November 2026



The leaves are falling on the Cannon lawn, but we are still waiting for the feel of Fall to arrive. If it's due to El Nino, I'll take it. The warm weather makes sitting in the stands at Powers Field much more pleasant, while we watch the many Gunners on Princeton's football team pursue their winning ways.

Last weekend was Homecoming. I enjoyed speaking to a number of alumni back for the game, and a beer and bratwurst in the Tap Room, now officially named for former Chairman, Bob Casey. The football team pulled out a squeaker over Cornell, but a win is a win! We had a lot of positive comments about the newly expanded kitchen and servery, which the members having been enjoying ever since classes started in September.

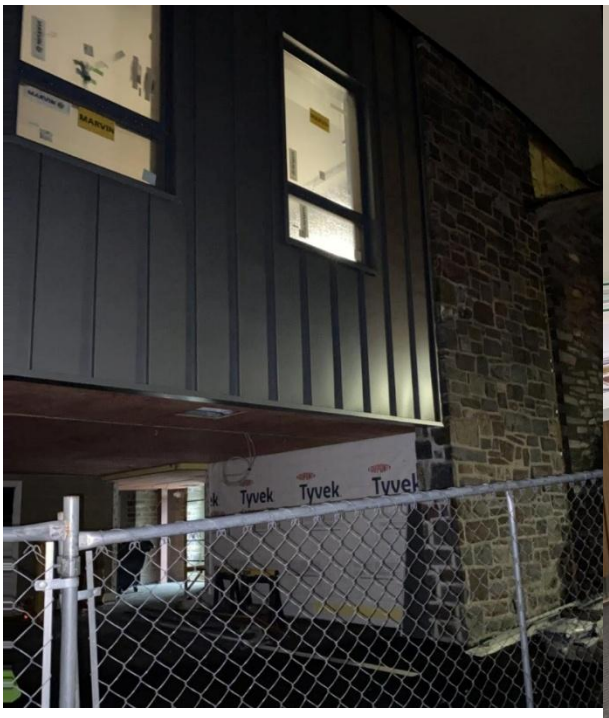


John and Paige Rustum at Homecoming



The new dining area, which will add another 50 seats to our seating capacity, will be open by Thanksgiving. There were a couple small delays in its completion, but we had intentionally prioritized work on the kitchen and servery over the summer, knowing that completion of the new dining space would come last. The paneling in the new space will maintain the classic look of the original dining room, and direct access to the new space from the servery will greatly improve flow at peak meal times. I invite you to come back to see us, and the new space, anytime you are in the area.

Here are some pictures of what Thrive has done to expand and improve the Club.









You should know that the Cannon Dial Elm Grad Board is not taking its foot off the gas, just because we are completing the Thrive initiative construction. The Board will be holding a two-day strategic planning session in January to assess our strengths and identify areas where more emphasis will help us maintain the strong attraction Cannon holds for Princeton upperclassmen, and for you, our alumni. We are in a very strong position on the Street, enhanced by the physical improvements we have made to the club over the past 2 years, but we can never rest on our laurels if we want to maintain that strong position.

This week includes Veterans Day, and our members are actively engaged in a tradition we started several years back of sending handwritten notes to Princeton alumni who are veterans, thanking them for their service. The pile of notes on the table in the Crane Room is growing daily. Thanks to all of you who have served, as well.



If you haven't yet made a contribution to the Club or paid your alumni dues for the year, I encourage you to do so now, before the holidays consume your attention. We will very much appreciate your payment and promptly acknowledge all gifts. Donate page

Finally, I encourage you to write to me about anything that is on your mind concerning Cannon Dial Elm Club. I want to hear from you about how we can better serve you and appreciate your support. With that thought in mind, I wish each of you a Happy Thanksgiving, and a warm and enjoyable holiday season!

Best,

Chuck

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