

The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “1976/05/21 - Wives of Former Members of Congress Reception, White House” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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PROPOSED REMARKS -- Wives of Former Members of Congress
Reception, May 21, 1976

It's so wonderful of you all to come! I saw some of you yesterday at the First Lady's breakfast. But it isn't possible to see dear friends too much --- especially those of you who've moved away and we don't get to see as often.

It's been a very special week for us---the French visit and the primaries. Seeing you ends the week in such a wonderful way.

We shared many happy times in our years as Congressional wives, and the best part remains---the friendships.

It's just so good to be with you. Thanks for coming!

MRS. HENRY O. TALLE
PRESIDENT
4613 Harrison Street
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015
(301) 656-4612



MRS. LAURIE BATTLE
TREASURER
1021 Potomac Lane
Alexandria, Virginia 22308
(703) 780-2590

MRS. CLAIR ENGLE
VICE PRESIDENT
434 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D. C. 20003
(202) 546-8471

FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Auxiliary

May 5, 1976

MRS. CHARLES B. BROWNSON
SECRETARY
Box 62
Mount Vernon, Virginia 22309
(703) 780-8010

*Press
Office*

Mrs. Patricia Howard
Assistant to the Social Secretary
Room 200, East Wing
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Howard:

In response to our telephone conversation, I enclose a brief outline of the Former Members of Congress Auxiliary.

If you wish further information, please let me know and I will be glad to provide it.

You have been most kind and thoughtful in arranging plans for our members to attend Mrs. Ford's gracious invitation to tea on May 21st. It is a pleasure to cooperate with you. We are all excited over this distinct honor.

With every good wish to you, I am

Sincerely,

Henry O. Talle

Mrs. Henry O. Talle

Enc.

THE FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS AUXILIARY

The Former Members of Congress Auxiliary was organized in the spring of 1972 as an adjunct to the Former Members of Congress.

Our objectives are to support the Former Members of Congress in the following ways, briefly: promote the cause of good government by strengthening and improving the U.S. Congress as an institution through research and educational activities; provide material and speakers to develop a better understanding of and interest in our system of government and its institutions; and to preserve among members the fellowship and friendships developed while in the Congress.

In conjunction with the Former Members of Congress, the Auxiliary holds two meetings each - one in the spring, one in the autumn.

The Auxiliary membership is composed of approximately 300 wives and widows of former members of the Congress. (Mrs. Ford is a member and The President is a member of the FMC).

In October 1974 the meeting was held in Philadelphia, at the invitation of the Philadelphia Bicentennial Agency, to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the First Continental Congress. The group held its meeting in Carpenter's Hall where the First Continental Congress met in 1774. Ten distinguished former Members of the Senate and House of Representatives delivered speeches there. A booklet containing those historic speeches is available to libraries, colleges and high schools for reference and study.

In September 1975 the autumn meeting was held in Boston in cooperation with the Boston Bicentennial Commemoration Committee. Members made a tour of the historic Lexington-Concord area, visited homes of Hawthorne, Emerson, Louisa May Alcott, toured Harvard University and had a preview of the Kennedy Library. A banquet in honor of former Speaker John W. McCormack was held at the Copley Plaza Hotel.

The Auxiliary has contributed \$1,000.00 to the Former Members of Congress which was matched by funds from the Lilly Foundation for the FMC Oral History Project.

The Auxiliary contributed \$800.00 to help defray printing costs of the Congressional Club Bicentennial edition of the cook book, introduced on March 24.

This morning (May 21) the Auxiliary toured the official residence of the Vice President; held its business meeting and luncheon in the Congressional Club.

The 1976 autumn meeting of the FMC and Auxiliary is scheduled to be held in Williamsburg, Virginia, November 12 - 14.

Porter

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
March 31, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: MARIA DOWNS
FROM: SUSAN PORTER

On Friday, May 21st at 3:00 p.m., Mrs. Ford will receive the members of the Former Members of Congress Auxiliary. This, as you know, follows the First Lady's Breakfast held on Thursday, May 20th at the Shoreham Hotel. Wives of former Members of Congress are also invited to that occasion. Although Mrs. John Byrnes initially made the contact, Mrs. Henry O. Talle is the incumbent president of the Auxiliary. The file is attached.

Thank you.

c: William Nicholson
Max Friedersdorf
John O. Marsh
Sheila Weidenfeld

SP/sh

Mr. Talle want a Roll -

4/9/76

Per Jane Dannenhauer -

There is no need to get anything ^{regarding} security other than names + addresses on this group.

