

The Princeton Charter Club

Established 1901

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Princeton, New Jersey 08540



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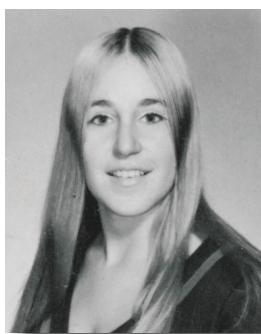


2015-2016
ANNUAL REPORT

The Times They Were A'Changing: Charter First With Female Members

By Roderick M. McNealy '72

In September, 1970, the Princeton Charter Club became the first Princeton University Eating Club to welcome female members. Women joined the ranks of Princeton undergraduates for the first time the previous fall, September, 1969. With all female undergraduates still residing in Pyne Hall and many University departments and buildings still acclimating to a major female campus presence, Charter Club enthusiastically welcomed its first female members—Ellen Fineberg '71 and Angenette Duffy '72.



Ellen Fineberg '71

Graduate Board Member Rod McNealy '72 caught up with Ellen and Angie recently and asked them to share their remembrances of this unique moment in both Princeton and Charter Club history. Further, we wanted to both commemorate and celebrate these unique individuals who pioneered during a challenging and exciting period.

You began your college career at another college/university. What prompted you to consider applying to Princeton as part of its first “generation” of female undergraduates?

Ellen: I had actually attended two different Universities—the University of Rochester as a freshman, and Barnard College of Columbia University as a sophomore. So I was no stranger to transferring. I saw how co-education was handled at those two schools and disagreed with some of the policies. I was attracted to being able to co-create how co-education would be set up at a school that was just beginning that endeavor.

Angenette: I entered Smith College as a freshman (make that “first-year” in the new parlance) in September, 1968, following in my mother’s footsteps (Class of 1946).

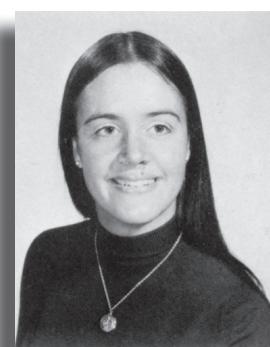
Later that fall, I learned that both Yale and Princeton were considering coeducation. Being a Connecticut native, I had no interest in going to school in New Haven. However, I had never set eyes on Princeton so it had an appealing mystique. Also, as they were unsure about becoming coed, there was no application fee. Nothing to lose for applying. So I did and promptly forgot about it.

I was walking back to my Smith dorm after my last exam in May, 1969 and found a telegram awaiting me. I assumed someone had died. However, it was from John Osander, Princeton’s Director of Admissions stating “I am happy to inform you that Princeton has taken favorable action on your application for admission by transfer.” So off I went.

During the first years of Princeton “co-education”, all female students lived in Pyne Hall, as the University clearly did not know how to handle housing female students across campus. Do you have any unique, special, or colorful recollections of that housing experience, or of other campus experiences where Princeton had not quite caught up with a female presence on campus?

Ellen: The biggest way that I felt Princeton students had “not quite caught up with female presence on campus” was in the social and dating arenas. Most of the students at Princeton arrived there from all male prep schools, so they had not been in classes with a female since at least junior high, perhaps before puberty!

Also, since I transferred in as a Junior, my classmates were males who had already spent two years developing



Angenette Duffy '72



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Message from the President



Lorena S. Grundy '17

Undergraduate President

When I first joined Charter a year and a half ago, I didn't know any members, and had never even been to the club during the day. I wasn't even sure if being in an eating club was right for me. Within a month, Charter had become my home. I ate as many meals here as I could, studied here, and had become a sophomore officer. That's my favorite thing about this club—we have members of all backgrounds and interests, because no matter what you're interested in, and no matter what you're going through, Charter has what you need.

I've been honored to serve as the Undergraduate President for the past year. I've gotten to meet so many interesting people, from our enthusiastic returning alumni to sophomores who are already planning on joining in the club in the spring. I've also had the privilege of speaking for the club on two positive public stories: the first when Charter was publicly praised for lowering our sophomore dues to be more accessible to lower-income students, and the second, more recently, when we instituted a new policy promoting the importance of consent at our events, which is already spreading to the other clubs on campus.

