

FRIENDS OF

Florham

GOVERNOR RICHARD J. CODEY CLASSROOM DEDICATION

Earlier this year, FDU commissioned a classroom-renovation project to honor FDU alumnus Governor Richard Codey's contributions to New Jersey. With the help of the Friends of Florham, the former Room M13 in Hennessy Hall has been transformed into the Governor Richard J. Codey Classroom and will continue to be in full use by students and faculty.

Under the direction of designer Suzy Moran, Friends board member, the classroom was re-

finished and repainted, and simple window treatments and period-appropriate lighting were installed. High-grade carpeting reminiscent of an earlier period was selected, and desks were replaced. A reproduction of Paul Jennis' official portrait of Gov. Codey, which now hangs in the New Jersey Statehouse, was placed over the mantel. A custom-built bookcase constructed by Ismael Torres, FDU buildings and grounds staff, will house memorabilia, Jerseyana and political history texts. Additional Co-

dey accolades are being collected and will be hung in the south wall.

Prior to this year's Friends Gala, FDU President Sheldon Drucker presided over a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the classroom, with Gov. Codey, his family and other guests in attendance. The completion of this project marks the beginning of the Friends' planned renovations to Hennessy Hall's second floor.

— Matthew Dikovics



WITH RICHARD CODEY (SECOND FROM LEFT) AND HIS WIFE MARY JO CODEY (SECOND FROM RIGHT) AT THE RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY DEDICATING THE GOVERNOR RICHARD J. CODEY CLASSROOM. ARE (FROM LEFT) KEVIN CODEY, SON; PRESIDENT SHELDON DRUCKER; DANIELLE FIRVANTI, KEVIN'S FIANCÉ; CHRISTOPHER CODEY, SON; AND FLORHAM CAMPUS PROVOST PETER WOOLLEY, SENIOR VICE PROVOST FOR GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

FALL 2014

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GALA 2014

On Saturday, September 27, Friends of Florham held its 17th annual Gala. This year's Gala honoree was former New Jersey governor, the Honorable Richard J. Codey, a graduate of FDU and a New Jersey state senator. The dedication and ribbon cutting for the Governor Richard J. Codey Classroom preceded the dinner dance.

The Gala's visual theme was a return to the Gilded Age, and Lenfell Hall, Hennessy Hall, was resplendent with stunning tablecloths and grand floral arrangements. The room has rarely looked

more beautiful with all the gilt and glamour. Congratulations to the Gala Co-chairs Kathy Atencio, Dawn Dupak and Suzy Moran; to the Gala Committee; and to this year's hostesses. Donor Chairs Edward and Ruth Hennessy were sponsors, and other sponsors included Meg and Tom Healey, Susan and Bob Hallenbeck, Jenn and Chris Johnson and Carol and Ron Ponder. Chef Jeff Gourley adapted the menu from the cookbook of Joseph Donon, Florence Vanderbilt Twombly's private chef. It was an amazing production and wonderful event as you can see from the pictures.

Cocktails were served in the Great Hall and on the Italian Garden veranda. Piano music was provided by the David Humm Jazz Trio, which later provided "society swing" music for dancing in the transformed Lenfell Hall.

Proceeds from the Gala are used for the ongoing restoration of Florham, the former home of Florence and Hamilton Twombly that was designed by McKim, Mead and White; and the Florham grounds, which were designed by Frederick Law Olmsted.

— Linda Meister

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Twenty years ago, Florham's historic papers and photographs were confined to two drawers in a dusty file cabinet, and the mansion's interiors were dingy and peeling. Today, because of your generous donations, the archives are organized, digitized and available on the Internet, and the mansion's interiors are elegant, inviting and vibrant.

Our latest project involved not a lounge or a hall but a classroom. Florham Campus Provost Peter Woolley asked the Friends to work on refurbishing a classroom in honor of Richard J. Codey, former New Jersey governor, an FDU alumnus and New Jersey

senator. The results were stunning and will add great value to FDU students' college experience. It is Dr. Woolley's hope that the second-floor mezzanine and other classrooms will receive a similar restoration.

