Midd page at http://facebook.com/middleburycollege

TWITTER
• Follow middalumni and middleburycollege.

INSTAGRAM
• Check out the scene at https://instagram.com/middleburycollege

UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

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

REUNION BY THE NUMBERS

1,949 | Alumni and friends attended in 2015

329 | Reunion volunteers

61 | Student reunion hosts

1,500 cups | Lu•lu ice cream served before the reunion parade

132 gallons | Coffee consumed

64 percent | Alumni in reunion years who made a gift
Young Alumni Reunite!

Each year reunion brings more than 1,800 alumni and their families to Middlebury for a fantastic weekend of sharing and making memories. In recent years, more and more of those returning have been members of the 5th- and 10th-reunion classes. In fact, the 5th- and 10th-reunion classes have been setting records for attendance!

As a Midd alumnus, I am excited to be your reunion social and fundraising contact. I am looking forward to welcoming you back to campus and hope to see your class set a new record in 2016!

David Small ’09.5
Assistant Director of Annual Giving
dsmall@middlebury.edu | 802-443-5083

CLASS OF 2011 QUIZ

1. What student-produced video went viral in 2010?
2. What major change in town occurred in the fall of 2010?
3. What was the goal of former President John McCardell’s initiative, Choose Responsibility?
4. What Middlebury student group raised more than $one million for research between 2004 and 2011?
5. What team came in third in a national competition in 2011?
6. What popular TV program inspired a resurgence of a cappella singing groups?
7. What artist topped the charts in 2011 and again in 2015?
8. What movie won the Oscar for Best Picture in 2011?

CLASS OF 2006 QUIZ

1. What building opened in 2004 and transformed how we study—and socialize?
2. Who joined the Middlebury family of programs in December 2005?
3. What student organization celebrated 50 years in 2004?
4. What social network was founded in 2006?
5. Walt Disney’s first computer-animated film premiered in 2006. What was it?
6. Before Ron Liebowitz became president in 2004, what positions did he hold at the College?
7. What song topped the charts in 2006?
8. What movie won the Oscar for Best Picture in 2006?

(Answers on other side)
Be a Part of Middlebury’s History

When alumni walk with their classes from Old Chapel to Mead Chapel for Convocation on Reunion Weekend, they’ll be part of a living tradition—one that goes back more than 150 years.

In 1850, the year of the College’s 50th anniversary, every graduate with a known address received a mailed invitation to what appears to have been the first organized gathering for all alumni. “Probably the largest assemblage of graduates of the College, which has ever met, was gathered on the morning of Commencement day at the College Chapel,” reports the official record of that reunion.

For the next 83 years, alumni joined graduating seniors, faculty, trustees, and administration in marching from Old Chapel to the Congregational Church in Middlebury village for Commencement. In 1938, the popular parade shifted to go from Old Chapel up to Mead.

Even as Commencement moved to Memorial Field House in 1950, alumni continued to march that weekend 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 Ian McCray ’95, 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 band mates 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.

“I don’t want to tip our hand entirely, but we love the Beatles, and Stevie Wonder translates across all ages. We’ll pull from modern stuff, too. Half the fun for the crowd—dancing—is that element of surprise.”

Reunion is an exciting gig for The Grift, which recently celebrated its 15th year together. “You never know who you’ll run into,” Day says. “And we get to see everybody!”

A REUNION TOP FIVE

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

1. “Like a Prayer” — Madonna
2. “I Saw Her Standing There” — The Beatles
3. “Boogie On Reggae Woman” — Stevie Wonder
4. “I’m Gonna Be (500 Miles)” — Proclaimers
5. “Shout” — Isley Brothers