However, this year has not been without its challenges. As many of you may have heard, we had an unusually small sign-in class this year. This is not unprecedented—there is a well-documented cycle in membership size, and this year was merely a down year. We have been working hard to combat the low membership, by making budget cuts wherever possible without hurting the member experience, and finding ways to enhance our events at lower cost. We have also completely reimagined our recruitment system in the hopes of bringing in a large class this year, making it much more personal and engaging for each individual sophomore and their interests.

A smaller membership also has its advantages. Every member feels personally involved in the club life, and the membership is closer than ever. We have a very active class of Juniors, who are poised to take the club in new and exciting directions. As I approach the end of my term, I have never been more confident in the club's future. Although I will only be in office for a short time more, I look forward to returning to the club for years to come, and join the ranks of Charter's exceptionally active alumni. Thank you all for everything you have done and continue to do to make Charter a key highlight of every member's Princeton experience. ♦

Message from the Chairman

Having just concluded my first year as Chairman of Charter Club's Board of Graduate Governors, I have new respect for the hard work and leadership of so many individuals. The Club is blessed to have committed board members, undergraduate members, and staff. A weakness in any one of these constituencies would be detrimental to the Club.

Last year, my predecessor, John Bruestle '78, reported that Charter Club and seven other clubs formed a limited liability company for the purpose of purchasing insurance as a group. John hoped that the LLC would lead to a new era of cooperation among the clubs. I am pleased to report that the creation of the LLC has indeed had this result. We have saved a significant amount of money on insurance premiums and received equivalent—in some cases superior—levels of coverage.

The success we have achieved with insurance coverage has led us to seek cooperation on other issues of common interest. The clubs are now collaborating on development of a uniform risk management policy and are discussing embarking on a project to achieve cost savings in food purchases. There is no telling where these efforts will lead, but our experience to date tells us that the clubs—open and selective—can work together on matters of common concern without sacrificing their individuality.

I hope you were able to attend Reunions this past May. We had a large crowd with wonderful food and drink provided by Steve Moskow and his superb staff. For me, this was a major reunion year (my 40th). For the first time in my memory, the Class of '76 had a reception for itself. We met on Friday evening between the class dinner and the parties. I really enjoyed visiting with my class members in a much smaller group setting than the reunion itself, and I was reminded of what made Charter so special for me as an undergraduate. Several other major reunion classes had receptions, and all were well attended and received. I hope this will become a tradition in future years.

On the less positive side, last term Charter Club had a disappointing recruiting effort, resulting in the Club's attracting the lowest number of juniors in recent memory. It is impossible to say what went awry, because the undergraduate officers pursued recruitment vigorously, employing practices that have been successful in years past. The Board and undergraduate officers have been focused on this like a laser, considering strategies for attracting new members in the next recruiting season, retaining existing members and considering a reduction in charges going forward. Given the fixed costs that the club has - such as real estate taxes, insurance, and large percentage of line items like personnel and utilities, which are required whether the club has 100 or

200 members—gifts received by alumni or grants received from the Princeton Charter Foundation and Princeton Prospect Foundation are invaluable financial support for the Club.

I hope many of you were able to attend the Harvard Game on October 22nd. As in past years, Charter hosted a reception for alumni and their family and friends. While these do not draw as many people as does Reunions, they do provide the perfect end to the day, whether the football team is victorious or is defeated.

In closing, I would like to recognize the outstanding tenures of John Bruestle and our past Vice Chairman, Peter Brinckerhoff '64. John and Peter were, and continue to be, outstanding stewards of the Club, and we are fortunate to have their leadership. I would also like to recognize the other officers who now serve with me: Jim White '98 (Vice Chairman), A.J. Kait '84 (Treasurer) and Doug Rubin '81 (Secretary). Finally, I am deeply grateful to Steve Moskow, our Club Manager, and his staff. All of us working together, with the undergraduate officers, will work together to ensure the long-term well-being of Charter Club. ♦



John H. Beers '76

Online Gear Store Launched

Sad you graduated and missed out
on the latest gear order?

