

Cannon Dial Elm Club

A Letter from the Chair – April 2023



Friends,

A lot has been happening at Cannon Dial Elm since my last report, and much more is coming up – including House Parties weekend, followed by Reunions, Baccalaureate, Graduation and Cannon’s Senior Send Off directly following Graduation. You can see pictures from some of the recent Club activities on our website <https://cannonclub.com>. Apologies but our IT support failed to get my March report out to some of you so please read it on our website if you did not receive it.

Senior theses are in, and the seniors are coasting to graduation, while they enjoy the early dose of summer weather we have been having in Princeton.

This spring, the officers are piloting a “junior officer” program. Passionate members, who are not officers but would like to be more involved in the club, have been given these roles. This program offers junior members insight into the role of an officer, helps them develop the capacity to lead among their peers, and contribute to Cannon being the best club on the street. The junior officers support the elected officer corps with setting up social events, overseeing the club food committee, and creating playlists for nights out!

Gunny Recognition

We have such a talented group of members and alumni! Here is a sample of that:

- **Jalen Travis '24** has been awarded a Truman Scholarship which provides recipients up to \$30,000 towards graduate school along with professional development opportunities to prepare for careers in public service.
- **Ibrahim Ayorinde '23** received the Spring PNC Bank’s Student-Athlete Achiever Award, presented to student-athletes who have achieved academically and athletically and have made a positive impact in the community.
- **Sarah Fillier '24** was named MVP and Top Forward of the 2023 IIHF Women’s World Championships while winning a silver medal with Team Canada.
- **Alexis Laudenslager '23** has been dominant on the mound for Princeton Women’s Softball. The Ivy League has named her pitcher of the week 5 times so far this season and she set a program record in less than 2 years with 5 career no hitters.

- **Tosan Evbuomwan '23** was named to the NCAA South Region All-Tournament Team after the men's basketball team went on their exciting run to the Sweet Sixteen. He also declared for the 2023 NBA Draft, so look out for his name to be announced at the draft on June 22, 2023.
- **Abby Meyers '22**, former activities chair, was drafted 11th overall by the Dallas Wings at the WNBA Draft last week. She is following in the footsteps of Gunner Bella Alarie who was drafted 5th overall by the Wings in 2020.

The Grad Board is wrestling with some large expenses over the next year. The mortar between the stones that make up our walls is still largely original and leaks have started to appear. Repointing the club with new mortar, while time consuming and expensive, should serve us for many years to come. We are also facing some major changes in HVAC. As part of the massive project to build the new Engineering and Environmental Sciences buildings between Cannon and the stadium, the University has terminated the chilled water service to the club that provided our air conditioning, and will also be providing us with hot water rather than the steam we have previously received, all of which will require a massive new boiler and various boosters to heat the club in the winter months.

Cannon Dial Elm is going 'Great Guns', but we really couldn't do it without you!

Sure, 12 out of 16 members of Princeton's Sweet Sixteen men's basketball team were Cannon Dial Elm members, as was the starting lineup of the Princeton women's basketball team that reached the NCAA's. Throw in our members on another 20 varsity teams, and there is no denying the key role the Club plays in the success of Princeton athletics.

But, just as importantly, our members are scholar-athletes, as shown by the fact that a Cannon Dial Elm member Ella Gantman won the Pyne Prize this year, our second Pyne Prize winner in just 4 years, and of course there were the other outstanding scholar athletes noted above.

Still, we could not operate the Club and provide the best club experience on the Street to our members without your strong and continuing support. Our clubhouse is a source of pride to all our members, both students and alumni, and the campus home for all of us.

So please plan to stop by Cannon Dial Elm at Reunions and meet some of our members. We will be having our traditional delicious spread after the P-rade, to which all are invited. I will be there, so please also look for me and say hello. As Cannon's new chairman, I am eager to meet as many of you as possible.

In the meantime, if you haven't paid your membership dues or otherwise donated to Cannon Dial Elm yet this year, please consider making a contribution before Reunions time. We will very much appreciate your support. If you have already donated, I offer the Board's sincerest thanks, in addition to mine.



Chuck Freyer '69