

How to Take Advantage of Local Resources

Often we live near some great venues and things to do but never consider taking advantage of them for club events.

When brainstorming event ideas, complete the following sentence:

- When someone from out of town visits, they always want to _____ OR
- When someone is visiting from out of town, we always take them to _____. (E.g. see the Alamo, ski/snowboard, take a boat tour of Ellis Island/Statue of Liberty, have a clambake, see "The Arch," tour Biltmore Estates, visit the Coca Cola factory, etc.)

Local Alumni and Parents

- Wonderful sources of inspiration! Through surveying your membership, you could find out if anyone in your region:
 - Owns or has access to potential venues to hold events; i.e. restaurants, bars, a faculty or country club, large conference rooms, a large backyard, etc.
 - Performs in community theatre, opera, local symphony, singing group or garage band.
 - Plays on minor league, semi-professional or professional athletic team in your region.
- Any of these would make great events and the alumni would be happy to have some support, maybe even give you a behind the scenes tour!

Athletics

- Dartmouth Teams travel all over the country for athletic matches/games. Updated team schedules can be found at www.dartmouthsports.com. If a club comes to town, perhaps there's a campus bar (maybe an Irish pub as they will be decorated green) to hold a pre-game gathering or post-game celebration. Audio streams of many games are also available at the Dartmouth Sports website if tickets are unavailable.

Arts Programs

- The Hood Museum has special collections which tour museums across the country. Visit <http://hoodmuseum.dartmouth.edu/exhibitions/> to find out the schedule of traveling exhibitions.
- Check with your local Arts Council for programs and events.

Festivals & Fairs

- Many town/regions host festivals, fairs, arts and entertainment programming that alumni would like to attend. You can create simple events around these existing programs.
 - Check with your local Chamber of Commerce, town/city calendar listings, or the online calendar of your local newspaper (it often has more in-depth calendar listings than the printed version) to see what's going on in your neighborhood.
 - Free concert in the park? Put out green blankets to reserve space and invite members to attend.
 - A Renaissance Fair or Shakespeare Festival could be a great opportunity to work with the Dartmouth Alumni Continuing Education office to create an event/seminar with a professor.

College & Universities

- Check for events open to the public, guest lecturers, concert series, etc.
- Do they have a planetarium or telescope, a robotics or textile center, or a solar home or biosphere?

Local Industry

- Check out biotechnology centers, music studies, wineries or distilleries, manufacturing plant tours, horse park.

Historical Sites

- Consider local monuments, plantations, mansions, battle grounds, etc. Leverage your historical society for information on local historical sites.

Other Local Resources—Museums, Aquariums and Zoos, Botanical Gardens

- Examples: the Farnsworth Art Museum in Rockland, Corvette Museum in Bowling Green, Albacore Submarine Museum in Portsmouth, NC Aquarium at Fort Fisher, Zoological Park, Oklahoma City, Rio Grande Botanic Garden, Albuquerque.