Always wanted a specific piece of Charter
swag but were never able to find it?

Nostalgic for your days in Charter
and want a memento?

Well, you're in luck!

Charter is thrilled to announce the launch
of our online gear store. You'll be able to purchase
your favorite Charter gear without leaving your home.

Go to
www.charterclub.org/gear
and check out what we're offering.

***Stay tuned for more information
about our newest gear!***

contacts at various “girls’ schools” so they would have females to import in for social weekends. My experience was that they did not know how to relate to females in their classes and there were also so few of us (transferring in as juniors) that they ended up treating us like we were males. Despite projections by others, I actually had a terrible dating life at Princeton! I was mostly treated like “one of the guys.”

Angenette: Living in Pyne Hall that first year was not much of a change from my all-girls dorm at Smith. Male students tripped over each other trying to help us move in and there was lots of media fanfare. I lucked out and snagged a single next to the janitor’s room, which came in handy for repairs, not to mention gossip.

I recall our first school-wide gathering in Alexander Hall and looking around at this sea of men. Quite a change from Smith as well as my all-female high school! Each Princeton woman was presented with a long-stemmed rose from a diehard alumnus who had finally come around on coeducation. Thought I’d joined a classy outfit!

I remember my first English class in McCosh. I was the only female. I sat in the same place on one side of the room and all the guys sat on the other side. Just like 8th grade dancing school. It took me a while, but I eventually realized that no one was discriminating against me; they just didn’t know what to do with me. I wasn’t their sister, their mother or their girlfriend so I didn’t fit into any traditional female category.

What made you consider joining a “dining club” and Charter in particular? Clearly, some clubs were not open to female members and only became open after they were sued to do so. It appears the Charter Graduate Board was very

open to female members, but what made you want to join?

Ellen: I had already become part of a small “crowd” of male students with whom I hung out and recreated. Several of them were Charter members and so I already had had meals

there, played cards there, etc. I found everyone quite friendly and accepting. I wasn’t attracted to the non-Club dining options so it was natural for me to apply to join Charter.

Angenette: I worked at Commons and, like everyone, despised the food. A friend of my brother’s, John Gwynne, occasionally invited me to Charter Club for a meal and I learned about those nefarious eating

clubs. Heavenly! When he told me that Charter would be opening to female members, I was thrilled. And I could also work in the club kitchen/dining room.

Do you have any special memories of your Charter Club experience? You were clearly “trail-blazers.” Was it a smooth transition, or were there “hiccups” in the process?

Ellen: What I had thought I had remembered at Charter was 100 males and me, so it is interesting to hear there were more female members the year I joined. Obviously we did not stick together only because we were the very few females. I felt that at Charter I was treated pretty much just like “one of the guys.” That allowed me the incredible experience of being like a “fly on the wall” in an all-male environment. Since Charter was not a particularly macho club, I did not really experience the negative side of “all male,” but its uniqueness. I mostly remember the spirit of congeniality.

The experience that stands out most to me, however,
continued on page 5

Charter Club Classes of 1971 & 1972



Female Members Interview (continued from page 4)

(other than very late night bridge games in the card room) was being in the Charter House living room during the draft lottery. There I was in a room of 100 men and me, and as numbers were called over the radio, every person there knew



**Sha'ana (Ellen Janna)
Fineberg, '71**

their life was on the line—except for me. (Oh yes, and a close friend who was Canadian.) It was a very strange and profound feeling.

Angenette: Charter Club was a wonderful haven for me. For the first time in my life, I had boys who were friends. I recall washing dishes with John Sethian '72. Everything I know about physics (not much), I learned from John. Hopefully, some of my English literature knowledge rubbed off on him.

As you look back at your Charter Club experience—if you ever do—was it worthwhile, would you do it again? Do you stay in contact with any members from that time period?

