

Cannon Club

Bicker Newsletter

from Board Chair Chuck Freyer



I am pleased to report we had a highly successful Bicker this year, followed by the election of another amazing undergraduate officer corps!

Let me start with Bicker. 174 sophomores bickered Cannon, most of whom also double bickered. Under the double bicker system, in addition to choosing two selective clubs to bicker, sophomores also had to rank at least 2 open clubs as backup choices. Of course, no sophomore needs to bicker, and can sign into the open club of his or her choice until that club reaches capacity. This 'double bicker' model leaves us in the dark until the end of the process because no matter how engaged a Cannon bickeree may appear, we never know if Cannon was ranked as his or her #1 choice. This year we offered 116 bids, which yielded 102 new Cannon Dial Elm members, 100 sophomores and 2 juniors, a result with which we are very pleased and should leave us solidly in the black financially.

The Bicker Committee did a fantastic job this year, and they are confident that all our new members will fit in perfectly at Cannon and thoroughly enjoy their membership. Here is the report from our women's basketball phenom and Bicker Chair, Ellie Mitchell, who among other awards has been recognized as **Ivy League Defensive Player of the Year** (2022, 2023) and just before Bicker this year, was named **Ivy League Player of the Week** (Jan. 22, 2024):

*We are very proud of and excited about our ... 102 new members. We wanted to prioritize bringing in a strong class of sophomores since our junior class is already large, so we brought in 100 sophomores, and added 2 great juniors as well. Within this new class we have 36 females and 66 males. **We have 26 different varsity sports teams represented, along with 5 new non-athlete members.***

I think it is important to make sure a few things don't go unnoticed:

- *we continue to have a strong football presence in this new class*
- *of the sophomores from the men's and women's basketball teams who chose to bicker, we got them all (notably **Caden Pierce, Madison St. Rose, and Xaivian Lee!**)*
- *we continued our legacy of men's and women's hockey*
- *we gained representation (2) from the men's heavyweight crew team*

- we got more men's lacrosse (8), than we've had in a while, and we continued to maintain our women's lacrosse presence.
- ***This is what I think is most impressive. One member of the field hockey team had no teammates in Cannon this semester, but because she was so impressed with our culture at Cannon and trusted that we will all take care of her, she chose to join Cannon, independent of where the rest of her teammates went/are. I think this perfectly summarizes how successful our Bicker was and how excited we are for the future of our club.***



A couple days later, we had a spirited night of undergraduate officer elections, which resulted in the new officers succeeding last year's corps. They will serve until this time next year. I met with them for breakfast the next morning and can attest to their love for Cannon and commitment to their roles.

You can read a little [about](#) them on the Club's website. Going forward, with each newsletter we will be including short video interviews with a couple of the undergraduate officers, so you get to know more about them. Over time, we plan to do the same thing with our Grad Board Trustees and members of the Board of Advisors, so you can share the excitement I feel about the future of the Club.

Lastly, should you have missed it, let me direct you to the newsletter from our outstanding, but sadly soon to graduate, outgoing Vice President Kate Monihan with lots of pictures and details about the athletic accomplishments of our members. Kate's post can be found on the Cannon website under the heading [Newsletters](#). Also, while you are on the site, check out the [Announcements](#) heading where you will find some great pictures of happenings at the Club.

The state of the club is GREAT, but we need your support to ensure that it remains the best club on the Street, and your HOME AT PRINCETON!!!

How can you participate and keep our streak going? As I do in each of these letters, let me encourage you to become an **Alumni Member** if you aren't now, or renew your membership if you already are an Alumni Member. Your annual membership will help us to pay for all the things that make Cannon the success it is. **Please, right now, go to our website, www.cannonclub.com and click on Donate**, or use the form found at the bottom of this post and mail it to us.

If you want to do more than just pay dues, gifts to the Higgins Memorial Fund in any denomination will also support capital projects around the club, as well as providing financial assistance to deserving undergraduates within the limits permitted by the University under its recently expanding and very generous financial aid policy. Grants from the Higgins Fund help us retain our new sophomore members as well as our upperclassmen and women.

I hope to see many of you at the club during Reunions. I will be looking for you! So please plan on stopping by and saying hello. As always, we will have a terrific spread after the P-rade, but we look forward to greeting you all weekend!! Details and club opening times will be in my next Newsletter.



Chuck Freyer '69
Chairman
Graduate Board of Trustees
Cannon Dial Elm Club

Cannon Dial Elm Club Alumni Membership

To Become an Alumni Member or renew your membership, please return this form to: Cannon Dial Elm Club PO Box 7788 Princeton, NJ 08543-7788

- ☐ Class of '23 \$ 25 / yr or \$ 50 / yr Leadership Level
- ☐ Classes of '18-22 \$ 50 / yr or \$ 125 / yr Leadership Level
- ☐ Classes of '13-17 \$ 75 / yr or \$ 175 / yr Leadership Level
- ☐ Classes prior to '12 \$ 100 / yr or \$ 250 / yr Leadership Level
- ☐ Top Gun \$1000 /yr or more

Memberships and contributions may also be made online at cannonclub.com/donate/, by [venmo @cannonclub](mailto:venmo@cannonclub), or via the Princeton Prospect Foundation at princetonprospectfoundation.org/donate/ designating Cannon Dial Elm Club as recipient

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