

## Handout D: Meeting the Framers—A Reunion Social in 1840

### Directions:

1. Using such resources as the following websites, select a Framers to research.

<http://billofrightsinstitute.org/resources/educator-resources/founders>

[http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution\\_founding\\_fathers\\_overview.html](http://www.archives.gov/exhibits/charters/constitution_founding_fathers_overview.html)

<http://teachingamericanhistory.org/convention/delegates/bigpicture/>

2. Each student will develop a “business card” (using a 3x5 inch card) to represent the character and main achievements of his/her Framers. Cards will be exchanged by Framers attending a “reunion” held in 1840. (Note: James Madison was the last of both Framers and the Founding Fathers; he died at age 85 at Montpelier in 1836. “Framers” are men who actually attended the Philadelphia Convention of 1787. The more general term, “Founder,” is used to refer to men and women of influence at the time of the Founding of the United States of America.)
3. Turn in your copy-ready black and white cards at least 24 – 48 hours before the date of your scheduled reunion, to enable spot-checking and corrective feedback in the event of serious error. Once cards are satisfactory, your teacher will make sufficient copies of each card for everyone in the class.
4. On the scheduled date of the Reunion Social, (suggested date: September 17), each student will impersonate his/her Framers, exchange business cards, and mingle so that students will remember the character, achievements, and personalities of the Philadelphia Convention delegates. Conversations should reveal connections and relationships among the personalities. (Note: this lesson is especially memorable if it involves refreshments—students might volunteer to bring snacks that represent their Framers in some way.)

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### Suggestions/Expectations for Business Card Information

Name	Historical Significance
Address (Students may exercise creative license if necessary here)	Contributions during Constitutional Convention Most noteworthy characteristics/interesting facts
Occupation	Contributions after the Convention
Significant affiliations or titles	Quotes
Contributions during Revolutionary Era	

### Requirements

#### Appearance

- Neat, accurate, free from error
- Size: 3x5 inches
- Typed

#### Content

- Documentation on the back (standard bibliography references, along with student's standard heading)
- Information above and beyond textbook references; demonstration of serious research
- Creative, original presentation (may include graphics, slogans, etc.)
- Overall effect enhances long-term learning

#### Ratings

- 5: Exemplary
- 4: Effective
- 3: Adequate
- 2: Minimal
- 1: Unsatisfactory