Ellen: Sure, I would do it again. As for staying in touch, no—life has taken me in many other idiosyncratic directions as well as to life in S. California, N. California, Colorado, Oregon, Maui, Kauai, Australia & New Zealand. I have changed greatly since my Princeton days, and lost touch with those who were good friends at that time, though I will always be grateful for the egalitarian men with whom I shared that experience—and of course for the quality of education.



**Angenette Duffy Meaney '72
with her first grandchild.**

Angenette: Since their inception, the powers that be seem bent on “repurposing” Princeton’s eating clubs. However, for me, Charter Club was one of the best experiences I had at Princeton. It provided a comfortable oasis in a strange place and made me feel accepted and at home in the brave new world of coed Princeton. ♦

Charter Club Members 2015-2016



An Interview With Nearly 30-Year Staff Member Joy Gillette

By Rachel H. Marek '17



Joy Gillette

Current Charter Vice President Rachel Marek '17, took time out to talk to Joy Gillette, a staff member at the Club for over 30 years. We hope you find the interview fun and interesting as many of you remember your own interactions with Joy over the years.

How long have you been working here at Charter and what are the types of things that you've been doing here?

Joy: I started in 1987. Club Manager Steve Moskow hired me, and I worked part time seven days a week in the beginning, and then down to five. Now, I'm down to three days, plus all the various club parties.

I worked up and down "The Street" over the years, before coming to Charter, including Stevenson Hall, Cap and Gown Club, Tower Club and Dial Lodge. But, after working at Charter, I found my home. We've always been known to have the best food on Prospect Avenue. I've also worked at the Prospect House for three years, as well as the Nassau Inn for over 25 years.

I met Jimmy Stewart, and was excited to have his autograph, especially after I found out that he was a member of Charter. I also met Jane Fonda, Princess Grace, Keifer and Donald Sutherland, and Walter Matthau when they visited Princeton, although they were not members of Charter.

All those other people came and visited Charter, which is how you met them?

Joy: I met most of them while they were visiting Princeton. I also met Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton when they brought their daughters to Princeton on a tour of Prospect Avenue.

Do you think that you will ever retire?

Joy: I'm thinking perhaps another year or two.

What would your plans be afterward?

Joy: I would go to Puerto Rico and visit family.

You've been here for so long, how has the Club changed over the years? What have you seen it go through?

Joy: This year is one of those years when we are not full with members. Over the years, the membership is up and down, but mostly Charter is very popular. I know we will

return to a full membership soon, as we always do.

So where are you from Ms. Joy?

Joy: I'm from West Windsor, but I went to school here in Princeton. I got married in Princeton, and had my two sons here. We're like Princetonian people, and I could tell you lots of local history. When they had football games and it was snowy weather, the guys, (because no girls were allowed), would sneak the women into the clubs and try to hide them. They would have fur coats and diamond bracelets. That was when I was young, which was a long time ago, but still a fond memory.

The P-rade route used to come from all the way up Nassau Street. Everyone in Princeton, from Harrison Street down towards Bayard Lane, would line up to see the parade. That's how popular it was. I have fond memories of the P-Rade from way back to when I was a child.

That's so cool that you've seen the club even before you worked here.

Joy: Yes, it was quite popular, with the older alumni. They were funny. In those days, the guys all wore Khaki pants, white shirts and sport coats. For some reason that was their look. Princeton, at that time, was a dry town. They couldn't drink on Saturdays or Sundays and would have to go up to Kingston to get beer. We had a lot of the sports teams here. We once had a group of girls that were so funny. They had a keg of beer that they were tugging on to hide it from Steve. Then, they tried to hide it under the bushes. But it was too heavy, and they gave up. The members always liked playing pranks on one another, as well as other clubs. Many times, I can remember we would "borrow" something from Cloister, Cottage or Quad, like their trophy moose heads that were hanging in their clubs.

Let me ask you something else about yourself. What kind of hobbies do you have? What do you do in your spare time?

