

# MONEY-SAVING IDEAS



## Time For The Great American Family Reunion

(NAPSA)—When it comes to planning (and paying for) a family reunion, you may be able to save a bundle by shopping at a wholesale club.

Wholesale clubs are recognized for their terrific values on bulk household items and food, as well as for merchandise ranging from trampolines and patio sets to consumer electronics and children's toys. And when it comes to party "must-haves"—everything from plates and cups to chips and dip, even gourmet items to satisfy sophisticated palates—clubs such as BJ's Wholesale Club can help you save about 30 percent.

**Step 1: Determine the number of guests and make your announcement.** If you're looking to host 50 people, then you need to stretch every dollar. An effective and inexpensive way to invite guests is to ask one member of each family group to invite his or her immediate family and report back.

**Step 2: Plan a menu to feed the masses.** Offer a variety of foods. Generally speaking, traditional hamburgers and hot dogs are suitable for the majority of guests, but it's advisable to offer cold cuts, salads and peanut butter and jelly for youngsters.

**Step 3: Shop in advance and call on a catering department.** Jot down all your paper and plastic needs such as plates, cups, utensils, napkins and plastic wrap, as well as all the food items—ranging from meats, seafood and produce to gourmet treats to bakery goods, snack foods and beverages—and then visit BJ's Wholesale Club for affordable, one-stop shopping. For added convenience, call a few days



**With proper planning, a terrific family reunion can be put together on a modest budget.**

before your event to order cold cut platters and special cakes.

**Step 4: Create focal points for the party.** Set up a few seating areas and places for games, dancing and eating. Collapsible canvas or plastic chairs are great for large groups. Put a banquet table in the shade for food. To create shade, try an inexpensive pop-up awning or canopy. Place cold drinks in a large cooler of ice. Keep a folding table near the grill for the chef. Put yard games in a separate location so children can play safely.

**Step 5: Have fun.** Add balloons, family banners, string lights and music and let the party begin. With this easy and affordable way to host a family reunion, you can entertain your loved ones without breaking the bank.

For the nearest BJ's Wholesale Club, call 800-BJS-CLUB or visit [www.bjs.com](http://www.bjs.com).