WILLIAM NICHOLSON



FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Auxiliary

4613 Harrison Street
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815
August 13, 1975

Miss Susan Porter
East Wing, The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Porter:

In response to my request that she make an initial inquiry, Mrs. John Byrnes has informed me of the good news that Mrs. Ford will receive the members of the Former Members of Congress Auxiliary at a 3 P.M. tea on May 21, 1976 - the day after the annual Congressional Club Breakfast for the First Lady.

May I assure you that our members will be very pleased over this great honor and I will be most grateful if you will relay our deep appreciation to Mrs. Ford.

As you no doubt know, the Auxiliary is composed of wives and widows of former members of the Congress and many will be coming from all parts of the United States to attend this function. Many of our members are old friends of Mrs. Ford's whom Mrs. Ford would doubtless enjoy seeing and they would consider it a great privilege to see Mrs. Ford in the White House.

It would be deeply appreciated if you will kindly confirm the date of this invitation in writing.

Thank you very much for your cooperation and with all best wishes,
I am

Sincerely,

Mrs. Henry O. Talle, President

For your information only.

MRS. HENRY O. TALLE
PRESIDENT
4613 Harrison Street
Chevy Chase, Maryland 20015
(301) 656-4612



MRS. LAURIE BATTLE
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FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS

Auxiliary

MRS. CHARLES B. BROWNSON
SECRETARY
Box 62
Mount Vernon, Virginia 22309
(703) 780-8010

April 22, 1976

Dear Auxiliary Member:

Washington is at its most beautiful this Easter season with masses of azaleas and tulips in glorious brilliant colors, dogwood trees with their pastel and white blossoms, and all surrounded by lush green shrubbery on an emerald carpet of grass. There will be roses and lilacs blooming in May and your Board is eager to welcome you to our spring meeting on May 20th.

Schedule of events:

Thursday - May 20th

5 - 7 P.M. Congressional Reception - Caucus Room, Cannon House Office Building

Friday - May 21st

10:30 a.m. - Tour of Vice President's Official Residence

12:00 - 2:00 P.M. Brunch & Business meeting - The Congressional Club

2:30 P.M. - Leave for White House

3:00 P.M. - Tea at the White House

Evening - Plans incomplete

The Auxiliary contribution of \$1,000.00 to the FMC is now being expended for the Oral History Project under the direction of Professor Charles E. Morrissey, an eminent scholar and former President of the National Oral History Association.

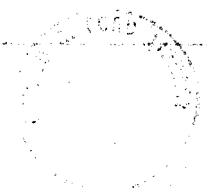
We are proud to announce that our charming Mrs. John C. Kunkel, Harrisburg, Pa., has given \$1,000.00 to the FMC Oral History project in memory of her late husband.

The Bicentennial edition of the Congressional Club cook book is now available and the Auxiliary contribution is recognized by a full page announcement of our objectives. Look for it after the last recipe. An autographed copy of the cook book has been presented to the Auxiliary and is on file with the Secretary.

An Honorary Life Membership in the Auxiliary will be presented to Mrs. Ford at the White House tea. Honorary Life Memberships will also be given to Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson and Mrs. Harry S. Truman. The Certificates will be enclosed in handsome blue leather folders. Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Truman have been invited to be our guests at luncheon but unfortunately neither can attend so their daughters, Mrs. Clifton Daniel and Mrs. Charles Robb have been sent invitations to be our guests and receive the Certificates for their Mothers.

The Board of Directors has authorized Life Memberships in the Auxiliary for the sum of \$100.00 We are requesting tax exemptions for Life and Annual dues. You will be notified when a decision is reached.

*Mrs. Daniel
& Mrs. Robb
Neither
could
attend the
luncheon
so their
Certificates
will be
sent*



tion on.

Page two - Spring Auxiliary Meeting

The FMC has a Speakers Register of volunteers who will address educational groups about the Congress as an institution. We would like to add a few women volunteers to that list. Are you qualified and available? If so, please advise.

The FMC Board of Directors has voted to have the autumn meeting in Williamsburg, Virginia, November 12-14, 1976. Isn't this the perfect setting for the Bicentennial celebration? Mark your calendar for these dates.

Dues are \$10.00 per year - payable each year prior to the spring meeting in May.

THE WHITE HOUSE TEA

The White House has advised us that regretfully, no guests may accompany members. No exceptions to this rule.

No cameras will be allowed.

Members must arrive no later than 2:45 P.M.

In order to be on the list to attend the tea, the following information is required. It must be received by the Secretary, Mrs. Brownson no later than May 12th.

- Name - First or Christian name and husband's full name.
- Your Social Security number
- Your permanent home address.

