A Toast to the New Alumni Center

The cork popped, champagne flowed, and the first official function to be held in the new Alumni Center began. The date—an historic one in the annals of the Association—was Wednesday, March 14, 1984. The occasion was the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Governors, combined with a celebratory toast and preview of the Center. The formal dedication and opening will take place later this spring.

The excitement was palpable as the governors walked through the building, which has now been handsomely and faithfully remodeled and is being furnished with equal taste and attractiveness.

Once the residence of the County Commissioner, the building had been closed and was in a shambles when the Alumni Goals Fund Campaign was started. Its dramatic transformation is a tribute to all those who helped meet the campaign objective: to raise the money needed for the renovation and interior design that has resulted in this magnificent new headquarters for the Alumni Association.

A handsome arched window at the head of the stairs overlooks the campus.

Top right: The portico, with its majestic columns, will serve as the setting for many outdoor events of the College and the Alumni Association.

Bottom right: Snow outside the door served to chill the champagne, since refrigeration had not yet been connected. Here, Joseph Durst '59, James H. Keller, Director of Alumni Relations, and Charles McCullough '58 prepare to carry the libation inside for the toast.
A view of the lounge, looking toward the front windows. The magnificent oriental rug spans the full length of the room. It is the gift of Charles N. Aswad '57 and his wife, Joanne Aswad. The painting has been donated by Hugo J. Gruendel '50 and his wife, Frances Gruendel. Beyond the lounge, to the right in this view, is the board and conference room.


The gracious dining room will provide an appropriate setting in which to entertain at luncheon or dinner. In the kitchen, not shown, efficient modern equipment is combined with the huge brick fireplace that is a treasure of the historic house.

Clockwise from left: Paul Tartell '52, Joseph B. Cleary '73, Vincent R. De Angelis '56, Seymour Schlussel '51, John D. O'Brien '60, James H. Keller, Joseph F. Durst '59, Louis E. Pferro '60, Bruce Burtan '54 were among the governors attending the meeting.

Rita F. Girolamo '51 and Benjamin J. Sadock '59 look over a series of pictures taken at the CME course in Puerto Rico.

Above: The extraordinary paneling and parquetry, crafted by 18th century artisans, has been faithfully restored from the condition seen in the photo at the right.