Joy: I was involved with things at McCarter Theater. It's volunteer work and you would have to audition for singing and dancing. I never got chosen to do any dancing, but I did do a couple of plays at McCarter, including Fiddler on the Roof and South Pacific. After dabbling with the clarinet and the flute for a while, I certainly didn't win any awards...so I sold them both!

Have you traveled? Have you ever been out of the country?

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Joy: Yes, to islands like St. Thomas, Trinidad and St. Lucia. I have been to Quebec and I love it there, it's so beautiful!

Have you been to all the New York museums, like the Met and MOMA?

Joy: I love art. I love all the museums. I love paintings and going to auctions, but I never, ever wave the paddle!

What's your greatest Charter memory?

Joy: I have many favorite memories. We treat everyone as family here. I try to make it like that for all the students that come through. I get letters and postcards from them all the time. I really love it when the students come back to the Club and update me on their lives.

Last year, we lost Maria Morales. Maria worked here for 25 years and we were very close friends. I miss her because she was like their "mother" to all the students and the staff. When she retired, I became the "mother" to everyone and we both always called everyone (members and staff) our children.

I was invited to Steve's wedding, as was all the staff. He had a huge wedding, just beautiful. They had a huge tent in the back yard and it looked like a fairytale. I came

to Charter right after Steve and I treat him with respect. If I don't know something, he's always willing to tell me, or give me advice on something and I appreciate that. He was also there for me when both of my parent's died, who he also knew. When I had a problem with my heart, I woke up in the hospital and Steve was there already visiting me.

We're really like family here.

Joy: Yes, it's changed a little, because the new members don't know the connection, because they're new. It's not the same as what we had before, but things always change.

Joy also wanted to mention how she loves house parties and how everyone always looks so elegant. She says there are many different bands at all the events and thinks that Charter has the best and most elegant parties on the Street.

Many of the graduate board members are very special to Ms. Joy and she has fond memories of them. Joy said that she is inspired by Steve to become a better supervisor and that she loves that the students here recognize that people aren't just workers, but that they take time to get to know one another, contributing to our Charter Family.

Lastly, as a fun fact, Joy decided to tell us (although it's unconfirmed) that she believes there is a ghost currently living on the third floor!

Joy is truly someone that has impacted so many lives here at Princeton, especially at the Princeton Charter Club. We can't thank her enough for all of our amazing experiences that could not have been possible had Joy not been a part of them. She really has touched so many people's lives here at Charter over nearly 30 years. ♦



Joy Gillette at Charter's serving station as she awaits the arrival of members attending one of their many special events.

Class Notes From Donors

"Enjoyed post Yale game party last year."

William C. Barnes '62

"In Honor of John Bruestle '78 and Bob Klein '78."

Alexander Bonnyman '78

"In Honor of Maria Morales. May you rest in peace. Vaya Con Dios."

Christina G. and Tristan E. Propst. '91

"Am grateful for the lifelong accepting atmosphere for a non-drinker at Charter—seemed more equal than other clubs in real sense of the word—for women. Thank you. Nice Newsletter"

Heidi R. Mathey '98 ♦

Charter's Members Are Amazing!

All of Charter's members spend their free time doing some inspiring things, from academics to work to volunteering. Below, we've highlighted a selection of our member's many amazing accomplishments from the last year.



Prem Nair '18

Junior Prem Nair was one of only two Princeton students to win the George B. Wood Legacy Sophomore Prize, "given to members of the junior class in recognition of exceptional academic achievement during sophomore year." His primary research interests are in advancing artificial intelligence and emerging technologies that have the potential to improve people's lives.



Lydon Kersting '18

Junior Lydon Kersting spent her summer working for NASA, at the Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. She was part of a project working to prepare for a 2019 launch that will test the abort systems on the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew Vehicle, which NASA hopes will eventually travel to Mars. She was also able to witness a rocket launch and a series of drop tests, and plans to pursue a career in aerospace engineering after graduation.