A block of rooms has been reserved for FMC and Auxiliary members at the Washington Hotel and the new Hyatt-Regency. If you need accommodations, reservation requests should be mailed direct to the hotel.

We look forward to seeing you. Our program of events will please you.

Sincerely,

Gladys Talle
 Mrs. Henry O. Talle

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 20, 1976

MRS. FORD:

Event: Reception for the Former Members of Congress Auxiliary
Date/Time: May 21, 1976 3:00 p. m.
Place: State Dining Room
Number of Attendees: Approximately 120 guests
Principals: Mrs. Henry O. Talle, President, Former Members of Congress Auxiliary
Mrs. Laurie Battle, Treasurer, Former Members of Congress Auxiliary
Mrs. Charles B. Brownson, Secretary, Former Members of Congress Auxiliary

Schedule of Events:

3:00 p. m. Your guests will arrive through the Southeast Gate and will enter the White House through the Diplomatic Reception Room. They will be escorted to the State Dining Room where they will be served refreshments.

NOTE: Coffee, iced tea, tea sandwiches and pastries will be served.

3:05 p. m. After your guests have arrived, Maria Downs will escort you to the Grand Hall via elevator where you will meet the principals, Gladyce Talle, Janis Battle, and Anna Brownson. You will pause for a photograph with them.

You will then proceed with the principals into the State Dining Room to the small platform which will be located along the center of the south end wall. You will make brief welcoming remarks. At the conclusion of your remarks, Mrs. Talle will present on behalf of the Former Members of Congress Auxiliary an Honorary Life Membership in the Auxiliary to you.

NOTE: The presentation will include a certificate in a leather folder.

You will express appreciation for the Honorary Life Membership in the Auxiliary and then mingle informally with your guests.

NOTE: Your guests will be wearing name tags.

3:40 p. m.

You will bid farewell to your guests and return to the Family Quarters.

NOTES:

Marine Corps String Ensemble will be positioned in the Grand Hall.

Social Aides will be present.

There will be full press coverage.

A White House photographer will be present.

Background information is attached.

Guest list is attached.

Pat Howard

Kay

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: PETER SORUM

FROM: SUSAN PORTER
D.

SUBJECT: Action Memo

Mrs. Ford and Susan Ford have accepted the following out-of-house invitation:

EVENT: First Lady's Breakfast

GROUP: Congressional Club

DATE: Thursday, May 20, 1976

TIME: 11:00-12:00 Head Table Reception (Ambassador's Room)
12:00 Luncheon (Regency Room)

PLACE: Shoreham Hotel, 234-0700

CONTACT: Mrs. William Armstrong (Colorado), Breakfast Chairman
536-3454
Mrs. Richardson Preyer (N.C.), President, Congressional Club

COMMENTS: The First Lady's Breakfast is a very special annual event given each year by the Congressional Club in honor of the First Lady. It is attended by all the wives of the members of Congress, the wives of Supreme Court Justices, wives of the members of the Cabinet, the wife of the Vice President and the First Lady. The Congressional Club works very hard all year on this event and it is one that everyone attending looks forward to all year. The breakfast (which is really a luncheon) is preceded by a VIP reception. Mrs. Ford is inviting a number of guests to attend the luncheon. They will drive to the White House, leave their cars and ride in the motorcade with Mrs. Ford to the Shoreham. We will be in touch about the number. They will not participate in the reception but will go directly to the Regency Room. The file is attached. Thank you.

- c: BF Staff
- Red Cavaney
- William Nicholson
- Max Friedersdorf
- Rex Scouten
- Staircase

July 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
WARREN RUSTAND

*Noted by
working calendar*

FROM: SUSAN PORTER

This is to tell you that the date for the 1976 First Lady's Breakfast has been set for Thursday, May 20, 1976 at the Shoreham Hotel. As you know, this is also the time when former members of Congress and their wives also come to Washington. Mrs. Ellen Armstrong is Chairman of the 1976 First Lady's Breakfast.

Thank you.

c: ✓ BF Pending Accepted (May 20, 1976)



March 2, 1976

Dear Mrs. Armstrong,

This is to confirm our conversations. Mrs. Ford is greatly looking forward to attending the Congressional Wives First Lady's Breakfast on Thursday, May 20th at the Shoreham Americana Hotel. Closer to the date, we will be in communication with you regarding details and, in the meantime, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call. I am sure Mrs. Ford would want me to convey her warmest best wishes to all who are actively involved for this lovely, annual occasion.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

Susan Porter
Appointments Secretary
for Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Gillian L. Armstrong
1445 Laburnum Street
Nolan, Virginia 22101

SP/sr

c: ✓ BF Accepted Pending (May 20, 1976)