Over the summer, the Friends also pursued a number of research projects: we uncovered more material on Hamilton Twombly's farm — an excellent example of Gilded-Age farming methods — and located the furnishings that were donated to the White House in 1955 by the Twombly grandsons. We also began a third project to obtain the digital images of portraits of the Vanderbilt family and of others

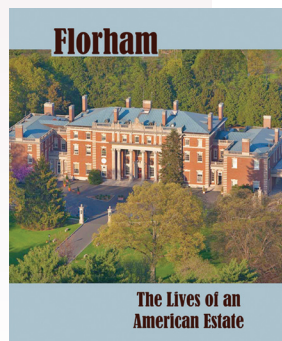
who contributed to the design and building of Florham. The images will be reproduced on canvas and appropriately framed and hung in Hennessy Hall. This project has forged strong contacts with Biltmore, the estate of Florence Vanderbilt Twombly's brother, William, and perhaps the best preserved of any of the Vanderbilt estates.

Thank you again for your interest and support, which have made these accomplishments possible.

— Linda Meister

MCCONVILLE RETIRES

Susan McConville, FDU's executive director of development, retired as treasurer of Friends of Florham, a position she held for more than 15 years. Susan made it possible for the board to complete projects and often suggested new ways to raise money. She was outstanding in her attention to donors and to details. We will miss her greatly and wish her much happiness.



ORDER THE BOOK

Copies may be purchased at the College at Florham bookstore and online through Amazon.com, the Friends' website <http://fdu.edu/fof> or through the Fairleigh Dickinson University Alumni Association website at www.myfdu.net.fofbook.

For questions concerning your order, please contact Regina Kelly at (201) 692-7008 or rkelly05@fdu.edu.



ROOM SETTING BY GALA CO-CHAIR SUZY MORAN

17TH ANNUAL GALA 2014



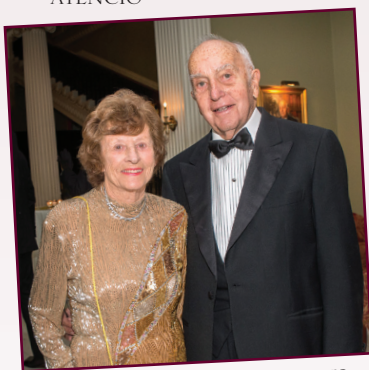
(FROM LEFT) FDU PRESIDENT SHELDON AND SANDI DRUCKER, SUSAN AND BOB HALLENBECK, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



(FROM LEFT) FLORHAM CAMPUS PROVOST PETER WOOLLEY, KARL MEISTER, GALA CHAIR DAWN DUPAK, BETH HENNESSY, FRIENDS OF FLORHAM PRESIDENT LINDA MEISTER, FRIENDS TREASURER REGINA KELLY, ALSO FDU DIRECTOR OF MAJOR GIFTS, AND GALA CO-CHAIR KATHY ATENCIO, JOE ATENCIO



BONNIE KRENTZMAN, FDU TRUSTEE STEWART KRENTZMAN AND KIMBERLY RICKETTS



HONORARY GALA CHAIRS RUTH AND EDWARD HENNESSY



FRED VATH, BONNIE VATH, RICHARD WELLBROCK AND ANN WELLBROCK



NAN THOMSON, DON THOMSON, NANCY SCHAENEN AND NELSON SCHAENEN



YOUNG FDU ATTENDEES WITH FRIENDS OF FLORHAM BOARD MEMBERS, CAROL BERE (THIRD FROM RIGHT) AND SAM CONVISSOR (SECOND FROM RIGHT)



U.S. CONGRESSMAN RODNEY FRELINGHUYSEN, BETSY HOLDSWORTH AND GOVERNOR RICHARD CODEY



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KELLY JOINS FRIENDS

Regina Kelly, FDU's director of major gifts and Friends of Florham's new treasurer, comes to FDU from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Starting in September, Regina immediately involved herself with the Gala, making possible a smooth transition from the work of Susan McConville. The Board of Friends of Florham welcomes her and looks forward to working with her.

WALLACH LECTURE

Those attending Friends of Florham's March lecture in Lenfell Hall had a rare treat. Janet Wallach, Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow and multifaceted author, spoke on Gilded Age icon Hetty Green. Ms. Wallach's recent book, *The Richest Woman in America: Hetty Green in the Gilded Age*, is one of several books on this savvy female financier, who outsmarted many of the great dealmakers of the late 1900s. Ms. Wallach's analysis is perhaps the best portrayal of Hetty, for it depicts the woman as a product of her upbringing and experience, and not as the greedy, parsimonious "witch" of Wall Street history.

As we seem to be living in another "Gilded Age," the story of Hetty Green met with great enthusiasm. All copies of Ms. Wallach's book were sold-out by the end of the afternoon.

BECOME A FRIEND

Join the Friends of Florham. Participate directly in our efforts to preserve the architectural history of Florham, and support our informative program series. Your support will make a difference.

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