Robert Aguilar '17

Senior Rob Aguilar had a paper, "Automatic Neuron Detection in Calcium Imaging Data Using Convolutional Networks," published in *Neural Information Processing Systems*. Rob created a neural network that trained on human-annotated data to recognize neurons that are emitting calcium.



Paloma Aguas '18

Junior Paloma Aguas just returned from nine months working in the presidential campaign of Hillary Clinton. She staffed many events, and was present for Clinton's acceptance of the party nomination. She worked on the Opposition Research team, looking into opponents' backgrounds and writing talking points on important issues. Some of her projects have been used in every debate this election season.



Elizabeth Stanley '18

Junior Liz Stanley won the Shapiro Prize, "an annual award that recognizes outstanding academic achievement on the part of Princeton undergraduates in their first or second years" in recognition of her academic work last years.



Maxwell Schwegman '18

Junior Max Schwegman spent his summer in Vietnam with Coach for College, "a service learning program that brings together US student-athletes and Vietnamese university students to teach academics, sports, and life skills at summer camps to disadvantaged children in rural Vietnam."

Charter Gifts

Donations to The Princeton Charter Foundation, The Princeton Prospect Foundation, and The Princeton Charter Club from December 1, 2015 to November 11, 2016. Donors who gave over \$200 are listed in boldface.

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Max S. Maizels '72	John L. Hartmann '86	Cesar E. Devers '11	
Roderick M. McNealy '72	Amy D. Hoban '86	Travis E. Faust '11	

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Making Memories At Charter



Lawn Parties



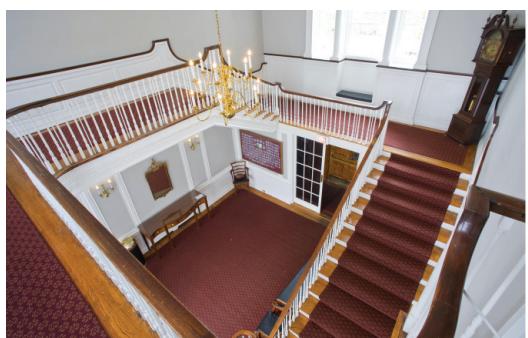
Class of 2017 Officers



Class of 2016 Officers



The Charter Club logo, which is a crest featuring a shield with three circles and a central figure, is displayed above the text. Below the logo, the text reads: "Visit our newly updated website at www.charterclub.org".



Announcement of **— Alumni Challenge Grant —**

A very loyal Charter Club alumnus has presented the Club with a wonderful challenge. The alumnus will match any contributions received by December 31, 2016, up to a maximum of \$50,000.

The contribution will be made to the Princeton Charter Foundation, an I.R.C. section 501(c)(3) organization devoted to providing grants to Charter Club for educational purposes.

Substantial inroads have already been made against this challenge, as every member of Charter Club's graduate board, and every member of the Princeton Charter Foundation, has made a commitment.

As the end of the year approaches, please consider making a gift to increase the total amount matched. Your gift may be to the Princeton Charter Foundation, the Princeton Prospect Foundation or to the Club according to your wishes, but the match will be paid to either of the Foundations. Gifts directly to the Club are not tax deductible.

In the event that your company has a matching gift program, please submit your request to it to match your donation.

Let's try to bring in \$100,000!



Happy Holidays From Our House to Yours!

~ 2017 ~

We wish to extend an invitation to all Charter alumni to our next event during Reunions.

Charter Club's Annual Post Parade Reception

Saturday, June 3, 2017
3:00 PM – 7:00 PM

\$20 per Adult • \$10 per Child
— No Charge for Drinks Only —

Prior Post Parade receptions have had attendance of over 1100 with alumni and their families. The nominal entrance fee now being charged helps the Club strive to make this event self-sustaining.

Please Note:

Due to the size of the event, parking is prohibited at the Club or on its grounds during all of Reunions



The Princeton Charter Club

Established 1901

MANAGEMENT

Steven E. Moskow, CEC, *Club Manager*
Thomas Evgeniadis, *Executive Chef*
Vera P. Young, *Bookkeeper*

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The Princeton Charter Foundation

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2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT